



Science Advisory Board
**Environmental Information Services Working Group
(EISWG)**

EISWG Update Focus Area Topics

**17 March 2021
(2:25 PM EDT)**

Brad Colman and Scott Glenn, EISWG Co-Chairs

Motivation for defining focus areas

- WG team members want to maximize our impact
- 20 members is a big team and we have a lot of opportunity – legislation encourages us to organize into subpanels
- Subteams have been successfully used to comment on NOAA reports – 1-3 per year
- We were looking for a process to help prioritize subteam efforts
- Concern that we were being reactionary (paced by reports); we want to be more proactive and provide input at the most optimal time
- We want to provide the best support to the SAB; align with their priorities

Miro Board Exercise – Stage 7 – Discuss Focus Area Preferences for 2021

Topic	Total Score (Reverse Rank)	Total Votes
Information Ecosystem Trends*	45	10
Next Generation Warning System*	36	9
Emerging Technologies & Techniques*	30	8
Precipitation, Flooding, and Drought	28	7
Fire Weather, Smoke, and Air Quality	25	8
Threat Lifecycle	23	7
Information Demand Trends*	19	5
Value of Environmental Intelligence	17	6
Public Private Partnerships*	16	4
Workforce Talent, Experience, Availability*	15	4
Space Weather*	11	3
Facets	7	3
Better Support for Rural & Indigenous Populations*	6	2
Weather Radars	6	4
Satellites	6	3
NOAA's Vision for AI	3	1
Coastal Resilience	2	1
Hazsimp	0	0

	Information Services
	Workforce and Partnerships
	Earth System Prediction and Predictability
	Technology Horizon
	Integrating Physical, Social, and Behavioral Sciences

Comments from Voting

- *Information Ecosystem Trends*
 - Include Information Demand Trends
 - Include Public Private Partnerships
- *Weather Radar* - include meeting needs of rural and indigenous populations
- *Workforce Talent* - include meeting environmental informational services strategic needs

*1-Pagers Developed

Objective, Value, Scope, Boundaries

A few observations

- The process undermines the importance of some cross-cut topics - behavioral and social sciences - *WG members organizing to support cross-cuts - fireside chats*
- Large, broadly inclusive topics fair better in voting but are less tractable - *1-pagers preparation focuses down & normalizes response*
- Heavy on process, less time available for discussion - *required spin up, but in the end, we were more interactive*
- EISWG meeting discussion times have increased, members are more proactive - *regularly scheduled monthly meetings*

Thoughts and Questions for Discussion

- **It was a long process; SAB had the same experience.**
 - Is it too slow to provide proper guidance? Other best practices?
- **Alignment and coordinating with SAB Study Areas**
 - SAB thoughts?
- **With EISWG Focus Areas prioritized and contributors identified, how should Focus Area guidance be delivered?**
 - Recommendations in Annual EISWG Report to Congress (RtC)
 - Cross-cuts in EISWG Report Reviews (example cross-cuts: Workforce Development, Social & Behavioral Sciences)
 - ****New**** Input to Priorities for Weather Research (PWR) Report.