



# EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF URBAN GREEN AREAS



*With the contribution of  
the LIFE Programme of  
the European Union.*





# Green areas and urban areas

A scenic view of a town, likely in the Dolomites, featuring a prominent church tower with a green dome and a cross on top. The town is nestled in a valley, surrounded by lush green trees and mountains in the background. The sky is blue with some clouds. The text "Healthy green spaces are crucial for the quality of life in cities" is overlaid in white, bold font.

**Healthy green spaces are crucial  
for the quality of life in cities**



# How do green areas help cities adapt to climate change?

## Mitigation

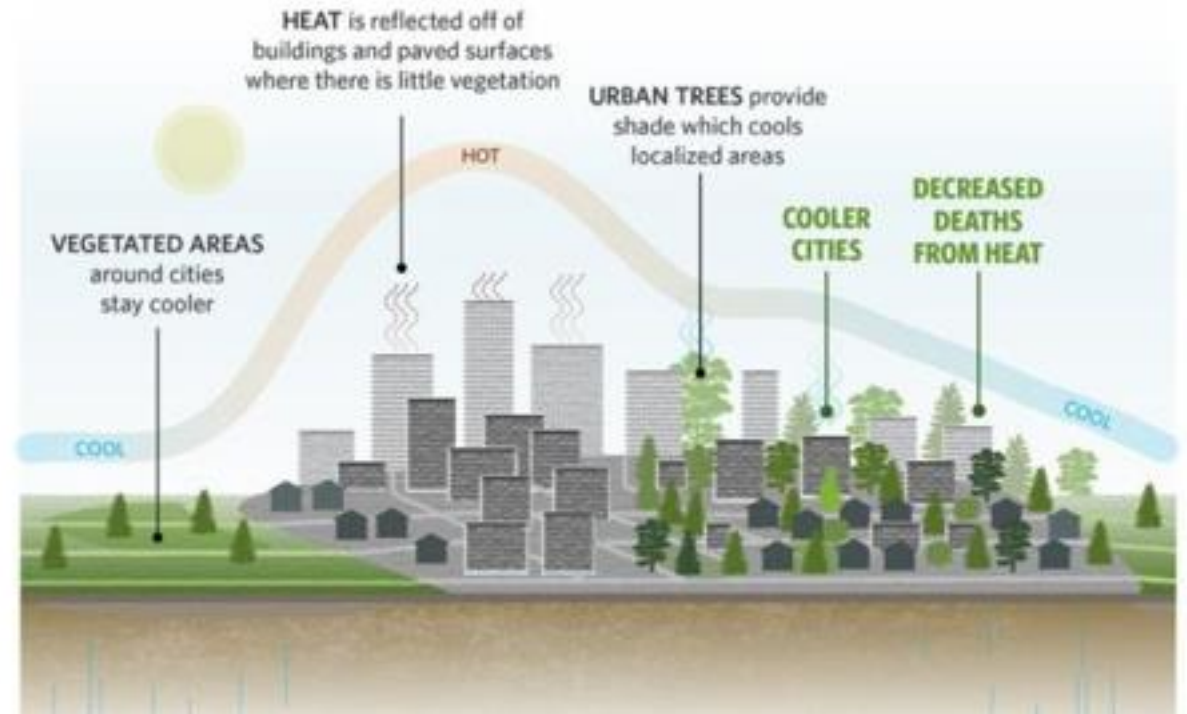
Storage of carbon in trees and green spaces in general

## Adaptation

Cooling of the temperature in summer due to transpiration and shading

Protection against erosion during heavy rainfall

Effects on health and psyche



Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-37813709>

# Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

Wood plants are an excellent carbon sink that can assimilate and store atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>:

## **Assimilation**

Carbon is removed from the atmosphere by trees and converted into sugar by photosynthesis.

