

# 2024

INNOVATE  
CITIES



# CONFERENCE

10-12 SEPTEMBER 2024 • MONTREAL, CANADA

## AI x City climate action / HACKATHON

**Kick-off Session**

Tuesday, 16 July 2024

11:00 AM CEST



Bloomberg  
Philanthropies



Co-funded by  
the European Union







## **/ AGENDA**

**WELCOME** / 3 minutes / **JP ASTOLFO**

**I4C CONFERENCE** / 3 minutes / **LEA RANALDER**

**HOW DOES THE HACKATHON WORK?** / 9 minutes

**WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE?** / 10 minutes / **SIYASANGA SAUKA**

**WHAT ARE THE AVAILABLE DATA?** / 10 minutes

**PICTERRA PLATFORM** / 5 minutes / **DAN RUSHTON**

**Q&A** / 20 minutes / **JP**



# The Innovate4Cities Conference



## Duration

10 – 12 Sept, 3 days

## Delivery format

In-person with select hybrid components (e.g. plenary streaming)

## Program focus

### Four preliminary focal themes:

- Biodiversity and resilience
- Governance
- Finance
- Digitalization

Intersection between 'sectoral' areas and 'means of implementation', leveraging cross-cutting thematic knowledge and discussion

Focus on knowledge generation and cross-sector partnerships (thorough regionalized Call for Abstracts + discussion opportunities)

Equity, access, and justice lens across the program



# AI x City climate action / HACKATHON

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JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

2025



**KICK OFF  
WEBINAR**

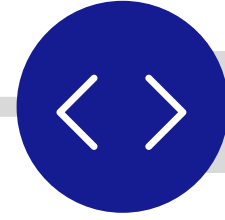
16 JULY

**TECHNICAL  
KICK OFF** !  
18 JULY

**CITIES  
NEEDS**  
23 JULY

**PICTERRA  
PLATFORM**  
24 JULY

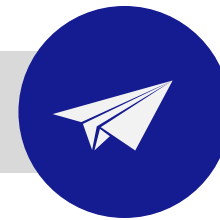
**Q&A  
SESSION**  
25 JULY



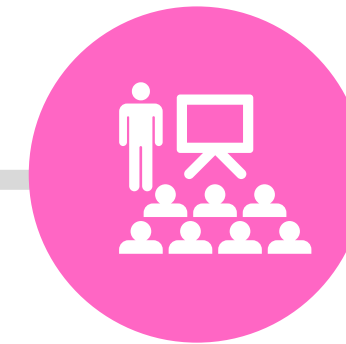
29 JULY

SUBMISSION  
OPEN

**Q&A  
SESSION**  
13 AUGUST

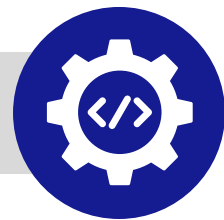


**23 AUGUST**  
deadline for  
submissions!



**I4C2024**

12 SEPTEMBER



## LEARN ABOUT THE CHALLENGE

Join these sessions to gather insights on what the problem is, what's the data available and how you can bring in your knowledge and perspective to provide a solution.

## PREPARE YOUR SUBMISSION!

Start developing your idea! you can team up with other participants or colleagues and participate on the Question and Answer (Q&A) sessions to clear any doubts you might have.  
**Send your submission before the deadline!**

## PITCH!

If you are one of the up to 10 selected semi finalists, pitch your idea virtually or in person at the Innovate4Cities Conference in Montreal, Canada!

## DEVELOP

The winner team will get support from GCoM and partners to see their idea come to life!





## / CO-HOSTS

Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM)  
UN Habitat

## / PARTNERS

C40 – Adaptation lead  
ICLEI – Knowledge partner  
OEF – Tech partner  
Picterra – Platform support

## / HACKATHON TEAM

Juan Pablo Astolfo (GCoM)  
Samia Khan (GCoM)  
Amy Jones (ICLEI)

## / JURY

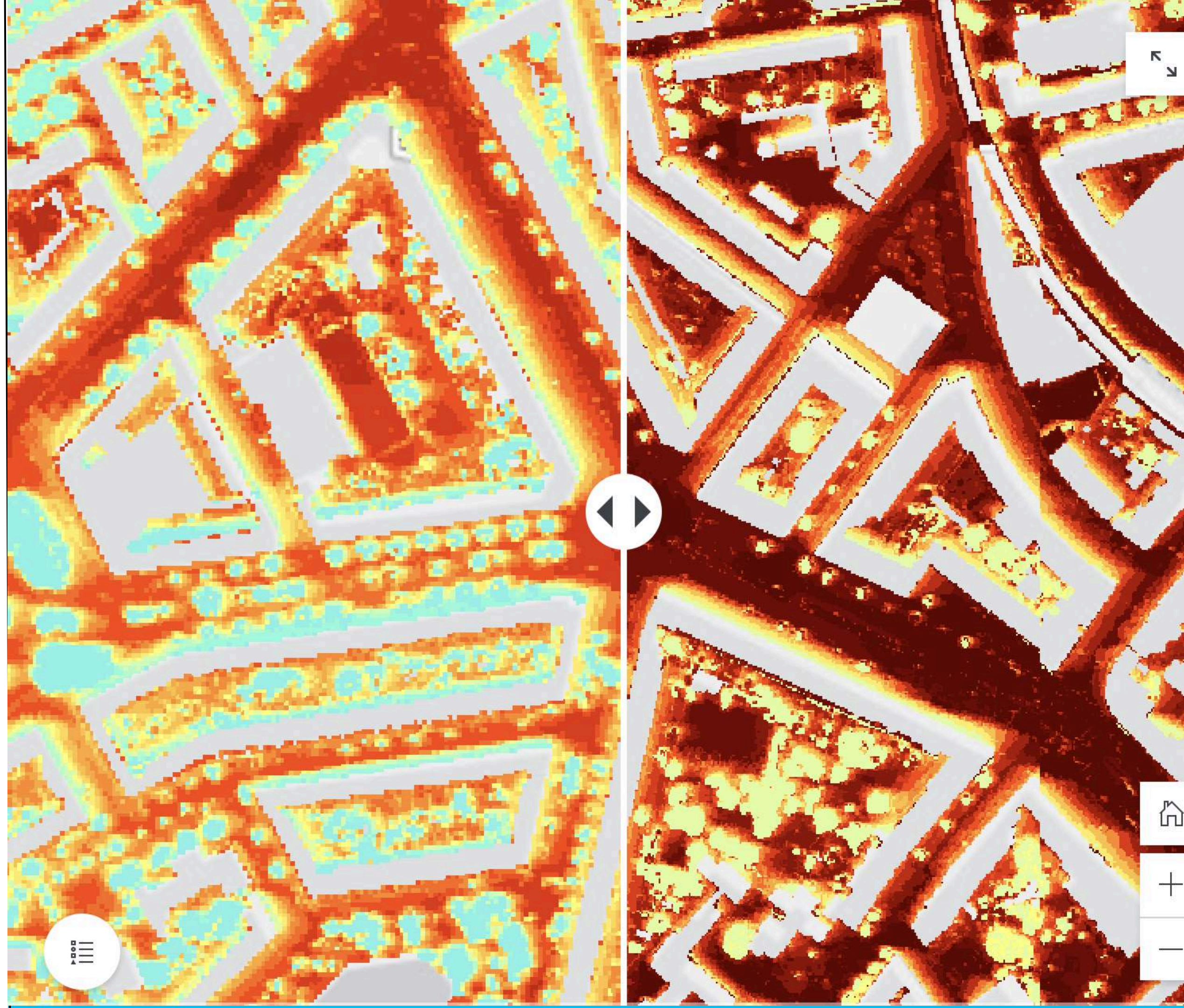
Michael Reuss (Viegand Maagøe)  
Pooja Mahapatra (WGIC)  
Siyasanga Sauka (C40)  
Pourya Salehi (ICLEI)  
TBC





