



Climate Action and Light Pollution Threat

Clic-Polf A

# Presenting the CliC – PoLiT educational toolkit

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### Outline



- ► CliC PoLiT educational toolkit in a nutshell
- Background information & Teacher's Handbook
- Ideas to support school & out of school activities
- Guidelines, manual & support material
- Pedagogical Framework





**TOOLKIT MATERIALS** 

Teacher's handbooks

• Students' presentations

• Lesson Plans

Assessment tools

# **Description (Intro)**



- 1. As part of the support offered to the schools, teachers and students that will be involved in the implementation process, the project team will identify and develop a collection of guidelines and support materials in the form of a toolkit.
- 2. This toolkit will employ transdisciplinary activities targeted at **Upper Primary and Secondary** students (ages 9 15), relating light pollution with Sciences, Arts, & Humanities.
- 3. The use of **new technologies and digital tools** will be encouraged in all activities. These instruments will assist students and teachers in making their own discoveries and share them with their communities, thus developing their **problem-solving**, **communication and collaboration competences** (project-based activities, outdoor experimentation, real world problem solving).

# **Description (Content)**



The CliC-PoLiT toolkit will provide support that covers the following aspects that are crucial to enable successful piloting in schools:

- ▶ **Background information** on Light Pollution, its effects on the environment, and its connection to Climate Change;
- Ideas and help to support classroom activities;
- Connections between the toolkit activities and the pedagogical framework, and suggested ways of implementation;
- ► A how-to guide to introduce the selected digital resources.
- Professional Development and Assessment Toolkit

# **Description (Timeline)**



The work of the educational toolkit is divided in the following tasks:

- Preparation of the first version of the toolkit, including a preliminary study of each country's curricular components, collection of educational resources from all partners, and testing during the CliC – PoLiT Summer School.
- 2. Implementation of suggestions, design of the revised toolkit version, and implementation in participating schools.
- 3. Evaluation of first year of implementation results, applying changes, design and implementation of the final toolkit version.
- 4. Final evaluation of results.

# **Background information**



#### **Definitions, Glossary and Examples**

- What Is Light Pollution?
- Causes and types of Light Pollution
- Effects of Light Pollution
- Light Pollution monitoring and mitigation
- How can we reduce light pollution?
- Fun facts (or maybe not) about Light Pollution!

#### **Impacts** loss of biodiversity, ecosystem services and human well-being Ecological Socioeconomic Aspects Aspects Security Predation **Energy efficiency** Communication Working environment Migration/Orientation Public health Chronoecology Light design Food webs Aesthetics Evolution Light Recreation Species richness pollution **Impacts Impacts** interference with sleep, decreased fitness, mortality, changed populations structure, increased stress response, health hazard. reduction in local populations, **Physiological Aspects** increased health costs, decreased ecosystem resilience, Chronobiology increased invasion risk reduced job performance Energy metabolism Hormonal balance Psychophysiology Behavior

## **Background information (2)**

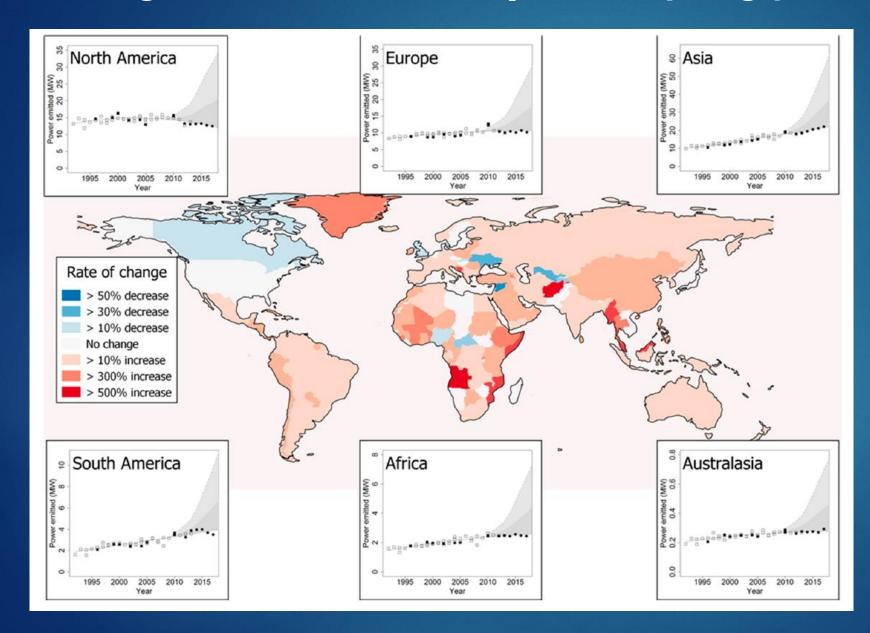


#### Monitoring light pollution (geospatial skills)

- How to work with satellite images of the Earth at night strikingly that illustrate the extent of
  the distribution of artificial light sources associated with human settlement, industry and
  transport links, across its surface.
- How satellites work and measure the quantity of artificial light that includes a mixed signal of direct emissions from outdoor lighting that is not vertically shielded, as well as reflected light from the ground, buildings and vegetation, and light scattered within the atmosphere.
- Importance of monitoring and mapping artificial light. These signals have been increasingly used as an important indicator of urbanisation, industrial activity and economic development. It has also been used as a measure of light pollution, which has long been a concern of astronomers but has more recently been proposed as an emerging major threat both to public health and natural ecosystems.

