

Citizen / Civic / Community Science

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What counts?

Who is a citizen?



What counts as science?



Contested Boundary Terms

“Citizen”

- Political designation
- Volunteer monitors
- Amateur naturalists
- Crowdsourcing
- Public participation
- Non-expert / lay expert
- “The Public”

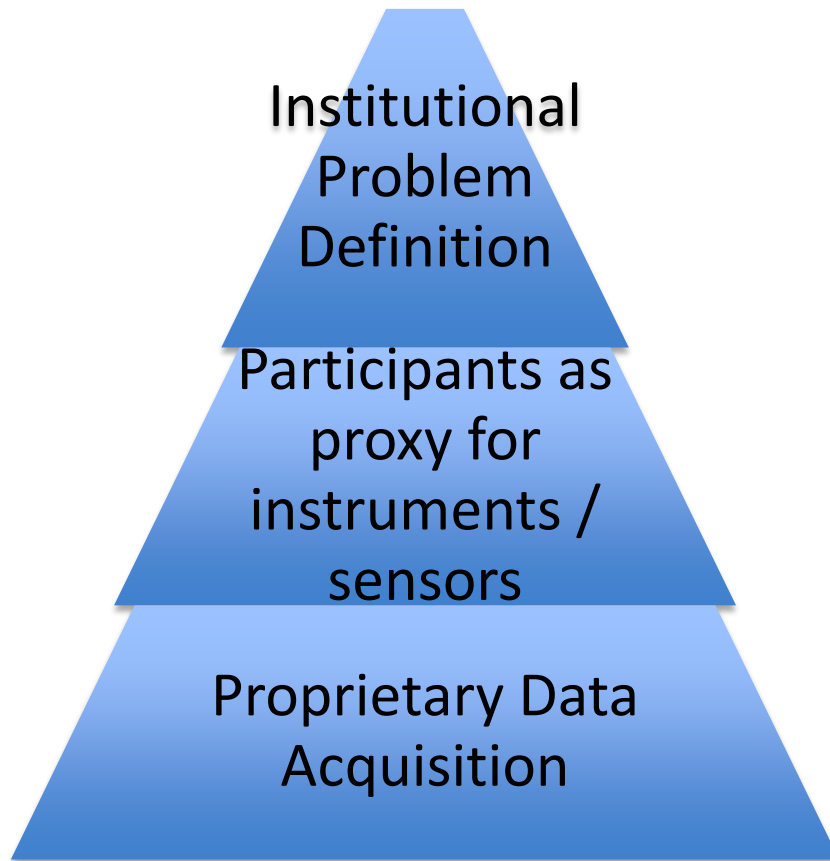
“Science”

- Singular method
- Institutional norms
- Validity, Replicable, Generalizable
- Western perspective
- Quantify data
- Experts and credential

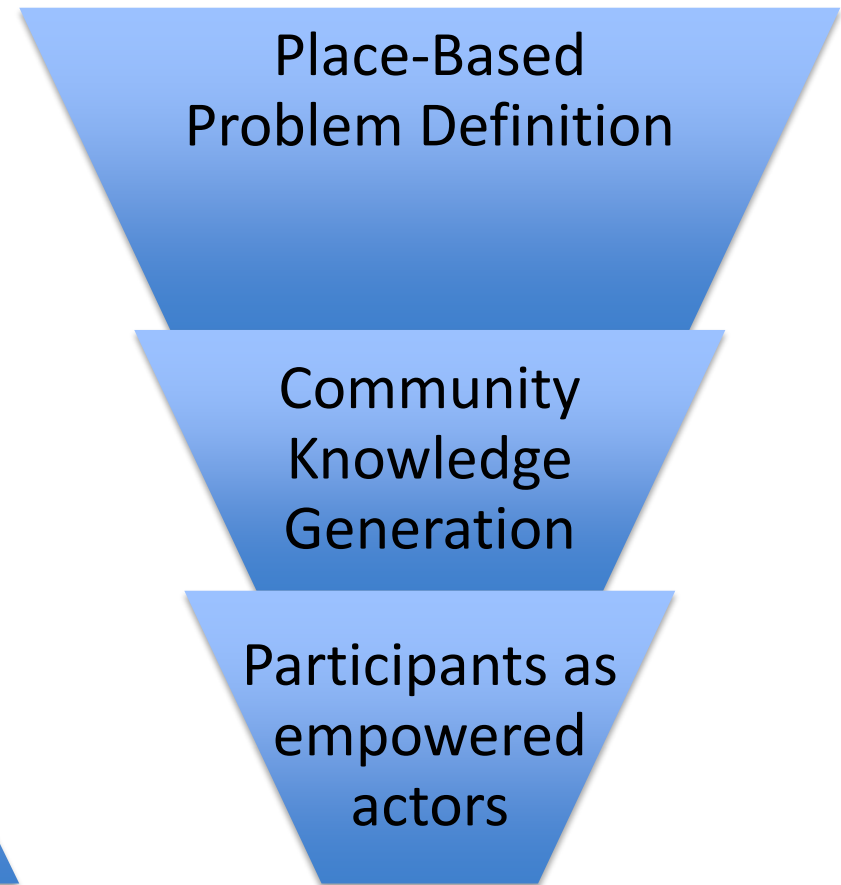


Two Basic Types (with Overlaps)

Top Down



Grassroots



Top Down

The screenshot shows the USGS Earthquake Hazards Program website. At the top left is the USGS logo with the tagline "Science for a changing world". To the right are links for "USGS Home", "Contact USGS", and "Search USGS". Below this is a navigation bar with "Home", "About Us", and "Contact Us" links, and a search box. A secondary navigation bar contains "EARTHQUAKES", "HAZARDS", "DATA & PRODUCTS", "LEARN", "MONITORING", and "RESEARCH".

The main content area is titled "Did You Feel It?". On the left, there is a vertical sidebar with a search bar and several input fields labeled "Where", "How long", "How often", "How many", and "How often".

The central feature is a map of the United States with several blue icons representing earthquake intensity levels (I, II, III, IV) placed across various states. To the right of the map are four smaller map thumbnails with buttons: "Jump to World", "Jump to U.S.", "Jump To Alaska", and "Jump to Hawaii".

At the bottom of the page, there are two prominent buttons: an orange "Report Unknown Event" button on the left and a blue "View Archives" button on the right.

“Citizen as data collector or proxy censor”

Grassroots

Public Lab for Open
Technology and Science

<http://publiclab.org>



“Community as scientist or knowledge creator”

Some **Ethical** Challenges

- Technology & access hurdles
- Reciprocity in sharing knowledge with citizens / community
- Collaboration practices & norms
 - Citizen science protocols
 - Challenges to data quality
 - Authorship and other forms of intellectual property
- Deficit model of citizens via education

Connection to Water Group Recommendation: “Baby Legs”



<http://civiclaboratory.nl/2015/05/31/babylegs/>

#BabyLegs

Website Resources

- Citizen Science Association: <http://citizenscienceassociation.org/>
- Public Lab (DIY Science): <http://publiclab.org/>
- Civic Laboratory: <http://civiclaboratory.nl/>
- Cornell Lab's Citizen Science hub: <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/citscitoolkit>
- Informal Science: <http://informalscience.org/>
- Scistarter: <http://scistarter.com/>
- Community Collaborative for Rain, Hail, and Snow (CoCoRaHS): <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- Marine Debris Tracker: <http://www.marinedebris.engr.uga.edu/>
- Disastercollaboratory: <http://Disastercollabortory.com>