

TIGER TEAMS AND APPLICATIONS TO SOCIETY



Arlene Fiore – Supporting the Use of Satellite Data in State Implementation Plans (SIPs)

THE LEADER

Arlene Fiore, the sole leader of the Tiger Team focusing on *Supporting the Use of Satellite Data in State Implementation Plans (SIPs)*, hails from Columbia University where she is a Professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. She uses satellite products to inform air quality planning and health accountability. Arlene Fiore believes that HAQAST Tiger Teams are where they “work together as a larger team”.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Team communication is essential for the successful completion of Tiger Team projects. Team members, partner organizations, and stakeholders need to share information and provide input throughout the project. To foster team communication and innovation, Arlene Fiore facilitates emails and schedules regular Zoom video conference calls. This immediate feedback from stakeholders allows the team to modify their products and make them more useful for end-users.

PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

Since all Tiger Teams have stakeholder partners, partner contributions are an important aspect of the Tiger Team process. Arlene Fiore mentions that stakeholder agencies provide inspiration and help shape the project from the planning phase. Importantly, they remind Tiger Teams to stay on the established timeline and prepare user-friendly end products. As Arlene Fiore says, “If the work is not something the stakeholders would use, then they [Tiger Team] have failed”.

HIGHLIGHTS

Arlene Fiore sees stakeholder engagement as the most exciting part of the Tiger Team process. When a dozen stakeholders join the monthly conference calls, it is the best indicator that their work matters to the community. When stakeholders focus on these community concerns, community members begin to trust the scientific information. As Zac Edelman stated during the HAQAST4 meeting, “stakeholders have trusted information for other stakeholders”. In addition to community support, one Tiger Team academic achievements was the preparation of three guidance documents that were developed in coordination with experts at state air agencies, such as the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP).

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