



The Valletta Design Cluster offers a roof garden paradise against a historical backdrop that is open to the public.

Project Data

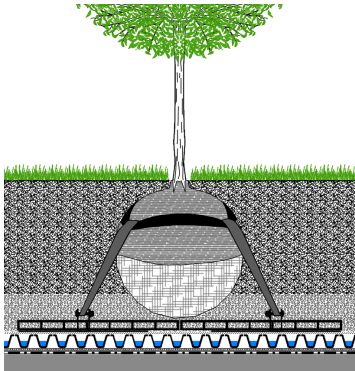
Area: ca. 500 m²
 Construction Year: 2020/2021
 Main contractor:
 Doric Studio/Living Walls, Birkirkara BKR, Malta
 Architect/Design:
 Tetsuo Kondo Architects, Tokyo
 Contractor:
 Derek Garden Center, Qormi QRM, Malta
 System Build-up:
 "Roof Garden" with Floradrain® FD 40-E and Roof Tree Anchorage Robafix®
 Coordinates:
 35°54'3.98"N 14°30'50.38"E

Conception

The Design Cluster is the new heart of the artistic and cultural scene in Malta. The ca. 500 m² roof garden is located on a 400-year-old building and features a variety of design aspects. It serves as a community space and is the first roof garden in the whole of Valletta that is open to the public. There are a number of seating areas for social gatherings, pavilions for meetings and workshops, a small theatre space and a natural pond. The roof garden against the historical backdrop is a virtual paradise dedicated

to relaxation, strolling and new inspiration. The entire area is divided into ca. 270 m² of walkways and ca. 230 m² of planted space. From a technical point of view, all this was realised above the Floradrain® FD 40-E elements which were applied across the entire area. Under the walkways they were also used as a permanent formwork. As trees on a rooftop are exposed to high forces from wind pressure and wind suction, the tree anchorage system Robafix® was used. It is installed without any roof penetrations.

System Build-up



Plant layer with trees, shrubs, ground covers, climbers, perennials and grasses

System Substrate „Lawn“ or „Roof Garden“

Zincolit® Plus as sub-substrate

Filter Sheet TG

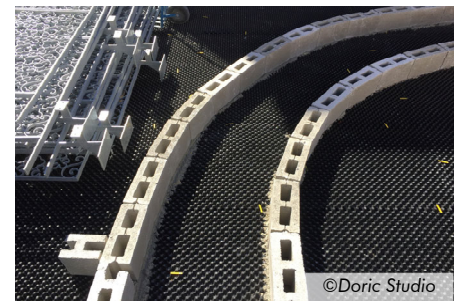
Floradrain® FD 40-E

Protection Mat ISM 50

Roof construction with root resistant waterproofing



The natural stone of the benches is from a local quarry.



The drainage and water storage element Floradrain® FD 40-E, fitted across the entire area, is used as a permanent formwork for the pathway made of concrete hollow blocks.



With the tree anchor system Robafix®, the tensioning straps are attached to three anchor points of the grid element, thus permanently securing the root ball.



Primarily indigenous vegetation is used to create the image, for example, olive trees and lavender.



The surface of the pathways consists of natural, fine grain stone chippings and is therefore permeable.