



The UPSURGE Project Final Conference

Guiding Cities to Deliver Regenerative Urban Transformation

UPSURGE innovations for
a holistic NBS
environmental sensing
and effectiveness
monitoring

Ronald Chenú Abente Acosta,
OpenContent SCARL

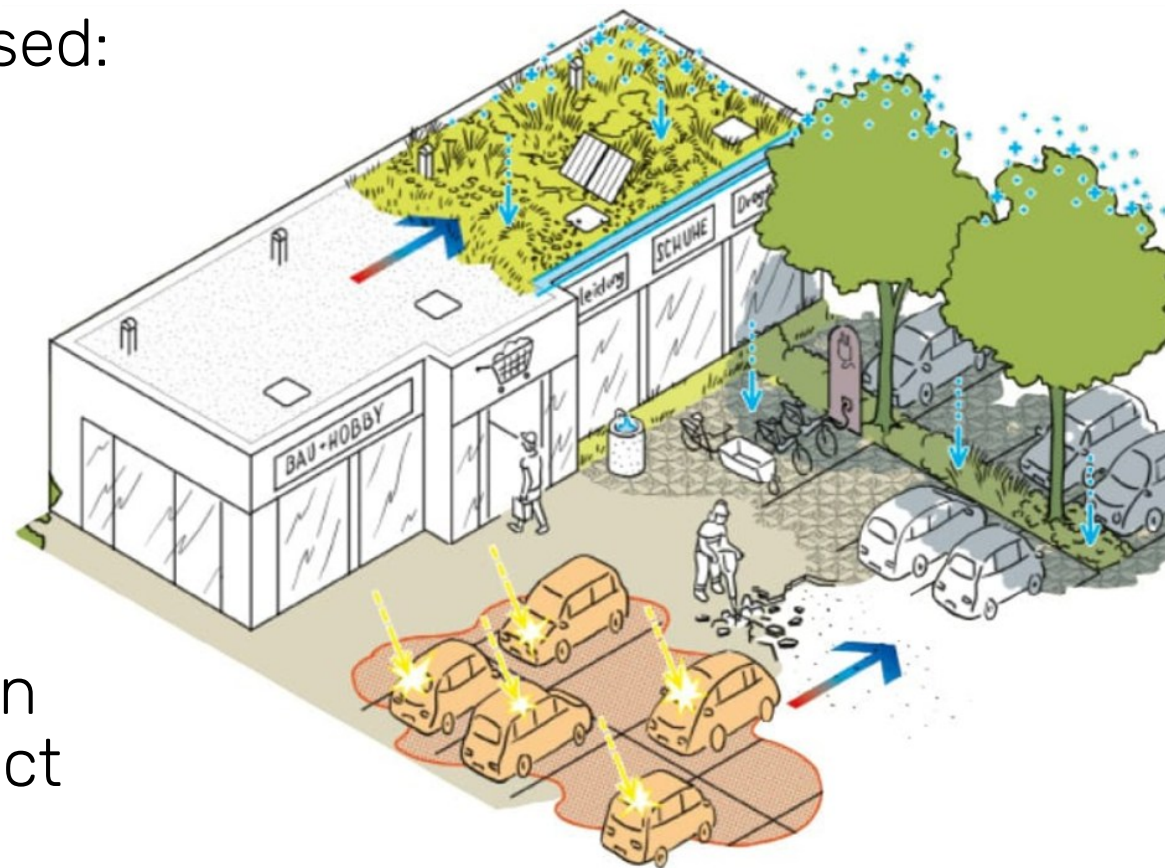
10 February 2026
Katowice, Poland



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 101003818

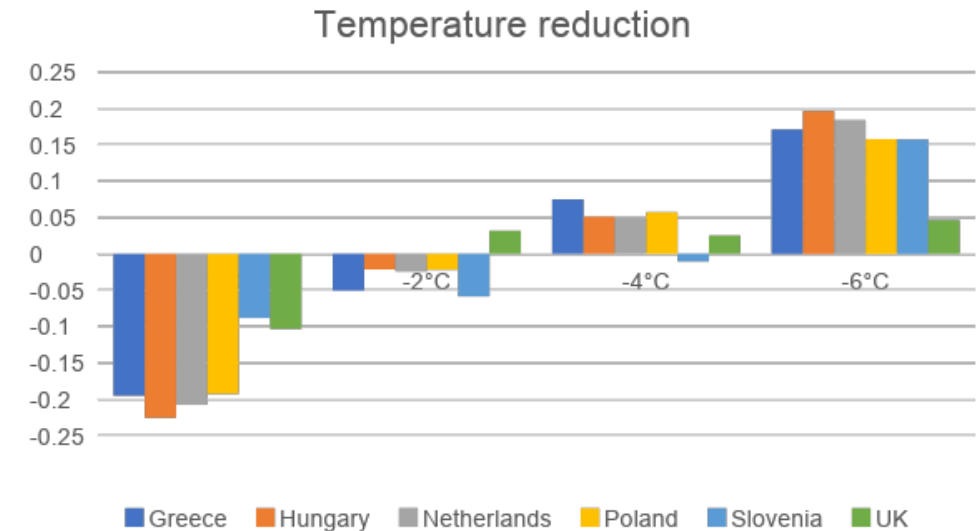
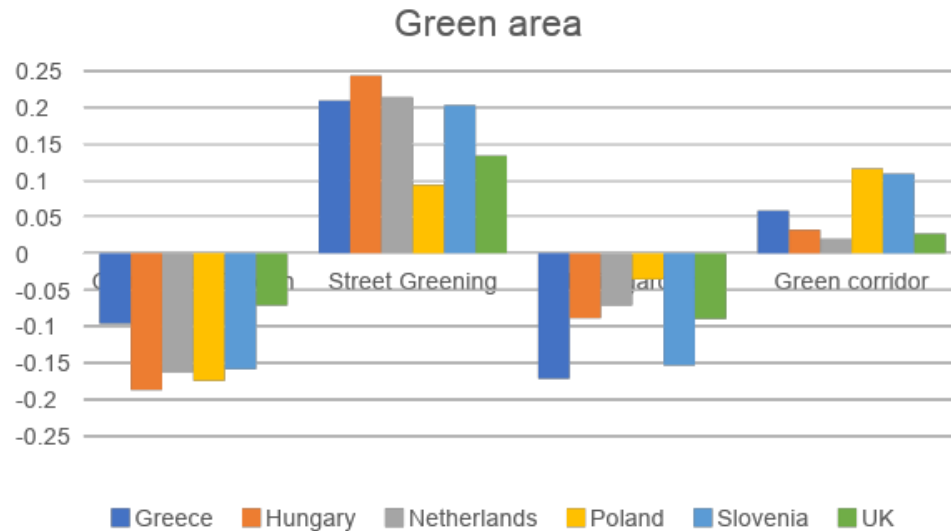
- choosing;
- implementing and scaling; and
- engaging with communities

But we need a way to get better data on the needs of the cities and on the impact of our interventions...



