

Urban ReLeaf

Citizen-powered data ecosystems for inclusive
and green urban transitions

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Riga Planning region
11.09.2025.

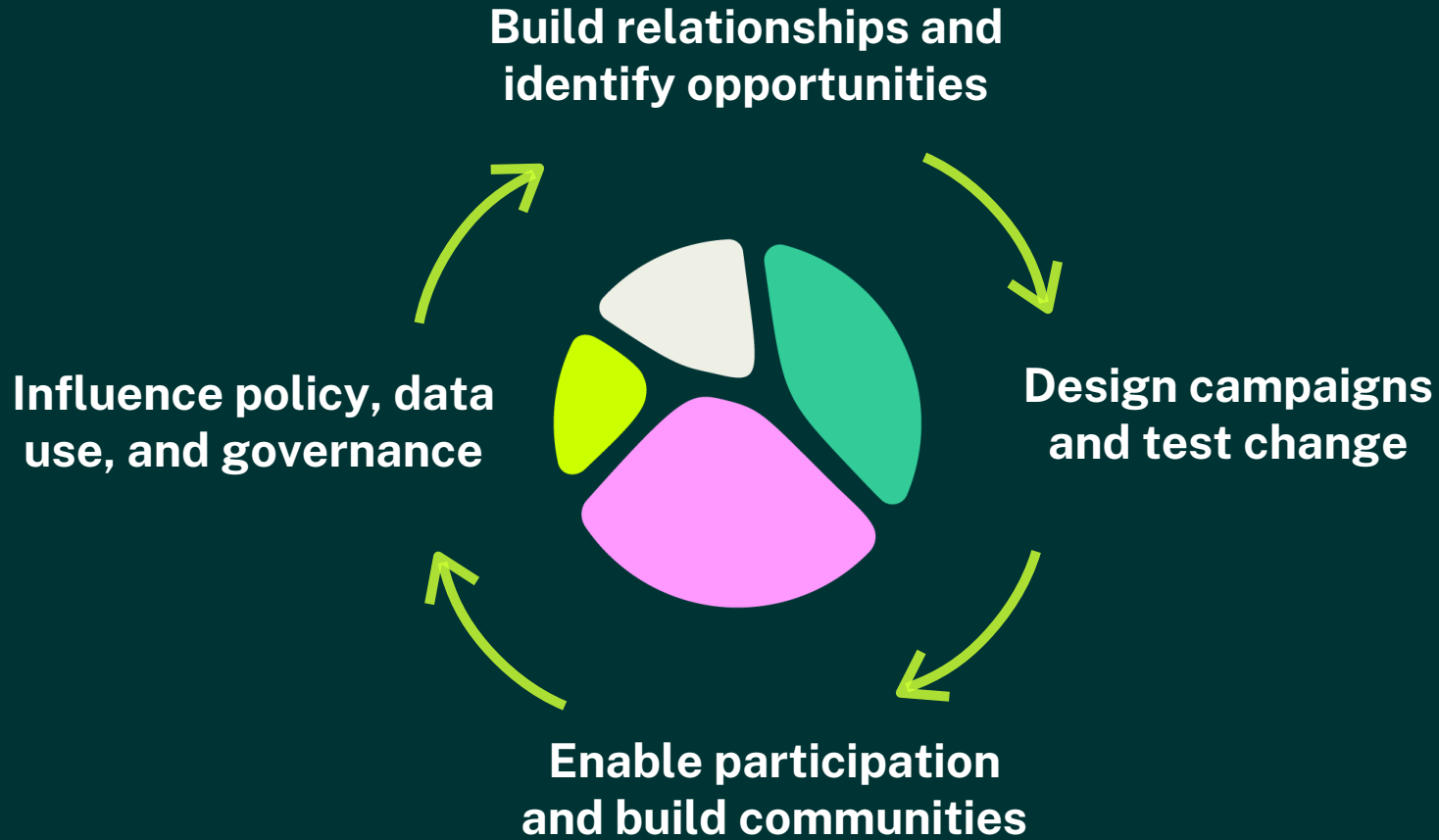
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Riga City Council
City Development Department





**Urban ReLeaf empowers communities
with **citizen-driven data** to influence
public policy and strengthen city
resilience for all**



