

# The Interreg Europe SATSDIFACTION Project

## Monitoring of Urban sustainable development



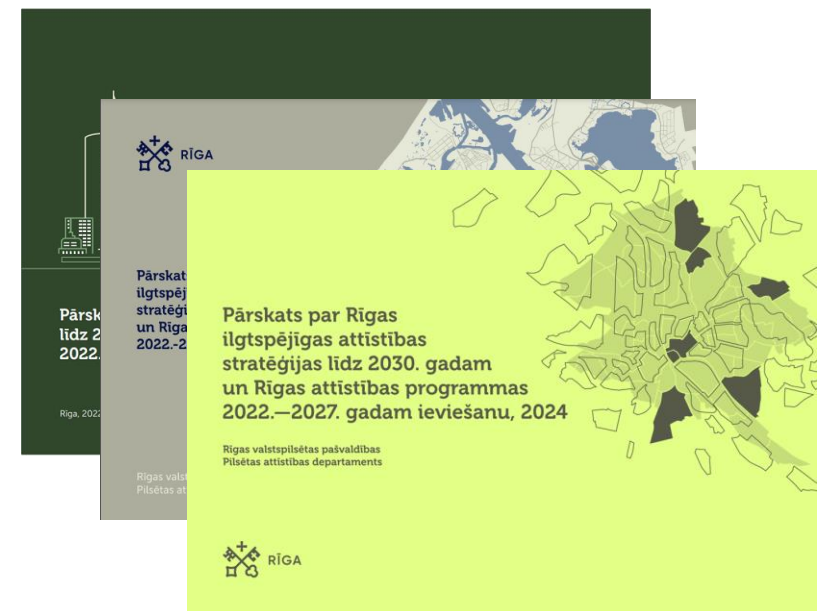
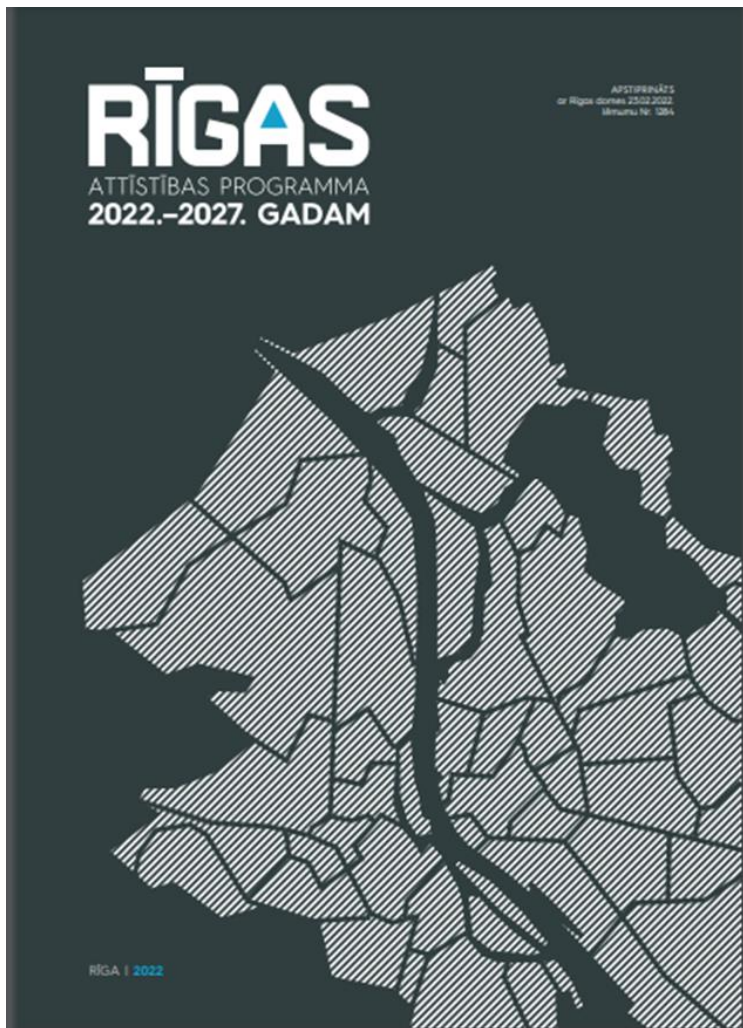
*Andris Ločmanis*  
*Jānis Ivanovs*

11.09.2025, RIGA

# RIGA CITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2022 - 2027

## IMPROVE A MONITORING OF

- GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
- «HEAT ISLAND» EFFECT



## YEARLY MONITORING REPORT

## Priorities of the Development Programme



Urban Environment



Governance



Mobility



Environment and Climate



Society



Housing



Education



Cultural Environment

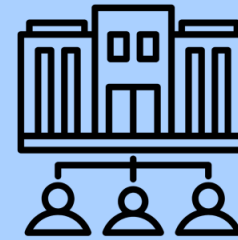


Competitiveness

## Strategic monitoring

Parties involved in strategic monitoring

24 RD institutions and departments



Residents' opinion



Industry experts



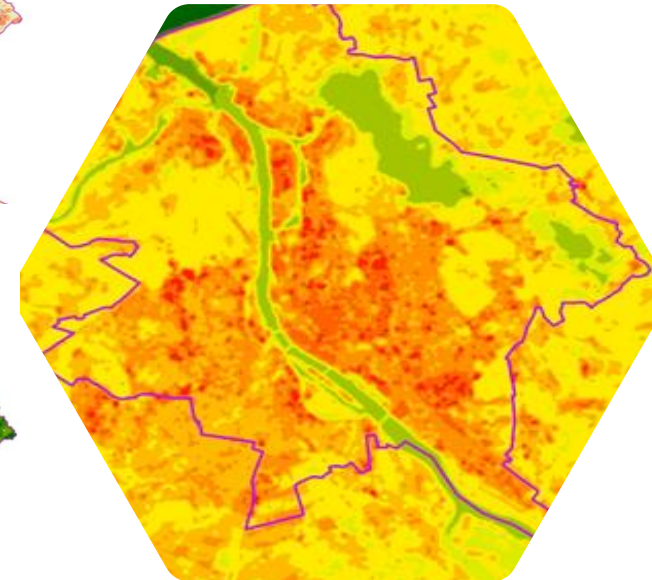
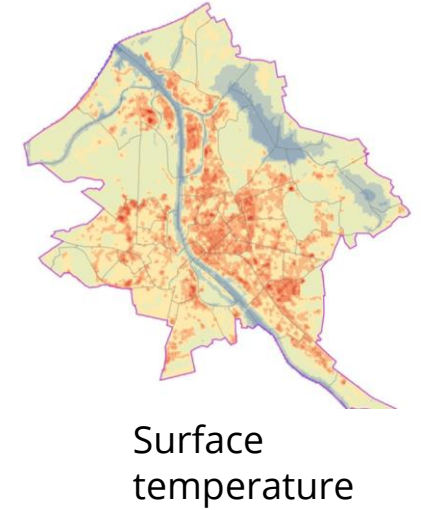
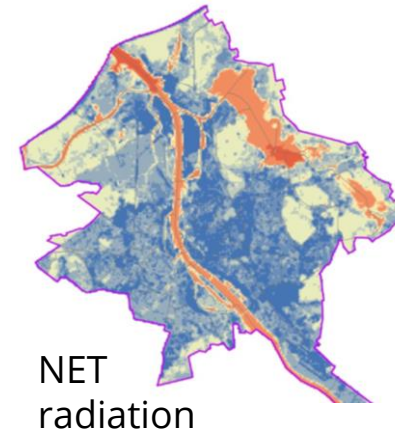
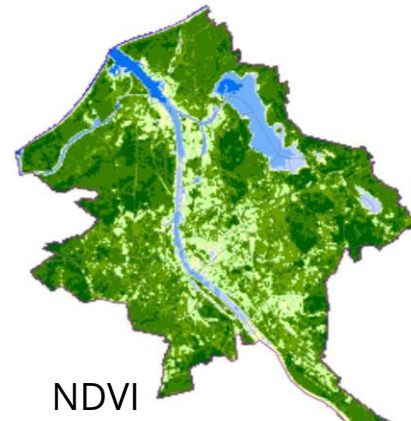
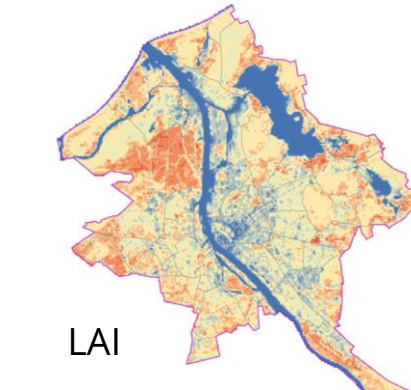
External sources



