

PRESS RELEASE

Paris-Saclay, 15 December 2021

Université Paris-Saclay and the Better World Fund announce the creation of 'Academia for a Better World'

Université Paris-Saclay and the [Better World Fund](#) have signed a framework partnership agreement, marking their willingness to work together on concrete philanthropic actions related to major humanitarian, climate and environmental issues. The signing of the agreement took place on 4 December 2021, as part of a two-day event organised by the Better World Fund at the Sweden Pavilion of the Expo 2020 Dubai, to mark the international day for persons with disabilities.

The Better World Fund is a Paris-based endowment fund, which has worked for several years to build a better world. Through film, new technology and culture, Better World raises awareness about the need to protect the environment and improve human living conditions to bring about real change. In 2021, the fund focused on major issues related to disability, the environment, biodiversity and the protection of ecosystems.

Sharing a common vision, the Better World Fund and Université Paris-Saclay have decided to pool together their expertise, skills and international influence networks to launch 'Academia for a Better World'. The signing of this partnership agreement marks their willingness to coordinate philanthropic, concrete actions related to humanitarian, climate and environmental issues, linked more generally to sustainability and inclusion.

Supported by the Université Paris-Saclay Foundation, the University and Better World, 'Academia for a Better World' is a borderless philanthropic platform which fosters the emergence of the world's best solutions in science, humanities, economics, finance, medicine, art and technology, to meet the challenges of the coming decade: climate change, sustainability, biodiversity, resources, inclusion, educational divide, and chronic and infectious pandemics.

"Our partnership makes perfect sense given the complementarity of our respective missions", explains Estelle Iacona, First Vice President of Université Paris-Saclay. "The Better World Fund works to support a better world for future generations through cinema and culture more generally. Université Paris-Saclay has undertaken a mission to share knowledge and skills with young generations, but also to value lifelong learning and the creation of innovation and the development of cutting-edge research which will allow us to meet the challenges of tomorrow," confirms Patrick Duvaut, Vice President at Université Paris-Saclay, responsible for the Université Paris-Saclay Foundation.

The signing of the agreement took place during a gala dinner on 4 December 2021, at the end of a two-day event organised by the Better World Fund to mark the international day for persons with disabilities, at the Expo 2020 Dubai.



From left to right: Patrick Duvaut, Vice President at Université Paris-Saclay, responsible for the Université Paris-Saclay Foundation, Estelle Iacona, First Vice President at Université Paris-Saclay, Manuel Collas de la Roche, President and Founder of the Better World Fund.

ABOUT UNIVERSITÉ PARIS-SACLAY

Université Paris-Saclay brings together ten constituent faculties and institutes, four Grandes Écoles, the Institut des Hautes Etudes Scientifiques, two associate institutions and shared laboratories with six national research organisations.

With 48,000 students, 8,100 lecturers and 8,500 administrative and technical staff members, Université Paris-Saclay offers a comprehensive and varied range of undergraduate to doctorate level programmes and engineering degrees, renowned for their quality thanks to the reputation and commitment of the University's academic staff.

Located in the south of Paris on vast sites that stretch across Paris, Orsay, Évry and Versailles, Université Paris-Saclay benefits from a strategic geographical and socio-economic position that is strengthened by its international visibility. A leading university, Université Paris-Saclay is recognised for its excellent Mathematics and Physics programmes but also for Biological and Medical Sciences, Agriculture, Engineering, and its extensive Humanities and Social Sciences courses. Close to Paris, Université Paris-Saclay is nested in a protected natural area, at the heart of a dynamic economic hub.



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