

Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)

Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3) EQUITY & EJ WORKING GROUP – MAPPING TOOL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 8-13-20

Meeting Time: 11-12:15
pm

Meeting Location:

Zoom Link:

<https://ctdeep.zoom.us/j/91684891697>

ATTENDANCE

Working Group Member	Title	Organization	Present
Marianne Engelman-Lado	Professor	Yale School of Public Health, Yale School of the Environment, VT Law School	X
Laura Hayes	Epidemiologist	CT Department of Public Health	X
Brian Hall		Harvard Forest	X
Michelle Riordan-Nold	Executive Director	CT Data Collaborative	X
Brenda Watson	Executive Director	Operation Fuel	X
Mark Mitchell	Professor	George Mason University	X
Marissa Rivera	Advocate	Disability Rights CT	X
Cary Lynch	Climate & Energy Policy Manager	Nature Conservancy	X
Kirsten Rigney	Attorney	DEEP Legal Department	X
Joey Wraithwall	Manager, State Director's Office	Nature Conservancy	X
Joanna Wozniak-Brown	Assistant Director of Resilience Planning	UConn CIRCA	X

Mike Ewall	Executive Director	Energy Justice Network	X
Susan Masino	Co-chair	Science & Technology WG	X
Xochitl Garcia	Farmer Apprentice	Gather New Haven	X
Huan Ngo			X
Paul Hearn			X

Associated Staff	Title	Organization	Present
Edith Pestana	Administrator	CT DEEP: EJ Program	X
Doris Johnson	Director of Outreach	CT DEEP: EJ Program	X
Max Teirstein	Intern	CT DEEP: EJ Program	X

AGENDA & NOTES

Welcome and Announcements

Agenda Item(s)

Facilitated by Marianne Engelman-Lado & Laura Hayes, Co-Chairs

- Review a handout on existing mapping tools, consider options for dissemination to broader GC3
 - Link: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TpcF12seKDvopg2zxbPCKKEeoqpoARDf-WRL1PA4_P4/edit?usp=sharing
 - **Please read and provide all feedback on this document to Max Teirstein (max.teirstein@yale.edu), Edith Pestana (edith.pestana@ct.gov), and/or Marianne Engelman-Lado (marianne.engelman-lado@yale.edu) by Thursday, August 20**
- Discuss plans for a webinar on the development of mapping tools
 - Tentative date: October 29th (subject to change depending on speakers' availability)
- Discuss development of the recommendation for the GC3
 - Review early draft of recommendation: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dji1LbvpT6dInj7Pj1W3mLEDMwa3h8sEfXDWpM4j-AE/edit?usp=sharing>
 - **Please read and provide all feedback on this document to Max Teirstein (max.teirstein@yale.edu), Edith Pestana (edith.pestana@ct.gov), and/or Marianne Engelman-Lado (marianne.engelman-lado@yale.edu) by Tuesday, September 1st**
- Discuss parameters of the tool
 - e.g., statewide? Resolution? Layered demographic health, climate-specific indicators, and proximity to environmental pollutant sources?

Review of Handout

- **Mark Mitchell**, George Mason University
 - Overwhelming number of maps. Guidance needed on what to do with all of these maps.
 - Would help to include a succinct description of each tool and mapping tool/data in the intro
- **Laura Hayes**, DPH
 - Needs comment to specify that there is a lot of data out there that's available, though may not have been translated into a map layer. Would be useful to have a summary of specifically how the map data could be used in the GC3 process. More pointed directive to working groups on how this mapping data could be integrated into the GC3 planning process
 - Alternatively, an overview of *all* the data that's georeferenced across the state
 - **Marianne Engelman-Lado**: Table at bottom of document serves this purpose already, to some extent.
 - Needs a disclaimer on the quality/reliability of the data, since a review hasn't been conducted?
 - Quality and reliability may vary by source and the GC3 has not conducted a comprehensive review of all of the tools listed below.
- **Susan Masino**, Nature Conservancy

- [via chat] food deserts perhaps? land-based carbon, biodiversity, and resilient areas to target for protection and public benefits - I think it would be useful to showcase positive and negative to target interventions and actions to the right areas. This may be in there, I just skimmed it.
- [via chat] We should compare sources because for some variables there may be multiple databases - often global, national, state-level
- **Brian Hall**, Harvard Forest
 - Audience is other working groups? Not sure what kind of data they need
 - **Marianne Engelman-Lado**: This is just for the GC3, but the mapping tool itself will be for all
- **Brenda Watson**, Operation Fuel
 - More time needed to digest this document before moving ahead with it.
- **Marisa Rivera**, Disability Rights CT
 - [via chat] Add another tool: Find your State and City in our 'Data on Disability in States, Cities and Subgroups in New England' by the New England ADA Center <https://ne-ada.s3.amazonaws.com/Data+on+Disability+in+States+Cities+and+Sub-Groups+in+New+England+04.12.19.pdf>

