



trädkontoret.

# Climate forecasting for tree species

## Boominfodag

Gustav Näslander, The Tree Office

# CLIMATE ADAPTATION







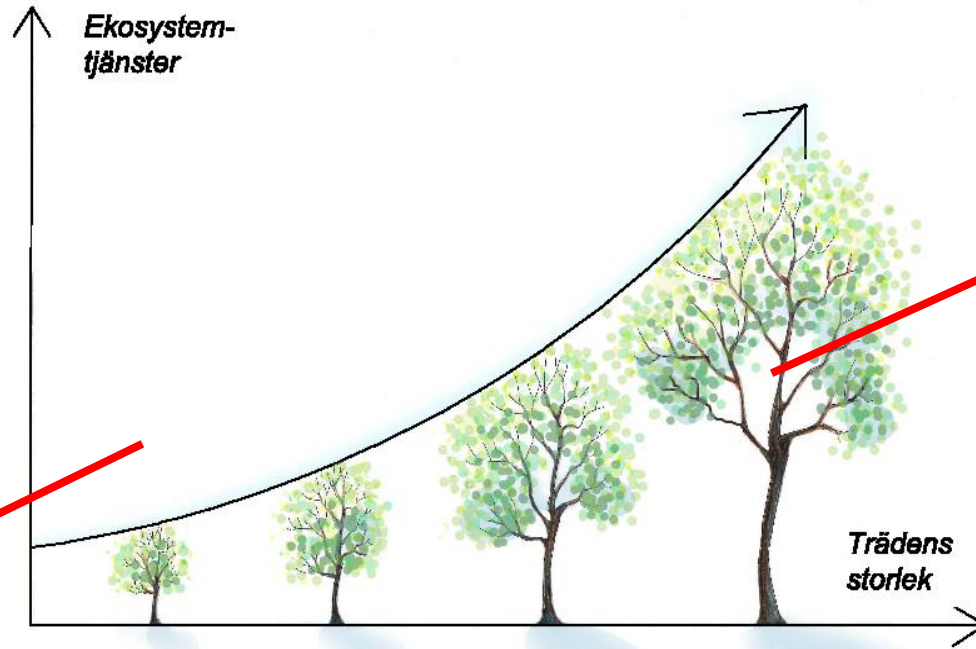
- Big plane tree in Malmö
- DBH **188** cm
- Leaf area **3291** m<sup>2</sup>
- If we saw this tree to the ground, to compensate we would need to plant **265** new trees.



Or plant 1 tree and wait  
170 years



# Big trees contribute more and... Big urban trees take time

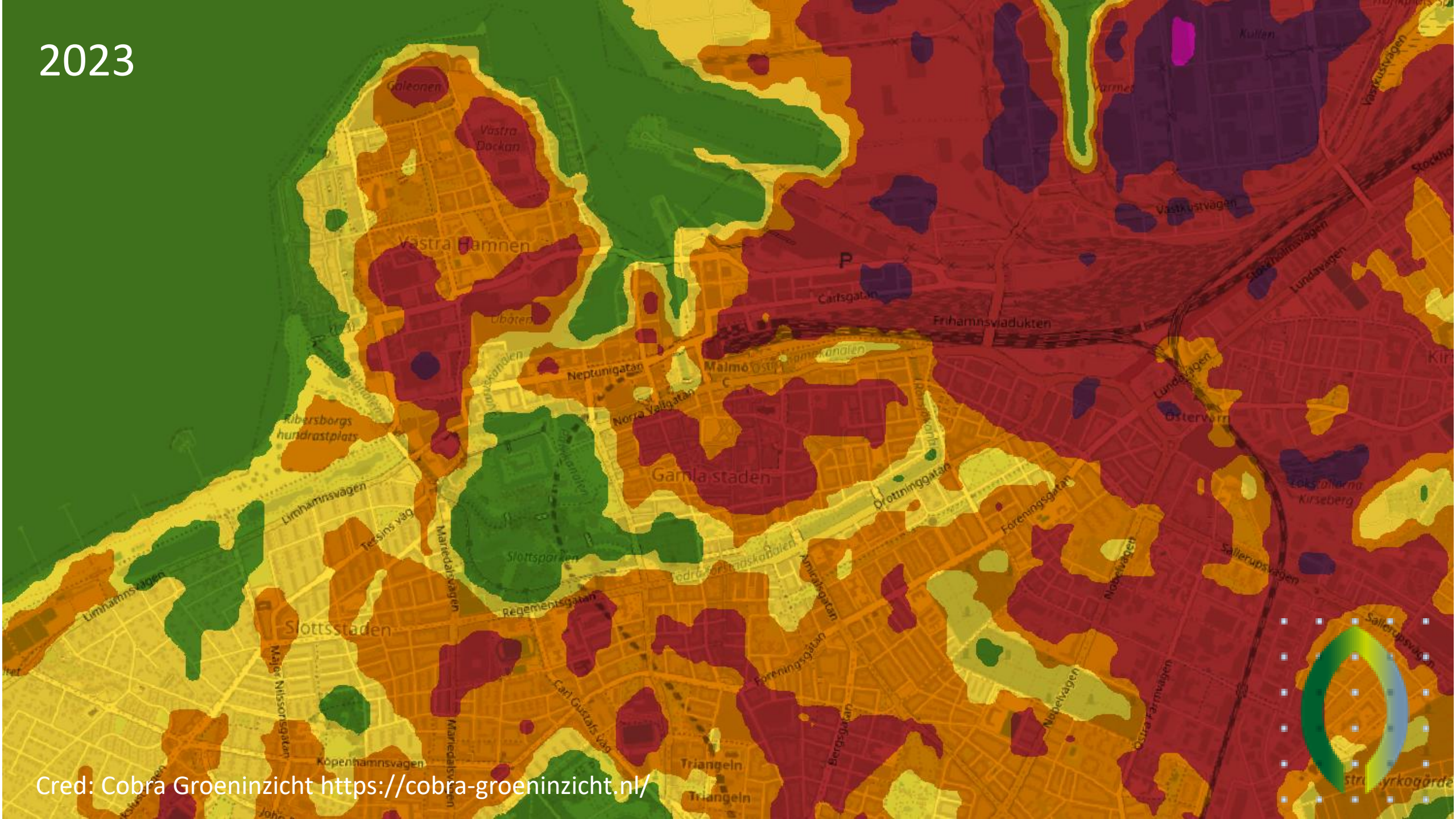


# TREES ARE CLIMATE ADAPTATION AGENTS

But.....