## Background information (2 - Analyzing patterns)





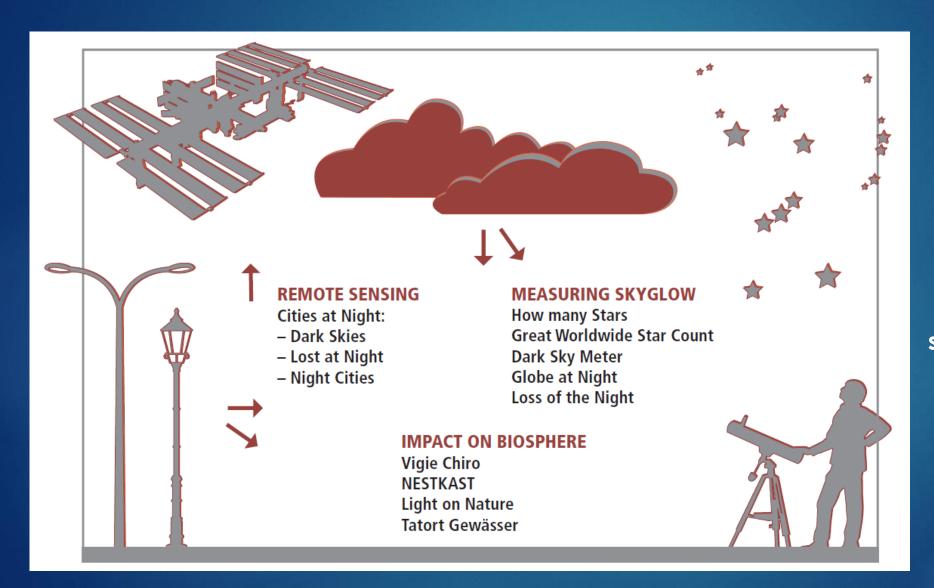
# Graphs, charts & maps (examples)

Rate of change in artificial light at night represented as power output detectable by satellites from 1992 to 2017

**Source:** Sánchez de Miguel et al. 2021

## Background information (Citizen Science)





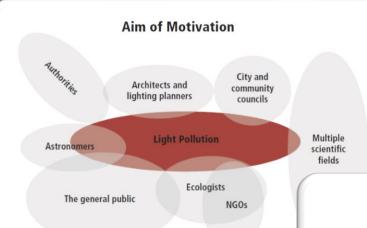
Citizen Science & Light
Pollution tracking and
mitigation

List and ideas for citizen
science projects focusing on
artificial light at night and
changes of nightscapes.

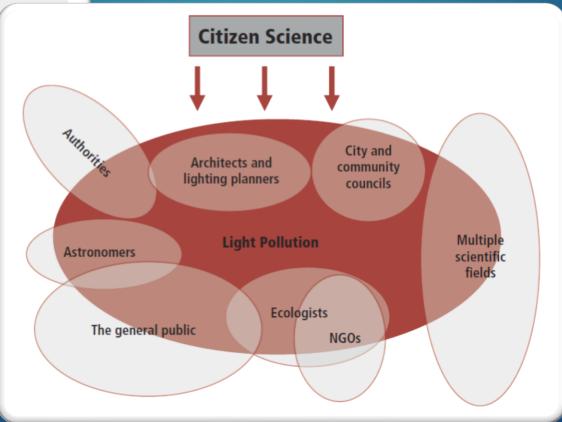
**Source:** Schroer et al. 2018

# Background information (Citizen Science)





# Light Pollution and Citizen Science scientific fields



Motivation aim to transfer
the relevance of light
pollution to
a broader field of
stakeholders

Source:

