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# Proposal for Mandatory Integration of Particle Pollution Visualization Tools on Government Websites

## Introduction:

Our society faces an intensifying climate disaster in this age of fast technological growth. Globally, particle pollution poses risks to every part of local ecosystems – from humans to plants.

Recent studies conducted by the National Library of Medicine have revealed a direct correlation between the **prevalence of green spaces in an area and both particle pollution levels** and the health of its citizens.

However, in order for increased green spaces to be implemented, **voting citizens and influential stakeholders and businesses must recognize the importance of climate action centered around reducing particle pollution**. In order to achieve this, solutions to reduce the "invisible"  nature of particle pollution must be implemented.

## Proposal:

To bridge this awareness gap, I propose the implementation of a policy mandating all government domains (ending in .gov) **representing municipalities to incorporate a link to a particle pollution visualization tool on their official websites**. This tool will serve to make the invisible aspects of particle pollution visible and interactive for citizens. Through this, residents would be made more aware of the health risks posed by adverse air quality, **and would be more eager to vote on initiatives regarding the creation and maintenance of urban green spaces.**

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## Rationale:

The National Library of Medicine's research has shown a clear link between an area's concentration of green areas and its residents' health and particle pollution levels.

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In a 2021 study, 17 countries were divided into two categories: "greenspace" and "less-green space", based on their EPI (Environmental Performance Index) score. Research was done based both on the particle pollution and COVID case rates in these countries, and research found a strong correlation between both categories, as shown in the data below:
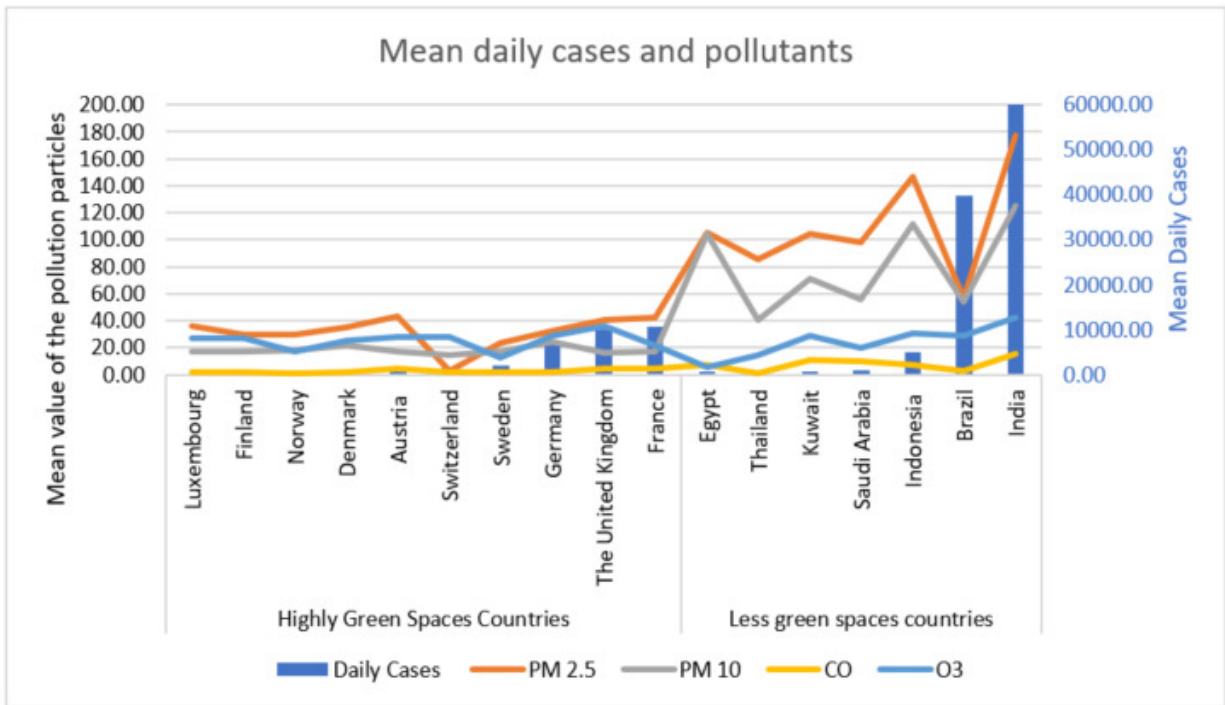


Areas with higher green spaces yielded lower rates of microparticle pollution, showing a direct correlation between the two aspects.

# Conclusion:

Through the implementation of this proposal, particle pollution will be made visible, providing individuals with a better awareness of the gravity of the problem and the critical role that green areas play in reducing its impacts. Enforcing the incorporation of this instrument into government websites will facilitate well-informed decision-making and encourage collaborative endeavors aimed at tackling the urgent problem of particle pollution.

# References

Meo, Sultan Ayoub, et al. "Effect of Green Space Environment on Air Pollutants PM2.5, PM10, Co, O3, and Incidence and Mortality of SARS-COV-2 in Highly Green and Less-Green Countries." *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, U.S. National Library of Medicine, 13 Dec. 2021, www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8700925/.