

Press release – March, 14th 2019



Green Solutions Awards: let's start the 7th edition

For the 7th year in a row, the Construction21 network is launching its Green Solutions Awards. The kick-off is given on March 14 at MIPIM, on the BNP Paribas Real Estate booth, sponsor of the competition.

This contest is the concrete embodiment of all statements on ecological transition: it promotes already existing solutions, integrated in building, districts and infrastructures, which, if they are replicated on a broad scale, have a real capacity to fight against climate change.

Climate change: time for action



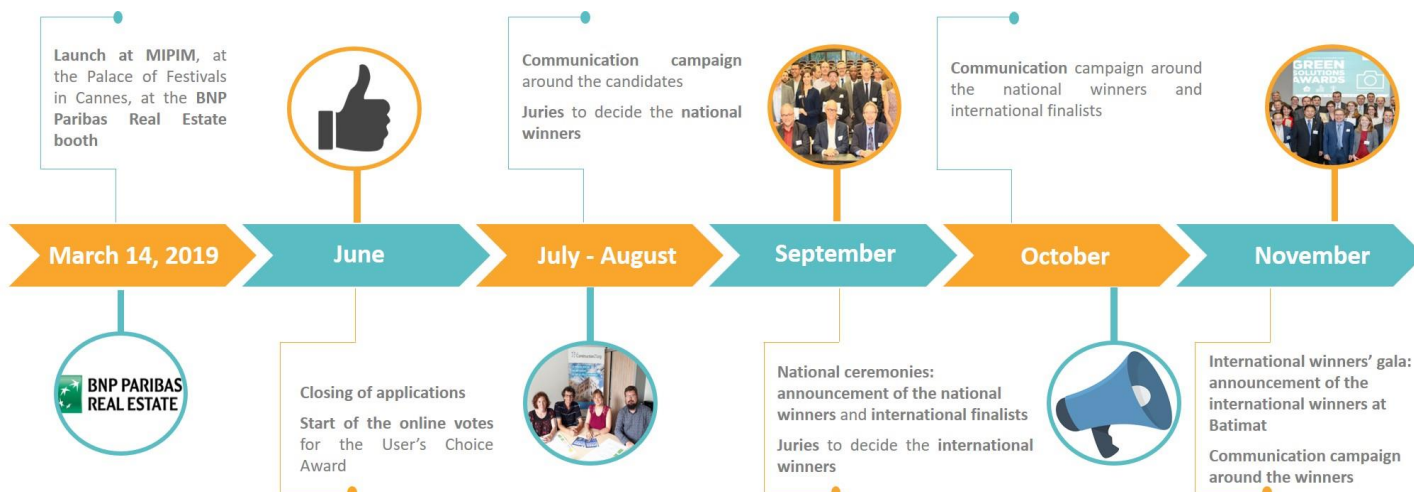
**The word of Christian Brodhag,
President of Construction21 France & international**

To fight against climate change, it is not only time to speak, it is time to act.

Since solutions do exist, let's disseminate them! By participating in this contest, you help us demonstrate that, yes, it is possible to build sustainably from buildings to cities. You also contribute to spreading those solutions on a broad scale by inspiring other professionals.

So, participate in this contest and promote your know-how!

From MIPIIM to Batimat: the milestones of 2019



Applications are open until June 10!

After the kick-off at **MIPIM**, the world's leading property market that **celebrates the 30th edition this year with the theme "Engaging the future"**, candidates have 3 months to submit their best projects.

Construction21 is in the starting-blocks to assist the participating professionals. We will help them publish case studies that include useful and inspiring information for their peers, technical performances, testimonies of inhabitants, feedbacks from companies...

The international winners' gala will be held at **Batimat**, the building industry's leading international trade show, on **Monday, November 4th, 2019**. Save the date on your agenda!



A more institutional event is also planned in **Santiago, Chile, for COP25** in order to promote the international winners there.

7th edition of the contest: objective set at 5 million views!

The Green Solutions Awards contest is no longer in its infancy. Organised for the 7th time in a row, this competition gets bigger year after year.

First of all, in terms of **communication**: Construction21 took a step forward in 2018 as the 12 web platforms and social media activity generated **4.1 million views**, compared to 1.5 million in 2017. The main reasons? The faithful support of **100 media partners** and an **even more active mobilisation of candidates**.