Schroer et al. 2018

### **Background information (Sustainable Development)**



Energy Performance Variables	Aspect	Indicator	Type
Energy consumption in an area	Energy consumption for an area	Number of luminaires/area	System
		New luminaires in non-lit areas	System
Rebound effects	Predicted energy savings will be underestimated	Percentage (rebound effect)	System
Energy efficiency	Energy efficiency based on energy and light per km road (per year)	$W/lx$ per $km$ road $W/(cd \cdot m^2)$ per $km$ road	Energy efficient
Energy performance indicators in accordance with EN 13201-5	Annual energy consumption indicator (AECI)	Wh⋅m <sup>-2</sup>	Energy efficient
	Power Density Indicator (PDI)	$W/(lx \cdot m^2)$	Energy efficient
Luminous efficacy	Increase energy to light output	lm/W	Energy efficient
Luminous efficiency	Increase energy to light output compared to 100%	%	Energy efficient
Mesopic design or spectral distribution of the light source	Maximize visual performance and energy savings	S/P ratio	Energy efficient
		Correlated color temperature, degrees Kelvin (K)	Energy efficient
Light loss factor and lamp lumen depreciation	Minimize energy waste in the design and use stages (by accurate values of LLF or LLD)	Light loss factor (LLF), lamp lumen depreciation (LLD) or maintenance factor	Energy conserving
		constant light output (CLO)	Energy conserving
Controlled dimming or adaptive/smart/dynamic systems	Energy savings in accordance with demand or schedule	Percentage savings (kWh/year)	Energy conserving
Surface luminance	Energy savings through increased luminance by changing the surface characteristics or adapting light levels to changed surface conditions	Percentage savings (kWh/year) due to intelligent lighting compensation for surface characteristics	Energy conserving
Legislation or regulations	Restrict the use of light sources, or spatial or temporal distribution of light	For example, implementing principles of "as low as reasonably achievable" (ALARA) or requirements on energy efficiency labelling	System, energy efficient or energy conserving
Optimized lighting design	Different implementations of optimization in the design process	For example, adaptation to current conditions or settings, or digital optimization	System, energy efficient or energy conserving

EU Green Deal and SD goals.

Energy performance
variables, aspects,
indicators, and type.
Energy performance,
consumption, efficiency, or
energy
conservation examples.

### **Background information (Sustainable Development)**



#### Dimensions

#### Identified subsections



- Ecological impact
- Energy efficiency
- Light pollution (astronomical)
- •LCA (Life Cycle Assessment)



Economy

- Pay-back time
- Economic growth
- Cost benefits and external costs
- LCC (Life Cycle Cost)
- Dimming schedules



- Traffic safety
- · Human health
- Social well-being, quality of life, equitability

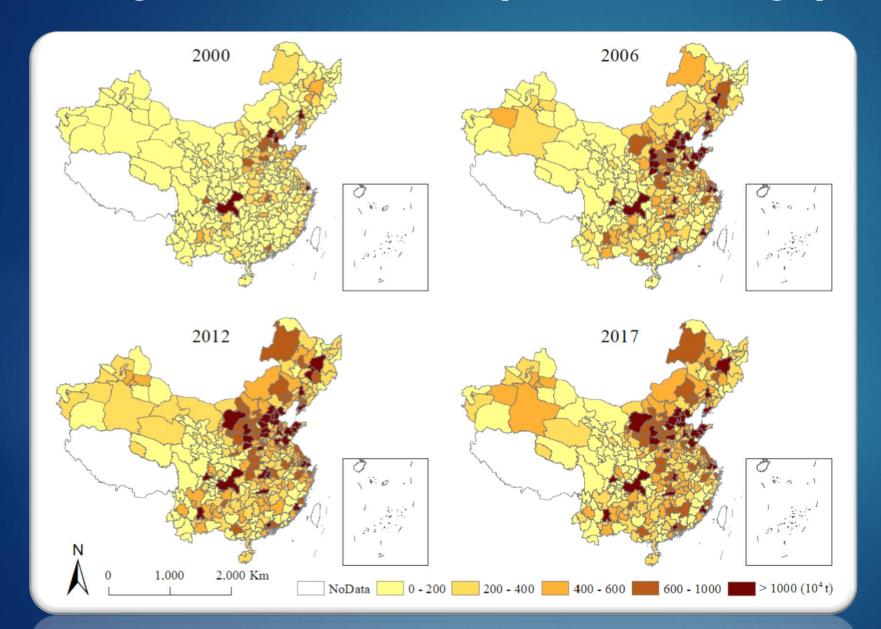
Indicators of sustainable development

Overview of the dimensions and identified subsections in the framework of indicators of sustainable development for exterior lighting.

**Source:** Calluna et al. 2020

# Background information (Climate change)





Spatial distribution of carbon emissions at the city level for the periods 2000–2017.

Correlating Light Pollution & Air Pollution.

**Source:** Sun et al. 2020

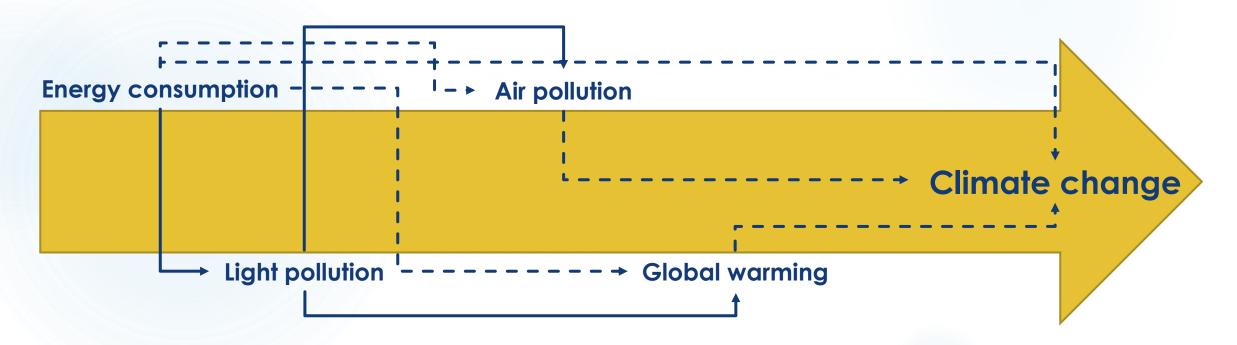
# Light Pollution and Climate change



There are two ways for light pollution to affect climate change;

