

Priority Topic 8: EHS Information Strategy

Convener: Ken Fasman

Discussion Participants:

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Subtopic Report Numbers from Days One and Two:

7 Create a global focal point for online environmental health databases, and seek means of linking and integrating their contents

38 Investing in publicly available resources and computational tools for integrating and analyzing environmental health data

42 Develop an integrated, searchable knowledge base on the impact of environment on health

67 Informatics partnerships, services and infrastructure for intramural and extramural EHS

Recommended Strategic Goal:

NIEHS to lead the creation and implementation of a strategy to integrate environmental health science data to maximize its sharing and utilization for advancing scientific discovery.

This encompasses diverse data sets (GIS, genomics, epidemiology, exposure, etc.), analytical tools, visualization tools, training materials, etc.

Potential Beneficiaries of this Strategic Goal:

- Global EHS researchers, NIEHS, other NIH institutes and grantees, peer organizations such as EPA, CDC, FDA, NOAA, etc., and other users.

NIEHS Capabilities and Partnerships Needed to Achieve this Goal:

- Partner with other national and international agencies / organizations that have successfully created and implemented information strategies (e.g. NCBI, ...), information sharing standards/approaches
- Inventory of existing systems / coordinating with developers/maintainers of existing resources
- Interacting broadly with the community of users to identify significant unmet needs
- Proactively establish standards and approaches for new data resources as they are being planned and funded
- Database of databases – registry of information resources for EHS research
- Enhancing EHS informatics capacity/capability – for training, strategic planning, consulting/service
- NIEHS to take a strong position around importance of data sharing