There are no one-size-fits-all solutions

A cross-country partner survey¹ organized at the start of the project revealed that different situations, cultures and social classes may react differently to the same interventions



Our sensing for feedback approach in a nutshell



1. Sense and collect



Data is collected from sensors installed in each of the cities

Collection of data start per city

BUDAPEST

2024-01-01

KATOWICE

2024-03-04

BREDA

2024-03-14

MARIBOR

2024-09-27

BELFAST

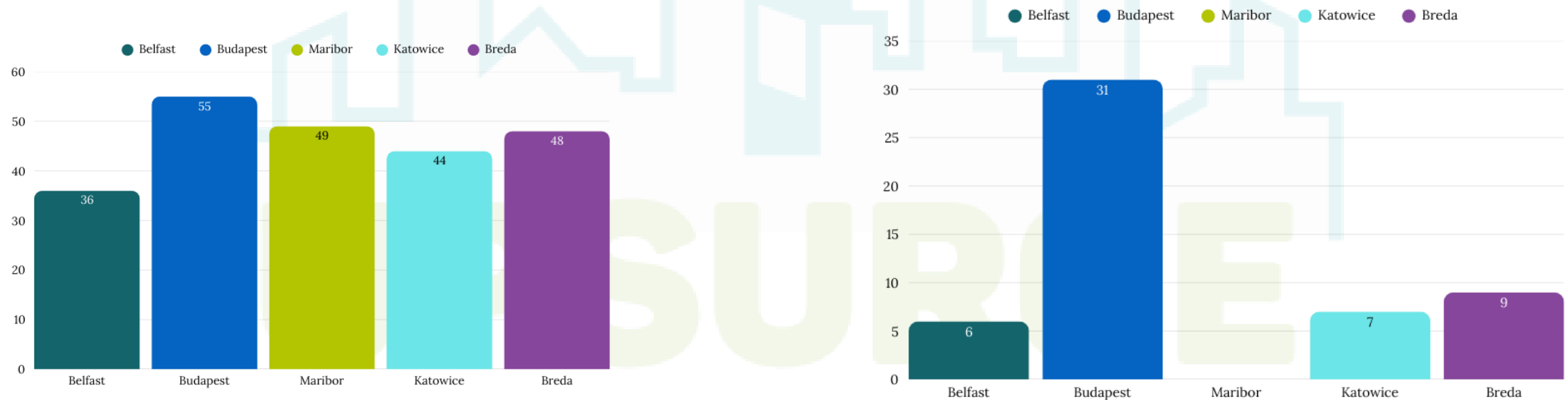
2024-03-09



Sensors Deployed

- Budapest: Airqino + Atmotube
- Breda: Airqino + Atmotube
- Maribor: Airqino + Atmotube
- Katowice: Atmesys + Atmotube
- Belfast: Airqino + Atmotube