# SATELLITE DATA I

## City microclimate 2016

Only one picture was usefull due to cloudiness  
Resolution 30x30 m





# SATELLITE DATA II

## Satellite data for monitoring 2022

For green areas monitoring:

- NDVI
- MSAVI2
- LAI
- NDMI

For heat island effect monitoring:

- Sentinel- 3 (SLSTR)



LAI



Vegetation  
difference (LAI)



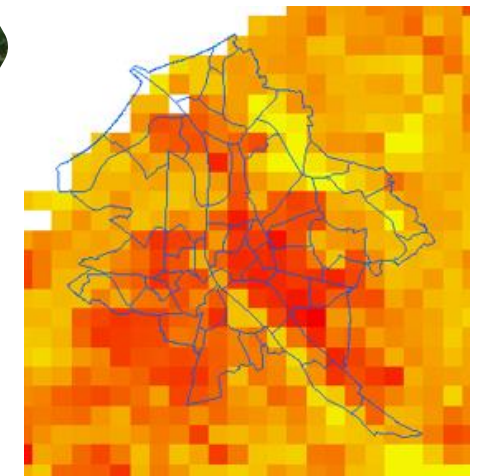
NDBI



Using Sentinel-2 images



NDVI



Thermal data Sentinel-3



DATE: TIME RANGE

1

🌐

📅

⬆️

From:

<

2024-06-27

>

hh 00 : mm 00

Until:

<

2024-06-27

>

hh 23 : mm 59

Max. cloud coverage:

0%

Mosaicking order:

Layer default

[Find products within selected time range](#)

Default

▼

Sentinel-2 L2A

📄

★

↔️

📌

▼

LAYERS:

True color

Based on bands B4, B3, B2

+ Add to </>

False color

Based on bands B8, B4, B3

Highlight Optimized Natural Color

Enhanced natural color visualisation

NDVI

Based on a combination of bands (B8 - B4)/(B8 + B4)

False color (urban)

Based on bands B12, B11, B4

Show effects and advanced options

Show layer

Share

A high-resolution satellite image showing a dense urban environment. The map displays a complex network of streets, buildings, and green spaces. The colors are natural, showing the true colors of the landscape. The map is centered on a specific location, with a search bar at the top right indicating the coordinates.

Copernicus

European Union

esa

About

Support

Leaflet | © OpenStreetMap contributors - Disclaimer, © Sentinel Hub

Lat: 56.95182, Lng: 24.11566

100 m



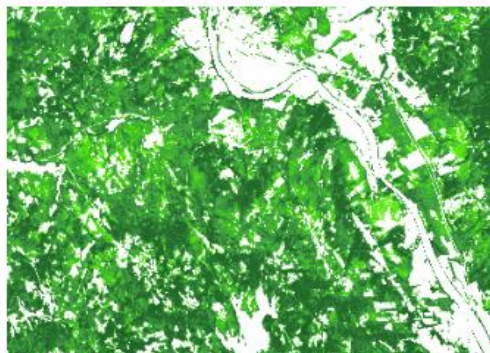
[Home](#) > [CLMS portfolio](#) > [High Resolution Layer Tree Cover and Forests](#) > Tree Cover Density 2018 (raster 10 m, 100 m), Europe, yearly

## Tree Cover Density 2018 (raster 10 m, 100 m), Europe, yearly

### General info

Provides at pan-European level in the spatial resolution of 10 m and 100 m the level of tree cover density in a range from 0% to 100% for the 2018 reference year.

### Download



### Validation status

Validated

### Dataset citation

- DOI (raster 10 m): <https://doi.org/10.2909/e677441e-fb94-431c-b4f9-304f10e4dfd8>
- DOI (raster 100 m): <https://doi.org/10.2909/4dc35722-09ce-427f-9a1b-775a8640da27>





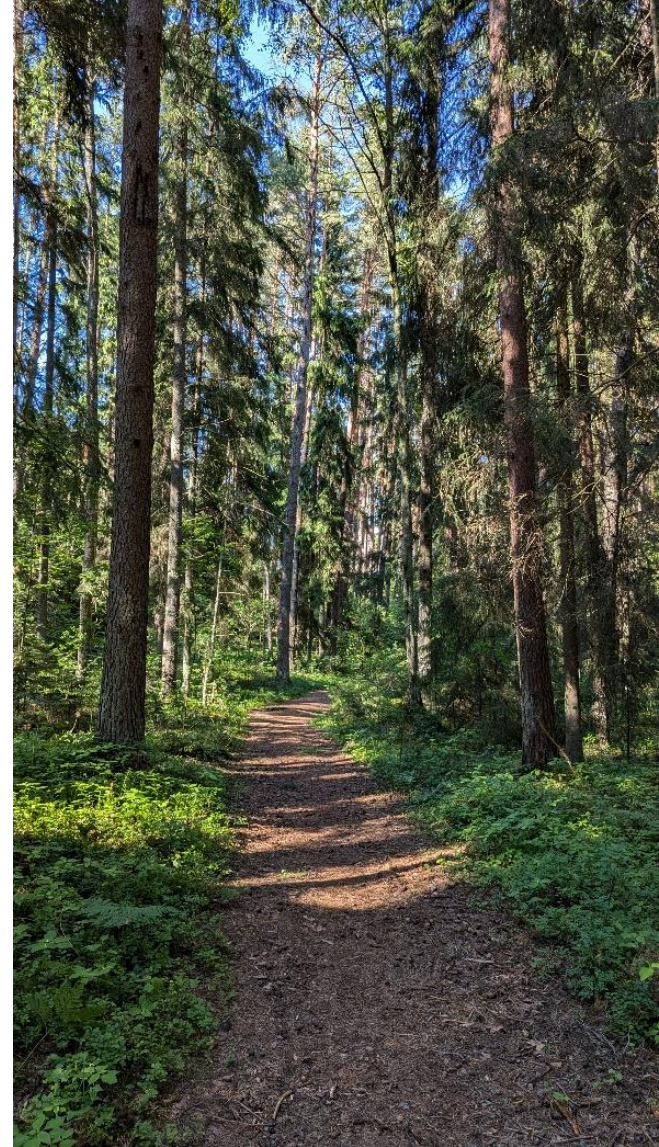


# Forests in Latvia

Total area of forest stands 3 240 000 ha (50.2% of land area)

With different terminologies even 53 or 55.7% of total land area

According to NFI, over the past two decades, area of forests have expanded by around 66.6 thousand hectars (+2.1%)

