

Enabling Green and Blue Infrastructure Potential in Complex Social-Ecological Regions (ENABLE)

Greening roofs in Europe and beyond

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Greening roofs in Europe and beyond

- 1. Introducing ICLEI
- 2. Where is greening thriving?
- 3. Close ups

1. Introducing ICLEI – Local governments for sustainability







2. Where is greening thriving?

	Population	Total area of green roofs (m²)	Green roofs per capita (m²/inhabitant)
Basel	175,131	1,000,000	5.71
Stuttgart	590,000	2,000,000	3.38
Linz	193,814	500,000	2.57
Munich	1,450,381	3,148,043	2.17
Vienna	1,714,000	2,560,000	1.49
Malmö	303,000	400,000	1.32
Hanover	522,686	638,500	1.22
London's CAZ	230,000	205,000	1.21
Düsseldorf	588,169	698,000	1.19
Berlin	3,600,000	4,000,000	1.11
Washington D.C.	681,170	254,470	0.37
Rotterdam	634,661	235,000	0.37
Amsterdam	813,562	300,000	0.36
Melbourne City	148,000	54,000	0.36
Portland	570,000	157,989	0.27
Chicago	2,700,000	508,130	0.19
Tokyo	13,184,161	1,345,250	0.10
Toronto	2,615,060	250,000	0.09
Singapore	5,100,000	468,000	0.09
Copenhagen	510,000	40,000	0.07

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Largest area of green roofs in Europe Basel with a population of less than 200,000.

Targeting 100,000m2 new green Paris roofs by 2020 through Parisculteurs programme.

First local authority in North America to make green roofs mandatory in 2009, requiring green roofs on all new developments with roofs >2,000m².

Incentive programme for green roofs, Washington DC since 2006.

Green roof area in Central Activity London Zone more than doubled (2010-2017) through planning system changes (e.g. 2008 London Plan and **Biodiversity Action Plan).**

Green roof law since 2015

Recife

Toronto



One-off green roof property tax abatement on projects commenced since 2008 - new builds and retrofits.

New York City

Copenhagen Only city in Scandanavia where green roofs are mandated.

Stockholm

Mälmo

Antwerp

Rotterdam

Green space factor a requirement on city-owned land, including for current redevelopment of Royal Seaport area.

First Scandanavian city to introduce green space factor piloted in 2001.

Encouraged through mandatory stormwater management plans since 2011

Green roof area more than doubled over 5 years (2012-2017) through grants, tax benefits and demonstration projects.

Melbourne

Mapped existing roofs to assess potential for greening in 2015.

4. Close ups

Which tools?

Enable Engage Exemplify Encourage

Source: Centre of Expertise on Influencing Behaviours (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, UK, 2008) https://www.sustainabilityexchange.ac.uk/a-framework-for-sustainable-lifestyles-defra

Exemplify

- Lead by example (demonstrate on public buildings)
- Consistency of Council strategy and policy
- Consistency of strategy and policy across different levels of government



Enable

- Ensure local laws are not a barrier
- Ensure the building and occupancy permit application process is not a barrier
- Provide information and support
- Create space for experimentation

Encourage

- Direct financial incentives
- Rebates on local fees and taxes
- Encourage or require using the planning scheme

Engage

- Public promotion
- Work with building industry groups

...in Europe...

Basel, Switzerland

Population: 175,131 Green roofs: 1,000,000m2 Green roofs per capita: 5.71

Early starter: highest area of green roofs per capita in the world.

Basel

Encourage

- Direct financial incentives: two major subsidy programmes, widely publicised (1996-1998 up to 20CHf per sqm, then 2005-2007 30-40CHf per sqm).
- Higher incentives for green roof installation when not part of an overall renovation project.
- Building and Construction Law amended in 2002 to make green roofs mandatory for flat roofs on new and renovated buildings. No minimum size.



Engage

- National poll by Department of Environment and Energy mid-1990s determined public support for an electricity tax to pay for energy-saving measures.
- Various stakeholders consulted before establishing first subsidy programme, including business/industry groups and environmental organisations.

Enable

 Consultation with city-employed green roof expert mandatory for projects over 1,000sqm during design and construction.

Basel

Other factors

- Local acceptance already quite strong.
- On-bill financing (5%) funded subsidy programmes.
- Research/practice collaboration (researcher 'champion' and PhD research to provide evidence base).
- Trial and improvement first subsidy programme yielded imperfect results.



Hamburg, Germany

Population: 1,791,120 Green roofs: 1,440,000m2 Green roofs per capita: 0.80

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reen Roof Strategy since 2014, diverse mix of policy instrument

Hamburg

Exemplify

• Flagship project on roof of Environment Ministry building, as well as HafenCity university campus.



- Direct financial incentives: public subsidies to cover 30-60% of capital costs (3M EUR over 2015-2019).
- Indirect financial incentives: split wastewater fees.
- Provision for green roofs as ecological compensation measure in local planning policy (since 1991).



Engage

- Emphasis on 'Dialogue' as part of strategy: workshops, info events, site visits and a design competition.
- Environmental Partnership between city administration and key business groups (2003-2018).

Enable

- Economic analysis of green roof costs commissioned by city (2017).
- Guidelines and FAQs on City website.

Hamburg

Other factors

- German federal law since 1993 has enabled local or regional governments to mandate green roofs as an ecological compensation measure.
- Plans for 100 new hectares by 2020 seem to be too ambitious (so far an increase from 124 to 144 hectares 2015-2019).
- Not enough uptake of incentives. Possibly financing too low, or further guidance, training and examples needed.
- Conflicting goal for fast and affordable housing construction undermines green roof provision.
- Policy implementation followed by research team at HafenCity University to evaluate success and examine possible transfer to other cities.



...and beyond

Portland, USA

Population: 570,000 Green roofs: 157,989m2 Green roofs per capita: 0.27

Zoning incentives and leading by example.

Portland

Exemplify

 Mandatory green roofs since 2005 for all new buildings and redevelopments on city-owned properties >20,000 sqf and/or construction budget >\$5M.



- Indirect financial incentives: density bonus scheme since 2001.
- Direct financial incentives: Green Investment Fund (2005-2009) and Ecoroof Incentive Programme (\$5/sqf, \$2M committed in total 2008-2012).
- Up to 100% discount on stormwater utility fees by implementing management practices, including green roofs (2006).
- Mandatory green roofs since 2018 for all new buildings >20,000sqf and/or construction budget >\$5M.



Engage

 Green Roof information Think-tank (GRiT) a non-profit that provides education and outreach to support the use of green roofs.

Enable

• Extensive technical guidance and list of consultants on City website.

Find out more

Living Roofs and Walls from policy to practice (focus on London, but worldwide overview) https://livingroofs.org/

Portland

https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/44422

Hamburg

https://www.hamburg.de/gruendach/

Basel

https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/metadata/case-studies/green-roofs-in-basel-switzerlandcombining-mitigation-and-adaptation-measures-1

Melbourne's Rooftop Project

https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/building-and-development/sustainable-building/Pages/rooftopproject.aspx

Green Roofs and Walls of the World, Virtual Summit, November 2019!

https://www.greenroofthinktank.org/





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