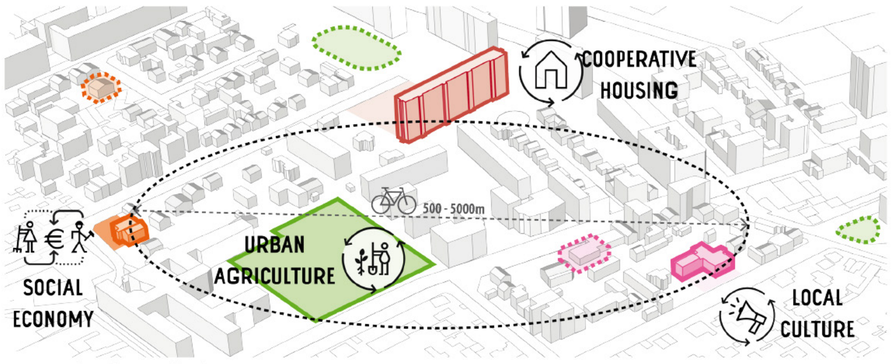
8th ICBR Lisbon | Nov 2018
Building 4Humanity
DESIGN COMPETITION
Category 1:
Best Resilient Building Project
Team Project Coordinator(s): *Atelier d'Architecture Autogérée*
Team Members: *C.Petcou, D.Petrescu, L.Nguyen, S.Carlini, AL.Bourguignon, R.Buscot, PM.Cornin*
Year of conclusion: 04/2018
Location: Gennevilliers / France
TEAM CODE: **B4H-DC1152**

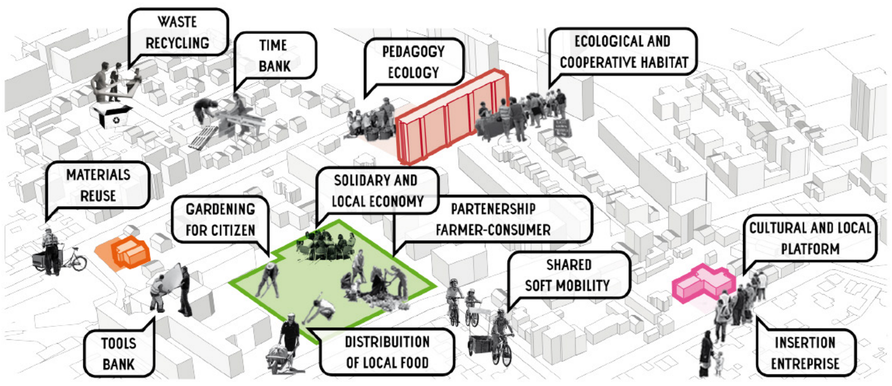
AGROCITÉ: DESIGNING FOR SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE

