

## Information about the lecture

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<b>Speaker</b>	Karl Falkenberg
<b>Title</b>	The meaning of green roofs and green facades for sustainable cities
<b>Group of topics</b>	20.06.2017 Overview of green buildings
<b>Language</b>	German
<b>Content</b>	<p>65% of Europeans live in cities, soon to become 80%. Similar trends exist at global level. Cities are therefore hotspots not only for opportunity, but also for all the negative aspects of the way in which we live together, work together, consume, communicate, move around etc. Cities are becoming models of more sustainable solutions, seeking to balance the three notions of economic growth, social inclusion and respect for the limits of our planet. We have adopted at UN level Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be universally implemented by 2030. These 17 goals include peace, prosperity, democratic rule of law based governance, gender equity, quality education for all, zero hunger, good health and wellbeing, clean water, clean energy, decent work, reduced inequalities, industry and innovation, sustainable cities, responsible consumption, containing climate change, protect the oceans and protect biodiversity on land. Many of these goals are directly relevant for our cities. In Europe, the EU has launched a competition for the best solutions, the most sustainable cities: the Green Capital of Europe. Cities are selected on the basis of 12 broad criteria, many of which can be positively impacted by natural facades and rooftops. Whether it is the greening and the improvement of Biodiversity and the health of people, or the cleaner air and the binding of CO2 emissions, the contribution to warming or cooling of cities and their buildings, or indeed the production of food in Cities, natural facades on rooftops can contribute in many ways to achieving the ambitious UN goals. Mayors experience first hand democratic forms of governance and a growing number of our citizens are in demand of healthier, less noisy, less polluted city environments offering economic growth perspectives for all, leaving no-one behind. This is not the reality of Cities in Europe today, nor in the rest of the world, but more and more cities are testing new innovative solutions that will turn the tide and make life in Cities sustainable again. Green facades and rooftops will play a substantial role in this transformative agenda.</p>