

# Transition to pesticide-free Urban Green Spaces: French data on the acceptability by citizens, managers and local politicians

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# At stake

- Technical solutions are available to manage UGS without pesticides... but they induce **changes for the users & workers**
- **Received opinions** from local politicians and managers: these changes are not acceptable by the citizens



Pesticide-free management is way more expensive and nobody wants to pay for that

Users do not want to see their urban landscapes changing. They think weeds look dirty

















# Objectives

- **Challenging some of the received opinions** with regard to what changes are acceptable by the users
- Identify **how the transition** to pesticide-free UGSs **can be implemented** so that it increases welfare for the majority of the citizens

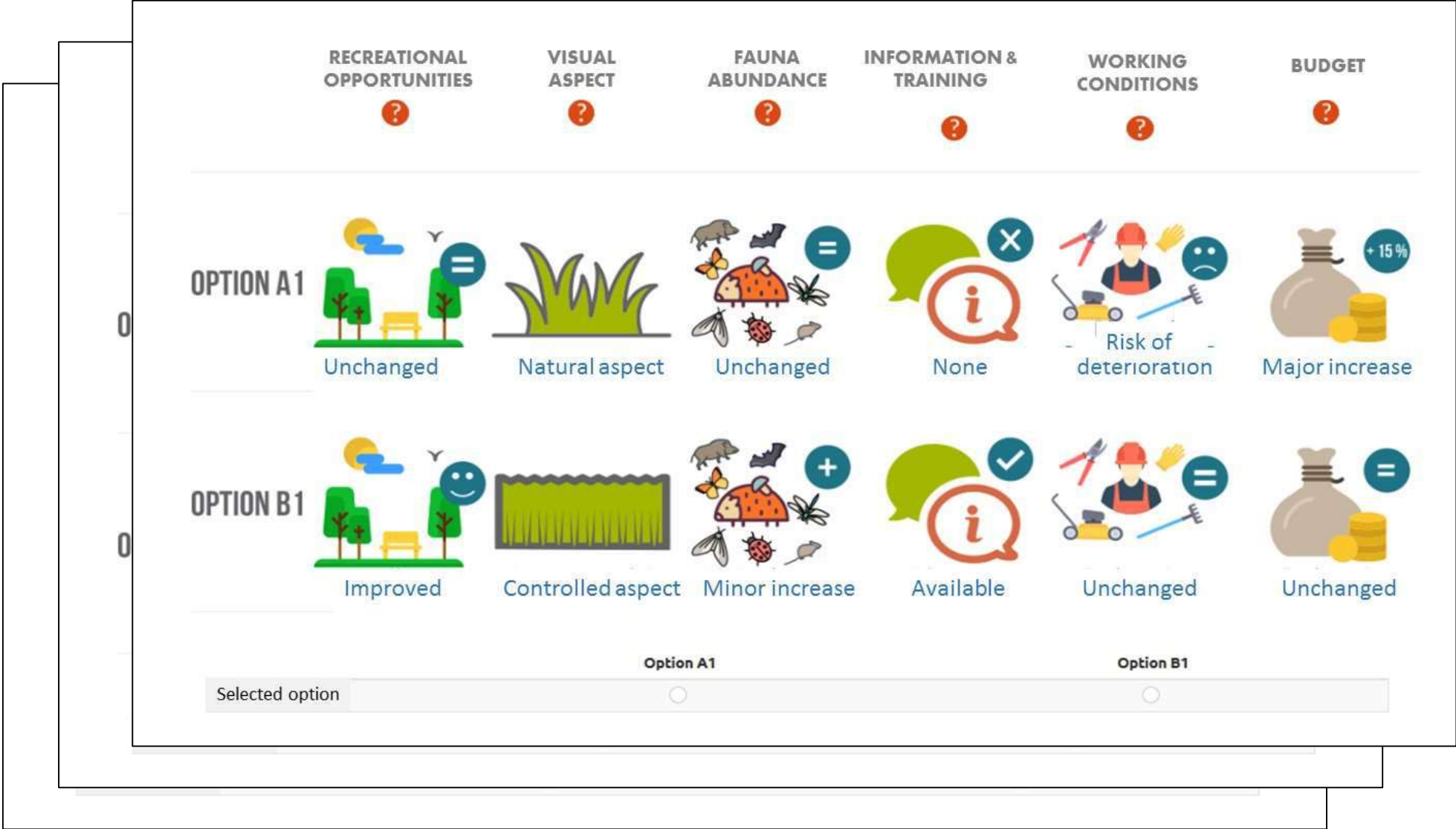
1. What are the likely consequences of the adaptation of UGSs to allow their management without pesticides ?

