

CALL FOR THE SELECTION OF THREE RESEARCH PROJECTS WITHIN THE ANNUAL PROGRAM OF MEDIALAB AT MATADERO MADRID

1. PRESENTATION

The Madrid City Council directly manages the cultural center Matadero Madrid through the municipal mercantile company Madrid Destino, Cultura, Turismo y Negocio S.A. (hereinafter, "Madrid Destino") with CIF A-84073105, and registered office at Calle Conde Duque 9-11 (28015 Madrid).

Matadero Madrid, as a center for contemporary creation, has as one of its programs Medialab.

Medialab promotes transdisciplinary, collaborative and open research, encouraging the development of research projects of national and international scope. With its transfer to Matadero, Medialab aims to consolidate itself as a cutting-edge research center from which to shape the future. For this reason, the annual program of research projects is presented with an open call for international projects. The program will host, promote and visualize the development of three research projects on the margins of established modes of thought. Medialab encourages a proactive, collaborative and experimental research work, but at the same time rigorous, critical and operational, supporting research proposals based on speculative design, learning by doing and counterintuitive, which promote the resolution and testing of projects with human potential and social and ecological utility.

Medialab is a space for innovation and research that welcomes those projects that are too exceptional to fit into the strict lines of academic research, often incapable of bringing together and intertwining diverse disciplines or intermediate positions between thought and practice. Medialab's mission is to fill this institutional void as far as possible, welcoming and promoting ideas and projects that, despite their brilliance and transformative capacity, do not find their place in the more disciplinary public programs.

Within this broad framework, Medialab provides, through this call, the context and the appropriate space to develop three research projects throughout the year 2022.

2. PURPOSE

This call, in accordance with the principles of transparency, equality and competition, and in line with the programming lines of Matadero Madrid, has as its final objective the selection of three research projects that develop, during a maximum period of one year, a research project within the framework of the themes proposed by the head curator of Medialab, and

in dialogue with the activities of the annual program of Medialab and the communities linked to it.

3. CANDIDATES/PARTICIPANTS

This call is aimed at projects, individually or collectively, researching in disciplines such as design, art, architecture, urbanism, economics, film, photography, journalism, digital media, environmental sciences, philosophy, engineering, social studies, political science, programming, materials science, activism, or any other field.

Research projects should contribute to the creation of an open space for personal and professional exchange; the language of communication is usually both Spanish and English.

Those responsible for the projects must be of legal age, with capacity to act and in possession of the corresponding administrative authorizations to be able to stay in Spain for the duration of the research project, and who do not incur in any of the prohibitions to contract established in article 71 of the Public Sector Contracts Law.

The project must be presented and developed in both Spanish and English.

4. RESEARCH PROJECT

Research projects must be related to one or more of the thematic lines proposed by the Medialab head curator, which are the following (Annex I of this call):

1. Nuevas Dinámicas.
2. Medios Sintientes.
3. Ecosistemas Híbridos.
4. Semióticas Inteligentes.
5. Micro-Macro-Tectónicas.
6. Herramientas Disruptivas.
7. Cibernéticas Tangibles.
8. Horizonte de Sucesos.

During its development, the project should be able to dialogue with the rest of Medialab's activities, and be able to transform and enrich itself with this dialogue in contact with collaborators (individuals and other organizations), other researchers, users and the public.

Throughout its development, the research project may be developed in the spaces of Matadero enabled through information, documentation, exhibitions or presentations of a public nature, and may also be translated into public activities associated with it, agreed

throughout the development of the project with the head curator. The research process and its results must be adequately documented.

We will choose those projects whose themes, proposals and dynamics contribute the most to the program and at the same time those proposals that benefit the most from the context of openness, collaboration and innovation of Medialab according to the evaluation criteria of this open call.

5. APPLICATION EVALUATION COMMITTEE AND SELECTION CRITERIA

a. Valuation Commission

MADRID DESTINO will set up an Evaluation Commission composed of two professionals from outside the institution, the head curator of Medialab at Matadero Madrid and a member of the programming team of Medialab at Matadero Madrid, who will chair the Commission.

The Commission will have a Secretary, who will take minutes of the sessions, with voice but no vote.

The participation of the members of the evaluation committee external to Madrid Destino, in this call will be remunerated with the amount of FIVE HUNDRED EUROS (500.00 €), to apply the withholdings that by law are required.

The decisions of the members of the Commission shall be adopted by the majority of the participating members. In the event of a tie, the vote of the person holding the office of Chairman shall decide.

The specific regulation of the Valuation Commission is in accordance with the rules established by the collegiate bodies by Law 40/2015 of October 1 of the Legal Regime of the Public Sector. Exclusion due to non-compliance with the requirements and assessment are the exclusive competence of the Valuation Commission.