Active Sensors



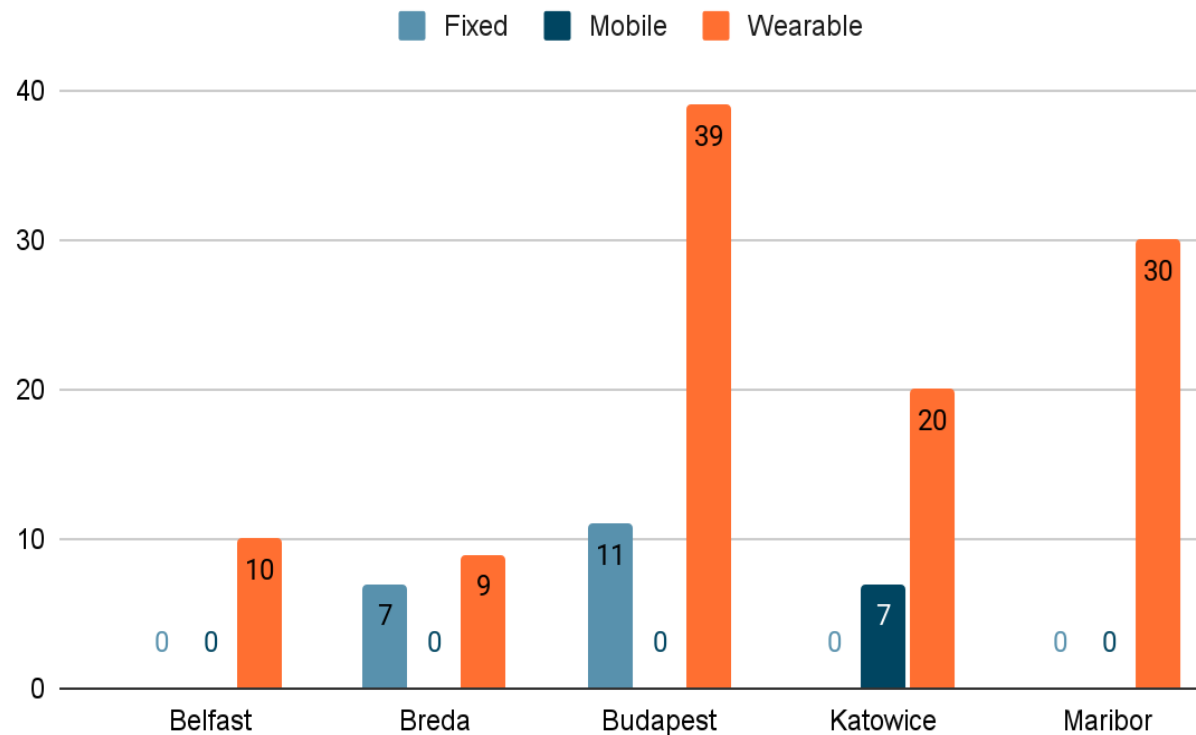
Data collected report @ 30/01/2026

Installed devices: **133**

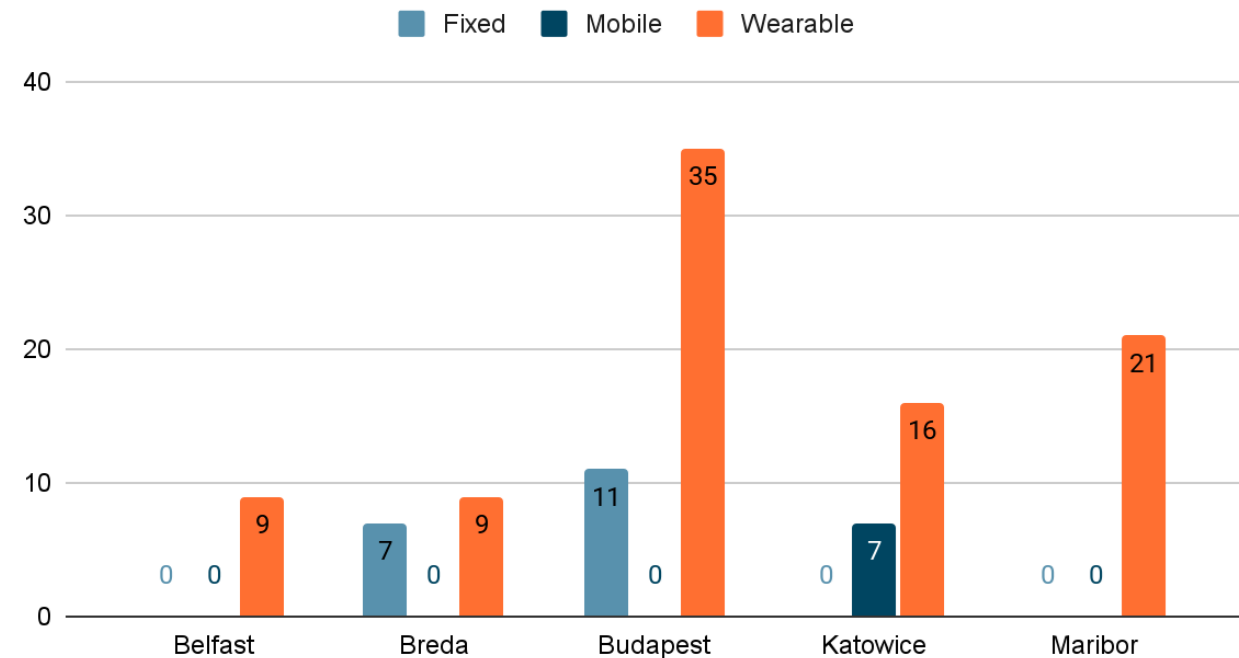
Active devices: **115**

Collected records: **2,604,190**

Installed devices

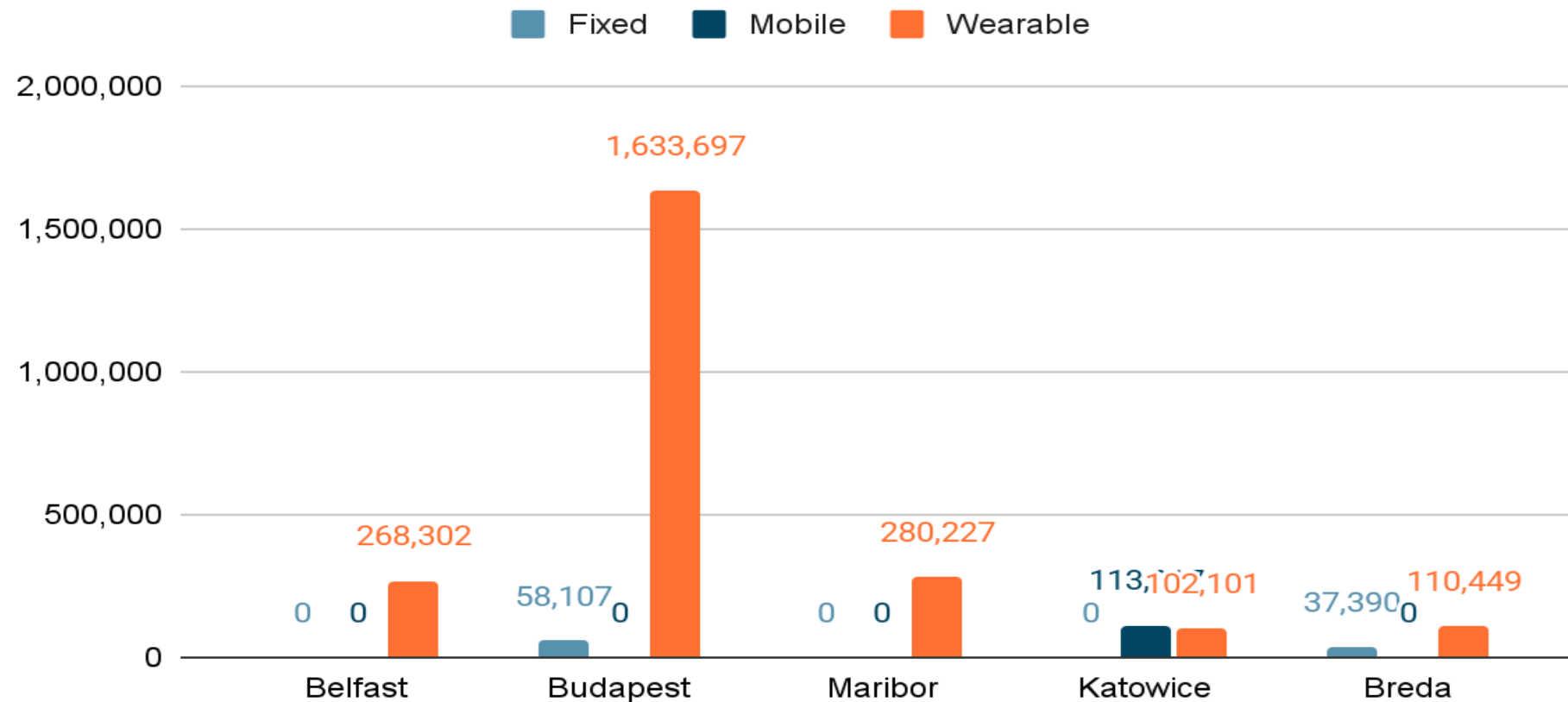


Active devices