Direct Way: With the destruction of nitrate radicals (which cleanse our air)

Indirect Way: Wasting resources (energy consumption) that pollutes air



Is this valid? Any other researches validate these findings?

Source: Stark et al. 2010

### **Background information (Biodiversity)**



### Effects of Light Pollution

Light pollution disrupts ecosystems, from nocturnal to diurnal species: Nocturnal species are adapted to primarily be active at night -- from hunting for food, to reproduction, to pollination, to regulating body temperature. Diurnal species are adapted to primarily be active during the day. Diurnal species also require darkness to develop, navigate and survive.

# Núcleo Interativo de Astronomia e Inovação em Educação



**Light Polluted Cities are Deadly for Birds** 



**Light Pollution is Contributing Significantly to Insect Apocalypse** 



**Bright Lights Disorient Sea Turtle Hatchlings** 

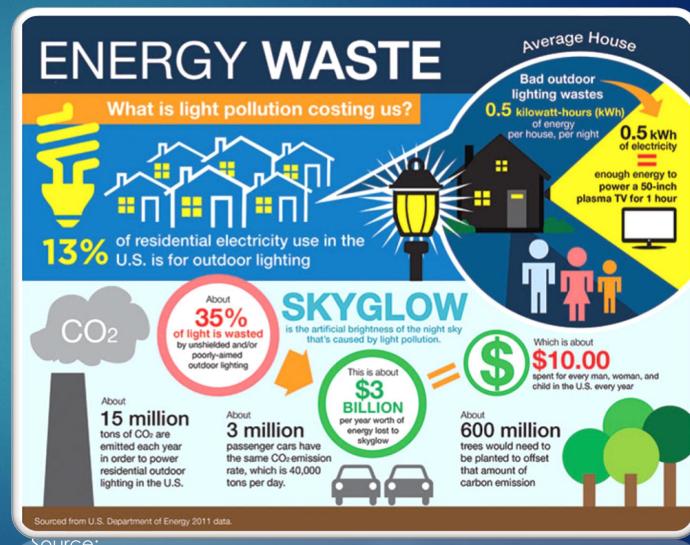
**Source:** International Dark Sky Association

### **Background information (Energy consumption)**



Effects of Light Pollution

pollution wastes Light energy: pollution wastes a lot of energy. 40,000 of carbon dioxide enters the atmosphere -- every day -- to produce the energy for unnecessary outdoor light. 600 million trees would need to be planted to offset that amount of CO2!



Source:

### Background information (Energy efficiency)

	Annual Energy (kWh)	Annual costs (Euro)	Annual CO2 (kg)
Before project	1,091,873	148,713	580,876
After project	346,300	47,166	184,231
Savings	745,573	101,547	396,645
% saving	68%	68%	68%

#### Source:

https://www.caro.ie/projects-research/case-studies/improving-public-lighting-energy-efficiency

#### **Environmental**

The energy-efficient lighting project achieved 68% savings in energy spending and has made a significant contribution to energy efficiency target of 33% by 2020 relative to 2009 energy usage.

Is LED lighting systems a viable option towards light pollution mitigation?



Social The social benefits of a LED lighting system include providing a safer environment, helping to lessen street crime and the fear of crime, and reducing the number and severity of night-time accidents.

### Background information (LED or No LED?)





Egypt is one of the places on the planet where the massive use of high-intensity white LED street lighting.

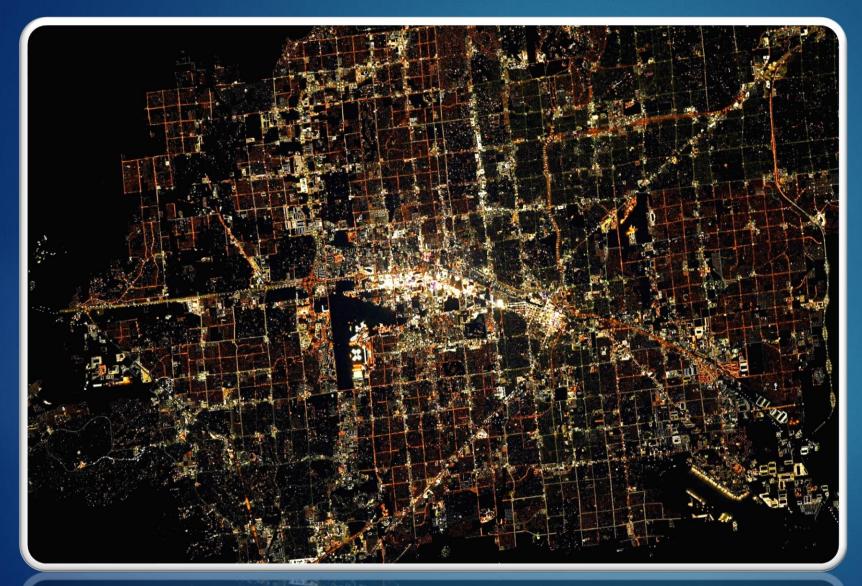
The contrast with the areas of Cairo that still have orange street lights speaks for itself.

