

# Adaptation and mitigation strategies for cities

CONE - 1st Workshop - Training of trainers  
ONLINE | 3 of March 2025

Presenter: Magdalena Gajewska

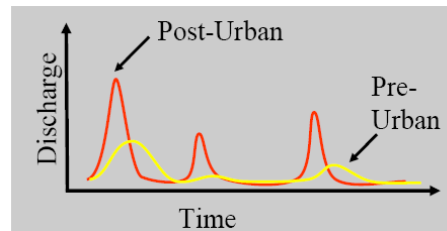
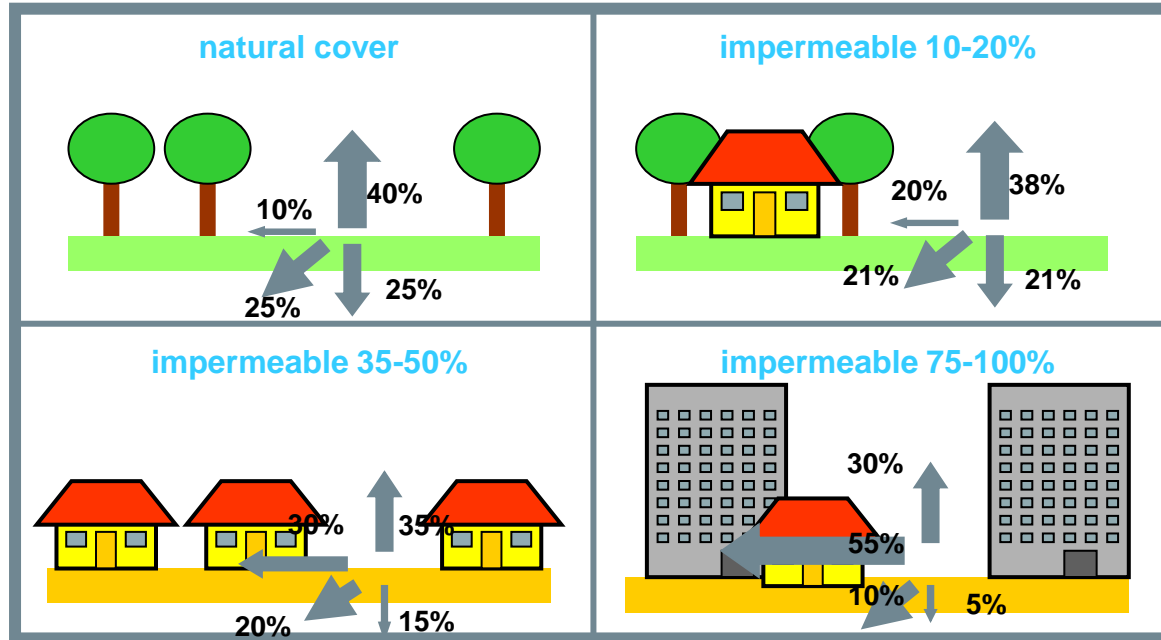
## HOW URBANISATION AFFECTS STORMWATER RUNOFF?

evapotranspiration

runoff

infiltration

underground outflow



# FLOODS in Gdańsku



2001

10 h -> 130 mm

2016

16 h -> 160 mm



## Changes in the approach to stormwater management

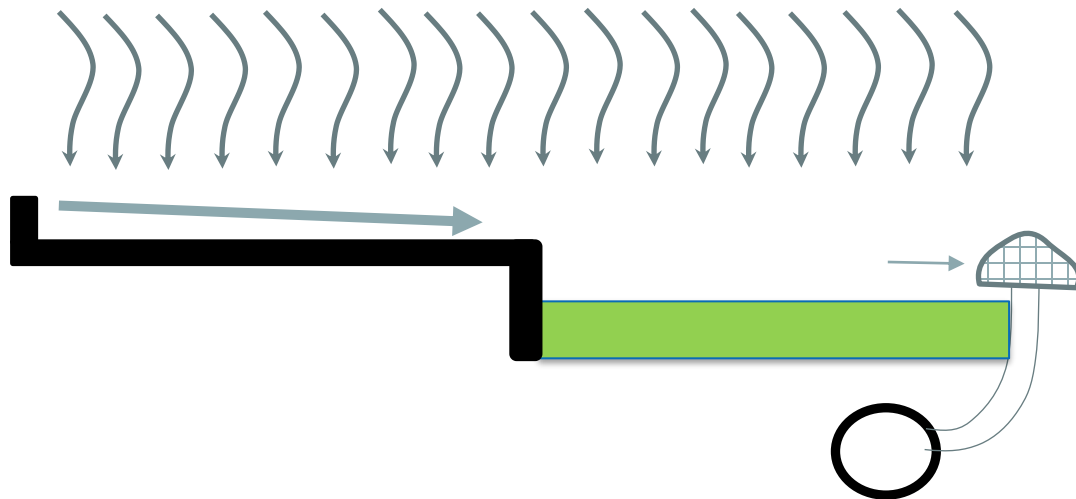
Rainwater drainage system (design recommendations),  
GDANSK but .....:

1. retaining 30–60 mm of rainfall in urban green areas
2. rainwater storage tanks
3. urban rainwater drainage system

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## Current approach in Gdańsk City

**Integrating green infrastructure for water retention** before the storm drain system  
since 2018 volume 200 000m<sup>3</sup> of precipitation in rain gardens and bioswales etc, REQUIRED 30mm  
to be keep in green or 60mm if there is no grey system





## Adaptation of existing urban space

Technical solutions for managing stormwater from:

- roofs – relatively good quality stormwater
- parking lots – e.g. petroleum products
- streets – heavily polluted runoff, e.g. heavy metals

Possible to implement in existing urban space:

- residential areas
- old town
- main intersections in the city centre

# Implementation of EWL in Słupsk

## *NOAH project*

Extreme Weather Layer (EWL) method enables various types of flood risk visualization

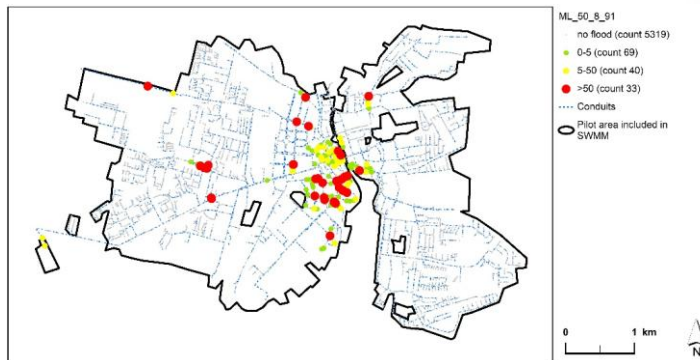
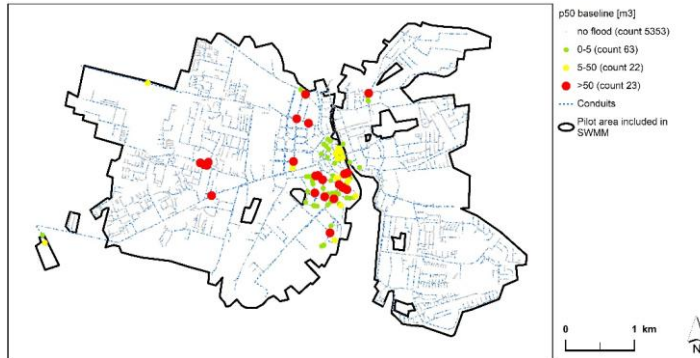
➤ flood risk classes based of the flooding flow rate:

Probability	Scenario	Classes - total flooding [m3]		
		0-1	1-10	>10
50%	Current	63	22	24
	RCP 4.5 2051-2060	60	26	26
	RCP 4.5 2091-2100	68	27	29
	RCP 8.5 2051-2060	70	32	30
	RCP 8.5 2091-2100	69	40	34
5%	Current	89	46	51
	RCP 4.5 2051-2060	91	47	53
	RCP 4.5 2091-2100	94	45	55
	RCP 8.5 2051-2060	103	43	60
	RCP 8.5 2091-2100	102	42	64

- Identification of flood-prone locations

- Determination of flood risk classes

- Selection of areas for NBS implementation





# Holistic approach to stormwater management and treatment *NOAH PROJECT*

Słupsk pilot area – NOAH project activities:



EUROPEAN  
REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
FUND

- ✓ Development of **Extreme Weather Layer** – a spatial planning method as a part of adaptation to climate change strategy in the city of Słupsk
- ✓ Stormwater runoff quality monitoring

Probability	Scenario	Decrease in the flooding volume [%]	
		Total flooding in Słupsk	Overflow to the Słupia River
50%	Current	79	100
	RCP 4.5 2051-2060	76	100
	RCP 4.5 2091-2100	73	100
	RCP 8.5 2051-2060	71	100
	RCP 8.5 2091-2100	67	100
5%	Current	57	84
	RCP 4.5 2051-2060	55	79
	RCP 4.5 2091-2100	54	75
	RCP 8.5 2051-2060	52	69
	RCP 8.5 2091-2100	50	60



