

COOL TOWNS

Panhellenic Association of Landscape Architects
Webinar 10th April 2021

Interreg 
EUROPEAN UNION
2 Seas Mers Zeeën
European Regional Development Fund

Contents

- Project aim & partners
- The problem - risk based approach
- Identifying appropriate solutions
- Links to other initiatives

Cool Towns Project

To provide cities and municipalities with knowledge and tools to become heat-resistant

- Determine objectives regarding heat stress and investment decisions
- Effective spatial interventions with additional benefits - testing and measuring pilot projects - decision tool
- Integrating heat resistance into policy: climate and spatial strategies - road map
- Increase skills and sense of urgency regarding heat resilient urban design among spatial specifiers

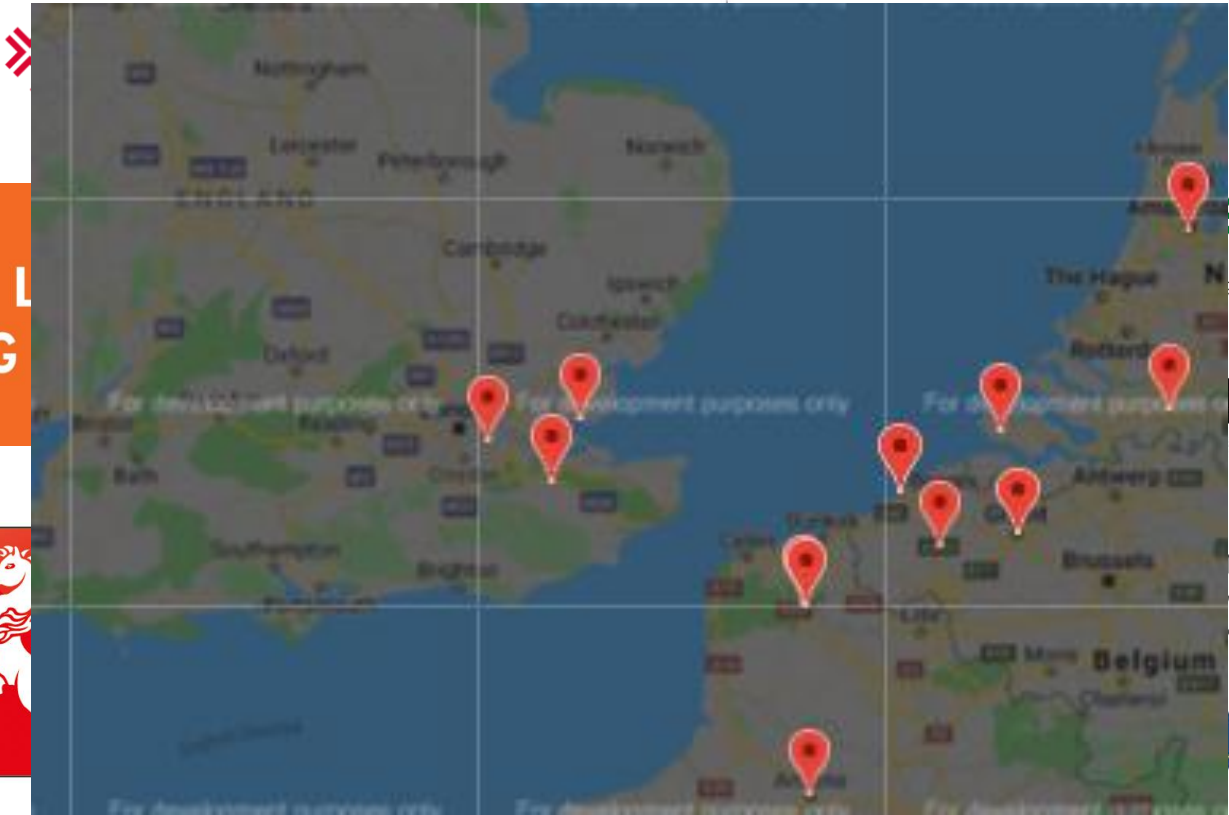
Project Runs from Sept 2018 - Sept 2022

C^oO^LT^oWⁿs

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Partners



MIDDEL
BURG



Climate and Environmental Change

Global warming

Extreme weather events

Heat waves Floods

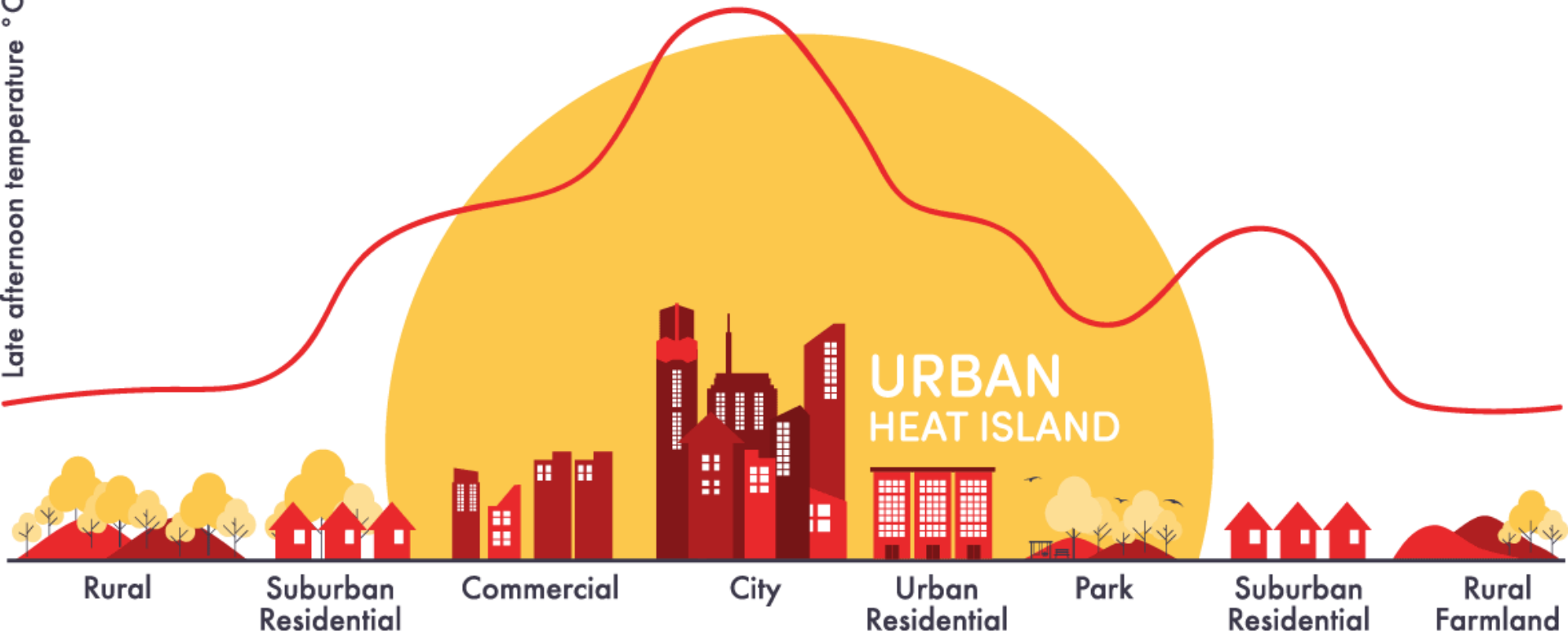
Damage to Infrastructure

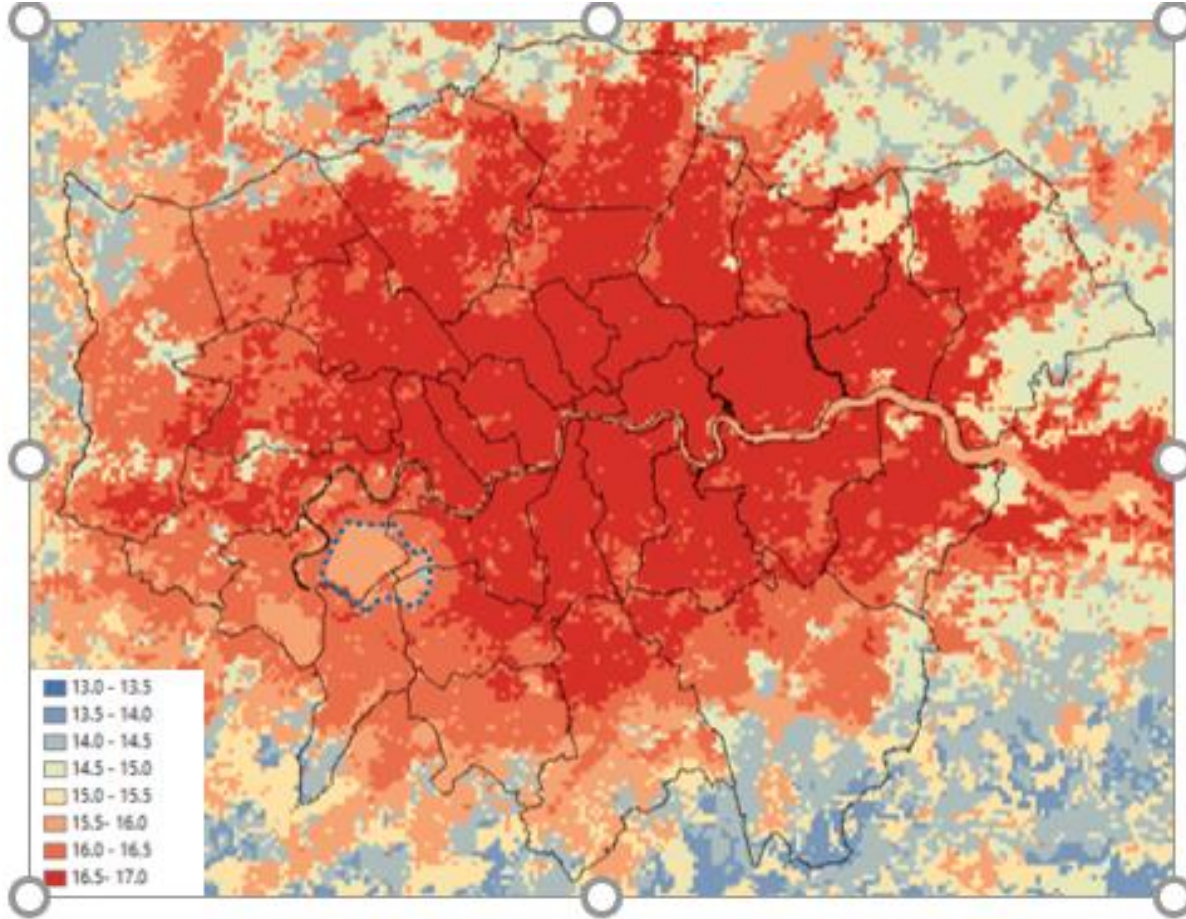
Loss of life and livelihoods

Reduce impact with blue/green infrastructure

Nature Based Solutions

Late afternoon temperature °C





UrbClim' simulation for the mean temperature at midnight London
(source VITO)

UK weather: Hottest August day for 17 years as temperatures top 36C

7 August

UK heatwaves



PA MEDIA

The UK has seen its hottest day in August for 17 years, as temperatures reached more than 36C (96.8F) in south-east England.

Crowds headed to the coast to enjoy the weather, but people have been urged to adhere to social distancing.

Exceptionally hot weather is set to continue in parts of the UK throughout the weekend, the Met Office said.

Climate change

Likelihood of 40C temperatures in UK is 'rapidly accelerating'

Such deadly heat may become regular occurrence later this century, scientists find

Damian Carrington
Environment editor

@dpcarrington

Tue 30 Jun 2020
16.00 BST



1345



Most of us welcome hot weather, but when it's too hot for too long, there are health risks. In England, there are on average 2000 heat related deaths every year. If hot weather hits this summer, make sure it does not harm you or anyone you know.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/heatwave-how-to-cope-in-hot-weather>

Curr Epidemiol Rep. 2014 Jun; 1(2): 67-74.

PMID: [25422797](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25422797/)

Published online 2014 Apr 5. doi: [10.1007/s40471-014-0009-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s40471-014-0009-1)

Health impacts of heat in a changing climate: how can emerging science inform urban adaptation planning?