# What is the Challenge?

16 July 2024  
By: Siya Sauka





# Context: Climate Risk

**Climate-related risks, hazards, and disasters are intensifying and becoming more frequent – affecting people, nature and urban systems**

*“We are living through climate collapse in real-time – and the impact is devastating” said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres at COP28.*

With nearly 70% of people living in cities by 2050, climate events are projected to continue dramatically affect urban life, posing unprecedented challenges to city dwellers.

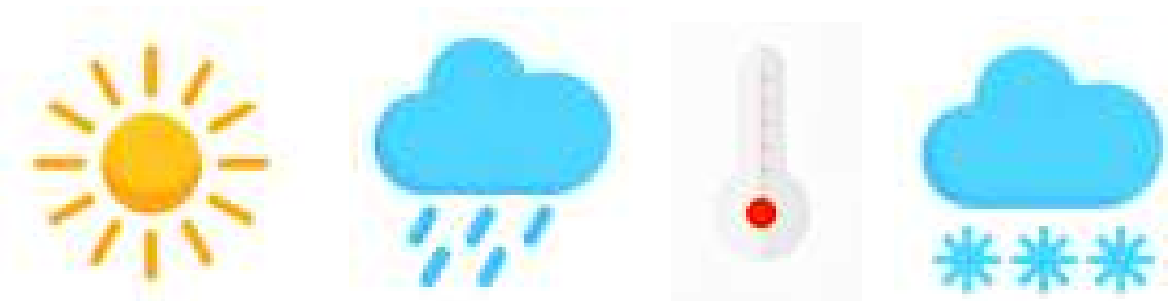
It is increasingly important that stakeholders work together to help cities adapt and thrive in the face of climate change... To ensure that our urban future is safe, sustainable, and thriving.





# Why understanding risk is important?

Understanding past  
climate trends & current  
climate hazards



Understanding how this is  
likely to change in future  
(evidence-based)

Understanding how climate is affecting / impacting the city, and how this is likely to change in future

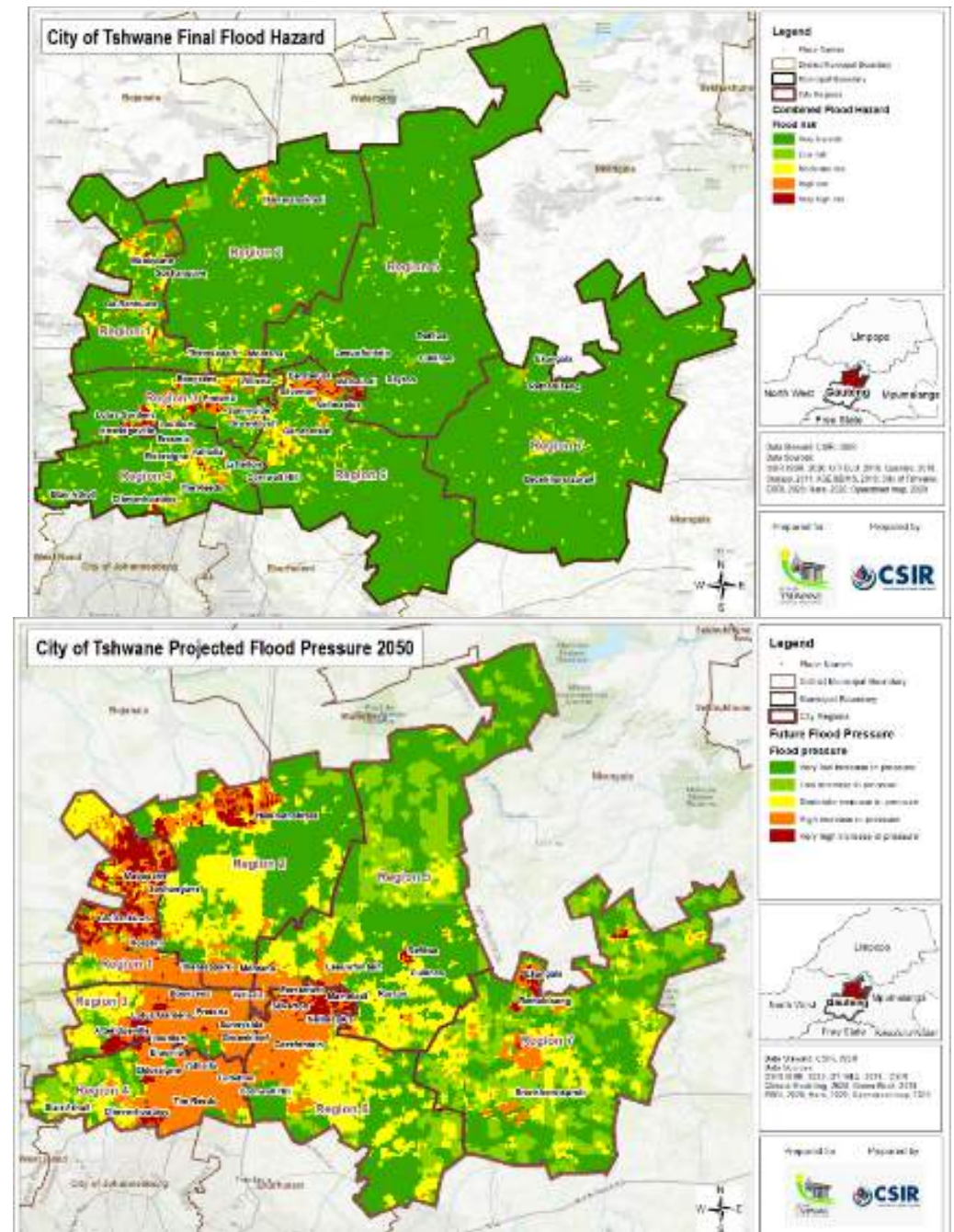
-  People (Lives & Livelihoods)
-  Health & Quality of Life
-  Services (Access & Provision)
-  Sectors of the Economy
-  Assets & Infrastructure
-  Ecosystems / Natural Env



