

## Team

The core staff at the Cité Maraîchère consist of a director, a culture manager and an events and education manager.

The market gardening and other activities are carried out by the teams of workplace integration employees supplied by the new Agence Communale de la Transition Écologique et Solidaire (ACTES - Communal agency for the ecological transition and solidarity), who will be provided with support from socio-

professional integration advisers from the Centre Communal d'Action Sociale (CCAS - Community Social Action Centre), throughout their integration process.

**CHEFFES!** is run by the team of Hawa Touré, Lauranne Sambar and Léa Letellier. They all signed up in July 2021 through a call for expressions of interest launched by the local authorities for the provision of the public café-canteen.



## Contact Us

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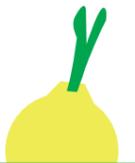
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www.lacitemaraichere.com

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"This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 862663 »

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION: COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF ROMAINVILLE - DECEMBER 2021



# Romainville's Cité Maraîchère

## A municipal facility for urban agriculture and sustainable and community-based food



Romainville's Cité Maraîchère (market garden) is a facility set up by a new community-based team working towards an ambitious local policy to rise to the challenge of ecological and community transition.

It aims to develop an environmental education programme alongside sustainable food, promoting access to fresh, healthy and seasonal produce for all.

Designed as a lively new meeting place, it will bring together everyone involved in the local economy around fresh new ideas, right at the heart of the Marcel Cachin district in Romainville.

It will also act as a means to create jobs in the area and

provide support to those having difficulties finding employment. Workplace integration and training courses are on offer, supported by the Agence Communale de la Transition Écologique et Solidaire (Community Agency for Ecological and Solidarity Transition - ACTES), founded in October 2020.

Following the building's completion in February 2021, the first months of the project were devoted to setting up the market gardening and eco-facilitation units: filling the 753 planters, sowing and planting, donations of the first harvests to the Secours Populaire charity, direct sales to residents from July onwards, workshops for leisure centres, extracurricular activities and some schools, and the development of outdoor spaces for local residents.

The Cité Maraîchère is readying itself for the launch of its first season!



## A multi-purpose living space in the heart of the Marcel Cachin district.

The Cité Maraîchère is a vertical farm that plays host to a whole series of facilities and activities under one roof:

- a market garden production area (700 m<sup>2</sup> of production in planters), endives (30 m<sup>2</sup>) and mushrooms (130 m<sup>2</sup>);
- educational spaces (about 250 m<sup>2</sup>) for the general public for the provision of training, workshops, meetings and cultural events;
- outdoor spaces with gardens for learning (130 m<sup>2</sup>), a communal square and a neighborhood composter;
- CHEFFES!, the 50-seat café-canteen that has opened last October 2021.

Conceived as an innovative and supportive space, the Cité Maraîchère is a multi-faceted place for market garden production, learning, teaching and raising awareness of more environmentally friendly lifestyles, recreation and exchanges, catering and sales, and also provides a new living

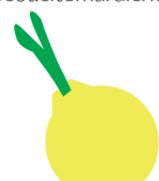


space in the Marcel Cachin district.

The neighborhood composter is open every Saturday from 10am to 12pm by the zero waste team.

Further opening times supervised by local people may be provided over the course of the year. Let us know if you are interested!

Further information:  
compost.citemaraichere@ville-romainville.fr





**Market gardening activities were launched in January 2021.**

- In the greenhouse floors, our seasonal vegetable produce consists of a whole range of varieties (fruiting vegetables, leafy vegetables, berries, herbs).

- Oyster mushrooms, shiitake mushrooms and endives are grown in the basement.

First harvest in the vertical greenhouse in April 2021

## Something's growing at the Cité Maraîchère!

### Agronomic project

We develop a culture in planters without pesticides or chemical inputs, with a circular substrate (from the recovery of mushroom culture waste, compost and cellular concrete). The two vertical greenhouses operate without heating or artificial light, with natural ventilation and a drip irrigation system controlled by a programmer. The collection of rainwater on the roof caters for 40% of the irrigation needs.

## Community fruit and vegetable sales

The Cité Maraîchère has been selling its vegetables to local residents since the summer of 2021.