[Elisaveta P. Petkova](#), DrPH, [Haruka Morita](#), MPH, and [Patrick L. Kinney](#), ScD[✉]



BMJ. 2003 Sep 6; 327(7414): 512-513.

doi: [10.1136/bmj.327.7414.512](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.327.7414.512)

PMCID: [PMC192832](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PMC192832/)

PMID: [12958084](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12958084/)

Death in heat waves

Simple preventive measures may help reduce mortality

[William R Keatinge](#), emeritus professor

UK heatwave may have caused hundreds of deaths

Fears for elderly and vulnerable as sharp rise in fatalities is linked to hot weather



▲ Women enjoy the hot weather in Weymouth, Dorset. An official health alert is in place warning that the heatwave poses a risk to the elderly and vulnerable. Photograph: Kathy deWitt/Alamy

Britain's heatwave could have caused a sharp rise in deaths over the past two weeks, health officials warned today.

Wellcome Trust press release Oct. 19, 2020

The London-based philanthropy, which spends more than £1 billion per year, announced boost in research funding for the

health impacts of global warming, which include the spread of

infectious diseases and heat-related sickness and death

Why the heatwave is disrupting the UK railways

From sagging lines to buckled rails - all you need to know about the heat's effects on rail travel



London heatwave: Tower Bridge manually cooled to stop it jamming shut

Michael Searles



RISKS for the Economy

Industrial Health 2013, 51, 3–15

Review Article

nature
climate change

LETTERS

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 4 MAY 2015 | DOI: 10.1038/NCLIMATE2623

Heat stress causes substantial labour productivity loss in Australia

Kerstin K. Zander^{1*}, Wouter J. W. Botzen², Elspeth Oppermann¹, Tord Kjellstrom^{3,4}
and Stephen T. Garnett⁵

Effects of Heat Stress on Working Populations when Facing Climate Change

Karin LUNDGREN^{1*}, Kalev KUKLANE¹, Chuansi GAO¹ and Ingvar HOLMÉR¹

Estimated that in a future warm year economic **loss due to heat stress** on productivity could be 0.4% of Gross Value Added (GVA) totalling around **£1.9 billion for London**.

Centre for Climate Change Economics & Policy/Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment (Costa et al, 2016)

Education

Recent research has demonstrated the physiological impacts of heat directly interfere with learning and the effect is cumulative

Prediction under medium warming scenario is of 10% lower achievement in an average school year with impacts for macroeconomic growth

Opinion Education	Making school cool helps children do better in exams <i>Torsten Bell</i>
Sun 3 May 2020 06.30 BST	Hot weather makes it harder for students to focus, and that shows in their results

Heat and Learning

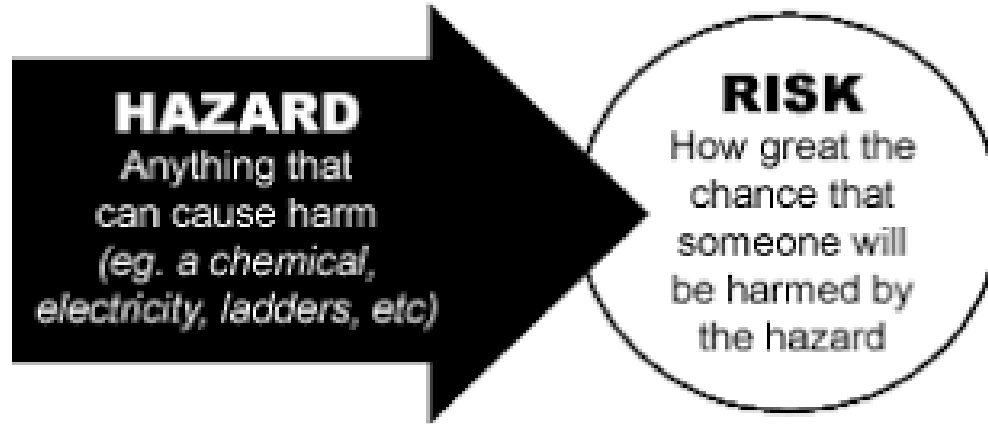
R. Jisung Park

Joshua Goodman

Michael Hurwitz

Jonathan Smith

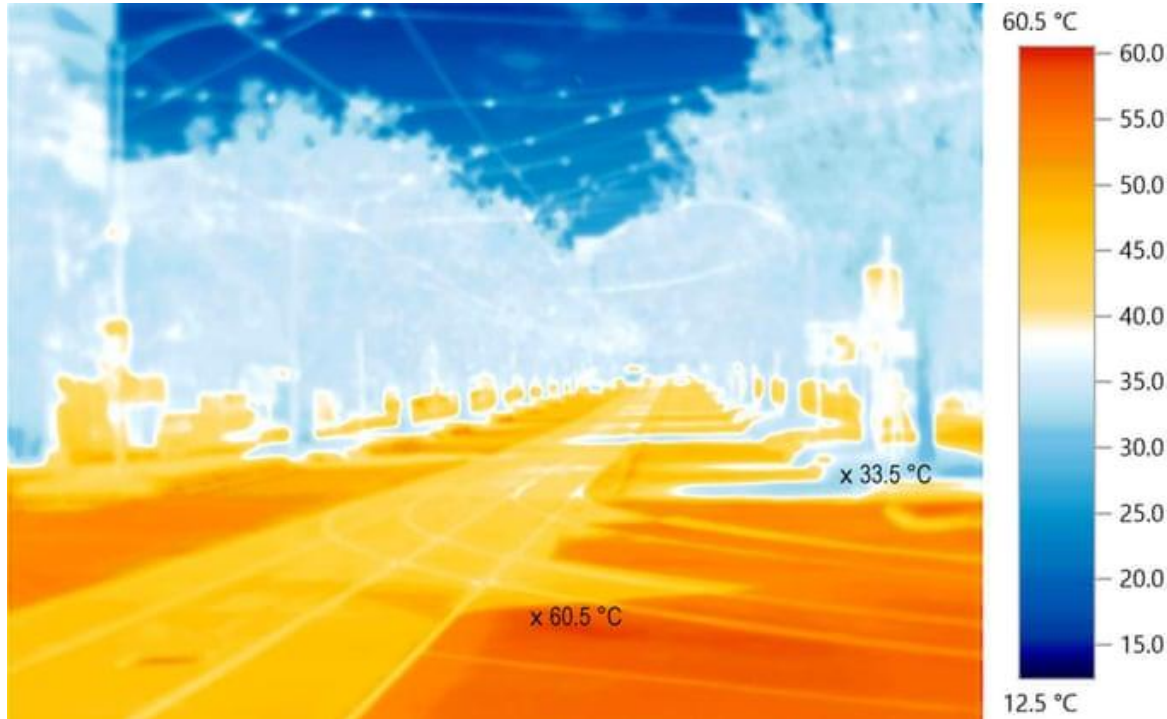
AMERICAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL: ECONOMIC POLICY
VOL. 12, NO. 2, MAY 2020
(pp. 306-39)



