

# citizen Heritage



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# CitizenHeritage

A methodology for citizen participation and citizen science in cultural heritage research

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Multiplier Event KU Leuven – May 19, 2023

# Partners



Katholieke Universiteit  
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KU Leuven

Belgium



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Web2Learn

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European Fashion Heritage  
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Photoconsortium  
International Consortium  
for Photographic Heritage

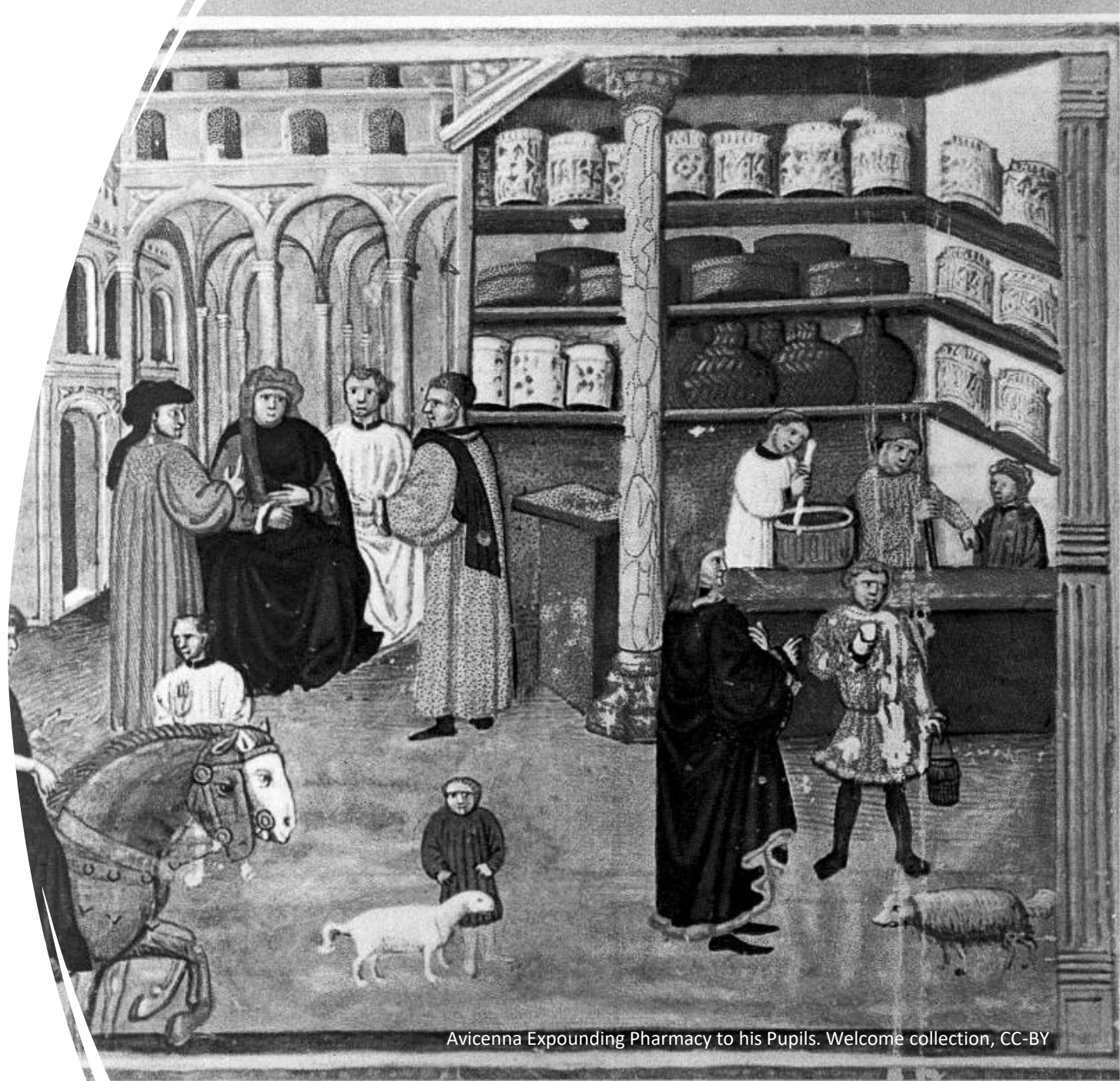
Photoconsortium

Italy

# Engaging citizens in education and cultural heritage curation

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- *Cultural Heritage Institutions are constantly looking for new ways to involve citizens in their activities.*
- *Focus on technological innovations to manage digital cultural heritage can support and enhance Citizen Science participation, both from a pedagogical and heritage perspective.*
- *We investigate what needs to be added to **move from crowdsourcing to active citizen science engagement.***