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Extreme weather layer method for implementation of nature-based solutions for climate adaptation: Case study Słupsk

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Iwona Włodarek<sup>c</sup>, Piotr Zima<sup>a</sup>, Dominika Kalinowska<sup>a</sup>, Paweł Wielgat<sup>a</sup>, Małgorzata Mikulska<sup>d</sup>,  
Danuta Antończyk<sup>d</sup>, Krzysztof Krzaczkowski<sup>d</sup>, Remigiusz Łyszyk<sup>d</sup>, Magdalena Gajewska<sup>a</sup>





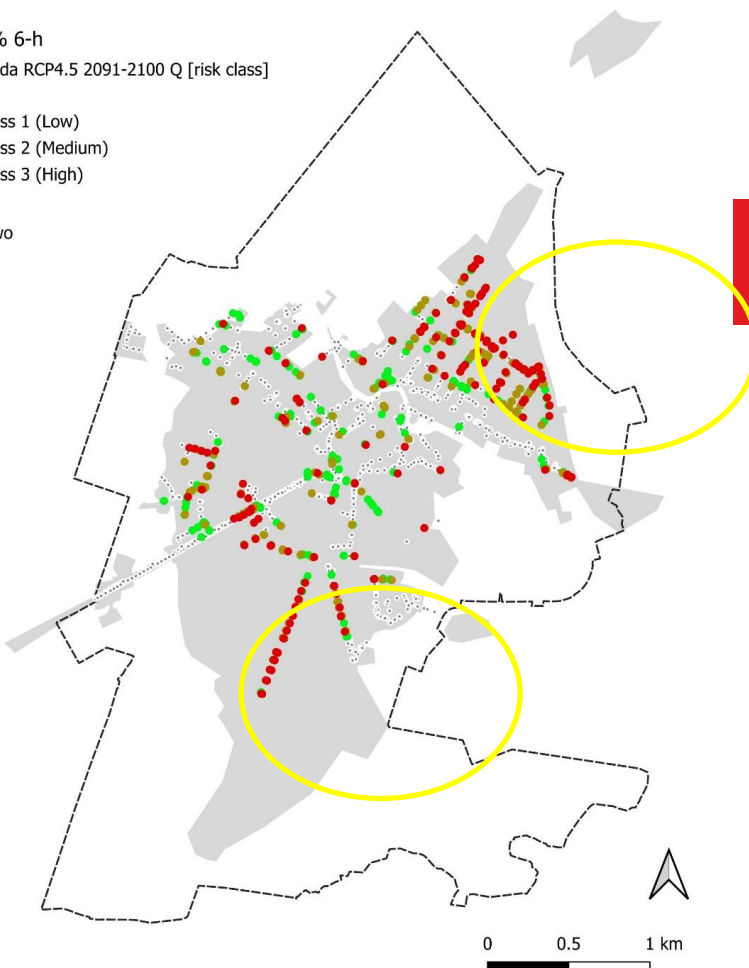


EWL  $p=2\%$  6-h

(beta) Klimada RCP4.5 2091-2100 Q [risk class]

- No risk
- Risk class 1 (Low)
- Risk class 2 (Medium)
- Risk class 3 (High)

□ Braniewo  
■ SWMM



EWL

- FUTURE TRENDS
- RCP 4.5  
Klimada  
horizon 2091-2100



## Adaptation of existing urban space

### Benefits:

- Prevention of local flash floods
- Improvement of microclimate
- Mitigation of the urban heat island effect
- Increase in biodiversity
- Tailored approach to the specific catchment area, including technical solutions to improve the quality of stormwater



## What is a Rain Garden?

**Nature's Water Filter:** Rain gardens are shallow landscaped depressions that capture, clean and absorb stormwater runoff from roofs, parking lots and roads.



