

## PAIGH U.S. National Section Monthly Meeting – October Meeting Notes

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Meeting attendees: Julianna Aynes-Neville, Deirdre Bishop, Dana Caccamise, Emily Carlson, Emily Day, Erick Langer, Lidia Lopez, Emilio Lugo, Roger Payne, Paul Riley, David Salisbury, Patricia Solís, Tim Trainor, Eric van Praag, Evan Ward, Patrick Wilkerson

### 1) Welcome

- Deirdre Bishop welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2) Climate Change Atlas of the Americas Project

- David Salisbury provided an update on the Climate Change Atlas of the Americas project:
  - The Climate Change Atlas began as a Technical Assistance Project (PAT) in 2019.
  - There are two components: The Climate Change Atlas based in Spain and the Climate Change Atlas of the Americas case studies, created by David's students at the University of Richmond. The case studies cover important topics such as crop failure, sea level rise, natural disaster monitoring, heat index monitoring, etc. There is also a proposal to develop a common climate change course curriculum across universities in Latin America.
  - The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is interested in hosting the Climate Change Atlas and associated case studies and showcasing it on their website. The atlas is currently hosted by the Government of Aragon Geography Institute here: <https://www.aragon.es/-/atlas-climatico-de-aragon>.
  - Eric van Praag suggested utilizing the Esri ArcGIS Online account to either host or reference the Climate Change Atlas.
  - Deirdre thanked David for working with PAIGH members to host the Climate Change Atlas and encouraged partnerships like this moving forward.
- David also mentioned an upcoming event called Braided Knowledges for a Sustainable Future: Rivers, Indigenous Communities, Justice, which will be held November 13-17, 2023, at the University of Richmond. The university will host indigenous leaders, academic scholars, activists, and others from around the globe to talk about sustainability, and how to bridge knowledge sets and world views. There will be events throughout the week, including a trip to Washington DC at the end of the week.
- Julianna Aynes-Neville asked for a moment to speak about a sustainable development ministerial that took place in the Bahamas in early October. At that meeting, a plan for the region on climate action was adopted. Julianna suggested reviewing the documents, provided with the October 2023 USNS monthly meeting notes, as it discusses climate priorities the region will be focusing on.

### 3) Potential Extension of the Esri—PAIGH MOU

- Eric van Praag, on behalf of Esri, has been engaged in discussions with Secretary General Antonio Campuzano, Herman Rodriguez (head of the geographical mission, based in Chile), and Max Lobo, President of the Cartographic Commission, related to renewal of the Esri—PAIGH MOU. The current MOU expires May 2024.
- Per their discussions, Secretary General Campuzano is interested in renewing and potentially expanding the MOU.
  - Suggestions for renewal included PAIGH members having more formal training from Esri on industry-specific best practices, potentially utilizing the ArcGIS Online account for

hosting PAT projects and project data and hosting quarterly webinars showcasing the work that PAIGH members are doing with GIS.

- Secretary General Campuzano, Herman, and Max will discuss the MOU and next steps in the November monthly PAIGH meeting. Eric hopes to have a draft of the MOU renewal by the end of the calendar year.
- Paul Riley suggested taking an inventory of PAT projects that have leveraged Esri products and services such as ArcGIS Online and potentially consolidating the links to separate projects in one place. Paul also suggested bringing in ECLAC for conversations related to this topic, as they recently consolidated many websites into three geoportals.

#### 4) Upcoming UN-GGIM: Americas Meeting

- Deirdre, Paul, Dana Caccamise, and Dan Roman will be attending the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN—GGIM: Americas meeting in Santiago, Chile October 17-20, 2023.
  - On October 17<sup>th</sup> there will be side events including the Caribbean Geospatial Development Initiative (CARIGEO). There will be two sessions in the afternoon on the 17<sup>th</sup> as well. One will be a follow up to a capacity development workshop that occurred in St. Lucia earlier this year. The second one will be focused on Caribbean capacity development.
  - There will also be discussions on the dissemination of geospatial information across the region, several ECLAC networking sessions, and information on regional collaboration.
  - Deirdre will be part of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF) forum and will be presenting an update from the high-level group of the UN-IGIF and discussing how the UN-IGIF can move the region forward and strengthen geospatial information management.
  - During the meeting, UN-GGIM: Americas will form a new work group on land administration.

#### 5) Walk on Items

- Julianna mentioned the diplomatic note that will go to communicate the U.S. Delegation to the upcoming 24<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in the Dominican Republic has been approved.
- The next USNS monthly meeting is November 14, 2023.