Athens Urban Cooling Programme — Microforests, Cooling Gardens & Pocket Parks Under the Heat Action Plan

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Greece

Quality score: 27/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Athens planted nearly 7,500 trees in 18 months and built microforests and cooling gardens across the city; monitored sites recorded surface-temperature drops of up to 20-30°C, and a peer-reviewed simulation shows the cooling reaches kilometres downwind.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	0/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-08-23

Municipality of Athens (Resilience & Sustainability Office), with EU ASCEND/NetZeroCities and ICLEI support — accessed 2026-08-23

EU Covenant of Mayors: Athens Hits Refresh — Beating the Heat with Urban Cooling Solutions — accessed 2026-08-23

AIP.org / Physics of Fluids: Putting a chill on the urban heat island effect — accessed 2026-08-23

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