Mapping Tool Webinar

- Series of webinars designed primarily for the GC3 to arrive at common understanding of Environmental Justice and key areas of inequity.
- Washington's tool is similar to the vision for a Connecticut-based tool, so they were the first choice for speakers for the upcoming mapping tool webinar
- **Brenda Watson**, Operation Fuel
 - Should be emphasis on mapping as a visual tool to provide funding to communities that need it most.
 - **Marianne Engelman-Lado**: In that case, we should invite someone from California as well who can talk about ways their tool has been applied.
- **Brian Hall**, Harvard Forest
 - [via chat] important to give 3-5 minute overview of how to navigate the webmap (if it exists at time of webinar) - many people don't know how to zoom, pan, click, etc.
- **Joey Wraithwall**, Nature Conservancy :
 - Important to understand the politicized history of CalEnviroScreen, given the significant social-scientific issues with the tool. California Climate Change Health Vulnerability Indicators, from the California DPH, could be a useful touchstone. Potentially a better model and better socially-scientifically than CalEnviroScreen.
 - **Marianne Engelman-Lado**: There are deeper questions about best practices for these tools that this working group should dive into, but that wouldn't be appropriate for the broader GC3.
- **Mark Mitchell**, George Mason University
 - People need to talk about maps as iterative, not set in stone. The community needs input into the tool in order for it to be effective.
 - **Marianne Engelman-Lado**: Front & Centered did 11 focus groups across the state to receive input on what kind of information is important to include in the tool. That's part of the reason they are a good group to lead this webinar. Additionally, the perfect is the enemy of the good—not all feedback can be incorporated right away, but will be implemented in the future.
 - **Mark Mitchell**: We don't have to start off with a blank screen. Can get input on priorities based on an early draft.
- **Laura Hayes**, DPH

- Whoever we invite—Washington, California—it’s important that they have something to present on frequency of use and applications. How are they tracking how it’s being used?
- **Michelle Riordan-Nold**, CT Data Collaborative
 - Have the questions that you’re trying to answer through the mapping tools guide the first iteration. Would be great to hear from California and Washington what questions they were hoping to answer through the tool.
- **Joanna Wozniak-Brown**, UCONN CIRCA
 - We should ask them about how they have funded it throughout time, and what kinds of legislation existed to support the funding of the tool through the multiple versions of it.

Discussion of Early Recommendation

- What does the recommendation look like? Is it a recommendation for enabling legislation? How specific does it get?
- The EEJ working group needs to have a draft of its recommendations to put out for comment to the public, by the end of the month or beginning of next.
- Goal is to leave with a process for getting further input.
 - Another meeting before next EEJ meeting?
- **Joanna Wozniak-Brown**, UCONN CIRCA
 - Be specific that the recommendation is for enabling legislation. Maybe creating a mapping tool and creating legislation are separate recommendations.
 - **Marianne Engelman-Lado**: Needs to be an explicit component on community consultation and funding for that as well.
- **Laura Hayes**, DPH
 - Cross-sector recommendations supported by multiple working groups. Could be helpful to incorporate that somehow, strengthening the recommendation by indicating cross-sector support. This is a climate & health communication tool. Could be categorized within the PH&S objectives.
- **Edith Pestana**, DEEP
 - Commissioner is really excited about this. The faster we can get this tool up, the better.

Parameters of the Tool

- No time for this today, but if there are issues you think your different constituencies and audiences will be focused on, those are good to bring up earlier. Our goal is a tool that allows us to look at relative vulnerabilities to inform planning. Other groups may have other priorities.
- **Joanna Wozniak-Brown**, UCONN CIRCA
 - Social Capital Index and Social Vulnerability Index should be considered in the planning for this tool.

Next steps:

- Additional input on the mapping resources document due by **Thursday, 8/20**
 - Science & Technology will review the list of mapping resources early next week.
- Feedback on draft recommendation due **September 1st**
- Final Report “Scoping & Recommendations for the Development of a Connecticut Environmental Justice Mapping Tool” (from Yale team) coming soon—email Max Teirstein at max.teirstein@yale.edu if you would like to

receive the final draft and/or see an early draft (not for broader dissemination).

****Please review and provide comments on the draft mapping tool recommendation by September 1st. Reach out to Max Teirstein (max.teirstein@yale.edu), Edith Pestana (edith.pestana@ct.gov), Marianne Engelman-Lado (marianne.engelman-lado@yale.edu) with any and all feedback on the recommendation. Link: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dji1LbvpT6dInj7Pj1W3mLEDMwa3h8sEfXDWpM4j-AE/edit?usp=sharing>*****