## **Storage**

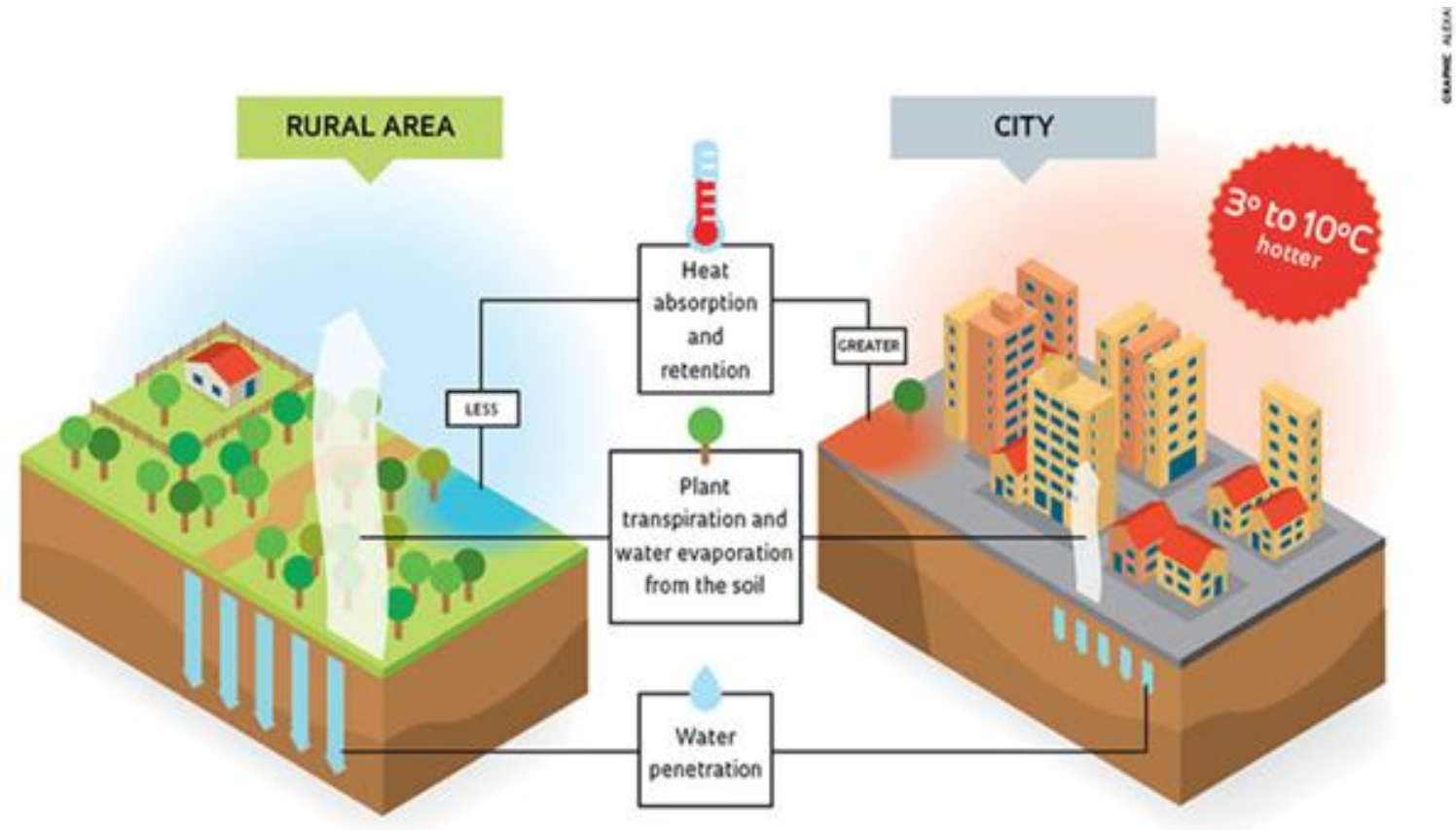
Parts of carbon that remain permanently in organic form as wood biomass until the death of the tree.



Source: <http://regrow-trees.com/AboutTrees.aspx>

# Temperature cooling

It is estimated that in the USA 3 to 8% of the electricity consumption is due to the neutralization of the heat islands in cities.



Source: T E R I. 2017 Final Report on Urban Planning Characteristics to Mitigate Climate Change in Context of Urban Heat Island Effect

# Protection from heavy rainfall



Trees slow down heavy rain by intercepting the rain with the leaves and then reducing the direct effect of the rain on the soil.

(Berlan et al., 2017)

Source: [http://www.deeproot.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/stories/2014/06/Stormwater-Quality-Benefits-of-Trees\\_Adelie-Freyja-Annabel.jpg](http://www.deeproot.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/stories/2014/06/Stormwater-Quality-Benefits-of-Trees_Adelie-Freyja-Annabel.jpg)



# The importance of maintenance

Municipalities spend a lot of money to maintain their green areas

(Vienna 95M €/y, Berlin 150M €/y, Milano 20M €/y)

Maintenance of urban green areas is complex and requires many people, machines and material.

A correct maintenance is important to maximise the positive contribution of trees and extend the life cycle (Hauer, 2015)

Maintenance tools are needed to help cities to organise and monitor their activities and at the same time maximise ecosystem services





# Vision GreenSpaces

Help cities  
worldwide to  
manage their urban  
green areas  
efficiently, improving  
liveability, ensuring  
safety and  
mitigating effects of  
climate change





# Data driven planning



A standard data model ensures comparability, benchmarks, standard indexes, development of new tools.

With a detailed inventory planning and managing is more effective and efficient.

