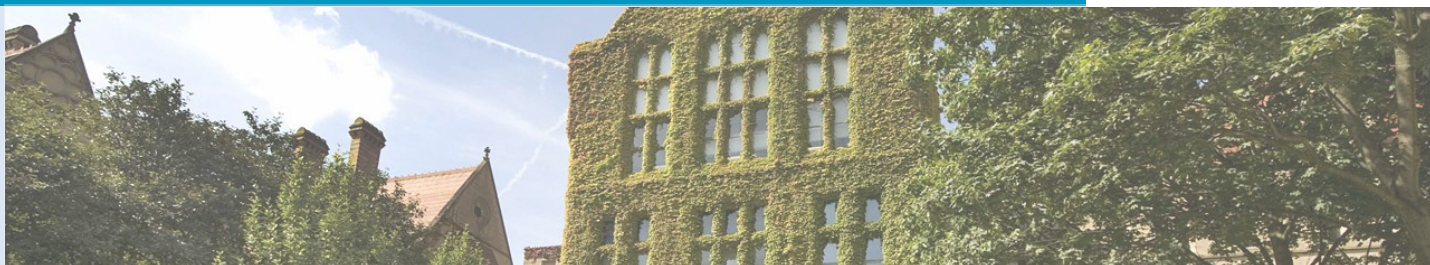


The i-trees project



The Project

i-trees is a unique project that aims to demonstrate the importance of trees and other types of greenery in the fight against climate change in our cities.

Led by researchers in the Faculty of Life Sciences, and backed by a coalition of supporters including community forest initiative Red Rose Forest, the i-trees project monitors how trees can influence local climatic conditions in an urban setting. Using sensitive monitoring equipment, i-trees compares the water absorption and cooling rates of different trees and surfaces across the university campus.



i-trees plot at All Saints Park

Outcomes and Implications

Over 5 years, researchers have gathered data from the plots which fed into 2 PhD theses, several paper publications and conference presentations. It showed the value of green infrastructure in climate change adaptation to be crucially dependent on good cultivation practice and appropriate planting methods. Alongside these scientific outcomes, the project promotes a long-term, structured programme of tree planting, green roofs and green walls on campus.

Research on urban green infrastructure and trees in particular faces challenges due to the length of time required for a rigorous study, and the importance of setting it in the real world. The i-trees helped to construct a Living Lab along the Oxford Road corridor that addresses these problems and provides a direct input towards the University's sustainability goals.



**PhD Candidate Mohammad
Rahman at an i-trees plot**

Key Contacts

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