

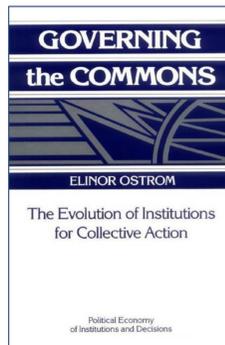
MOTIVATIONS IN CITIZEN SCIENCE FOR 'THE COMMON'

Framework: The Common

Elinor Ostrom (1933-2012)



Professor of Political Science
 Indiana University (USA)
 Nobel Prize
 in Economic Science (2009)



Charlotte Hess



- Understanding science as a "common-pool resource" Ostrom (1998, 2009), as a 'common of the knowledge' (Hess and Ostrom 2007) to achieve a more sustainable science and more cohesive communities.
- Motivations for the constitution of the common: those related to co-responsibility about the general interest, beyond the unique personal interest.

Philosophical – pragmatic question

Are there better motivations in citizen science for the constitution of the common?

Hypothesis

- Participants are motivated by contributing to general interest: generating scientific knowledge together with learning science.
- Good organization is important for keeping motivations.
- Ongoing participation (a key for projects successful) is related with these conditions.

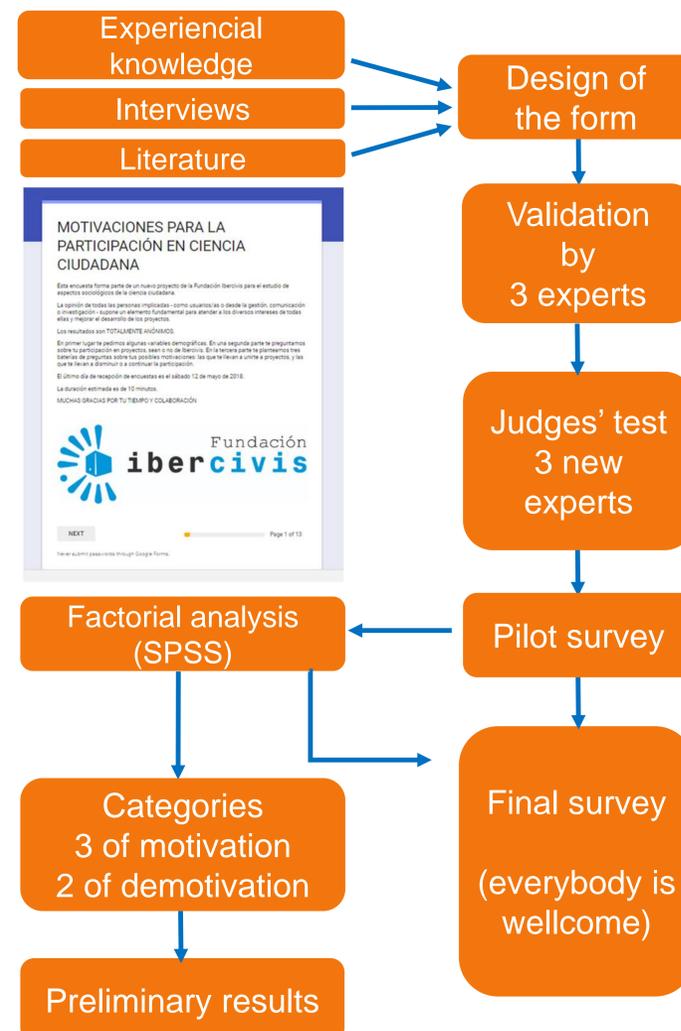
Some previous studies

MOTIVATIONS IN CITIZEN SCIENCE

Geoghegan et al. (2016)	N = 194
Rotman (2013)	N = 303
West et al. (2015)	N = 613
Pilot Ibercivis (2018)	N = 158
Final Ibercivis (2018)	N ~1000 hopefully