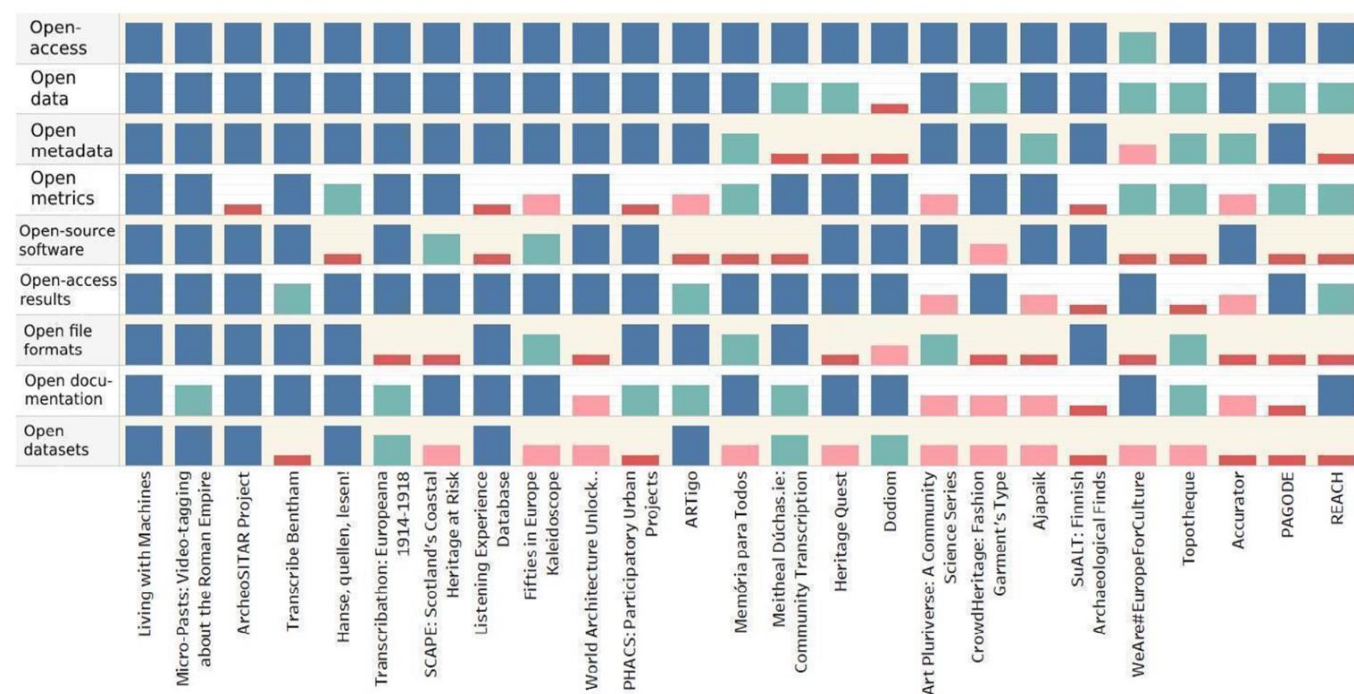


# Activities in the project

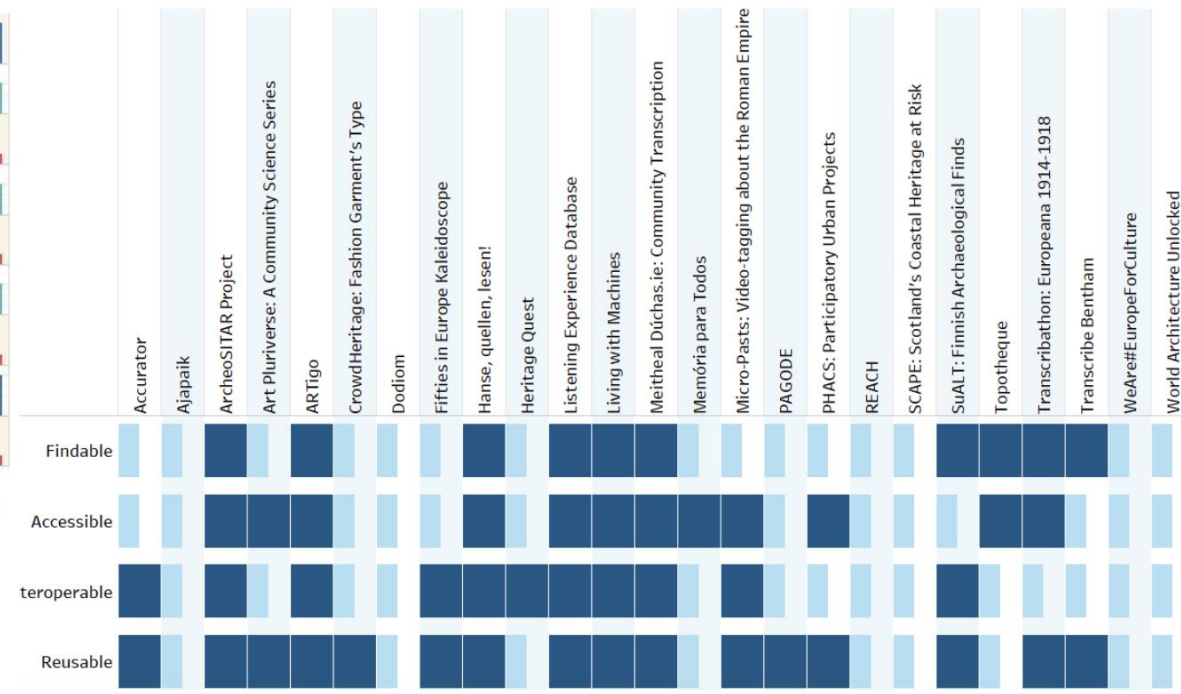
- Review of practices of Higher Education engagement in citizen enhanced open science in the area of cultural heritage
- A methodology, user requirements and guidelines for Cultural Heritage Institutions and universities
- Development and testing of participatory approaches
- Lessons learnt about the role of digital technologies in facilitating crowd science in cultural heritage and education
- Economic and social sustainability of citizen enhanced open heritage projects

# Evidence of limitations in current practices

Report available at <https://www.citizenheritage.eu/results/>



Assessment of the openness scope against the 9-factor typology taking four values, “good” (blue), “partly good” (green), “not clear” (pink), “weak” (red). In Zourou & Ziku, 2022. CC BY 4.0



