

UKEOF Citizen Science Working Group - Terms of Reference

Updated December 2016

Purpose

The aim of the UK Environmental Observation Framework (UKEOF) Citizen Science Working Group is to provide a forum where member organisations ('partners') can share good practice and discuss future needs and plans for using volunteers to provide environmental observation data. This will enable the sector to take a coherent and mutually beneficial approach, and will include identifying areas where UKEOF could potentially best add value.

Terms of Reference

The terms of reference of the UKEOF Citizen Science Working group are to:

- Provide advice and recommendations on citizen science related matters to the UKEOF Management Group;
- Monitor feedback on outputs from the UKEOF Citizen Science Working Group, identify gaps and potential developments;
- Add value to the citizen science related work of member organisations (and potentially others outside the working group), by drawing on the expertise of the group and identifying areas where UKEOF could potentially best add value;
- Promote greater collaboration between partners on citizen science activities;
- Promote the potential for co-funding of research and other citizen science activities.

The UKEOF Citizen Science Working Group will meet twice a year and communicate regularly by telephone conference. It will report to each meeting of the UKEOF Management Group and to members' organisations where appropriate.

UKEOF will provide the secretariat for this group, with a review every 12 months to ensure continued benefit to UKEOF. The secretariat will be responsible for reporting to the Management Group.

Responsibilities

By joining the Working Group, members agree to:

- Use the Terms of Reference to guide the activities of the Working Group;
- Input into the development and implementation of a deliverable Work Plan;
- Work towards completion of the agreed activities within the allocated timescales, including taking on the role of Working group Lead as needed;
- Promote awareness of the activities of the Working Group within their organisation, and externally when appropriate.
- Attend and participate in face-to-face and teleconference meetings of the Working group, or nominate and brief a representative;
- Use the Working Group as a forum to share information about planned and potential citizen science activities, and facilitate this exchange by circulating information in advance of each meeting.

Membership

Chair: Rob Grew, Environment Agency Secretariat: UKEOF Secretariat; key contact: office@ukeof.org.uk

Members:

Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture	Natural Environment Research Council – British Geological Survey
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Natural Environment Research Council - Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
Environment Agency	Natural Resources Wales
Forestry Commission / Forest Research	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Joint Nature Conservation Committee	Scottish Natural Heritage
Marine Biological Association	University of Reading
Met Office	Welsh Government
Natural England	