# Components of a Robust Climate Risk Assessment

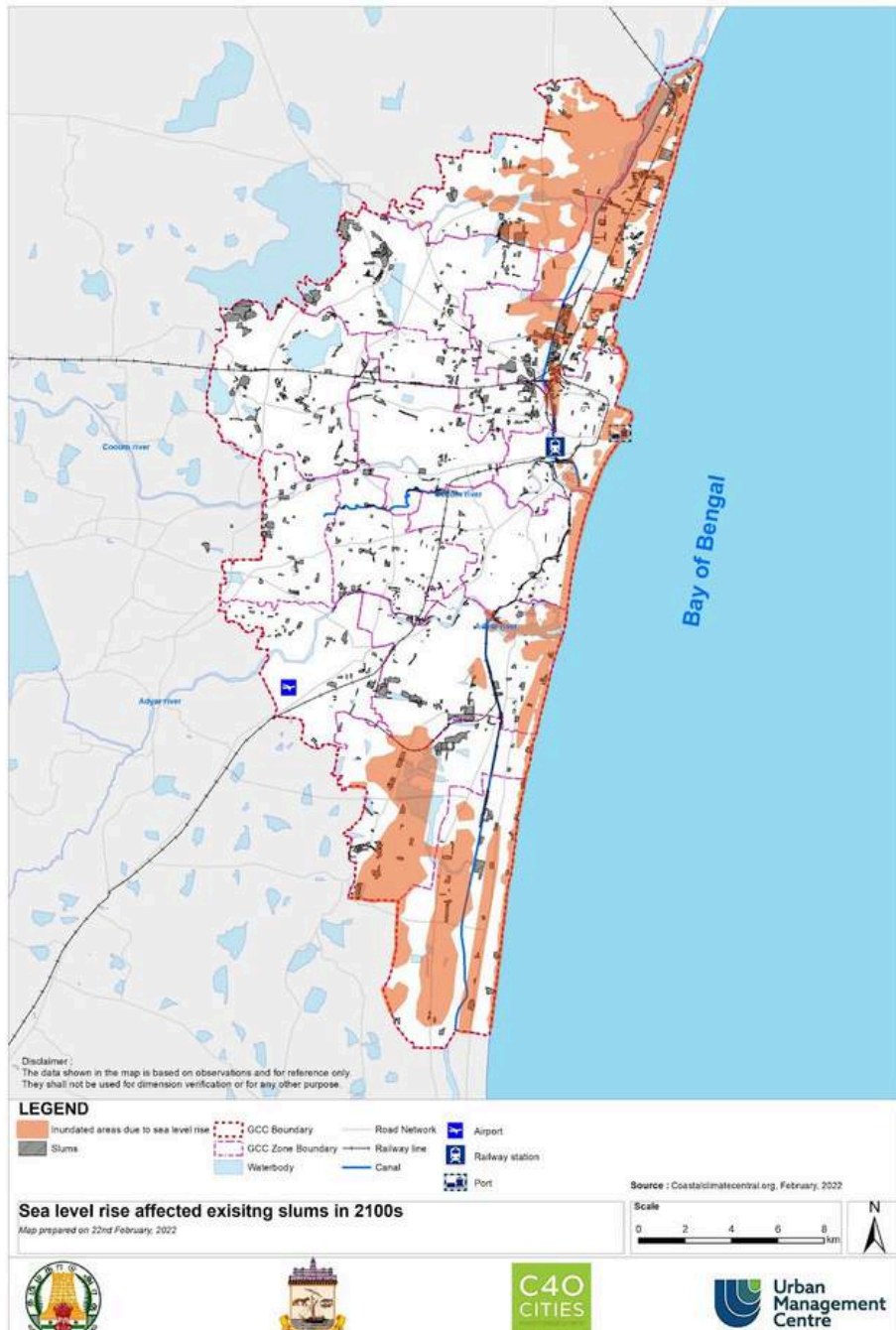
## 1 Understand Current & Future Climate Hazards