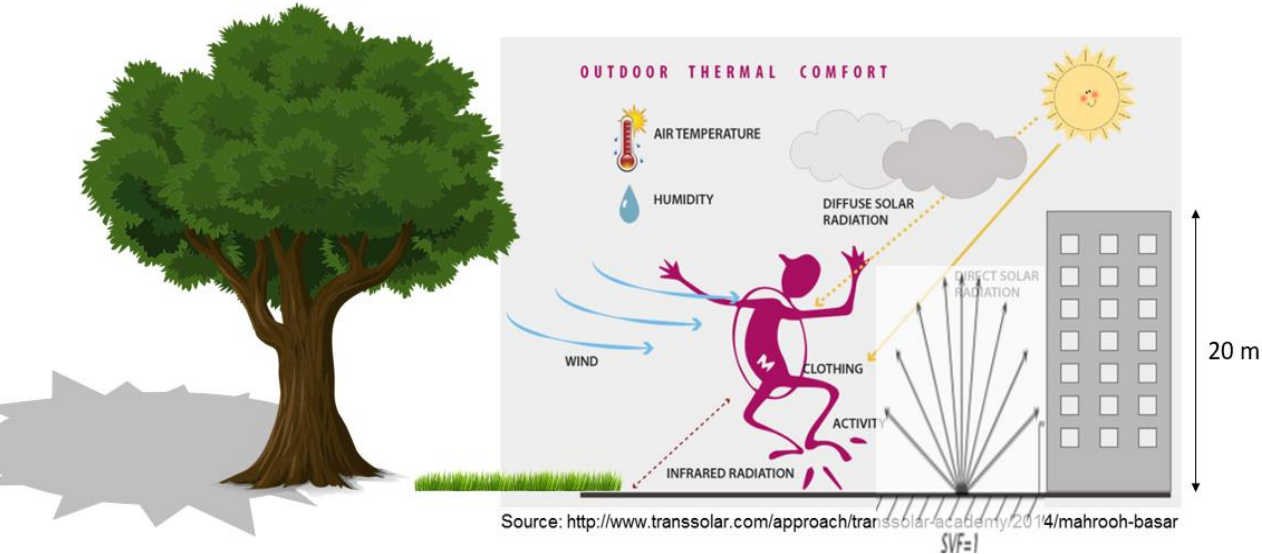
Heat stress is a **hazard** with **significant and increasing risk** to

- People
- The economy
- Infrastructure

Are there places in your area where people are likely to suffer heat stress?



Thermal comfort: Physiological Equivalent Temperature



PET	Stress Category
<4	Very high cold stress
4 – 8	High cold stress
8 – 13	Moderate cold stress
13 – 18	Slight cold stress
18 – 23	No thermal stress
23 – 29	Moderate heat stress
29 – 35	High heat stress
35 – 41	Very high heat stress
>41	Extreme heat stress

Creating Heat Maps

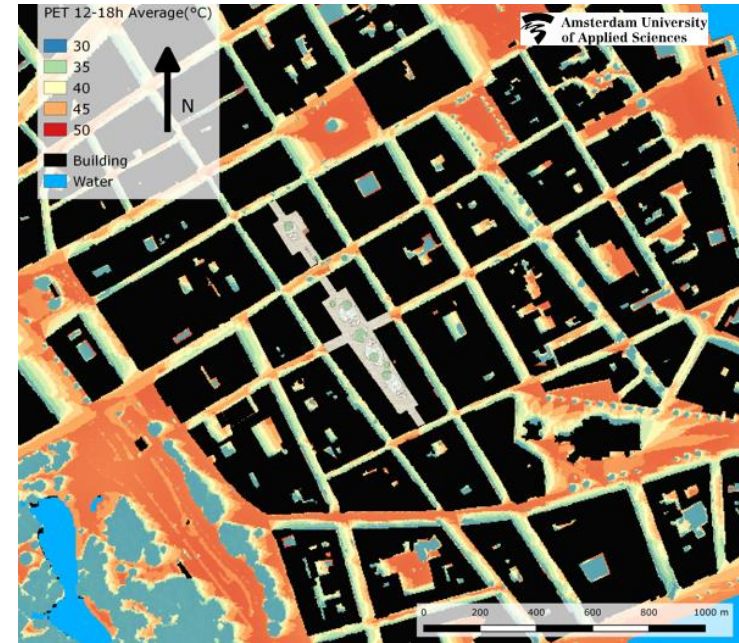
Open squares are hot every hour of the afternoon

No shadow in North-South orientated streets

Enables identification of where
heat resilience interventions are most needed

What could support authorities to pin-point those
places?

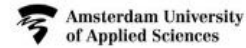
The model will combine information on temperature,
thermal comfort, spatial functions and vulnerabilities
in GIS. This will be high-resolution so authorities can
pin-point the places in their territory where heat
resilience interventions are most needed and compare
the expected effectiveness of different measures



Vulnerability mapping

Cool area per inhabitant

"pin-point the places ... where heat resilience interventions are most needed"



Area (m2) is:

- Cool

PET Physiological Stress
Grade

Not more than moderate
heat stress

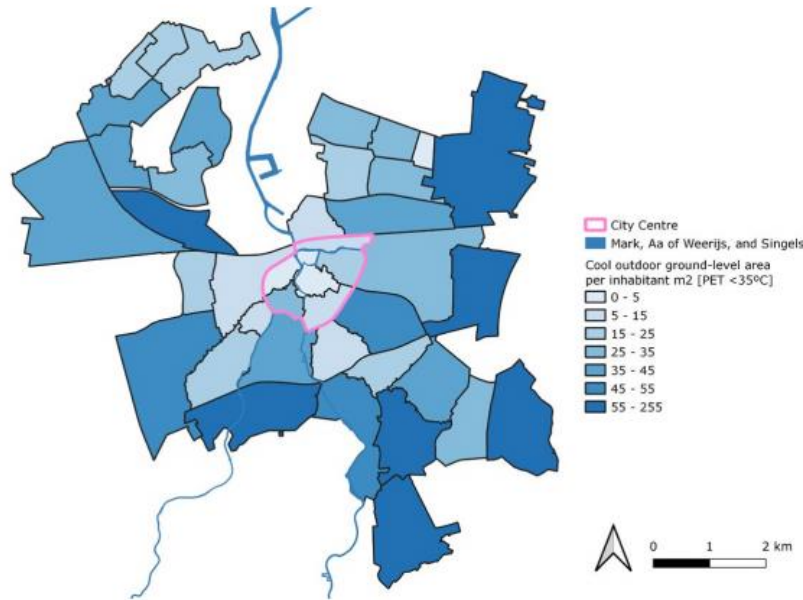
- Outdoors

Public and private

- Ground-level

2D map, so no balconies or
roof terraces are included

- Per inhabitant
- So neighbourhood averages



Decision Support Tool Kit

- ✓ Effectiveness at mitigating heat stress
- ✓ Cost/maintenance implications
- ✓ Product information/case studies
- ✓ Co benefits & Public opinion

The role of GBI in mitigating heat stress is an additional argument for inclusion in public open space design

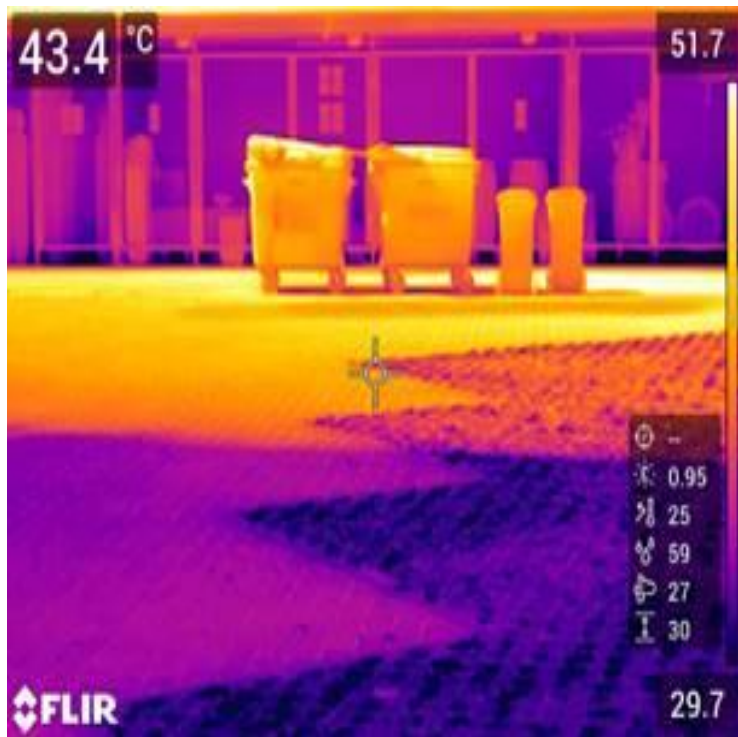
What can be done?

Increasing Shade
Evaporation
Reflection
and Ventilation

Can all make people cooler









Green & Blue Infrastructure



But which is most effective for cooling?

Cooling effectiveness depends on:

- Foliage shape and dimensions
- Leaf area density
- Seasonal cycle
- Daily transpiration
- Water availability

Shade potential:

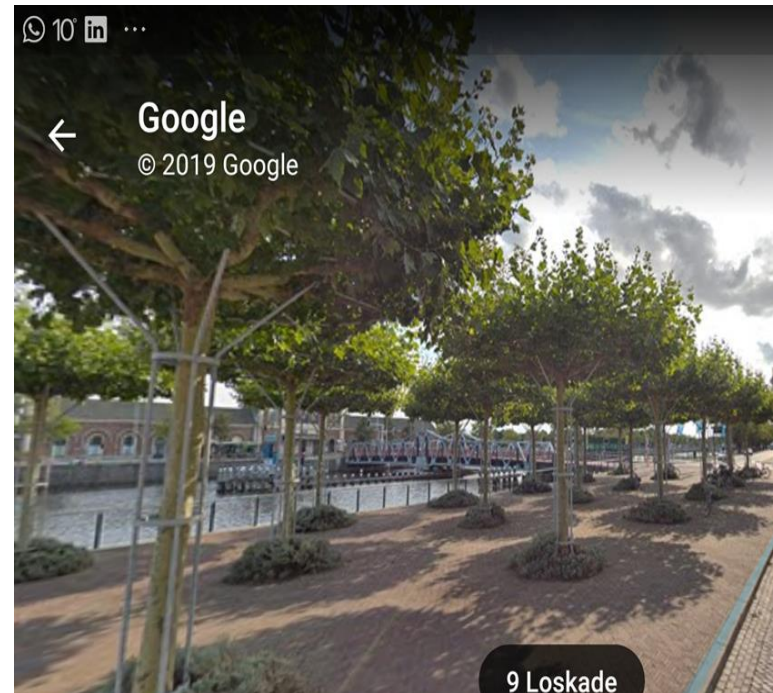
- Height
- Shape
- Canopy spread

Additional benefits:

- Aesthetics and place making
- Air quality
- Noise reduction
- Nature
- Health and wellbeing

Disbenefits:

- Establishment costs
- Maintenance
- Pests & disease
- Leaf fall
- Health & Safety







Cool Towns Heat Stress Measurement Manual



Cool Towns Heat Stress Measurement Protocol

Gideon Spanjar, Luc van Zandbrink,
Debbie Bartlett and Jeroen Kluck

Thermal comfort
assessment at
street-level scale

Climate and Environmental Change

Global warming

Extreme weather events

Heat waves Floods

Damage to Infrastructure

Loss of life and livelihoods

Reduce impact with blue/green infrastructure

Nature Based Solutions

 Met Office

UK heavy rainfall / floods

Extended periods of
extreme winter rainfall are
now **7 times more likely**.

Extreme weather: October downpour sees UK's wettest day on record

By Matt McGrath

Environment correspondent

6 hours ago | [Science & Environment](#)

Saturday 3 October was the wettest day for UK-wide rainfall since records began in 1891, Met Office researchers have said.

The downpour followed in the wake of Storm Alex and saw an average of 31.7mm (1.24ins) of rain across the entire UK.