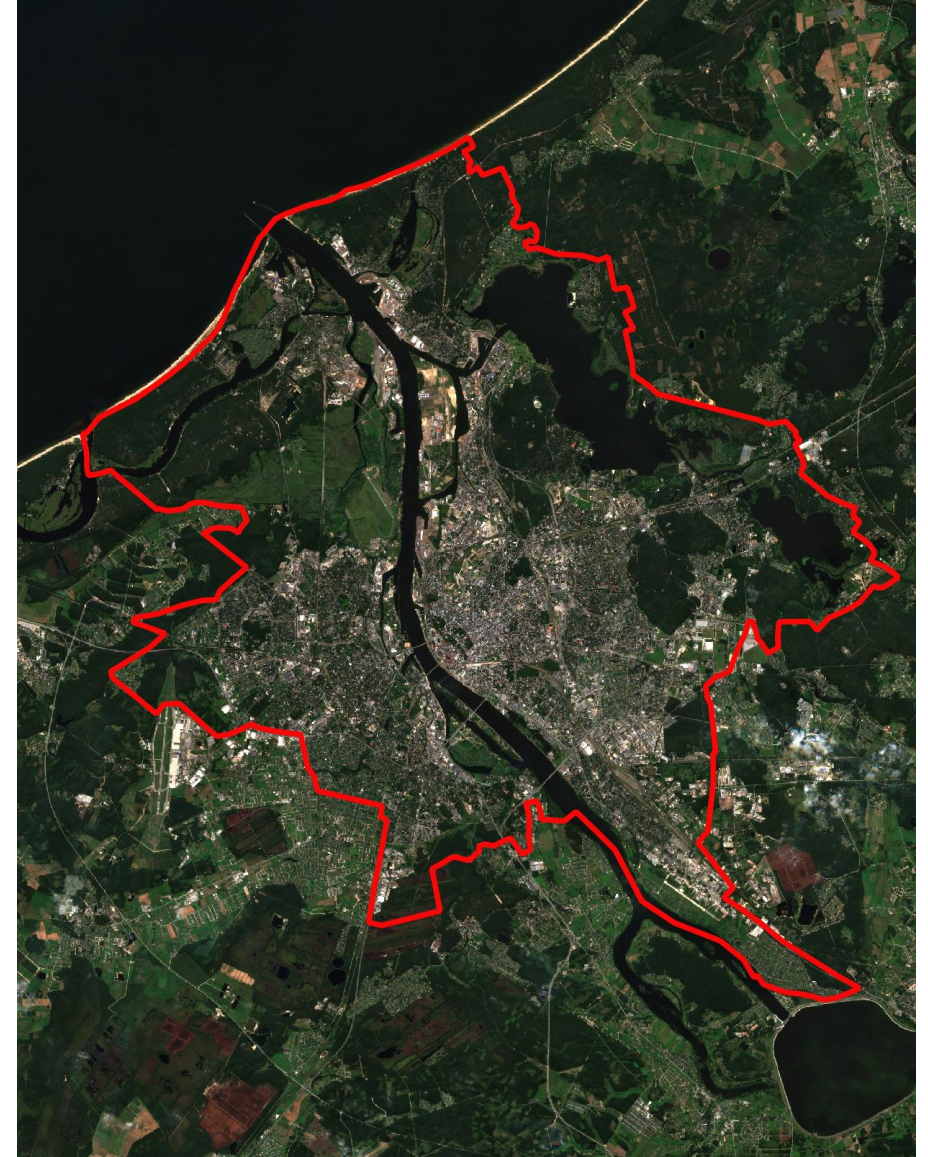


# Forests in Riga

Rīgas meži manage about 4464 hectares of forest land within Riga city.

Of this, approximately 2270 hectares are actual forested areas, forming the core urban forest in the city.

Additional green spaces under their care include 446 hectares of public greenery and 367 hectares of Mežaparks





# Why it's necessary to map all trees

Existing databases cover mainly planted/managed trees, not all greenery;

Private yards, abandoned lots, and natural regeneration often missing from records;

Needed for urban heat island mitigation and climate planning;

Supports air quality, carbon storage, and biodiversity assessments;

Helps detect inequalities in access to green spaces;

Important for risk management (storm damage, power lines, infrastructure);

Enables change detection to monitor tree loss or new growth over time.

# Classification

Image classified in 4 classes:

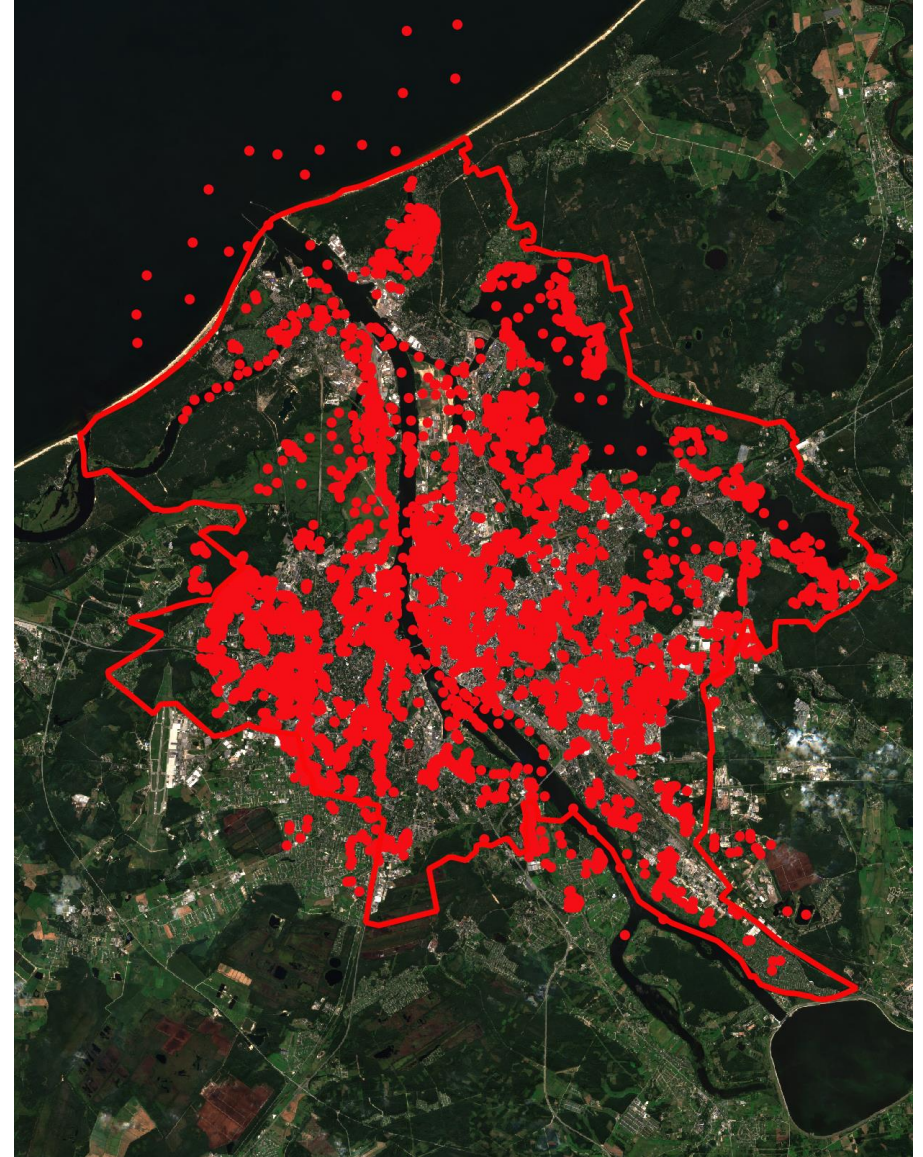
Water (1345 labels);

Built-up areas (807);

Grassland (1360);

Tree cover (1176).

XGBtree algorithm from Caret  
library in R.





# Results

Prediction	Reference			
	1	2	3	4
1	234	1	7	14
2	0	158	0	1
3	14	1	251	26
4	21	1	14	194

## Overall Statistics

Accuracy : 0.8933  
 95% CI : (0.8717, 0.9123)  
 No Information Rate : 0.2903  
 P-Value [Acc > NIR] : <2e-16