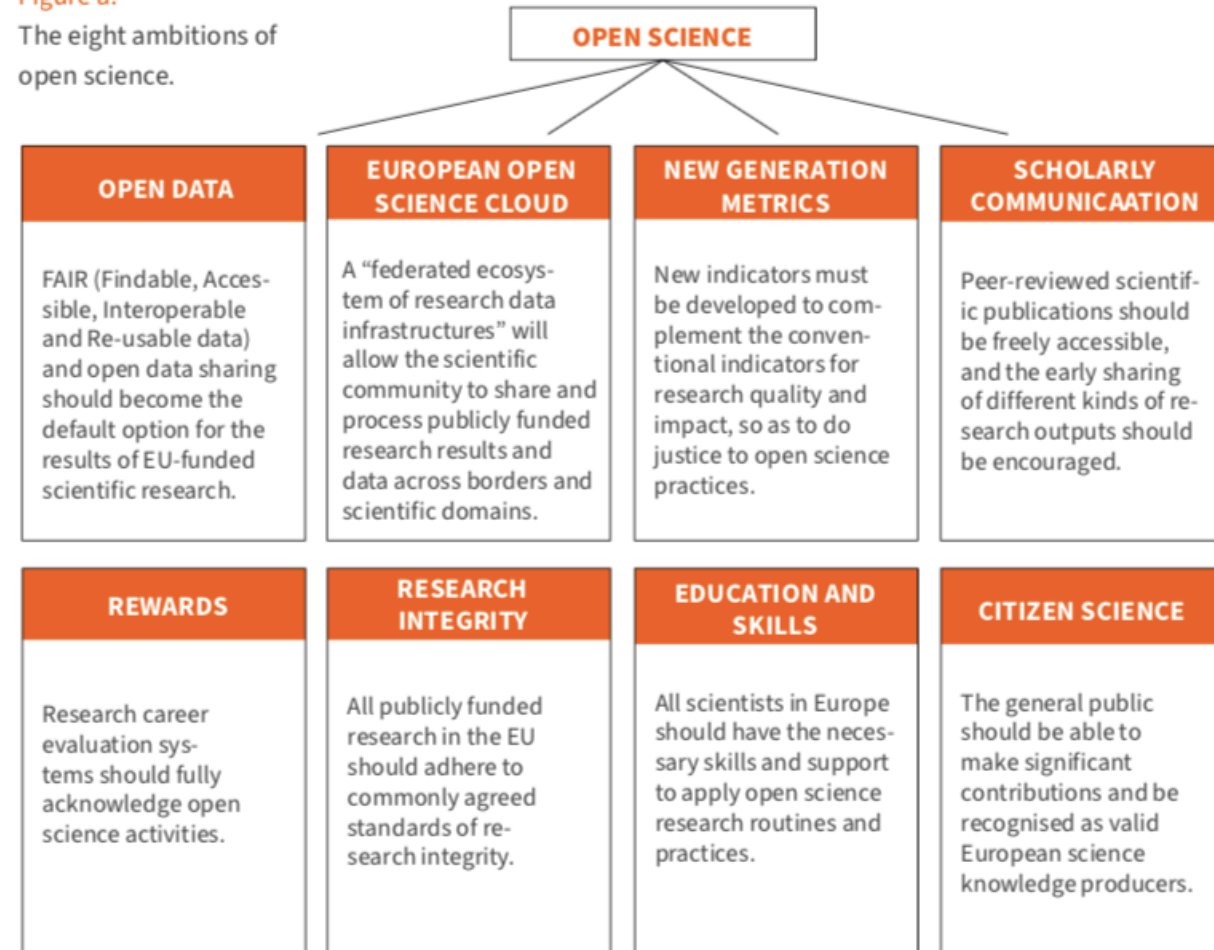
Assessment of the FAIR dimension taking two values, “yes” (dark blue), “no/not clear” (light blue). In Zourou & Ziku, 2022. CC BY 4.0

# Citizen Science: setting the standards

- *Public participation in scientific research:*
- *“actively **involve** the public directly in the **multifaceted and iterative processes** of scientific investigation. Such efforts include citizen science, volunteer monitoring, and participatory action research. Projects that fall into these categories allow participants to **learn both science content and process while experiencing the fun and excitement of research.**” (Bonney, et al., 2009, p. 10).*

