Kick-off event EVERGREEN

Introduction to the EVERGREEN project

Bert Belmans, UA

Program day 1

12u – 13u: Welcome with lunch

13u – 13u10: Welcome by IUTA (Stefan Haep, IUTA)

13u10 – 13u30: Introduction to the EVERGREEN project (Bert Belmans, UA)

13u30 – 14u: Introduction of the project partners

14u – 15u: Detailed overview of the work packages

15u – 15u15: Coffee break

15u15 – 15u45: Practical information regarding the project

15u45 – 16u30: Discussion with stakeholders

16u30 – 17u: Tour IUTA

17u – 18u30: Reception and closing of day 1

EVERGREEN (Enhancing VERtical GREENing Systems Resilience and Characterization through Dedicated Monitoring Techniques)

BUSINESS AS USUAL: Sporadic monitoring, prone to human error

Late detection of stress in plants

Higher plant failure and maintenance costs

Co-benefits difficult to quantify

EU - CORNET: Continuous monitoring of plants, substrate and irrigation with various monitoring systems

Timely detection of stress in plants

Lower plant failure and maintenance costs

Co-benefits quantifiable from preliminary design

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Key project goals

→**Key concerns currently: high maintenance costs, long-term performance uncertainties, lack of subsidies, and integration in regulations**

Project goals:

1. Improving monitoring and resilience > VGS Dedicated Monitoring
2. Data collection for informed decisions
3. Advancing continuous monitoring

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Healthy façade greenery

= **Monitoring** to optimize operation and maintenance

= focus on **Living Wall Systems & GF in planter boxes**

= operational costs and maintenance costs ↘

= credibility and affordability ↗

= new revenue models

= guidelines for maintenance

Guaranteed performance

= **Monitoring** to provide a “calculated” estimate regarding “performance ”*

= focus on characterization of **all VGS types**

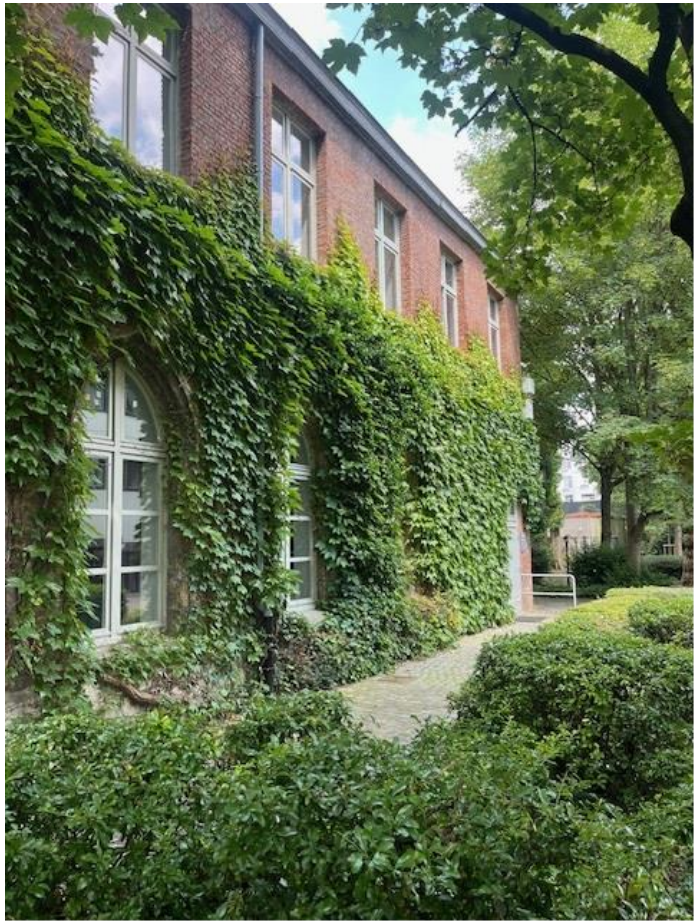
→ informing clients ↗

→ subsidy and licensing policy ↗

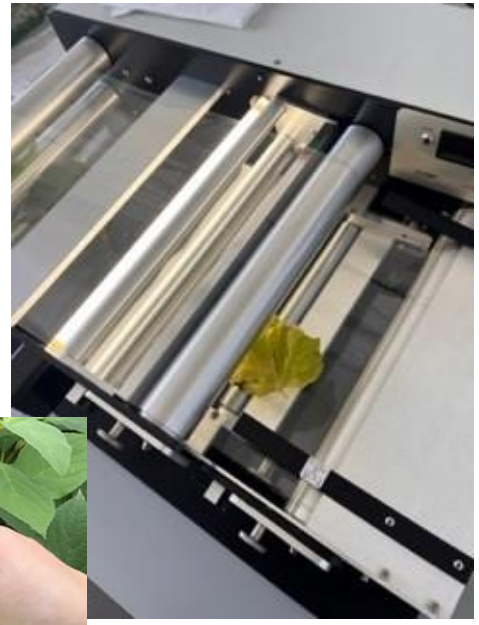
→ more accurate calculations of benefits

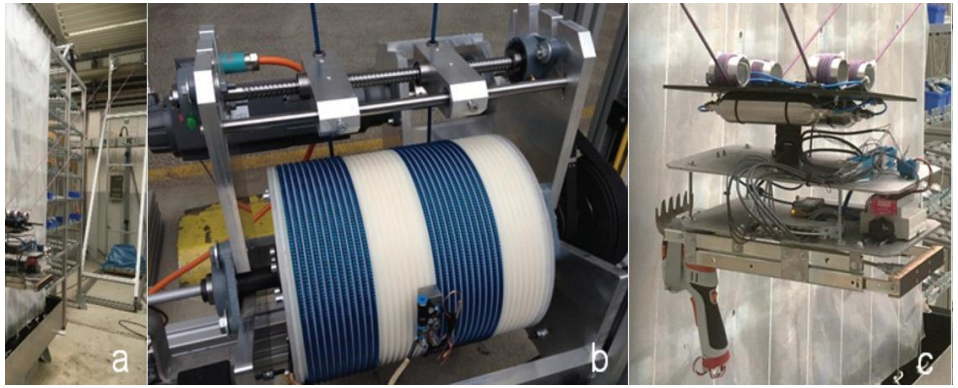
* *Thermal cooling, fine dust, acoustic, biomass…*

Various VGS types – large scale



Camera’s, drones, sensors, WallBot, …





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CORNET – Project consortium

A CORNET project consortium consists of three pillars in each participating country/region:

- SME organisation, association or cluster (depending on national structures),
- research performer and
- SME user committee with a minimum of 5 SMEs per country/region (the required number might differ depending on national rules) assuring that the research meets their innovation needs.

CORNET – Collective Research Networking

→ Fosters pre-competitive research, enhancing innovation for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) by funding collaborative projects globally

Collaborative Funding: Supported by international ministries and funding agencies, combining resources to increase SME competitiveness

Project Support: Helps initiate and fund projects that address research and development needs identified by industry groups

Global Impact: Promotes cross-border research collaboration, especially in sectors benefiting from collective technological advances

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Funding agencies EVERGREEN

- **Flanders – VLAIO (Flemish Agency for Innovation & Entrepreneurship)**

Role: Provides funding for innovation projects within Flanders, focusing on supporting SMEs and strengthening the region's competitiveness through applied research

Support: Encourages innovation in collaboration with academic and industry partners

- **Germany – DLR**

Role: Operates as a project management agency for the German government, overseeing funding for research initiatives across multiple sectors, including applied sciences

Support: Facilitates cross-border research to drive industrial innovation and sustainability