



WHY IT MATTERS

Urban trees are public health infrastructure

2-8°C

cooler surfaces under urban trees in heatwaves

30%

tree cover could avert heat deaths in 93 European cities

10x

cheaper to prevent a pest than to control it later

Schwaab et al., 2021; lungman et al., 2023; Hulme, 2021

THE 3-30-300 RULE

3

trees in view from every home

30%

canopy in every neighbourhood

300 m

to a quality green space



FREE3

Bring FREE3 to your town

Talk to the team about the tools and how they can work for your municipality or company.



SCAN TO VISIT
ub3guard.eu

PILOT COUNTRIES

Sweden · Spain · Switzerland · the Netherlands · Serbia · North Macedonia

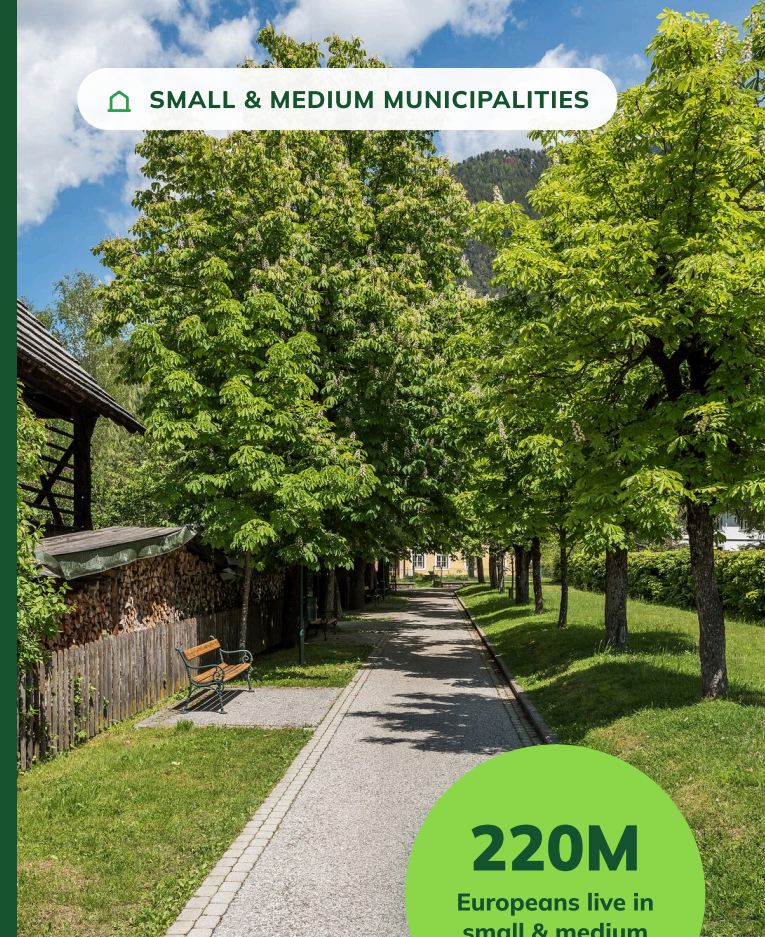


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SMALL & MEDIUM MUNICIPALITIES



220M

Europeans live in
small & medium
cities



FREE3

Protecting the trees that protect small towns

Practical urban tree biosecurity, from FREE3 and the UB3Guard COST Action.

THE CHALLENGE

Invasive pests are moving in

Most small and medium municipalities have no arborist or plant health officer. New pests often arrive with traded planting stock.



Ash dieback



Oak processionary moth



Emerald ash borer



Xylella

THREE GAPS TO CLOSE

-  **Information:** guidance is too technical
-  **Monitoring:** findings go unreported
-  **Procurement:** price beats plant health

WHAT TO DO NOW

Six steps any town can take

- 1 Know your priority threats**
Check national bulletins for pests near you.
- 2 Check your trees every year**
One named officer, one yearly walk-through.
- 3 Engage citizens**
Residents can report symptoms with apps.
- 4 Buy pest-free stock**
Ask suppliers for EU plant passports.
- 5 Connect to networks**
Share data and expertise with nearby towns.
- 6 Plant diverse species**
Follow the 10-20-30 rule.



FREE3

THE FREE3 ONE-STOP SHOP

Practical tools for towns and the green industry

QGIS plugins

Pest risk assessment on your own tree inventory, on the map.

RShiny app

Turns risk results into ready-to-use graphs and reports.

31
countries

183
inventories

8.3M
trees
analysed

FIRST-YEAR GOAL

10 cities in 5+ countries

No town needs to act alone.
Start at ub3guard.eu