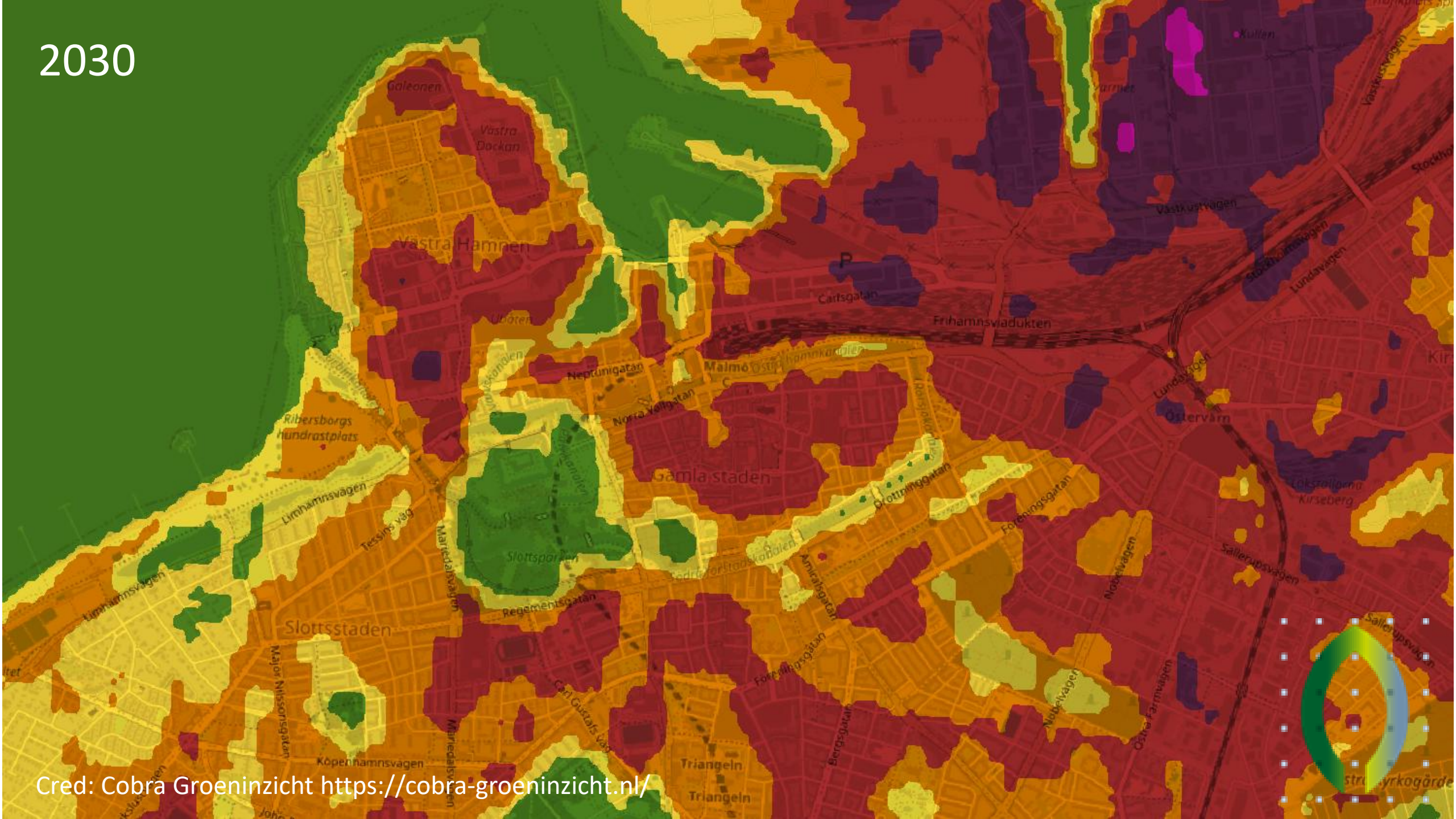


2023



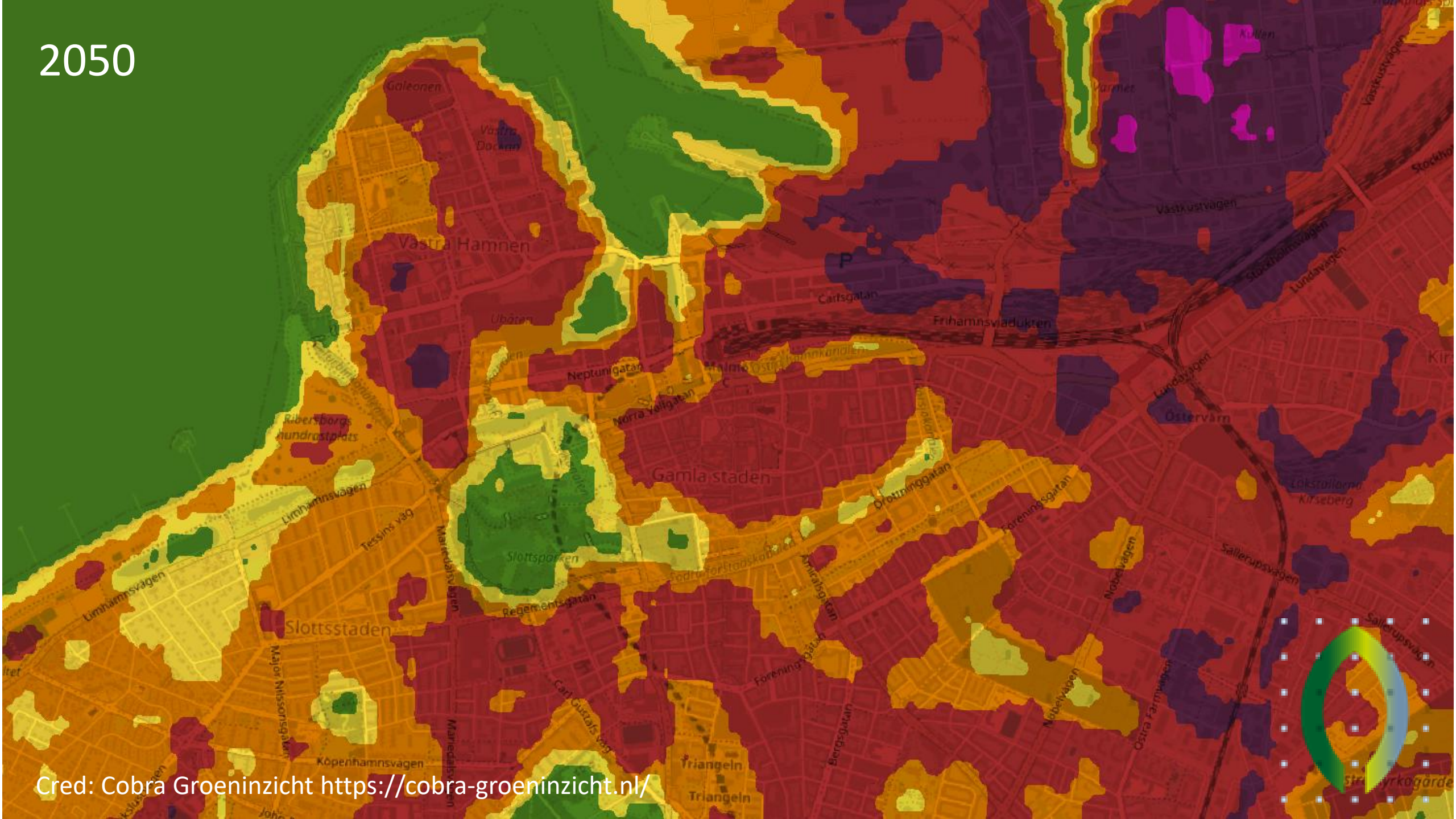


2030



