

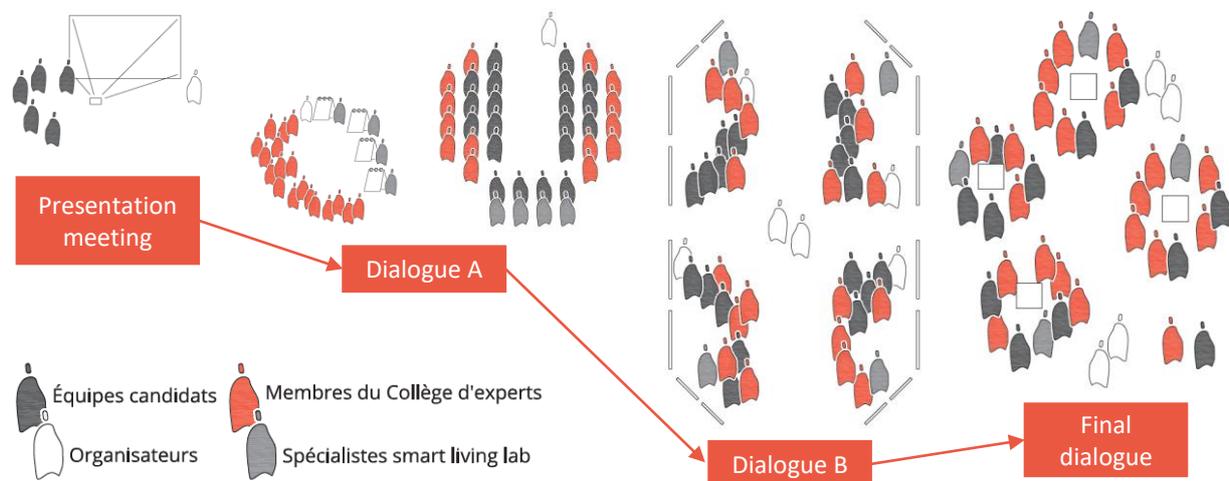


Interactions and design process

Collaborative parallel studies mandate

Designed on the basis of a holistic vision born out of more than four years of research, the building of the Smart Living Lab is the result of a parallel studies mandate (in French: MEP Mandat d'études parallèles) in close cooperation with researchers and future users of the building. This innovative and unique procedure was launched by the Smart Living Lab and Bluefactory Fribourg-Freiburg SA in 2018 at the preliminary project stage. In July 2019, the group made up of Behnisch Architekten, Drees & Sommer Schweiz AG and ZPF Ingenieure AG won this mandate to define the project for the new iconic building of the research centre located in the blueFACTORY innovation district in Fribourg. [1].

Keywords | *Parallel studies mandate, collaborative, preliminary project*



Candidate teams
Members of the panel of experts
Organisers
Smart Living Lab specialists

Figure 1. Organisation and different stages of the parallel studies mandate process.

Preselection procedure

In response to the open call for applications to the public, published in September 2018, 23 applications from 5 different countries were submitted within the deadline. Following an in-depth review of the applications by the architects and engineers representing the Smart Living Lab and Bluefactory Fribourg-Freiburg SA (BFF SA), four multidisciplinary teams were selected to participate in the parallel studies mandate:

- Behnisch Architekten, Drees & Sommer Schweiz AG, ZPF Ingenieure AG (winning project)
- Baumschlager Eberle Architekten AG, Dr. Lüchinger + Meyer Bauingenieure AG, Lauber IWISA AG, B+S AG
- estudioHerreros SLP, Dr Schwartz Consulting AG, Transplan Technik-Bauplanung GmbH, Transsolar Energietechnik GmbH, xmade GmbH
- Itten + Brechbühl SA, CSD Ingénieurs

Parallel studies mandate process

The building of the Smart Living Lab is itself designed as a research tool. That is why designers were asked to interact with the Smart Living Lab researchers in the initial stages of the building's design. As a research centre focused on the future of the built environment, the Smart Living Lab was therefore experimenting with a new design process.

The parallel studies mandate process included open dialogues where interactions between all participants (candidates, expert panels, users and Smart Living Lab researchers/specialists) enabled candidates to share approaches, ideas and solutions and allowed for projects to be developed over the course of the process. A panel of experts was tasked with assessing the proposals made by the multidisciplinary groups. This panel mainly consisted of external and independent experts, architects, engineers and specialists in the area of buildings, as well as representatives of BFF SA, the State of Fribourg and academic institutions partnered with the Smart Living Lab. [2].



Figure 2. Participating teams [3,4,5,6] forming part of the parallel studies mandate (left); model of the HOP winning project (right).

By focusing on a collaborative process that supports fruitful interactions, the process is reflective of the Smart Living Lab building's image as an inclusive catalyst for progress. To continue the research works that led to its design, the process itself is the subject of a research project which aims to examine and analyse the entire parallel studies mandate for the Smart Living Lab building as an innovative and collaborative design competition process implemented in Switzerland for the first time. [7].

References

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