### Tshwane - Curr & Future Flood Hazards



## 2 Understand Climate Impacts (How hazards affect city?)

### Chennai - SLR impacts on Vuln. Housing



## 3 Understand Climate Risks (Risks faced by city)

### Kuala Lumpur - Drought Risks





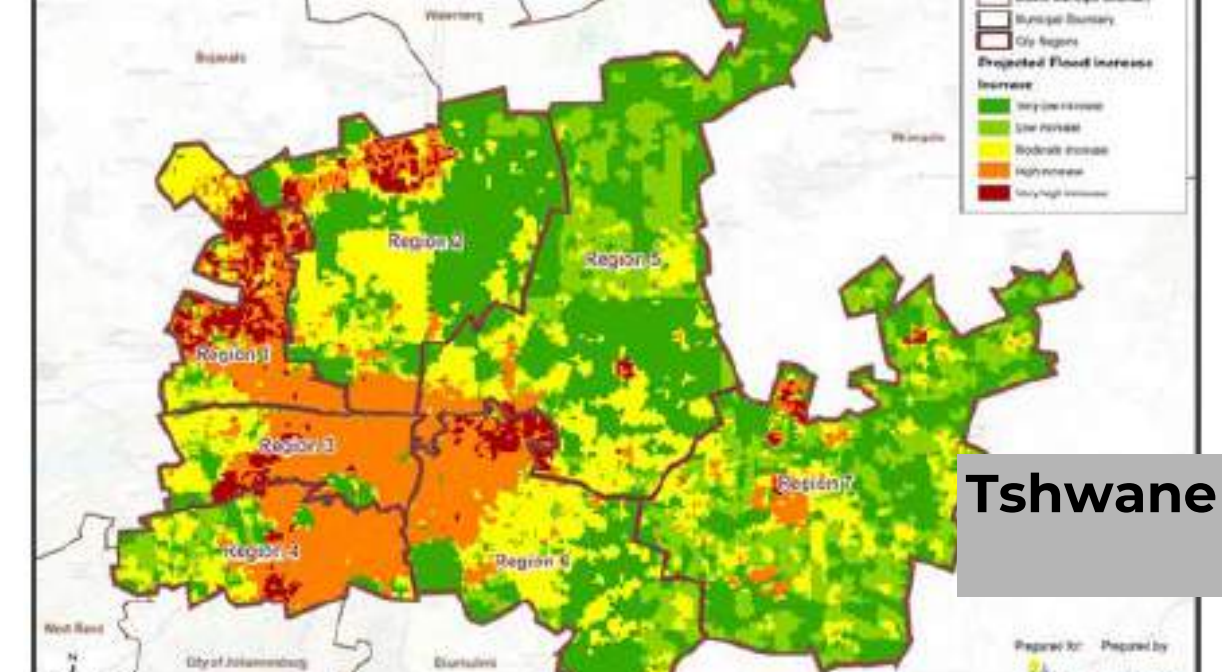
# Good Quality Spatial Data forms basis of robust Risk Assessment

Data: Hazards, Sectors & Urban Systems, Vulnerable Populations & High Risk Zone

**AI provides an opportunity to unlock the evidence base needed for cities**

AI and machine learning algorithms can automate the process of hazard identification & vulnerability assessment.

**AI can be used to process and analyze climate data, identify vulnerability hotspots, and predict future climate-related risks.**

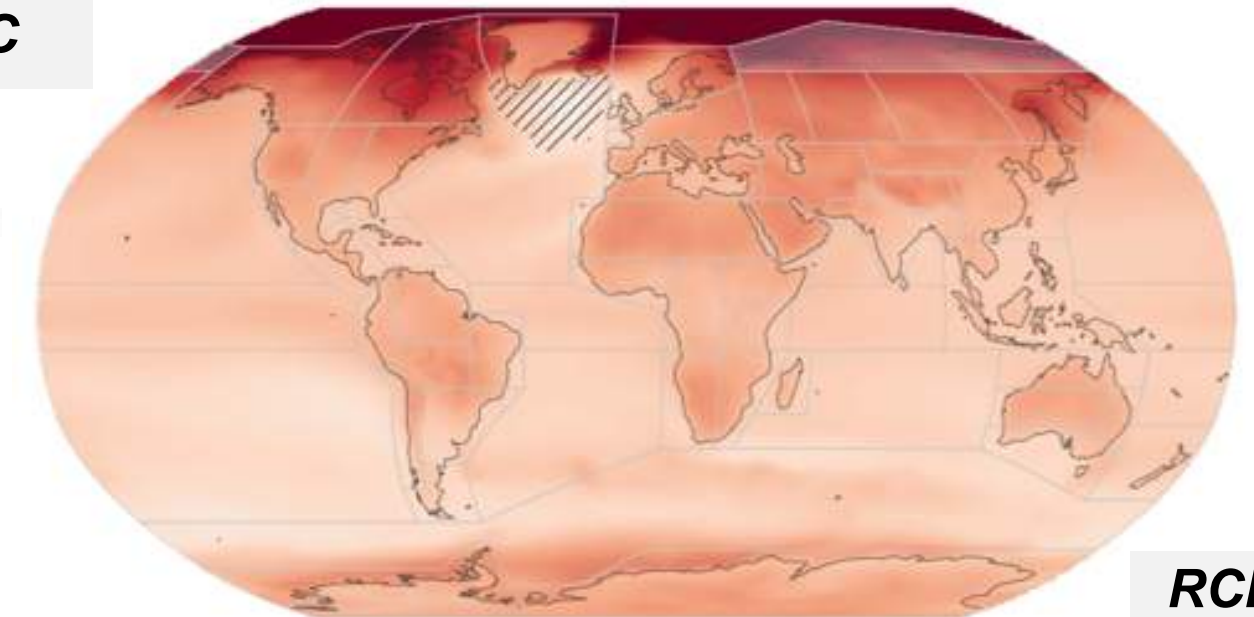


Tshwane

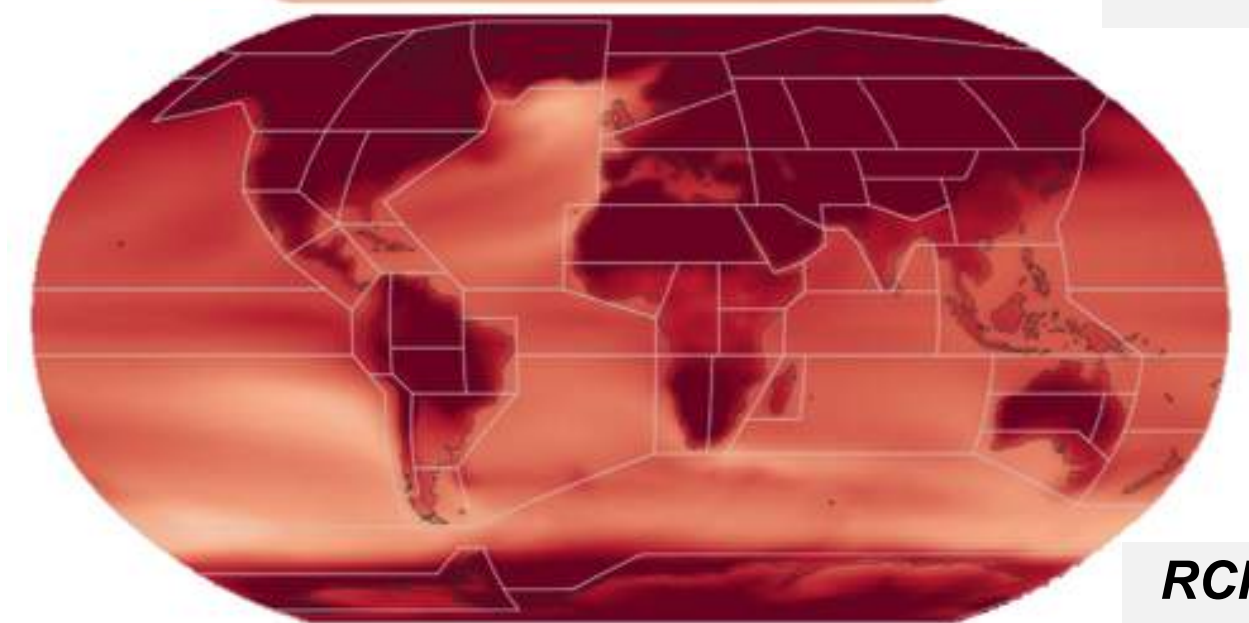
**Mean Temp (Change in oC)**  
Long Term (2081-2100) rel. to 1850-1900