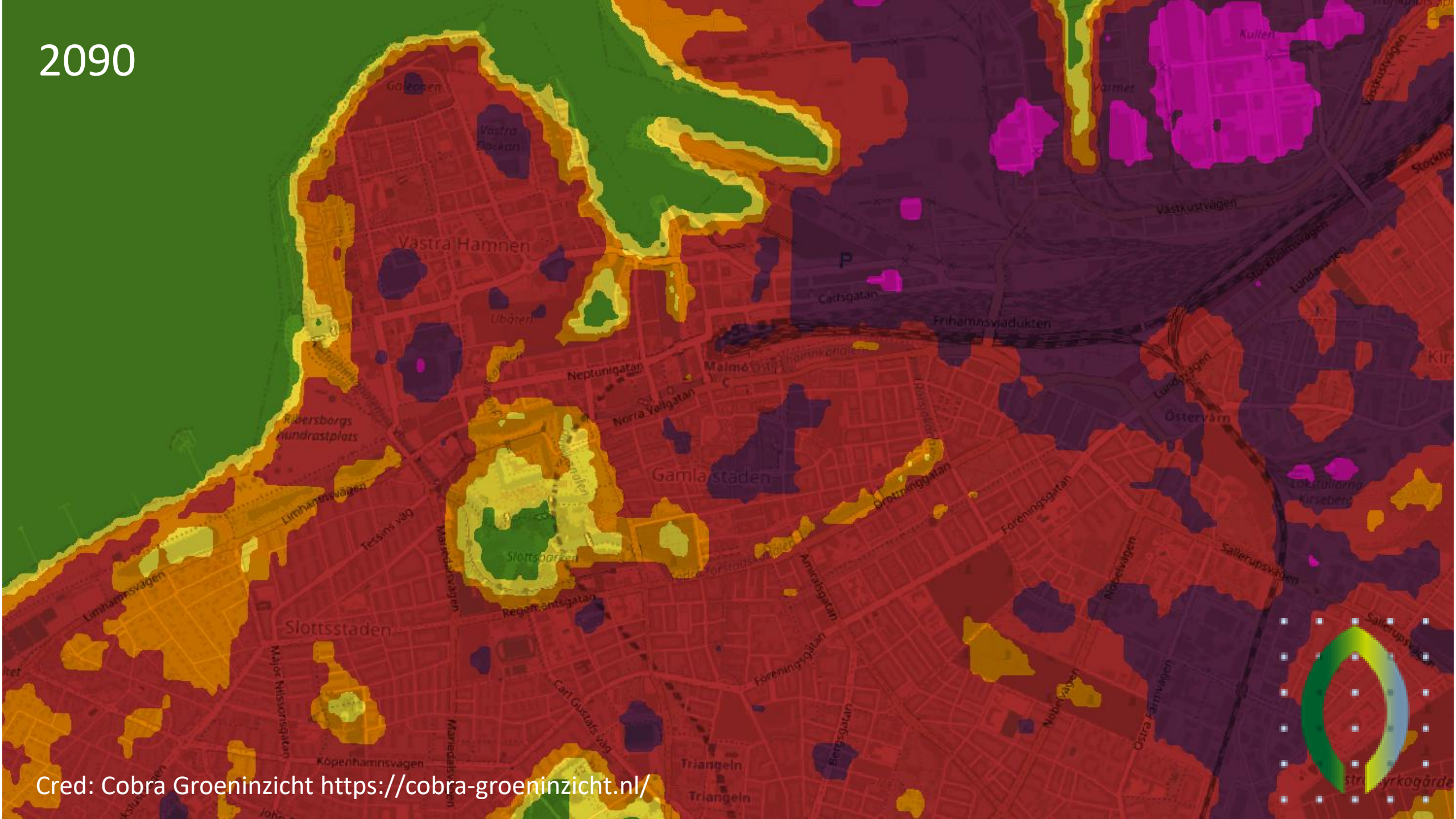
Cred: Cobra Groeninzicht <https://cobra-groeninzicht.nl/>

