## GEO WEEK & MINISTERIAL SUMMIT 2023

Earth Observations and Smartphones: Water and Health Risk for Decision Makers and Grassroots

## Flash Talk

**#TheEarthTalks** 



science & innovation

Department: Science and Innovation REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





# From Space to Village:

**Disease Early Warning for the Masses** 

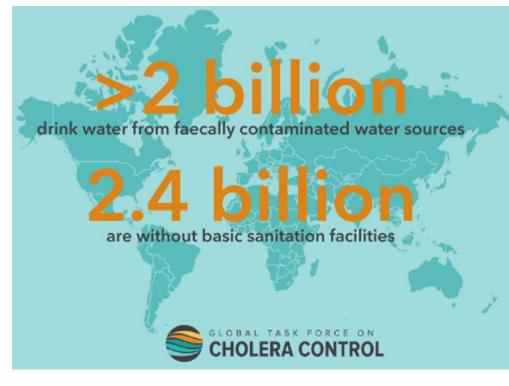


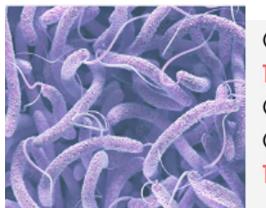


Ali S Akanda akanda@uri.edu University of Rhode Island

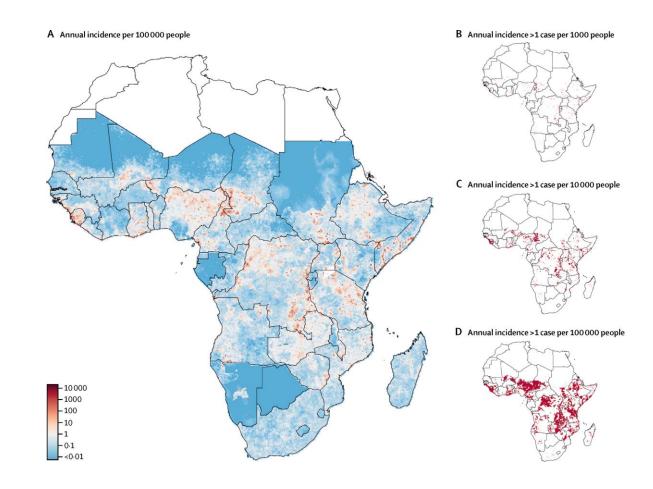


Antarpreet Jutla antar.jutla@essie.ufl.edu University of Florida





Global Cholera cases: 1.3 to 4.0 million/year Global death due to Cholera: 21,000 to 143,000 [3]











- Cholera, a waterborne diarrheal disease, remains a major threat to global health
- Cholera is fatal, if untreated for 24-48 hours
- Cholera can thrive in environment and humans
- Disease burden is severely underreported.
- Originated in South Asia, but have become endemic in many parts of Sub-Saharan Africa in late 1900s
- Cholera is preventable with early warning, with data on climatic, environmental, societal drivers







