

The IGRA Green Roof Leadership Award

The IGRA Green Roof Leadership Award stands as recognition and appreciation for outstanding examples of Green Roof architecture and Green Roof initiatives all around the world. The price should be a signal for architects, landscape architects, city planners, municipal staff, landscape designers and real estate & property developers to explore new ideas for green urban spaces off the beaten track.

IGRA-Awards so far

The first IGRA „Green Roof Leadership Award“ was presented in 2005 during the “International Green Week” in Berlin for the new Rolls Royce production plant which was completely covered by an extensive Green Roof and nestling in the park-like landscape of Goodwood (near Chichester, UK).

In the meantime 6 further IGRA Awards have been granted, two of which for other trendsetting architecture projects: One was for the “Fusionopolis” towers in Singapore with 13 different sky gardens reaching heights of up to 80 m, partly combined with vertical greenery, the second one for the exemplary new building of a school centre in Neckargemünd, Germany, with its thermal insulating green roof and the integrated photovoltaic plant. The remaining 4 prizes were awarded to the municipalities of Düsseldorf (Germany) and Copenhagen (Denmark) for their exemplary Green Roof policy. Also to the Polish landscape architect Dorota Rudawa for her outstanding commitment in terms of green buildings and to the organisation “Friends of the High Line”, because with their social dedication they enabled the realisation of the “New York High Line Park, an icon of Green Roof architecture.

The IGRA-Award 2011

The IGRA Green Roof Leadership Award 2011 goes to “Leven op Daken”. “Leven op daken”(LOP) is a Netherland-based organisation within the roofing and cladding industry that develops, promotes and implements projects for multiple use of space. The LOP offers a high quality knowledge platform that covers the complete range from consulting to planning to execution. With its periodically published journal “Leven op Daken” the organisation spread the idea of green roofs and multiple use of space in public and strengthens the green roof market.

“Leven op Daken” receives the award for its support and vocational training aimed at young people who are disadvantaged on the labour market. The members of this organisation take social responsibility by reducing the youth unemployment combined with an increase of quality of life through greening.

The “Green City Project”- originally initiated by Caroline Kernkamp- has been running since February 2010 in cooperation with the city of Amsterdam, but the project threatened to fail due to budget cuts. It was “Leven op Daken” member Van der Tol who stepped in and allowed the implementation of the Green City Project to be continued. Today the members of the organisation ensure the training and support of at least 12 young people per year by providing green (roof) areas, financial support and expertise. With these acquired skills the young people have better prospects on the labour market.

For the green roof industry itself, the dedication of “Leven op Daken” will provide well-trained workers for the steadily growing green roof market. A truly sustainable commitment that deserves an award!



Wolfgang Ansel, Director IGRA (third from right), presents the IGRA Green Roof Leadership Award 2011 to members of the organisation Leven op Daken, Caroline Kernkamp and Eric Steegman, Director Leven op Daken (left)

International Green Roof Association



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Safety first: the first lessons of the trainees at BDA Dakadvies include a roof fall protection training