September 30, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

The NASA Earth Sciences Division cordially invites you to participate in a virtual workshop on environmental justice data and applications on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 from 2:00 - 4:30 pm EDT. NASA’s ESD is seeking input on two objectives. The first is to diversify Earth science research and applications communities with representation from all backgrounds. The second is to support EJ communities by expanding awareness, accessibility, and use of Earth science data and enabling contributions to Earth science pursuits.

The purpose of the workshop is to identify priorities, gaps, barriers, and opportunities in using NASA data, research, and applications to address environmental justice (EJ) and in support of EJ research and stakeholder communities. NASA representatives will provide an overview of existing activities related to environmental justice which should serve as a point of departure for the remainder of the workshop. We will then have a set of structured breakout room discussions and an interactive exercise to identify priorities, barriers, gaps, and opportunities.

Out of this workshop, we will produce a summary report of data and applications needs along with research support and other potential NASA actions in service of EJ that would benefit EJ research and stakeholder communities. The workshop is being organized with the assistance of the NASA Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC), which is managed by the Center for International Earth Science Information Network at Columbia University.

I hope that you are able to attend. Please RSVP by October 12, 2021. If you have colleagues within EJ-focused organizations or social science research groups that focus on EJ issues, please let us know their names, affiliations, and email addresses. Please RSVP and provide additional potential participants to Christine Mataya (christine.j.mataya@nasa.gov) and Nancy Searby (nancy.d.searby@nasa.gov).

Best wishes,

Karen St. Germain, PhD
Director, Earth Science Division
Science Mission Directorate, NASA Headquarters