

CAPTOR: Collective Awareness Platform for Tropospheric Ozone Pollution

Air pollution is THE environmental topic that European citizens worry about most. It is responsible for 400.00 premature deaths in Europe each year, and puts considerable damage to agriculture as well as our natural environment. Despite these facts the readiness and power of European citizens to take actions themselves is limited. Civil society organisations are challenged 1) to transform attitudes of citizens to active behaviour, 2) to combine the knowledge of all the players involved in a collaborative process of finding innovative solutions and actions and 3) to have powerful and high-quality instruments for discussions with decision makers.

The drivers of the CAPTOR project are three large civil society organizations. Being the interface between ministries for environmental issues, national and local political decision makers and the citizens, their experience evidences that the provision of data and information on air pollution to citizens in top-down and passive ways, as it happens today, is not sufficient to engage a critical mass of participating citizens required to support transitions in the systems of production and consumption that are the root cause of air pollution.

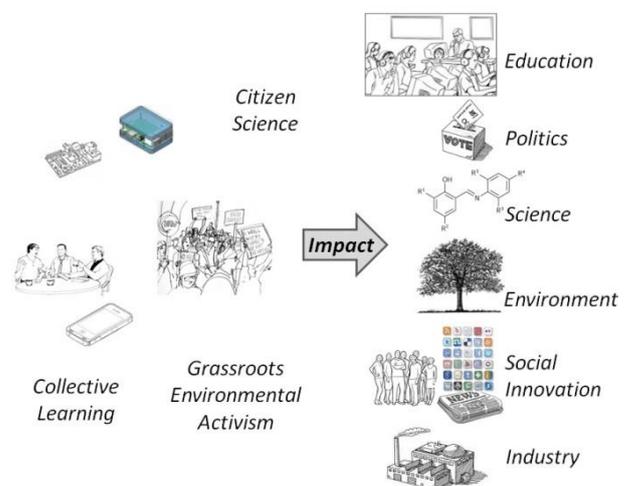
Objectives

CAPTOR's purpose is to demonstrate the power of Collective Awareness Platforms to foster bottom-up collaboration of local communities, citizens, NGOs, and scientists to raise awareness and find solutions to the air pollution problem. More specifically, CAPTOR objectives are:

- To engage a network of local communities in three citizen science instantiations for monitoring a specific air pollutant -tropospheric ozone.
- To engage these local communities in a collaborative learning process about air pollution, supporting a bottom-up process of defining and designing measures for action.
- To empower citizens and engage them in promoting behavioural changes and active participation in decision making to drive solutions.
- To learn and to assess the effectiveness, replicability and creative power of the approach.

The CAPTOR approach and methodologies

The CAPTOR project is based on the assumption that the combination of citizen science, collaborative networks and environmental grassroots social activism leads to the exploitation of the full power of collective awareness platforms to raise awareness and find solutions to the air pollution problem, having a high potential impact on fields such as education, social innovation, science, environment, politics and industry.



Partners

- Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC)
- Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)
- Ecologistas en Acción (EEA)
- Legambiente (LEG)
- Zentrum für Soziale Innovation (ZSI)
- Global-2000 (G2000)
- Université Blaise Pascal Clermont-Ferrand, Laboratoire Informatique, Modélisation et Optimisation des Systèmes (UBP-LIMOS)
- Fundació privada per a la Xarxa Oberta, Lliure i Neutral Guifi.net (GUI)