When society meets science - results of the survey on cyanobacterial blooms

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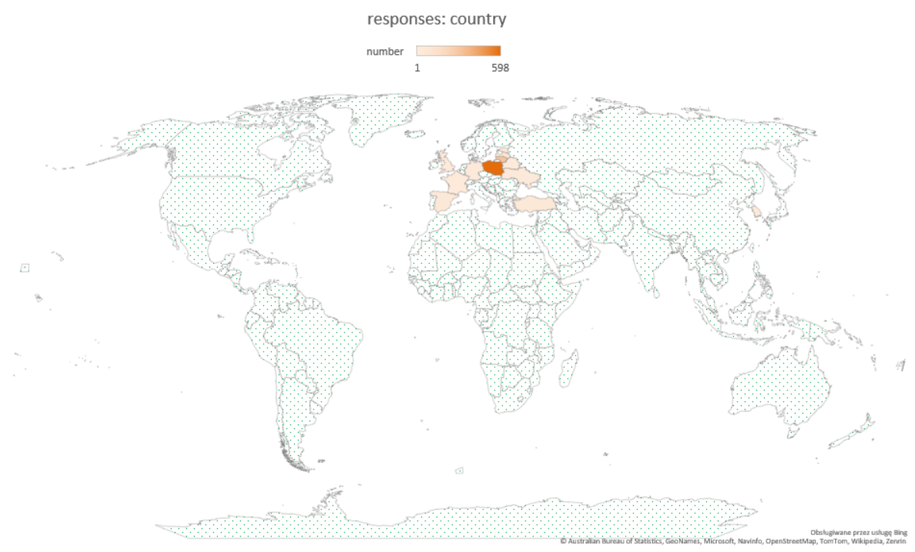
Citizen science could be a helpful tool that combines ecological research with environmental education.

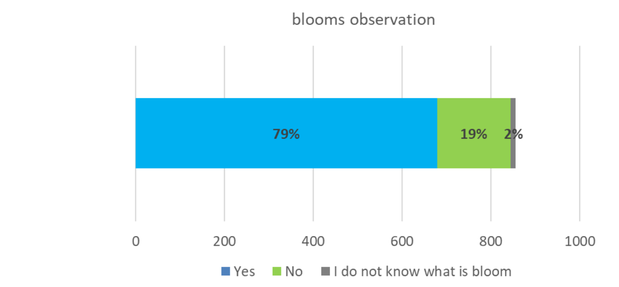
Join us and fill the questionnaire

The questionnaire proposed by the project ,,AlgaeService for LIFE" will facilitate understanding the knowledge gaps in society about cyanobacterial blooms, the threats posed by cyanotoxins, people's attitudes toward the problem, and the best sources for information dissemination in different communities.