Kappa : 0.8559

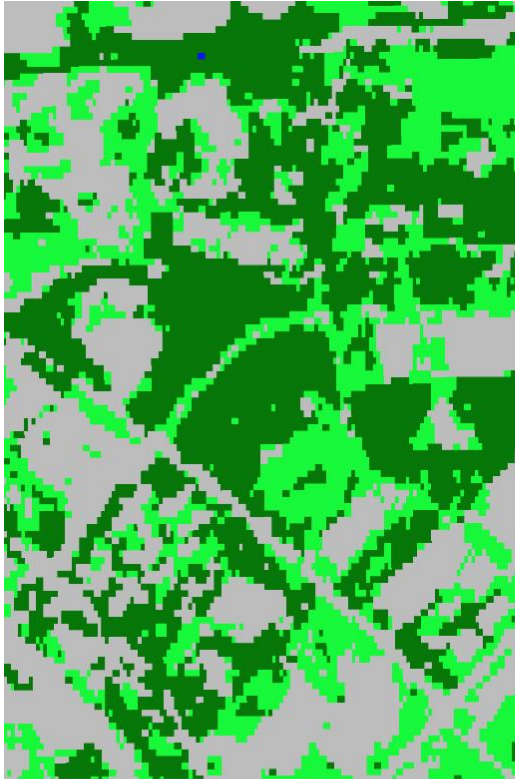
McNemar's Test P-Value : 0.1557

## Statistics by Class:

	Class: 1	Class: 2	Class: 3	Class: 4
Sensitivity	0.8699	0.9814	0.9228	0.8255



# Change detection



Land Use

- Forest
- Water
- Built-up areas
- Grassland

0 250 500 m



# High resolution MS data from Airbus





# Results

## Confusion Matrix and Statistics

	Reference			
Prediction	1	2	3	4
1	26	5	0	0
2	5	50	3	0
3	0	0	40	4
4	0	0	1	43

## Overall Statistics

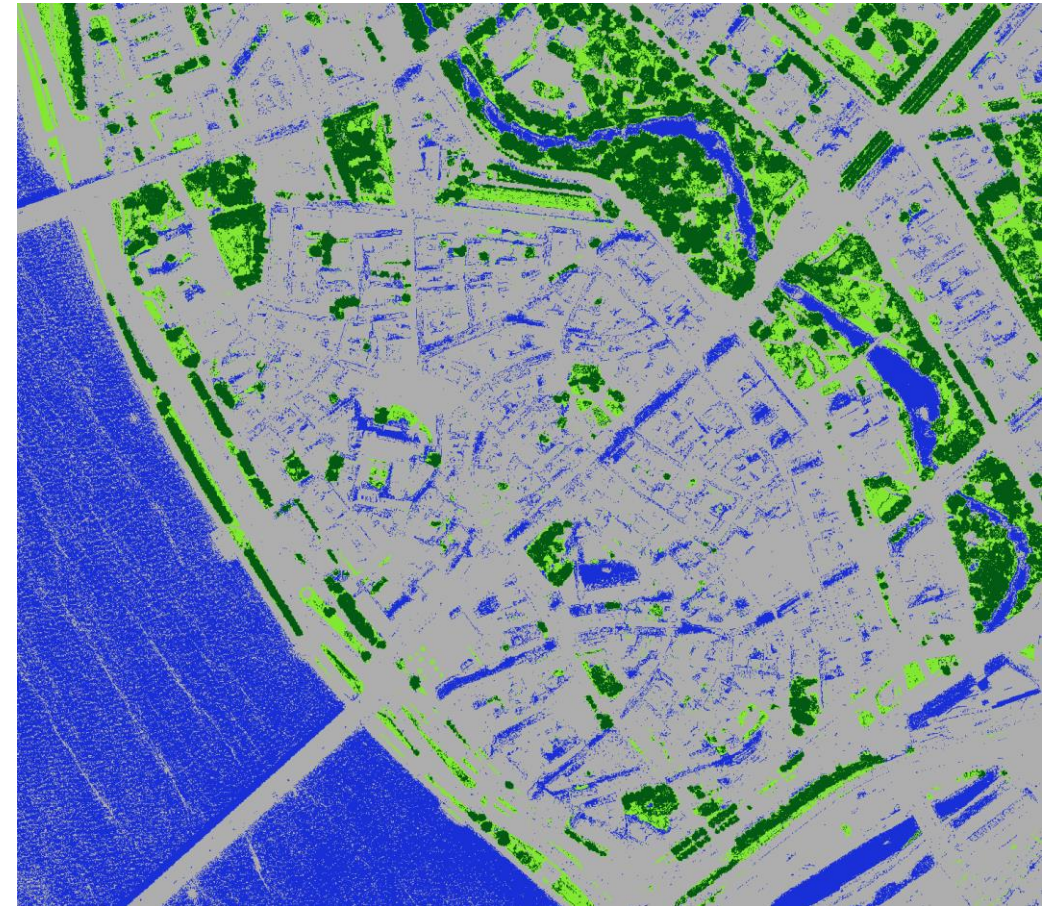
Accuracy : 0.8983  
 95% CI : (0.844, 0.9386)  
 No Information Rate : 0.3107  
 P-Value [Acc > NIR] : < 2.2e-16

Kappa : 0.8625

Mcnemar's Test P-Value : NA

## Statistics by Class:

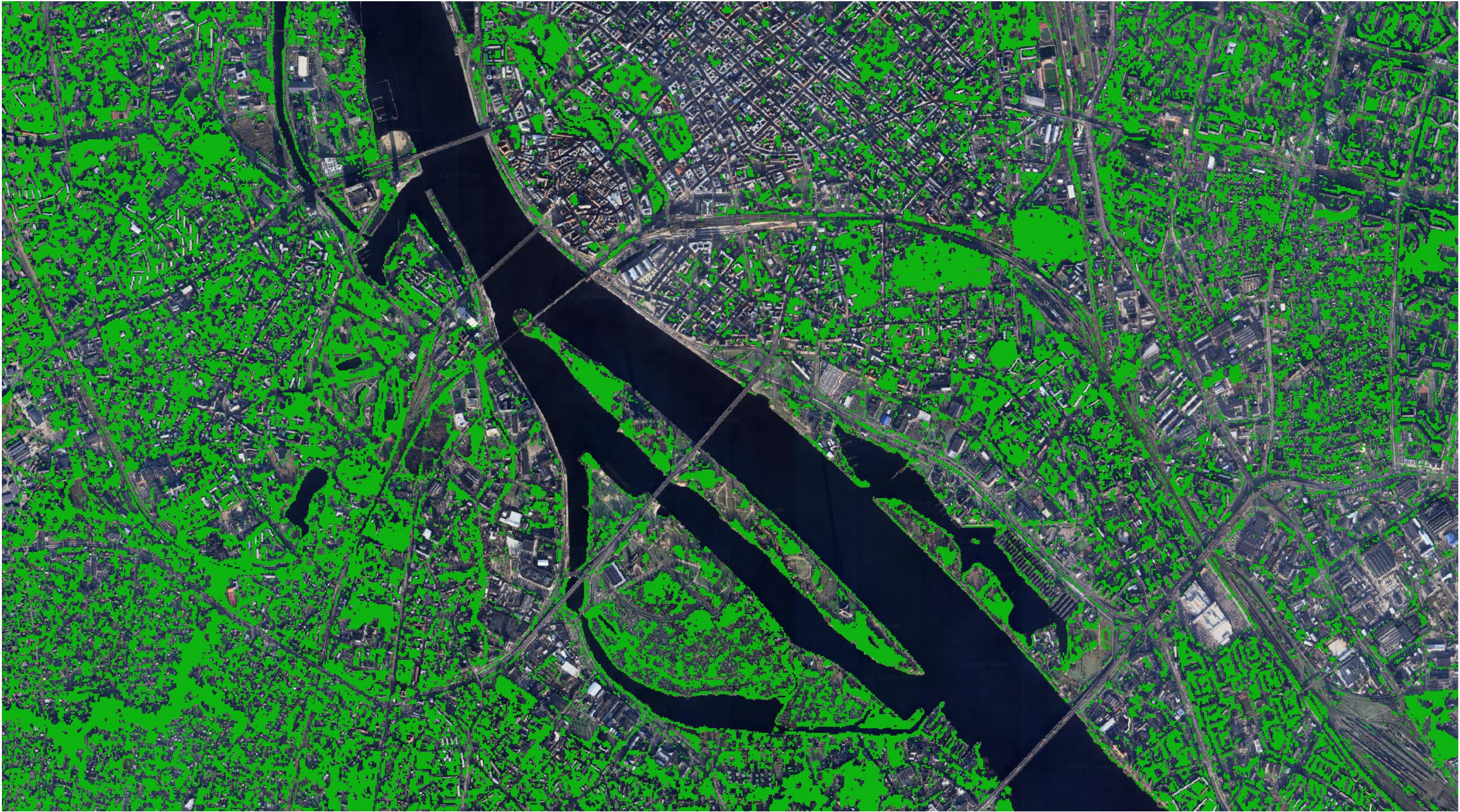
	Class: 1	Class: 2	Class: 3	Class: 4
Sensitivity	0.8387	0.9091	0.9091	0.9149

