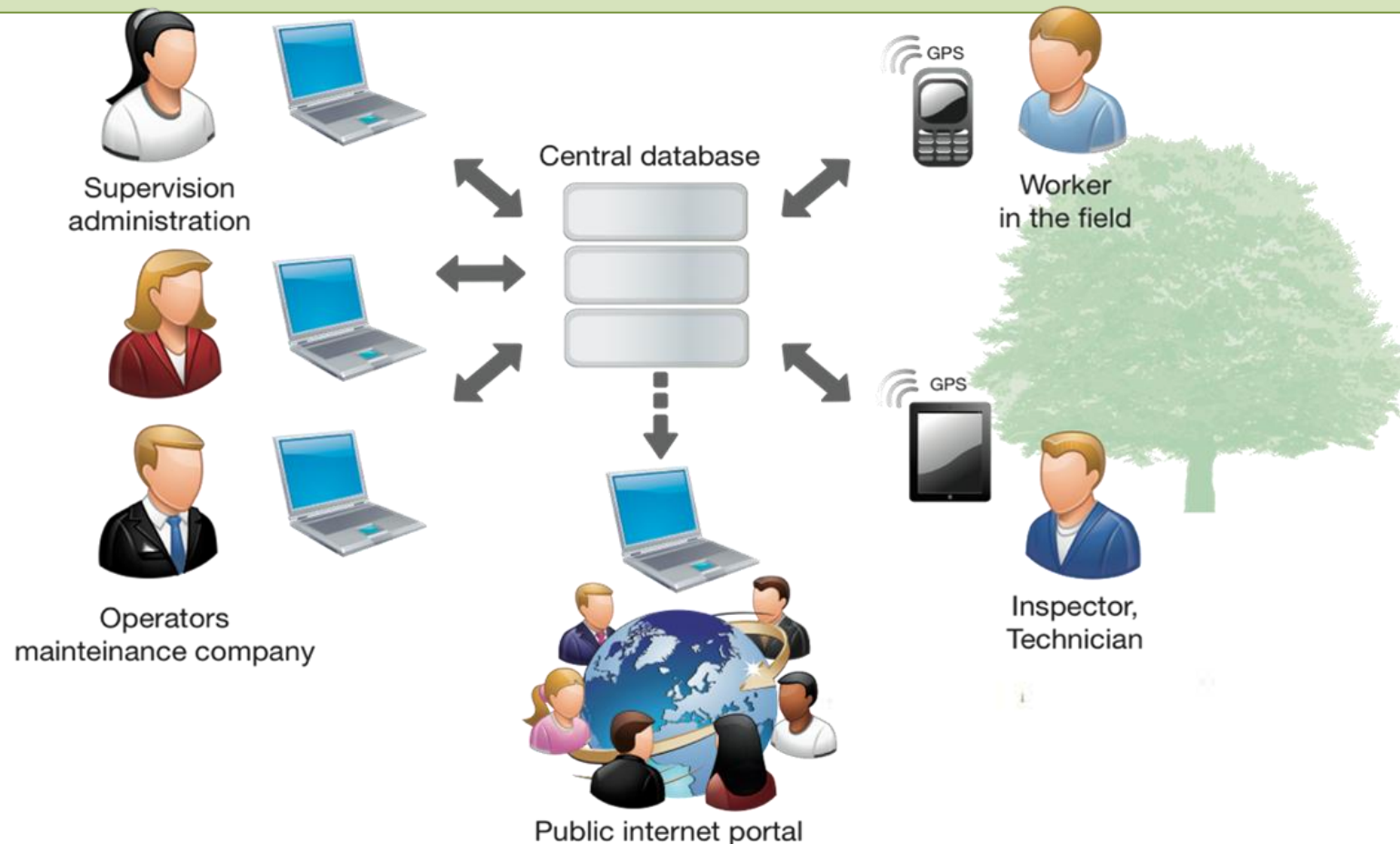
Code	Description	Quantity [n]
P103108	Tree - Living tree	98
P103109	Shrub	1
P214250	Recreational equipment simple	1
P232464	Irrigation scheme connection	1
P232465	Irrigation shaft	2
P232466	Irrigatore	9
P232467	Adduttore	1

Code	Description	Quantity [n]	Quantity [m]
L103107	Living fence	2	61
L217307	Steel fence	17	690

Code	Description	Quantity [n]	Quantity [m <sup>2</sup> ]
S101016	Lawn	12	13.739
S103101	Shrub area	1	2
S204152	Water body fountain	1	66
S205002	Paving gravel	3	4.045
S212000	Building	1	38
S213212	Wall	1	42
S325502	Total area boundary	1	17.931
S327450	Irrigation sectors	2	2.961
S327552	Playground	1	430
S327554	Dogs area	1	1.322

# The management platform

All stakeholders get the tools they need and all data is stored in one central database. All information is connected to the assets on the ground. Activities can be planned, monitored accounted for in a transparent way.





# Innovation and research projects

## LIFE UrbanGreen

- Lead Partner R3 GIS
- Università di Milano (IT), Anthea (Rimini), ZZM (Krakow), Progea 4D (Krakow)
- July 2018 – June 2021
- Budget 2,5M €



## Interreg Italy-Switzerland

- Lead Partner R3 GIS
- Lugano (CH), Bolzano (IT), Benicchio Giardini (CH), Demetra Specialist (IT)
- January 2019 – December 2021
- Budget 1M €