IPCC

deg C



RCP 2.6



RCP 8.5



# What is the Challenge?

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**OBJECTIVE: Delivering a high-level understanding of the risks and vulnerabilities of any Brazilian cities to climate hazards** – assessing heat extremes, droughts, sea level rise, floods and other climate hazards

This will enable cities to select and prioritize the most impactful actions to implement and plan effective climate action is based on a risk and vulnerabilities assessments.

**THE CHALLENGE: To develop a methodology or process flow that can retrieve/extract one / a few / all of the data points, maps and narratives needed for a high-level assessment of climate risks and vulnerabilities for any Brazilian city.**

**You can demonstrate it with an AI application, by using geospatial tools and data, through dashboards or other data science applications or by providing case studies.**





# **/ WHAT ARE THE AVAILABLE DATA?**



/ WHAT ARE THE AVAILABLE DATA?

Hackathon Asks

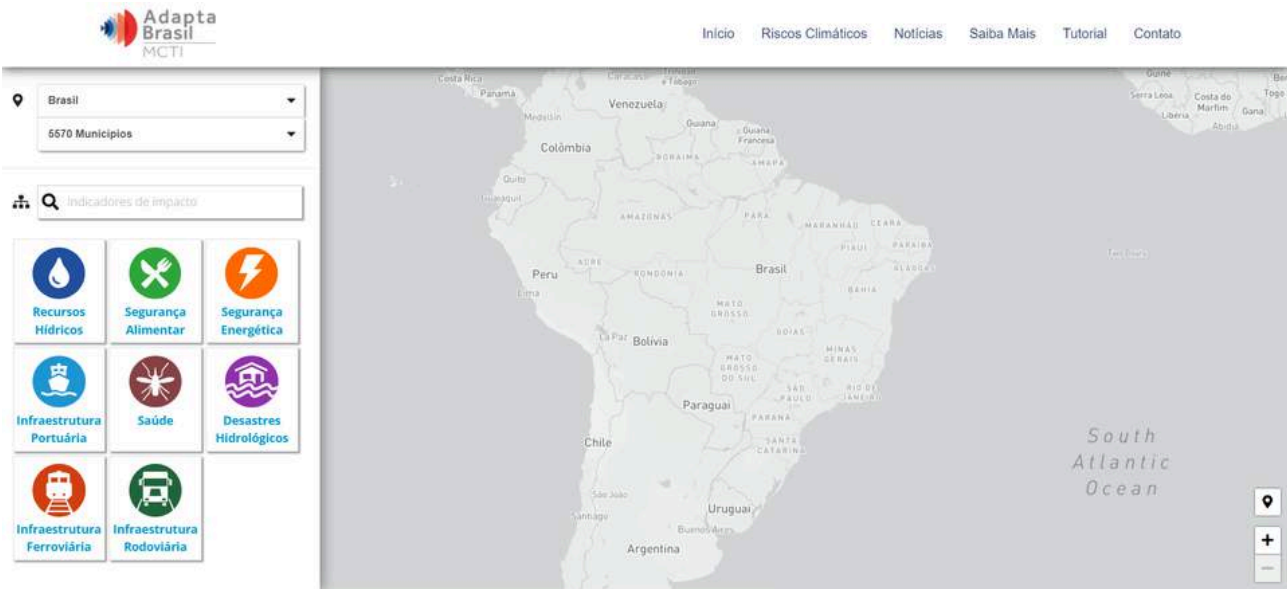
1	Period and Scenario
2	Data Sources
3	Data and Summary on temperature and rainfall
4	<b>Climate hazards.</b> Assess the probability and consequences of the following climate hazards:  <b>Floods, Heat, drought, sea level rise</b>
5	Summary on climate hazards
6	Maps of current and projections for temperature, rainfall and hazards
7	Narrative (including location) on key hazards and impacts



**Technical Kick Off**  
18 July – 5pm CEST

Open Earth Foundation

Adapta Brasil







AI-powered  
geospatial solutions for  
**people, purpose, and planet**







## Leveraging Earth Observation imagery and AI for actionable insights

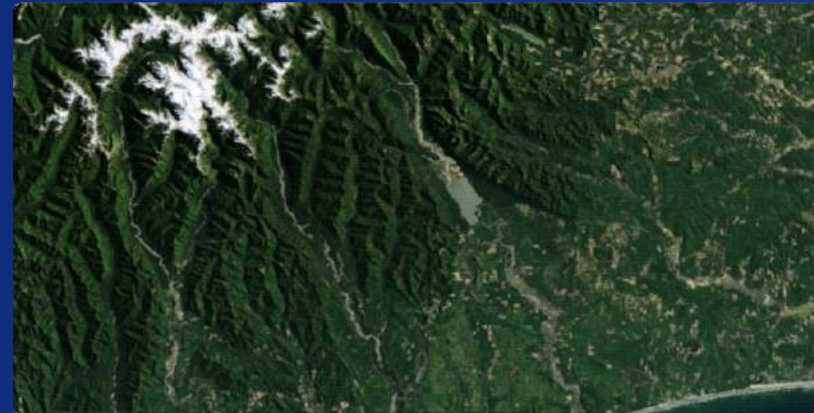
- *Founded in 2016 in Switzerland*
- *Cloud-native & secure platform*
- *100+ enterprise clients globally*