Make Friends

~~Make friends and
have fun~~

Try cool stuff

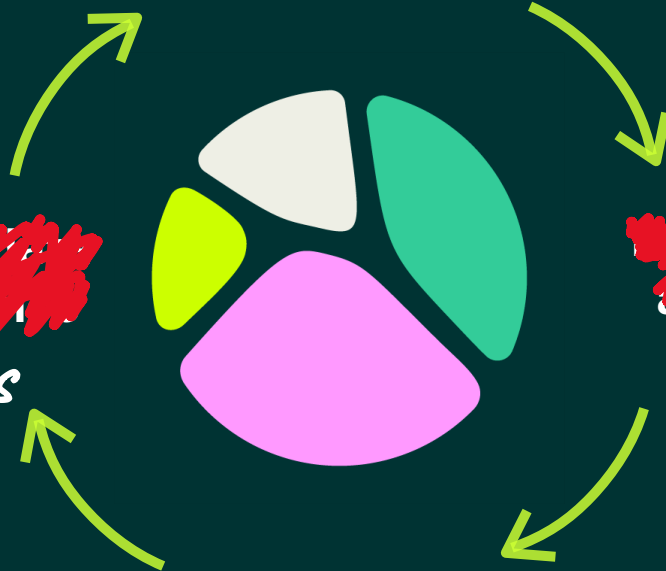
~~Try cool stuff
and have fun~~

Rally people

~~Rally people
and have fun~~

Change the rules

~~Change the rules
and have fun~~





6 Cities

Athens, Cascais, Dundee,
Mannheim, Riga, Utrecht

4 Themes



Greenspace perception



Urban Trees



Air quality



Heat stress



Riga's "Adopt a Sensor" campaign brings local residents together to measure air pollution in collaboration with Riga authorities.

With 20 air quality sensors in place — spread across parks and outside homes, schools, and local NGOs — residents actively track PM2.5 levels, comparing green and traffic-heavy areas. This citizen-based monitoring is not about data collection only; it also empowers people and policy to better understand and take action to improve air quality in the city.

2024 Campaign Data



7

Sensor Adopters

87,000

Data Points Collected



Sensors installed/Operating



3

Urban Policies informed

Riga city air quality improvement action program for 2026-2030
Riga action programme 2022-2027
Riga Greening plan 2027-2031

PurpleAir Riga Map



PM2.5 Pollution Sensors



Riga 2024



Adopt a Sensor campaign

Community-based air quality monitoring

20 AQ sensors installed (PM 2.5)
7 sensor adopters
87K+ observations

Aim to pilot city wide sensor data visualization platform

Low-cost sensor air quality monitoring






20 PM 2,5 sensors

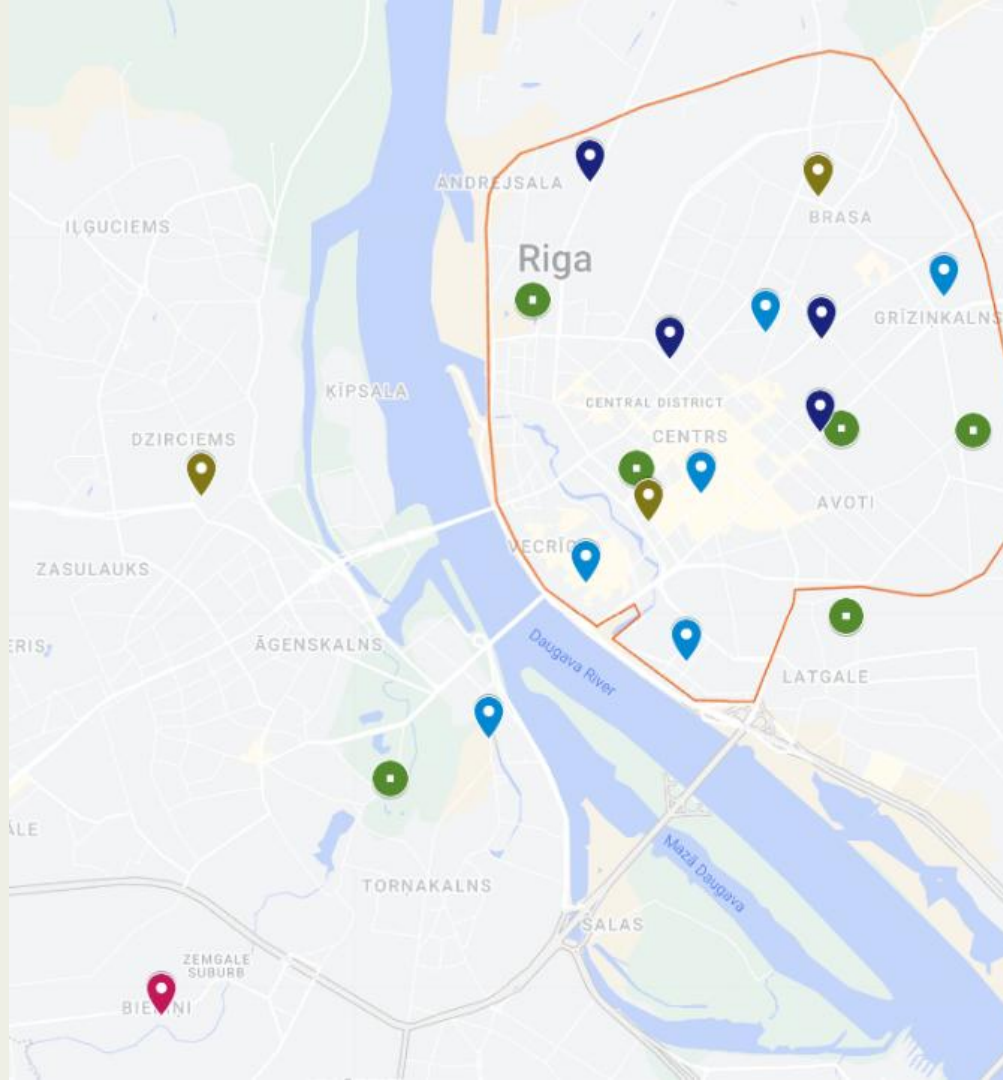
- Focuss- comparison of gray and green areas
- Goal – additional data, public education
- **PurpleAir PA-II (PMS5003)**