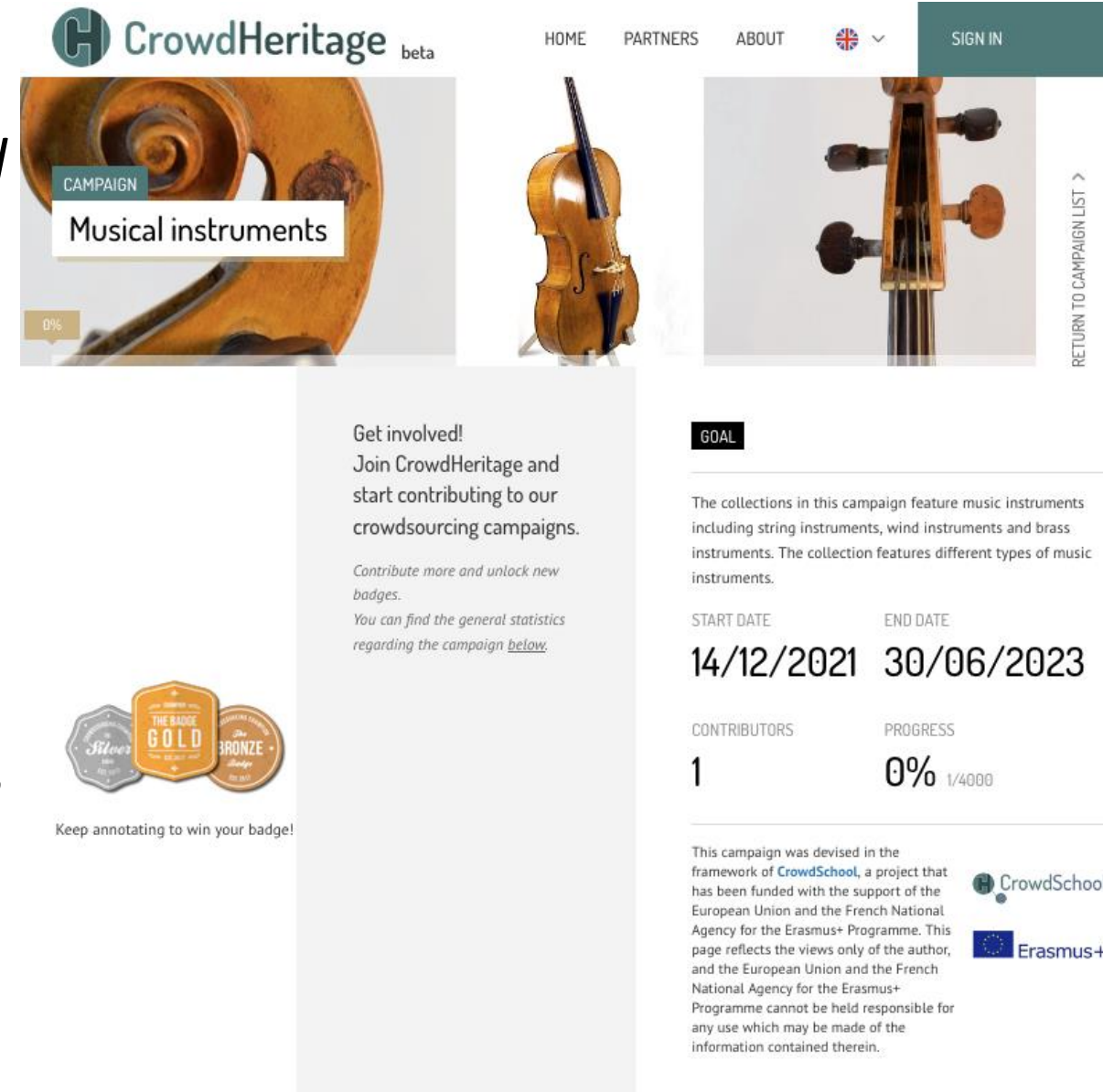
Figure a.

The eight ambitions of open science.



# Collaboration with the Cultural Heritage sector

- *Citizen-enhanced open science:*
- *The project engages with stakeholders and professionals in the digital cultural heritage domain, establishing collaboration for knowledge sharing and co-curation between academics and stakeholders.*
- *We want to see how:*
  - *Citizen engagement in the Cultural Heritage institutions can link directly into scientific publications*
  - *Higher Education institutions can play a role in supporting Citizen research in Cultural Heritage*



The screenshot shows the CrowdHeritage website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the CrowdHeritage logo (a stylized 'H' in a circle) and the text 'CrowdHeritage beta'. To the right of the logo are links for 'HOME', 'PARTNERS', and 'ABOUT', followed by a flag icon and a 'SIGN IN' button. Below the navigation bar, there are three main sections. The first section on the left features a large image of a brass instrument (possibly a trumpet or trombone) with a 'CAMPAIGN' label and the text 'Musical instruments'. Below this image is a progress indicator showing '0%'. The middle section contains a call to action: 'Get involved! Join CrowdHeritage and start contributing to our crowdsourcing campaigns.' Below this, it says 'Contribute more and unlock new badges.' and 'You can find the general statistics regarding the campaign [below](#).' At the bottom of this section are three badge icons: 'Silver', 'GOLD', and 'BRONZE'. Below the badges is the text 'Keep annotating to win your badge!'. The right section is titled 'GOAL' and contains the following information: 'The collections in this campaign feature music instruments including string instruments, wind instruments and brass instruments. The collection features different types of music instruments.' Below this, there are two rows of data: 'START DATE' (14/12/2021) and 'END DATE' (30/06/2023); 'CONTRIBUTORS' (1) and 'PROGRESS' (0% / 1/4000). At the bottom right, there is a paragraph of text: 'This campaign was devised in the framework of CrowdSchool, a project that has been funded with the support of the European Union and the French National Agency for the Erasmus+ Programme. This page reflects the views only of the author, and the European Union and the French National Agency for the Erasmus+ Programme cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.' To the right of this text are the CrowdSchool and Erasmus+ logos.