Data collected report @ 30/01/2026 Collected records: 2,604,190

Collected records



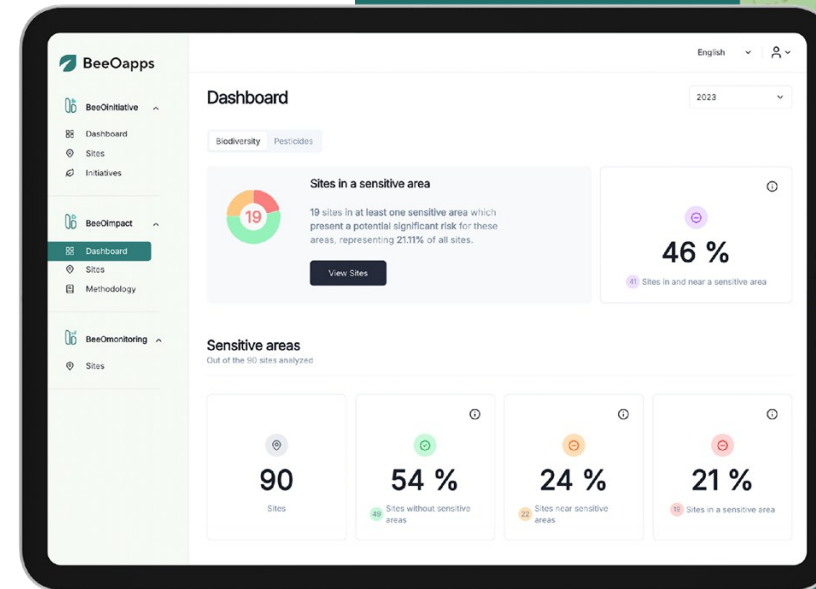
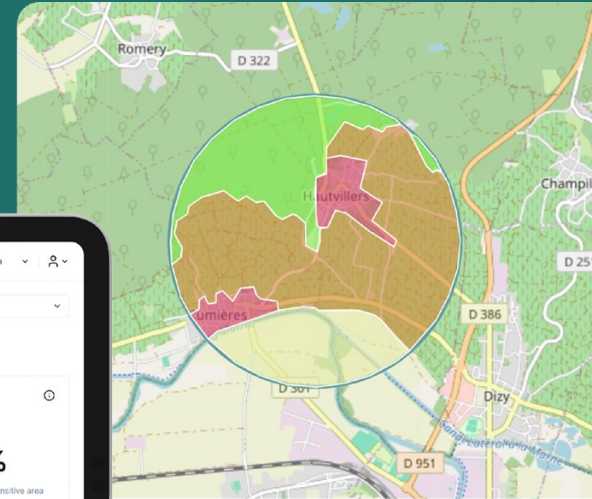
BeeOmonitoring

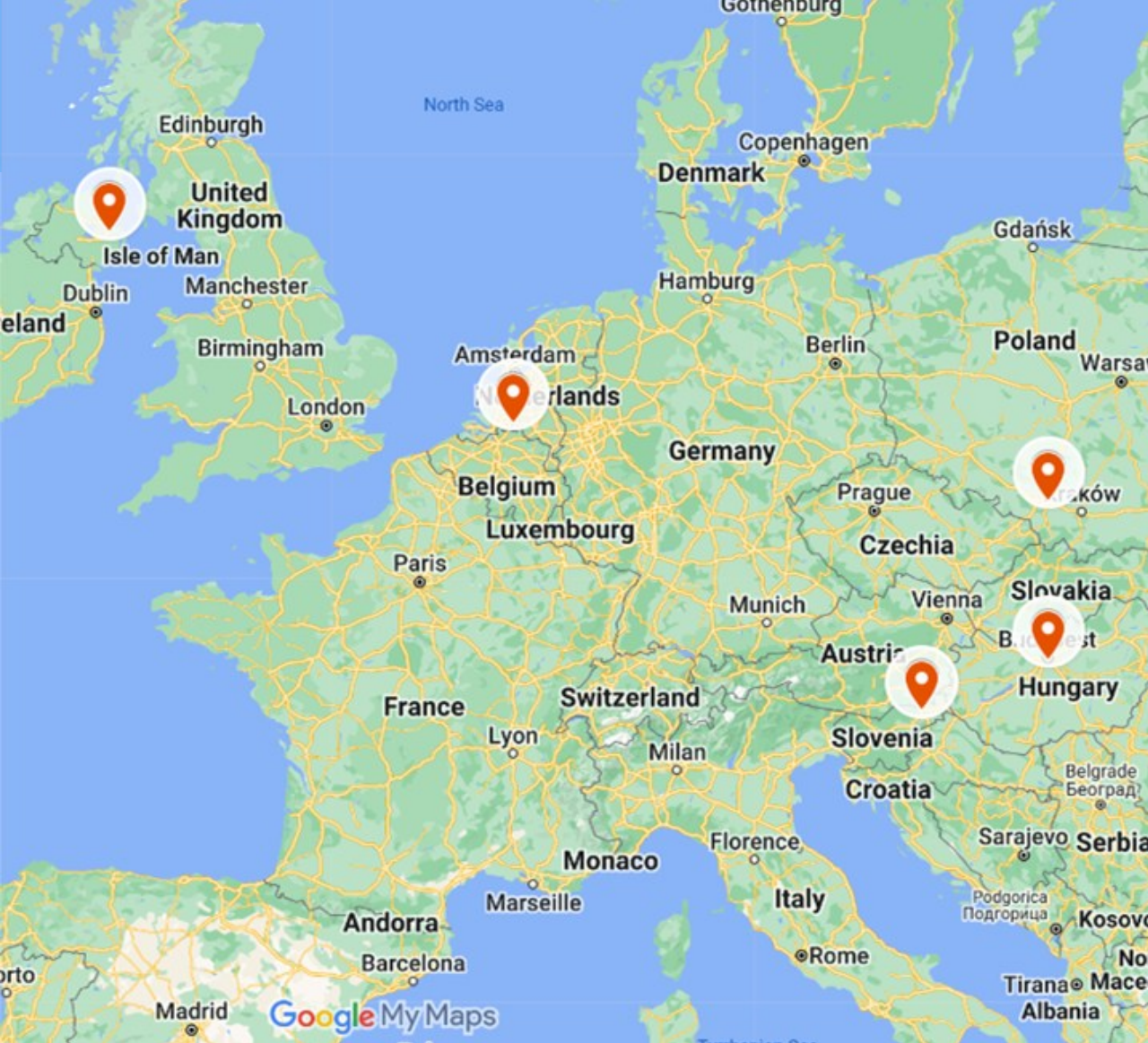
Analyzing pollen to measure biodiversity and pollution levels.

