Geo-Wiki.org Newsletter

Welcome to our Summer Edition of Geo-Wiki News!

Our third edition for 2015 features the launch of our FotoQuest Austria summer 2015 campaign and future outlooks on a new game and geo-wiki

On July 9 we launched our FotoQuest Austria citizen science summer campaign! The FotoQuest Austria app allows you to explore the outdoors while taking pictures and collecting observations for science! This project uses a game-like app to help us gather information about land cover and land use in Austria, important for research on climate change and nature preservation. The goal for the project is to create an openly accessible archive of geo-located pictures and information on how land is used in Austria. We are especially interested in urban expansion and the preservation of wetlands, which store large amounts of carbon dioxide and are therefore important for limiting climate change. By participating, you not only help science and enjoy the outdoors this summer, but also you can earn points for prizes including:

- Samsung Galaxy S6 Edge or iPhone 6
- AppleWatch
- iPad Air 2
- Samsung Galaxy Tab 4

The first few weeks since our launch have been a great success! So far, 1160 quests have been successfully completed with over 6300 photos uploaded. This means we have already collected important data for 6.2% of the points across Austria. Media coverage has also been great, as FotoQuest Austria was selected "App der Woche" on ORF's Heute Konkret, besides featuring in news articles, and TV and radio programs.

For more information about FotoQuest Austria, please visit:

fotoquest.at
twitter.com/FotoQuest_AT
facebook.com/GeoWiki
iiasa.ac.at/web/home/about/news/20150709-Fotoquest.html

To see FotoQuest in the news:

http://science.orf.at/stories/1760550/
http://fm4.orf.at/stories/1760553/
http://derstandard.at/2000018843942/Mithilfe-bei-Forschung-zu-geaenderter-Landnutzung-erhofft
http://oesterreich.austrianews24.at/artikel/osterreich-erkunden-klima-retten

To download the app:

Android
iOS

Future outlook

Stay tuned for our next game! Picture Pile builds on the success of Cropland Capture. It will initially focus on monitoring deforestation.

Geo-wiki is currently being re-factored: When using Geo-Wiki, you may have noticed an issue with the Google Earth Plug-in, which will stop working soon...don't worry, we are already working on a solution! The updated, or re-factored, Geo-Wiki will be released soon.

Past Events where Geo-Wiki and its scientific outcomes were presented

- Myroslava Lesiv "Development of a hybrid forest map using Ukraine as a case study" and Dmitry Schepaschenko "Citizen science applications for forestry" at the Conference "Forestry: Bridge to the Future" in Sofia, Bulgaria in May.
- Dmitry Schepaschenko "Geo-Wiki: an online validation platform and fusion of spatial data" at Workshop "Trust in Spatial Data and Validation of Global Land Cover Products" 5-7 June, Shanghai, China
- Dmitry Schepaschenko "Geo-Wiki: an on-line validation platform and fusion of spatial data" at "International Workshop on Supporting Future Earth with Global Geo-information", June 9-10, Beijing, China
- Ian Mccallum presented Food, Water, Energy Data Required for Integrated Modelling at the 9th GEO European Projects Workshop in Copenhagen Jun 15-16
- Ian Mccallum participated in a Google "experts meeting" on Big Data in the Water Cycle at the Google campus in Mountain View, California June 30 – July 1.
- Steffen Fritz participated in the European Commission's Crowdsourcing Food Prices in Africa (CroFoPA) Technical Inception Workshop in Brussels Jul 7
- Ping Yowargana presented Geo-Wiki at SilvaCarbon Technical Workshop: "Evaluating Methods for Biomass Estimation and Forest Carbon Mapping" in Hanoi, Vietnam July 21-24.
- Linda See attended the International Conference on Urban Climate (ICUC9) in Toulouse from 20-24 July and gave a presentation and workshop on using crowdsourcing to collect information on the form and function of cities
- Steffen Fritz and Linda See attended the IGARSS 2015: Understanding the Earth for a Safer World in Milan and presented "Using Crowdsourcing and Serious Gaming to Gather Land Cover and Land Use Data" Jul 26-31

Upcoming Events

- Dmitry Schepaschenko will give a keynote presentation "A citizen science application for improving the spatial distribution of global forests" at World Forestry Congress in Durban, South Africa, September 7-11. http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/world-forestry-congress/en/

Social Media

Don't forget to connect with us on our Twitter and Facebook pages. Just look us up and see how #citizenscience, #crowdsourcing are revolutionizing our ways to #map our world!