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GIS APPROACHES TO INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

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The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) has a long standing commitment to increase interactions among environmental health scientists and communities. This presentation provides an overview of such efforts with a focus on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and other advanced information, communication and visualization technologies. With reference to SBRP Outreach, three tasks serve as the presentation's organizing framework: (1) identify innovative GIS approaches to integrating environmental health sciences with policy, planning, and risk management, (2) define some of the key barriers and bridges to effective outreach utilizing GIS in university-community "knowledge-action collaboratives," and (3) describe UC San Diego's SBRP Regional Workbench Consortium--including our partnership with a non-profit organization (TELESIS, Inc.) working on environmental health issues along the U.S.-Mexican border.