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"Sapelli: A mobile data collection platform for everyone"

UCL's Extreme Citizen Science (ExCiteS) research group is experimenting with ways to incorporate the most marginalised communities into participatory citizen science activities through which they can share their indigenous knowledge. Work with communities at the extremes of the globalised world – both because of non-literacy and the remote or forbidding environments they inhabit. These groups are the gatekeepers of some key environments on which the future health of the planet depends – from tropical forests to Arctic sea-ice. In this talk we introduce the methodologies and tools we are developing to give them a voice. The main focus of the talk will be on Sapelli, the mobile data collection platform being developed at UCL ExCiteS. It is designed with a primary focus on non- or low-literate users with little or no prior ICT experience and features autonomous multi-modal data transmission. Sapelli surveys allow the collection and categorisation of spatial data, augmented with photos, audio and soon video.

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