Also in terms of **events**: with **highlights throughout the year**. Among them, **winners' galas in each country and at an international level**, in addition to **conferences and TV sets on partner fairs** as well.

Recently, Construction21 has been organising **webinars on Webikeo and radio interviews with Batiradio** to feature candidates, partners and jury members.

In 2019, **5 million views worldwide** is targeted!

[Videos of 2018 winners](#) – [Videos of the winners' gala in Poland, COP24](#) – [Periscope](#)



#GreenSolutions Awards

Concrete projects that overcome industries

The Green Solutions Awards present the particularity of **promoting only real projects**, displaying **existing solutions** which are **implemented in buildings, districts and infrastructures**. For Construction21, it is necessary to represent various technologies and their interactions from buildings to cities, as **the industry develops systemically**.

This is illustrated by Geoffroy Ville, Sales Manager for Atawey, French winner and international mention of the 2018 Sustainable Infrastructure Grand Prize 2018: *"Thanks to the Green Solutions Awards, we have benefited from a visibility in the building sector, which is not our core business. We, at Atawey, do more in the energy sector, but since buildings produce now energy, people come to us to see what we can do with the renewable electricity surplus."*

To apply, professionals can therefore submit all kinds of projects: new construction or renovation, office building or housing; eco-districts, joint development zones, and eco-campus for districts; energy systems, digital applications, water management plants, or mobility systems for infrastructures.

Jury of Students: a bet on the youth

For the 2018 edition, Construction21 France wanted to involve, in addition to experts and Internet users, the professionals of tomorrow: students. A try converted, since **14 schools participated**, instead of the 5 which were planned at the launch!

Architecture, engineering, real estate schools, and even The Companions of Duty have responded to the call to allow their students to **demonstrate their academic knowledge** through the analysis of buildings at the cutting edge of innovation.

Here is a funny anecdote that shows how participating students got a foothold in the professional world: **their champion, who was qualified for the international phase in the same way as the winners of each country, won the international prize for the category Energy & Temperate Climates, as well as a highlight during COP24!** It is the **House of Île-de-France...** a student residence located on the student campus of Paris.

[Watch the video](#)

The jury of Students will of course be renewed in 2019 for the Buildings contest in France and, new this year, in Luxembourg.

Why participate in the Green Solutions Awards ?

First of all to benefit from a **unique and free** visibility! Throughout your participation, you benefit from a **communication plan set up on all Construction21 platforms, on social media and relayed by nearly 100 media partners**. At an **international level**, but also at a **national level**; **all participating case studies are indeed readable in English, French, Spanish and even Chinese!** Enjoy millions of views generated by the contest!

Your projects are also highlighted during **dedicated events** such as **Passi'bat** or **Batimat**, **webinars** or **radio interviews**.

A **video** is also offered to the Grand Prizes winners, **presenting their projects**. Easy to share, they will be widely disseminated on the Internet and social media. A **brochure** is also printed in **4 languages** to showcase the winning projects.

Finally, by bringing your work to the knowledge of the industry, you will contribute to the dissemination of solutions that, when replicated at a larger scale, will help to fight against global warming.

[Videos of the 2018 winners](#) – [Brochure of the 2018 winners](#)



#GreenSolutions Awards

How to participate? Publish an online case study on Construction21.org before June 10

Any building, district or infrastructure featuring sustainable solutions (materials, systems, processes, approaches) and contributing to the fight against climate change can be submitted. The **application is free**. However, the submitted projects must have been **delivered between January 1st, 2014 and June 30th, 2019** (or at least a first part for districts).

To apply, go to the platform of the country where your project is located before June 10. Publish, in the category of your choice, your online case study in one of Construction21's databases: Buildings, Districts, Infrastructures. Once validated by the Construction21 team, it will be translated and made visible on the whole Construction21 network.

The competition welcomes **projects from all over the globe**: for countries without a Construction21 platform yet, case studies can be directly submitted on the international platform in English.

PARTICIPATE

12 prizes for a variety of climate solutions

Professionals can register in one or more of these categories:



But other prizes will also be awarded by juries of experts and by Internet users:



About Construction21.org



As the social media for sustainable buildings and cities, [Construction21](https://www.construction21.org) disseminates free information among actors of the building and city sectors, especially through its three databases dedicated to exemplary [buildings](#), [districts](#) and [infrastructures](#).