# Crowdsourcing in cultural h

**Robert Davies**

Cyprus University of Technology

Final Report

30 December, 2020



Davies, Robert. (2020).  
Crowdsourcing in cultural heritage  
(Final). Zenodo.  
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5244792>

# Focus on technological innovation and participation

- *The project aims to test how the latest technological innovations to manage digital cultural heritage can support and enhance Citizen Science participation, both from a pedagogical and heritage perspective.*
- *Tool development*
  - *For this, we use the CrowdHeritage platform on which we already have accrued a lot of experience.*
  - *We investigate what needs to be added to move from crowdsourcing to active citizen science engagement*



CAMPAIGN

# Facts & fiction: Hungary in black-and-white photographs

0%



RETURN TO CAMPAIGN LIST >

Hello Frederik!  
Start contributing to earn your first badge.

*Contribute more and unlock new badges.  
You can find the general statistics regarding the campaign [below](#).*



Keep annotating to win your badge!

GOAL

By adding, upvoting or downvoting tags, you help visitors of Europeana.eu to find what they're looking for among 52 million digitized works of art and cultural artefacts. Become a guide through the wondrous hallways of this immense treasure trove by picking descriptive keywords from the drop-down list. Add as many as you like, pinpointing places, people, objects, historic periods, pictorial styles or photographic qualities. With your contribution you're truly making a difference: thanks so much!


START DATE	END DATE
14/10/2021	23/10/2021

CONTRIBUTORS	PROGRESS
0	0% 0/5000

This campaign was devised in the framework of **CitizenHeritage**, a project co-financed by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union, under



TAGS

FULLSCREEN 

Discover the collections of cities and landscapes, wit their geography, buildings, history and art history. Register, sign in and help us enrich the description of the images by adding new keywords, or by validating the keywords already present. To enter a new keyword, type in the space provided and search for it in the drop-down menu that opens. If the word you are typing does not appear, try a synonym. You can also validate or disapprove keywords already entered by others by clicking on the thumb up or down icon. Finally, you can enter the name of a place - if it is relevant to the image you are annotating - using the geotagging function.

- Church building  1 
- Street  1 
- Village  1 

COMMENTING

Describe the item in your own words.

Photographie en couleur d'une rue ancienne et étroite avec des bâtiments en pierre.  1 

GEOTAGGING

# From crowdsourcing to Citizen science

- Take user contributions seriously
- Make these contributions traceable
- Give due credits
- Respect privacy and authorship
- Provide an ethics and deontology framework
- Manage discord, conflict and divergent opinion

**Table 7.2** Typology of crowdsourcing in heritage projects

Type of project	Examples		
<b>Crowdfunding projects</b>	Hardware/software development	Production of digital surrogates	Sustainability (none found)
<b>Idea generation projects</b>	Reuse of collection	For product development (shop)	
<b>Aggregated input projects</b>	Classification, transcription, correction, revision	Curation, preservation	Ownership identification (orphan works)
<b>Open collaboration projects</b>	Development of a common resource	Individual/institutional	Use of own/third-party platform

Source: own elaboration.