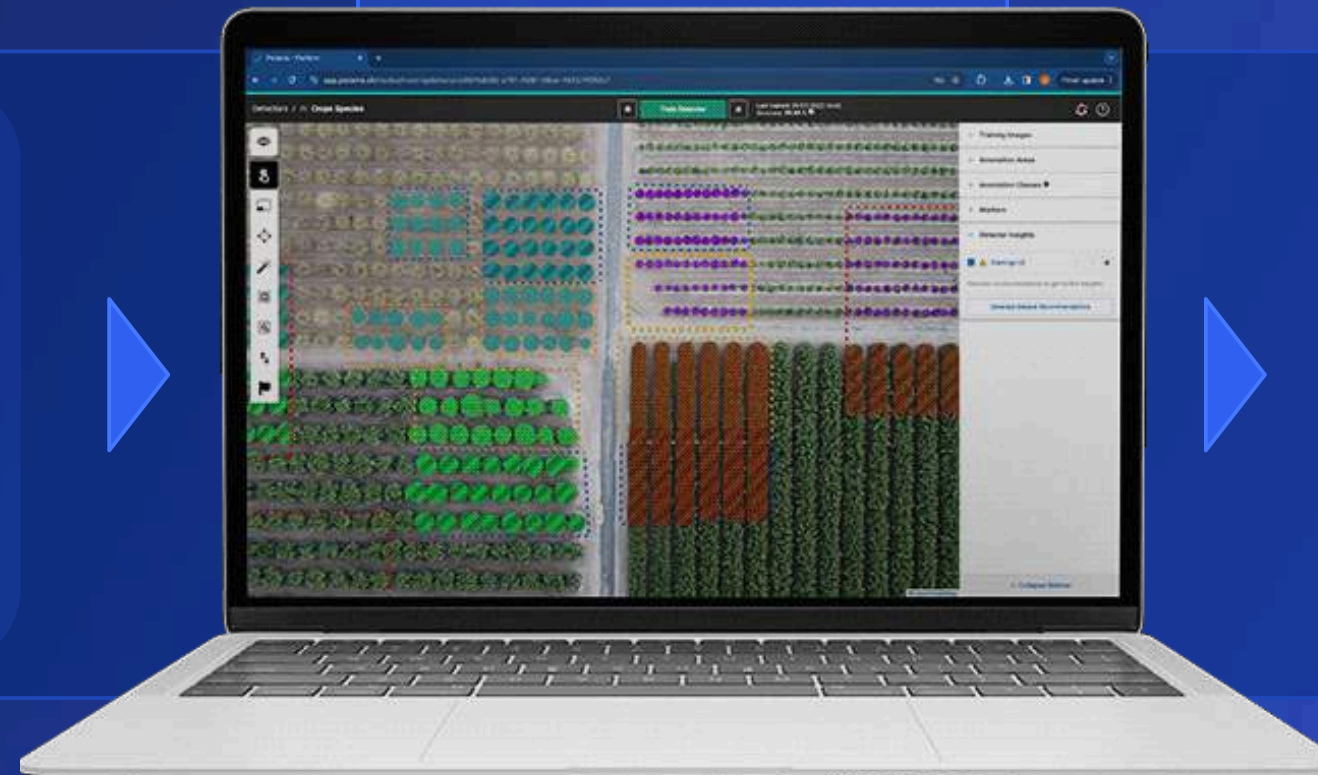
# Versatile platform with scalable infrastructure

Picterra

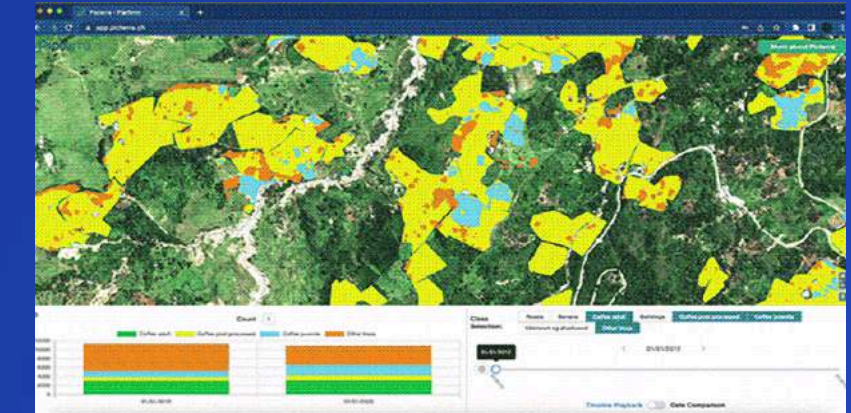


Satellite, aerial, and drone data

**Satellite, Drone,  
Aerial imagery**  
*(open or commercial data)*



Picterra Machine Learning platform  
to **analyse imagery accurately and  
in near real time**  
*No coding skills required  
Full set-up in days, not months (95% time saved)*



Multiclass detection report

**Cloud-based dashboards**  
to interactively navigate,  
in time and space, through  
different assets for  
**actionable insights**



# How we benefit cities in their efforts **towards climate resilience**

1.

## **Urban planning & infrastructure development**

Fast and accurate land classification, object detection, and mapping processes  
High-resolution global urban-area maps for analyzing future land-use changes  
Identification of adaptation needs for climate adaptive planning and infrastructure development





# How we benefit cities in their efforts **towards climate resilience**

**2.**

## **Environmental monitoring**

Monitoring of vegetation health, land cover changes, biodiversity, and water resources

Assessment of climate change impacts on ecosystems

Addressing deforestation, urban heat islands, and water scarcity through data-driven insights





# How we benefit cities in their efforts **towards climate resilience**

**3.**

## **Hazard mapping & risk assessment**

Mapping and assessment of climate-related hazards  
like floods, wildfires, and coastal erosion

Identification of high-risk areas using geospatial data  
and historical patterns

