



Ocean Practices OBPS Workshop VI 05 -19 October 2022



Paving the way for best practices in citizen science for environmental plastic observations

Date: Fri 14 Oct 2022, 15:00 - 16:30 UTC

Organisers:

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Citizen science has the potential to address data gap issues in assessing and quantifying plastic litter data in the environment, by using participants as “sensors”, and simultaneously increasing the public awareness towards plastic pollution. The proliferation of plastic litter in the marine environment is driven by an increasing production of synthetic polymers combined with poor waste management strategies. Plastic pollution can be harmful to marine ecosystems due to the potential hazardous effects on biota and ecosystem functions, potentially affecting life history of invertebrate and (commercial) fish species and degrading habitats. To assess the current extent of plastic litter in the environment, surveys and monitoring programs have been implemented, but remain challenging due to the geographical extent and persistent nature of plastic pollution, combined with often limited financial and time resources. In citizen science projects, participants are included in one or more stages of the research process, and projects often lead to scientific outcomes. In this session we aim to discuss how to pave the way for best practices implementation in citizen science observations of environmental plastic litter in coastal and marine ecosystems, while promoting equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) for a wider meaningful impact. We would like to focus particularly on the following topics:

- Best practices for data acquisition and standardisation
- Best practices data management and open access of datasets

- How to communicate on research goals, milestones and outputs with the citizen scientists
- How to ensure that citizen science projects are equitable and meaningful

Preferred time:

The screenshot shows the WorldTimeBuddy interface with a list of time zones and their corresponding local times. A green box highlights the 11:00 PM slot on Tuesday, September 6th, which corresponds to 12:00 PM on Wednesday, September 7th, in most time zones.

Time Zone	Local Time	Day
UTC	3:00p - 4:30p	Tue, Sep 6
CEST / C...	5:00p - 6:30p	Tue, Sep 6
London ...	4:00p - 5:30p	Tue, Sep 6
Hilo ^{HST}	5:00a - 6:30a	Tue, Sep 6
Kuala Lu...	11:00p - 12:30a	Tue, Sep 6 / Wed, Sep 7
San Fran...	8:00a - 9:30a	Tue, Sep 6
New York...	11:00a - 12:30p	Tue, Sep 6