- T – traffic
- NT – near traffic
- NG – near greenery areas
- G – greenery areas



20 AQ sensors

-  6 greenery areas (UG)
-  3 near greenery areas (NG)
-  6 near traffic (NT)
-  4 traffic (T)
-  controlsensor



- Esplanāde (RM)
- Ziedoņa dārzs (RM)
- Grīziņkalns (RM)
- Viestura dārzs (RM)
- Miera dārzs (RDA)
- Uzvaras parks (IKDS)

- University of Latvia 1
- University of Latvia 2
- Technical youth centre
- School
- Kindergarten

- Hospitāļu iela 23
- Slokas iela 48a
- Dārzaugļu iela 1
- Dzirnavu iela 91
- Hanzas iela 6
- Ganību dambis 11
- Aleksandra Čaka iela 77

- "Free Riga" Creative quarter

- Controlsensor (MVD /EnviLAT)

Locations

6 parks

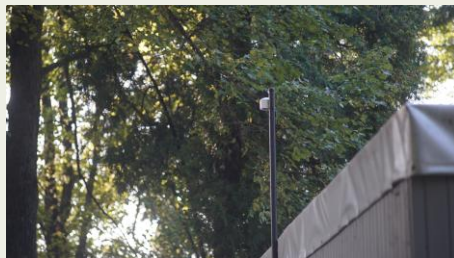
5 educational

institutions

7 citizens

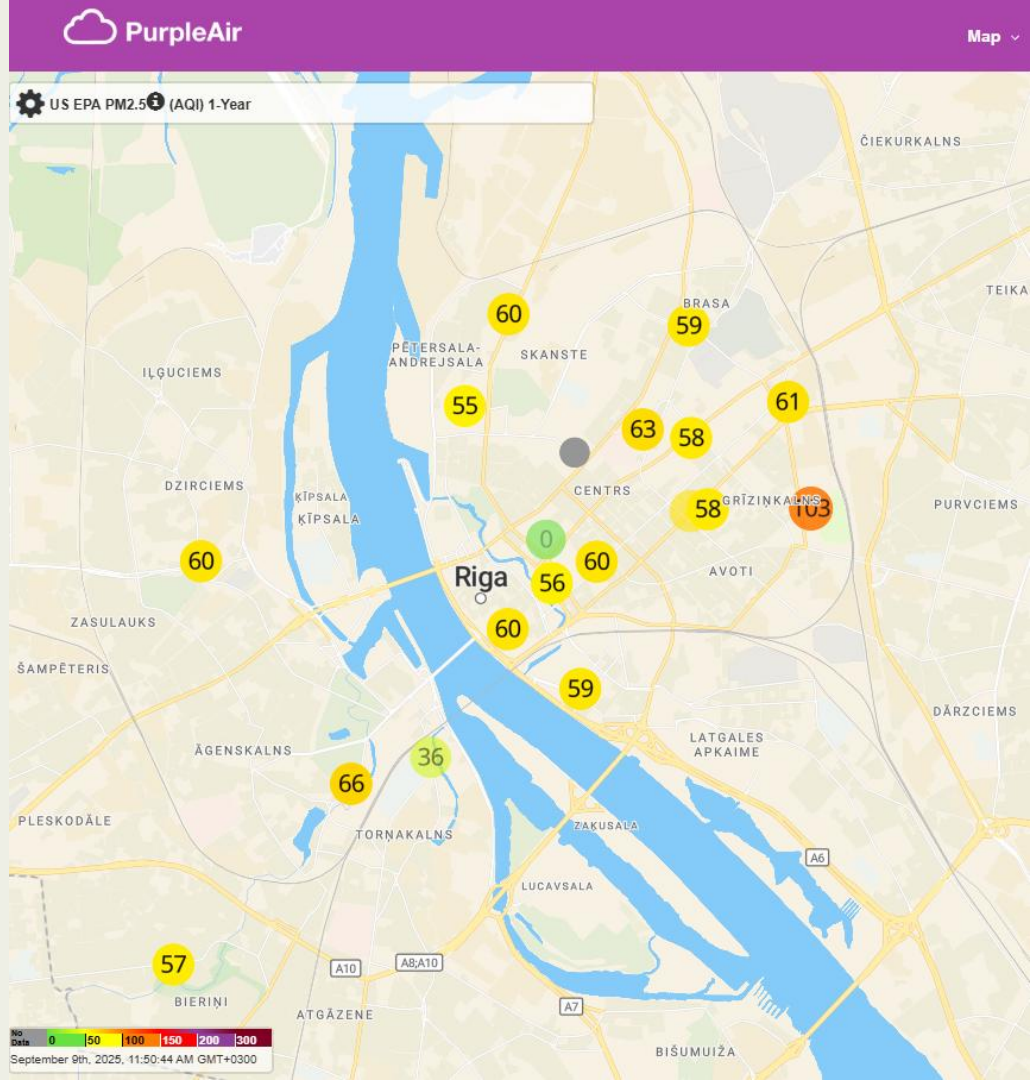
1 NGO

1 reference





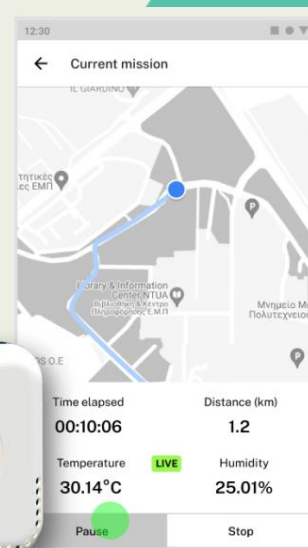
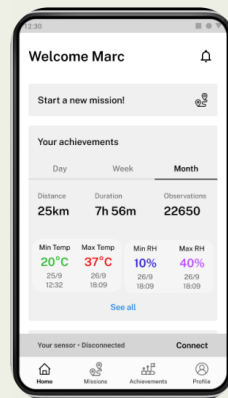
PurpleAir webpage – real-time data



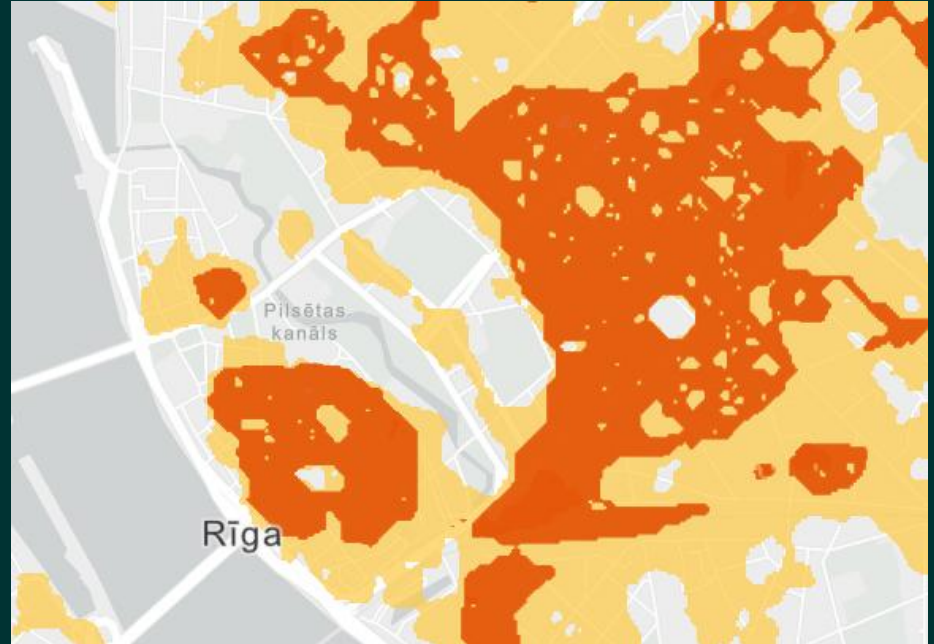
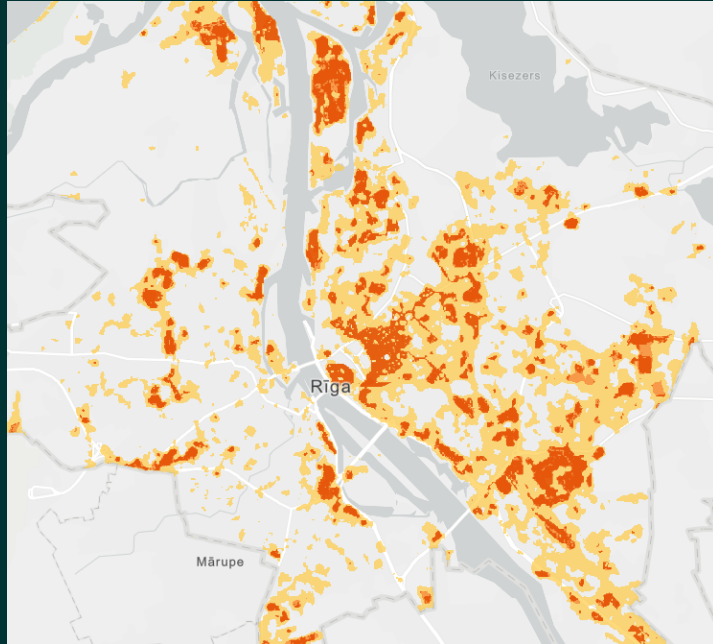
Thermal (dis)comfort mapping