2050



Cred: Cobra Groeninzicht <https://cobra-groeninzicht.nl/>

2090



Cred: Cobra Groeninzicht <https://cobra-groeninzicht.nl/>

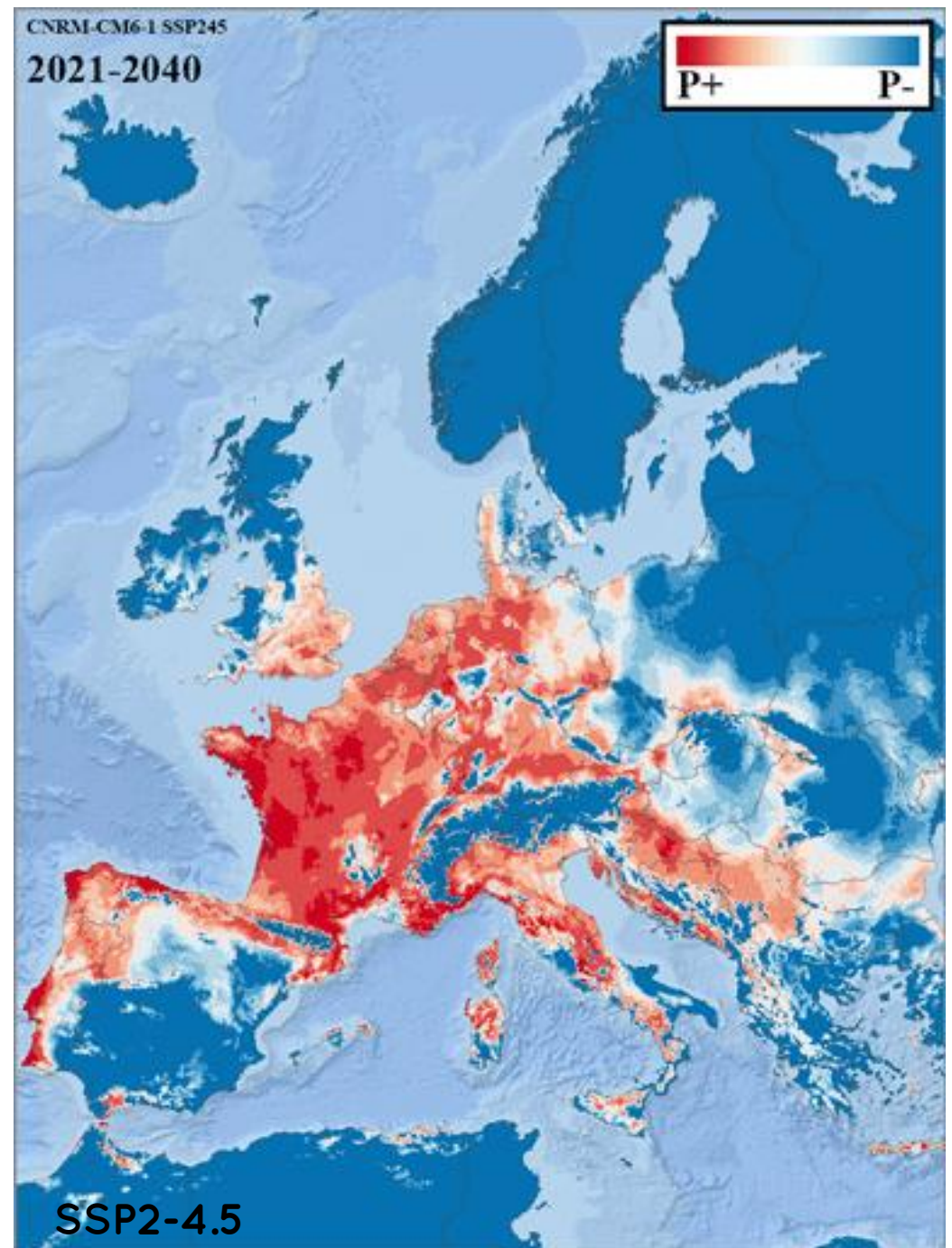


# First prognosis

Simulating the potential spreading of *Ailanthus altissima* in the Nordics.

Cred: Simon Hannus

<https://se.linkedin.com/pulse/ailanthus-i-sverige-%C3%A4r-allt-bara-gudars-skymning-en-analys-hannus>



**Funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers with the objectives of:**

Create a network of Nordic cities that can share solutions and ideas between them.

Evaluate how well Nordic cities meet the 3+30+300 rule.

Evaluate the species distribution, with a focus on indigenous/non-native species within the Nordic cities.



FULL REPORT HERE:

<https://tradkontoret.se/yggdrasil/>



YGGDR  SIL  
The Living Nordic City



# Current species distribution



- Tree species diversity is important!
- Analysis based on tree data from the cities: Malmö, Bergen, Umeå, Stavanger and Kolding
- A variety in data quality
- Santamour model (10-20-30)





# Current species distribution

**Table 9.** Tree species distribution in the partnering cities, scores marked in red surpass the threshold.

City	Santamour-ratio (10-20-30)	Most common species (%)	Most common genus (%)	Most common family (%)	Number of trees in database	Ratio native/exotic trees	Population*	Trees in database per capita
Malmö	6-10-26	Swedish whitebeam ( <i>Sorbus intermedia</i> ) 6%	maple ( <i>Acer</i> ) 10%	Rose family ( <i>Rosaceae</i> ) 27%	91,079	51/49%	362,133	0.25
Bergen	55-55-55	linden ( <i>Tilia sp.</i> ) 55%	linden ( <i>Tilia sp.</i> ) 55%	Mallows ( <i>Malvaceae</i> ) 55%	1,779	56/44%	291,940	0.006
Umeå	56-60-62	silver birch ( <i>Betula pendula</i> ) 56%	birch ( <i>Betula</i> ) 60%	Birch family ( <i>Betulaceae</i> ) 62%	30,915	92/8%	130,224	0.24
Stavanger	16-23-24	sycamore maple ( <i>Acer pseudo-platanus</i> ) 16%	maple ( <i>Acer</i> ) 23%	Soapberry family ( <i>Sapindaceae</i> ) 24%	6,563	60/40%	237,369	0.027
Kolding	12-23-23	Norway maple ( <i>Acer platanoides</i> ) 12%	linden ( <i>Tilia</i> ) 23%	Mallows ( <i>Malvaceae</i> ) 23%	11,873	75/25%	62,444	0.19

\* From Wikipedia "City" or "Urban"

# Current species distribution



# Current species distribution

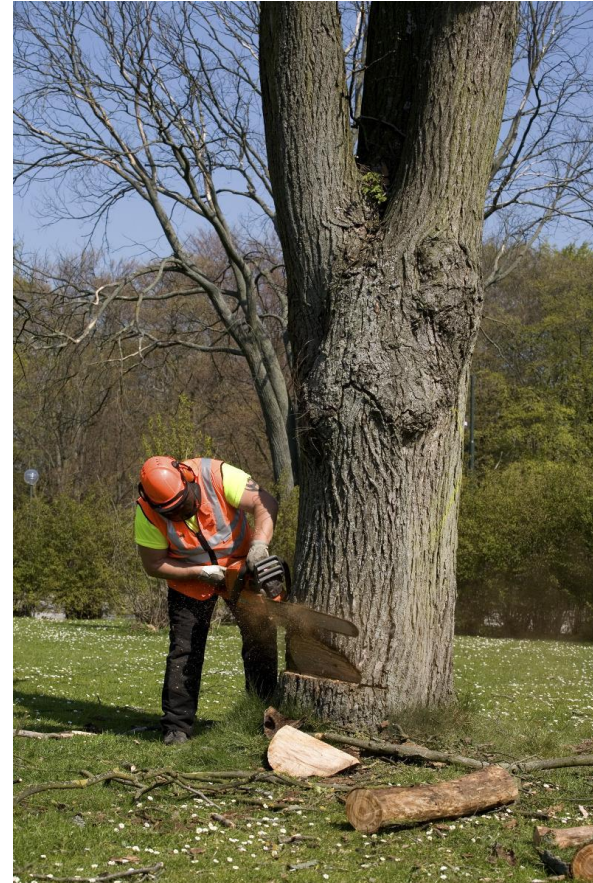
**Table 9.** Tree species distribution in the partnering cities, scores marked in red surpass the threshold.