# The true value of urban green

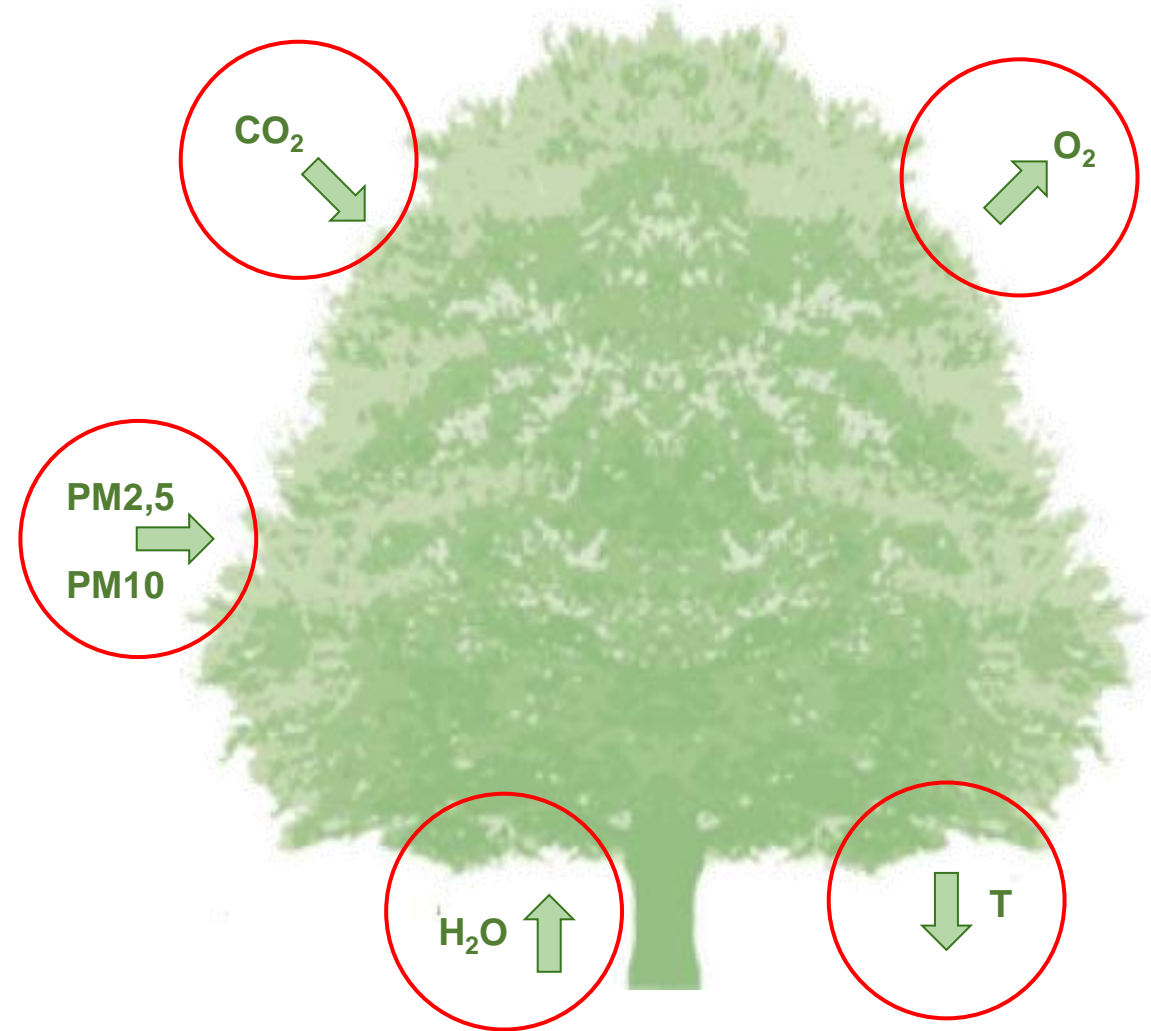




# Quantification of ecosystem services

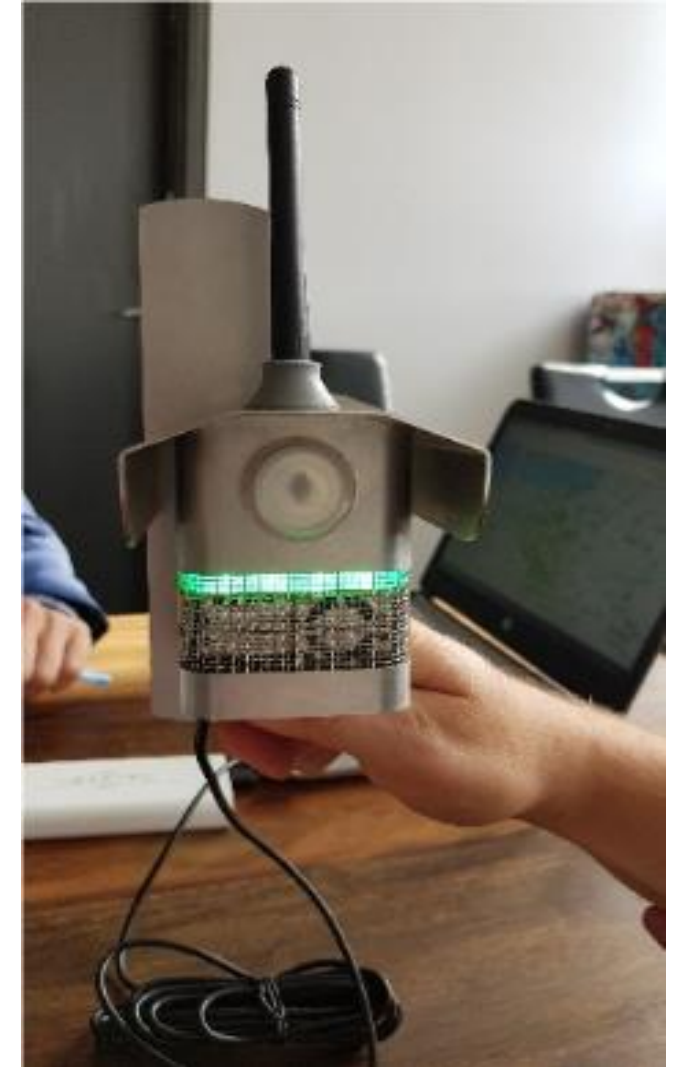
The Universities of Milan and Florence are measuring trees and shrubs in Bolzano, Lugano, Rimini and Krakow to develop reliable algorithms for the quantification of:

- CO<sub>2</sub> stocked and assimilated
- Air cooling due to shading and leaf transpiration
- Sequestration of air pollutants (PM10, PM2.5) by leaves



# IOT environmental sensors

Measurement of environmental parameters to document the effectiveness of green infrastructure in addressing environmental challenges of cities: temperature, air pollution, tree health