RURBAN

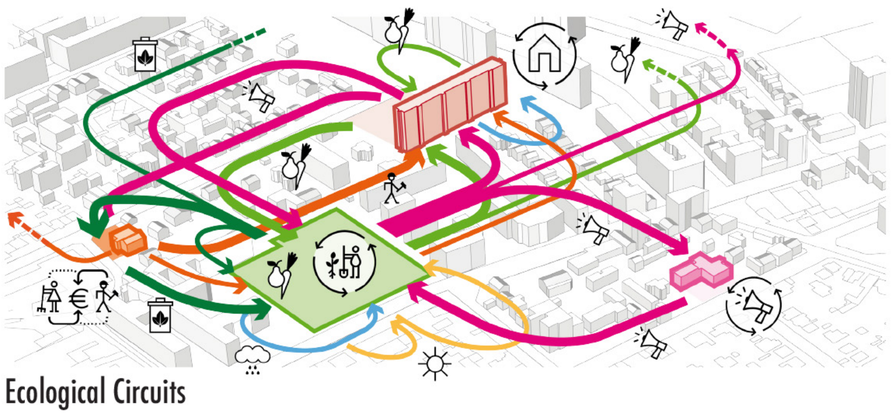
R-URBAN PRINCIPLES



Network of civic hubs



Civic Participation



Ecological Circuits

R-URBAN: A CIVIC APPROACH TO URBAN RESILIENCE

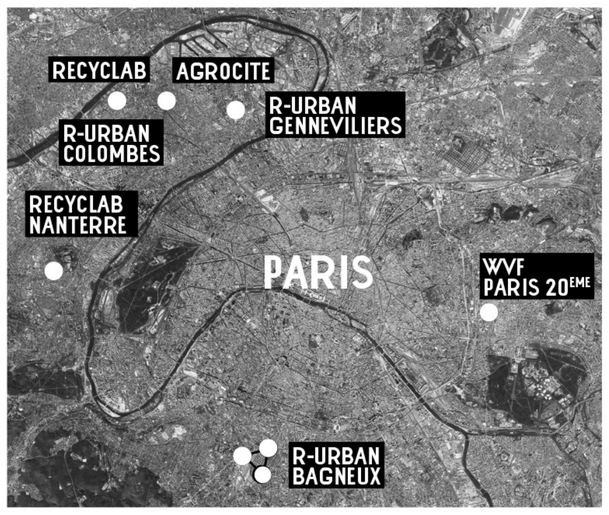
In order to adjust and thrive with Climate Change and related crises, cities across the world need to become more resilient. This need for resilience, which cities have little capacity to deal with at this moment in time, comes with a "right to resilience" for all citizens, a right to be informed about and act upon their future.

R-Urban (r-urban.net) is a framework for bottom-up resilient urban regeneration in suburban neighbourhoods in the Parisian Region. It sets up resilience ecosystems through a network of civic hubs that host collective eco-practices rooted in everyday life and located in metropolitan neighbourhoods that face important social, economic and ecological issues. These networks function through ecological and economic circuits valorising local resources and living, producing and consuming.

R-Urban addresses the conditions of the mass housing estates often planned as large-scale dormitory cities. Designed in the 1960 and 1970s, most of these estates located in the Parisian suburbs are not resilient. The project addresses the long-term resilience of this particular territory and its community faced with combined adverse factors and treats: Climate Change and ecological degradation but also social and economic deprivation and youth crime, civic passivity and dependence on public services.

The R-Urban hubs provide space and offer opportunities and resources for setting up resilient practices (ie food growing, recycling, repairing and reusing, water and waste reduction and depollution, energy production, CO2 reduction etc) and for reskilling and entrepreneurship, deprived neighbourhoods.

The Agrocité urban agriculture hub was the first hub prototyped in Colombes (from 2011 to 2017), and then relocated in Gennevilliers. Currently the R-urban network comprises 7 hubs. At the moment more than 500 citizen are actively involved in using and managing the R-Urban hubs in the Ile de France region.