City	Santamour-ratio (10-20-30)	Most common species (%)	Most common genus (%)	Most common family (%)	Number of trees in database	Ratio native/exotic trees	Population*	Trees in database per capita
Malmö	6-10-26	Swedish whitebeam ( <i>Sorbus intermedia</i> ) 6%	maple ( <i>Acer</i> ) 10%	Rose family ( <i>Rosaceae</i> ) 27%	91,079	51/49%	362,133	0.25
Bergen	55-55-55	linden ( <i>Tilia sp.</i> ) 55%	linden ( <i>Tilia sp.</i> ) 55%	Mallows ( <i>Malvaceae</i> ) 55%	1,779	56/44%	291,940	0.006
Umeå	56-60-62	silver birch ( <i>Betula pendula</i> ) 56%	birch ( <i>Betula</i> ) 60%	Birch family ( <i>Betulaceae</i> ) 62%	30,915	92/8%	130,224	0.24
Stavanger	16-23-24	sycamore maple ( <i>Acer pseudo-platanus</i> ) 16%	maple ( <i>Acer</i> ) 23%	Soapberry family ( <i>Sapindaceae</i> ) 24%	6,563	60/40%	237,369	0.027
Kolding	12-23-23	Norway maple ( <i>Acer platanoides</i> ) 12%	linden ( <i>Tilia</i> ) 23%	Mallows ( <i>Malvaceae</i> ) 23%	11,873	75/25%	62,444	0.19

\* From Wikipedia "City" or "Urban"

# Current species distribution

- Malmö: More than 40 000 elm trees felled due to dutch elm disease



# Current species distribution

- Malmö: More than 40 000 elm trees felled due to dutch elm disease
- Strategical planting aiming at very high tree species diversity



# Future species distribution



- Investigating current planting practices
- Swedish tree nursery data, from the four largest nurseries
- Analysis of 29 707 sold single stem trees



# Future species distribution

Summary	Amount	Percentage
Total amount of trees sold	29,707	100%
Number of exotic trees sold	11,653	39%
Number of native trees sold	15,658	53%
Number of "unknown"* trees sold	2,396	8%
Number of "unknown" and native trees sold together	18,054	61%

\*Trees that could not be categorised as native nor exotic due to insufficient data, for example "oaks" (*Quercus* sp.) that could be any oak, both native or exotic species of oaks.

*Table 10. The species composition of the Swedish nurseries sales of trees during 2023.*

# Future species distribution

Place	Species	Number of sold trees	Percentage of total
1	Silver birch ( <i>Betula pendula</i> )	2,819	9.4%
2	Norway maple ( <i>Acer platanoides</i> )	2,334	7.8%
3	Sargent cherry ( <i>Prunus sargentii</i> )	1,520	5.1%
4	Small-leaved linden ( <i>Tilia cordata</i> )	1,239	4.1%
5	English oak ( <i>Quercus robur</i> )	1,076	3.6%

**Table 12.** The five most commonly sold species in Sweden in 2023 based on the result from the study.



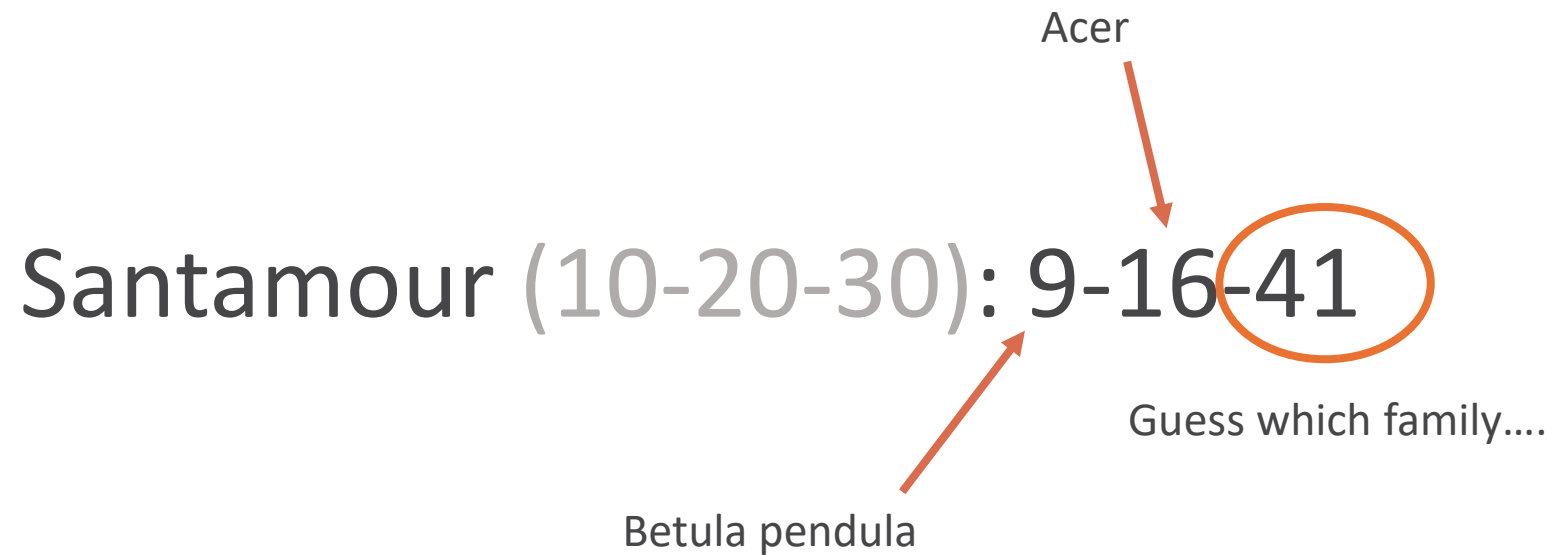
# Future species distribution

Santamour (10-20-30): 9-16-41

Acer

Betula pendula

Guess which family....