# Example with Hi-RES images



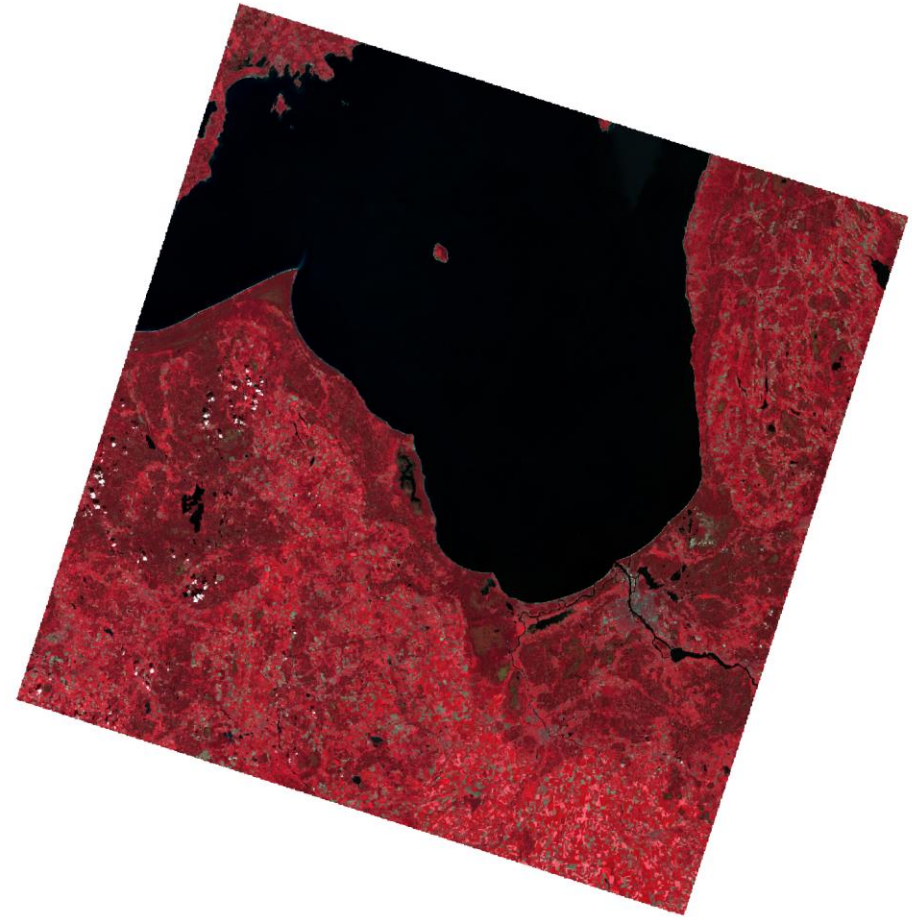


# Urban Heat Island Mapping with Landsat Satellite Data

What is an Urban Heat Island (UHI)?

Phenomenon where urban areas are significantly warmer than surrounding rural areas.

Caused by dense infrastructure, reduced vegetation, and heat retaining surfaces.



# Why Use Landsat for UHI Mapping?

Thermal Infrared Sensor (TIRS) on Landsat 8–9 provides surface temperature data.

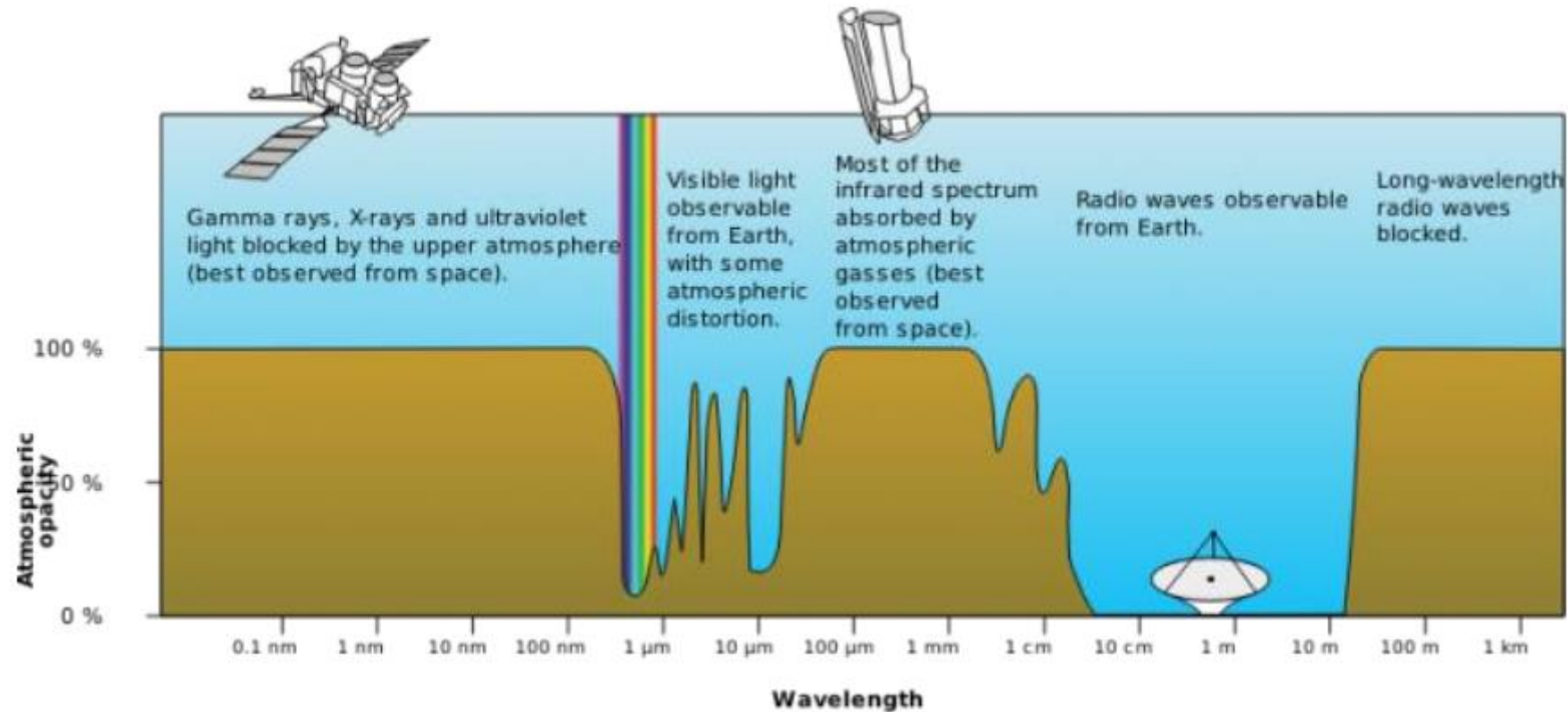
Long archive: data available since 1970s for historical UHI studies.  
30 m resolution (thermal bands resampled) enables neighborhood-scale mapping.

Freely available global data for consistent monitoring.