Cairo, 5 May 2021.

LED or no LED? LET'S DEBATE!

### Background information (LED or No LED?)





Seen from space, Las Vegas looks like a strip of incandescent light, mostly white in colour. In terms of light pollution, it is clear that what lights up Las Vegas does not stay in Las Vegas.

Source:

Is this sustainable development?

# Ideas to support school activities



#### <u>Wildlife Workbook</u> (includes games or activities about wildlife and light pollution)

- Workbook for ages 5-9
- Workbook for ages 6-12

#### Individual Activities and Games from the Wildlife Workbooks

#### **Ages 5-9**

- Animals of the Night Word Search
- Lost Moth Dot to Dot
- Save the Stars Ages 4-8

#### Ages 5-12

- Owl Coloring page
- Sleep Tight Maze
- Turtle Maze

#### Ages 6-12

- Light Pollution and Wildlife Crossword Puzzle
- Wildlife Word Search

### **Existing material**

- Wildlife Connect the Dots
- How can schools fight light pollution?
- <u>Diorama of the Night Art Project Ages 6-12</u>
- Protect our Night Sky/Reduce Light Pollution Ages 11-15 (12-page PDF of information and activities from the Bush Telegraph, published by the nonprofit NaDeet, the educational core of NamibRand International Dark Sky Reserve, Africa's first International Dark Sky Reserve
- Mini Page on Light Pollution Ages 8-10 (4-page PDF about light pollution and good lighting)

# Ideas to support classroom activities



# **Existing material**

How can we reduce light pollution?

**LET'S START A CAMPAIGN!** 

**LET'S TRY THIS GAME!** 



<u>Light Pollution Simulator</u>

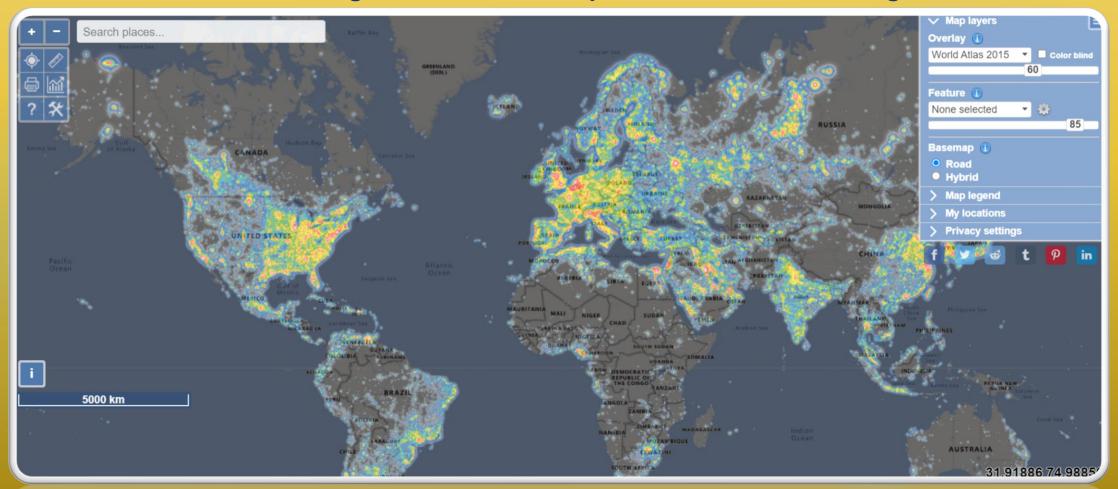


# Ideas to support classroom activities



### Create new material - Analyze data

Let's track Light Pollution from space! Click on the image below.

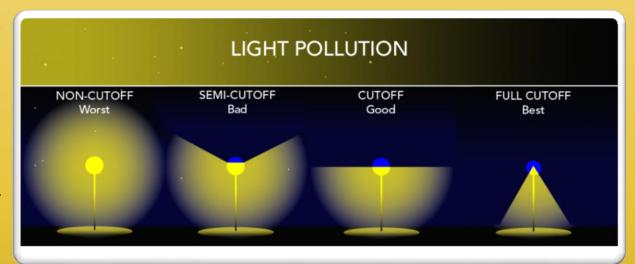


# Ideas to support out of school activities



How can we reduce light pollution?