# Future species distribution



# Climate forecasts



- The future Nordic climate will see an increase in both annual temperature and uneven precipitation patterns.
- How will this change impact our current urban forests?
- **Method:** Climate “forecasts” by combining high resolution climate data and tree species used in the Nordic region



The shift in annual mean temperature from 1981-2010 to 2071-2100  
Climate model based on SSP370 scenario for mean annual temp for GFDL-esm4

# Climate forecasts



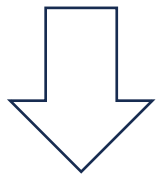
- SSP370 scenario
- 19 variables:
  - Maximum temperature for hottest month
  - Minimum temperature for coldest month
  - Annual precipitation
  - Annual average temperature
  - And many more...



The shift in annual mean temperature from 1981-2010 to 2071-2100  
Climate model based on SSP370 scenario for mean annual temp for GFDL-esm4

# Results

- Rising temperatures will drive environmental boundaries further north
- Species adapted to dryer and warmer climate will meet improved conditions
- Species with poor resistance to drought will meet lesser conditions



**Especially in urban areas!**

Estimated movement of *Betula pubescens* from 1981-2010 to 2071-2100

Ecological suitability score



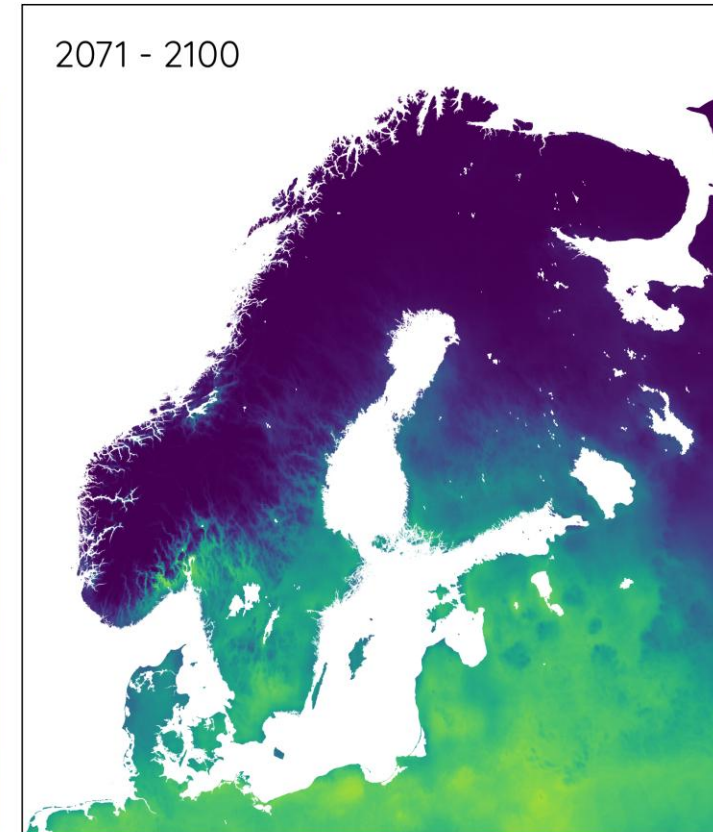
0 - Not suitable

10 - Suitable



# Results

- Increased temperatures will extend the growing season, benefiting both native and exotic species.
- Potential for new tree selections
- Risks of new invasive species
- Risks of new pests and diseases



*Koelreuteria  
paniculata*

Ecological suitability score

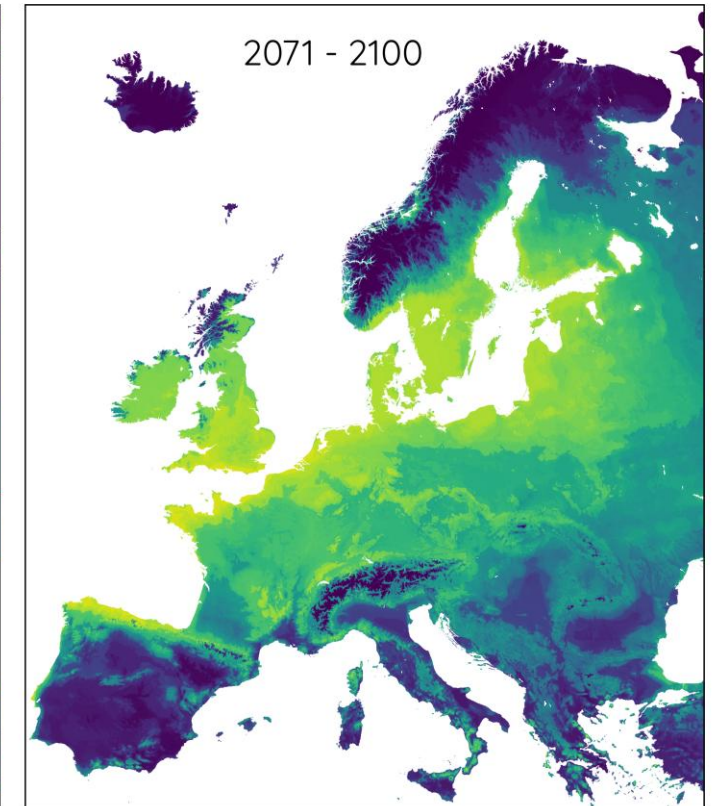


0 - Not suitable

10 - Suitable

# Results

- Increased temperatures will extend the growing season, benefiting both native and exotic species.
- Potential for new tree selections
- Risks of new invasive species
- Risks of new pests and diseases
- Eg: Species with a high risk of invasiveness (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) are likely to become invasive.