- **Agri Pollution**
>510 pesticides, nitrates,...
- **Pollution**
Heavy metals, PAH, Dioxins, Furans, PCBs, PFAs, ...
- **Biodiversity**
Plant species & birds, insects, ecosystem
- Measure pollution & health impact
- Trace origin of pollution
- Identify lack of biodiversity



The bees, acting like natural drones, collect samples of pollen over large areas.





Scope of the mission

5 STUDY AREAS

2023/P1

Budapest
Breda
Katowice

2023/P2

Maribor

2024/P1

Belfast

2025/P2

**PROJECT
END**

Timeline...



Summary



1

**Plant
diversity**



2

Pesticides

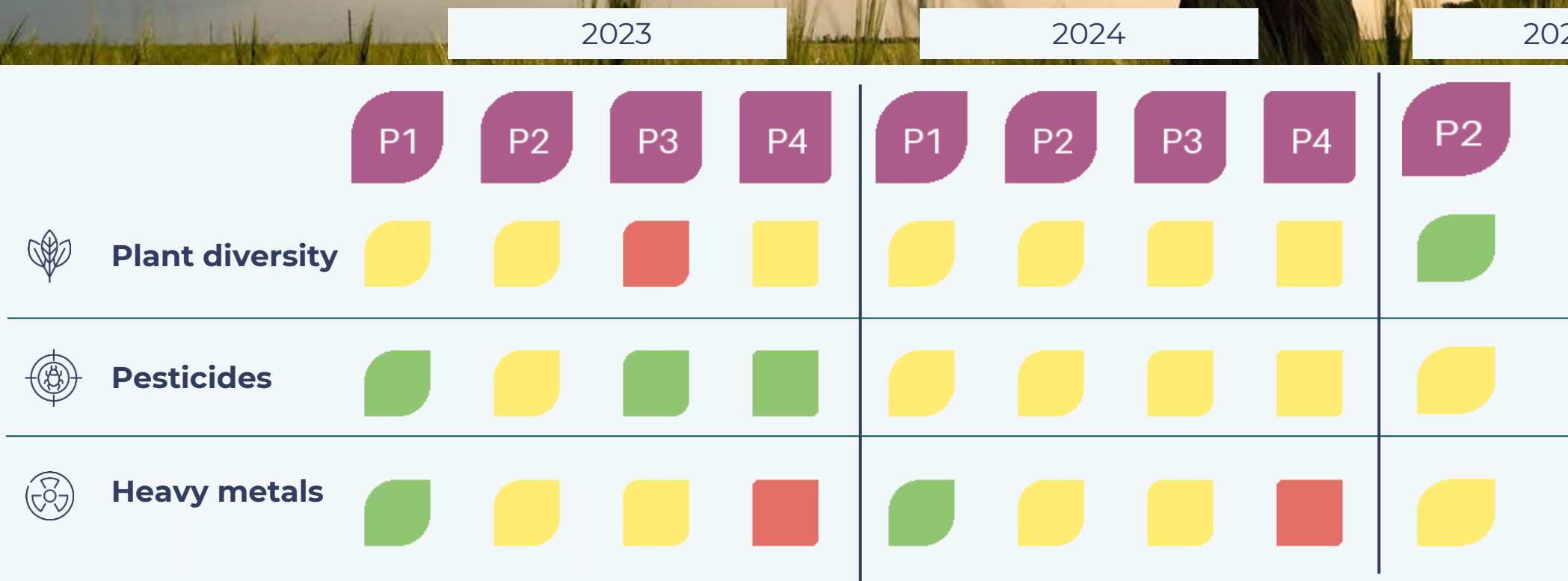


3

**Metal
elements**



Results 2023/P1 - 2025/P2



BeeOdiversity creates value by providing data, measurement solutions, actions and strategic advice to help companies and public entities become leaders in biodiversity and gain economic, environmental and social value out of it.



+100

CLIENTS

in diverse sectors incl. food & beverage, nature restoration, industries, real estate; public authorities

+25

COUNTRIES

with activities on 4 continents

+10

AWARDS

for our platforms and work

+35

EMPLOYEES

Experts, Consultants, IT team, Business developers



European
Innovation
Council



2. Process and package as useful services

The captured data is meant to be processed and converted into human-facing services for its use and enrichment.



Once the provider of sensors in near real-time relays the data to our platform, Operate cloud must be able to support:

- **Ingestion:** Saving raw data (data lake layer)
- **Data normalization:** The data is also normalized, and invalid outliers are eliminated, which can sometimes arise from sources such as uncalibrated or faulty monitoring stations.
- **Enrichment:** Enrich raw data with third-party data such as weather data (more have to be defined)
- **Data aggregation:** such as organising data insights and data time series (aggregation layer)
- **Exposing** the data via webapi (API layer)