<https://www.urbangreenup.eu/solutionsnn/water-interventions/rain-gardens.kl>

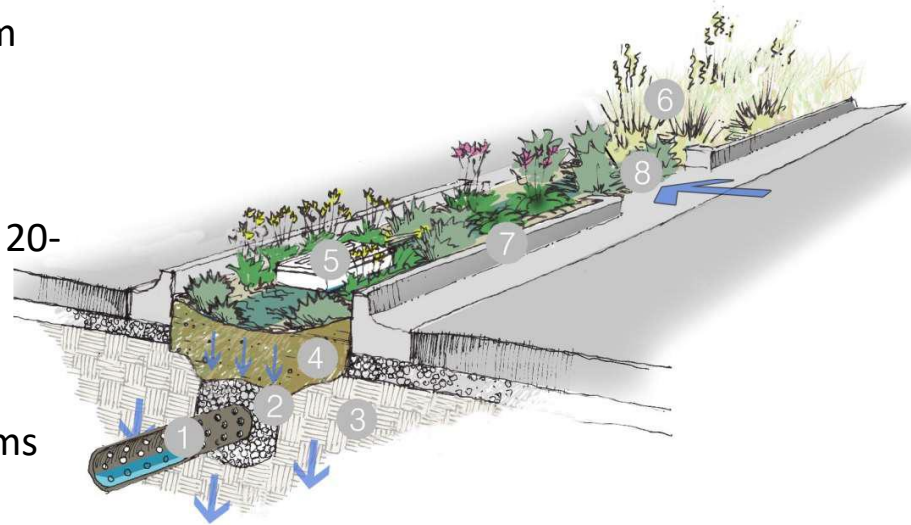
- A rain garden is a bioretention shallow basin designed to collect, store, filter and treat water runoff. To optimise its functions, it must include a porous soil mixture, native vegetation and some hyperaccumulator plants, capable of phytoremediation.



The rain gardens are built with:

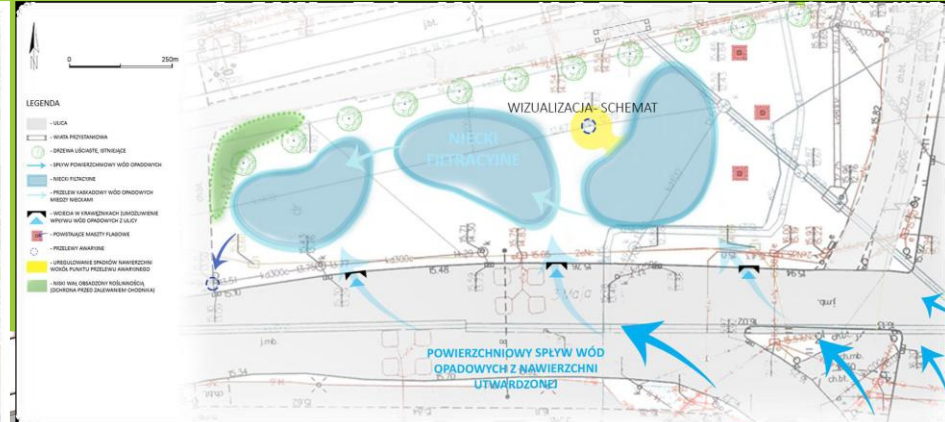
- A perforated pipe connecting to basin or stream outlet. (1)
- Gravel pipe bed. (2)
- Native soil. (3)
- Soil mixture of 50% sand, 20-30% compost and 20-30% topsoil. Sand creates a draining soil. (4)
- Overflow control structure. (5)
- Vegetation. Native plants with deep root systems that absorb runoff and pollutants. (6)
- Curb and gutter. (7)
- Curb cut to allow water to enter the rain garden. (8)

