EXTENDED FUNDING FOR HAQAST UNTIL SUMMER 2020

The NASA Applied Sciences Program, after consultation with NASA Earth Science Division leadership, has decided to extend the period of performance of the NASA Health and Air Quality Applied Sciences Team (HAQAST) by one additional year through Summer 2020. This decision was made in recognition of the outstanding work of HAQAST over the past two years, through expanding the environmental health and air quality management community and increasing the use of NASA data and tools for societal benefit.

Led by Tracey Holloway (U. of Wisconsin-Madison), HAQAST includes a group of thirteen air quality and public health scientists, representing public and private research universities, as well as federal agencies from across the country. The current portfolio focuses on several important issues related to US air quality and environmental health, including the continuing eruption of Kilauea in Hawaii and summer and fall wildfires in California. Additionally, HAQAST Tiger Teams were funded in 2017 and 2018 as short-term, high-impact collaborative effort between HAQAST members and public stakeholders to identify and solve critical health and air quality problems using NASA data and products.

This additional year of service will allow HAQAST to continue addressing these environmental health and air quality needs, along with other quick-turnaround, high-priority projects, and will permit further cutting edge applications for societal benefit.