100 mobile sensors

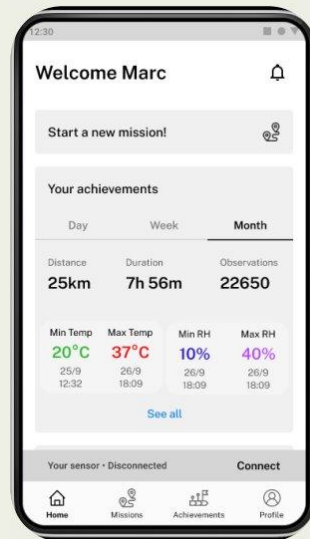
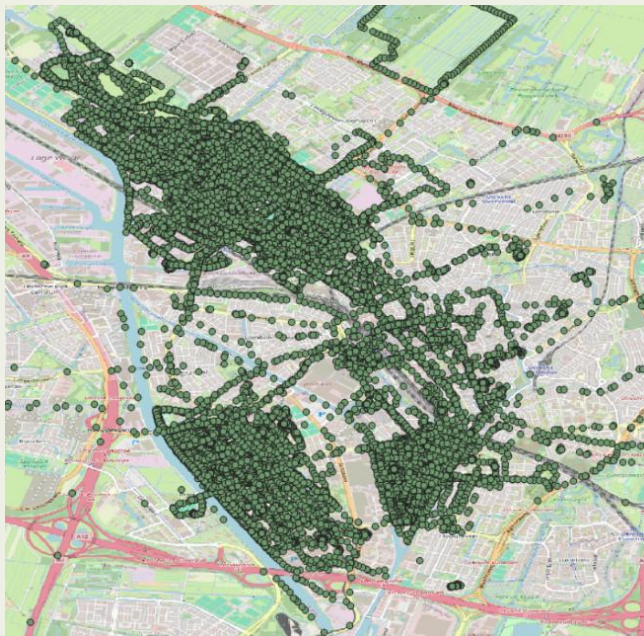
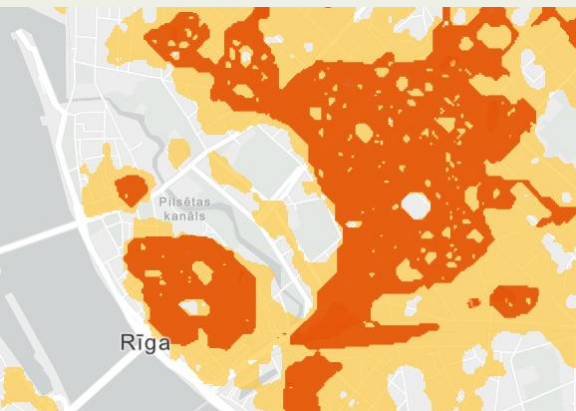
- Citizen engagement and education
- Mapping 2025 (and 2026?)
- Addition to heat island mapping (LatEst Adapt; SATSDIFACTION)
- Benefit of Green Areas



Heat island prioritisation



Here comes the citizen science!





.....May

June

July

August

September.....

I preperation

What is this about?

Citizen science

Heat islands, thermal discomfort

Trying out technologies

Onboarding e- community



II active period

Community building activities

Educational walks

Lectures and workshops



III closing

Data analysis

Reflection

Further action

Culture – lab



Frequent walks
in the center of
Riga

Interest in
urban greening
activities

Attendance
during the
summer
months



Pieteikums piedalīties pilsētas termālā komforta kartēšanā

Rīgas plānošanas reģions projekta "Urban ReLeaf – iedzīvotāju virzītas datu ekosistēmas pārejai uz iekļaujošu un zaļu pilsētvidi" ietvaros aicina iedzīvotājus piedalīties jau otrajā pilsētvides kvalitātes vērtēšanas aktivitātē. Pirmā – gaisa kvalitātes mērījumu veikšana jau veiksmīgi norit pateicoties iedzīvotāju, kā arī valsts un pašvaldību institūciju ieinteresētībai un atsaucībai. Šajā vasarā veicam otro kolektīvo aktivitāti pilsētvides kvalitātes vērtēšanai, kurā kartēsīm Rīgas pilsētas termālo komfortu, vācot un novērojot temperatūras un mitruma rādītājus Rīgas pilsētas centrā un tam tuvējās apkaimēs. Lai kļūtu par šīs aktivitātes dalībnieku, aicinām aizpildīt zemāk pievienoto aptauju, kas palīdzēs mums novērtēt, vai esi piemērots plānotās aktivitātes īstenošanai.

Pamatojoties uz Jūsu sniegtajām atbildēm, novērtēsim, vai no mums pieejamiem 80 sensoriem varēsim piešķirt Jums vienu uz 2025. gada vasaras periodu.

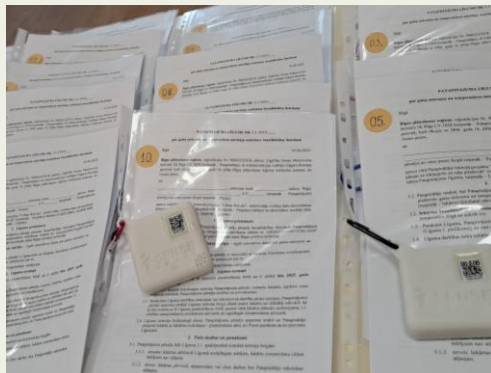
Pieteikšanās no 23. maija - 11. jūnijam! Kampanjas atklāšanas pasākums un sensoru saņemšana sekos 16. jūnijā, 18:00 - informācija sekos!