2. Which one are the most valued & disliked by the citizens ?

3. Do we observe divergences across stakeholders ?

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES	 - Unchanged -	 - Improved -	 - Deteriorated -
VISUAL ASPECT		 - Controlled aspect -	 - Natural aspect -
FAUNA ABUNDANCE	 - Unchanged -	 - Minor increase -	 - Major increase -
INFORMATION & TRAINING		 - None -	 - Available -
WORKING CONDITIONS	 - Improved -	 - Unchanged -	 - Risk of deterioration -
BUDGET	 - Unchanged -	 - Minor increase -	 - Major increase -

# Method: Choice Experiment



## Geographical distribution of respondents

Local politicians N=137

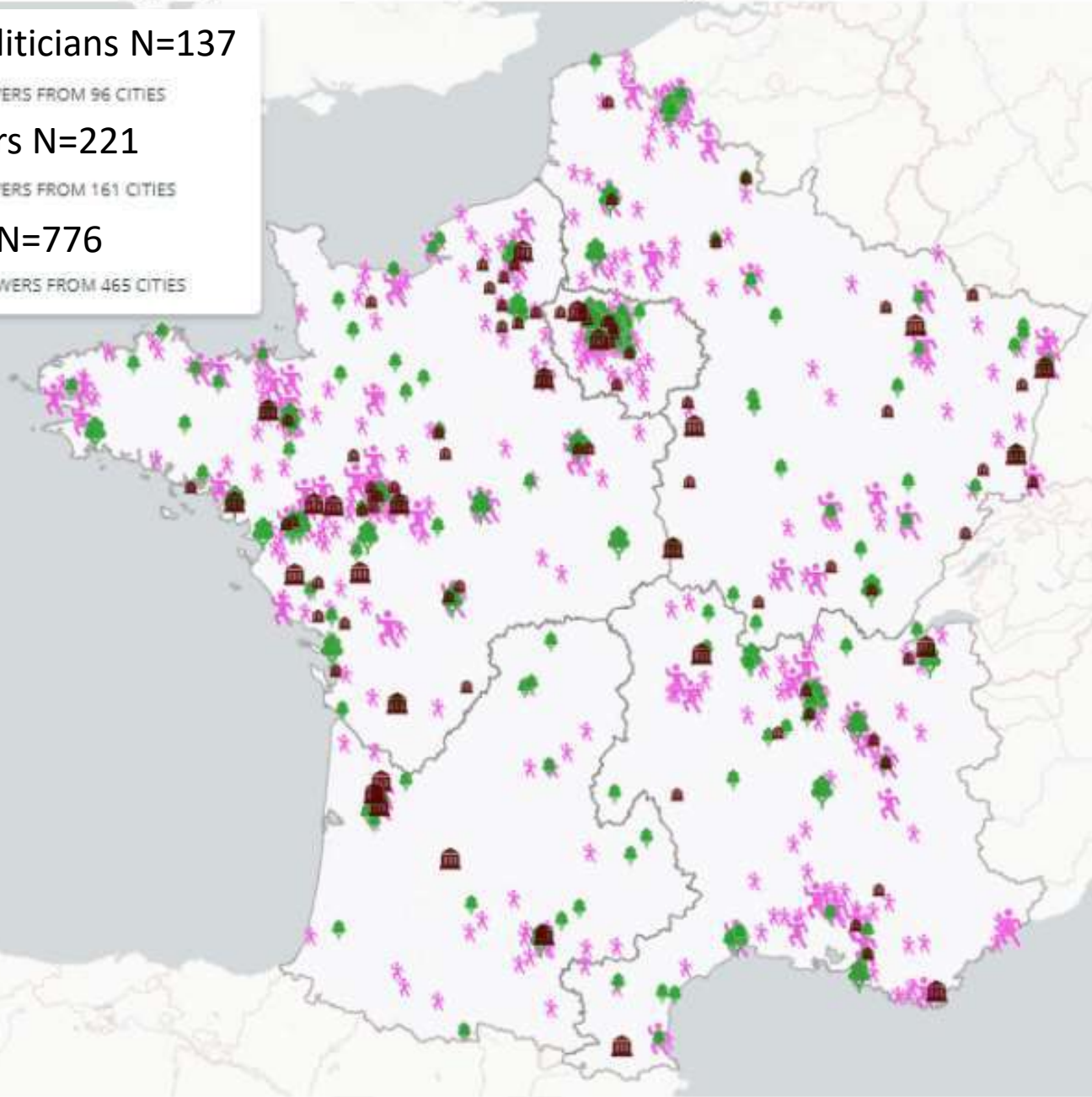
🏠 1 TO 5 ANSWERS FROM 96 CITIES

Managers N=221

🌿 1 TO 6 ANSWERS FROM 161 CITIES

Citizens N=776

✳️ 1 TO 34 ANSWERS FROM 465 CITIES



## Survey in Winter 2017-2018

+ A distinct sample  
of **500 citizens**  
representatives of  
French population

# What are the consequences most valued by the citizens?

-> Willingness to accept an increase in the budget

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



VISUAL ASPECT



- Controlled aspect -



- Natural aspect -

FAUNA ABUNDANCE



- Minor increase -



- Major increase -

INFORMATION & TRAINING



- None -



- Available -

WORKING CONDITIONS



- Improved -



- Unchanged -



- Risk of deterioration -

## Scenario « Apparently as before »

RECREATIONAL  