**GROUP ON** 

EARTH OBSERVATIONS

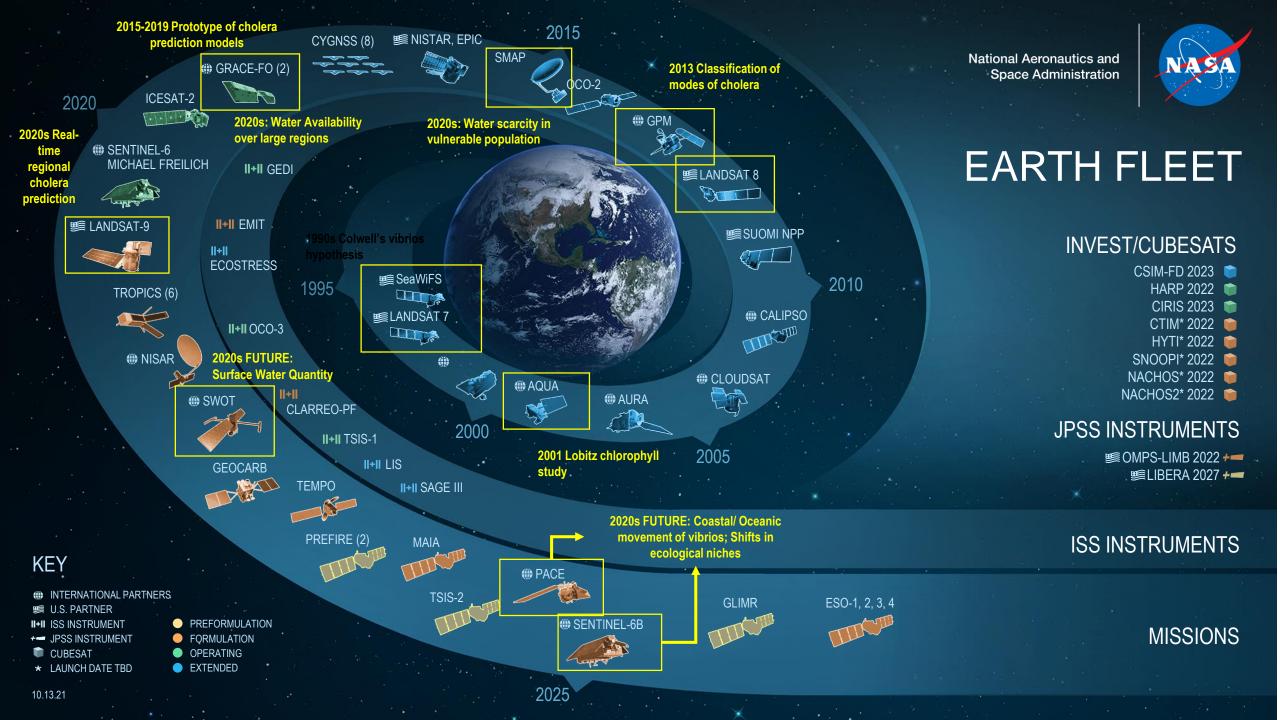
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**Projects:** 

- 1. Multi-Mission Cholera Forecasting for Bangladesh (2015 2019)
- 2. CholeraMap Bangladesh (2019 2022)
- 3. Global Cholera Forecasting System Focus: Africa (2022 2025)







Existing EO-based warning systems target high-end technical users The remote populations are typically outside information umbrella

Women, who typically make household water and health decisions in most of the developing world, rarely have access to such information

The reality is:

Ultimate end-users of water and health related information in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa are outside our reach



- An inclusive dissemination approach via smartphone application
- Geospatial water quality and cholera risk directly for grassroots
- Influence decision-making for safe water and health behavior











\* কালিপুর বাজার লব বাজার \_\_\_\_\_ 0 1 2 কি.মি. 🔚 আমার বাড়ি নদী রাস্তা চরম ঝুঁকি মধ্যম ঝুঁকি নিম্ন ঝুঁকি EARTH OBSERVATIONS

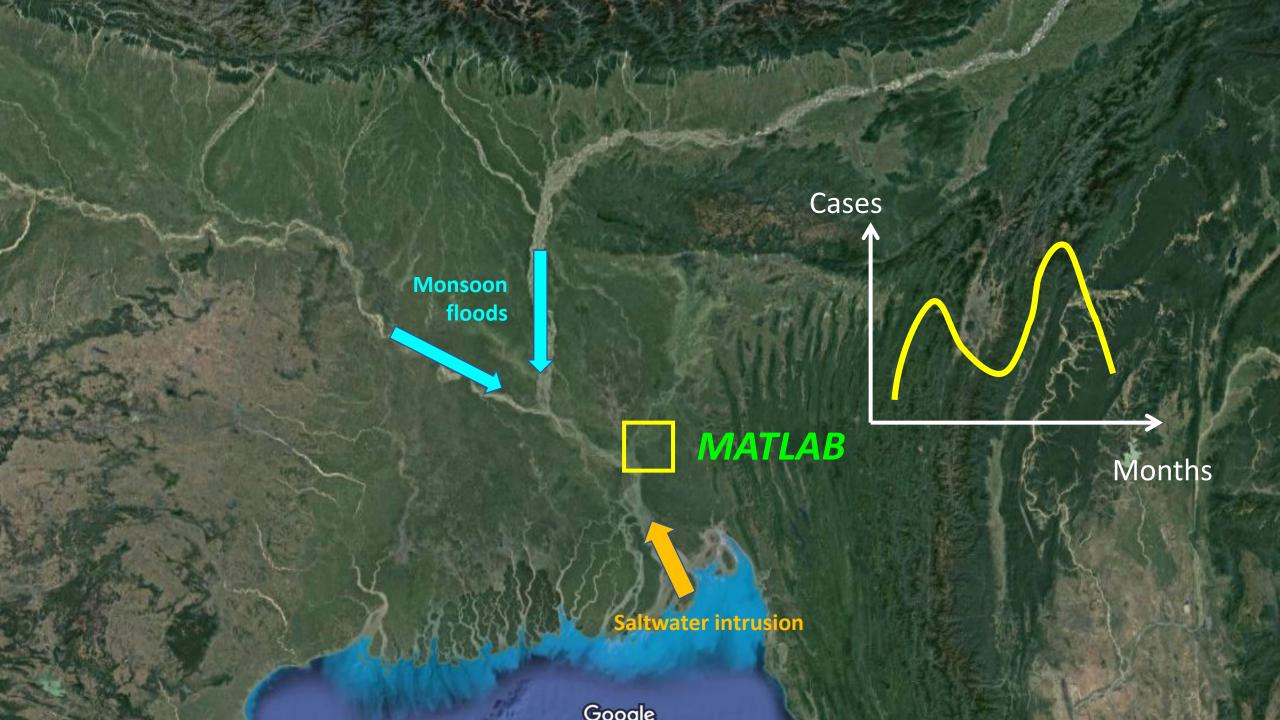
This is a sustainable development issue! #EO4SDG