*Robinia pseudoacacia*

Ecological suitability score



Species	1981–2010 score	2071–2100 score
<i>Prunus maackii</i>	9	2
<i>Sorbus intermedia</i> *	8	1
<i>Populus balsamifera</i>	9	6
<i>Picea abies</i> *	6	4
<i>Populus simonii</i>	8	7
<i>Populus tremula</i> *	6	5
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> *	7	6

**Table 14.** Table showing the species with the most negative predicted development for the Stockholm region in 2071–2100 compared to 1981–2010. The score is based on the raster values for each species from the climate forecast with Stockholm as a geographical reference point. Species native to Sweden are marked with an asterisk (\*)



Species	1981–2010 score	2071–2100 score
<i>Pterocarya fraxinifolia</i>	1	8
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	2	8
<i>Corylus colurna</i>	1	7
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	1	7
<i>Acer campestre</i> *	2	7
<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	1	6
<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	0	4
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	3	7
<i>Ulmus minor</i> *	2	6
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	1	4
<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	2	5
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	2	5
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	3	6
<i>Pyrus communis</i>	6	9
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	5	8
<i>Tilia x euchlora</i>	4	7

**Table 13.** Table showing the species with the best predicted development for the Stockholm region in 2071–2100 compared to 1981–2010. Higher scores indicate better ecological conditions, and lower scores indicate less suitable conditions for each species. The score is derived from the suitability score (see Figure 57 and 58) for each species from the climate forecast, with Stockholm as the reference point. Species native to Sweden are marked with an asterisk (\*).



# *Betula pubescens*

Tidsperiod: 1981 - 2010



## METODIK

### Preparering arter

Information om en trädarts observerade förekomst hämtas från portalen Gbif.org. Först filtreras med målet att preparera och gallra dessa data för användning, inklusive att ta bort observationer med hög osäkerhet och duplicerade koordinater, samt att partitionera data i block för vidare analys

### Preparering klimat

Data laddas ner från <https://chelsea-climate.org/>. Den innehåller högupplöst globala klimatdata. Klimatdata bearbetas genom olika paket i programspråket R och beskärs sedan för att passa upptagningsområdet, i detta fall Europa

### Prognosmodell

Artförekomst tillsammans med klimatdata bearbetas sedan genom ett Maxent-script i programspråket R där varje arts potentiella habitat modelleras efter förekomst- och klimatdata. Scriptet genererar, för valt årsintervall, ett rasterlager artens förväntade utbredningsområde.





# *Betula pubescens*

Tidsperiod: 2071-2100



## METODIK

### Preparering arter

Information om en trädarts observerade förekomst hämtas från portalen Gbif.org. Först filtreras med målet att preparera och gallra dessa data för användning, inklusive att ta bort observationer med hög osäkerhet och duplicerade koordinater, samt att partitionera data i block för vidare analys

### Preparering klimat

Data laddas ner från <https://chelsa-climate.org/>. Den innehåller högupplöst globala klimatdata. Klimatdata bearbetas genom olika paket i programspråket R och beskärs sedan för att passa upptagningsområdet, i detta fall Europa

### Prognosmodell

Artförekomst tillsammans med klimatdata bearbetas sedan genom ett Maxent-script i programspråket R där varje arts potentiella habitat modelleras efter förekomst- och klimatdata. Scriptet genererar, för valt årsintervall, ett rasterlager artens förväntade utbredningsområde.



# *Quercus petraea*

Tidsperiod: 1981 - 2010



## METODIK

### Preparering arter

Information om en trädarts observerade förekomst hämtas från portalen Gbif.org. Först filtreras med målet att preparera och gallra dessa data för användning, inklusive att ta bort observationer med hög osäkerhet och duplicerade koordinater, samt att partitionera data i block för vidare analys

### Preparering klimat

Data laddas ner från <https://chelsa-climate.org/>. Den innehåller högupplöst globala klimatdata. Klimatdata bearbetas genom olika paket i programspråket R och beskärs sedan för att passa upptagningsområdet, i detta fall Europa