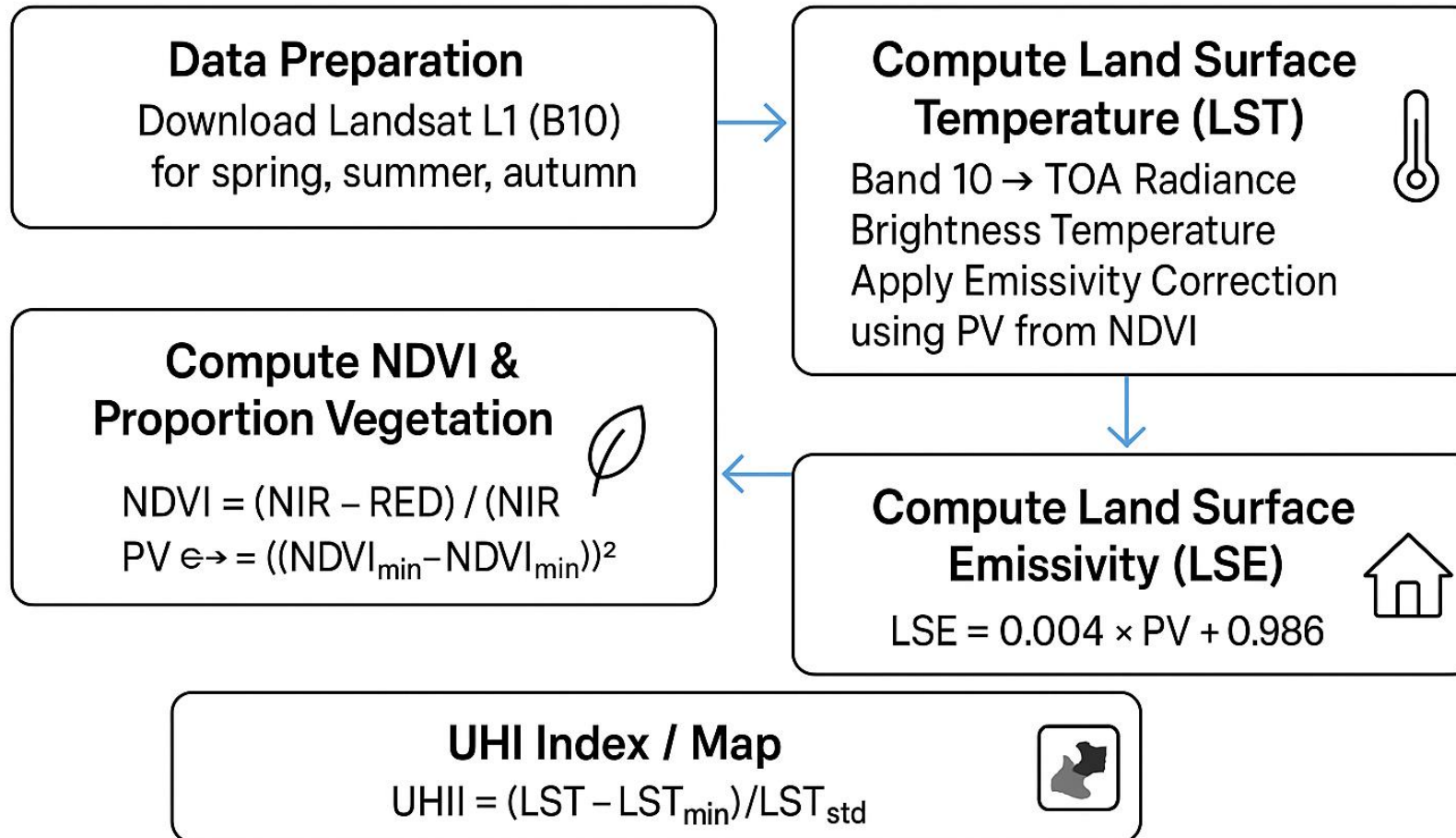


# Remote Sensing of Land Surface Temperature

Atmospheric window: Between approximately 10–12 micrometers ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) the atmosphere has relatively low absorption of IR radiation emitted by the land surface. Therefore, this spectral region is used to derive land surface temperature (LST).



# Urban Heat Island (UHI) Mapping – Workflow





# Seasonal Dynamics of Urban Heat Island Effect

Temperature anomaly (°C)



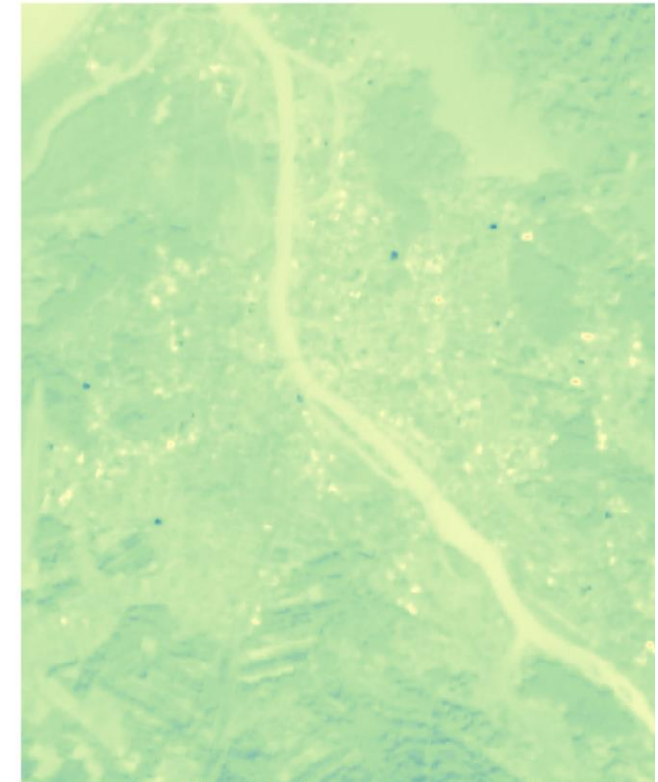
17.05.2024



26.06.2024



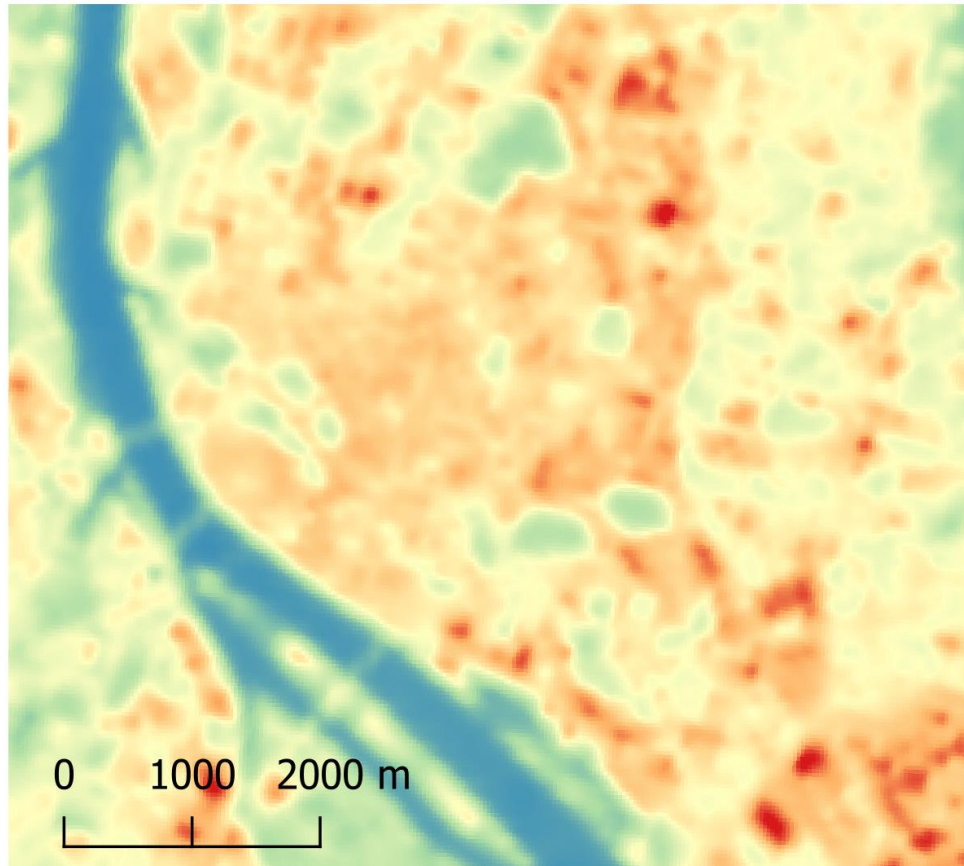
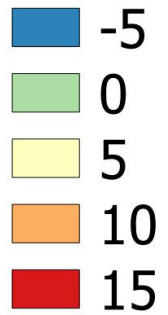
17.10.2024