By URBAN GreenUp





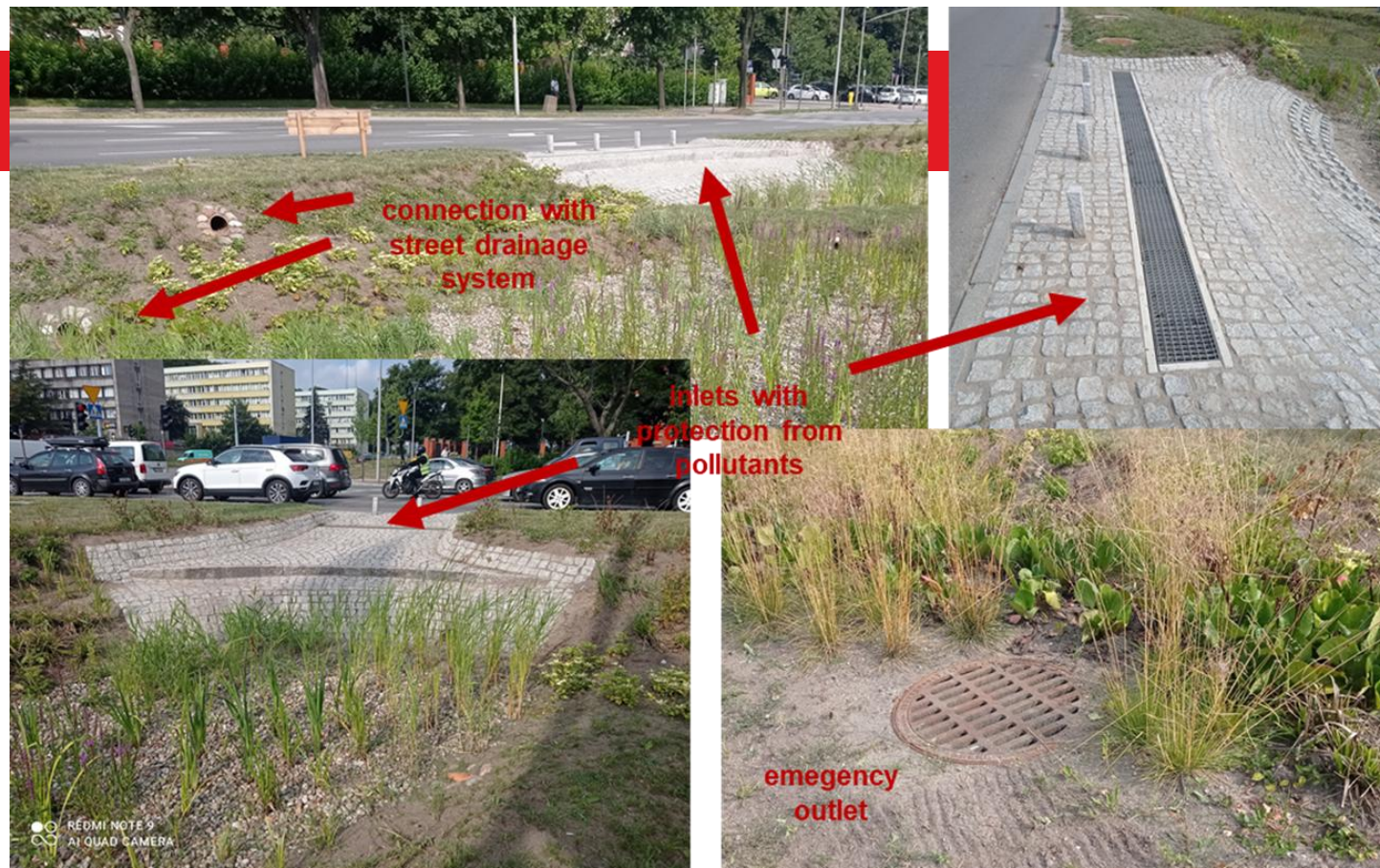
This aerial view shows the intersection of Wyzwolenia St. and 3 Maja St. in Katowice. The proposed tram route is highlighted in red, running along Wyzwolenia St. and turning onto 3 Maja St. The intersection features a roundabout on the left and a crosswalk on the right. The surrounding area includes a large green field, a parking lot, and various urban infrastructure elements like streetlights and trees.