Development of strategies for mitigation and  
adaptation to climate hazards





# How we benefit cities in their efforts **towards climate resilience**

**4.**

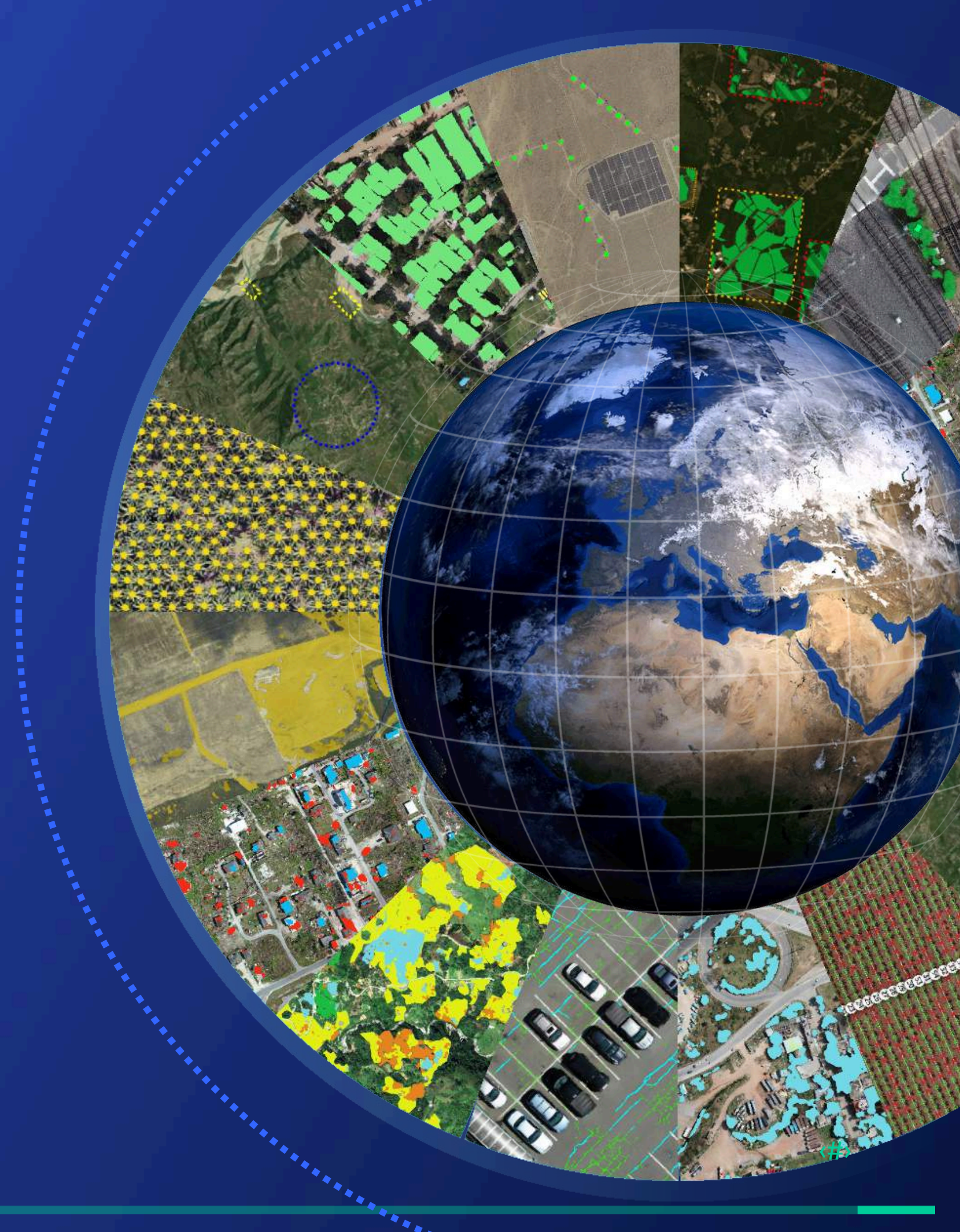
## **Integration & scaling up renewable energy**

Assistance in integrating renewable energy into urban planning and policies

Identification of optimal locations for renewable energy installations

Support for scaling up renewables in heating, cooling, transportation, and power sectors

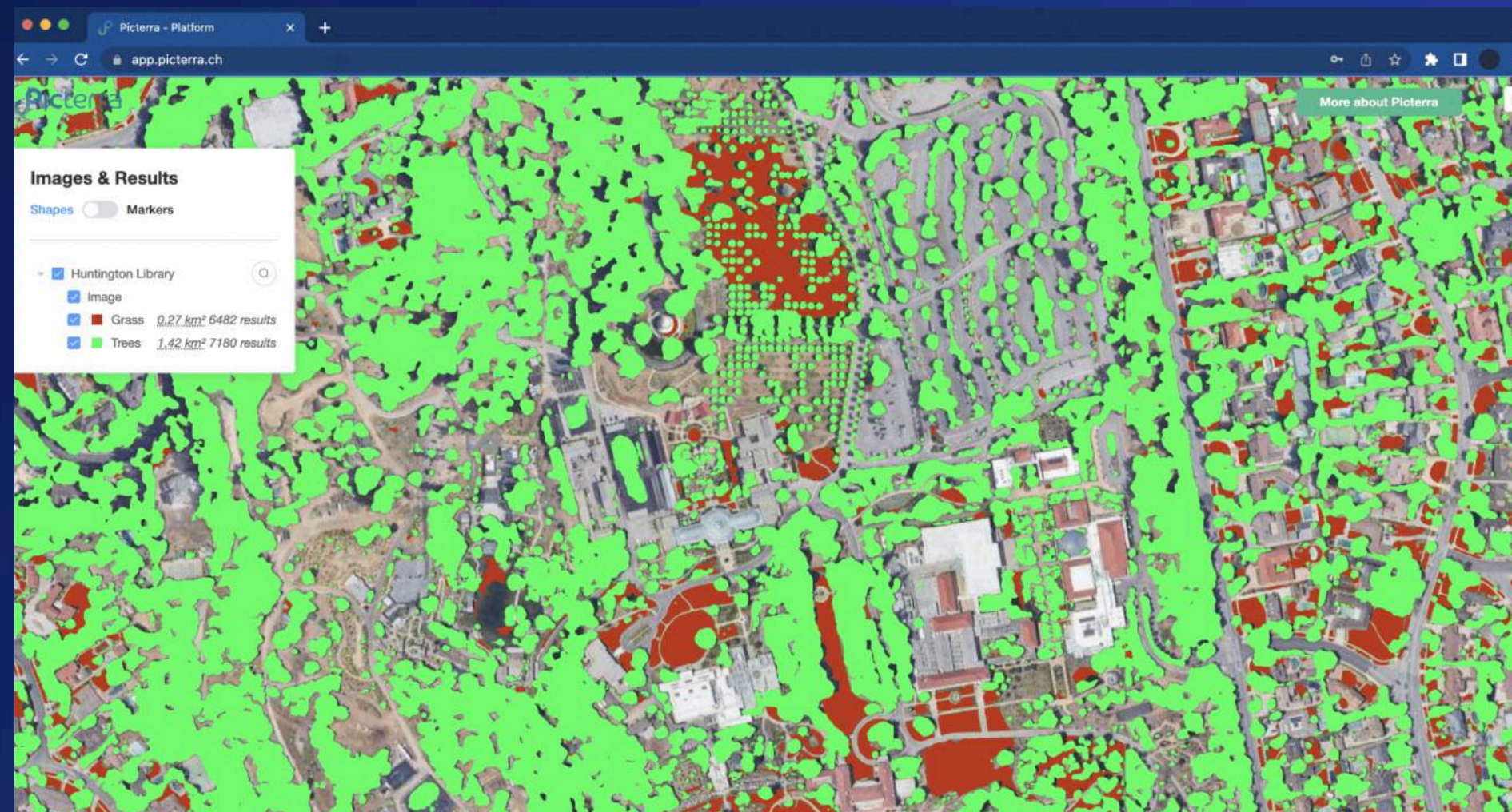
Reduction of emissions, enhanced energy access, and economic development