Navarrete (2020) Crowdsourcing Digital Heritage

# Some examples...

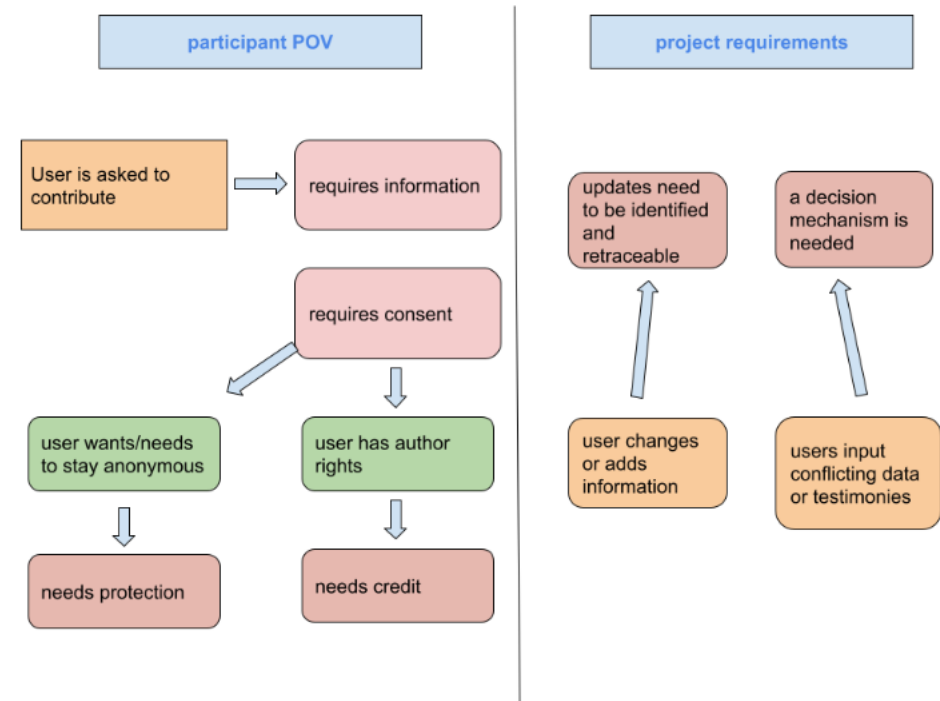
- *Development of **user requirements & guidelines** for CHIs involved in Citizen Science initiatives.*
- *Self-assessment questionnaire for CHIs*
  - Focus on three stages of the CS initiative (before, during, after)
  - Evaluation of the initiative impact
  - Stress on copyright/ethical/legal challenges
- *Provide CHIs with valuable feedback on how to **enhance** their citizen science initiative*

# Citizen Science Methodologies for CHIs?

- *Research data gathering coming from CH initiatives*
- *Engagement methods mediated by digital tools*

Cyclic model for developing a CS initiative:

- + Preparation of the research activity
- + Running the research activity
- + Publishing the research results