This is also a gender empowerment issue! #EO4SDG

This is an information inequality and access issue! <u>@GEO</u> <u>Open EO Data</u>

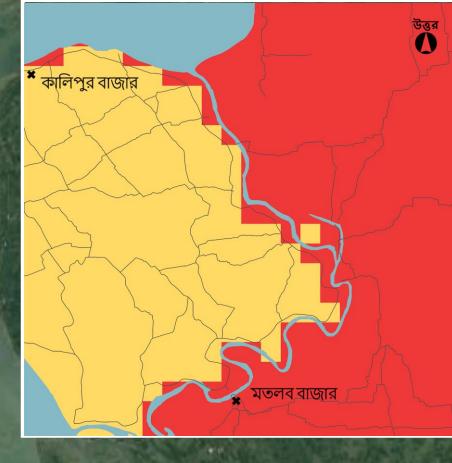
This is an environmental and climate justice issue! #EO4HEALTH @NASA Earth Science

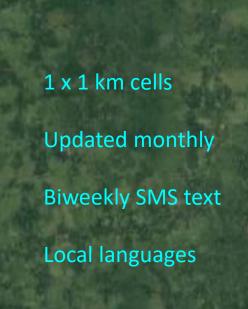




## MATLAB sub-district Population: 500,000

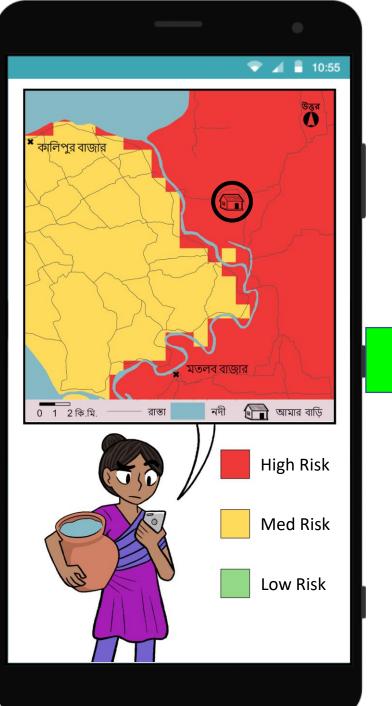
- Field workers visited 2000+ households
- Explained cholera risk and project goals
- Surveyed members on water/sanitation
- Got agreement with smartphone owners
- Registered 1500 application users (750 control and 750 treatment)



