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Welcome

The **Malta Developers Association (MDA)** is the highest body and voice of private Real Estate developers in Malta.



MDA links private real estate developers to the relevant state authorities and to customers through numerous initiatives and activities.

MDA aims at bringing the majority of organised private real estate developers under a single umbrella and act as a potent force that promises the rapid development of the sector in the new decade.

MDA promotes responsible development and ownership of real estate in Malta through legislative advocacy, educational programs and professional networking opportunities.

MDA advances responsible, sustainable development that creates jobs and benefits the communities in which its members work and live.

Its main aims are:

- To provide a central organisation for real estate developers.
- To provide a united front in making recommendations to government on ways of promoting real estate development and in seeking solutions to practical problems in the property market.
- To pool resources together towards greater economies of scale in real estate development and also ensure that members conform to national building standards and planning laws.
- In the spirit of the search for appropriate technology, the Association shall promote the use of local inputs and finance research into suitability of local building materials.
- To liaise with financial institutions in developing more effective development schemes
- To establish links with real estate institutions and allied bodies at home and abroad with the aim of promoting and attracting more foreign investment to the industry.

MDA wants to be responsive, respected, responsible and relevant in partnering with the state and national policies to further improve the quality of life in Malta and Gozo.

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News

Developers invited to attend two-day information workshop

June 21st, 2014

UGreenS – Lifelong Learning Programme – Leonardo da Vinci – Transfer of Innovation

Sustainability, which involves the optimisation of economic, social and environmental issues, is becoming a key element in buildings and the construction sector in general. The construction industry, being one of the foremost consumers of energy, cannot ignore requirements of sustainable development any longer.



Within a climate change context, the immediate implementation of sustainable construction practices is becoming a necessity. Urban Greening technologies are in consonance with the EU's response to the climate change challenge, thus enhancing the climate resilience for buildings in general.

While the general principles of sustainable construction are slowly being incorporated in university curricula under the pressing deadline of the Europe 2020 targets, it would be a rather late response, if one were to wait for such educational programmes to bear fruit. Furthermore we cannot ignore professionals already in the field as well as developers and NGOs militating on built environment issues.

Urban Greening concepts

Developers have always shown themselves to be responsive to emerging technologies which they are willing to implement through the capability of seasoned professionals and who are regularly kept in check by civil society. We therefore need to tap into a number of practising professionals (engineers, architects, landscape architects and urban horticulturists) who are familiar with urban greening concepts and are also eager to learn new techniques and, in turn, disseminate them to their respective societies so as to be able to hit the ground running.

Urban Greening (UG) uses technologies (such as Green Roofs and Living Walls) that are widely known to mitigate urban heat island effects, storm-water runoff, as well as providing thermal conditioning for buildings, thus significantly contributing to sustainable construction and development.

In Mediterranean countries, however, UG technologies have witnessed little application. The reasons for this include a lack of knowledge, by society and the construction industry, of the benefits of using green roofs and a limited technical expertise for the widespread implementation of UG technologies. Green infrastructure solutions are often cheaper in one-off and maintenance costs than purely technical protection at a larger scale. Moreover such solutions also enhance the aesthetics of a building and enhance its value.

Green Roofs and Living Walls

UGreenS aims at introducing the practical know-how for the implementation of two new technologies, Green Roofs and Living Walls, both of which fall under the umbrella of Urban Greening. This knowledge will be introduced to practitioners, such as professional engineers, architects, scientists and where there is specific interest to developers and non-governmental organisations to enhance the skills of the capacity of our community, offer the opportunity of training those who wish to be first movers in these areas and ultimately reinforce sustainable construction in Malta.

An initial two-day workshop will be organised shortly for 10 professionals. The organisation of another workshop will be given due consideration if there are specific requests from the business, development, professional or non-governmental communities for additional training sessions aimed to introduce these concepts.

The Faculty for the Built Environment is the Maltese partner involved in this transfer of knowledge programme, which commenced last year and which brings together experts from Spain, Greece and Cyprus. For further information or in order to express an interest in exploring the possibility of organising a two-day workshop (minimum 10 participants), free of charge, contact the resident academic involved in this project, Perit Kevin Gatt, on environmentalresearchmalta@gmail.com.

You are also invited to regularly visit the project website at www.ugreens.eu to be updated on the project's development.



Co-funded by the Lifelong Learning Programme
of the European Union

Utility bills and evictions

June 20th, 2014

MDA's suggestions

The Federation of Real Estate Agents has come up with a number of ways to stimulate the rental market, but the Malta Developers' Association has its own.

It identified two other factors which deter landlords from renting out their properties, hoping to get more on the market which has "exploded" in the past few years.

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