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Manuscript Title
Mitigating Urban Heat Islands – A Practical Geo-Academy Co-creation Experience
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Abstract

Urban Heat Islands (UHI) represent a growing challenge to city resilience. This work presents the results of implementing a co-creation learning scenario focused on Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) for UHI mitigation. The methodology details the adaptation of an exercise introduced during the Geo-Academy Summer School (2024), in Greece, to the Portuguese reality. The process involved updating geospatial data (from the Copernicus ecosystem), researching NBS within the national context, and developing specific pedagogical materials. The experience culminated in a workshop presented at the *Terra em Foco 2024* event, organized by the Portuguese Space Agency. This initiative validated the effectiveness of the Geo-Academy approach in empowering teachers, technicians, and citizens for resilient urban planning. It is concluded that the project offers a robust framework for the co-creation of educational solutions that mobilize diverse green, digital, and geospatial skills, making it easily scalable to different European geographical contexts.

Keywords: Climate Resilience, Co-creation Learning, Community Engagement, Geospatial Data, Green and Digital Skills.