OPPORTUNITIES



VISUAL ASPECT



FAUNA ABUNDANCE



INFORMATION  
& TRAINING



WORKING  
CONDITIONS



BUDGET



**-11 % pt**

## Scenario « Laisser faire »

RECREATIONAL  
OPPORTUNITIES



VISUAL ASPECT



FAUNA ABUNDANCE



INFORMATION  
& TRAINING



WORKING  
CONDITIONS



BUDGET



**+1.75 % pt**

## Scenario « New opportunities »

RECREATIONAL  
OPPORTUNITIES



VISUAL ASPECT



FAUNA ABUNDANCE



INFORMATION  
& TRAINING



WORKING  
CONDITIONS



BUDGET



**+8 % pt**



Is there any divergence between their preferences?



UGSs managers



Local politicians



Citizens



VISUAL ASPECT



FAUNA ABUNDANCE



INFORMATION & TRAINING



















WORKING CONDITIONS



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# More information

- Lefebvre, Maslianskaia-Pautrel & Laille (2021) *Préférences des usagers pour la gestion des espaces verts urbains sans pesticides : l'exemple de la France*, **Revue économique**, 72 (6)
- Lefebvre, Maslianskaia-Pautrel & Laille, *Alternative adaptation scenarios towards pesticide-free urban green spaces: welfare implication for French citizens*, forthcoming in **Environmental Science and Policy**
- Lefebvre, Espinosa Goded, Maslianskaia-Pautrel & Laille, *Transition to pesticide-free Urban Green Spaces: Divergence between public administrators' and citizens' preferences*, under revision in **Journal of Environmental Planning and Management**