<https://greenblue.com>

GreenBlue Urban offers landscape architects and designers load-bearing paving support systems that provide optimum soil conditions for root growth.

GreenBlue
URBAN 

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European Regional Development Fund

How to decide which species of tree?

The Right Tree in the Right Place for a Resilient Future

This Urban Tree Manual provides advice on selecting and procuring the right tree¹ for the right place in urban areas. For the purposes of this manual urban areas are defined as places in and around where people live and work. The manual also highlights long term issues of the threats to existing trees from pests, disease and climate change, and describes the benefits to the environment and for well-being that urban trees can provide.

The Manual is not intended as an exhaustive compendium on tree selection, aftercare and management. Instead, it presents current thinking on these matters and provides valuable sign posting to further relevant information.



<https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/urban-tree-manual/>

CO₂ levels in the atmosphere



Weekly averages

28 March 2021: 418.03 ppm

This time last year: 415.95 ppm

10 years ago: 393.88 ppm

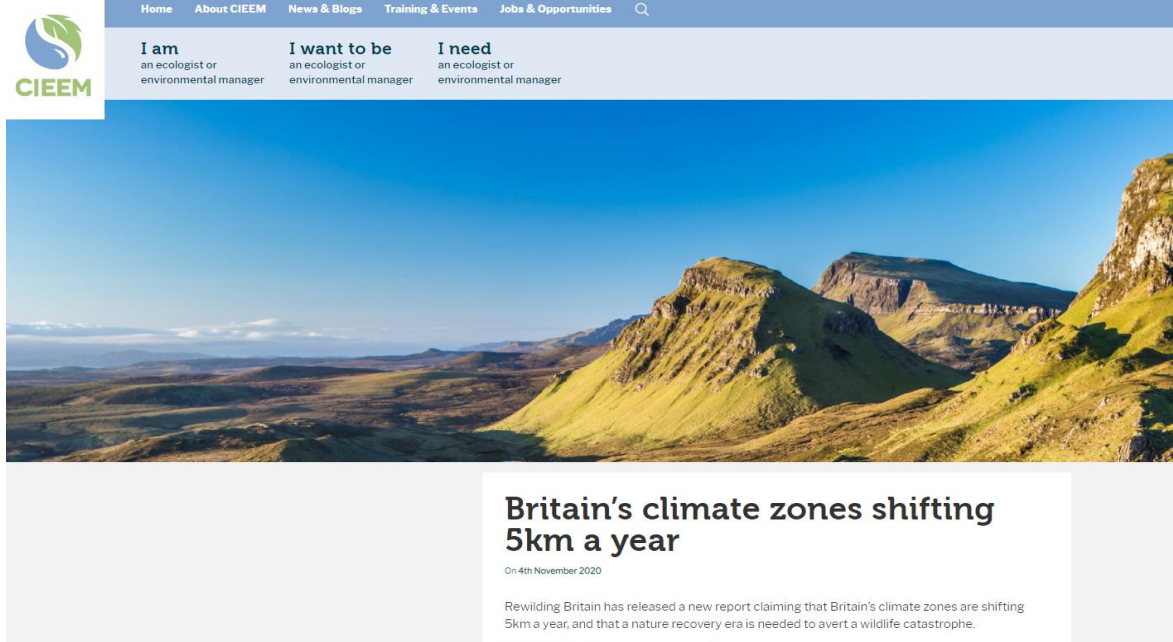
Pre-industrial base: 280

Safe level: 350

Atmospheric CO₂ reading from Mauna Loa, Hawaii (part per million).

Source: NOAA-ESRL

Native species?



The screenshot shows the CIEEM website header with a navigation menu: Home, About CIEEM, News & Blogs, Training & Events, Jobs & Opportunities, and a search icon. Below the menu are three columns: 'I am an ecologist or environmental manager', 'I want to be an ecologist or environmental manager', and 'I need an ecologist or environmental manager'. The main content area features a large landscape image of rolling hills under a blue sky. Below the image is a news article titled 'Britain's climate zones shifting 5km a year' dated 4th November 2020. The article text states: 'Rewilding Britain has released a new report claiming that Britain's climate zones are shifting 5km a year, and that a nature recovery era is needed to avert a wildlife catastrophe.'

Home About CIEEM News & Blogs Training & Events Jobs & Opportunities

I am
an ecologist or
environmental manager

I want to be
an ecologist or
environmental manager

I need
an ecologist or
environmental manager

Britain's climate zones shifting 5km a year

On: 4th November 2020

Rewilding Britain has released a new report claiming that Britain's climate zones are shifting 5km a year, and that a nature recovery era is needed to avert a wildlife catastrophe.

Well fitted species?



Sourcing planting stock: where currently experiences the predicted conditions?



How long are we expecting trees to last?

Climate change challenges conventional ideas
reminding us the future will not be the same as the past.

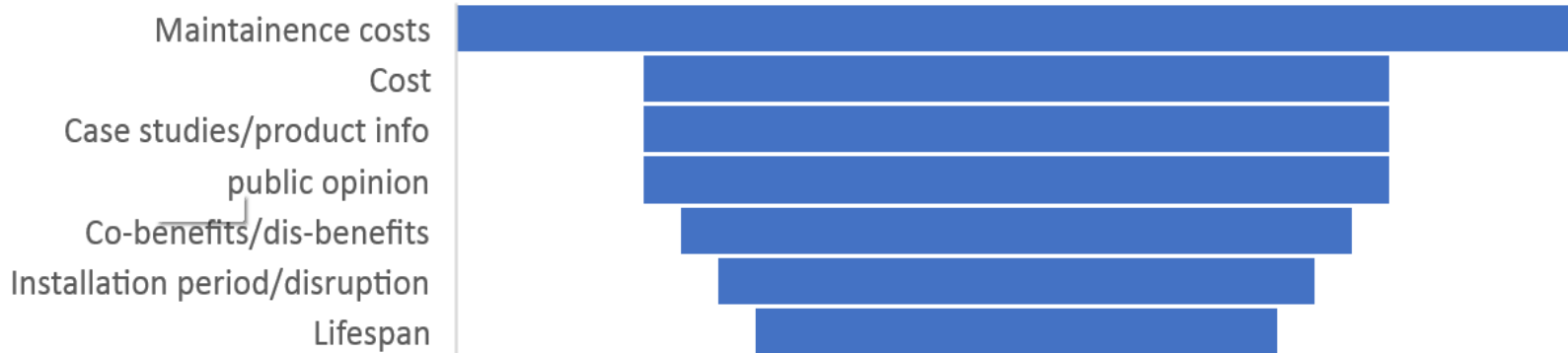
Effective urban landscape design requires plantings based on ecological concepts
**using plant species well fitted to the local environment based on
three critical factors: precipitation, CO₂ concentration, and temperature**

suggests planting maritime climate species (well-fitted) and southern European, Mediterranean climate species (intermediate-fitted) as these will be sustainable in current/future UK climate scenarios.