300T CO² REDUCTION / YEAR

110T URBAN WASTE RECYCLED AND REUSED / YEAR

50T WATER CONSUMPTION REDUCTION / YEAR

24T RECYCLED ORGANIC WASTE / YEAR

3T FOOD FROM ORGANIC FARMING / YEAR

AGROCITÉ COLOMBES, FIRST LOCATION, 2011-2017

AGROCITÉ GENNEVILLIERS, SECOND LOCATION, 2018

2011

Preparing the instalation of Agrocité

2014

The fully functionning Agrocité

2017

Dismantling Agrocité

2017

Preparing the new site

2018

Agrocité fully relocated

Training

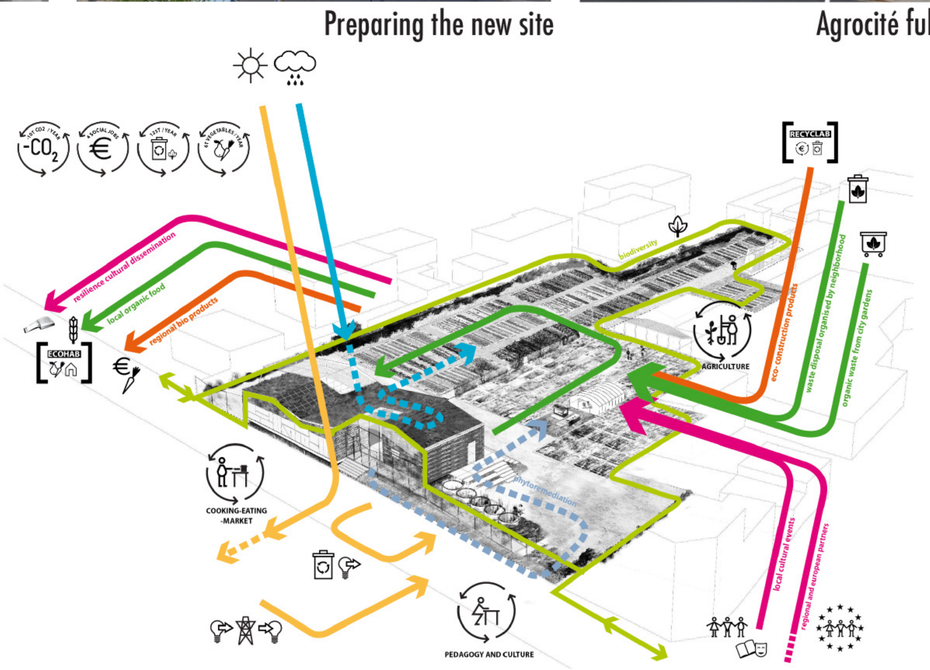
Skill sharing

Intergenerational workshops

Social markets

Communication workshops

Gardening



Agrocité's ecological circuits

8th ICBR Lisbon | Nov 2018
Building 4Humanity
DESIGN COMPETITION
Category 1:
Best Resilient Building Project

Team Project Coordinator(s): *Atelier d'Architecture Autogérée*
Team Members: *C.Petcou, D.Petrescu, L.Nguyen, S.Carlini, AL.Bourguignon, R.Buscot, PM.Cornin*
Year of conclusion: *04/2018*
Location: *Gennevilliers* / **France**
TEAM CODE: **B4H-DC1152**

AGROCITÉ: DESIGNING FOR SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE
RURBAN

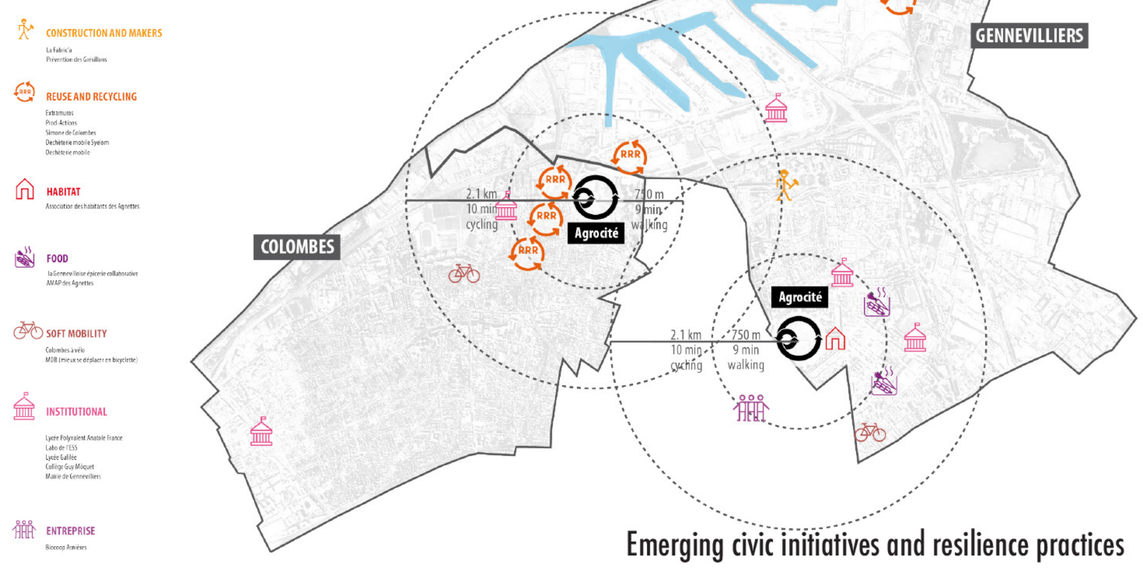
CONTEXT

Agrocite hub's location : Gennevilliers - Les Agnettes

AGROCITÉ IN GENNEVILLIERS

Agrocité is currently located in Gennevilliers, a 44500 inhabitants city next to Colombes, in the core of a public housing estate hosting a majority of working class population from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. The rate of public housing in this neighbourhood is of 75% and the unemployment rate is 21% (well above the regional rate of 12,8%). Also the poverty rate is 27% (while the regional rate is 15%).

More than thirty local organisations are concerned with resilience and ecological issues: gardening, recycling, repairing, food processing, local culture. The R-Urban network of civic hubs, such as Agrocité, helps to federate, incubate, sustain and enhance these local initiatives of resilience and transforming them into a real resilience ecosystem.



