

Ghent's Green Roof & Rainwater Subsidy Programme — Two Decades of Municipal Payments for Stormwater Retention

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Belgium

Quality score: 40/100

Evidence strength: Descriptive / self-reported

Summary

Since 2002 the City of Ghent has paid residents, schools and businesses EUR25-31 per m2 to install green roofs and, since 2023, rainwater harvesting and unpaving works. Over 120,000 m2 of subsidised green roofs are now in place, holding roughly 23 litres of stormwater per m2.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	3/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-09

[City of Ghent \(Stad Gent\), Department of Environment, Climate & Water, with delivery support from De Energiecentrale](#) — accessed 2026-08-09

[City of Ghent -- Urban Green & Climate Actions](#) — accessed 2026-08-09

[Green Cities EU -- Ghent green roofs & roof gardens](#) — accessed 2026-08-09

[VRT News -- Ghent rainwater subsidy expansion](#) — accessed 2026-08-09

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