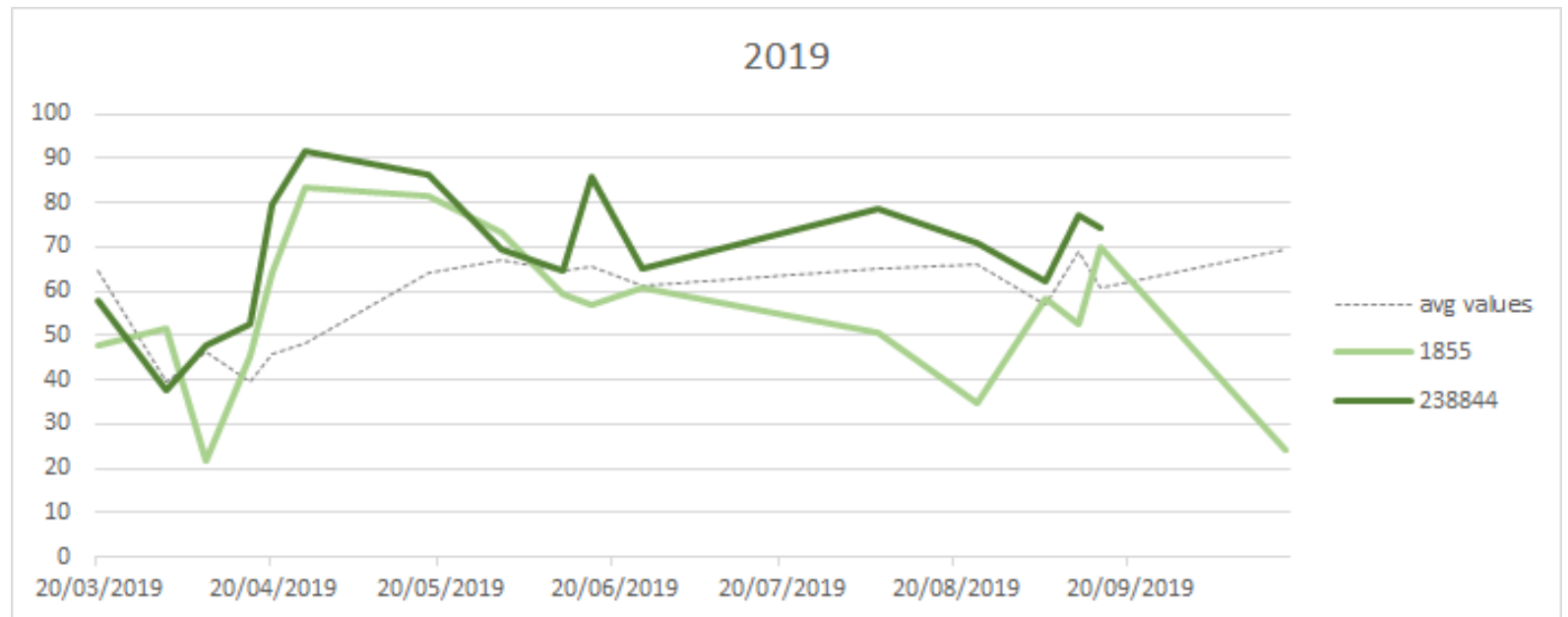


# Satellite tree monitoring

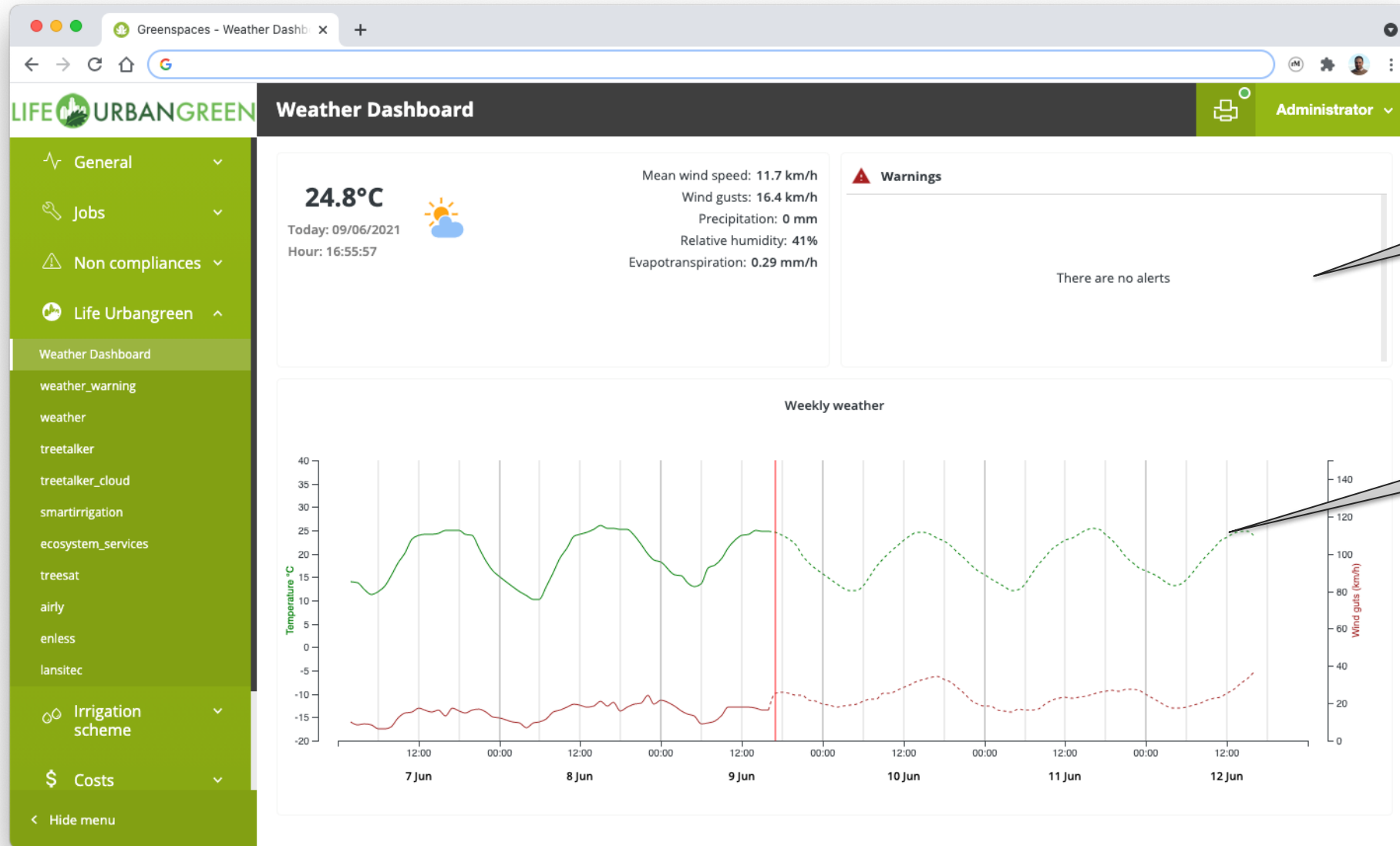
Analysis of weekly satellite data to monitor the evolution of plant health of mature urban trees



