

## **Session 1: Earth Observations for COVID-19 Response and Recovery**

- ❖ The GEO Health Community of Practice took participants on a “world tour” to showcase actions taken to leverage global expertise, share resources, and discuss priorities and challenges across geographic regions during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.
- ❖ Panelists discussed preliminary findings on how climatological, environmental, and meteorological factors influence COVID-19 transmission across geographic regions, taking into consideration the variable lockdown restrictions placed across countries.
- ❖ Using various Earth observation data sources, they highlighted the importance to make data accessible, usable, and understood for new and existing end-user communities. These new communities may include clinicians and infectious disease experts who are unfamiliar with Earth observation data sources.

## Session 1: Earth Observations for COVID-19 Response and Recovery

- ❖ Panelists highlighted the value of global networks, including GEO Flagships, Initiatives, and Community Activities, to foster innovative, multidisciplinary collaborations. As an example, the GEO Health Community of Practice (<http://www.geohealthcop.org/>) has expanded dialogue among global experts, encouraging innovative analyses of the primary and secondary impacts of this pandemic on population health.
- ❖ Facilitators presented selected community resources on Earth observations for public health applications, including relevant data portals, information and workshops, and training opportunities.
- ❖ To address this global health challenge, panelists recommended the continued coordination of international virtual meetings that connect experts, promote the use of innovative approaches, and align agendas to meet global objectives. As an example, the *WMO/WHO Workshop on Climatological, Meteorological, and Environmental Factors in the COVID-19 Pandemic*, coordinated by experts from several countries, will be held in August 2020.