



Citizen Science: Research for society, with society

Citizen science (CS) is the practice of public participation in research, it:

- brings out a sense of data and project ownership and environmental awareness in communities.
- is not for every project: requires ongoing facilitation and long-term engagement.
- takes various forms: semi-automated sensors, paper-and-pencil, smartphone-enabled observations, collaborative workshops, etc.

What is Citizen Science?

The gathering, processing and distribution of scientific knowledge with and by ordinary people. A bottom-up practice that takes into account local needs, practices and values.

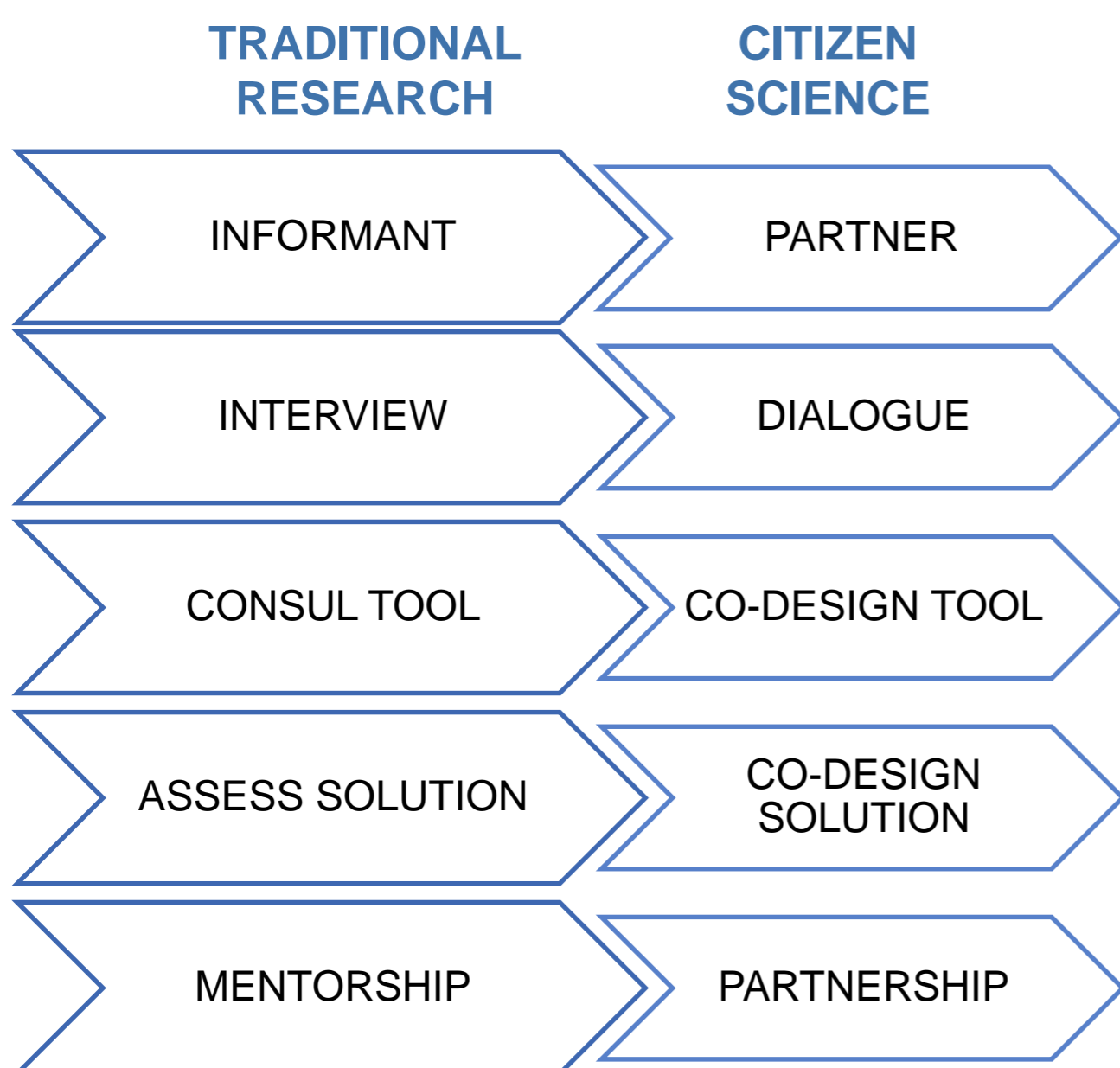


Figure 1. Traditional research vs. citizen science

Why we use it?

Citizen Science can:

- enable co-generation of knowledge between scientists and lay people.
- serve policy makers by raising awareness about environmental issue.
- increase transparency and accountability.

What is Participatory Monitoring (PM)?

A structured collection of observations of natural resources by local people.

