Sparkling Science 2.0

9 March 2023

Marika Cieslinski | OeAD

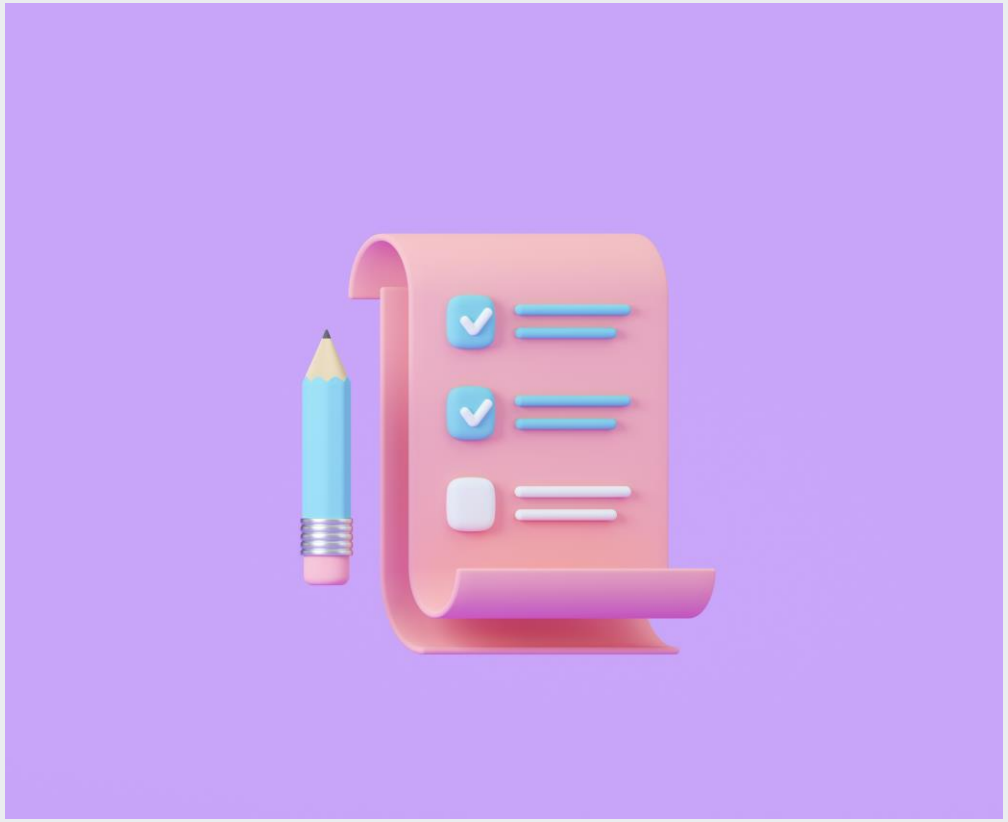
Center for Citizen Science



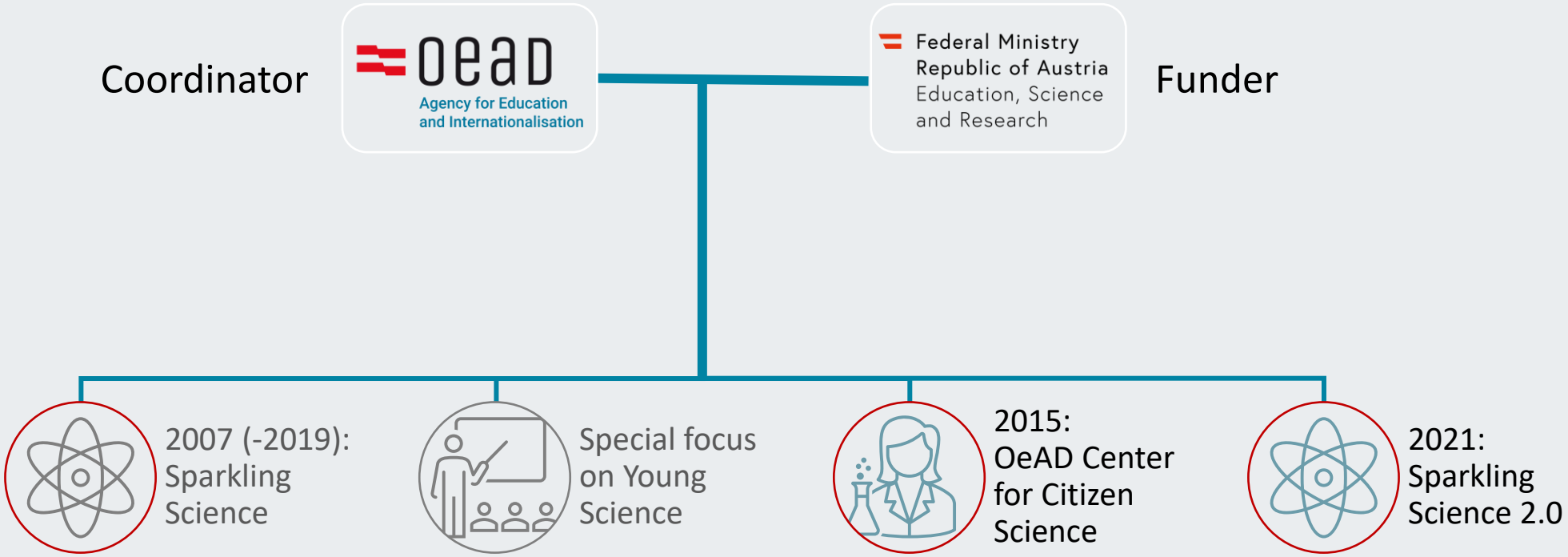
Federal Ministry
Education, Science
and Research

Table of contents

- Overview: Citizen science activities
- Looking back: Sparkling Science
