

International Green Roof City Network

Case Study Düsseldorf, Germany



1) City Data

Location

The state capital Düsseldorf (federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia) lies in the transition region between the bio geographical areas of the “Lower Rhine Lowlands”, the “Lower Rhine Embayment” and the “Süderbergland”.

Area

216.64 km²

Population

588,169

Other Information

The meadows and lower terraces of the Rhine are characteristic of Düsseldorf. The Rhine runs through 42.10 km of urban areas. Düsseldorf experiences moderate winters with little snowfall and mild to warm summers.

2) Description of the local Green Roof Policy Initiative

2.1 Start

Year 1979 (support of environmental projects)

2.2 Expected environmental benefits

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

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

Urban Heat Island effect: Most bioclimatic and air quality problems are concentrated in the densely populated inner city, where loads are highest. Green roofs improve the city climate noticeably, especially in the summer when the inner city, with its high level of sealed ground, can be 10 degrees warmer than the surrounding areas.

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: Support programme “Climate friendly living in Düsseldorf”

Description of support instruments

Financial Incentives: The “Promotion of Environmental Projects” has been designed to support resourceful and interesting urban ecology initiatives to protect the environment. Suitable financial sub-programmes are on offer for both short-term low-cost projects as well as for longer term projects which require more planning and financial input.

Other instruments: Support programme “Climate friendly living in Düsseldorf” – Target: Promoting building renovation measures to reduce energy consumption in the state capital of Düsseldorf.

3) Number and area of green roofs

2,110 green roofs, 698,000 m²

4) Challenges and future prospects

- Maintaining and extending urban green corridors for their bioclimatic impact
- Unseal and green urban areas as part of the urban planning process
- Greening of inner courtyards in existing residential areas.

5) Contact persons

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6) Internet resources

<http://www.duesseldorf.de/umweltamt/luft/stadtklima/dachbegruenung.shtml>

http://www.duesseldorf.de/umweltamt/download/luft/begruenungen_duesseldorf_2014.pdf

(German language)