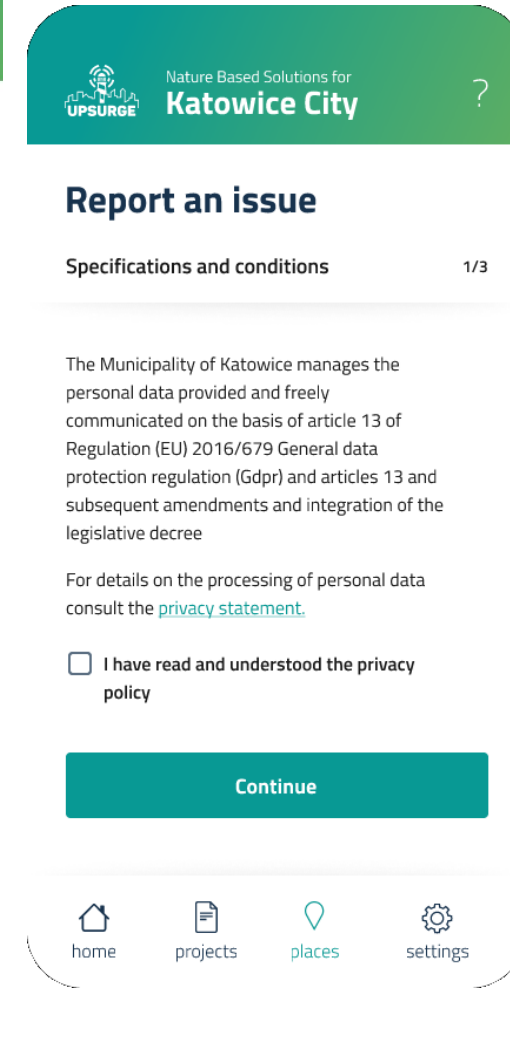
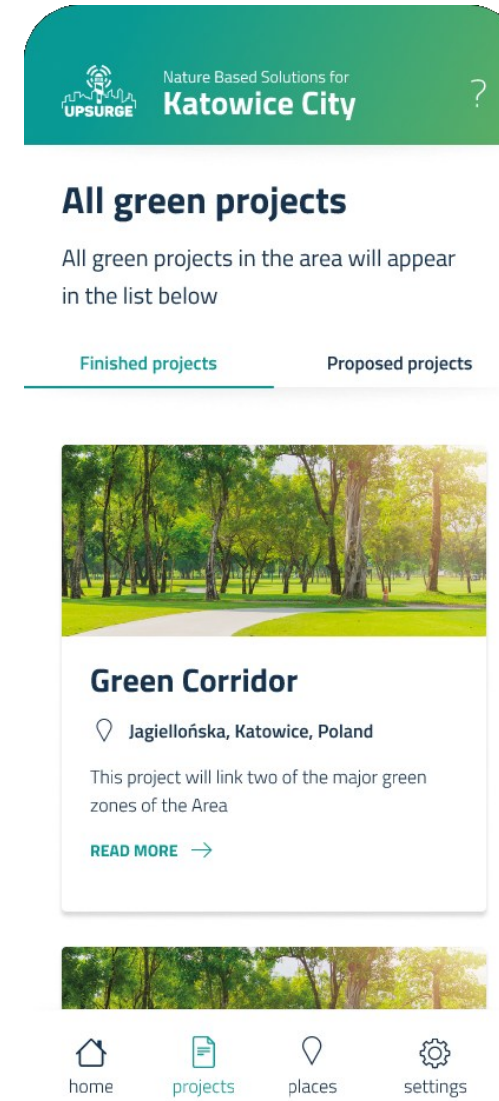
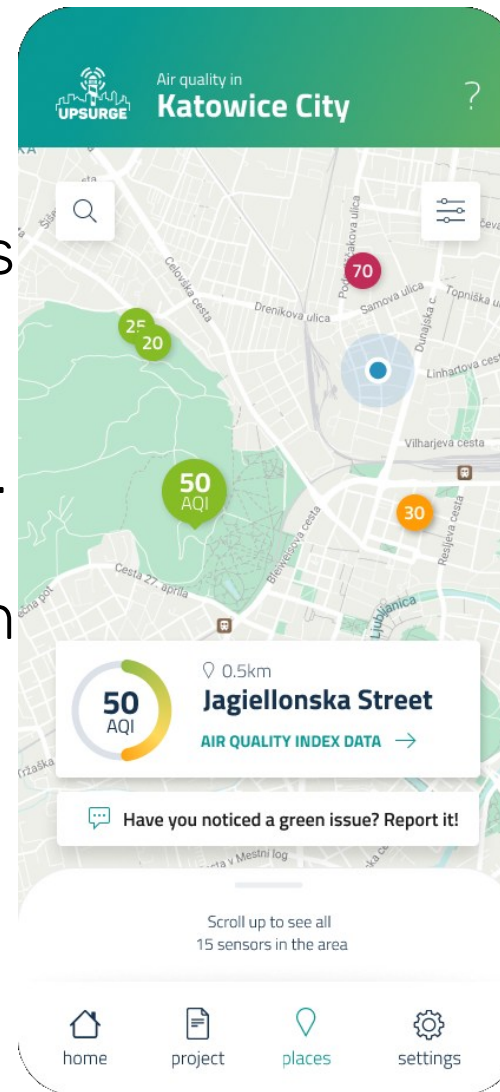
CitiAir: Citizen services and sensing

