



ISIpedia: a societally and user-relevant open climate-impact encyclopedia: latest results and lessons learnt

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Effectively preparing for the long-term challenges posed by future climate change requires decision-makers to have access to relevant climate impact assessments that are based on the best available science and communicated in a clear and consistent manner. By developing an online climate-services portal, the ISIpedia project aims to deliver subcontinental to national-level, state-of-the-art climate impact assessments with broad sector coverage to the varied public of climate adaptation planners (e.g. involved in National Adaptation Plans, NAPs, the Sendai framework, or the SDGs) and practitioners, regional knowledge hubs, trans- and interdisciplinary scientists including climate economists, and regional climate experts from the private sector, such as (re-)insurance companies. The societally and user-relevant climate-impact information generated and communicated through ISIpedia, both its content and form, is the result of an intense and ongoing dialogue – shaped by a series of workshops and a survey - between the ISIpedia project team, scientist involved in the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (www.isimip.org) and its potential end-users.

In this contribution, we will describe the current state and latest developments of the ISIpedia portal with a main focus on the global water sector. In doing so, we will show the latest climate impact assessments for the global water sector as developed under the ISIMIP2b simulation round and communicated through ISIpedia and we will demonstrate how they can be of use to a varied group of policy makers and practitioners, for example to (a) assess the potential water-related impacts and risks under climate-change and design adaptation strategies accordingly; (b) evaluate the potential benefits of following a 1.5 degree Celsius climate mitigation pathway compared to the business-as-usual; (c) to evaluate potential co-benefits and trade-offs for alternative climate impact sectors such as agriculture, energy, biodiversity, and health; and (d) to prioritize short- to long-term capacity steering of disaster risk reduction agencies, global investors, and (re-)insurance companies with the aim to foster a robust, sustainable, and risk-resilient development of societies towards the future.

Next to presenting the latest scientific results, we will reflect on the lessons learnt from the stakeholder dialogues and the process of co-creation and development of such an online platform with a diverse team consisting of scientists, web-designers, and stakeholders. We will conclude with sharing ideas for further developing its design, functionalities and assessment content and by sketching our envisaged time-line towards full launch of the ISIpedia portal.