Learn about updates on Geo-Wiki Pictures, the new LACO-Wiki release, the winners of the recent campaigns and more.

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# Welcome to the 2017 Winter Edition of Geo-Wiki News!

In the winter edition, we present our Geo-Wiki Pictures and Agri-Support app. LACO-Wiki has now been released with great new features and functionalities - you will read all about it here! In this edition, we will also announce the winners of our latest campaigns: FotoQuest Austria, Picture Pile and Cropland Validation. Finally, you will find information on the ''European Citizen Science Association (ECSA) General Assembly 2016'' and the ''LandSense User Requirement Workshop'' hosted by IIASA in January 2017.

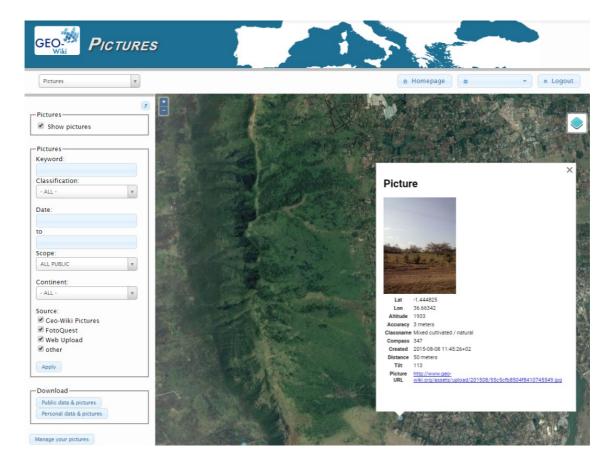Enjoy the winter edition of our newsletter!

Geo-Wiki Team

## Geo-Wiki Pictures

Great news for all our users, who like to take pictures while helping science with in-situ classification using the Geo-Wiki Pictures tools. Please feel free to visit our all-new Geo-Wiki Pictures web viewer available on geo-wiki.org. We are glad to inform you that for the first time, we are able to show you all the beautiful pictures taken by our users through different campaigns we run in the past directly on a map. The tool aggregates and shows all pictures from website uploads to FotoQuestGo pictures on our website. If you're reading this Newsletter on a tablet, let us remind you that you now can use Geo-Wiki also from any Android/iOS tablet!

While we have been working on the homepage, we also kept updating the Android app for new features, improved stability and a nicer overall feel. Go ahead and try it [here](#) and go to the Application!

## LACO-Wiki New Release

Last week we have deployed the latest version of LACO-Wiki. This new release fixes a lot of bugs from the previous version that have been reported by our active community, but it also adds a whole range of new and exciting features to the validation platform:

- Support for ETRS89 LAEA projection (the official European projection) for both raster and vector
- Stratified random sampling for vector datasets
- Enhanced plausibility validation - In case the classification is incorrect, select the more appropriate one
- RGB image upload (to be used as a base map in validation process)
- External WMS (OGC Web Map Service) can be configured for the same purpose
- French and Turkish translations
- A quick start guide. Training/tutorial videos are coming soon!

Have a look at the latest features and play with the portal [here](). Please let us know what you like and don't like about it using the simple feedback form.

## Geo-Wiki Agri-Support App and CIMMYT Collaboration

Geo-Wiki [Agri-Support]() is an app that allows farmers to record field information used to analyze spatial distribution of different types of food crops in local conditions, as well as to validate and calibrate crop and land use maps. At the moment, we are further developing the Agri-Support app in cooperation with CIMMYT (International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center) to promote sustainable agricultural intensification in Mexico. The CIMMYT collaboration project aims to provide farmers and extension workers with relevant cropping information in an easily available and timely manner through Agri-Support. Offering a two-way communication platform, our new app will allow farmers to provide crop information and in return obtain recommendations such as windows of opportunity for fertilization, potential yield compared to similar agro-ecological zones as well as weather forecasts and historical weather data.

