
**SAVE THE DATE: The 4th International Green Roof Congress in Istanbul, Turkey (20-21 April, 2015) is coming up!**

Where is there room for nature in towns? This is a question being increasingly asked by building experts around the world who are faced with the challenges of urban densification.

Under the motto “Explore nature on rooftops” successful solutions and practical green roof technology will be presented, discussed and taught at the 4th International Green Roof Congress in Istanbul on 20-21 April, 2015. The latest achievements in science and technology will also be presented. The congress languages are English and Turkish (simultaneous translation).

The congress programme will have a distinctively interactive style with lectures and workshops.

Certified Green Roof experts, designers, landscape architects, landscape contractors, plant experts and delegates of municipal authorities will be sharing their knowledge and answering questions and queries in practice-oriented workshops.

The congress, supported by the International Green Roof Association (IGRA), will be held at the Zorlu Center`s new Raffles Hotel in Istanbul, Turkey.

**The Target Audience**

This congress is for everyone whose profession brings them into contact with Green Roofs and those who wish to learn about the latest technology in this field. This includes architects, installers, landscape architects, planners, representatives of local authorities and environmental agencies, investors and manufacturers. The 2015 congress is a great opportunity to make contacts and to develop new markets.

**The Congress Venue**

Istanbul has been experiencing a rapid increase in population due to migration. This means a very fast urban transformation process is taking place in the Mediterranean metropolis, straddling two continents. One of the main challenges of Istanbul´s green policy is increasing the number of green areas within the whole city.

Desired economic growth and rising land prices on the one hand, and the need for green urban infrastructure providing quality of life and sustainable development on the other hand have drawn attention to the city`s rooftops.

Investors have long since recognized that multifunctional rooftops not only increase the value of a building, but also improve its attractiveness for renting. Because no additional land costs are involved, roof gardens are no more expensive than ground level gardens.

Istanbul is therefore the perfect choice of location to present the current status of Green Roofs and to discuss its connection with modern architectural concepts and urban planning solutions.

The Zorlu Center, a dynamic and impressive gateway, redefines the experience of contemporary life in the urban core. The mixed-use project with wide public spaces and grand-scale buildings, elements of urban and architectural quality that create a modern city in the 21st century without compromising the outstanding universal value of Istanbul, is a landmark at the European crossing point. With green spaces extending 72.000 m², the Center provides a home for 200 plant species including 68 different types of trees. The Zorlu Center is the result of two award-winning architectural groups: Architect Emre Arolat (EAA), winner of the Aga Khan-Prize and Murat Tabanlioglu (Tabanlioglu Architects), who was presented with the RIBA International Award.

**The Lectures and Projects**

The long list of national and international speakers includes sustainability experts from multiple disciplines. Two of these are presented below:

**Ken Yeang** (architect, T.R. Hamzah & Yeang Sdn. Bhd.) is an early pioneer of ecology-based green design and masterplanning, known for his signature ecoarchitecture and ecomasterplans.
His building SOLARIS, located in the Fusionopolis hub of central Singapore's one-north business park, is comprised of two tower blocks with roof top gardens , a solar shaft, naturally ventilated atrium, ground level public plaza and wide horizontal sun-shading. A 1.5km-long spiral ramp expands into double-volume sky terraces at the building's corners, with the landscaped area increasing the green footprint and controlling temperature.

*SOLARIS (Singapore) – an escalating sequence roof gardens with sky terraces; Copyright: IGRA*

**Bosco Verticale** (**Vertical Forest**) is a pair of residential towers in Milan (Italy) and a pioneering project for new high-rise buildings. With heights of 119 and 87 meters and including 8,900 m² of terraces, the towers host more than 900 trees between three and six meters high, helping to mitigate smog, produce oxygen and attenuate noise. They also serve to moderate internal building temperatures in the winter and hot Mediterranean summer. The project aims to contribute towards metropolitan reforestation and urban diversity. It combines the concepts of land conservation through vertical urban densification and the promotion of sustainable living. **Laura Gatti**, the landscape designer of Bosco Verticale, will share her extensive knowledge with the congress participants.

*Bosco Verticale (Milan/Italy) - recently awarded the 2014 International Highrise Award; Copyright: IGRA*

**Join us for the first Green Roof Congress in Turkey!**

From being a niche product to becoming a sustainable and lifestyle trend, Green Roofs have long established themselves in national and international architecture and have opened up a new and growing market. Explore this promising new market and nature on rooftops!

We look forward to seeing you at the 4th International Green Roof Congress in Istanbul!

For more Information please contact the IGRA Secretariat.

Contact:
International Green Roof Association
Istanbul2015@greenroofworld.com

---

**The International Green Roof Association IGRA (www.igra-world.com)**

**IGRA´s targets are:**

• Worldwide promotion of the ecological Green Roof idea

• International knowledge transfer in the field of Green Roofs

• Sensitisation of the population and political decision makers

• Stimulation of international standards for Green Roof technology and Green Roof Policies