

Citizen Activation

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⊙ Priorité	important
☀ Statut	Prof OK
☰ catégorie	Impact
☰ compatibles courses	PENS-490 projet ENAC (4ECTS)
☰ Code du projet	PENS-490

Introduction

rebuILT is a student association who is partnering with the commune of Ecublens with the objective to test methods and practices of unconventional construction sites that are participative and sustainable by design. Starting from the design phase, members of the public have been engaged in the construction process of a pavilion made of recycled material, and in the development of a programme of activities for the pavilion common use.

In the last two terms, we led two Semester Projects: one focused on the meta-analysis of the participative worksite activities, which helped plan the summer construction events in collaboration with members of the Ecublens commune. The second project helped gain a deeper understanding of the dynamics among local associations –particularly in terms of lack of interaction – and stimulated thinking regarding the pavilion's model of ownership and governance.

Printemps 2023

https://drive.google.com/file/d/18jWpuy_m_mpEGE0lzMhyWxLHor75X6EM/view?usp=drive_link

Automne 2023

Final Report - Citizen activation.pdf

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mg8Zf6D0za6gyu-KXAcCS1PD1mejKn6/view?usp=drive_link

This Spring MA semester's project continues this past work by **focusing on citizen activation** with the following objectives:

- to further investigate ways to raise awareness about sustainability challenges, alternative construction methods, and the importance of sobriety, this will particularly look at means for engaging local school children
- to identify a model of governance for the pavillon operation phase, building on knowledge acquired until now
- to integrate people who might have been left out from the activation activities conducted to date. We wish to collaborate with four students; topics will be finalised in relation to the number of students participating in this Semester's Project.

Semester Project: List of Activities

Subproject 1: Raising awareness and activation (1-2 students)

This group of activities focuses on developing a strategy for activation and sensibilisation in collaboration/partnership with local stakeholders.

- Interview participants from the activities conducted in spring-summer 2023 and the rebuilt Citizen Activation team members to get feedback on the workshops run in the past.
- Develop the pavilion awareness strategy - on matters of alternative construction, sustainability and sobriety - by:
 - reviewing case studies
 - interviewing the SPS at EPFL ([Service de Promotion des Sciences](#) - it is the domain at EPFL which aims "to promote science and technology for children and for the general public")
 - interviewing school teachers/members of staff
 - developing workshop or activities
- Prepare a list of participative workshops for summer 2024 which should include:
 - dates, location, objectives
 - supporting documents (informative material...)
 - working strategy to co-design the workshops with the technical team
 - list of actions that would improve stakeholder's participation in the process
- Present in the commune's monthly working groups – GTs – a list of refined collective activities
- Develop methods for the analysis & tracking of the "actual" level of citizen participation; if low, propose improvements

Subproject 2: The pavilion's exploitation governance (1 student)

This group of activities focuses on developing the pavilion's governance model in collaboration with local communities and stakeholders.

- Co-develop with local actors a shared low-effort logistic plan for the pavilion management
- Organize meetings with the local actors for co-developing this plan
- Participate in the commune's monthly working groups to co-define the pavilion usage, and discuss with them the exploitation contract

Subproject 3: Inclusion (1 student)

This group includes activities related to the integration of different communities in Ecublens.

- Study and test strategies to involve potentially parties who have been left out from the current activation process (potential integration of migrant communities with the project?)

Semester Project outcomes

Students should deliver a report including:

- Minutes of the commune meetings - PVs des GTs - and of the exploitation contract discussions

- A review of case studies on the following topics:
 - involving children in sustainable processes,
 - strategies of participative governance
 - other examples of citizen activation events
- A definition of "communal building", which should integrate the list of the challenges of sharing the pavilion management and what strategy can mitigate this effectively (e.g., who uses it and how)
- A strategy for generating a low-effort inclusive governance of the building during its exploitation
- An analysis of the organised events that outline alternative construction methods, participative processes, sobriety practices - comprising of the documents produced, the activation process phases, pictures, feedbacks, lessons learned...
- A map of relations or of the impact of the project on the territory (maybe a document used to explain certain aspects of the project to certain publics) → requirement for TTC

Learning Outcomes

The students will be able to:

- understand principles of participatory processes for sustainable strategies
- communicate sustainable strategies to members of the public and professionals, especially children
- design a programme of engagement activities for sustainable construction
- analyse the literature on participative strategies for increasing sustainability
- engage effectively with experts from different domains
- identify ways for innovating the traditional process of construction
- collaborate with student associations and other projects within rebuiLT
- write project reports