- New program: Sparkling Science 2.0



Overview: Citizen science activites



Sparkling Science

Citizen science projects with schools

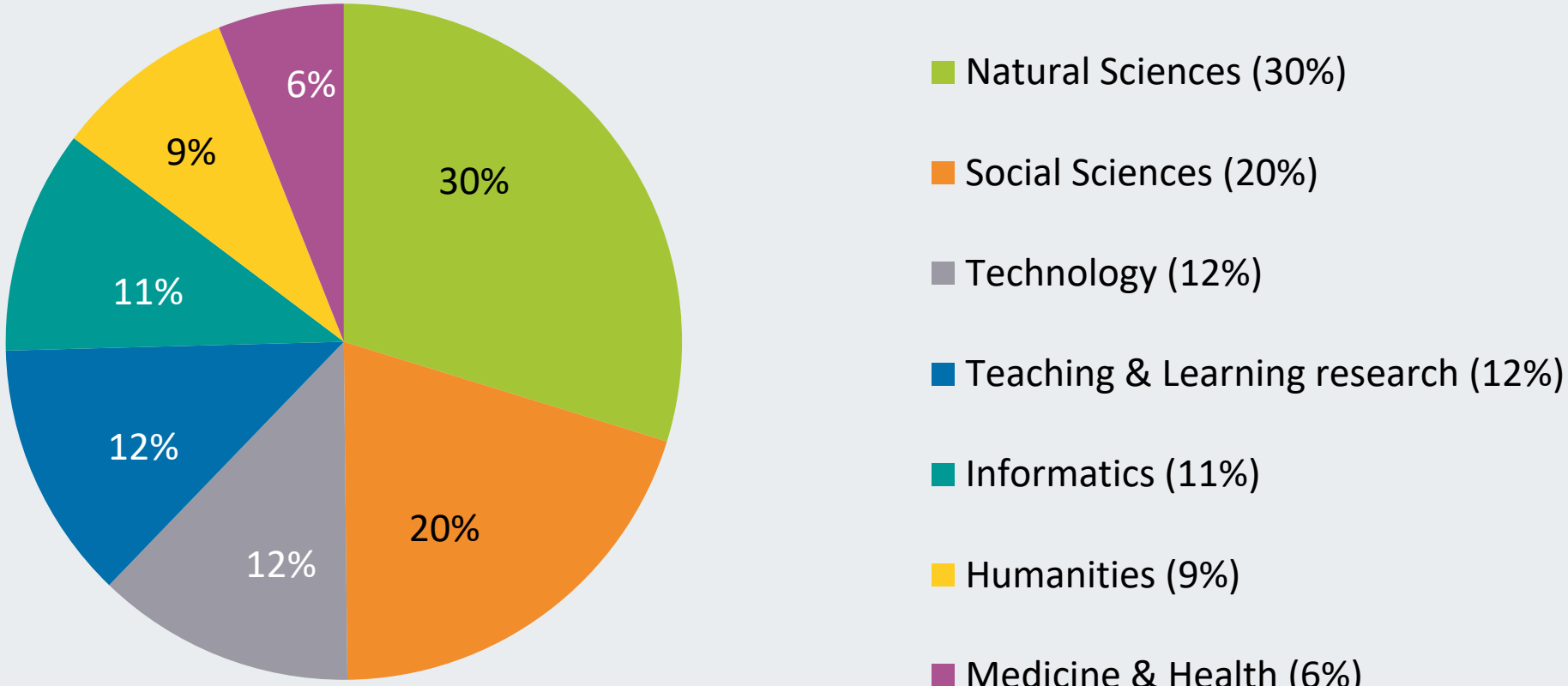
- **Duration:** 2007 – 2019
- **Funding budget:** ~35 million euros
- **In total:**
  - ~ 300 research projects
  - > 107,000 persons from schools, research inst. etc. involved

