

Parameters and configurations

One of the driving ideas behind Organismo is research and experimentation with methodologies and configurations of agents in design and development processes. Organismo wants to explore hybrid structures that incorporate diverse forms of knowledge and actors to respond to non-hegemonic forms of knowledge and management, decentralized and plural.

To this end, we want to make use of new possibilities created by diverse technologies that make it possible to blur and overcome the dichotomy between theory and practice, conceptualization and execution in processes or inside and outside a network or group.

This approach is translated into two aspects of Organismo's design. On the one hand, in the shape of its own organizational body and structure as an entity that groups parts and weaves relationships. On the other hand, in the assemblies for each case study, which emerge as variations or evolutions adapted from the starting point. Each case will involve its own methodological process from the combination of collective intelligence and the design of specific systems for each of it.

01. ORGANISMO BODY

Organismo's very structure or configuration of its body is an exercise to explore forms of governance that can overcome the hierarchical structures normally applied in programs aimed at research, study, and implementation of collective processes. Thus, for this year zero of prototyping Organismo, its design, development, and management are guided by an organizational chart led by TBA21—Academy of a mutable, receptive, and adaptable condition, linking to other actors in order to form the configurations needed for each case study.

This germ *body* and starting guide is organized as a polycephalic structure that expands like tentacles to connect different areas of activity and responsibility, as well as different levels of commitment and belonging. The body is thus made up of several figures that we have called liaisons and that act as connections between the different areas and agents involved. We start with the following:

- assembly liaison
- methodology liaison
- recursivity liaison
- voices liaison
- development liaison
- digital liaison
- foundation liaison
- museum liaison

02. CASE TEAMS

The different teams working on each case study have a structure that begins as a series of figures who will work collaboratively following their own dynamics. The links between the figures and their responsibilities will be arranged according to the agreements reached and the logics established in the design workshops. The starting figures, which you will find in the files of each case, are the following:

● Pulse

an artistic or creative agent that proposes the guidelines of the case study: the voice that sets the pulse of the process.

● Membrane

an agent in charge of coordinating, accompanying, and articulating the links and dependencies for the development of the case.

● Flows

each of the five to seven participants in each case study, selected through the open call for proposals, that constitute the muscle.

● Valve

an entity that proposes, triggers, or facilitates the case opportunity.

● Channel

an expert or inspirational figure who can contribute knowledge on an occasional basis over different durations. These channels will be profiles proposed by FECYT, FITD, or other collaborating organizations and communities associated with the different valves and with TBA21–Academy whose work is related to the topics, among others.

● Substrate

flow of the grantee responsible for the exploration of methods and forms of documentation of the case. The substrate should respond to the needs and agreements established among the members of the case to develop with a story that can contribute to the sample of the process at the end of the program, as well as a device for future reference and learning for other interested teams or projects with similar interests.

Organismo wants to pay attention to ways of narrating, measuring, and evaluating the processes that will be developed. This is why grants were allocated for the development of six substrate figures, one per case study, who will be asked to explore parameters, indexes, forms of narration, elements, and other tools that may serve this purpose.

The guide for this task will be the critical review of those evaluation indexes that are normally used in these processes, in order to find others that may incorporate sensibilities and values that are often not represented.

03. TYPES OF SESSIONS

For this pilot year of the independent study program, which will run from January to June 2024, we propose a hybrid format (on-site and online) that can be compatible with participants' other commitments.

○ Presences

are face-to-face encounters where we want to explore different formats of meeting and knowledge transmission with a particular focus on experiential learning. They are open to the general public as a way to generate spaces of connection between Organismo and an expanded audience. They will take place on Thursday afternoons.

○ Companies

are the working sessions dedicated specifically to the participants of the independent study program, conducted by people whose practices are related to the topics addressed by the cases, with experiences or contexts that can inform the study processes. They will be held on Friday evenings and developed online.

○ Contacts

moments of collective work by case groups on Fridays and Saturdays, or to be scheduled according to the availability of the agents that make up each case study. These may be online or at the case study locations when the associated travel time coincides with the session.