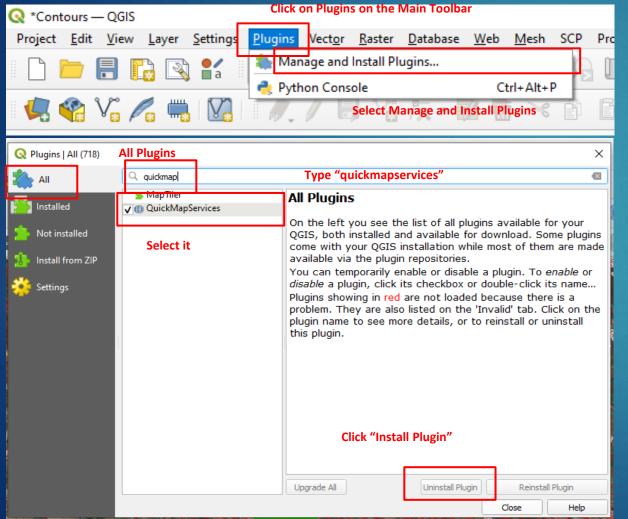
- 1. First, you can turn off your lights at night, or close the curtains.
- 2. Then look at the lights outside your house. Can they be turned off?
- 3. Or can motion sensors be installed so they only come on when needed?
- 4. Glare from outdoor lighting can be reduced by shielding light fixtures. You can talk to friends, family, and guardians about making some of these changes at home!
- 5. LED lights are often used outdoors. But LEDs can harm humans and animals. It's safer to use lights and filters that are coloured red or yellow.



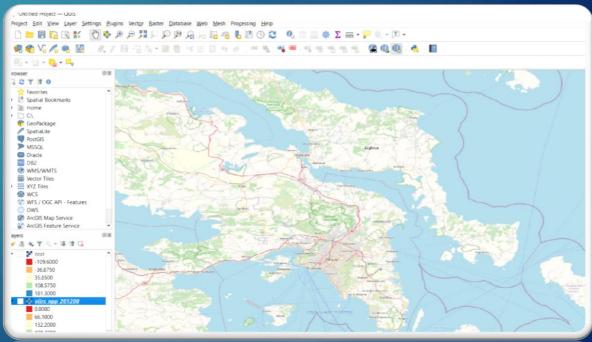
6. Make your contribution and convince others!



**Step 1:** Install the Plugins needed to run the activity (QuickMapServices)



You can load the Basemap using the Main Toolbar on top: Web > quickMapServices > OSM > OSM
Standard. The result is shown below!

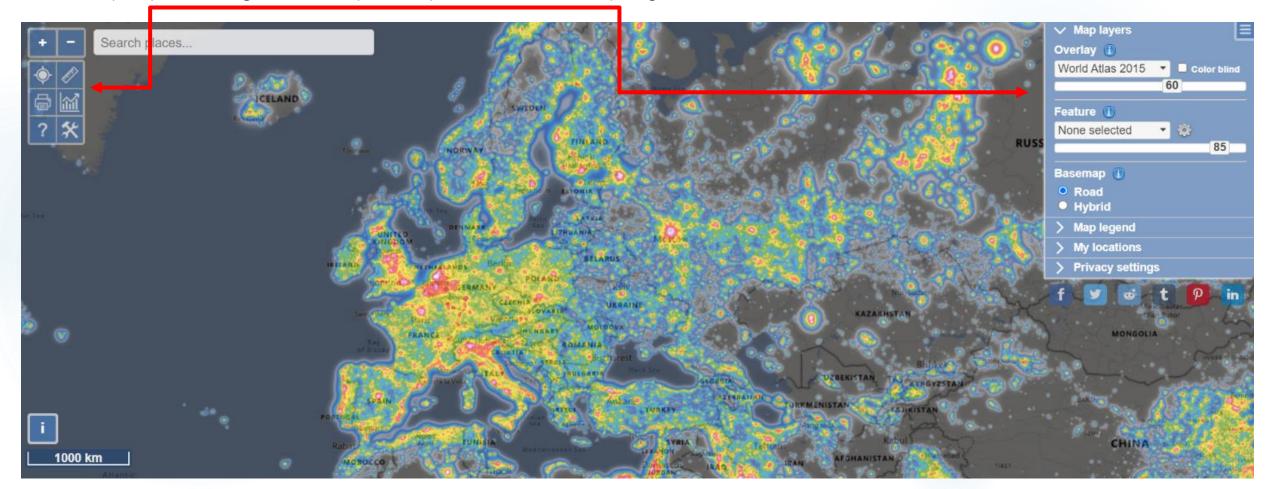




In the platform you can see the **light pollution levels at global scale**.