B. Alizadeh B & Hitchmough J D (2020) Designing sustainable urban landscape and meeting the challenge of climate change: a study of plant species adaptation and fitness under different climate change scenarios in public landscape of UK, Landscape Research, 45:2, 228-246, DOI: 10.1080/01426397.2019.1606185

Priorities

Summary of key issues



Confidence in: effectiveness

acceptability

financial impact and commitment

Co-benefits ?

Benefits

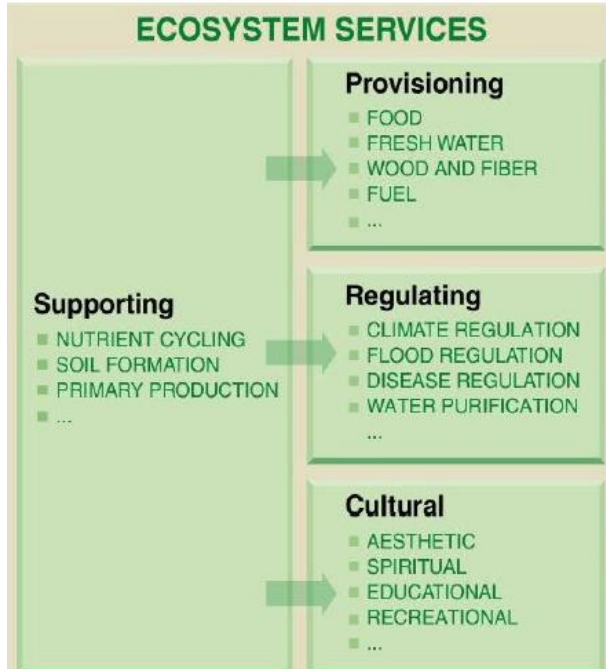
Shade
Evapo-transpiration (if sufficient soil water)
Air quality
Aesthetics
Recreation, relaxation, health,
Wildlife

Disbenefits

Maintenance – watering
Time to grow
Clearing fallen leaves
Health & Safety
Removal when dead
Wildlife: pests – aphids/honey dew;
pigeons

All need to be costed

Or ecosystem services?



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE	SUPPORTING						PROVISIONING					REGULATING					CULTURAL					
	HABITAT	WILDLIFE	NUTRIENT CYCLING	PRIMARY PRODUCTION	WATER CYCLING	POLLINATION	FOOD	TIMBER	BIOMASS	WELL-BEING	HONEY	UHI EFFECT	PET	AIR QUALITY	NOISE	WATER FLOW	EROSION CONTROL	LOCAL CHARACTER	AESTHETICS	RECREATION	EDUCATION	VALUE
Single tree																						
Group of trees																						
Trees(s) in grass												1										
Tree(s) in hard surface																						
Shrub planting																						
Hedges																						
Mown grass														?	?							
Grass/herb meadow																						
Green wall																						
Moss wall	?	?	?	?	?							?	?	2	?	?						
Green facade																						
extensive green roofs																						
intensive green roofs																						
park, large green space																						
Vegetated paving																						

JRC SCIENCE FOR POLICY REPORT

A sustainable recovery for the EU

A text mining approach to map the EU Recovery Plan to the Sustainable Development Goals

Borchardt, Steve
 Buscaglia, Daniela
 Barbero Vignola, Giulia
 Maroni, Michele
 Marelli, Luisa

