GEO Health Community of Practice (CoP)
Annual Meeting 2023 (Day 2)
December 14, 2023

In Attendance: 34 participants
In-person (N=21): Juli Trtanj (NOAA), Helena Chapman (NASA HQ/BAH), Aubrey Miller (NIEHS), Emma Knowland (NASA Goddard/Morgan State Univ.), Geoffrey Plumlee (USGS), Wassila Thiaw (NOAA), Sushel Unninayar (NASA GSFC), Bob Chen (CIESIN/Columbia Univ.; NASA SEDAC; GEO Human Planet Initiative), Assaf Anyamba (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), Karlyn Harrod (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), Nathan Pavlovic (Sonoma Technology), Jenny Bratburd (Univ. of Wisconsin Madison), Antar Jutla (Univ. of Florida), Bailey Magans (Univ. of Florida), Sadie Ryan (Univ. of Florida), Babak Fard (Univ. of Nebraska Medical Center), Jorge Méndez Astudillo (National Autonomous Univ. of Mexico), Marina Mendoza (ImageCat, Inc.), Orhun Aydin (St. Louis University), Tomás. Online (N=13): Carl Malings (NASA GSFC/Morgan State Univ.), Olayinka Osuolale (Elizade Univ., Nigeria), Mahesh Jampani (International Water Management Institute), Carlos Barboza (Ministry of Public Health, Uruguay), Carolina Zilli Vieira (Harvard School of Public Health), Rowena Christiansen (Univ. of Melbourne), Terry Idol (Skymantics), Katia Kontar (NOAA), Shay Sharma (Stanford Univ.), Paula Fievez (FrontierSI), Charlotte Smith (Univ. of California Berkeley School of Public Health), Mark Seielstad (Univ. of California, San Francisco), Martin

Summary Notes:
*Prepared by Helena Chapman (NASA HQ/BAH)

Juli Trtanj (NOAA) and Helena Chapman (NASA HQ/BAH) opened the CoP Town Hall (Annual Meeting 2023) by welcoming all participants.

Juli Trtanj (NOAA) provided an overview of GEO and the GEO Post-2025 Strategy, including the Earth Intelligence for All and integration of the One Health approach across the implementation plan. She highlighted the CoP efforts to apply the One Health approach throughout the Work Group activities and research projects, Special Edition teleconferences to highlight the African, Americas, and European regional activities, student engagement activities (NASA-ORN-L-RPI Student Engagement), and GEO Week 2022 and 2023 accomplishments. Then, she described the AmeriGEO Week 2023 activities, including the One Health scientific session (oral and poster presentations), side event (clinical case presentations with Costa Rica medical students), and environmental-epidemiological models for dengue early warning training course. Helena Chapman (NASA HQ/BAH) stressed that the expanded local and international engagement with medical and public health students represents a key milestone for the CoP and wider AmeriGEO community.

Juli Trtanj (NOAA) described the GEO Incubator (Global Heat Resilience Service) that aims to compile data and knowledge on the health risks from exposure to extreme heat, which can help decision-makers develop appropriate interventions and policies to protect population health. She discussed upcoming CoP plans to support the GEO Post-2025 Strategy and Global Health Resilience Service, continue community work on urban heat islands with partners, prepare regional deep dive teleconferences, and support work group activities and proposed outputs.
Helena Chapman (NASA HQ/BAH) introduced each of the five speakers representing the CoP Work Groups, who provided updates on activities and priorities from their respective groups. The five leads or representatives from the CoP Work Groups included Juli Ttrtanj (Heat Work Group), Nathan Pavlovic (Air Quality Work Group), Antar Jutla (Infectious Disease Work Group), Orhun Aydin (Food Security and Safety Work Group), and Terry Idol (Health Care Infrastructure Work Group).

After the overview presentations of the CoP Work Group activities, Helena Chapman (NASA HQ/BAH) opened the platform for discussion. She asked CoP members to reflect on any existing gaps as well as potential opportunities that can expand CoP networks for collaborations in 2024.

Emma Knowland (NASA Goddard/Morgan State Univ.) commented that three of the CoP Work Groups highlighted the need for funding and additional support (e.g. graduate student or postdoctoral associate) to help expand the design and implementation of proposed work group plans. She also noted synergies between the Air Quality and Food Security and Safety Work Groups and wondered if they are currently engaged in collective dialogue. Juli Ttrtanj (NOAA) responded that the CoP Work Groups do not receive GEO Secretariat funding, but that they are working collectively to identify funding opportunities to help support these work group plans. Juli Ttrtanj (NOAA), Nathan Pavlovic (Sonoma Technology), and Orhun Aydin (St. Louis University) mentioned that they are in the early stages of establishing dialogue between the Air Quality, Heat, and Food Security and Safety Work Groups, recognizing the potential synergies on these environmental health topics. Orhun Aydin (St. Louis University) commented that one specific challenge has included conflicting meeting schedules, which they hope to resolve in the upcoming months. Juli Ttrtanj (NOAA) commented that the Global Heat Health Informative Network (GHHIN) strongly supports youth engagement, which can also serve as a common thread between all five work groups.

Emma Knowland (NASA Goddard/Morgan State Univ.) proposed that the development of fact sheets (expanding beyond UN terminology) may help increase visibility of work group activities, streamline communication efforts, and offer a key product for end-users. Aubrey Miller (NIEHS) asked about the potential development of a data dictionary, which could integrate climate and health data for widespread metadata use across networks. He shared one example about the available wildfire data and wondered how to connect air quality and food security data sets. Juli Ttrtanj (NOAA) commented that these efforts could be helpful for upcoming applications that link heat and health topics.

Juli Ttrtanj (NOAA) and Helena Chapman (NASA HQ/BAH) thanked CoP Work Group leads and members for their continued contributions to the field and engagement in this CoP Annual Meeting agenda and group discussion. They agreed that the two-day annual meeting had provided an opportunity to share information, connect researchers, and leverage resources that can amplify current activities using Earth observations for public health applications.

Juli Ttrtanj (NOAA) closed the teleconference and mentioned that the next community telecon will be scheduled for mid-January 2024.

Adjourned: 7:35PM PST (GMT-5)