Emerging civic initiatives and resilience practices

ÉCO-PROTOTYPES

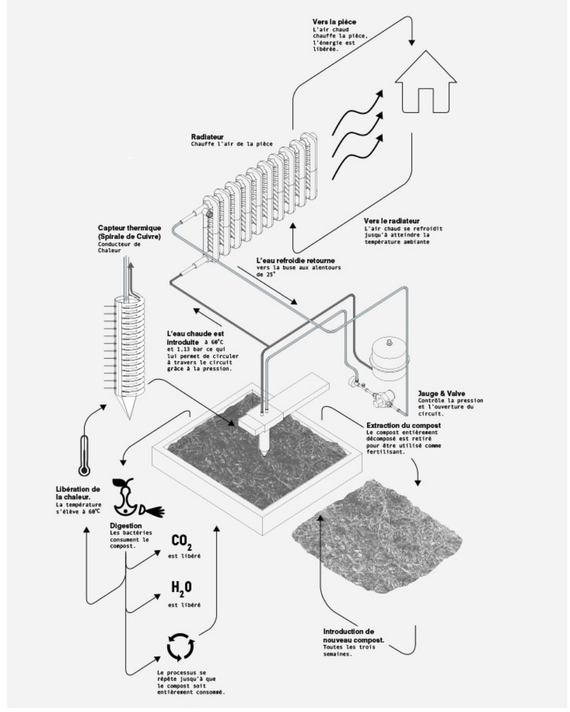
Rain water collection

Reused wooden panels

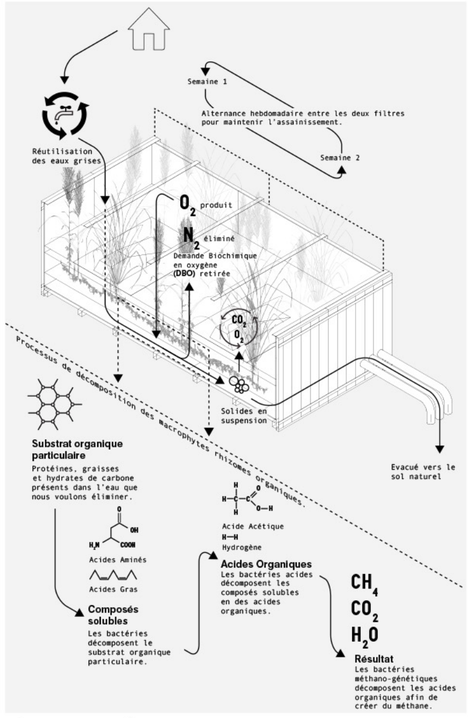
PROTOTYPING ECOLOGICAL ARCHITECTURE

Agrocité is conceived as a node of the resilience ecosystem emerging in the neighbourhood: organic waste is collected and composted for urban agriculture and local heating; rainwater is collected and grey water filtered and reused; waste is recycled or reused and energy is produced locally. The common pool of resources is visible and circular, involving actively the community in its reproduction.

It is an agricultural unit comprising an experimental micro-farm, community gardens, educational and cultural spaces, plus a range of experimental devices for compost-powered heating, rainwater collection, solar energy generation, aquaponic gardening and phyto-remediation. Agrocité is a hybrid structure, with components run as social enterprises (e.g. the micro-farm, market and cafe) or as user organisations (e.g. the community garden, cultural and educational spaces) and local associations. The 250m2 building is 90% built with recycled materials (wooden cladding elements, reused drying panels and windows reclaimed from demolitions) or biosourced materials (local wood, straw, vegetal strata). It has been built with local companies and parts have been co-costructed with the users.



