

PRESS RELEASE

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Foundation stone ceremony for the SerendiCity student resident programme at Paris-Saclay developed by Linkcity Ile-de-France



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The foundation stone of SerendiCity, a complex of student residences **with more than 1,000 beds (899 units)**, was laid on May 25, 2016, at a ceremony attended by dignitaries including the Sub-Prefect of the Essonne, the President of the Greater Paris Regional Council and the Mayor of Gif-sur-Yvette. The complex is situated in the town of Gif-sur-Yvette, in the Moulon mixed development zone forming part of the Paris-Saclay campus, south-west of Paris.

Linkcity Ile-de-France was chosen to develop this operation, which is believed to be the largest student housing development currently under construction in France. This social housing programme with 25,000 m² of floor space is intended to take its first intake of students **at the start of the 2017-18 academic year**. They will be students at the University of Paris-Saclay, mostly belonging to the higher education institutions already established there (or in the process of being established), such as CentraleSupélec, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan and the University of Paris-Sud.

The winning team from the design competition, **LAN and Clément Vergély Architectes**, in association with the landscape architect Topotek, devised a project consisting of eight buildings: three peripheral buildings housing the majority of the accommodation and five cylindrical buildings in the heart of the complex. This urban approach allows the creation of a landscaped park that will be accessible to the general public and which will feature the images of the Greek Muses on the facades of the cylindrical buildings (thanks to an innovative technique of photoengraving on concrete).



Plan of the ground floor of the project

A very significant part of the project is the **common living spaces and shared apartments**, in line with the specifications of the “Living On Campus” charter published for the Paris-Saclay campus.



Credits: LAN and Clément Vergély Architectes

The legal structure of the project is a 70-year construction lease between four social landlords in joint ownership and the Ecole Centrale Paris Foundation, which purchased the land will recover full ownership of all the buildings after 70 years. The student residence will be administered by CESAL, which currently manages the Ecole CentraleSupélec's student residences in Gif-sur-Yvette.

Proposing an innovative student housing offer adapted to the diversity of students is an essential element which will contribute to the attractiveness of the Paris-Saclay campus. SerendiCity thus illustrates the Paris-Saclay Public Development Agency's desire to create an iconic campus, open to the local community and to society.

Project owner: Linkcity Ile-de-France

Social landlords: France Habitation, Vilogia, Sogemac Habitat, Meecam

Administrator: CESAL

Project management: LAN Architecture, Clément Vergély Architectes, Topotek

Effinergie+ consultant: Franck Boutté Consultants

General contractor: Bouygues Bâtiment Ile-de-France - Habitat Social

Location: Moulon mixed development zone – Gif-sur-Yvette

Handover: Autumn 2017

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About the Etablissement Public d'Aménagement Paris-Saclay

The Paris-Saclay Public Development Agency drives and coordinates both the development and international outreach of the Plateau de Saclay scientific and technological cluster. It is the developer of mixed development zones in the scope of the Operation of National Interest. The operational project is currently being implemented in two districts (Ecole Polytechnique and Moulon):

- *377,680 m² of construction sites are in progress or are in the launch phase, including EDF Lab, Ecole Centrale Paris, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan, extensions to laboratories at the Ecole Polytechnique, the "Lieu de Vie" community space, the Orsay Institute of Molecular Sciences, the Centre for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, ENSAE ParisTech, Quaero, IPVF and SerendiCity.*
- *371,070 m² have been allocated, including Institut Mines-Télécom, the Physics, Matter and Radiation Centre, student housing and a multisports centre.*
- *174,200 m² are currently under negotiation, including the University of Paris-Sud Biology-Pharmacy-Chemistry cluster and AgroParisTech/ INRA.*
- *20,500 m² are under consideration, including a business incubator facility, a Learning Centre and a district sports centre.*

On the urban campus, the project includes 548,000 m² of housing for families and students.

The Board of Directors of the Public Development Agency having opted for two mixed development zones at Satory-Ouest, Versailles, and Boubas-Louise Michel, Trappes, engineering studies and public consultations will take place throughout 2016.

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About Linkcity Ile-de-France

***Linkcity Ile-de-France**, the property development and project management subsidiary of Bouygues Bâtiment Ile-de-France (Bouygues Construction), has conducted property operations of all on behalf of users and public- and private-sector investors, principally for property development contracts and off-plan sales, for more than 25 years.*

***Linkcity Ile-de-France** has developed a wide range of know-how for its customers in turnkey property operations, operations as an integrator in neighbourhood development programmes and both renovation and new-build projects.*