Source: [www.planet.com](http://www.planet.com)



# Use of weather data



Severe weather warnings

Forecasts



# Smart Irrigation

Calculation of the need to irrigate young trees based on weather data (solar radiation, evapotranspiration), the water requirements of each species and expected rainfall.

R3OTREES®

admin

General

Open map

Weather Data

Sites

Objects

Statistics

Communications [0]

Trees

Plant with planned TRA

TRA

Shrubs, shrubs areas, hedges

Playground/Sporting Area

Equipment

Close menu

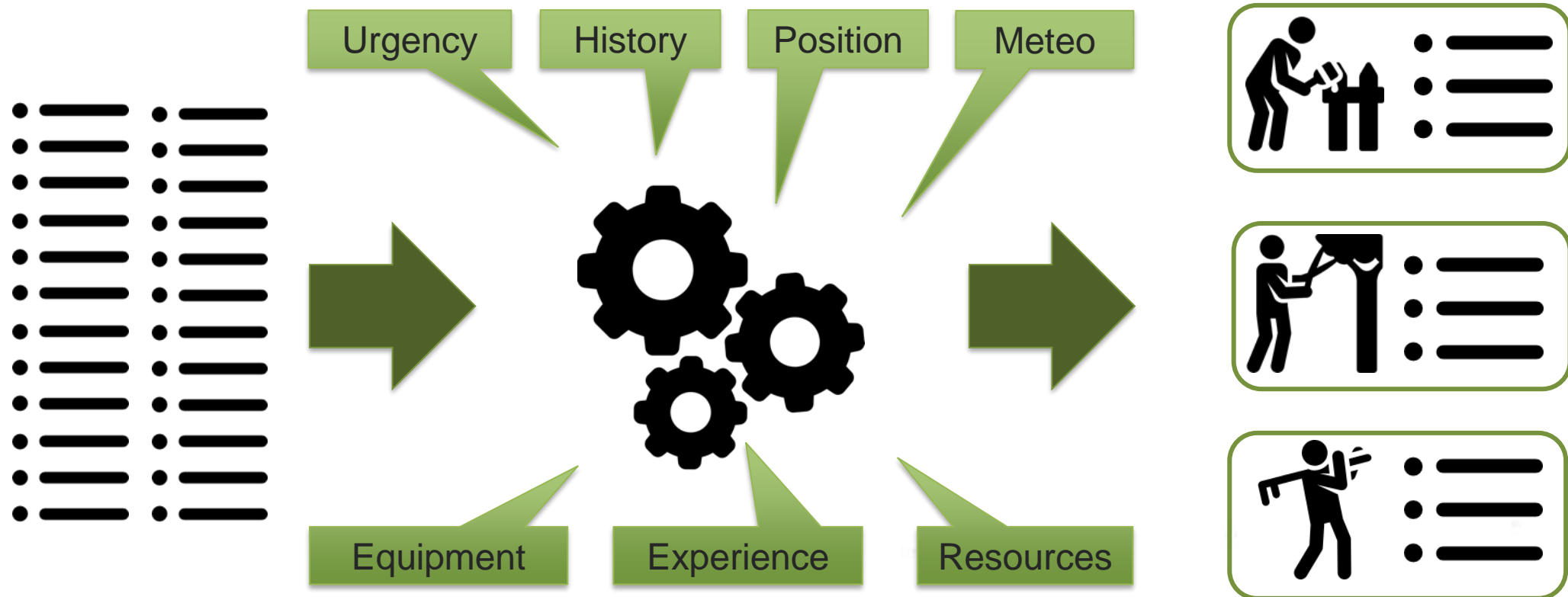
Trees

Site	Tree nr.	Tag Nr.	Taxonomy	Calculated tr..	Date TRA	Risk class	Height	Water
BIM1 - Centro Direzionale Piazza del Popoloparco	5	4680	Populus nigra Italica (Pioppo cipressino)	55			13,50	💧
BIM1 - Centro Direzionale Piazza del Popoloparco	15	4671	Quercus ilex (Leccio)	63			11,00	
BIM1 - Centro Direzionale Piazza del Popoloparco	23	4125	Tilia x europaea (Tiglio)	71			11,00	
