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# Australian Citizen Science Association

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**24 January 2018**

## **Hi ACSA Community!**

Happy New Year! In this first newsletter of 2018, we bring you an update on CitSciOz18 (which is now only 2 weeks away!) as well as some information on a couple of new and exciting global #citsci initiatives. 2018 is going to be a big year for citizen science, and we'll be reaching out to all of you for input, to help define and shape the services and activities we offer so that we can best support our community in this rapidly expanding field.

We are already off to a great start in 2018, with the conference of course and the formation of 3 regional chapters. To be officially launched at CitSciOz18, we are very excited to have ACSA-WA, ACSA-Victoria and ACSA-SA on board. If you would like to get your own chapter underway, all the info can be found on our website [here](#).

And while you're online, don't forget to check out our Latest News, where you can read Erin's [blog](#) of her trip to the UN and get a sneaky peak of the brand new [ACSA t-shirt!](#)

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## **#CitSciOz18 - Online Registration Closes 26/1/18**

Just 3 more days to register online! #CitSciOz18 registrations close this Friday at midnight.

[Click here](#) for access to the registration portal.



### What can YOU expect at #CitSciOz18?

With the conference just 2 weeks away, now is the time to start planning for your trip. Adelaide is generally very hot in the summer, with temperatures in the mid- to high- 30s (and even 40s) not uncommon. Please pack accordingly! Our [conference website](#) has been updated with information on [planning your trip](#) and also a [venue map](#) so you know where to go. Our [conference program](#) is live and ready to go!

In keeping with our #sustainable theme, we are asking each and every participant to bring their own [water bottle](#) and [tea cup](#) in a reusable backpack or bag.

We all know that conferences can be rather draining on mobile phone and tablet batteries. Don't forget to bring your cable and charger with you to #CitSciOz18 in your backpack. Look out for a handy charging station where you can plug in your device and let it recharge while you grab some lunch and have a chat!

Have you seen the new [ACSA T-shirt design](#)? Designed by our own Ellie Downing and Amy Slocombe, the theme of the shirt is the "Tools of Citizen Science". Look out for your shirt as part of your welcome pack at #CitSciOz18. For those ASCA members not coming to the conference, your shirt will be mailed out to you. Additional shirts can be purchased for \$20 each.

Don't forget to check our [conference website](#) for all the latest details and information.

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## #1BillionCitSci2020

We mentioned our Chair [Erin Roger's blog](#) of her trip to Nairobi, as part of the International Citizen Science Delegation attending the United Nations Science-Policy-Business Forum at the UN Complex in December 2017. There were quite a few key takeaway messages from this Forum, including setting the target of '**one billion people engaged in citizen science by 2020**'. Wow!! We expect quite a few conversations about this target at #CitSciOz18! Read more about the #1BillionCitSci2020 target [here](#).



Background [Flickr image by Gregory Williams](#) CC BY-NC-SA 2.0

Did you know that our Management Committee comprises more than 70% women? We are also proud that more than half of our keynote speakers for #CitSciOz18 next month are women scientists.

But we know there are more #CitSciWomen out there. We encourage our female scientists to nominate themselves on the new "[500 Women Scientists](#)" website. This website is used by people who need a scientist for a news story, a keynote speaker, a collaborator, a subject matter expert or even a panelist.

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## Earth Hour 2018

Earth Hour 2018 will be taking place on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March from 8.30pm local time. This year, Earth Hour will be exploring the impacts of climate change on local biodiversity. This theme will continue until 2020 and is tied to the first Aichi Biodiversity Target to raise awareness of the need to value and conserve biodiversity.

One of the ways that the WWF-Australia's Earth Hour team is by encouraging people to get involved this year is by taking part in local citizen science projects such as bio-blitzes.

If you are interested in learning more about Earth Hour or you are interested in organising an event during Earth Hour, please contact Hasmukh Chand on [hchand@wwf.org.au](mailto:hchand@wwf.org.au).

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**Please consider helping spread the word about ACSA by sharing this newsletter with people engaged in citizen science!**

**Thank you for your continued support and interest in ACSA.**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us:

[info.acsa01@gmail.com](mailto:info.acsa01@gmail.com) or via our [website](#).

Erin, Stephanie, Alexis, Ellie, Jessie, Kylie, Jenn, Paul and Amy

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Get connected



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and community volunteers in all aspects of citizen science. To learn more visit <http://citizenscience.org.au>.

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