Informācija par personas datu apstrādi saistībā ar anketu:

Apstrādes nolūki, kam paredzēti personas dati, apstrādes tiesiskais pamats un ilgums:

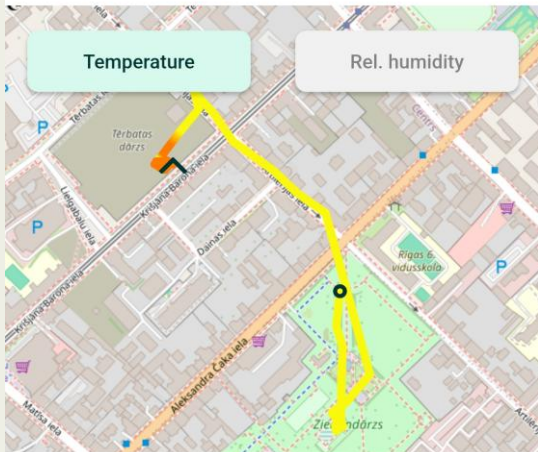
Jūsu personas datu apstrādes nolūks ir saziņa par Jūsu turpmāk anketā norādīto iesaistes veidu projektā. Tiesiskais pamats – Jūsu sniegta piekrišana, atbilstoši Vispārīgās datu aizsardzības regulas 6.panta 1.punkta a) apakšpunktam, kas sniegta brīvi, konkrēti un apzināti. Apstrādes ilgums - līdz piekrišanas atsaukšanai vai līdz pētījuma izstrādes beigām.

