Climate Shelters in Schools — Barcelona's EU-Funded Green, Blue and Grey Retrofit of 11 Schoolyards Against Heat (Spain)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Spain

Quality score: 27/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

A €5M pilot (80% EU UIA funding) turned 11 Barcelona primary schoolyards into heat shelters: 74 trees, ~1,000 m² de-paved, 2,213 m² of shade, 26 water points. Preliminary monitoring showed 2–3 °C lower air-temperature anomalies at two schools; full results are pending.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-22

Barcelona City Council (Ajuntament de Barcelona) and Barcelona Education Consortium — accessed 2026-11-22

Barcelona City Council — Climate shelters in schools — accessed 2026-11-22

UIA — The 11 schools in the Barcelona project are now climate shelters — accessed 2026-11-22

UIA — Evaluation: an indispensable component of innovation projects (interim temperature results) — accessed 2026-11-22

Journal of Urban Health — Study protocol of the mixed-method evaluation — accessed 2026-11-22

Int J Public Health (2025) — Community use and perceptions of climate shelters in schoolyards — accessed 2026-11-22

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