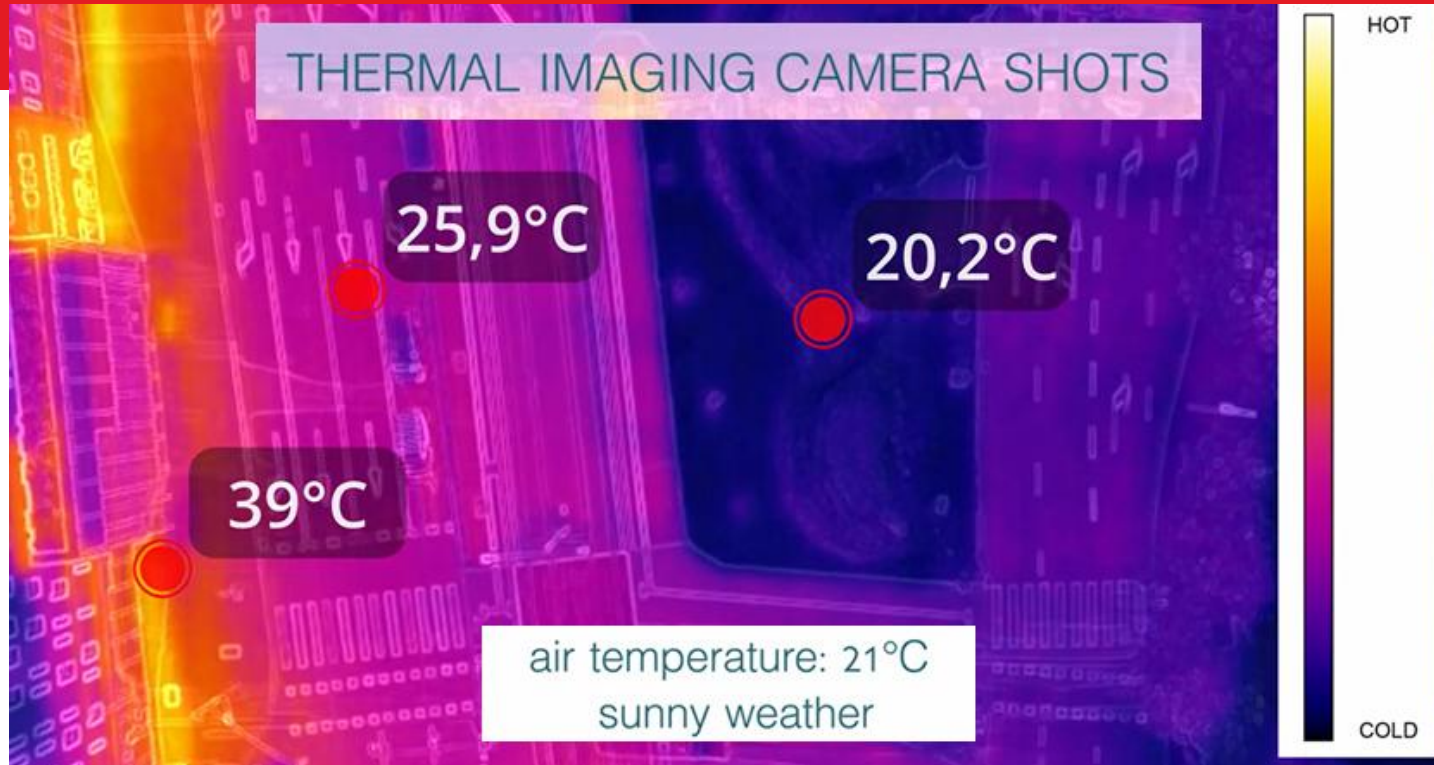


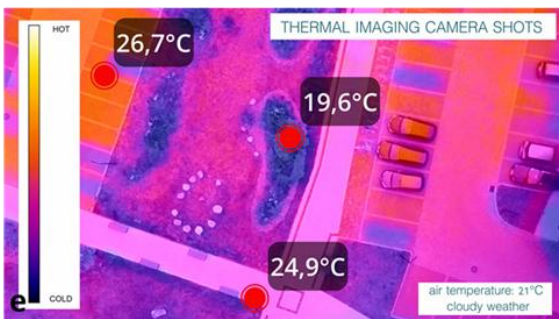


## How ?









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## HIGHLIGHTS

- Rain gardens as a smart tool for climate city adaptation
- High variation in infiltration rate between monitored rain gardens
- Infiltration rate of emptying to contribute to less flooding and drought mitigation
- Variety of technical solutions tailored for a different types of urban runoff
- Rain gardens as a unit for building system recovery in an urban circular economy

## GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



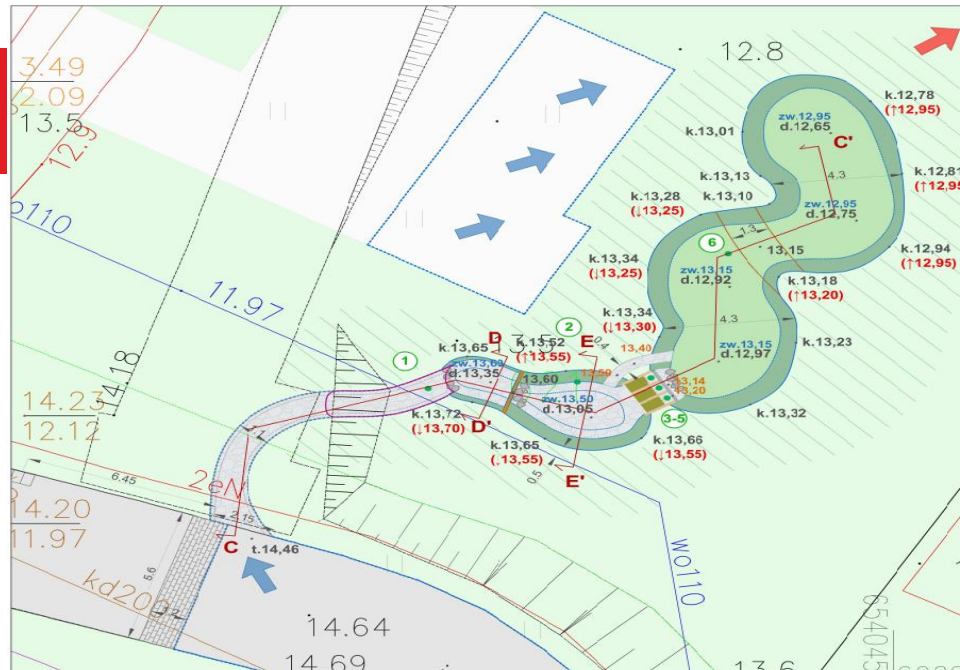
# Results for biodiversity - existing rain gardens

