

12 June 2016
Paris

Dear Madam/Sir,

We are writing to express our strong interest in hosting the 12th AESOP Heads of Schools Meeting in 2017 in Paris. As requested in the call for candidatures, you will find in the following (a) information about our institution; (b) information about location; and (c) information about proposed study tours.

We hope that the information provided here will be sufficient to allow the committee to make a decision. Please let us know if you require any further information.

Sincerely yours,

Corinne Larrue And Taoufik Souami
Heads of School, Paris School of Planning

Dr Florine Ballif and Professor Mustafa Dikeç
International Relations Coordinators, Paris School of Planning

A. Information about the hosting institution

Research and educational profile

The Paris School of Planning (Ecole d'Urbanisme de Paris) was created in 2015 by the unification of two institutes that defined French urban planning and studies in the twentieth century: Urban Planning Institute of Paris (Institut d'Urbanisme de Paris) and French Planning Institute (Institut Français d'Urbanisme).

The School is home to more than 50 faculty members whose interests cover all major domains of urban planning, such as mobility and transport, territorial strategies and social policies, housing, finance, and public space. Faculty members come from different backgrounds, including planning, human geography, architecture, sociology, economy, political science and engineering.

The School runs seven master's degree programmes, one of which is taught entirely in English (European programme within the Master "International planning and expertise"). We accept about 400 students a year from all over the world to these programmes.

In addition to its diverse teaching programmes, Paris School of Planning is associated with three research laboratories: Lab'Urba, LATTs (Laboratoire Techniques Territoires et Sociétés) and LVMT (Laboratoire Ville Mobilité Transport). These research laboratories bring together about 200 researchers and PhD students, making the School a vibrant research environment as well.

Teaching and scientific research, however, are not the only activities that define Paris School of Planning. The School has a strong commitment to participating in, indeed shaping, public debates on urban and planning issues. One recent example of this is a series of public debates on the Grand Paris project that brings together academics, practitioners, policy-makers, politicians and the general public.

In sum, Paris School of Planning is a vibrant setting defined by its diverse teaching, rich research, and sustained involvement in public debate.

Organisational capacity to host the event

Paris School of Planning has a strong administrative team. Should the committee accept the School's request to host the Heads of Schools 2017 Meeting, we will hire a temporary staff to organise the event, and assign a financial administrator and an assistant from our existing administrative team to help with the organisation.

The School has experience of hosting meetings. We hosted the EURA (European Urban Research Association) and UAA (Urban Affairs Association) joint conference 'City Futures' in 2014 (shortly before our School's official inauguration). We also organise and host national as well as international seminars, and the APERAU student planning contest every two or three years (APERAU is an association aimed at improving urban planning education; it brings together 29 planning schools in the Francophone world).

Possible collaboration format with local institutions

As mentioned above, Paris School of Planning is strongly committed to playing an active role in public debate. It, therefore, maintains strong links with practitioners, planning associations and local governments. The School has already organised and hosted public debates bringing together actors from these different settings. We propose to continue in this tradition, and organise a round-table discussion on the topical issue of Grand Paris project.

Financial capacity to host the event

Paris School of Planning has its own operating budget, with funds earmarked for the organisation of academic and public debate events. If our application is successful, we will also request funds from the University of East Paris, Marne-la-Vallée, as we have done in the past.

B. Information about the location

Accessibility

Paris School of Planning is located on the campus of the University of East Paris, Marne-la-Vallée. The campus is linked to central Paris with a regional rail line (RER A), and the journey

takes about 25 minutes. The trains run every three minutes in rush hour, and every ten minutes during the day.

The campus is accessible from the airports (both Charles de Gaulle and Orly) by regional lines or shuttle services. A taxi ride would last about an hour and cost between 50-70 euros. The Paris main train stations are also accessible within an hour by public transport.

Hotel capacity of the location

There is an Ibis Hotel next to the campus with a room capacity of 110. The hotel is next to the train station, and three minutes walk from the School. A wide range of hotels is also available in Paris.

Average cost for participants (hotel, meals, transport/day):

For the hotel on the campus or in Paris, the price would be between 80-100 euros per night. A full meal in a restaurant would cost between 20-30 euros. The campus cafeteria offers a menu for about 10 euros.

A return ticket from central Paris to the campus costs 8€. A transportation pass (*Paris Visite*) would give access to all buses, metros, trains (RER and Transilien) and tramways including shuttles to airports (35€ for 2 days, 50€ for 3 days, 60€ for 5 days).

C. Information about proposed study tours

We propose three study tours that highlight the planning and architectural history of Marne-la-Vallée, an emblematic 'new town' conceived in the 1960s. All visits will be guided by a professional planner from the Urban Development Corporation (EPA Marne), which runs the development of the new town and the campus. The transport will be operated by coach or minibus. Regarding the number of participants, these could be offered on choice to the participants or the more relevant one could be chosen beforehand by the AESOP committee. Each study tour lasts approximately three hours.

