



International Green Roof Congress
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Nuertingen/Germany

Green Roofs on the participants' pavilions in Zaragoza's International Exhibition 2008

Carlos Avila Calzada

Head of the Landscape Dpto. ExpoZaragoza 2008

(Spain)

www.expo2008.es

Short description of the speaker

Carlos Avila Calzada has a degree in Biology, specialised in Botany, from the University of Madrid and subsequently obtained the Certificate of Higher Landscape Architectural Studies from the Versailles National School of Landscape Architecture in France whose final study project was supervised by Gilles Clément. At the moment he is the person in charge of landscape architecture of the Projects Department of Expo Zaragoza 2008.

Biographical details or background information

In Zaragoza's International Exhibition 2008 the organizing institution is in charge of designing and building the participants' pavilions. These buildings are designed with organic shapes and it is decided to have a green roof which includes the photovoltaic panel system.

We were dealing with a surface of 43.172 sq meters to be covered with vegetal elements as well as gravel and wood paths. Only 11.172 sq meters out of the total surface are viable for pedestrian use due to structural requirements and building time restrictions. Regarding the green roof structure it was decided to choose a ZinCo system with a 25 cm thick topsoil layer, formed by a light substrate. When designing the green roof we set three main objectives: choosing a design that would provide a global idea of all the pavilions' roofs, creating a green structure which would show a vivid contrast between a neutral background and large colourful areas and incorporating the photovoltaic panels in the design.

The walking area has different characteristics as there are wooden paths and spaces for the visitors to sit down and enjoy the view over the exhibition site or the rest of the city. These areas, equipped with furniture and lighting, resemble those of public use in cities more than a green roof.