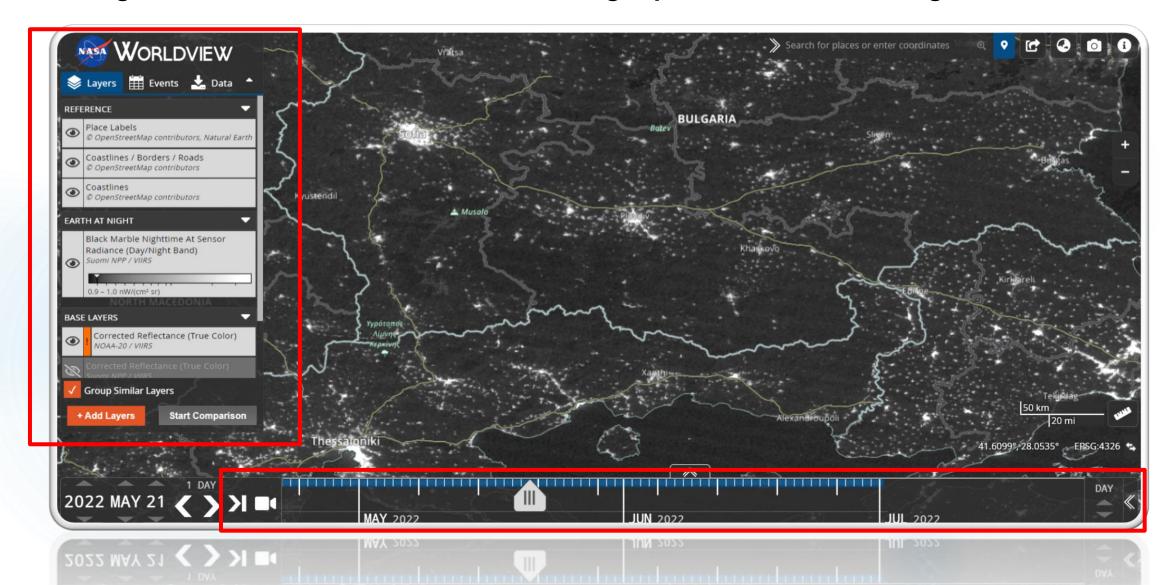
In particular, you see the **radiance levels at night**, as seen from the satellites.

On the right corner you may select different light pollution maps per year (i.e. from 2012 - 2021), you can change the basemap layer, change the transparency level, see the map legend or even to save different locations around the world.





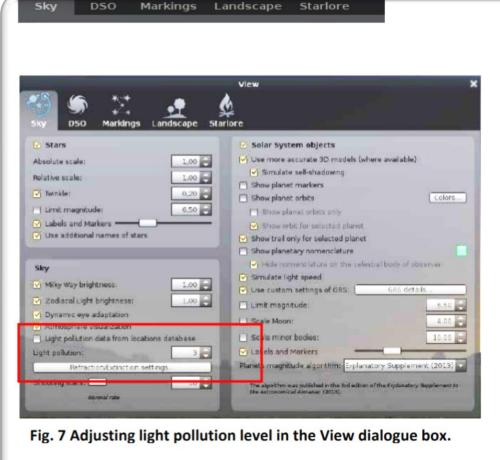
Using NASA WorldView to download real light pollution satellite images.





**BLACKROCK CASTLE** 

#### Changing the levels of light pollution in Stellarium



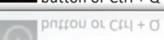
Stellarium simulates light pollution and is calibrated to the Bortle Dark Sky Scale where 1 means a good dark sky, and 9 is a very badly light-polluted sky. The box for 'light pollution data from location database' should remain unchecked to allow the user to increase or decrease levels of light pollution.

The dialogue box can be closed by 'x' on right hand side.

There are of course so many other possibilities of learning using Stellarium and one is encouraged to explore freely or research the User Guide PDF on stellarium.org



button or Ctrl + Q .







# Pedagogical framework



#### Why Light Pollution and overall, Climate change topics are important for DBR?

- Design Based Research (DBR) integrates two endeavours development and research in the process of designing artefacts (teaching materials, learning strategies, curricula, etc.) for school practice.
- Light pollution provides a number of aspects going beyond mere physics subject matter and involves social, environmental and health issues.
- In addition, it is a relatively **new research field** (past two decades). This is usually an interest **generating momentum for students as they get the feeling of involvement in current research**.

# Pedagogical framework



Adopting the Design For Change (DFC) Process, a standard four-step process to guide students to develop their projects is proposed:

- ▶ **Feel:** Students identify problems or challenges in their local communities. Students observe problems and try to engage with those who are affected, discuss their thoughts and ideas of solution in groups, and plan of action, based on scientific evidences.
- ▶ **Imagine:** Students envision and develop creative solutions that can be replicated easily, reach the maximum number of people, generate long-lasting change, and make a quick impact. They are meeting external actors, they are looking for data to support their ideas and they are proposing a series of solutions.
- Create: Students are implementing the project and they are interacting with external stakeholders to communicate their findings.
- ▶ **Share:** Students share their outcomes through posters, scientific papers, text, photos, video, or slideshows as members of the Dark Sky Rangers community.