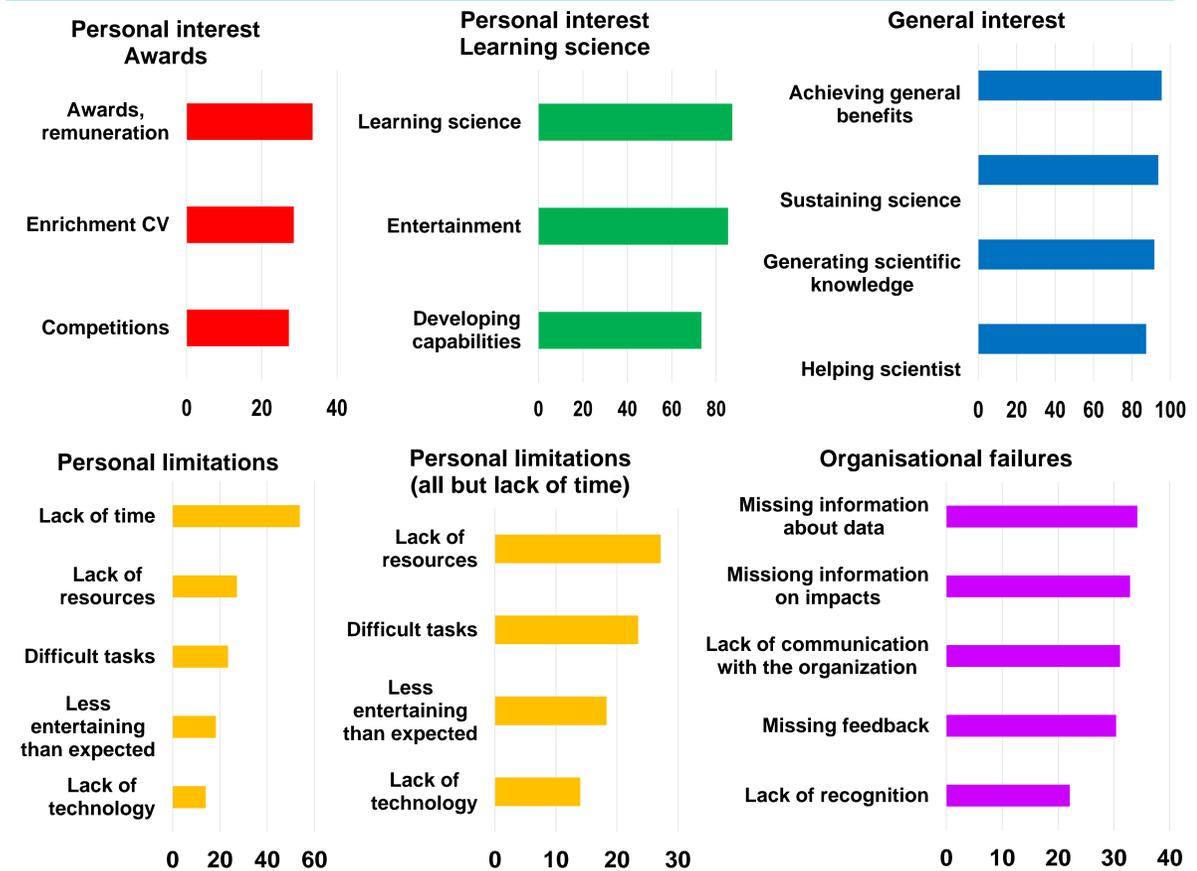
Methodology

The survey



Some survey's results

Factors of motivation and demotivation vs. % participants



Results and conclusions

- Most of the respondents still participating: the most committed people. Relevant with respect to demotivation.
- Motivations in **most** of the participants: **general interest (generating knowledge, supporting science)**.
- Motivations **also in most** of participants: **personal interest (learning)**.
- Motivations in 1/3 of the participants personal interest (awards).
- **Demotivation because of organizational failures** more than of personal limitations.
- Main factor of demotivation: **lack of information about data**.
- Next survey (European survey?) to better assess our hypothesis.
- For now, predominant motivations related to general interest and not only to personal interests. **Fostering the common: more open and sustainable science.**

References

• Geoghegan, H., Dyke, A., Pateman, R., West, S. & Everett, G. (2016) Understanding motivations for citizen science. Final report on behalf of UKEOF, University of Reading, Stockholm Environment Institute (University of York) and University of the West of England.
 • Hess, Ch., Ostrom, E. (2007). *Understanding knowledge as a commons*.
 • Ostrom, E. (1990) *Governing the commons. The evolution of institutions for collective action*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
 • Rotman, D. (2013) Collaborative science across the globe: the influence of motivation and culture on volunteers in the United States, India, and Costa Rica. PhD. Dissertation. University of Maryland
 • West, S. E., R. M. Pateman, and A. J. Dyke. 2015. Motivations and data submissions in citizen science. Report to DEFRA.