## ECSA General Assembly and LandSense User Requirement Workshop

On January 24-25-26th, 2017, IIASA will help host the General Assembly of the European Citizen Science Association (ECSA). ECSA is a non-profit association set up to stimulate the growth of the Citizen Science movement in Europe. It draws on 200 individual and organizational members from over 28 countries across the European Union and beyond.  Furthermore, a side event of the general assembly will feature a workshop for the pioneering H2020 project - LandSense: A Citizen Observatory and Innovation Marketplace for Land Use and Land Cover Monitoring ([landsense.eu](), [@LandSense]()). The event will bring together project  partners as well as key stakeholders to discuss user requirements and co-design engagement strategies for new citizen-powered initiatives anticipated for late 2017.

## News Updates

### Winners of our Latest Campaigns

This spring, the Geo-Wiki team launched several Citizen Science Campaigns, where the winners have already received their prizes. We would like to thank

them once again for their contribution to science and wish them more achievements in life. Congratulations!!

Here are the top three winners in each campaign:

**Cropland Validation**

The First Place: Sarah Gengler
The Second Place: Marian Mandici
The Third Place: Rubul Hazarika

**Picture Pile**

The First Place: Thomas Heim
The Second Place: Elisabeth Da Silva Pinto
The Third Place: Marian Mandici

**FotoQuest Austria**

The First Place: Catalin Rusnac
The Second Place: Joachim Krysl
The Third Place: Andreas Stemberger

# Recent Past and Upcoming Events

- Steffen Fritz and Inian Moorthy attended a workshop at the European Commission to facilitate collaboration between the newly funded Horizon 2020 Citizen Observatories. They represented the  LandSense project (landsense.eu, @LandSense) at the two-day workshop held in Brussels on 24-25 November 2016. Participants engaged in highly interactive sessions to share and learn about best practices and challenges facing citizen science initiatives in Europe.
- Linda See attended a WUDAPT (World Urban Database and Access Portal Tools) workshop at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, 3-6 Dec 2016. Progress was made on the use of Geo-Wiki apps for crowdsourcing parameters needed to characterize the form and function of cities. With this detailed data at a city level, it will be possible to better model urban climates and provide support to climate mitigation and adaptation strategy development.
- Dilek Fraisl participated in the Citizen Science Awards Ceremony 2016 organized by the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy

(BMWFW) on 13 December 2016 at the University of Vienna, where the winners of FotoQuest Austria received their prizes.

- Tobias Sturn and Olha Danylo attended the workshop "Defining principles of mobile Apps and platforms development for best practice in citizen science: Interaction, Interoperability, Innovation" in Berlin on 13-14 December 2016 to present the latest Geo-Wiki apps, such as FotoQuestGo and Picture Paint.

## Recent Publications

Laso Bayas, J.C., See, L., Fritz, S., Sturn, T., Perger, C., Dürauer, M., Karner, M., Moorthy, I., Schepaschenko, D., Domian, D. and McCallum, I. 2016. Crowdsourcing In-Situ Data on Land Cover and Land Use Using Gamification and Mobile Technology. *Remote Sensing*, 8 (11). p. 905.

Chandler, M., See, L., Copas, K., Schmidt, A., Claramunt, B., Danielsen, F., Legrind, J., Masinde, S., Miller Rushing, A., Newman, G., Rosemartin, A. and Turak, E. 2016. Contribution of citizen science towards international biodiversity monitoring. *Biological Conservation*. doi: 10.1016/j.biocon.2016.09.004

Salk, C., Sturn, T., See, L. and Fritz, S. 2016. Local knowledge and professional background have a minimal impact on volunteer citizen science performance in a land-cover classification task. *Remote Sensing*, 8(9), 774; doi:10.3390/rs8090774.

Chandler, M., See, L., Buesching, C., Cousins, J., Gillies, C., Kays, R. Newman, C., Ormes, M., Perreira, H., Schmeller, D. and Tiago, P. 2016. Involving Citizen Scientists in Biodiversity Observation (Systems). GEO Handbook on Biodiversity Observation Networks. *Springer*, Berlin, pp. 211-237.

See, L., Fritz, S., Dias, E., Hendriks, E., Mijling, B., Snik, F., Stammes, P., Vescovi, F., Zeug, G., Mathieu, P.-P., Desnos, Y.-L. and Rast, M. 2016. A new generation of tools for crowdsourcing and citizen science to support Earth Observation calibration and validation. *IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Magazine*, 4(3), 38-50. doi: 10.1109/MGRS.2015.2498840.

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