BIM1 - Centro Direzionale Piazza del Popoloparco	53	4175	Pinus pinea (Pino domes...)	68			12,50	💧
BIM1 - Centro Direzionale Piazza del Popoloparco	44	4002	Populus alba (Pioppo bia...)	68			12,00	
BIM33 - Parco del Gelso	6	1339	Tilia x europaea (Tiglio)	70			10,50	
BIM33 - Parco del Gelso	10	1439	Pinus pinea (Pino domes...)	-			12,50	
BIM33 - Parco del Gelso	50	2160	Celtis australis (Bagolaro)	-			10,00	💧
BIM33 - Parco del Gelso	50	2160	Celtis australis (Bagolaro)	44			10,00	
BIM33 - Parco del Gelso	33	2462	Quercus robur (Farnia)	50			13,05	💧
BIM33 - Parco del Gelso	42	2552	Pinus pinea (Pino domes...)	50			13,05	
BIM33 - Parco del Gelso	88	3476	Tilia x europaea (Tiglio)	35			9,00	
BIM33 - Parco del Gelso	89	3477	Tilia x europaea (Tiglio)	36			9,50	



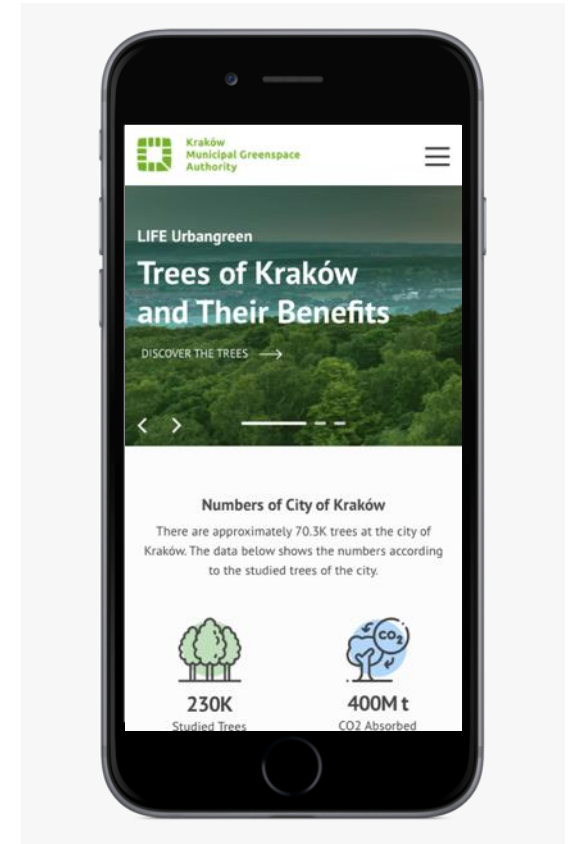
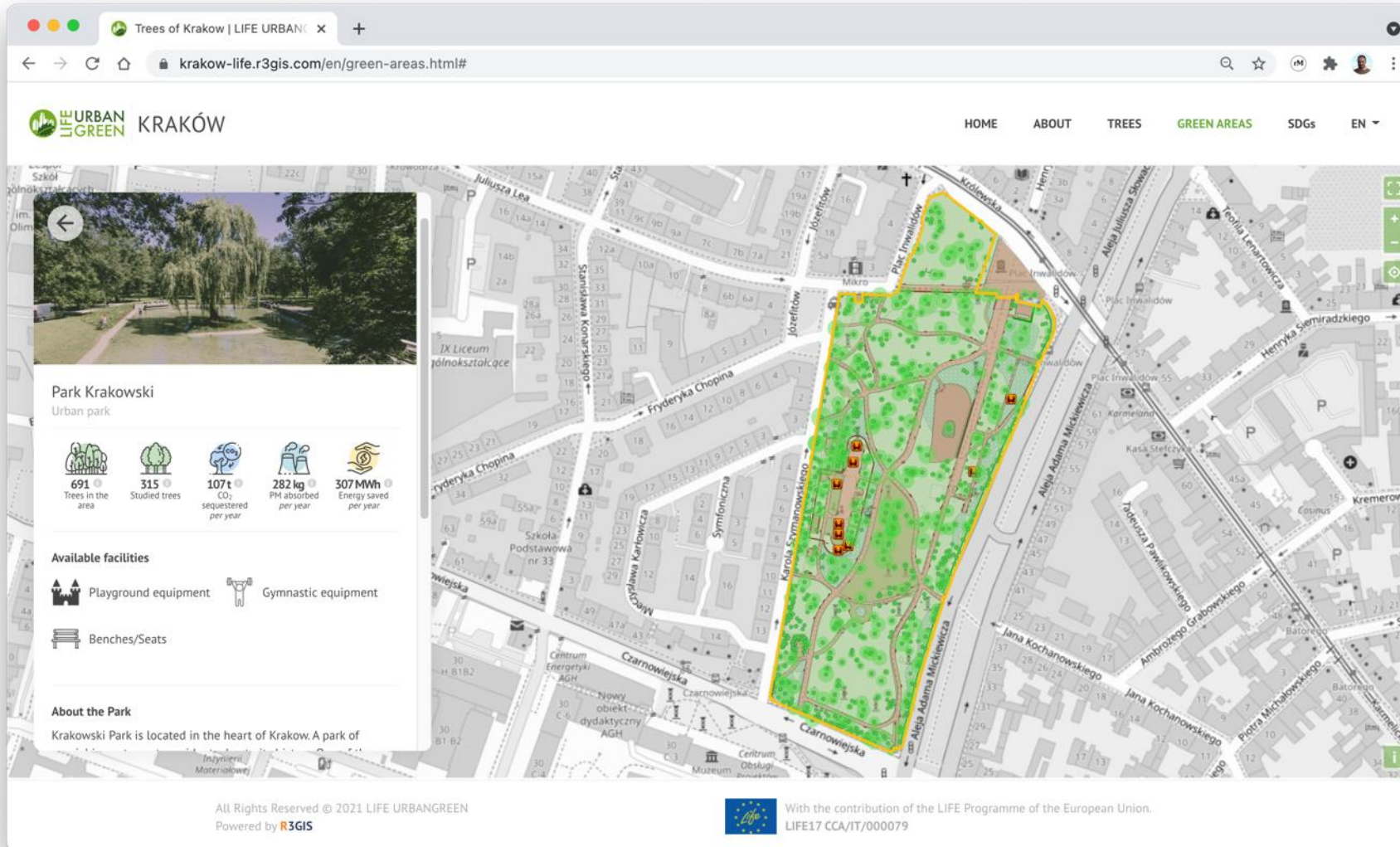
# Greater efficiency in planning interventions