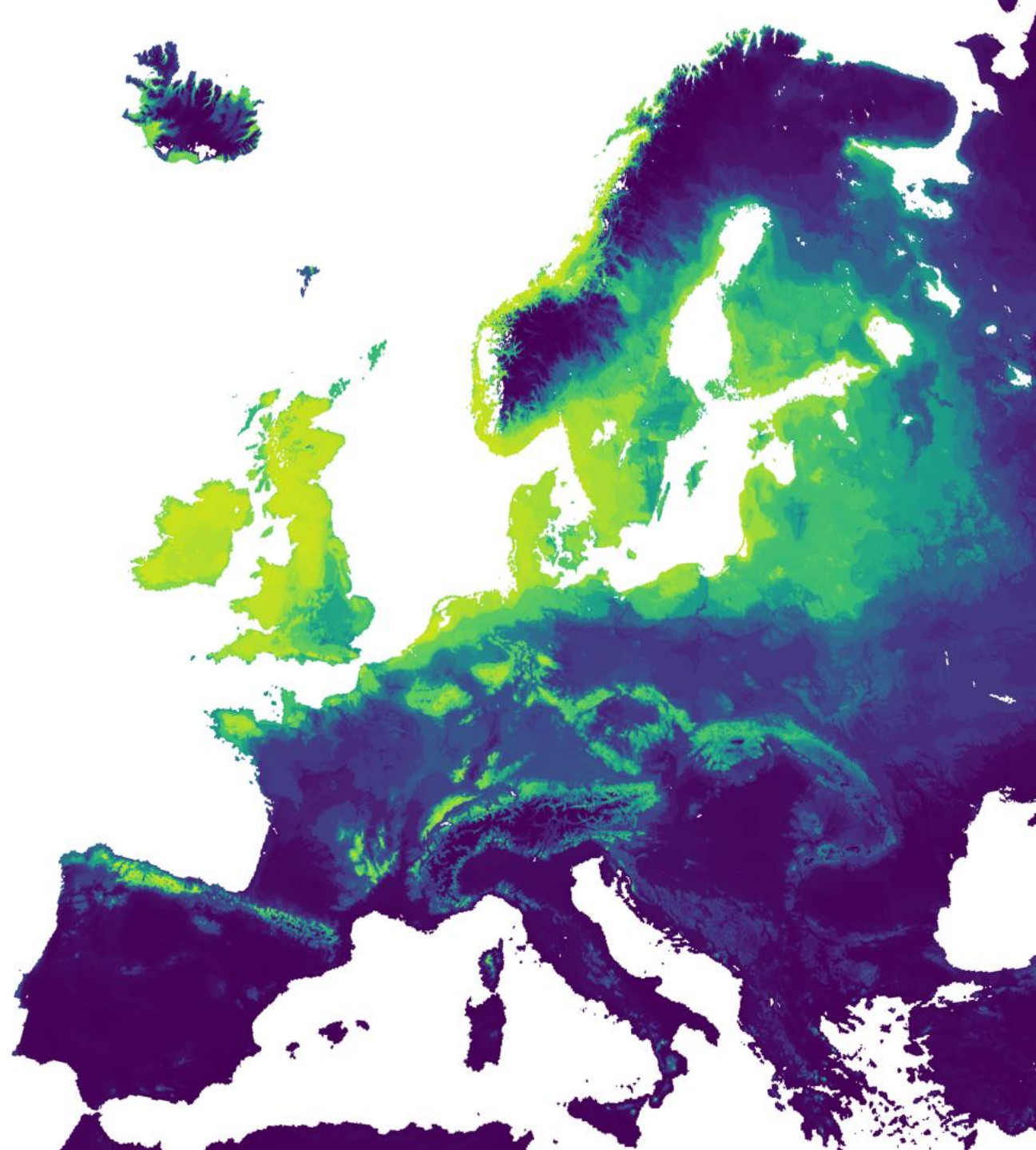
### Prognosmodell

Artförekomst tillsammans med klimatdata bearbetas sedan genom ett Maxent-script i programspråket R där varje arts potentiella habitat modelleras efter förekomst- och klimatdata. Scriptet genererar, för valt årsintervall, ett rasterlager artens förväntade utbredningsområde.



# *Quercus petraea*

Tidsperiod: 2071 - 2100



## METODIK

### Preparering arter

Information om en trädarts observerade förekomst hämtas från portalen Gbif.org. Först filtreras med målet att preparera och gallra dessa data för användning, inklusive att ta bort observationer med hög osäkerhet och duplicerade koordinater, samt att partitionera data i block för vidare analys

### Preparering klimat

Data laddas ner från <https://chelsa-climate.org/>. Den innehåller högupplöst globala klimatdata. Klimatdata bearbetas genom olika paket i programspråket R och beskärs sedan för att passa upptagningsområdet, i detta fall Europa

### Prognosmodell

Artförekomst tillsammans med klimatdata bearbetas sedan genom ett Maxent-script i programspråket R där varje arts potentiella habitat modelleras efter förekomst- och klimatdata. Scriptet genererar, för valt årsintervall, ett rasterlager artens förväntade utbredningsområde.



# Impact on 3-30-300

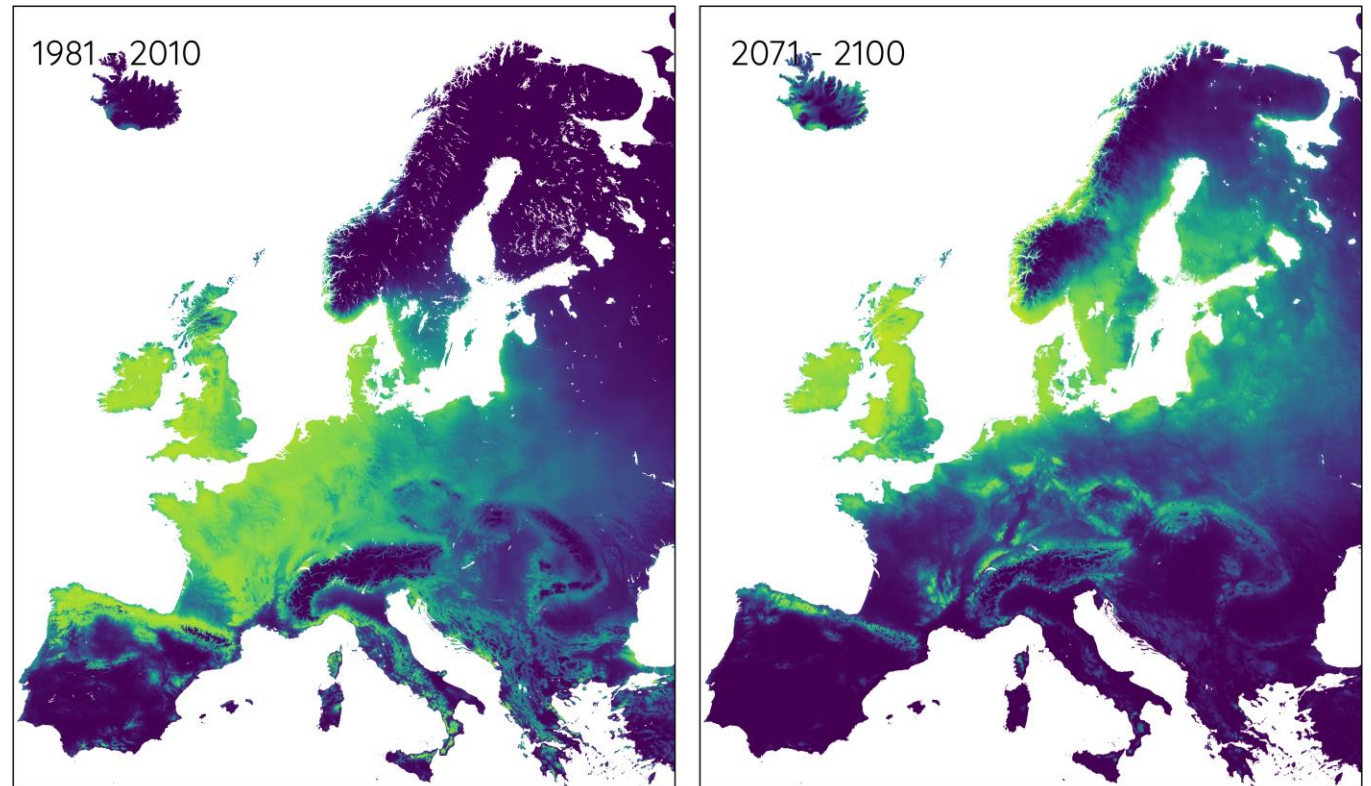
- Street trees are often subjected to a range of stressors.
  - Limited root space
  - Compacted soil
  - Lack of nutrients and water
  - Pollution from traffic and construction
- Trees already struggling in these environments will be more vulnerable
- Trees adapted to harsh growing circumstances will better be able to grow into mature trees



Dry summer conditions with drought stressed trees in central Malmö. Photographer: Johan Östberg

# Conclusions

- An increase in annual mean temperature will drive ecological boundaries further north.
- Future tree selection should prioritize species that can withstand heat, drought, and urban stressors.
- Climate adapted trees are crucial for maintaining tree canopy coverage and ecosystem services



*Quercus petraea*

Ecological suitability score



0 - Not suitable

10 - Suitable

Thanks for  
listening!



**trädkontoret.**

Gustav Nässlander  
Trädkontoret AB  
"The Tree Office"

[gustav@tradkontoret.se](mailto:gustav@tradkontoret.se)  
Tel: +46 730 759 738

