

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

- ❖ The primary areas in which GEO members are addressing the COVID-19 pandemic include: monitoring changes in air pollution sources and concentrations from COVID-19 mitigation measures, studying potential environmental influences on the community spread of COVID-19, and providing shared data and other geospatial resources to inform community decisions.
- ❖ GEO members continue to collect Earth-observing satellite data on a global scale in order to quickly assess and respond to the evolving environmental signals surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. These studies are reliant upon long-term, continuous, global satellite remote sensing, airborne, and ground-based observations, which provide a robust baseline for changes in environmental data. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the ability to maintain some in-situ observation networks, but researchers are working to ensure sustained observational capacity.

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- ❖ The COVID-19 pandemic has provided an opportunity for renewed global research collaborations in understanding the Earth system, including sharing of Earth-observing satellite data and other geospatial resources to better inform community decisions at local, national, and international levels.
- ❖ The COVID-19 global response is multifaceted and complex, requiring scientific collaborations that strengthen professional networks across disciplines, sectors, and geographic regions. Earth-observing satellite data offer real-time information that can advance scientific inquiry, inform health decision-making, and enhance interventions that address emerging global health challenges.