Growing availability of ICTs makes PM suitable also for development contexts.

Monitoring data can feed in to EVOs to be combined with other data sources.

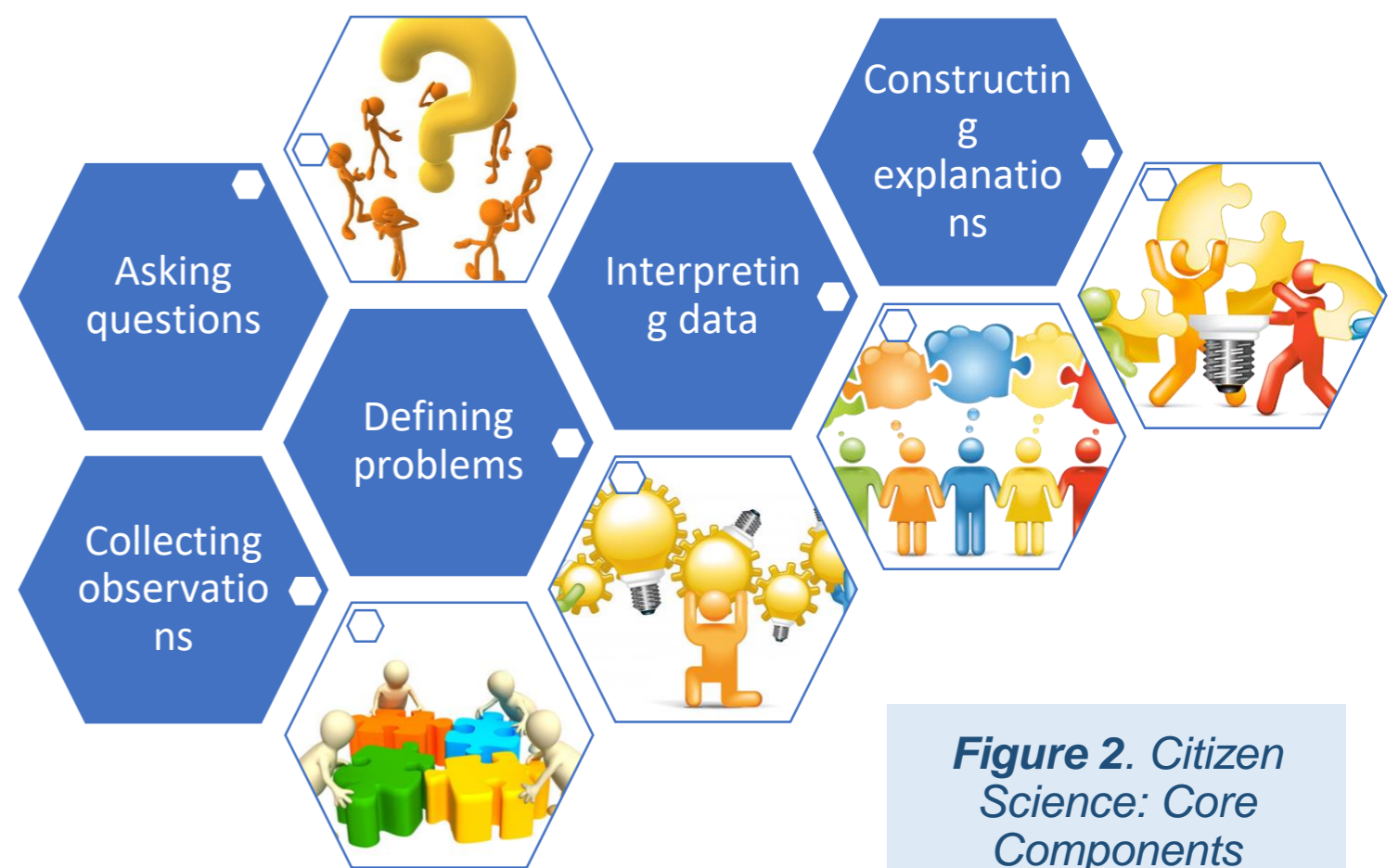


Figure 2. Citizen Science: Core Components



Figure 3. Experimental water reservoir in Huamantanga, Peru

References: Buytaert, W., Dewulf, A., De Bievre, B., Clark, J., & Hannah, D. M. (2016). Citizen Science for Water Resources Management: Toward Polycentric Monitoring and Governance? *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management*, 1816002. [http://doi.org/10.1061/\(ASCE\)WR.1943-5452.0000641](http://doi.org/10.1061/(ASCE)WR.1943-5452.0000641) | Buytaert, W. et al., 2014. Citizen science in hydrology and water resources: opportunities for knowledge generation, ecosystem service management, and sustainable development. *Front. Earth Sci.* 2, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.3389/feart.2014.00026>