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26/02/2024

Subject: Hand-over of CHARISMA dashboard containing public data

Dear Mr Kumar,

The Climate-Health Risk Management in India project, funded through International Climate Financing by the Flemish Government has now finished. In name of the project partners, VITO, Avia-GIS and the Public Health Foundation India/Center of Environmental Health, let me take this opportunity to thank you for your informative and constructive guidance regarding the CHARISMA dashboard during our visit in November 2023 at which we had the pleasure and honour to meet with you.

In the project around 60 cities across India were selected to be simulated in terms of urban growth and/or climate change using VITO tools. More than 40 of these cities have been identified in the National Mission on Sustainable Habitat as million-cities.

Data required for the involved analyses and simulations originated from public sources and the data contained within the dashboard provided as such can be considered public as well. The dashboard is one of the main outcomes of the project (<https://charisma-india.eu/en>) and allows decision-makers and urban planners to evaluate the impact of climate change towards 2050 at 100m resolution. Also land use data, present and/or future, is made available at a resolution of 100m.

The information platform thus enables quantitative assessment of the severity of upcoming changes in terms of heat stress, identification of areas within the city of concern and the design of localized robust adaptation strategies. Rather than providing general climatic data, the platform contains indicators tailored to heat stress to properly assess the impact of climate change. Parameters such as the number of heatwave days, heatwave severity, cooling degree days (indication of electric cooling requirement), minimum and maximum day and night parameters, thermal comfort, etc. are provided for four seasons and various definitions. All indicators are provided at a resolution of 100 meters to enable spatial prioritization and locally tailored actions. As such the data contained within the dashboard is ideally suited to devise tailored and efficient heat action plans.

My colleague Dr Jente Broeckx (jente.broeckx@vito.be), who would be taking forward the climate resilience activities, is in India currently and through him we are delighted to hand over the complete data including the dashboard on a hard drive so that you may put it to appropriate use. Included is also a manual how to use the dashboard.

I am certain that with your vision and guidance, the dashboard will be put to good use to enable Indian cities to adapt to future climate change in a no-regret manner.

My sincere greetings and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Raf Theunissen".

Raf Theunissen
CHARISMA Project-coordinator