Opening event and educational events





← Mission 40 Jul 2, 2025 18:34

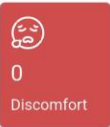


0.92 km 00 h 57 m

Distance

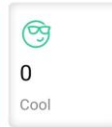


Duration



0

Discomfort



0

Cool



Temperature

min-max

↓ 28°C
18:45

↑ 35°C
19:24



Rel. humidity

min-max

↓ 41%
19:21

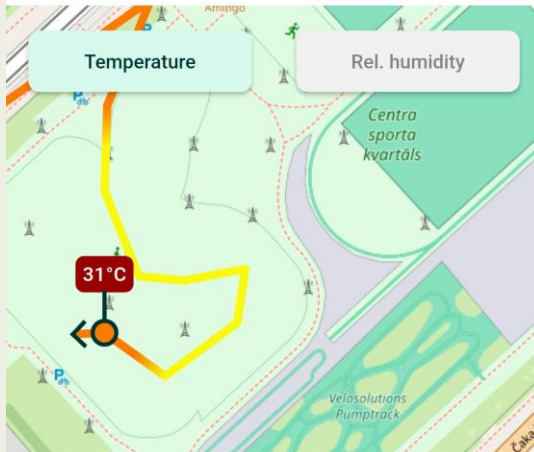
↑ 55%
18:45



Disconnected

Connect

← Mission 54 Jul 14, 2025 15:07

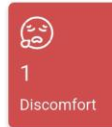


0.29 km 00 h 07 m

Distance

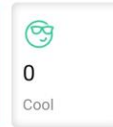


Duration



1

Discomfort



0

Cool



Temperature

min-max

↓ 28°C
15:13

↑ 32°C
15:09



Rel. humidity

min-max

↓ 39%
15:15

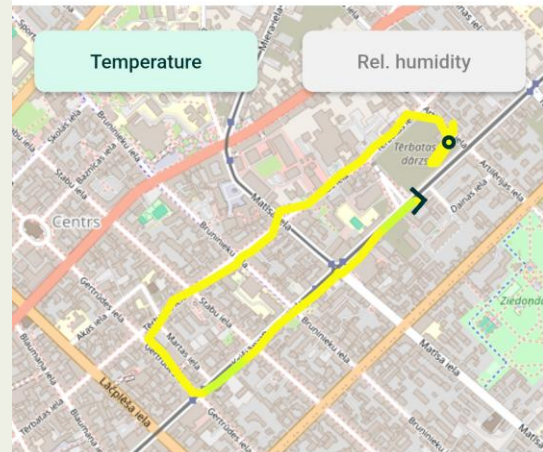
↑ 45%
15:13



Disconnected

Connect

← Mission 64 Jul 21, 2025 19:09

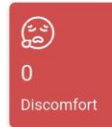


2.03 km 00 h 51 m

Distance

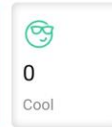


Duration



0

Discomfort



0

Cool



Temperature

min-max

↓ 25°C
19:52

↑ 27°C
19:13



Rel. humidity

min-max

↓ 58%
19:12

↑ 67%
19:51



Disconnected

