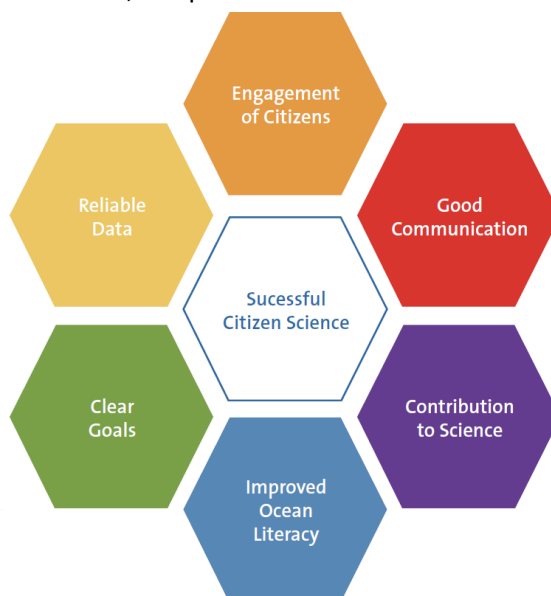


The potential to reconnect citizens with the ocean and science

Marine Citizen Science, where scientists and the general public collaborate to co-generate greater knowledge and understanding of the natural world, is an area which is rapidly gaining interest, and it is time to explore the full potential it has to offer to science and to society.

The sheer scale of coastal and ocean environments mean that it would take several lifetimes for scientists to study them alone. By collaborating with citizens, it is possible to:

- break down the barriers between scientists and citizens in a post-truth era;
- empower citizens to participate in the setting of marine policy;
- use marine citizen science as a tool for Ocean Literacy;
- mobilized a large number of people to gather data and develop new scientific knowledge and understanding;
- gain an understanding of marine issues on much larger spatial and temporal scales;
- make the ocean more relevant to society.



Factors of success in marine citizen science projects

Recommendations

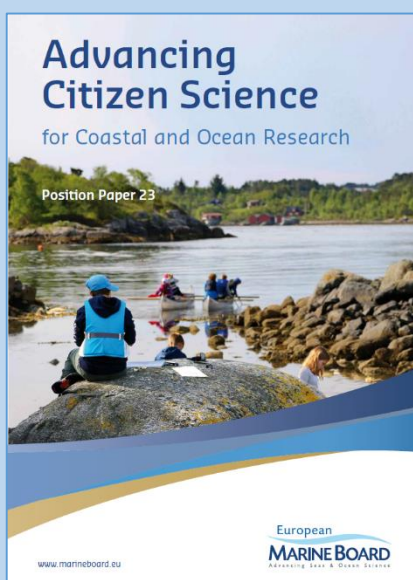
These high-level strategic recommendations would enable the future development and wide-spread usage of Marine Citizen Science in Europe.

Shorter-term action areas:

1. Driving good practices at European level
2. Understanding the wider benefits of Marine Citizen Science for marine research and policy
3. Cultivating Ocean Literacy
4. Building competencies across multiple disciplines

Longer-term action areas:

5. Launching a European Marine Citizen Science platform
6. Empowering Citizen Science to support marine policy
7. Improved funding opportunities
8. Facilitating efficient management of citizen-generated data.



More information in the EMB Position Paper 23 “Advancing Citizen Science for Coastal and Ocean Research”, free to download at:

<http://www.marineboard.eu/science-strategy-publications>

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