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COST Action
CA 20132

Safeguarding European urban trees and forests through improved biosecurity



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The problem

Urban trees are increasingly threatened by alien pests (insects and pathogens) that are introduced via trade and transports. In a new environment, these pests may become invasive, causing devastating environmental and economic losses, and threatening also unique cultural values such as those linked to veteran trees. The current biosecurity system fails to capture alien pests that often also benefit from the altered climate. COST Action “UrbanTreeGuard” brings together a pan-European and international network of scientists and stakeholders to meet this challenge.

“UrbanTreeGuard” Working groups

The work is organized in four Working Groups:



WG 1 - Identification

Finding the relevant stakeholder groups and mapping their needs



WG 2 - Innovation

Mapping and recommending available tools and measures for urban biosecurity



WG 3 - Integration

Informing policy, identifying obstacles and suggesting measures for policy implementation



WG 4 - Information

Transparent and rapid communication and dissemination activities and knowledge exchange

More information: www.ub3guard.eu



Goals

Collect, share and harmonize scientific and stakeholder knowledge.

Accelerate development of innovative technological tools and solutions for biosecurity.

Inform policy and support the EU plant health regime implementation and provide science-based recommendations for decision makers.

Foster an inclusive and open research environment, with explicit support to young professionals.

Increase European competitiveness in the field of biosecurity, improving also the quality of everyday life for people, especially urban dwellers, in Europe and beyond.