# Case Examples: UHI Patterns across landscape

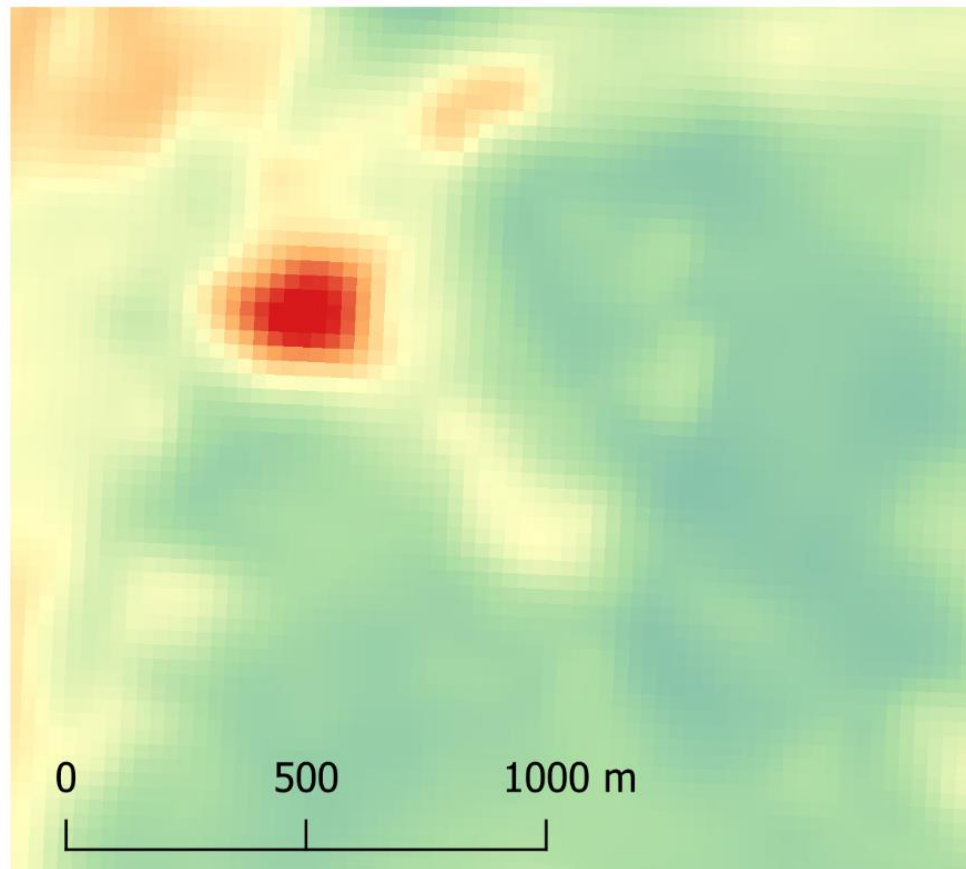
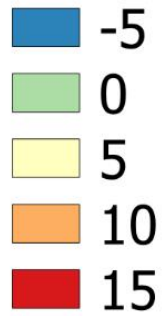
Temperature anomaly (°C)





# Case Examples: UHI Patterns across landscape

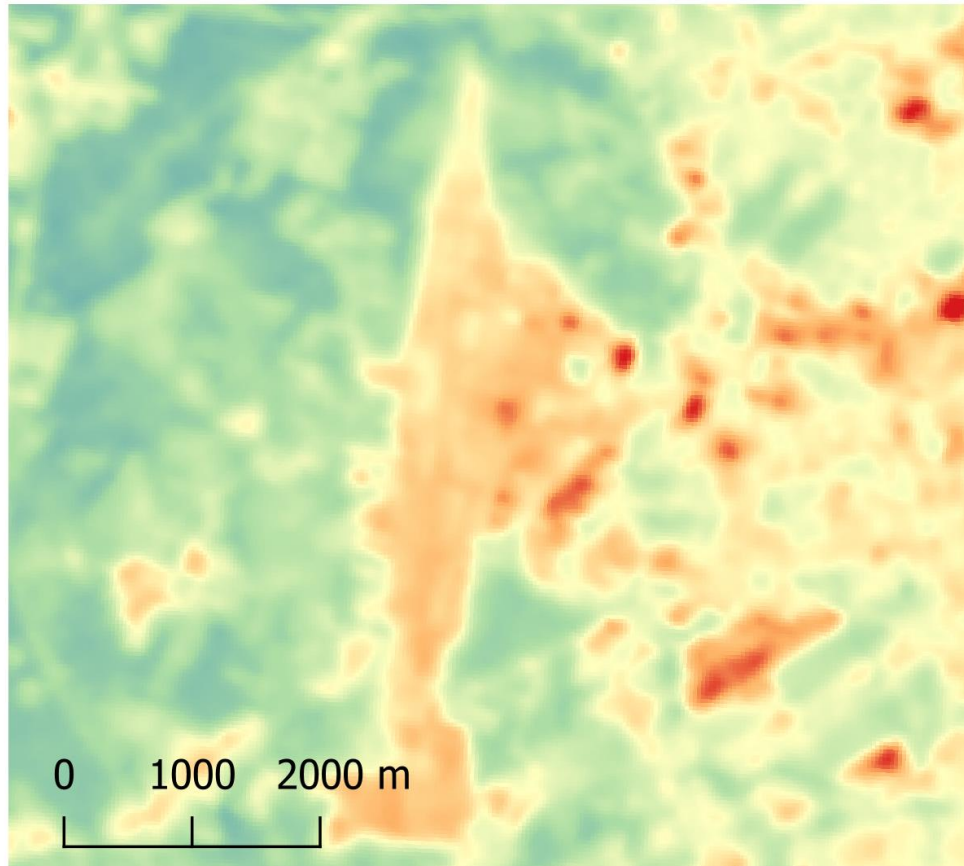
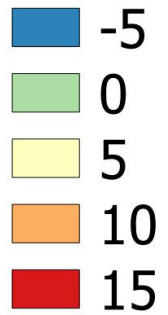
Temperature anomaly (°C)





# Case Examples: UHI Patterns across landscape

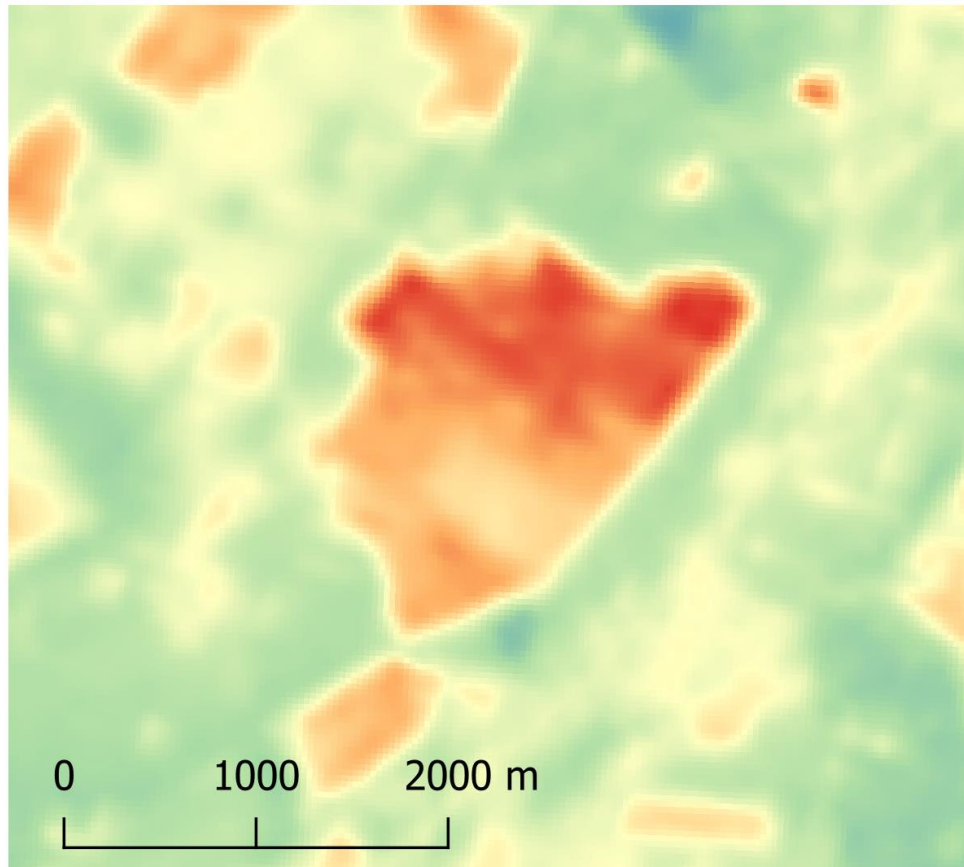
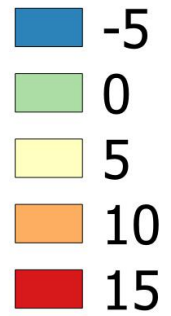
Temperature anomaly (°C)





