

Seoul's “Botanical City” Programme — Tracked Expansion of Urban Forest in Living Spheres (2021–2024)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · South Korea

Quality score: 13/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Seoul tracked urban forest inside residential “living spheres” rising 6.53% (per-capita +11.59%) from 2021-2024; Korea's forest science institute separately valued the resulting heat-island cooling at ■1.33 trillion (~US\$942m) in avoided electricity, about double 2020's figure.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	0/3
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 2026-08-29

Seoul Metropolitan Government; National Institute of Forest Science (Korea Forest Service) — accessed 2026-08-29

Seoul Metropolitan Government — Botanical City tracking report — accessed 2026-08-29

The Herald Business — Urban forests worth ■1.33tr in heat-island relief — accessed 2026-08-29

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