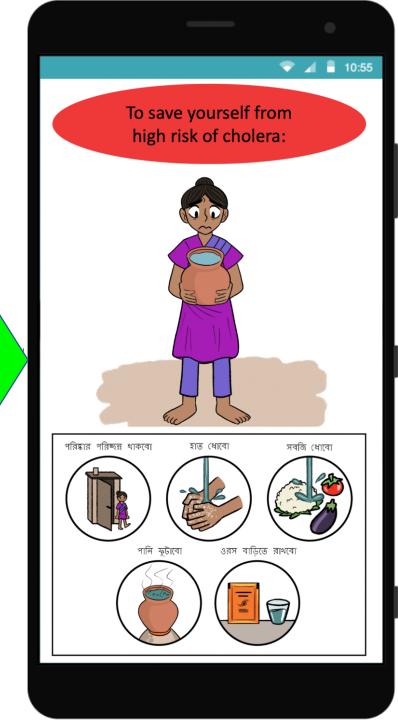


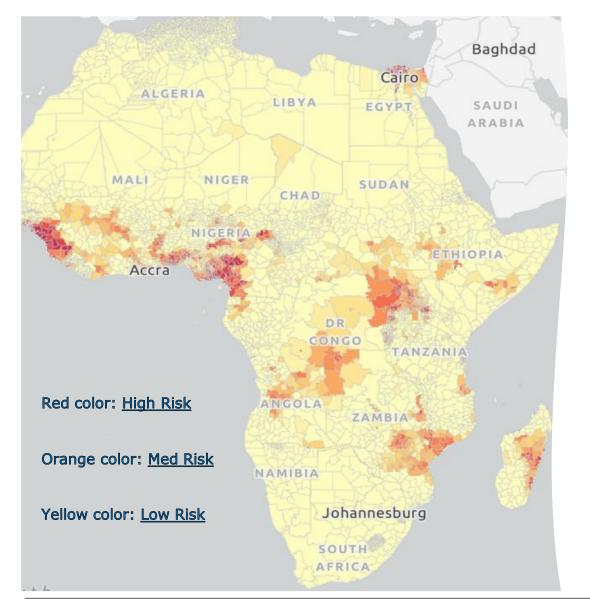
Cholera risk includes: IMERG rainfall observations TRMM/GPM rainfall anomaly SERVIR NMME rainfall forecast MODIS land surface temperature SRTM land surface elevation SEDAC population density

Validated with: ECBS Cholera Surveillance data Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation









### Cholera Prediction Hub (<u>http://cholerahub.ufl.edu</u>)

The Cholera Prediction Hub is a web-based platform that helps users worldwide see the potential risk of cholera outbreaks affecting individual countries and regions within.

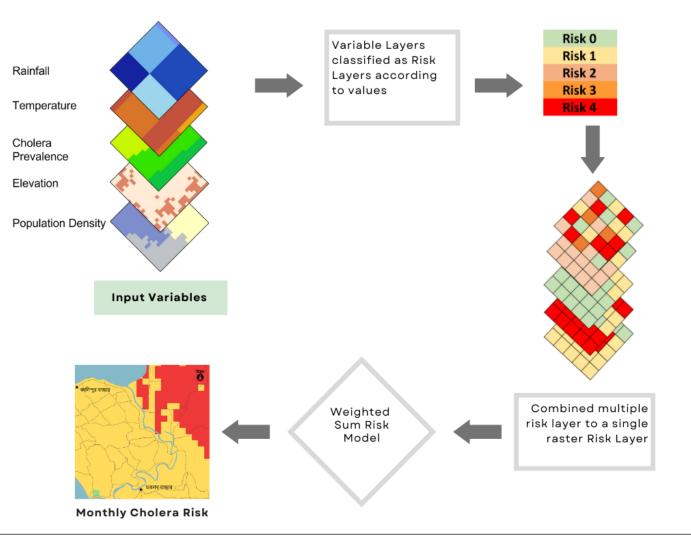
### Features and Use

- Indicates regions with high risk of cholera at least 4 weeks in advance.
- Integrates climate, weather, societal, demographical, and environmental factors in geospatial algorithm.
- Provides a clear understanding of how disease risk is calculated and derived to better inform end users of the risk in their current areas.
- Users include researchers studying water-borne diseases, public and non-government decisionmakers, and individuals wanting to learn the current disease risk in their location.



