amàco is supported by investissements d’avenir through the governmental initiatives for excellence in innovative training programme (IDEFI) for a period of eight years, up until December, 2019.

The Grands Ateliers, bearer of the project, is associated with the École Nationale Supérieure d’Architecture de Grenoble, the Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Lyon and the École Supérieure de Physique et Chimie Industrielles de Paris.

The project is implemented as part of the Cité de la Construction Durable, a conceptual framework integrating the whole construction cycle, from natural materials up to built spaces and their use and whose implementation brings together universities, industries and local communities.

The amàco team invites all teachers, researchers, professionals and representatives of higher education institutions and research or vocational training organizations, local representatives, etc. interested in the Building Matter Workshop, to get in touch (contact information below).

Partners

Amàco – Building Matter Workshop
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Conception

Architects, artists, scientists and engineers, gathering at the Grands Ateliers around an innovative pedagogy of experimentation, focusing on the understanding of matter as a way to think and build differently. The amàco project aims at reconsidering all of the aspects that determine the construction cycle, starting with the land from which raw matter is extracted, the production of building materials, components, structures, buildings, human settlements, and finally addressing their integration as part of a given territory.

Experimentation

The amàco project is managed by the Grands Ateliers – the Great Workshops (GAIA), a center for teaching, research and experimentation in the field of building construction.

At the Grands Ateliers, life-size structures and housing prototypes can be constructed, allowing to complete the theoretical or virtual teachings developed in schools of architecture, art and engineering.

The Grands Ateliers bring together higher education institutions and the Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment, in the framework of a public interest group (GIP).

“Understanding matter to think and build differently”

Physicists

The École Supérieure de Physique et Chimie Industrielles de Paris – The City of Paris Industrial Physics and Chemistry Higher Educational Institution (ESPCI ParisTech) has attracted, for over a century, some of the most innovative scientific minds such as Pierre and Marie Curie, Paul Langevin, Frédéric Joliot-Curie, Pierre-Gilles de Gennes and Georges Charpak.

To convey the wonder of knowledge and stimulate curiosity and interest in science and experimentation are part of the mission of this institution.

Engineers

The Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Lyon – National Institute of Applied Sciences of Lyon (INSA Lyon) is one of the largest French engineering schools. It hosts 23 research laboratories, 500 professors and researchers, 700 graduate students and 5000 students.

INSA de Lyon offers 12 training curriculums; the Materials Science and the Civil Engineering and Urban Planning branches will be particularly involved in the project.

Architects

The École Nationale Supérieure d’Architecture de Grenoble – National School of architecture, Grenoble (ENSAGI), through its laboratory CRAtorre/Labex Architecture, Environnement and Cultures Constructives (AE&CC) is a world reference in the investment of local human and physical resources for sustainable construction.
"A material is not interesting for what it is but for what it can do for society”

John Turner