

## **Privacy – Nature and Health Survey App**

### **Privacy policy**

The Nature and Health Survey App is an academic research project by Aarhus University under the European Union Horizon 2020 REGREEN Project (Grant number 821016). The project is in collaboration with local authorities in six project cities – Aarhus (Denmark), Beijing (China), Ningbo (China), Paris (France), Shanghai (China) & Velika Gorica (Croatia). Detailed information on the REGREEN Project and all collaborative partners can be found here - <https://www.regreen-project.eu>.

The purpose of this app is to assess how the influence of urban nature on how people feel. The results from this study will help inform policies and planning in your city that contribute to your wellbeing. This Privacy Policy explains the data we collect from you using the Nature and Health Survey app, as well as how we process, store and use that data.

### **Who is responsible?**

All data collected in the Nature and Health Survey app is governed by the European Union General Data Protection Regulation (EU GDPR). Aarhus University is the data controller in this research project; thus, Aarhus University is responsible for protecting the data, collected via the Nature and Health Survey app. This data protection policy covers all forms of data collected in the Nature and Health Survey app including, geographic data, device information and answers to the survey questions.

### **Information Collected**

The Nature and Health Survey app collects the following information or data from users when they agree to participate in the study by installing the app:

- Sociodemographic information: This concerns information related to age, sex, education, employment status, gross (before tax) household annual income and other household information (e.g. the number of people in the household).
- Affect and socializing information: The data collected here relates to how you feel in the urban locations captured under the Nature and Health Survey research, as well as, information on socializing activities in these locations. The questions under this category concern whether you are happy, calm, alert, energetic, relaxed etc. at these locations as well as whether you feel safe in the locations.
- Geographic data: for the Nature and Health Survey app to know when you are within the areas selected for this study, we collect information about your geographic location using the GPS sensor on your mobile phone.
- Mobile Device Information: The Nature and Health Survey app also collects information about your mobile device such as brand, model and operating system software version. The sole purpose for collecting this information is for updates and/or fixing bugs (malfunctions in the Nature and Health Survey app)

By installing and using the Nature and Health Survey app, you provide your consent for us to collect this data. You can withdraw your consent at any time by uninstalling it. However, we are unable to delete any of the information provided due to the anonymous nature of the research. That is, you provide this data anonymously, hence it will be difficult to identify the information you provided before uninstalling or deleting the app.

Also, you can deny the app access to your geographic location by disabling the Nature and Health Survey app's access to your location data. You can do this in the settings menu of your phone.

### **Processing & Using Your Information**

The information you provide in the Nature and Health Survey app as well as the device information collected are uploaded to secured servers provided by OLANIS GmbH. OLANIS GmbH is a partner in the REGREEN project, the technical experts, and the app developer for the REGREEN project. The data is then transferred to secured and encrypted servers at Aarhus University. The information you provide will be used for academic research to understand the effect of different urban environments on the mental wellbeing of residents in your city, as well as, potentially inform the planning and design of healthier cities in the EU and China. Under the EU GDPR framework, all data collected in the EU are stored on secured servers in the European Economic Area (EEA).

The data may also be used for other research purposes in the future. The results of the research will be published in scientific (or academic) journals, the REGREEN project website and project reports to the EU Commission. The results in such publications are completely anonymized due to the anonymous nature of the survey and the information collected. If you are interested in the reports and/or scientific publications from this research project, you can contact the project team through the REGREEN website (<https://www.regreen-project.eu/contact/>) or the contact information below and copies of the reports or publications will be sent to you. These reports will also be publicly available on the REGREEN project website for download.

### **Data Protection Information**

The protection of your data is especially important to us. We, therefore, exclusively process your data based on legal regulations (GDPR, TCA 2003). The purpose of this data protection information is to inform you of the most important aspects of data processing within the context of our website. All data transferred between the app and the web backend is encrypted within the SSL transportation layer. The data is stored in a dedicated and secured virtual machine, hosted in Germany. The virtual machine data storage, like the backup, is secured within a Linux LUKS AES 128 bit container. The hosting complies with the TISAX rule set. Access to this virtual machine is only granted to defined project members and OLANIS administrators.

Our app and the REGREEN website may use cookies if cookies are allowed. These cookies are small text files that are stored on your terminal device via the Nature and Health Survey app or your browser. They do not cause damage. We use cookies to offer a more user-friendly experience. Some cookies are permanently stored on your terminal device until they are deleted. Cookies allow us to recognise your browser when you visit our site the next time. If you do not want this, you can configure your browser to completely deactivate cookies or notify you about the placement of cookies, which gives you the option to approve or deny individual cases. The functionality of our website may be limited in case cookies are deactivated.

### **Data Rights**

You have the following rights when Aarhus University processes your personal data as part of a research project:

- Right to erasure – in some cases, you have the right to have your personal data erased.
- Right to data portability - in some cases, you have the right to receive your personal data and to request that the personal data be transferred from one data controller to another.
- Right not to be subject to an automatic decision based solely on automated processing, including profiling.

Note that your rights may be limited by other legislation or be subject to exemptions, e.g. in relation to research and the exercising of public authority.

### **Complaints and disputes**

Concerns about how we handle your data can be directed in writing to the Project Lead (Dr. Marianne Zandersen) – please see contact details below.

If you wish to complain about the processing of your personal data, you can do so by contacting the supervisory authority: The Danish Data Protection Agency, Carl Jacobsens Vej 35, DK-2500 Valby.

Please note that we reserve the right to modify this Privacy Policy at any time. Any modification of the privacy policy will be posted on the REGREEN website and on the app. These changes and clarifications take effect immediately upon posting on the app or our website.

## Contacting us

If you have any questions or communications regarding the research including privacy, please contact the project lead and the following members of the Nature and Health Survey research in writing or by e-mail:

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