

Clifton Urban Forest — A Miyawaki Pocket Forest Cooling a Karachi Neighbourhood (Pakistan)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Pakistan

Quality score: 27/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

After Karachi's 2015 heatwave killed over 1,200 people, entrepreneur Shahzad Qureshi planted a dense, native-species Miyawaki forest in Clifton that grew from a 400 sqm pilot to about 3 acres and 38,000 saplings, measured 4-7 degC cooler than surrounding streets.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[Urban Forest \(Shahzad Qureshi\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[Heinrich-Boll-Stiftung: Karachi's urban forest initiatives](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[Dawn: how this entrepreneur built a forest in the heart of Karachi](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[SUGi: Clifton Urban Forest project page](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[The Third Pole: will urban forests in Pakistan have lasting impact?](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

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