

# Exploring the Awareness of Mongolia's Young Generation on ICT-Supported Citizen Science and its Potential

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Citizen science is an effective approach to engage the general public in scientific research, leveraging the collective knowledge and efforts to advance various research fields. As technology grows, the integration of information and communication technology (ICT) with citizen science create opportunities to expand participation, increase public understanding of science, and strengthen local monitoring networks. This study investigates the potential of ICT-supported citizen science in Mongolia through a survey with university students. Given the size of Mongolia and its small population, ICT-enabled citizen science will be particularly valuable, allowing data to be shared from remote and underpopulated areas.

The survey assessed students' familiarity with citizen science, their use of ICTs, and their views on promoting citizen science, along with the technological preference for citizen science applications. The findings reveal that while awareness of citizen science is currently low, proactive promotion via social media, university programs, and public events is viewed favourably as a means to boost awareness. Additionally, the study highlights the need for mobile-optimized applications with both online and offline functionalities, to reduce mobile data consumption and overcome sporadic Wi-Fi access. These insights can serve as a basis for developing ICT-supported citizen science initiatives in Mongolia that reflect local interests.

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