

**INTERSESSIONAL PANEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION
ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)**

**Vienna, Austria
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Contribution of Austria

to the CSTD 2018-19 priority theme on 'The impact of rapid technological change on sustainable development'

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Commission on Science and Technology for Development
Intersessional Session Request for Inputs

In response to the request for inputs for the CSTD priority themes for 2018-2019, Austria would like to share the following:

Priority Theme 1: "The impact of rapid technological change on sustainable development"

The space infrastructure in the EU in the area of satellite navigation (Galileo) and earth observation (Copernicus) provide international contributions to the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals. In this regard, UNOOSA conducted a study named "European Global Navigation Satellite System and Copernicus: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals. Building Blocks towards the 2030 Agenda", available at http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/oosadoc/data/documents/2018/stspace/stspace71_0.html.

The space programmes, projects, and technologies of the European Space Agency (ESA) contribute to the observation as well as the implementation of the 17 SDGs. In this regard, ESA has made available a page dedicated to the SDGs at <https://sdg.esa.int/>.

Priority Theme 2: "The role of science, technology and innovation in building resilient communities, including through the contribution of citizen science"

With regards to priority theme 2, the UN-SPIDER (United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response) platform for humanitarian aid and emergency response is worth mentioning. The platform makes space-based sciences and technologies available for disaster management. Further information can be found at <http://un-spider.org/>.

In addition, Austria would like to draw attention to the following experts and projects with reference to the questions posed as part of the request for inputs for Priority Theme 2:

Regarding question 2, the following initiatives could be suggested:

- [Young Crowd](#), a project of the Red Cross:

<https://www.zentrumfuercitizenscience.at/de/p/young-crowd>

This project is implemented together with the Ö3 Team Austria and is frequently broadcasted on the radio. Information can be found here:

<https://www.rotekreuz.at/organisieren/organisation/das-generalsekretariat-des-oerk/>

Regarding question 4, the following is suggested:

- [Prof. Muki Haklay \(University College London\)](#)
Haklay is co-director of the [Extreme Citizen Science \(ExCiteS\)](#) research group at UCL, which has already worked with indigenous populations to give them a voice in environmental issues.

[Mapping for Change](#) (Haklay is co-founder and director) works with communities to explore social and environmental issues in their local communities and contribute to their improvement.
- [Jan A. Lutz \(OK Lab Stuttgart\)](#)
OK Lab Stuttgart is part of the [Code for Germany](#) program of the [Open Knowledge Foundation Germany](#) and runs the project "[luftdaten.info](#)". Amongst other things, Lutz is responsible for project coordination. Volunteers worldwide install self-built gauges on the outside wall of their home. [Luftdaten.info](#) generates a constantly updated fine dust map from the transmitted data.
- [Prof. Joi Ito \(MIT Media Lab\)](#)
Ito is the director of the lab and co-founder of the Citizen Science project named the "[Safecast](#)" organization, created after the Fukushima nuclear disaster, to collect and publicly disclose radioactivity data. This project is now working worldwide.
- [Catherine Bracy \(Public Lab\)](#)
Bracy is a co-founder of [Public Lab](#), an NPO and open community founded after the 2010 BP oil spill, which aims to tackle environmental issues in the spirit of open science. For this purpose, inexpensive DIY tools are used.

In addition, the following expert is recommended as well:

- Prof. Peter Moser, Montanuniversität Leoben,
https://online.unileoben.ac.at/mu_online/visitenkarte.show_vcard?pPersonenId=7013D44F7EFDFF03&pPersonenGruppe=3