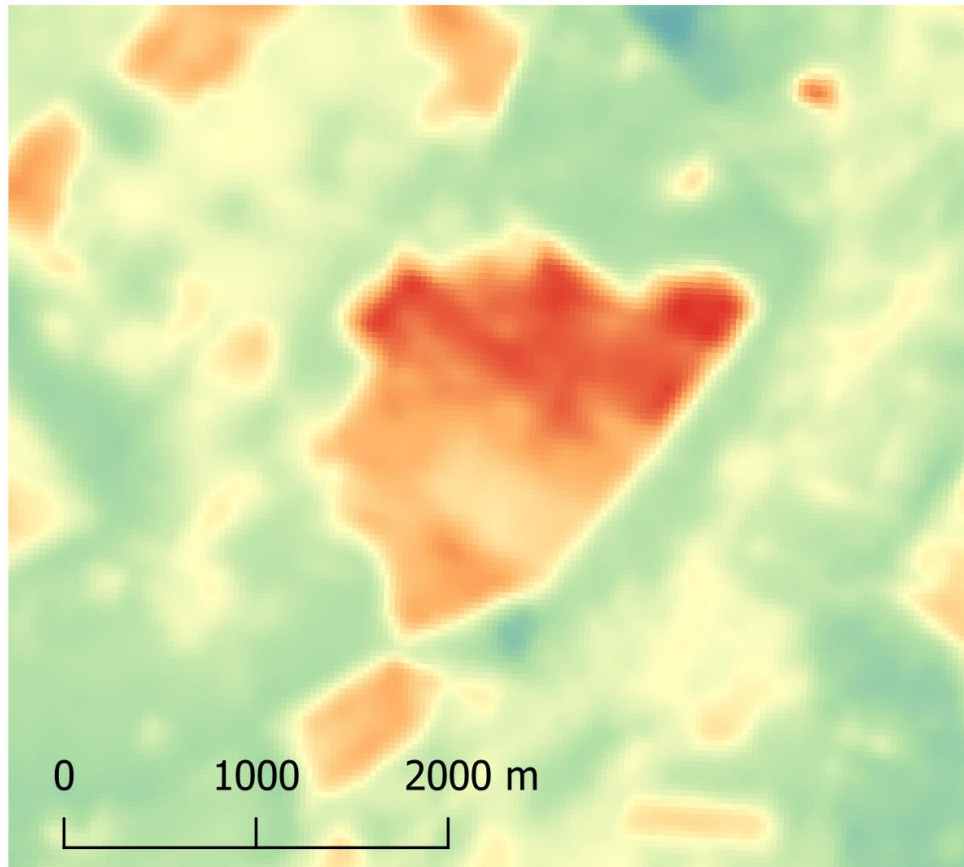
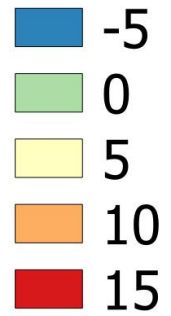
# Case Examples: UHI Patterns across landscape

Temperature anomaly (°C)



# Case Examples: UHI Patterns across landscape

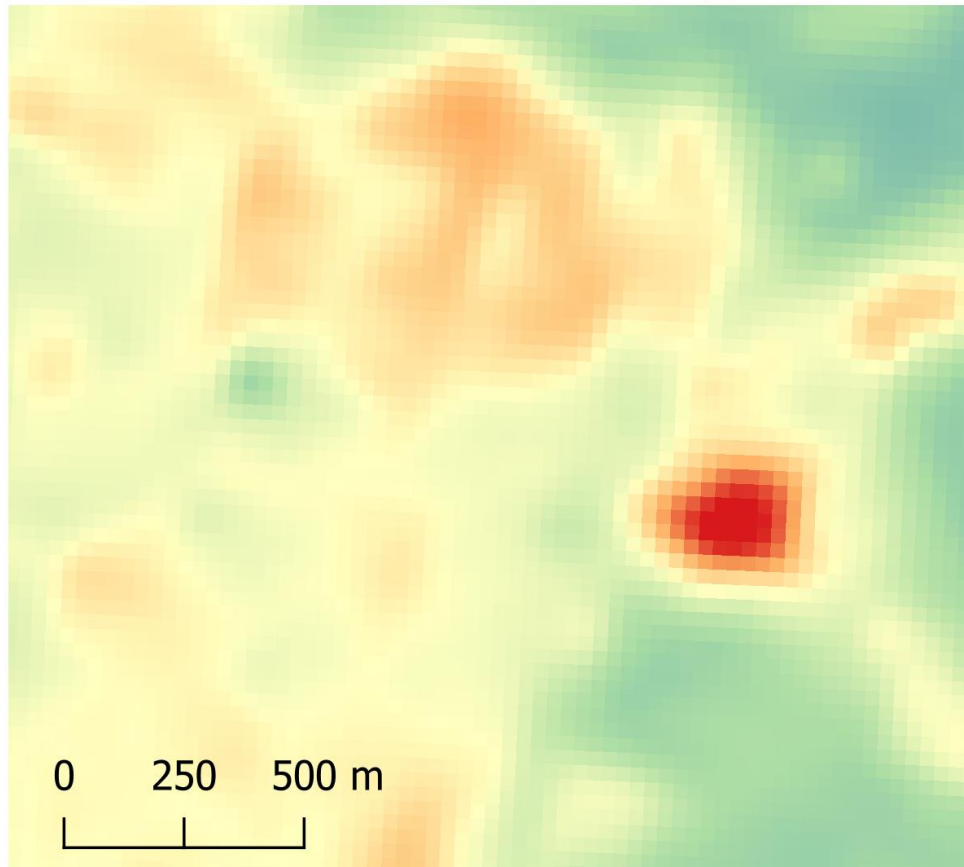
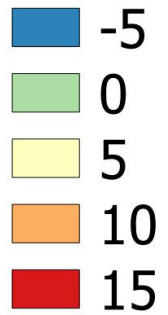
Temperature anomaly (°C)





# Case Examples: UHI Patterns across landscape

Temperature anomaly (°C)

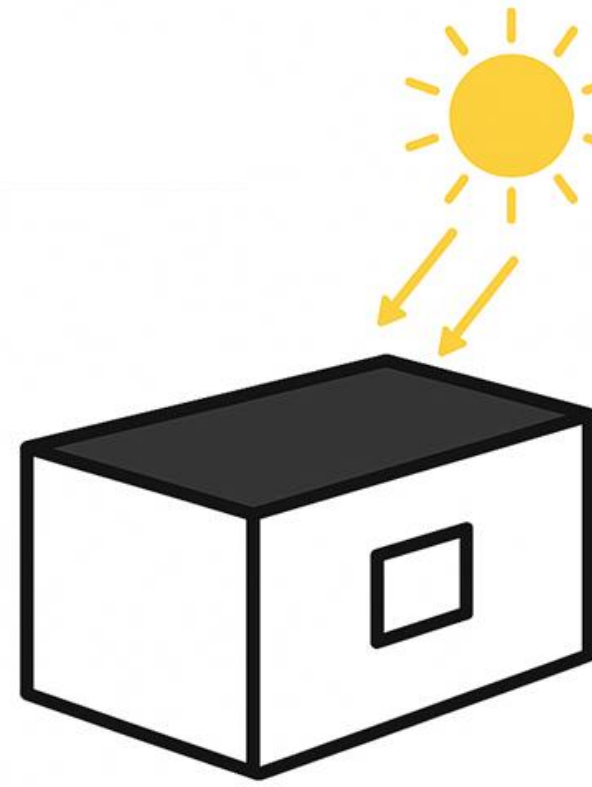




**HIGH ALBEDO**



**GOOD FOR UHI**  
**GABLE ROOF**



**LOW ALBEDO**



**BAD FOR UHI**



# Conclusions

- Urban monitoring with satellite data is a key topic at the European level. The main challenge is Sentinel image resolution, which is often too low for urban areas. However, as several projects address similar issues, we see a great opportunity to compare results and identify the best solutions.
- Clear communication with users about the purpose and interpretation of results is essential.