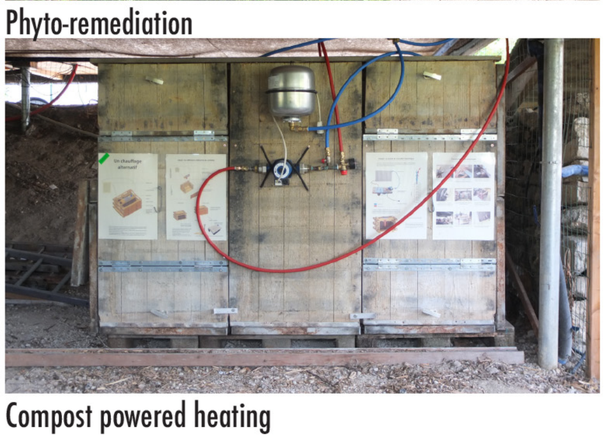
Compost powered heating



Phyto-remediation

Phyto-remediation

Straw insulation



Compost powered heating

Green Wall and Dripping system

Agrocité GENNEVILLIERS inauguration, 2018

Old and new structural patchwork

Reassembling the wooden framework

RESILIENCE BY DESIGN

Unfortunately, Agrocité in Colombes had to face political adverse conditions: following the change of Municipal representation after local elections in 2014, Agrocité was threaten with eviction by the new municipal team. After 2 years of protest and juridical fight, Agrocité was dismantled in February 2017, being rebuilt in Gennevilliers.

The Agrocité building was indeed designed for reversible implementation, building resilience principles being embedded within its conception All the construction details were designed to allow an intelligent demolition and reconstruction. The materials used in the initial construction were reused in a 95% proportion, in a full Cradle to Cradle manner.

RESILIENCE NETWORKS

In order to disseminate and develop the R-Urban strategy in other contexts, a number of clear principles and protocols were set up to integrate and support this wider network of commons. These are included in a R-Urban Charter.

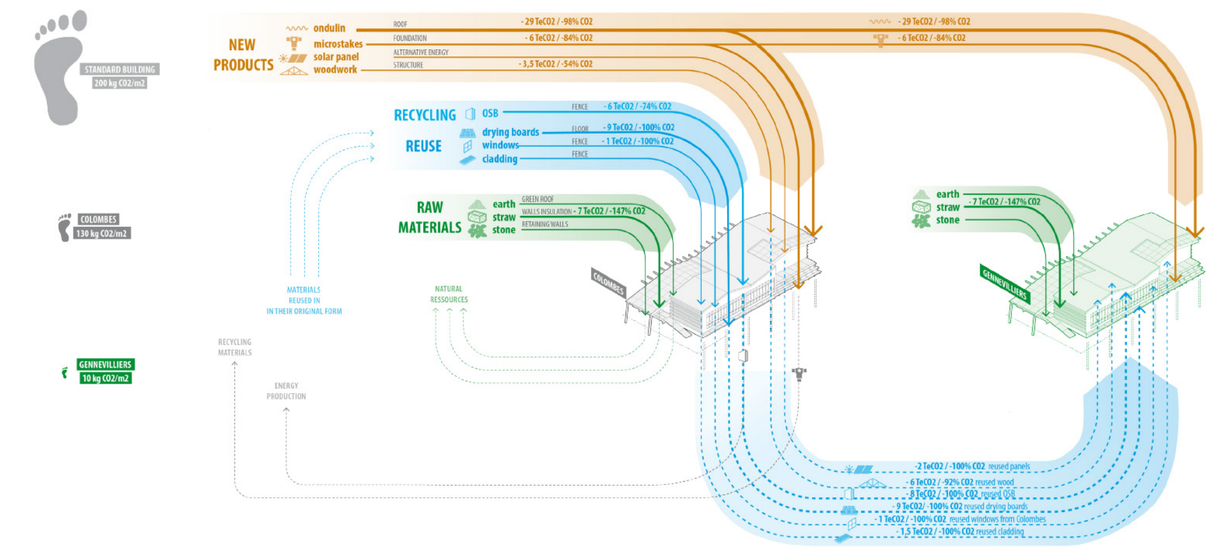
At the moment the network is expanding in Ile de France Region: After the two hubs in Colombes (Agrocite and Recyclab) and the one in Gennevilliers, three more hubs are in construction in Bagneux and Nanterre. A bigger hub - Wiki Village Factory – to be launched in 2020 in Paris, will work as regional pole and cluster for social and ecological innovation, hosting organisations and providing resources for the network

Recyclab - Colombes

Recyclab - Nanterre

WikiVilage Factory - Paris 20ème

Agrocité - Bagneux



Dismantling and rebuilding of Agrocité in Gennevilliers: a Cradle to Cradle process

ATELIER D'ARCHITECTURE AUTOGERÉE
RURBAN
PRÉFET DES HAUTS-DE-SEINE
VILLE DE Gennevilliers
Bagneux
Colombes www.colombes.fr
Fondation de France
Life
fondation daniel & nina carasso
ccfd-terre solidaire
ADEME
Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l'Energie
îledeFrance