The Construction21 network – 700,000 visits in 2018 – counts 11 national platforms in Europe, China and North Africa, managed by local non-profit organisations, along with an 12th international platform in English.

Every year, Construction21 organises the [Green Solutions Awards](#), an international contest aiming to make concrete solutions known among professionals from all over the world, to accelerate transition toward a more sustainable world. The 2018 edition, which generated 4.1 million views, closed in December with an Awards ceremony bringing together more than 200 professionals from around the world in Katowice, Poland, during COP24.



#GreenSolutions Awards

The Construction21 network

Members of the international Construction21 association, the chapters manage Construction21 national platforms and organise the Green Solutions Awards in their country.



Partners

The competition is organised with the support of [ADEME](#) and the [Global Alliance for Buildings & Construction](#).

Also, companies committed to fighting against climate change, have joined the competition, supporting categories echoing their own action against climate change: [BNP Paribas Real Estate](#), [Parex](#) and [EDF](#). They are presented in the following pages.



Around hundred national and international media partners are also promoting the Green Solutions Awards within their own network, readers and visitors.



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Two questions for Catherine Papillon

Global Head of Sustainable Development/CSR, BNP Paribas Real Estate



Why is your company committed to fighting climate change?

At BNP Paribas Real Estate, the **climate change** topic and its impact on the real estate business is part of our **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** strategy. In fact, in our operations and service offers, we are **committed to taking into account the climate change challenges, optimising the environmental footprint of our activities, promoting circular economy and making the environmental quality of our products and services a lever to increase performance both in finance and in use.**

That is why, whether in construction, operation or renovation, we offer our customers **energy-efficient and environmentally friendly solutions, respectful of the health and well-being** of corporate as well as residential real estate users.



BNP Paribas Real Estate is the winner of the "Inventing the Greater Paris Metropolis" contest, as the owner of the 17&CO real estate complex, located in Porte de Saint-Ouen in the 17th arrondissement of Paris. Designed by Hardel + Le Bihan Architects, 17&CO is a 17,900sq m mixed-use project. It is composed of 8,000sq m of offices including a 1,000sq m incubator, a 100-room hotel, a 4,000sq m youth hostel offering co-living, 1,200sq m of shops (mini flea markets, food court, Fablab, etc.), a reversible festive building of 600sq m and a mobility centre with a 500-space public car park.

17& CO will create the landscape of the Saint-Ouen gate with planted and production spaces on the roof. From an environmental point of view: the NF HQE Sustainable Building 2016 French certification is targeted for the whole project, as well as the BREEAM New Construction British certification for the office building. An ambitious level of energy performance will be targeted with the E+C- label.

What actions did you put in place regarding sustainable development/CSR?

In our different businesses, we develop solutions to anticipate and face environmental issues, but also to **meet the new requirements and uses of our clients** (investors, companies, individuals, or local communities), and thus to **positively contribute to the challenges of climate change and urban transformation.**

It is in this context that we support some initiatives in the real estate industry such as the Low Carbon Building Label (BBCA), the French Institute for Building Efficiency (IFPEB), the HQE-French GBC Alliance, or Biodiversity and Circolab, and of course Construction21 and its Green Solutions Awards.

We have also set ambitious goals to reduce CO2 emissions and to increase environmental quality:

- 100% of the operations we deliver in corporate property are certified and reach certifications with the highest performance levels: excellent or exceptional.
- In residential, 100% of housing delivered in 2020 will be certified.
- 100% of office and housing operations delivered in 2020 will benefit from a carbon footprint audit.

In 2019, we will build, with our different businesses and countries, 3 roadmaps: one on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from our activities, the second on biodiversity and the third on circular economy.

About

European leader in real estate services, BNP Paribas Real Estate covers the entire life cycle of a property: Promotion, Transaction, Consulting, Expertise, Property Management and Investment Management. With 5,400 employees, BNP Paribas Real Estate locally advises owners, tenants, investors and local authorities in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

BNP Paribas Real Estate, a BNP Paribas Group company, generated €968 million in revenue in 2018.



Two questions for Louis Engel

Safety & Sustainable Development Director, PAREX



Why is your Group committed to fighting climate change?

Energy consumption of buildings represents more than a third of the total consumption worldwide and is responsible for almost a quarter of greenhouse gas emissions.

We believe that **all players in the construction chain must be mobilised to fight against climate change** and we decided to play our part. For several years, we have **taken an active role in improving the thermal efficiency of buildings** by developing our External Insulation Finishing System (EIFS) offer.



