

From Silos to Systems: Decision-Support Tools for Subnational Climate Action

Bengaluru Climate Data Week (12–16 October 2026)

12 October 2026

9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Sabha, Bengaluru

Climate change does not manifest in silos, neatly contained within sectors, administrative boundaries, or land parcels. Heat, water, land, livelihoods, and infrastructure are interconnected, with decisions at one scale shaping outcomes at another. Responding to these interconnected challenges therefore requires a systems view: one that makes these connections visible and strengthens governance and preparedness.

Over the last two decades, CSTEP's work on climate change and sustainability has spanned multiple scales, sectors, and actors, reinforcing the need to understand these challenges as parts of a connected system. Data can help make these connections visible and build shared situational awareness.

As a **Knowledge Partner for the Bangalore Climate Data Week 2026**, CSTEP will bring this perspective to a full-day event on **12 October at Sabha Bengaluru**. The event provides a platform for researchers, technologists, city and state officials, financiers, civil society, and industry to deep dive into the questions that emerge when we view climate challenges as interconnected systems. The conversations will focus on two broad themes: building **system intelligence for urban heat resilience**, and navigating systems for **a carbon-neutral and sustainable Karnataka**.

Building System Intelligence for Urban Heat Resilience in India

Recent summers have highlighted how heat intersects with everyday systems, from living and working conditions to water and energy infrastructure, public health, mobility, and the urban environment. Although extreme heat may begin as a weather event, how it is experienced and addressed depends on a much wider set of conditions.

The event will begin with an introduction to CSTEP's project, 'Building Heat Resilience in India's Growing Urbanscapes (BHRIGU)', which combines national-level heat analytics, deep-dive engagement with local governments in six geographies, and cross-sectoral stakeholder capacity building. The session will culminate in the launch of the BHRIGU–National Heat+ Insights Explorer (BHRIGU–NHIE), an interactive platform combining nationally consistent heat datasets for 2002–2025, including demographic, infrastructure, land-use, and urban datasets. The platform integrates multiple heat indices and provides data at a 1 km × 1 km resolution across more than 5,000 functional urban areas in India. It also includes layers on floods, droughts, extreme rainfall, and lightning, enabling a multi-hazard perspective.

With this launch, the platform becomes a public resource that enables others to explore, analyse, and build upon a shared, spatially grounded understanding of heat and other climate hazards.

Navigating Systems for a Carbon-Neutral and Sustainable Karnataka

India's Net Zero by 2070 target and the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision provide national direction, but achieving these ambitions depends on translating them into action across states, districts, cities, and institutions, each with its own capacities, constraints, and priorities. This movement of intent, resources, and decision-making across governance levels creates scope for national priorities to be enabled, adapted, or diverted, making shared situational awareness critical to understanding how targets translate on the ground, where bottlenecks emerge, and where interventions can create leverage.

We will further explore this through an interactive scenario-building exercise using *Namma SAFARI* for Karnataka. Developed by CSTEP by scaling its Sustainable Alternative Futures for India (SAFARI) model to the state level, *Namma SAFARI* is a long-term strategy and policy tool that explores how different development pathways could impact economic growth, quality of life, resource and energy use, greenhouse gas emissions, and climate outcomes. SAFARI was originally developed at the national scale and has informed engagements with institutions including the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) and has been included in the IPCC scenario database, representing India and the Global South in a space long dominated by global models. CSTEP now serves as a technical partner to a state task force working towards an action plan for a carbon-neutral Karnataka. At the Bengaluru Climate Data Week, we will use the tool to build a shared narrative of Karnataka's long-term climate action potential.

Further, CSTEP's data intelligence platform for sustainability, District Insights and Socio-economic Hub for Analytics (DISHA), will be showcased. DISHA brings together macroeconomic, household, climate, policy, and budgetary data to build a shared, place-based understanding of sustainability challenges and opportunities. As DISHA evolves, we see its most meaningful use cases emerging through engagement with civil society and other stakeholders. At the Bengaluru Climate Data Week, we invite participants to help identify the blind spots that constrain action and shape potential use cases.

Together, BHRIGU, *Namma SAFARI*, and DISHA reflect CSTEP's approach to using data and analytical tools to make complex systems more visible, build shared situational awareness, and support better-informed climate action. At the Bengaluru Climate Data Week, we invite participants to engage with these tools, contribute perspectives from across the ecosystem, and help shape how such intelligence can translate into action on the ground.

For event details, please visit the Bengaluru Climate Data Week website:

<https://bangalore.climatedataweek.org/>

More details on CSTEP's projects:

[BHRIGU](#) | [Namma SAFARI](#) | [DISHA](#)

About [CSTEP](#): The Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP) is one of India's leading think tanks, with a mission to enrich policymaking with innovative approaches using science and technology for a sustainable, secure, and inclusive society. Our current work is anchored in the grand challenges of our time, namely, Clean Energy Transition, Clean Air for All, and [Long-Term Sustainability](#). Our work focuses on ensuring that our ideas are born out of evidence and implementable at scale. We are committed to an 'Ecosystem Approach' and to achieving this through multiple partnerships across the ecosystem.

About the Climate, Environment and Sustainability sector at CSTEP: The team works with governments and institutions to embed sustainability into development planning. We support state-level climate action through risk and vulnerability assessments that guide adaptive strategies. Our research explores low-carbon development trajectories, including deeper integration of renewables and nature-based interventions. By combining climate science with policy insights and capacity-building, we help shape resilient, future-ready systems that protect livelihoods and the environment.