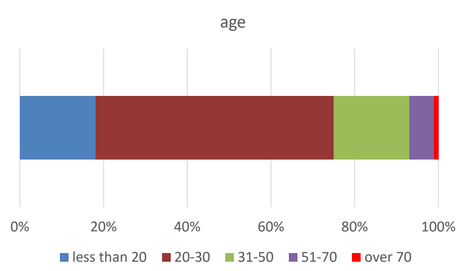


Results

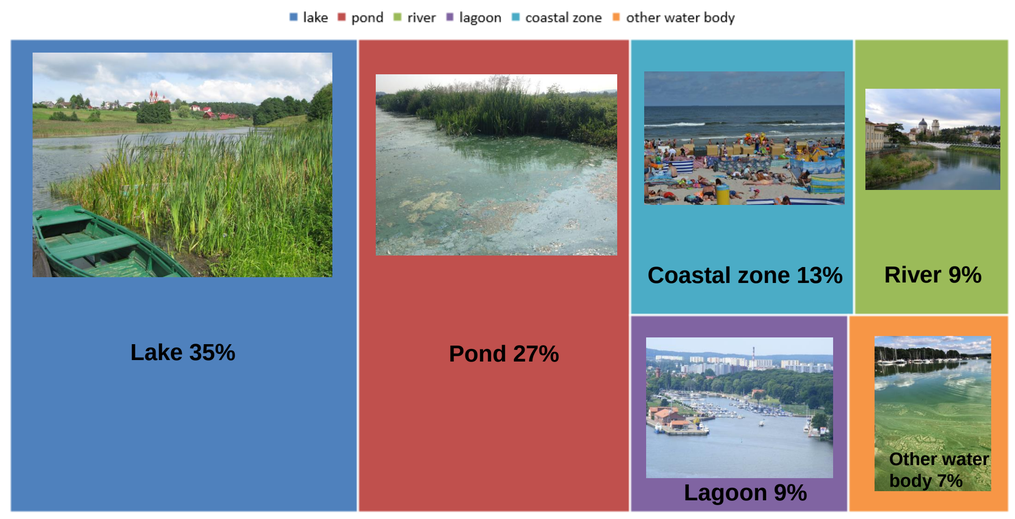
Cyanobacterial blooms were observed by almost 80% respondents



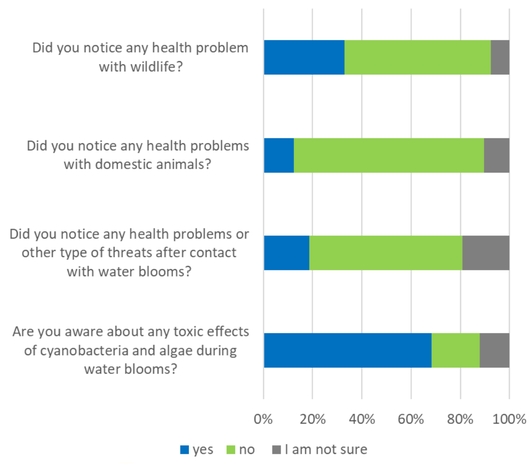
Age and education of respondents

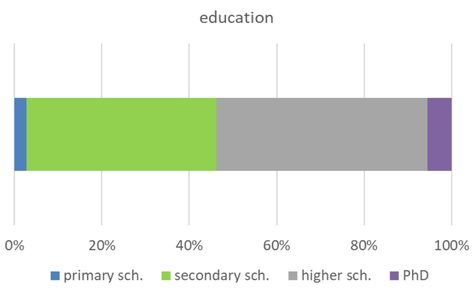


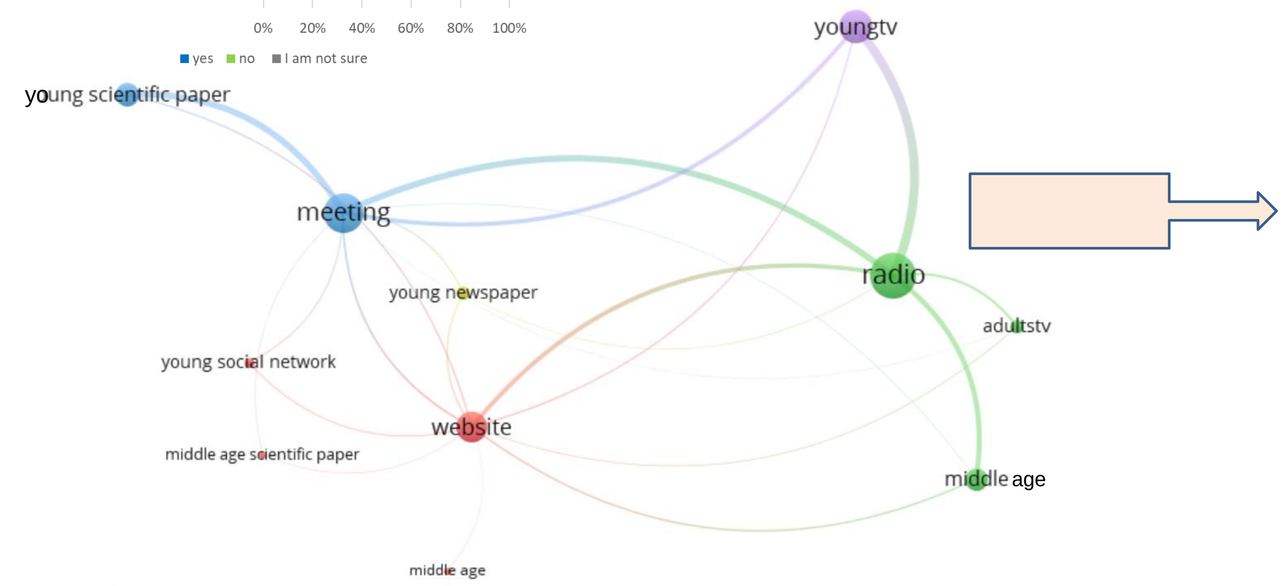
Respondents indicated that they have seen water blooms