What actions did you put in place regarding sustainable development?

Our “**BUILDING RESPONSIBLY**” sustainable development programme is based on 4 commitments, to meet the environmental, social and societal challenges we face:

- **innovating**, continuously, to contribute to sustainable construction;
- **reducing** our environmental footprint throughout the life cycle of our products;
- **acting** for and with our employees;
- **anchoring our sites in their territory**.

To go further in our commitment to fight climate change, we have deployed for 3 years our Climate Program, a 3-step approach which consists of:

- **measuring** the greenhouse gas emissions related to our activities in all countries where we operate,
- **reducing** these emissions,
- **adapting** and **mitigating** impacts of some residual emissions by financing ecosystem restoration projects through reforestation and agroforestry.

At the end of 2018, we achieved the first part of our goals: measurement of greenhouse gas emissions in all the countries where we operate; pursuance of action plans set up with our suppliers within our industrial units to reduce CO₂ emissions; planting of 58,000 trees for 2 years trees to mitigate 100% of emissions related to business trips as part of 10 agroforestry projects supported by PUR Project in the main countries where we operate.

This positive momentum encourages us to continue to reduce our emissions while **contributing to the development of local communities**.

Our ambition is to **integrate these sustainable development actions into all our activities** in order to contribute to the growth of sustainable construction.

About

Major player in construction chemicals, PAREX is a world leader, specialist of dry mix, providing solutions for the building community and acting in 3 fields: facade protection and decoration, tile setting and flooring systems, waterproofing systems and technical solutions for concrete and civil engineering.

We operate in 23 countries with 74 production sites and bring together 4,500 employees worldwide. Our ambition is to be the preferred partner on our markets and in the local economic and social structure around our sites.



Two questions for Jean-Pierre Frémont

Local Authorities Director, EDF



Why is your company committed to fighting climate change?

As players committed in a sustainable and concrete way in the fight against climate change, EDF and its specialised subsidiaries offer numerous energy services and expert solutions that are increasingly adapting to the **needs of local authorities**, as well as to the energy transition challenges. Our ambition is to contribute to strengthening the economic activity and **innovation of territories**, to improve the **life quality of the inhabitants**, to build sustainable cities, while respecting low carbon requirements of the 21st century.

Through our **adaptability**, our technological expertise and our wide range of skills and solutions, EDF asserts the reliability of its advice and the relevance of its technological choices, in the service of energy transition and green growth.

This allows our customers to have a **forward-looking view**, benefiting from expert solutions and relevant advice. They thus have access to efficient energy services that are adapted to many different situations and needs, in the service of a **carbon-free performance**.



EDF, partner of cities and territories



Optimal Solutions, the double Smartgrid Nanterre Cœur d'Université ©Ramdam



Citelum, the connected management project of public space in Dijon, France ©Jacques Blanchard

What actions have you put in place regarding sustainable development/CSR?

The world of energy is changing. Energy is becoming more and more decentralised, carbon-free, digital. The customer is becoming more and more involved in his consumption and energy savings. Wind, sun, sea: we try to make the best use of natural resources.

All these innovations also make us change and evolve. This **desire for transformation**, this will to remain close to customers and territories, at the heart of energy transition and climate issues, is our **new strategic horizon CAP2030**: being a **responsible electricity provider, champion of low carbon growth**.

We have committed to reduce by at least 40% our already low CO2 emissions, to become carbon neutral by 2050, and to develop 30 GW of solar energy by 2035.

In addition, we have selected six Corporate Responsibility Goals, in line with the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals. They each carry a strong ambition on:

- Climate and carbon
- Human development of Group employees
- Offers to customers, in particular to vulnerable customers
- Energy efficiency
- Dialogue and consultation
- Biodiversity conservation

We are therefore committed to providing answers to the transformation of the world of energy and to integrating the economic, societal and environmental dimensions into the heart of our strategy.

About

As a major player in the energy transition, the EDF Group is an energy provider that is increasingly present in the field of renewable energies and energy services. EDF and its subsidiaries, through the EDF Energy Solutions, offer performance and energy efficiency solutions to serve their customers in France.

EDF and its subsidiaries are already offering new energy solutions for connected urban lighting, residential heating, charging electric vehicles, local electricity production, energy storage, thermal smart grids and smart electricity grids, etc.