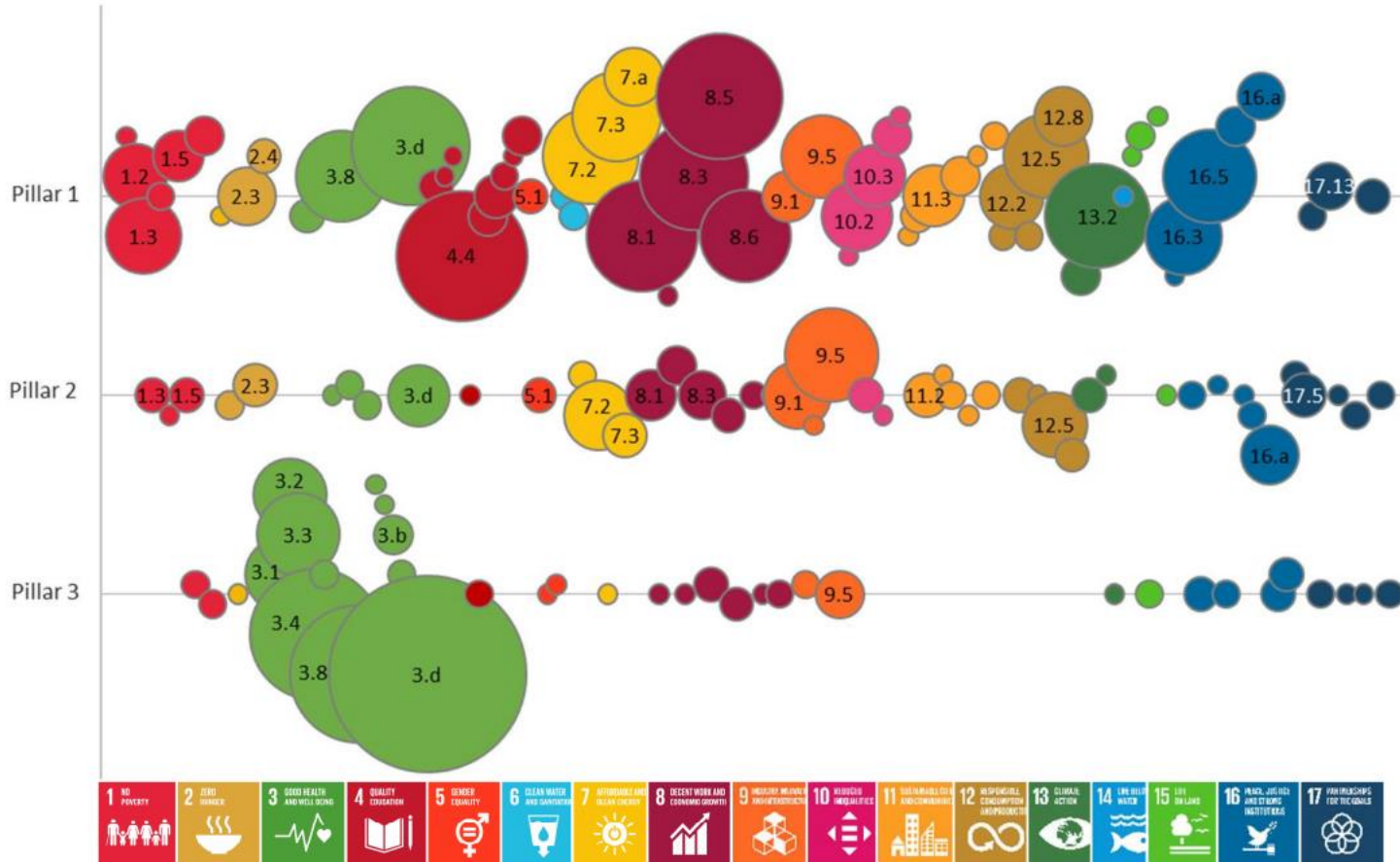
2020



EUR 30452 EN



Figure 9: Results of the SDGs mapping at target level, by pillar



References

Bartlett D (2020) Mitigating heat stress in public open spaces. *Landscape Journal*. 1:2020 pp52-54

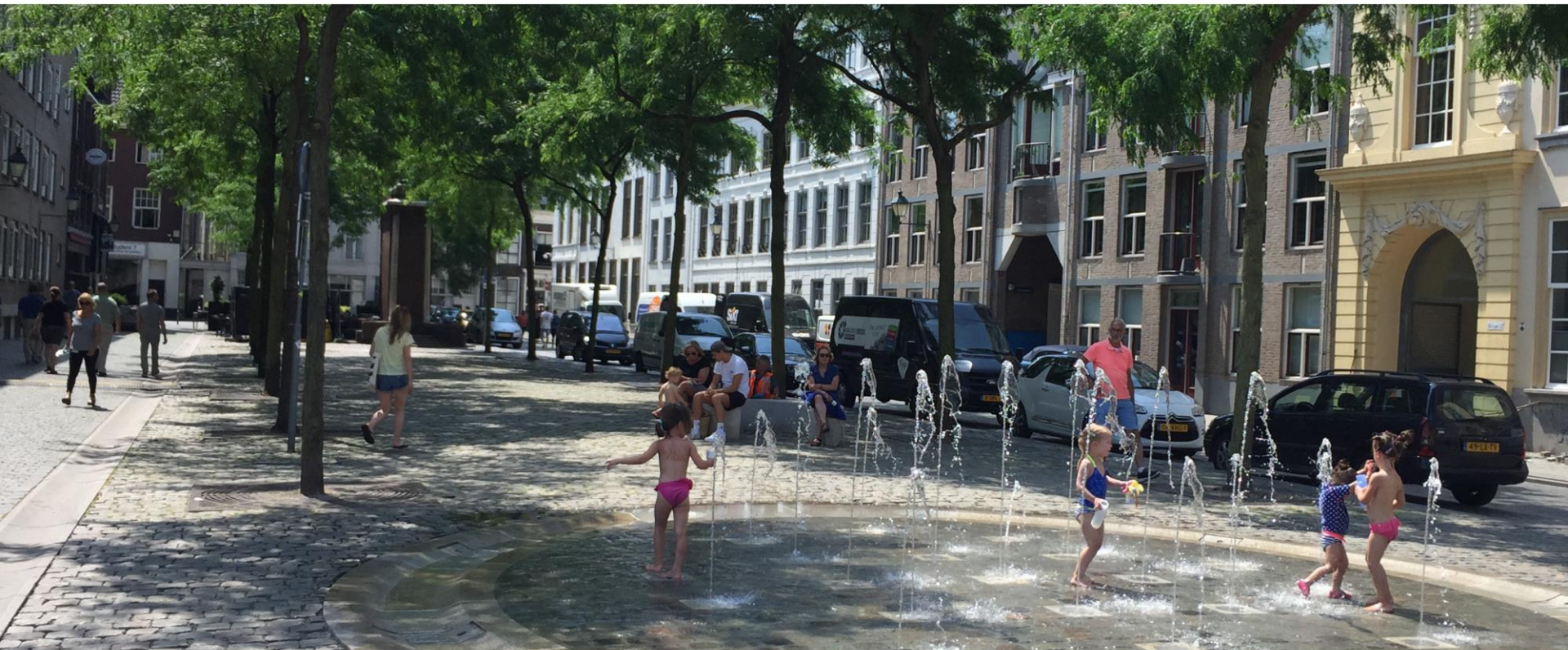
Bartlett D (2020) Chapter 6 *Landscape Character Assessment: A method to include community perspectives and ecosystem services in landuse planning in Nature based Solutions: Science, Innovations and Strategies in South Asia*. Ed Dhyani S, Gupta A K and Karki M. Volume 1 in the Springer Nature series *Disaster Resilience and Green Growth* <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-15-4712-6>

Bartlett D., and Milliken S. (2019) Chapter 23 Landscape Character and Ecosystem Services Assessment: A Case Study from India. In *Current Trends in Landscape Research*. Ed, Muller Lothar & Frank Eulenstein. Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-30069-2_23 Print ISBN978-3-030-30068-5 Online ISBN978-3-030-30069-2

Bartlett D (2021) Case study: Using a codesign process as an opportunity and to increase assessment literacy. *Compass: Journal of Learning and Teaching*, Vol 14, No 1, DoI: <https://doi.org/10.21100/compass.v14i1.1121>

Bartlett D (2020) The case for authentic assessment in HE's 'new normal' THE 2/10/20 <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/career/case-authentic-assessment-hes-new-normal>

Bartlett, D. and Jain, S. (2019). The 'Cool Towns' Project: Using Green/Blue Infrastructure to Reduce Heat Stress in Public Open Spaces. In *Practice - Bulletin of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management*, **105**: p12-15.



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