Unique combination of promoting young talents & fostering excellent and high-quality research!



© Michael Grabner

Sparkling Science – Disciplines



5 program evaluations, e.g. impact on scientists, teachers & pupils

Scientists

- **Scientific findings and development of new methods**
- Science communication
- Higher acceptance of cooperation between scientific and educational institutions
- …



Teachers

- **Lifelong learning**
- Connection to scientific research
  → **new perspectives & knowledge**
- New teaching material
- …



Pupils

- Awareness building,

new knowlege & interests

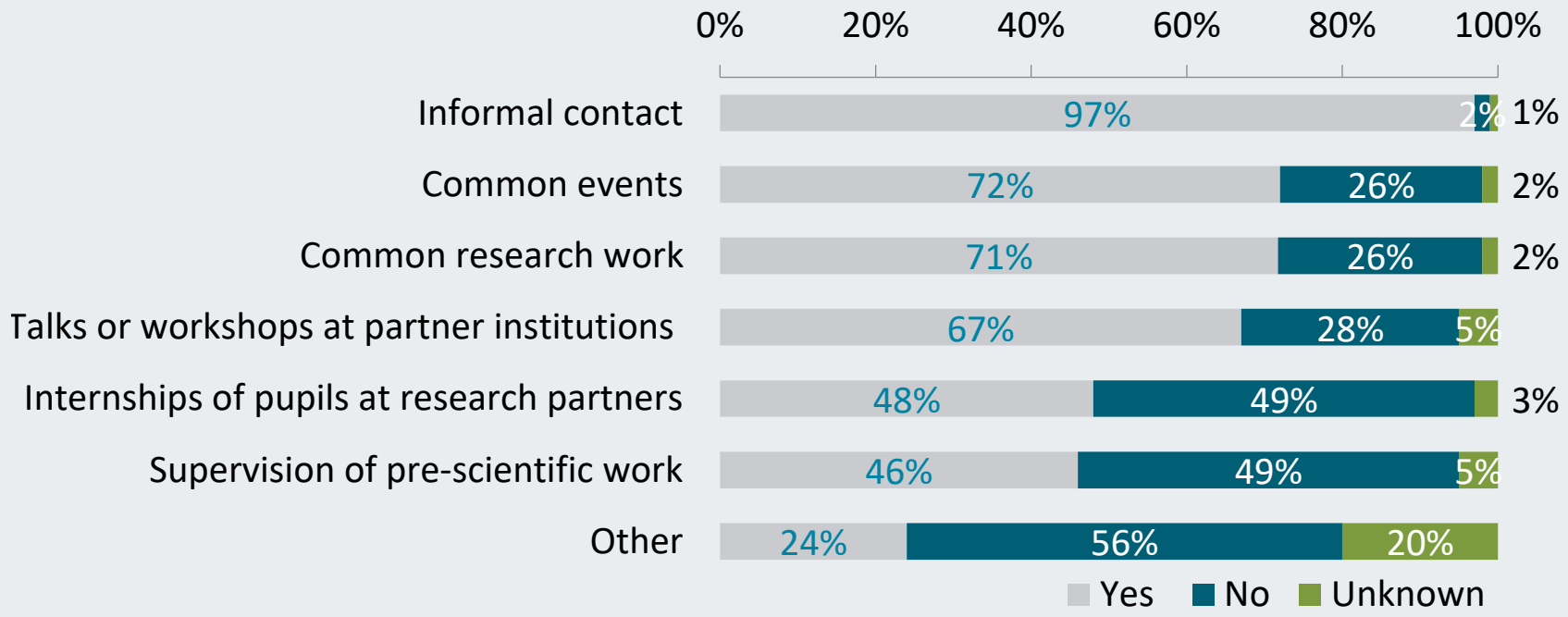
- **Scientific working**
- **Critical thinking**, social and communication competences
- …