In order to promote access to quality food for all Romainville residents, the local authority is applying a household income-based tariff system.

In practice, this means that the standard rate (Rate A), established based on the prices set out by the Rungis Organic Market, applies to all members of the public as well as to bands 9 and above.

A reduced rate is available to Romainville residents based on their family band, as shown on the following scale:

- Bands 7 and 8: Rate B - 25% discount
- Bands 5 and 6: Rate C - 50% discount
- Bands 1, 2, 3, 4, students and people referred by the CCAS (Community Social Action Center): Rate D - 75% discount

**A sales event runs every Wednesday between 5pm and 7pm at the Cité Maraîchère.** A customer card specifying the A, B, C or D rate is given on the first visit, on presentation of the family band level. Our produce is also available for tasting at the café-canteen and is used in many workshops events at the Cité Maraîchère!

Naturally, we don't throw anything away! Any surplus produce will be donated or bartered with local charities.

## Workshops and events for everyone

This year, the team has drawn up a great programme of educational activities and cultural and scientific events about nature in the city, zero waste, food, reuse, etc. through workshops held in schools, leisure centres, neighbourhood centres, sheltered housing and with the general public (including people of all ages).



**Find the detailed programme on the Cité Maraîchère website and its quarterly programme.**

Unveiling of the "Vege-table" (table for edible landscaping) and the neighborhood composter in July 2021

### Educational workshops for the 2021-2022 academic year

For the 2021-2022 academic year, the Cité Maraîchère is offering school workshops (kindergarten, elementary, junior high and high school) in the form of isolated "turnkey" workshops or five-session courses on the following themes: nature in the city, zero waste, sustainable food, from field to fork.

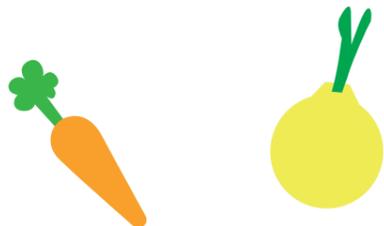
The Romainville local authorities are paying for a total of 384 sessions at the Cité Maraîchère this year for children attending local schools.



Planting in outdoor gardens with local residents in May 2021

### Opening hours:

- Monday and Tuesday from 8am to 5pm
- Wednesday from 8am to 7pm
- Thursday to Saturday from 8am to 11pm
- Sunday from 11am to 4pm



## Agence Communale de la Transition Écologique et Solidaire – ACTES (Community Agency for Ecological and Solidarity Transition)

The Cité Maraîchère is the first achievement in an ambitious ecological and social policy supported by the local authorities, with the firm desire to ensure that the ecological and social transitions to be made are pathways to economic development that start from within, with a heavy emphasis on local employment and accessible to all.

Romainville has decided to create and support a Community Agency (Agence Communale de la Transition Écologique et Solidaire - ACTES), calling on the resources and skills of

the various departments and services of the local authorities and in a holistic approach aimed at making Romainville a "learning community".

We are rising to the challenge of ecological transition by playing an active part in the emergence of new sectors - urban agriculture, eco-events, recycling sorting and zero waste, the fight against food waste, the development of new forms of mobility, combatting fuel poverty, reconnection with sustainable food, reuse, etc. These all offer promising professional opportunities, which broaden people's options and constitute a real gateway to employment for the most disadvantaged people.

ACTES was approved in January 2021 as a "Workplace Integration Workshop" by the DRIETTS (Regional Directorate for the Economy, Employment, Labour and Communities) for the Seine-Saint Denis region. Through its agency, the City of Romainville is part of the network of structures for workplace integration through economic activity, which combine employment, training and close socio-professional support for people struggling to find work.

The ultimate goal is to create around a hundred jobs in the new professions brought about through ecological transition.



## Café-canteen

**CHEFFES!**, the café-canteen at the Cité Maraîchère will open its doors in October 2021, run by Hawa Touré, Léa Letellier and Lauranne Sambar, who were selected through a call for expressions of interest held in July 2021.

A tasty menu with something for everyone, fresh and local produce, partnerships with local producers, as well as training and a cultural programme linked to activities taking place at the Cité Maraîchère. The café-canteen is a core part of a new committed, supportive and friendly local facility.