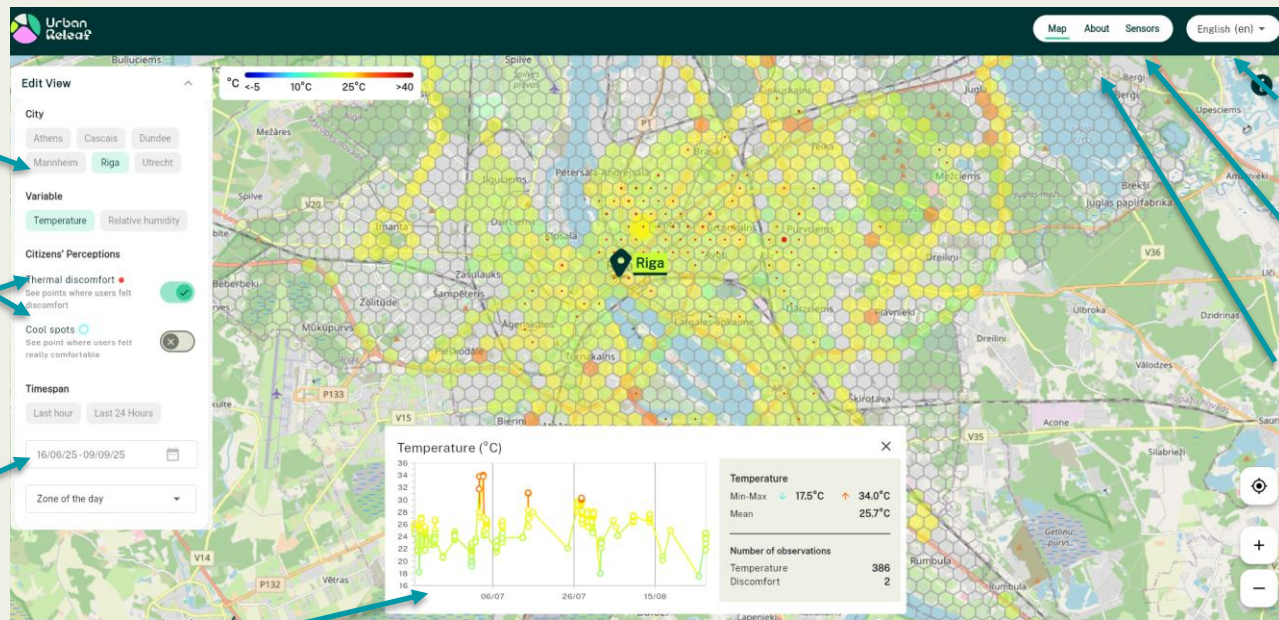
Connect

City selection

Visualize TRH and thermal discomfort data

Select different time ranges

Graphical representations of the TRH values inside the hexagons



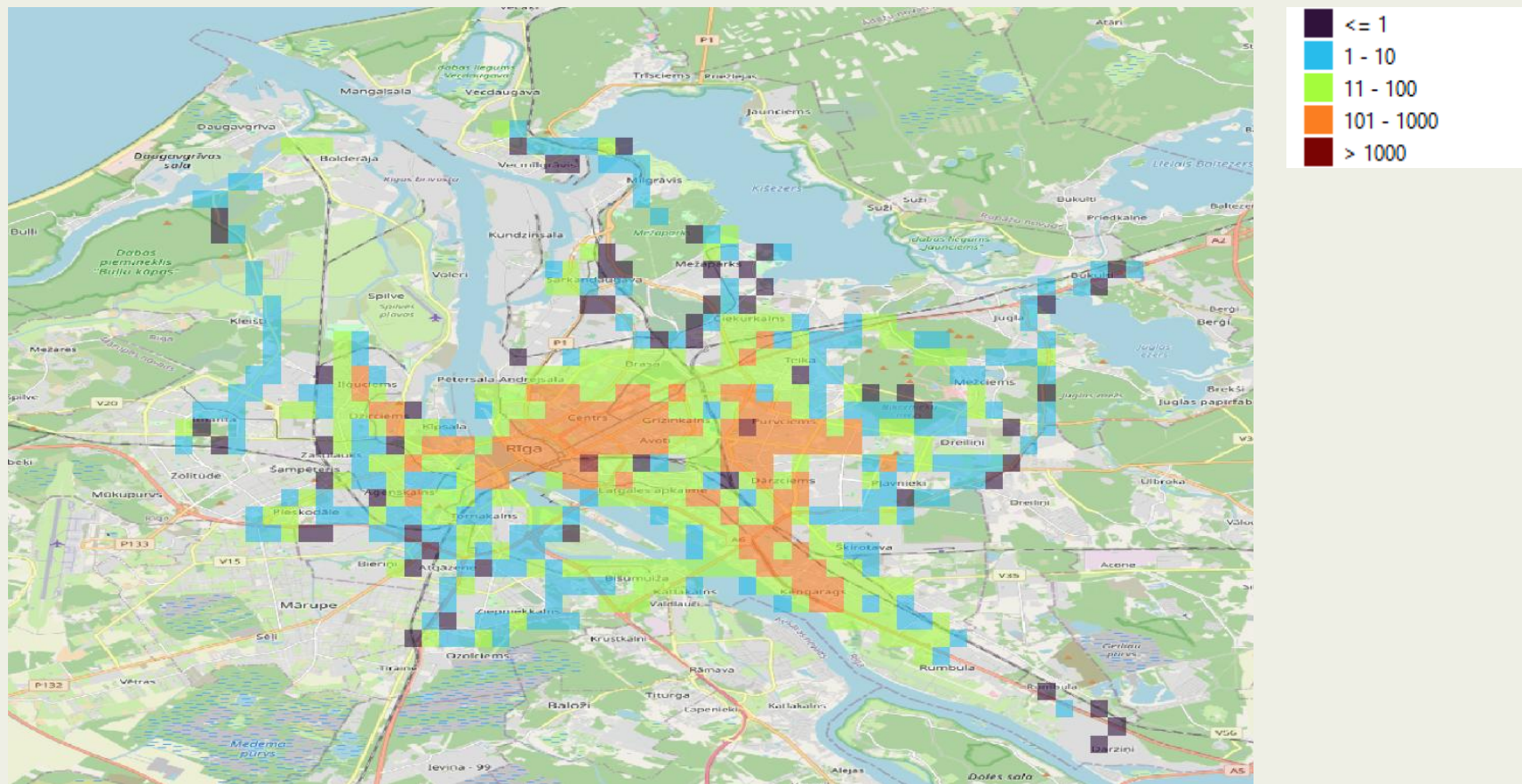
Multilanguage support

Sensor manual

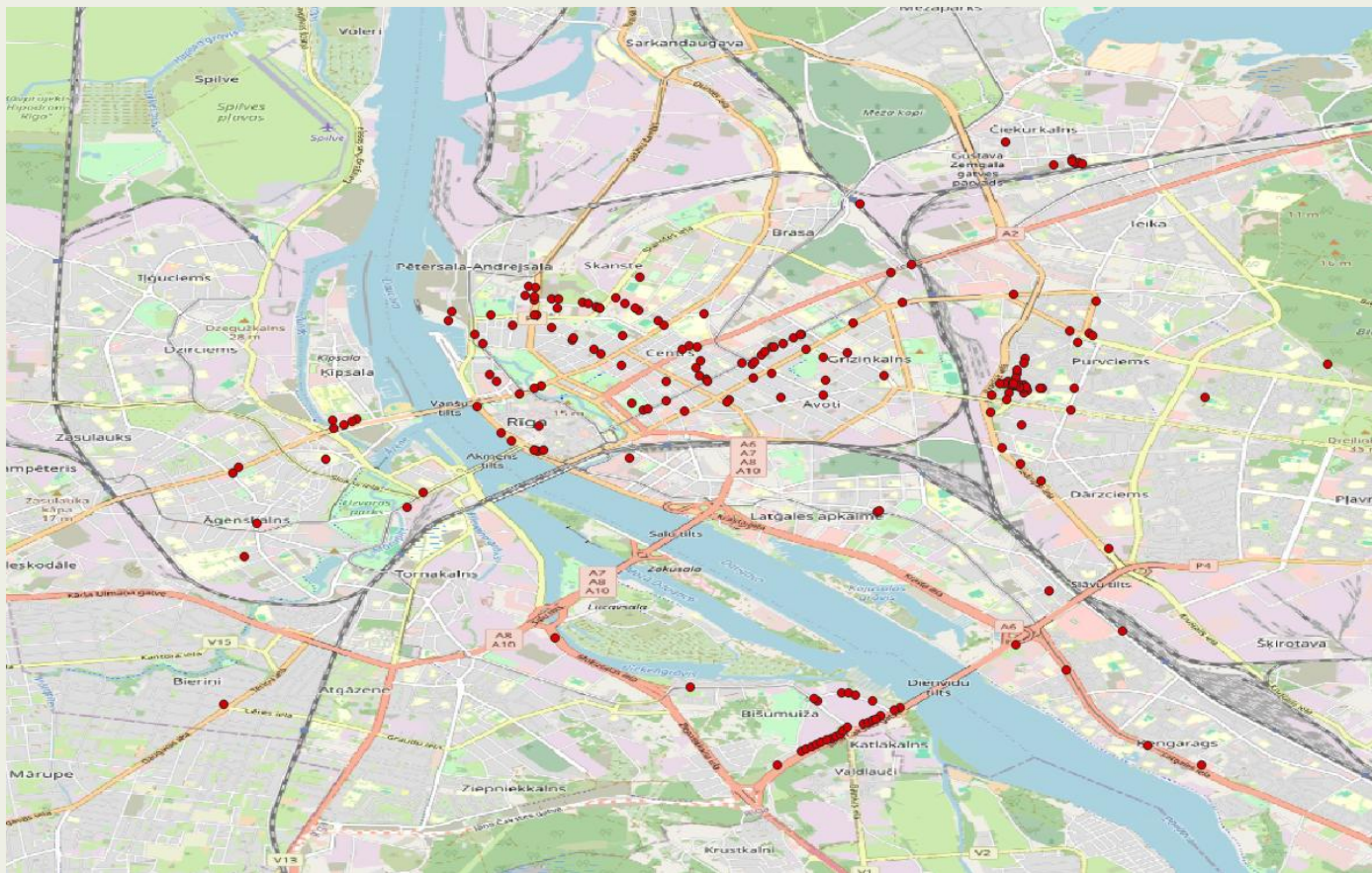
Informative page about the project

<https://platform-urbanreleaf.iccs.gr/public/map/#/home>

Heatmap of the frequency of observations



All thermal discomfort observations





Too many data gaps to support
policy for sustainable cities for now
Accentuated inequalities in access to
ecologically high valued greenspaces
and health-related benefits
Public participation developing slowly
and variably - high interest in the
beginning, later on goes up and down
Meaningful opportunity to increase
public awareness, analytical and
critical thinking

Citizen science for green urban transitions: Stories from Urban ReLeaf cities

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Marcelo Lampkowski, Laura Temmerman, Carina Veeckman, Mel Woods

