Dear Environmental Health Sciences Community Stakeholder,

Like many other disciplines, the environmental health sciences (EHS) field is faced with answering large-scale complex research questions that require integration of multiple disparate data sources. Challenges in multi-scale data integration often stem from gaps in community standards for describing data and biomedical knowledge. To address this challenge, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) is fostering a community-driven initiative to improve standardization, sharing, and interoperability of environmental health sciences information.

NIEHS is hosting a [two-day workshop](https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/conference/ehslanguage/) as well as two pre-workshop events to kickstart the development of this proposed Environmental Health Language Collaborative (EHLC) community.

To begin understanding the community’s needs and to inform content for the workshop, **we are soliciting community input** on the proposed community model and initial use cases that the community will address. You can learn more about the community model at <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/programs/ehlc/> and the proposed use cases at <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/programs/ehlc/usecases>. At the top right of each page is a link to a three-question survey. Each survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

As a community driven initiative, your input is valuable to ensure that the Environmental Health Language Collaborative’s mission, goals, and activities address the needs of the community. In addition to providing feedback, others ways you can become involved include attending the upcoming events and signing up for the [email distribution list](https://list.nih.gov/cgi-bin/wa.exe?SUBED1=EHSCOMMONLANGUAGE&A=1).

If you have questions about the community, uses cases, or the workshop, please contact Stephanie Holmgren, Office of Data Science.

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| **Event** | **Date** |
| The Value of Creating Language and Community in Catalyzing Knowledge-Driven Discovery in Environmental Health Research | June 24, 1-4pm |
| A Primer on Using Terminologies, Vocabularies, and Ontologiesfor Knowledge Organization | July 20, 1-4pm |
| Catalyzing Knowledge-Driven Discovery in Environmental Health Sciences through a Harmonized Language | Sept. 9-10 |