

## **Exceptional HQE, Excellent BREEAM and Gold DGNB: BNP Paribas in Luxembourg earns triple environmental certification at European level**

During the design phase of the new Kirchberg Banking Centre for the BNP Paribas Group in Luxembourg with its oKsigen and eKinox buildings, the Group, in line with its approach as a socially responsible company, set itself the challenge of earning triple environmental certification at European level for the project: HQE (*Haute Qualité Environnementale*) in France, BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) in the United Kingdom and DGNB (*Deutsche Gesellschaft für Nachhaltiges Bauen*) in Germany. To that end, the bank paid particularly close attention to ecologically responsible technologies, minimising the consumption of energy and natural resources, as well as to the health, comfort and well-being of users.

oKsigen and eKinox are highly energy-efficient buildings in which energy consumption is optimised. This approach also involves integrating renewable energy, for example by using photovoltaic solar panels installed on-site. In order to limit the consumption of potable water, a rainwater collection system was installed with a view to supplying water for the washroom facilities and cooling towers, and watering green spaces.

Effective monitoring of energy and water consumption is guaranteed through high-performance regulation and technical management of the building. Air flow and lighting can be regulated depending on the actual usage of the spaces, and blinds can be raised and lowered as sunlight moves across the buildings' facades.

To ensure ecologically responsible waste management, the Bank has implemented a careful waste sorting process that complies with the SuperDrecksKëscht® standard. Meanwhile, organic waste resulting from the preparation of meals in the company's restaurants is collected and sent to a biogas production facility.

The ecological quality of the site and its biodiversity (vegetation suited to the climate and exposure, plant varieties that are predominantly non-allergenic and non-toxic) offer welcoming outdoor spaces for both users and local residents. Green roofs make up almost half of the roof area.

Marc Lenert, BGL BNP Paribas Management Board member, says: "We are particularly proud not only of achieving triple HQE, BREEAM and DGNB certification but also of the very high levels we received for each certificate, namely 'exceptional' for HQE, 'excellent' for BREEAM and 'gold' for DGNB. The oKsigen and eKinox buildings mark the beginning of a new phase in our environmental policy, which is already deeply rooted within our company. Earning these certificates inspires us to redouble our efforts in this regard by continuing to follow an integrated approach that combines environmental protection, minimal consumption of energy and natural resources, and protecting the health and comfort of users."

### **About BGL BNP Paribas**

BGL BNP Paribas ([www.bgl.lu](http://www.bgl.lu)) is one of the largest banks in Luxembourg and part of the BNP Paribas Group. It offers an especially wide range of financial products and bancassurance solutions to individuals, professionals, private banking clients and businesses. At end 2017, the BNP Paribas Group employed around 3,700 people in Luxembourg, of which 2,379 at BGL BNP Paribas.

In 2017, the international magazine Euromoney named BGL BNP Paribas "Best Bank in Luxembourg" for the second year in a row.

### **About BNP Paribas**

BNP Paribas is a leading bank in Europe with an international reach. It has a presence in 73 countries, with more than 196,000 employees, including more than 149,000 in Europe. The Group has key positions in its three main activities: Domestic Markets and International Financial Services (whose retail-banking networks and financial services are covered by Retail Banking & Services) and Corporate & Institutional Banking, which serves two client franchises: corporate clients and institutional investors. The Group helps all its clients (individuals, community associations, entrepreneurs, SMEs, corporates and institutional clients) to realise their projects through solutions spanning financing, investment, savings and protection insurance. In Europe, the Group has four domestic markets (Belgium, France, Italy and Luxembourg) and BNP Paribas Personal Finance is the European leader in consumer lending. BNP Paribas is rolling out its integrated retail-banking model in Mediterranean countries, in Turkey, in Eastern Europe and a large network in the western part of the United States. In its Corporate & Institutional Banking and International Financial Services activities, BNP Paribas also enjoys top positions in Europe, a strong presence in the Americas as well as a solid and fast-growing business in Asia-Pacific.

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