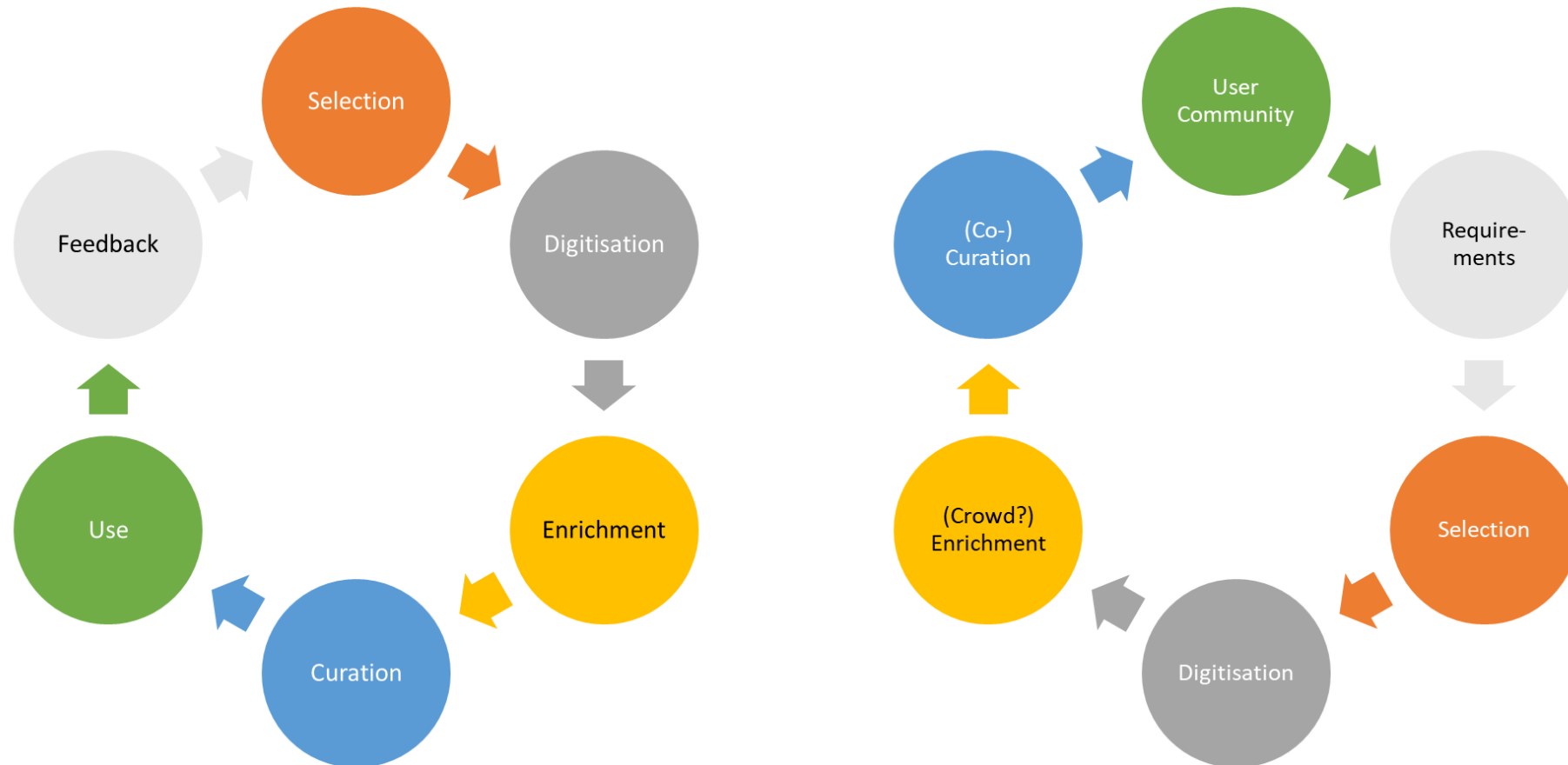


# Guidelines

- Goal of Citizen Science in Cultural Heritage
- Scope of the Heritage research considered
- Research in Heritage institutions
- Engagement of citizens in Heritage research
- The citizen as primary source
- Contributory approaches
- Participatory Approaches
- Co-authorship
- Data Validation
- Scientific output as added cultural value
- The role of Higher Education Institutes
- Collaborations between HEI and CHI: closing the circle
- FAIR principles and sustainability
- Transparency, privacy, rights
- Example methods and workflows
- Literature overview



# Transformational Impact: from inside-out to outside-in



# Place of Higher Education

- Preparing the next generation of Heritage professionals
  - Offering training in Citizen Science Methodology
  - Freedom of experimentation
- Rethinking of the Heritage concept
  - More attention to intangible heritage and cultural practices as the basis of heritage
  - Better integration of natural and human heritage – the ecological dimension
  - Thinking beyond the institution
  - Reaching out to heritage communities
  - Taking diversity on board
  - Tackling mis- and underrepresentation issues

# Conclusion

- Prompt for more conversation between academia and stakeholders in the cultural heritage sector?
- Highlight new participative learning formats
- What's next?



## Hybrid Multiplier Event

*Citizen Science in Cultural Heritage: practices and digital technologies*

Athens, Greece  
29 May 2023

info and registration:

<https://www.citizenheritage.eu/multiplier-events/>



Many thanks for your attention!

## **Citizen Heritage**

Citizen Science Practices in Cultural Heritage:  
towards a Sustainable Model in Higher Education

[www.citizenheritage.eu](http://www.citizenheritage.eu)

Contact us: [info@photoconsortium.net](mailto:info@photoconsortium.net)