# Pedagogical framework (Inquiry-based approaches)



- ▶ **Use constructivist approaches** to learn in general as well as an emphasis on a context-oriented or competence oriented structure of the learning path.
- Provide the engage-phase to grasp the phenomenological aspect of light pollution and problems connected to its existence. Only after this cognitive activation and the generation of problem awareness, students are supported to acquire relevant scientific knowledge to identify questions and to draw evidence-based conclusions.
- For structuring the learning paths in such a way, inquiry-based approaches will be used (5E-Model engage, explore, explain, elaborate, evaluate).

# Pedagogical framework (Inquiry-based approaches)



Picture stimulus: Compare!

Explain: Which light sources contribute to light pollution and how

Elaborte: Design & test outdoor light fixtures (min. light pollution)

Brainstorming: why are they different?

(Atmospheric) scattering

Decision making: "courtyard lighting"

Explore: Concept of light pollution

Propagation of light & reflection



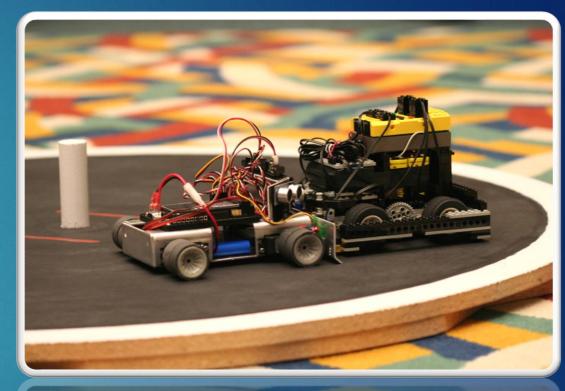
Source:

<u>Haagen-</u>
<u>Schützenhöfer and</u>
<u>Kopper, 2019</u>

# Pedagogical framework (Engineering approaches)



- **1. Define:** Explore, discuss, and build understanding of the problem (4 hours).
- 2. Deeper investigation about the problem (4 hours)
- 3. Devise: Create a plan to solve the problem (3 hours)
- 4. Select the best possible solution (1.5 hours)
- 5. Code implementation or prototype co-creation (5 hours)
- 6. Solutions test and evaluation Review and Revise(2 hours)
- 7. Communicate results (2 hours)



**Robotics Competitions –** 

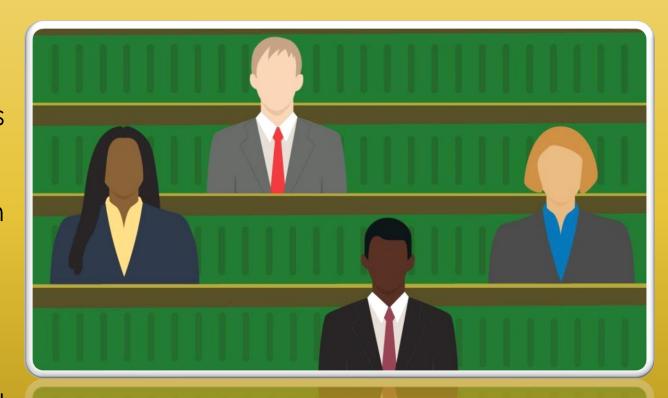
Coding and Engineering skills

# Pedagogical framework (21st century skills)



#### ▶ Debate science & 21<sup>st</sup> century skills

- 1. Develop critical thinking skills
- 2. Demonstrate collaboration, consensus building and cooperation
- 3. Apply skills in oral, visual and written literacy
- 4. Synthesize and communicate information
- 5. Develop media literacy skills
- 6. Demonstrate decision-making and problem-solving skills



**Students' Parliament** 

# Pedagogical framework (Green skills)

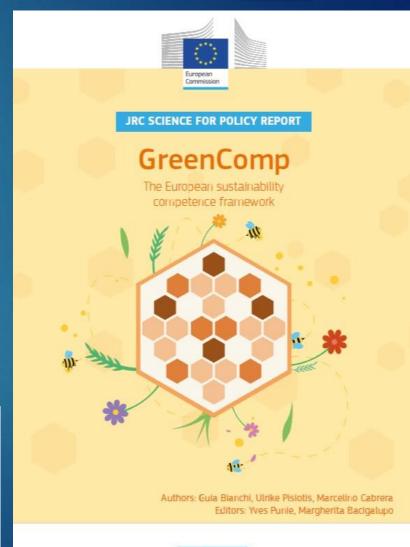


GreenComp: The European sustainability competence framework by JRC

12 competences organised into the four areas below:

- Embodying sustainability values, including the competences
- valuing sustainability
- supporting fairness
- promoting nature
- Embracing complexity in sustainability, including the competences
- systems thinking
- critical thinking
- problem framing
- Envisioning sustainable futures, including the competences
- futures literacy
- adaptability
- exploratory thinking
- Acting for sustainability, including the competences
- political agency
- collective action
- individual initiative





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# Thank you!

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