

Urban Earth Observation Deep Dive

Supporting Cities through the ESA Stakeholder Engagement Facility (SEF)

What Is It?

The Urban EO deep dive is a structured, hands-on engagement to help cities address specific urban challenges by applying Earth Observation solutions, delivered through dedicated one-to-one, bilateral support.

Unlike general training sessions, this initiative focuses on concrete priorities identified by the city and is designed to flexibly adapt to local needs, guiding toward relevant existing options that can be integrated into the workflows and practices already in place, ultimately generating practical, decision-relevant outcomes and supporting a path to implementation.

What Urban Challenges Can It Address?

-  Urban heat exposure & heat islands
 -  Green infrastructure monitoring
 -  Land-use & land-cover dynamics
 -  Densification & urban expansion trends
 -  Climate action & sustainability reporting
 -  Spatial planning support
- (Topics are tailored to local priorities.)*

How It Works

Step 1: Initial Assessment	Step 2: Co-Development of a Targeted Use Case	Step 3: Hands-On Working Session
For SEF to understand: 1/ Current use of geospatial data 2/ Internal technical capacity 3/ Planning and decision processes 4/ City priorities	SEF team: 1/ Defines a focused EO application 2/ Aligns it with ongoing municipal workflows 3/ Develops it step-by-step with city teams	A hands-on session to: 1/ Work directly with municipal staff 2/ Apply EO data to the selected issue 3/ Produce a concrete, usable output
1 meeting (~ 60 min)	1-2 meetings (~60 min) over 2-3 weeks	1 full day on-site OR 1 online session (~120 min)

What Cities Receive

- ✓ A clearly defined EO use case aligned with a concrete municipal priority.
- ✓ Practical output supporting ongoing policy, planning or technical work.
- ✓ Increased internal understanding of EO capabilities.
- ✓ Reduced complexity through guided, context-aware implementation.

Who Is It For?

- Cities with limited prior experience in EO
 - Cities seeking structured guidance
 - Municipalities exploring EO for climate, planning or sustainability objectives
- (The initiative remains open to cities at all maturity levels.)*