SOYER, L./SCHWARZ-WÖLZL, M./KIESLINGER, B./SCHÄFER, T. (2018): Ergänzende Analyse struktureller Effekte des Programms Sparkling Science. Zentrum für Soziale Innovation.
All evaluations can be found here: sparklingscience.at/de/Rueckblick/evaluierungen.html

Type of cooperations after project end

Survey of previous Sparkling Science projects:



TIEFENTHALER, B. (2018): Analyse der institutionellen Wirkungen von Sparkling Science. Technopolis.

More Sparkling Science effects, e.g.

- CS Scepticism ⬇
- Importance and integration of CS ⬆
- Capacity building ⬆

→ CS landscape in Austria has been influenced by Sparkling Science



TIEFENTHALER, B. (2018): Analyse der institutionellen Wirkungen von Sparkling Science. Technopolis.

All evaluations can be found here: sparklingscience.at/de/Rueckblick/evaluierungen.html

Sparkling Science 2.0

- CS projects with schools & **civil society**
- **Funding period:** 2021 – 2026
- **Project duration:** max. 3 years
- **Funding amount per project:** max. 350,000 euros
- **Additional funding:**
  - International networking +10%
  - Science at schools +10%
- **Funding budget 1st call:** 11.5 million euros
- **Next call:** expected in 2023



© Shutterstock_Halfpoint

www.sparklingscience.at

Funding criteria

- **Project lead** in Austria, at least one **Austrian school**
- Projects must meet **scientific standards**
- **Students and (other citizen scientists)** must contribute significantly and comprehensibly to the **achievement of the research goals**
- **Project-related joint activities** between research and educational institutions for at least two years beyond the duration of the funded project
- **Teaching and learning materials** developed as part of the project have to be digitally archived and published (e.g. **www.eduthek.at**).



Project lead

- **Universities, private universities, non-university research institutions**
- **Universities of applied sciences**
- **University colleges of teacher education**
- **Non-profit associations, societies or NGOs** that pursue a scientific purpose and cooperate with universities, universities of applied sciences or non-university research institutions within the funded projects

→ **Become an int. cooperation partner!**

Thank you for your attention!

OeAD Center for Citizen Science
Contact: citizenscience@oead.at

Web: www.zentrumfuercitizenscience.at/en
Facebook: @zentrum.fuer.citizen.science
Twitter: @_CitizenScience



Sparkling Science 2.0: Strategic objectives of the programme

- **Innovative research results**
- **Reinforcing collaboration:** research + education + business + society
- **Reducing scepticism** towards science
- **Permeable education system:** Reducing barriers between the secondary and tertiary education sector
- etc.

