

nQuire



Funding source

National

In-kind value

€100k–€250k

Timeframe

2015–ongoing

Target group

Citizens

Scale

International

Year of reporting

2026

Use case

nQuire is a community and citizen science platform, developed by the Institute of Educational Technology at The Open University, for designing research projects or taking part in research studies created by others. Users can design and manage their own scientific studies, with support from experts, or contribute to studies led by others in ways that help them to learn about society, the environment, or themselves.



Added value

- Providing a free online tool for **designing, piloting and managing scientific and ethically-approved studies**, while collecting data as images, text, sensor readings, geolocation and votes.
- **Displaying live metrics** and making data openly accessible for reading, commenting and liking.
- Supporting citizen scientists through collaboration with experts, study reviews and ethical approvals, **enabling lifelong learning** and active engagement.

Problem addressed

The general public has been traditionally engaged in research as data collectors or processors. nQuire aims to democratise current research practices by enabling participation of non-professionals in all the stages of the scientific research, from setting up an inquiry of personal interest, to deciding on the methods of data collection, analysis, and reporting.

Design and build



Test and improve



Launch and collect



Analyse and share



Illustration of the nQuire workflow. Licence: CC-BY nquire.org.uk

SRIA General Objective

G02: Enable the definition of standards, and the development of tools and services, to allow researchers to find, access, reuse and combine results

Research areas

-  Social Sciences
-  Natural Sciences
-  Medical and Health Sciences
-  Humanities
-  Agricultural Sciences
-  Engineering and Technology

Type of result

-  Service