MAP-AQ: A New International Initiative for Monitoring, Analysis, and Prediction of Global to Regional and Local scale Air Quality

Rajesh Kumar (1), Guy Brasseur (1), and Alexander Baklanov (2)

(1) NCAR, United States (rkumar@ucar.edu), (2) World Meteorological Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

About 7 million people die prematurely every year due to poor air quality and 92% of such deaths now occur in the developing countries. To mitigate health risks associated with poor air quality and enhance the decision-making activity, an new international initiative called the Monitoring, Analysis and Prediction of Air Quality (MAP-AQ) has been launched. MAP-AQ focuses on developing a global air pollution monitoring, analysis, and prediction system for air quality with downscaling capability in regions of the world affected by high levels of atmospheric pollutants, in particular in Asia, Latin America, and Africa. We have constituted a MAP-AQ steering committee that includes representatives from Africa, Asia, South America, North America, Europe, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and the International Global Atmospheric Chemistry (IGAC) project. The MAP-AQ team has initiated several air quality prediction projects in China, Latin America, Africa, and India. This presentation will provide a brief description of the MAP-AQ project along with progress update from the key ongoing and upcoming air quality forecasting projects.