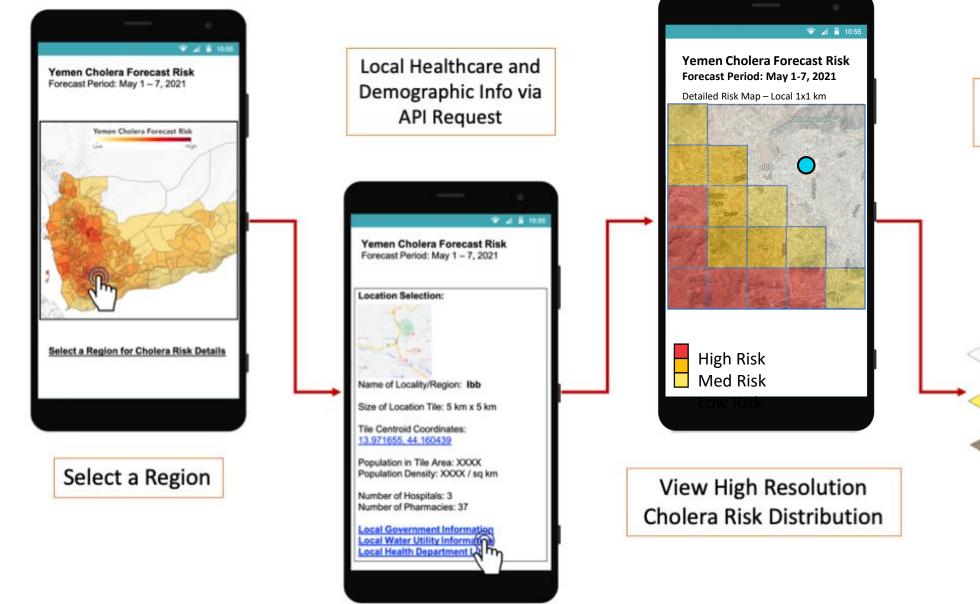




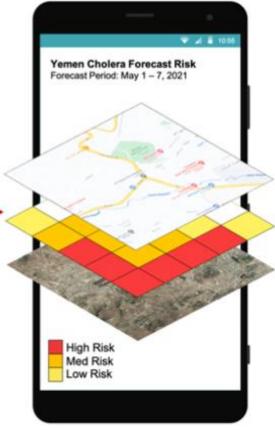




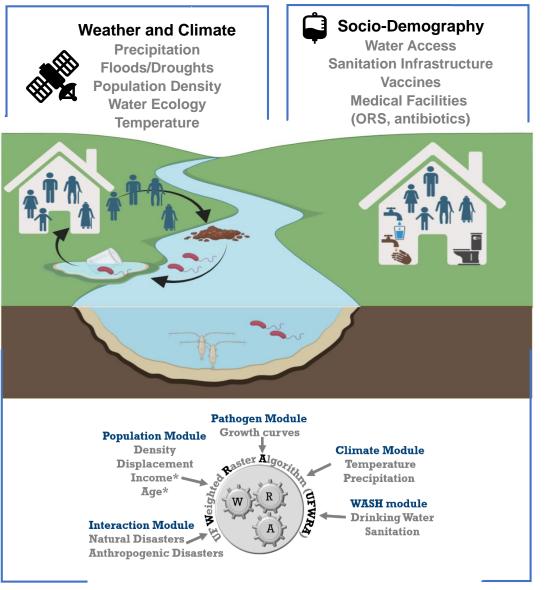




View Earth Observations and Geospatial Risk Info



#### Information Flow Chain for Global Cholera Risk Communication to Decision-Makers and NGOs



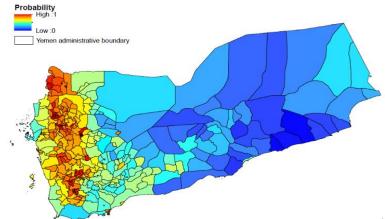
### **Cholera Prediction Consortia**

Partner with our collaborative team to reduce global cholera burden

Help us provide critique in:

- How to make prediction accuracy better than what we have?
- What are the pitfalls in our modeling system?
- How can we improve prediction intelligence for cholera?

#### Send email at <a href="mailto:choleraprediction\_users@lists.ufl.edu">choleraprediction\_users@lists.ufl.edu</a>









#### **OUR PRIORITIES**

#### Understand the Role of Humans in the Hydrological Cycle

We work hard to meet this goal by researching these key areas for a sustainable environment







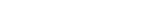
Water-borne Diseases

Remote Sensing

COVID-19 Pandemic

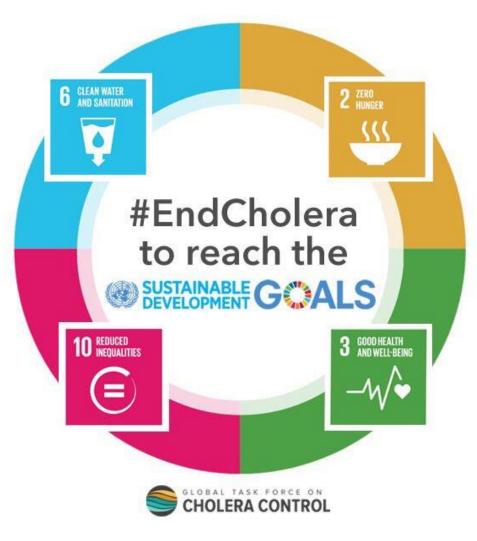


















#### #TheEarthTalks



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