

Special Issue: Co-creating Sustainable Food Systems

Description

Cities around the globe are claiming a leading position in the transition towards more sustainable and healthy food systems. City authorities therein have the responsibility for all citizens. However, to date it is demonstrated that socio-economically disadvantaged populations suffer from demonstrably poorer health and lag behind in shifts towards more healthy and sustainable dietary patterns. This could be partially explained because the current public measures do not address the versatile cultural routines and the distinctive values these groups link to their food and eating practices. Consequently, the intended transformation remains limited in reach. The limited reach is complicated by the unequal capacity for participation in communication with public authorities and in community-organized activities for the transformation of food systems. Active engagement of citizens from all walks of life is essential for shaping appropriate food systems that make a healthy and sustainable lifestyle accessible for all. This special issue pre-occupies with the question 'How can citizens play an active role in co-creating sustainable food systems?'

Keywords:

- Food systems
- Urban Living Labs
- Social equity
- Citizen engagement
- Systemic and inclusive design
- Interdisciplinarity
- Methodology
- Value sensitive design
- Culture sensitive design
- Sustainability
- Health

Relevance and important features of the issue

Co-created citizen science is a form of participatory, or cooperative research which places citizens and citizen-communities at the centre of co-production of knowledge and policies.

Co-created citizen science is a mode of engagement in which professional and citizen scientists work together in most or all steps of the scientific process, from the framing (or reframing) of the relevant research questions, to the collection of data (evidence), generation of insights (knowledge) and translation of knowledge into personal and public solutions.

This special issue explores co-created citizen science in moving towards more sustainable urban food systems. Viewing the urban arena as a living lab and the urban citizens as experts of their daily life allows for more pro-active citizen involvement in urban food system transformation processes. Rather than bringing external agencies and interventions to deal with local problems into the real-world setting, in co-created citizen science citizens are readily involved in defining the issues that should be addressed, formulating the question to be studied, and co-developing data collection strategies to provide answers to the questions, whether quantitative or qualitative. We envision an opportunity to apply co-created citizen science approaches in the design of sustainable food systems. For this we identify the need to involve a multidisciplinary team of researchers, practitioners and governmental entities and the citizens to tackle the complexity of the food system and the determinants that influence people's decisions on food consumption.



Guest Editors

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The special issue preoccupies with the question what kind of innovative approaches are needed or have proven effective in uncovering societal issues and developing strategies to advance the transformation towards a more sustainable food system based on co-created citizen science? The special issue strives to assess how different scientific fields can come together to advance understandings on:

- citizen engagement in co-created citizen science: how to get participation going to also include people that are currently not (pro)actively involved in food system transitions
- scalability of context specific cocreated citizen science: how can lessons learned from one context be shared and extended to another context; cross contextual learning.

We welcome contributions from different theoretical perspectives and from a wide range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches, including sociology, design thinking, geography, urban planning, politics, economy, organizational sciences. There is a need to better understand how to engage underserved populations and across the lifespan. We encourage researchers to submit articles detailing innovative and cutting-edge methods and results to this Special Issue.

Journal background

The *International Journal of Food Design (IJFD)* is the first academic journal entirely dedicated to Food Design research and practice. We aim at creating a platform for researchers operating in the various disciplines that contribute to the understanding of Food Design: Design applied to food and eating, or food and eating investigated from a Design perspective.

See www.intellectbooks.com/international-journal-of-food-design

Deadline for submissions: 1 May 2021

Submission of papers:

A double-blind review process will be used for this special issue.

Please check the Notes for Contributors at

www.intellectbooks.com/asset/50961/1/IJFD_OA_NFCnew.pdf

Please submit your contribution for this Special Issue directly to Sigrid Wertheim-Heck at Sigrid.wertheim-heck@wur.nl



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