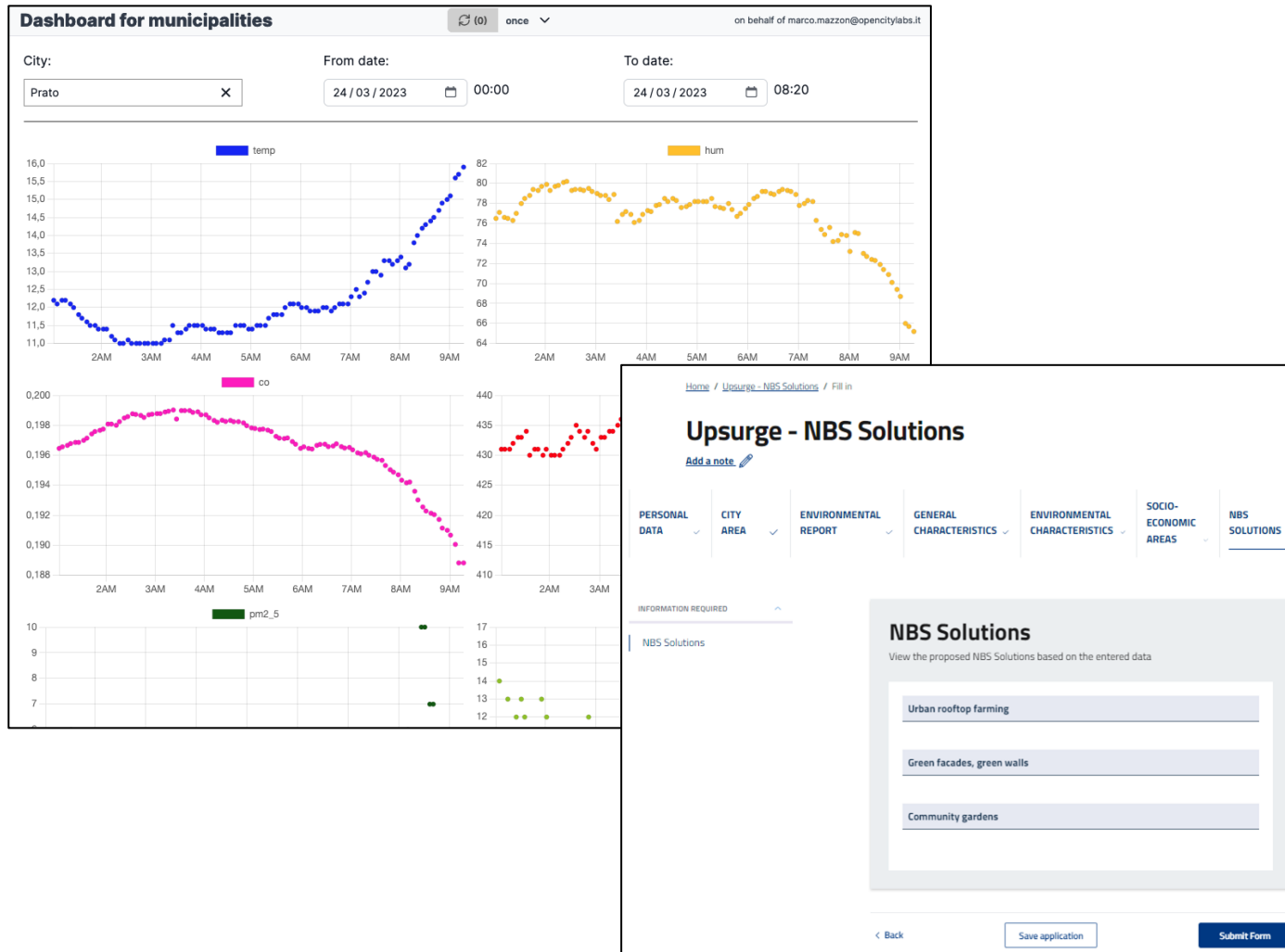
What is it?

- A mobile application designed to provide air quality information to citizens
- Provides health recommendations and localized air quality forecasts.
- It also allows citizens to provide feedback and vote on NBS initiatives

For who?

- For individual citizens concerned about air quality and, in general, with the ecological state of their city.





What is it?

- A companion website to the CitiAir app, it features
 - a real-time air quality dashboard,
 - a catalog of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) and feedback provided by users through the app
 - a matchmaking tool for NBS recommendations, and partner finding.

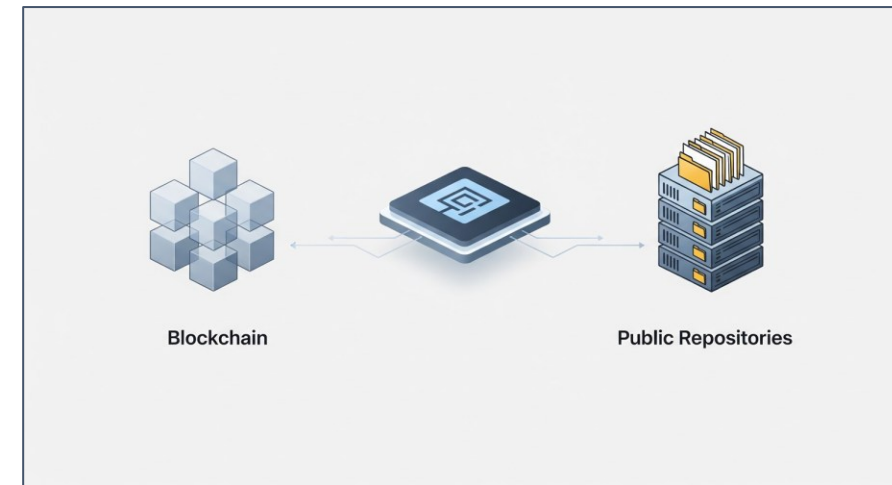
For who?

- For stakeholders involved in managing and improving air quality at a city-wide level

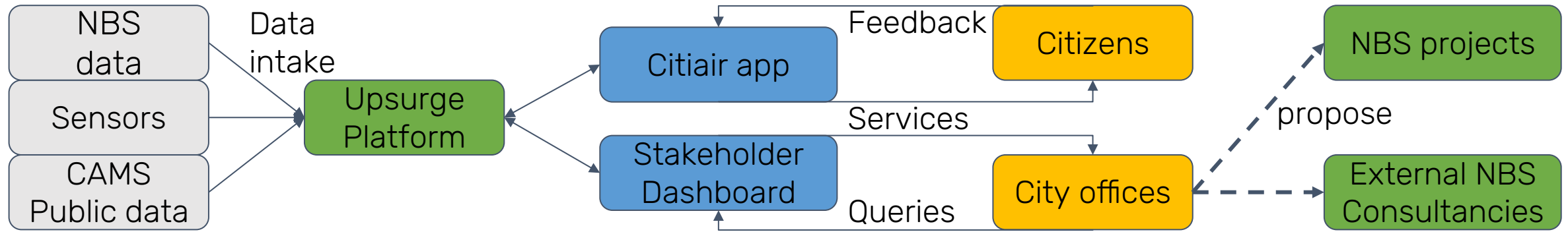
3. Archive for strategic reference

The final objective of all data captured and enriched with multiple data sources and citizen interactions is meant to be archived becoming strategic data for the cities

1. A summary of the data is stored in blockchain store to warrant its immutability and preservation
2. An expanded selection is stored in public repositories, which could also be leveraged for research and strategic analysis