Knowledge about cyanotoxins and their effects







Results: age and preferences of information sources

Using VosViewer we found five clusters:

1. People aged 31-50, preferred as sources of information: scientific publications, meetings, websites and people aged 20-30 preferred - social networks;
2. Traditional media (radio, TV) were preferred by respondents aged 31-70, and especially the group aged 51-70 preferred TV;
3. People aged 20-30 – meetings and scientific publications;
4. People aged 20-30 years – newspapers;
5. People aged 20-30 years – TV

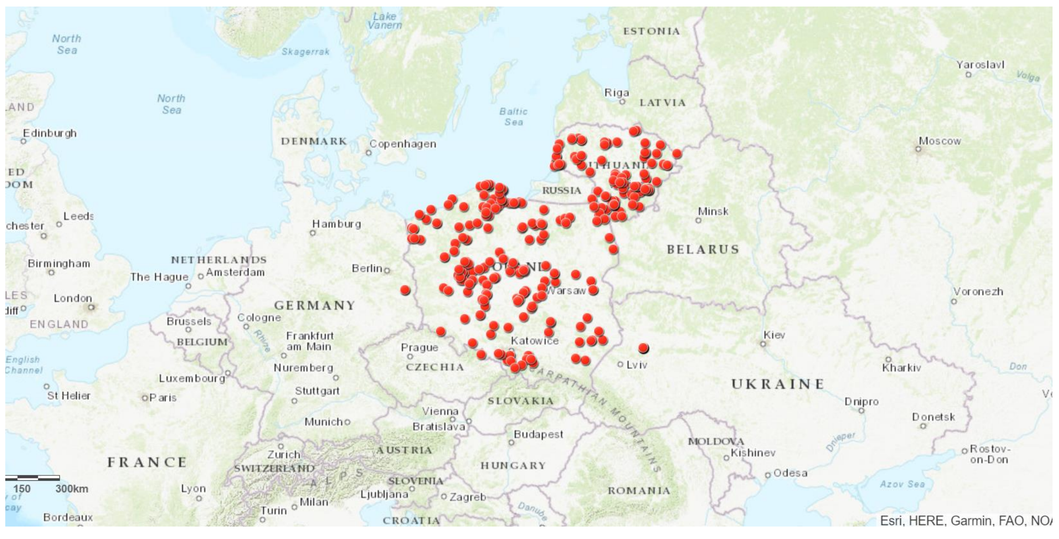
Conclusions:

1. Almost 80% of the responders have seen blooms.
2. The most common water bodies with blooms were lakes and ponds.
3. Young people (20-30 years old) use the wide variety of information sources, both modern (social media) and traditional (TV) types, whereas older people (51-70 years old) most often use traditional media – TV.

Understanding what information society needs and through what channels it can be reached will help increase society's engagement and ensure data quality for another tool created as part of the project - the ArcGIS application interactive map

Join us and mark a blooming water body

Appsas/Mark a blooming water body
https://arcg.is/0jqvCn



Data were collected during the project The „Algae Service for LIFE" project (LIFE17 ENV/LT/000407) .
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