Rain garden	3 Maja St.	O'Rourke Square	eMOCja Center	Lastadia st.	Kaczeńce
<b>Dominant plant species</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Iris pseudacous</li> <li>• Glyceria maxima</li> <li>• Phalaris arundinacea</li> <li>• Acorus calamus</li> <li>• Phragmites australis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Iris sibirica</li> <li>• Hemerocaliss</li> <li>• Anemone hybrid</li> <li>• Hosta sieboldiana</li> <li>• Darmera peltata</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deschampsia caespitose</li> <li>• Lysimachia nummularia</li> <li>• Hemerocaliss</li> <li>• Myosotis scorpioides</li> <li>• Glyceria maxima</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lysimachia nummularia</li> <li>• Iris sibirica</li> <li>• Deschampsia caespitose</li> <li>• Carex muskingumensis</li> <li>• Myosotis scorpioides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phragmites australis</li> <li>• Phragmites humilis</li> <li>• Rosa 'Rugby'</li> <li>• Glyceria maxima</li> <li>• Iris sibirica</li> </ul>
<b>Total species number (S)</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Total plant number (N)</b>	<b>4654</b>	<b>3913</b>	<b>783</b>	<b>4107</b>	<b>1248</b>

Rain garden	Shannon Evennes index (D)	Shannon Diversity index (H)
3 Maja St.	0.837	3.110
O'Rourke Square	0.909	3.205
eMOCja Center	0.963	3.100
Lastadia st.	0.943	3.631
Kaczeńce	0.929	3.275

*usually 1.5 - 3.5.*





### Ecosystem services

Provisioning	Regulating	Cultural	Supporting
☆	☆☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆☆





POLITECHNIKA  
GDAŃSKA



UCZELNIA  
BADAWCZA  
INICJATYWA DOBROCI

Solutions , parking lot

GDANSK







**Connection to  
Drainage system**

**GDANSK**







POLITECHNIKA  
GDAŃSKA



UCZELNIA  
BADAWCZA  
INICJATYWA DOŚKONALOSĆ

How ? In a box ?

GDANSK





## Technical aspects - inlets

Enabling rainwater to flow into rain gardens, for example by:

- Concrete channels
- Drainage curbs
- Lower curbs
- Lower pavement

GDANSK





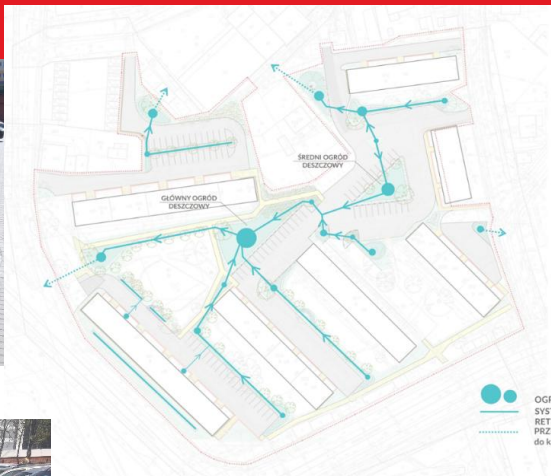
POLITECHNIKA  
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INICJATYWA DOŚKONALOŚCI

GDANSK, 2016year

## Rain garden system of 1.6 ha on Stogi Stryjewskiego, Wrzosa and Skiba - most likely the largest system in Europe







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## Technical aspects - inlets