Reduce the carbon footprint (and costs) with a better coordination of maintenance activities

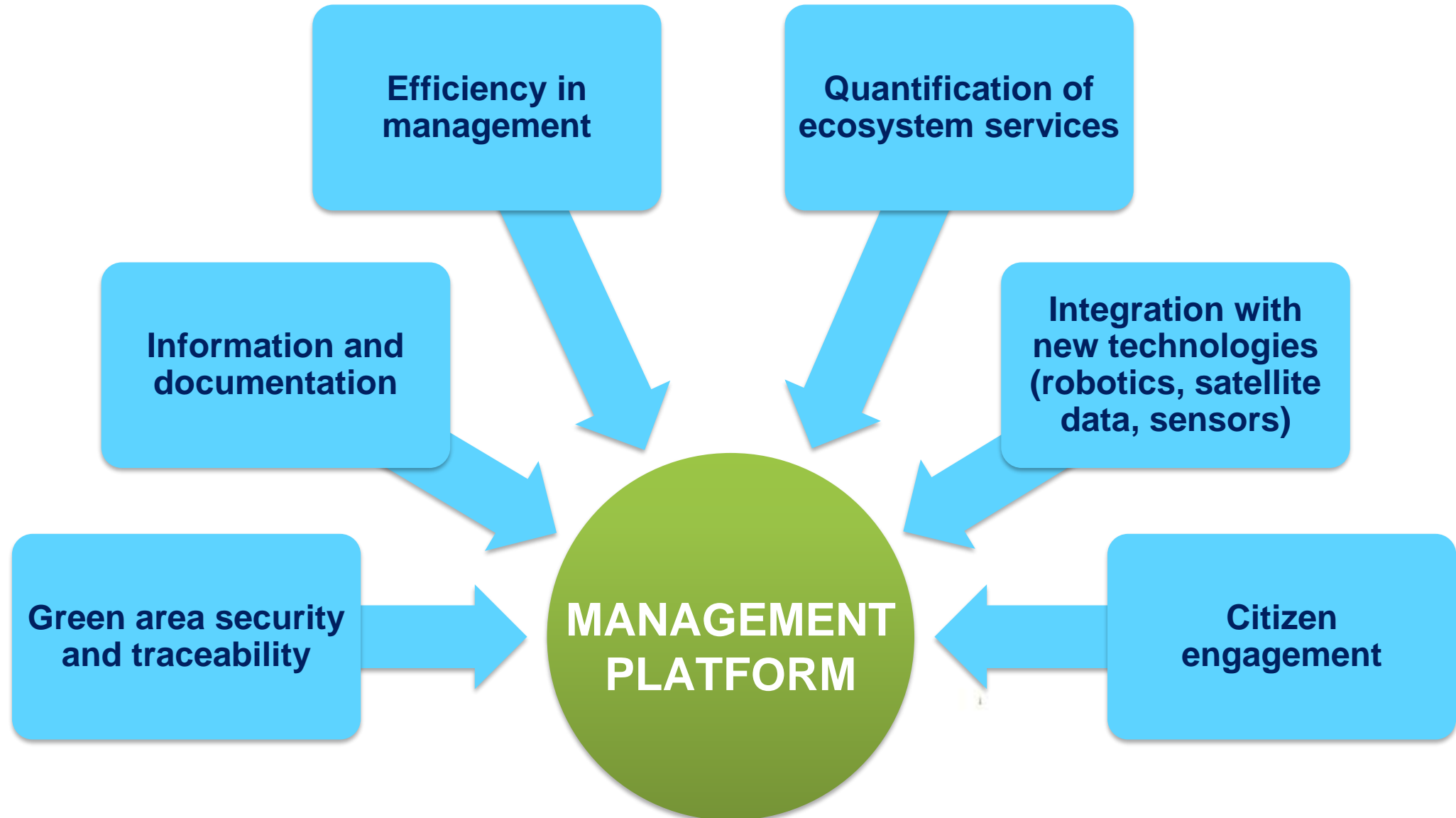




# Citizen engagement



# Conclusions







[www.lifeurbangreen.eu](http://www.lifeurbangreen.eu)  
[www.verdevale.eu](http://www.verdevale.eu)



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