



## Departmental Seminar

# Bridging in-school science education and real-world scientific practice: Towards learning through societal participation

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Monday, December 16th, 2024, 14:30-16:00,  
at Feinberg building, Lab #3, Weizmann Institute of Science

### Abstract

School participation in citizen science engages students and teachers in performing authentic scientific research, whether led by scientists or enacted as community-based research. This approach provides a setting for immersing students in real-world scientific practice and challenges, with the goals of promoting learning of science and other domains, fostering active citizenship, and contributing to scientific advancement.

In this lecture, I discuss how participation in citizen science introduces a multi-stakeholder environment that challenges in-school teaching and learning processes, while providing unique opportunities to enhance and transform school education. I present a series of studies on school-based citizen science projects, examining students' learning outcomes, the relationships between participating teachers and scientists, and these projects' potential to redefine traditional roles of scientists, teachers, and students, positioning schools as agents of knowledge creation and dissemination in society.

### Bio

Osnat Atias is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Haifa. She earned her doctoral degree from the Faculty of Education at the University of Haifa and completed a previous postdoctoral position in the Faculty of Education for Science and Technology at the Technion. Her research focuses on two main areas: research-practice partnerships that facilitate school participation in citizen science, and the conceptualization of artificial intelligence (AI) literacy and instructional design strategies in AI education. With a



background in biology and computer sciences, she has previously worked in various roles at technological companies and as a science teacher in schools.