GDANSK, 2022





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GDANSK

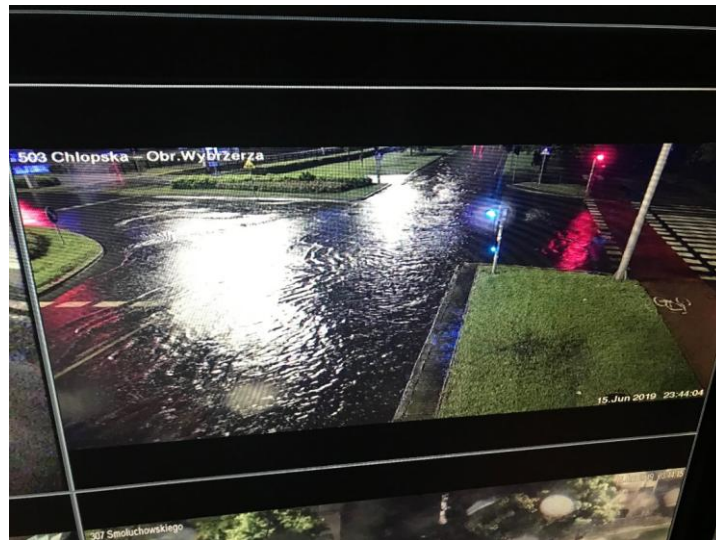
## Technical aspects -overflow







Gdańsk, street Peasant / Rot. Wybrzeże, 15/06/2019 at 23.44  
III degree heavy rain, Gdańsk Brzeźno Station 21.7 mm in 30 minutes





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## Technical aspects - inlets







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**UCZELNIA  
BADAWCZA**  
INICJATYWA DOŚKONALOSCI

## ROAD , rainwater retention- pokets









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GDAŃSKA**

**UCZELNIA  
BADAWCZA**  
inicjatywa doskonałości

# **WROCLAW, POLAND**

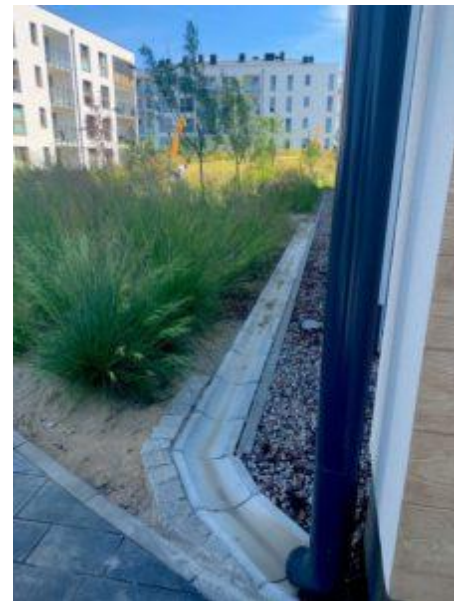
## **Street reconstruction towards rainwater retention and shadow**





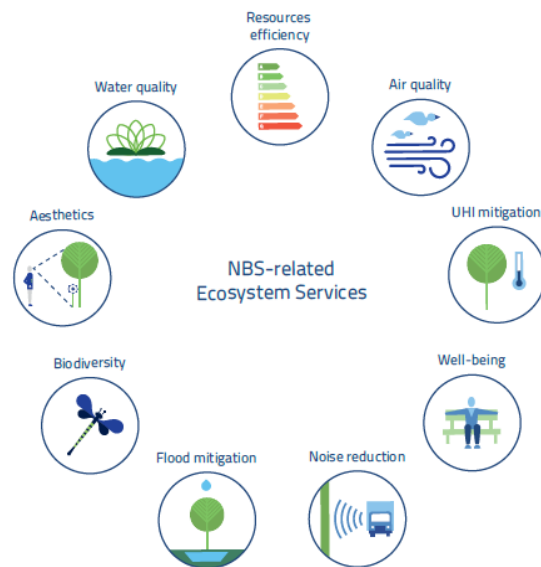
**BEFORE PIPE**

**HOUSING ESTATES WITHOUT RAINWATER DRAINAGE – 60 mm of rain, GDANSK**



## Idea is to support as many as possible benefits

Modern storm water system with green infrastructure (NBS)









### Summing up:

**Integrated Urban Water Management ( IUWM)- wastewater, rainwater, industrial ww, others .....reuse,**

- ✓ **Treatment of waste not longer single purpose BUT multifunctional with manufacturing of product : water, N, P, K, soil conditioner (compost, humic substances), heavy metals**
  - ✓ **Closing and reconnecting loop, direct or indirect reuse**
  - ✓ **Resilient, robust and flexible as well as attractive**
  - ✓ **Treatment in place with as many as possible ecosystem service**
  - ✓ **A lot of has been done so far but still there is a lot of possibilities and challenges**
- Nature Based Solutions meet these criteria**



## Rain gardens exaples in Gdańsk

3 maja:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sICzWUGgZ-w>

Zielony południk:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BPEZBHEz2RU>

Stogi:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7bPUNOn3BCc>

Lastadia:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z2Jv7DPYPh0&t=11s>

Plan Biskupa O'Rourke:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDbKg2rPw1Y>



Thank you



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