Use case example:

## Urban heat islands mitigation with green infrastructure



■ Trees ■ Grass

### Challenge

The Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect is one of the most harmful environmental hazards for urban dwellers & climate change is expected to increase its intensity. The implementation of green spaces can partially reduce UHI intensity, promoting a resilient urban environment. By leveraging Picterra's capabilities, cities can effectively monitor and manage vegetation cover to mitigate urban heat islands.

### Solution

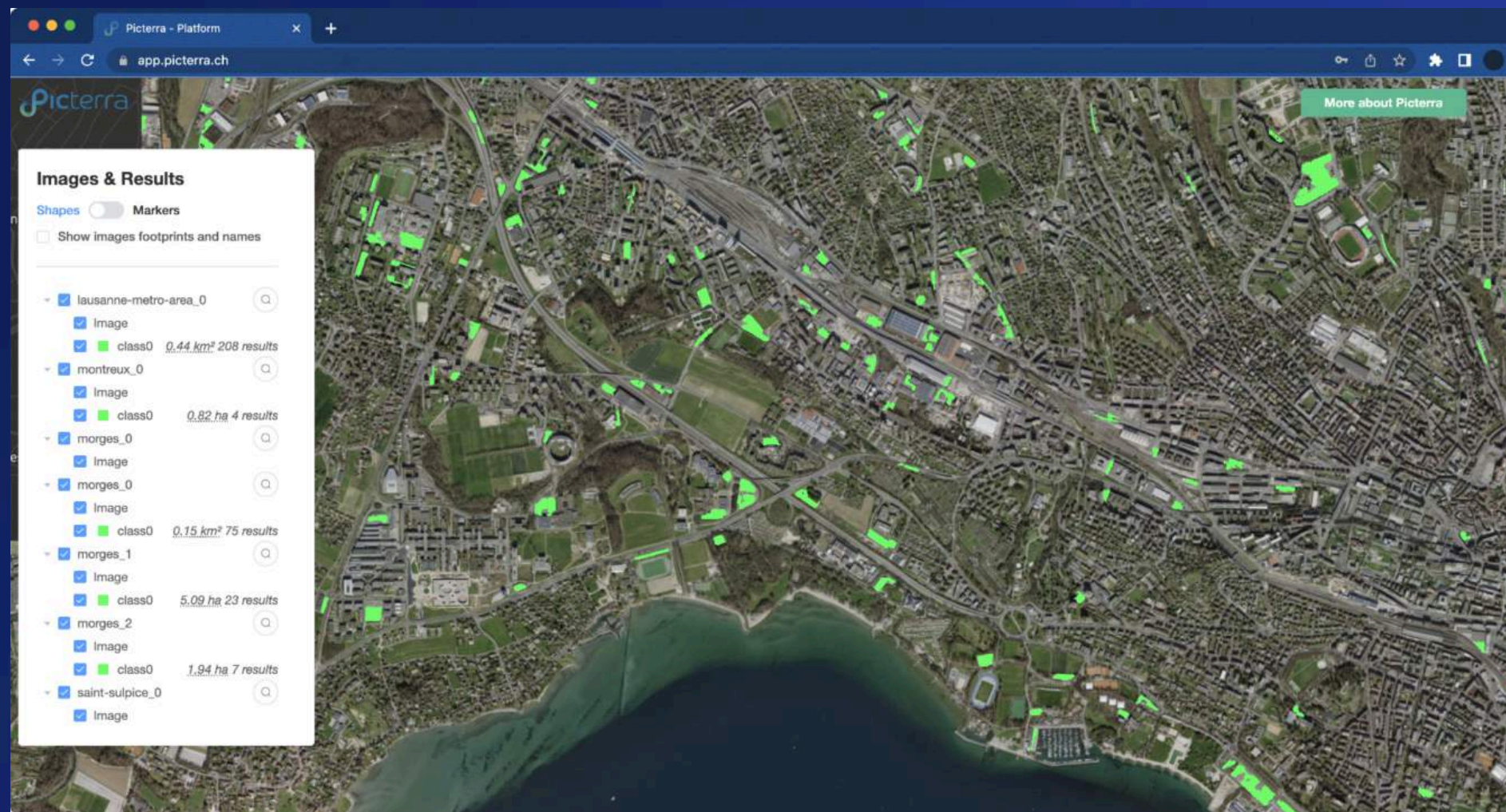
*Input data:* satellite or aerial imagery

*Running ML models to:* accurately classify and map vegetation areas (grass, parks, gardens, tree canopies etc.) + change detection monitoring



## Use case example:

# Urban solar solutions: Harnessing renewable energy with solar canopies over parking lots



 Parking lots

## Challenge

Harnessing renewable energy with solar canopies over parking lots is an innovative approach to bringing clean and sustainable power sources closer to urban areas. By utilizing geospatial analysis and leveraging Picterra's advanced platform cities can analyze high-resolution satellite imagery, aerial photography, and other geospatial data to identify parking lots with optimal conditions for solar energy generation.

## Solution

*Input data:* satellite or aerial imagery

*Running ML models to detect:* parking lots



# Thank you



## Find out more

 [Picterra info](#)

 [@picterra](#)

 [Video content](#)

 [picterra.ch](#)



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**/ QUESTIONS  
AND ANSWERS**



**/ THANK YOU!**