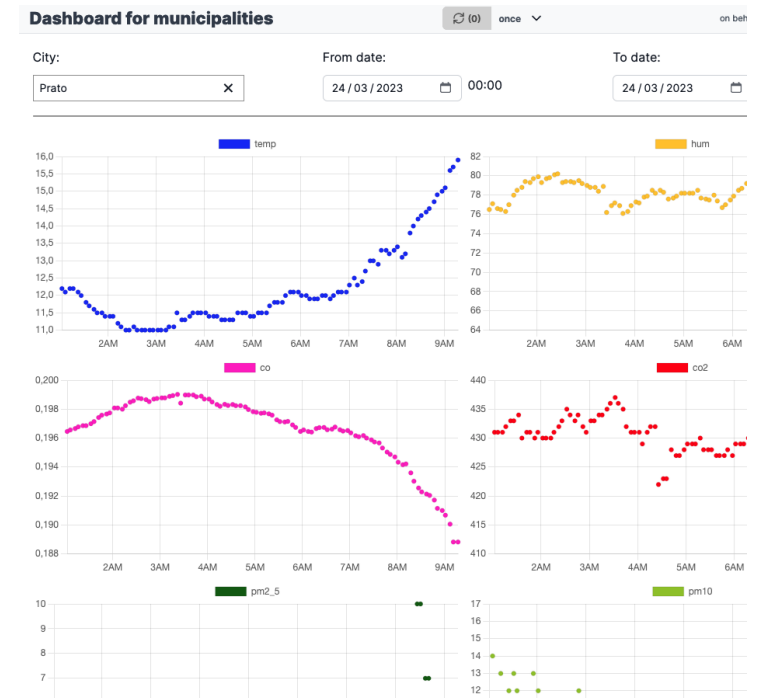
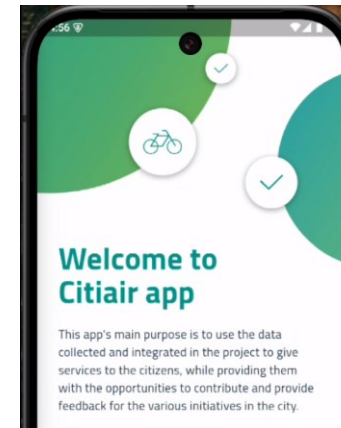


A quick summary before the end



The Citiar app and Stakeholder Dashboard leverage the know-how, the air quality and NBS data produced in the project into:

- Services that the citizens can use
- Intelligence data that the city officers can use to inform policies and new projects



City-centered approach to catalyze nature-based solutions through the EU Regenerative Urban Lighthouse for pollution alleviation and regenerative development



WWW.UPSURGE-PROJECT.EU



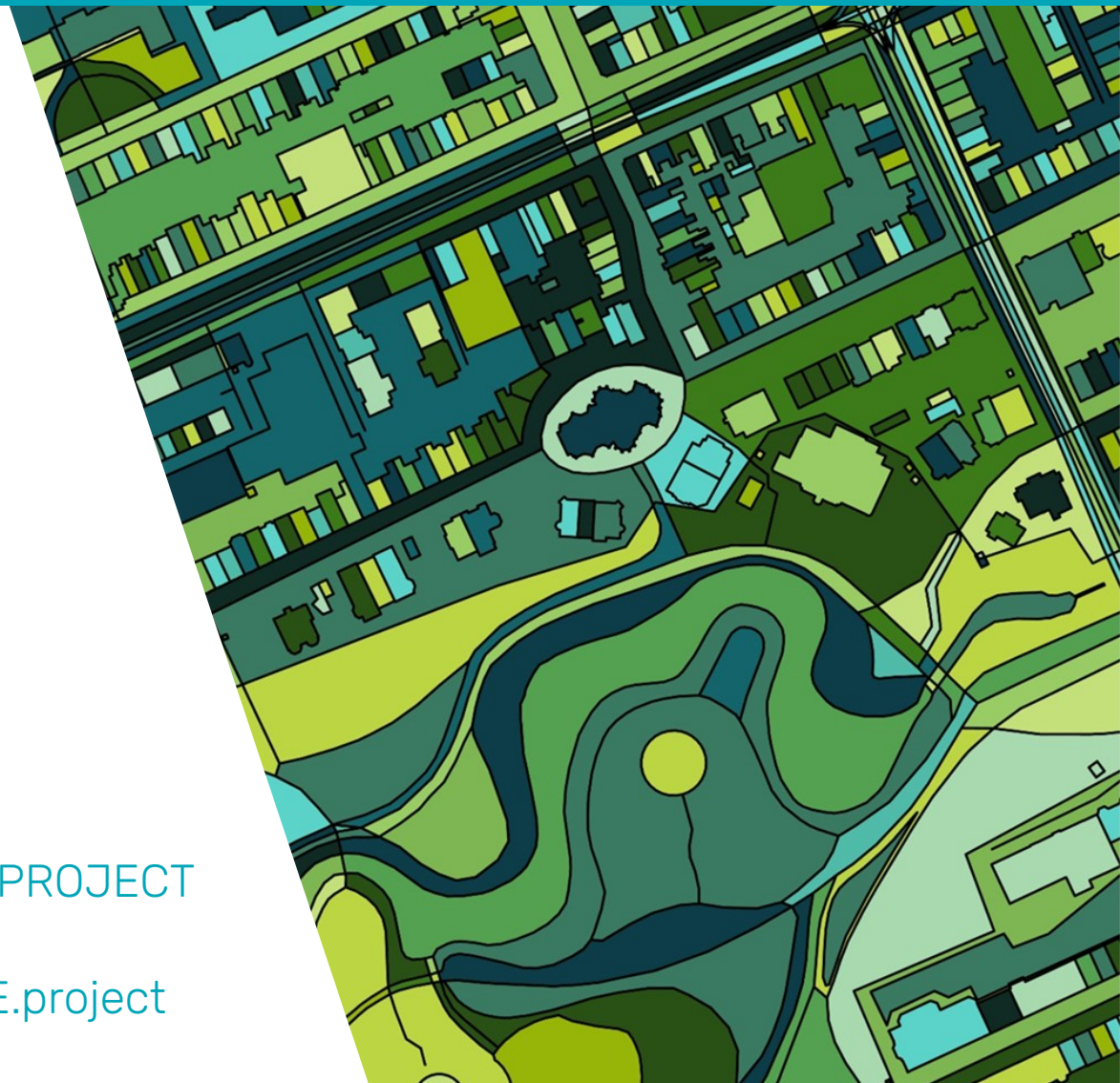
[@UPSURGE_H2020](https://twitter.com/UPSURGE_H2020)



[UPSURGE-PROJECT](https://www.linkedin.com/company/upsurge-project)



[@UPSURGE.project](https://www.facebook.com/UPSURGE.project)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 101003818

The UPSURGE Project Final Conference: Guiding Cities to Deliver Regenerative Urban Transformation

10.02.2026, Katowice, Poland