

International Green Roof City Network

Case Study Bolzano, Italy



1) City Data

Location

Bolzano, Alto Adige, Italy

Area

52.33 km²

Population

100,000

Other Information

Bolzano, in the Bolzano province, is in the Trentino-Alto Adige region. It lies south of Sarntal, at the estuary of the Eisack, Talver and Etsch Rivers between the Eisack and Etsch valleys. The climate can be described as sub-Mediterranean.

2) Description of the local Green Roof Policy Initiative

2.1 Start

In 2004 the B.V.F. procedure (Constraint index for sealed surfaces) was introduced. It supports sustainable stormwater management technologies like green roofs.

2.2 Expected environmental benefits

- Stormwater management
- Biodiversity
- Urban Heat Island Effect
- Air Quality
- Climate Change
- Energy Savings
- Beautification of the City

2.3 Environmental benefit that is the carrier of the green roof initiative

Stormwater Management: Part of the environmental macro and micro climate degeneration is caused, and exacerbated, by soil-sealing. The air over the sealed areas heats up and convective motion causes dust particles to circulate. The sun's warmth, which is both stored and reflected, causes the temperatures in our cities to rise because the naturally occurring evapotranspiration alleviation by plants is missing. Seepage of rainwater into the earth has also been largely or fully inhibited, leading to water balance disturbances through faster runoff. The natural cycle of collecting and releasing rainwater to the environment by infiltration, evaporation and evapotranspiration has been broken. Introducing stormwater management technology is a way to compensate for and contain the effects on the environment: infiltration and disposal at surface level, roof greening technologies, bioengineering technologies and, of course, traditional greening and planting wherever possible.

2.4 Support instruments that are used by the municipality to promote green roofs

- Building, landscape, energy, or other code or policy (e.g. land-use plan, green roof bylaw, zoning code, green factor, design regulations, etc.)
- Reduced stormwater fee
- Financial Incentives
- Tax Credits
- Favourable Credit Terms
- Density Bonus
- Demonstration Projects
- Ecological Labels
- Press, Internet
- Education and Information (e.g. seminars, conferences, green roof tours, etc.)
- Research
- Local Green Roof Guidelines
- Consultancy offer for constructors, investors, building owner
- Other instruments

Description of support instruments

Building, landscape, energy, or other code or policy: Article 19/bis of the municipal building regulations, which was approved by the council's resolution Nr. 11 on 10.02.2004, states that new buildings, renovations to existing buildings and developments of any kind on plots of land and/or on the external walls of existing buildings which are exposed to rainfall (covers, terraces, external fittings, courtyards, green areas, finished surfaces, etc.), are subject to the B.V.F. procedure (Constraint index for sealed surfaces).

Local Green Roof Guidelines: Technical guideline (UNI 11235) for the installation of green roofs in compliance with the B.V.F. procedure

3) Number and area of green roofs

The area of green roofs is approx. 200,000 m²

4) Challenges and future prospects

Application and control of the B.V.F. procedure

5) Contact persons

Amt für den Schutz der Umwelt und des Territoriums

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6) Internet resources

http://www.gemeinde.bozen.it/urb_context02.jsp?hostmatch=true&area=74&ID_LINK=512&id_context=4663&page=10 (German/Italian language)