Abstract

In May 2020, NASA, ESA, JAXA, CSA, and CNES, hosted a virtual 48-hr hackathon, Space Apps COVID-19 Challenge, focused on using Earth observations to learn about SARS-CoV-2 virus and its spread, understand impacts of COVID-19 on Earth systems, and identify opportunities for economic recovery.

This international collaboration event highlights how space agencies, sharing their data and scientific and technical expertise, can engage citizens around the world to inform and support decision-making at global and local scales.

Agency Participation

Subject Matter Experts from NASA and partner agencies:

- Shared data and created 12 challenges on topics including pandemic impacts on UN SDGs, relationships between disease spread and population density.

- Created video tutorials for participants to view through a Virtual Bootcamp.

- Chatted with and answered participant questions live during hackathon.

- Participated in judging to help select winners.

Accomplishments

- 15,000 participants from 150 countries built, designed, coded, and created “solutions” e.g. information portals to inform economic, policy decisions at national scales; applications to address social isolation and improve mental health; tools to provide individuals location-based health recommendations.

- 5 International Space Agencies collaborated to identify pressing priorities, shared knowledge, and supported development of solutions from the crowd.

Participate in Space Apps: October 2-3, 2021

To learn more and Register: www.spaceappschallenge.org

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NASA Space Apps COVID-19 Challenge: Collaborating and Applying Earth Observations for Global to Local Solutions