

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

**Vienna, Austria
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**CSTD 2018-19 priority theme on ‘The role of science, technology and innovation in
building resilient communities, including through the contribution of citizen science’**

Statement submitted by

United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

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UNESCO Congratulates the UN CSTD Secretariat for the excellent panel on “The Role of STI in building resilient communities, including through the contribution of Citizen Science”.

We would like to announce that the GO-SPIN Platform (gospin.unesco.org) has been launched in November 2018, with information on 55 countries, on STI policies, policy instruments, STI legislation, among other pieces of information. UNESCO has offered the GO – SPIN platform to UNCTAD as a tool for STIP Reviews, as part of the ongoing excellent collaboration between the Agencies, as well as to the United Nations Technology Facilitation Mechanism.

The GO-SPIN Platform includes specifically STI Policy Instruments on “Resilience”, as well as on “Open Science”, which includes Citizen Science. However, no specific classification on Citizen Science is currently present. We will discuss with the European Citizen Science Association (ECSA) the possibility of enhancing the platform to include Citizen Science as a category in the future. We will therefore refer to the discussions at the CSTD as a trigger for this process.

UNESCO is also analysing the possibility of launching the process towards preparing a “UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science” which would also address Citizen Science as a part of this concept. This would allow for developing shared definitions and proposals for action for Member States, International Organizations, Civil Society, and other stakeholders.

We also point out that one important component of Citizen Science initiatives are schools –and the broader education sector- , as in the case of the UNESCO SANDWATCH initiative, which is specifically directed towards sustainability of beaches.

UNESCO will send further comments to enrich the Draft Issue Paper.

In reference to the request from the Delegate of Germany, I would like to point towards the UNESCO Working Paper on Measuring R&D in Developing countries (<http://uis.unesco.org/sites/default/files/documents/measuring-rd-challenges-faced-by-developing-countries-2010-en.pdf>) which complements the OECD Frascati Manual and addresses the issue of Local and Indigenous Knowledge.