Tour 1 : Urban innovation

Marne-la-Vallée attracts 4,500 new residents each year, which requires the construction of nearly 2,000 new homes annually. By 2020, some 15,000 housing units will have been built

in the area, primarily around the future Grand Paris Express subway stations, in the Bussy Saint-Georges and Montévrain eco-neighbourhoods, and in Val d'Europe.

All these operations incorporate the best know-how in sustainable development and particularly innovative steps are being taken in the areas of energy (construction of passive or positive energy buildings), water (development of alternative sanitation), transport (project for a public transport system on a dedicated right of way, pedestrian and cycle ways, eco-mobility, etc.) and ICTs (access to very high speed broadband).

Marne-la-Vallée's major development projects are now undertaken in accordance with an eco-neighbourhood approach. This brings about urban intensification which incorporates the 'short distance urban environment' concept, encourages the use of public transport and leaves plenty of open spaces.

The visit will include: **The Descartes cluster**: The LION project (an eco-neighbourhood), iconic buildings in the campus (Coriolis, Bievvenue, Céleste, Artea..), multimodal “low carbon” GPE station, the building of the Compagnonsdu devoir..**In Lognes** The biomass boiler plant; in **Chessy** the multimodal station TGV/bus/car/bike/taxi **The villages nature** (eco tourism), in **Montrmévrain** and Serris (sycamore) eco neighbourhood) approaches, in **Chanteloup**; Bouygues passive energy houses and ADEME (eco label) awarded houses.

Tour 2 : Architecture and the history of the new town

In 40 years, the public authority has produced remarkable town neighbourhoods and urban spaces. From the functionalist theories which led to imposed 'paved urban development' to the shared urban development of recent years based on the utilisations and needs of residents, much has been done to build high quality towns almost from scratch.

Having been designed as a pioneering area of experimentation in sustainable development from the outset, Marne-la-Vallée continues to be an urban reference in France and abroad. Each year, it hosts visitors who have come to admire the Val Maubuée chain of lakes created at the beginning of the new town or the diversity of social life near the scenic valleys that run through the Cent Arpents neighbourhood in Bussy Saint-Georges.

Many renowned architects have showcased their talents in French contemporary architecture, in Marne-la-Vallée.

The visit will include : in **Noisy le grand** the theatre (Bofill), the Picasso Arena (Nunez) the Ministry (Chemetov); in the **Descartes Cluster** : the ESI ESS (Perrault) , Ecole des Ponts

(Chaix and Morel), Lavoisier and Rabelais buildings of the University of Marne-la-Vallée (FH Jourda et Perraudin) IFU (Riboulet); Ecole d'Architecture (Tschumi), Coriolis (Thierry Roche)) **Val Maubuée** (the haute maison farm, water tower in Noisiel (Protzmaparc) the Ferme du Buisson Art center (Huet and Grumbach) the Nestlé factory (Robert and Reichen) **Gondaire** chateau de Rentilly art centre; the Ferrières Farm; **Val d'Europe** : chanteloup passive energy houses; **Val d'Europe** multi-media library (Chemetov), the place de Toscane (Bontempi) the 'Disney' architecture.

Tour 3 : Urban planning and tourism

For the last 25 years, Marne-la-Vallée has been developed in the Val d'Europe area through an exemplary and unique agreement of its kind between the State, the Euro Disney company and local communities.

Strengthened in 2010, this partnership has established a Community Service Programme (PIG) which puts Val d'Europe's development into perspective in creating a catchment area of 60,000 residents by 2030.

In a new, so-called IV phase, some 3,500 housing units, almost 1,000 residential units and 3,000 hotel rooms, more than 200,000 m² of offices and shops, and about 15 hectares of business activities including the Villages Nature project, are planned to be built by 2020.

Such a programme is designed to give the tourist destination a development potential in synergy with Paris and Ile de France tourism, continue to attract new residents to Val d'Europe, promote the economic development cluster, schedule the location siting of major public facilities and provide metropolitan accessibility.

These new developments, which represent €2 billion in public and private investment, will have a major economic impact on the area.

By 2030, following the agreements signed between the State and Euro Disney, this site is set to double its hotel accommodation capacity and its attractions as part of an intensification of its tourist activities (business tourism, green tourism and sustainable tourism). The Villages Nature and Val d'Europe convention centre projects underpin this approach.

The visit will focus on **Val d'Europe** Development: transport hub in Chessy, Neo Haussmann style town planning, public space built within a private planning framework, hotels, Disney parks, regional Commercial centre, Integrated development zones under development, Village nature, and Val d'Europe convention centre project.