The valuation commission may summon the candidates it considers to an exhibition and presentation of the projects presented.

The decision of this evaluation committee will be communicated as of Friday, February 4, 2022 through the websites www.medialab-matadero.es and www.mataderomadrid.org and to the e-mail address provided in the applications submitted with the selected projects.

b. Valuation criteria

The trajectory and experience of the projects presented will be examined by the Evaluation Commission on the basis of the following criteria:

- Trajectory of the projects in relation to the objectives and forms of execution of the Medialab projects at Matadero.
- Relevance and depth of the research, its ability to operate beyond disciplinary barriers, its idiosyncrasy and its connection with the objectives of Medialab and its different lines of work.
- Projects that can benefit from the particularities of a space like Medialab and at the same time, those most capable of contributing to the development and objectives of the program.
- Clarity of the proposal and feasibility in terms of its realization and execution.
- Demonstrated competence in transversal research projects, team dynamics and tools.
- Knowledge of the network of citizen initiatives and organizations in the city of Madrid.
- Innovative dynamics and methods in the development of the project will be positively valued.
- Actions presented by the projects to be developed for the integration of social groups and coordination with other projects will be positively valued.

Part or all of the call may be declared void, by competence of the evaluation committee without appeal to it.

6. CONTRACTS AND FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

The candidates who have submitted the selected projects will be hired by MADRID DESTINO according to the applicable contracting procedure in accordance with Law 9/2017, of November 8, on Public Sector Contracts.

The development of the research projects shall be carried out at the risk and peril of the contractors, who shall act with full freedom and autonomy, deciding at their own risk and peril the organization of their means of production, and without prejudice, to the use of the spaces, resources and means of MADRID DESTINO during the development of the research. The relationship between the Parties shall correspond to that of independent contractors, and no company or joint venture shall be constituted by the contracting, nor shall any of the Parties be considered as agent, partner, employee or representative of the other.

The maximum price of the contract will be a maximum of FOURTEEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED EUROS (14,900.00 €), plus VAT and subject to the practice of withholdings corresponding to income taxes, if applicable, in consideration for the development of the

research project adapted to the Medialab program at Matadero, as well as production expenses for the development of the activities that form part of the research project.

The payment of the consideration agreed upon as remuneration for the provision of services, up to a maximum of €14,900.00, will be made upon presentation of the corresponding invoice in accordance with the following milestones:

- Forty percent (40%) upon formalization of the corresponding contract or, if applicable, notification of award, for the rights to adapt the research project to the Medialab program at Matadero, which will be attached as an Annex to the contract together with the execution schedule.
- Thirty percent (30%) on July 31, 2022, upon delivery of a report on the results of the research in the first six months of the project.
- The remaining thirty percent (30%) upon completion of the research project and presentation of the results and final report of the project.

7. DURATION

The development of the research project will be executed in a period of 12 months from the formalization of the contract, or if not required the formalization of the contract, from the notification of the award.

The start of the execution of the services is scheduled for February 15, 2022, although the dates are subject to possible changes duly justified for scheduling reasons.

It will be agreed as a specific termination clause that the research project cannot be developed as a result of a COVID-19 outbreak, public health reasons or instructions or recommendations from governmental, autonomic or municipal authorities, including health authorities. Any of these sanitary circumstances or others of public order will be considered a cause of force majeure, according to 1105 of the Civil Code and consequently, and once the event that prevents the development of the research project has occurred, neither of the parties will be liable for the damages suffered by the other party, each one assuming its own and both being released from the fulfillment of their obligations, except those that without prejudice to themselves serve to reduce the damages to the other party or partially achieve the purpose of the contract and of the research project.

8. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH PROJECTS

The technical specifications for the development of the contracted research projects, which will be an essential condition, will be the following:

- The results of the research project will be published under Creative Commons By-SA or similar license at www.medialab-matadero.es and www.mataderomadrid.org.
- The research sample will be the community of users and general public of Medialab in Matadero and it will be necessary to interact with them in person and virtually in order to incorporate their different visions and initiatives in the research results. On-site data collection will require a minimum of 25 hours per week.
- The opening hours of the Matadero Madrid facilities are Tuesday to Saturday from 10:00 to 21:00 hours. The contractor will agree with MADRID DESTINO and with the consensus of the head curator of Medialab at Matadero the periods and times during which the on-site data collection will take place according to Medialab's schedules and programming during the term of the contract.
- The research project will coexist with the rest of the projects that are selected in the same call in coordination with the Medialab head curator, to whom the contractor will propose all those issues that he/she considers interesting for the approach of the respective research project.
- Coordination with the Medialab head curator will be carried out in periodic meetings that will allow the review, monitoring and evolution of the research project to enable its development and adaptation to the Medialab programming proposed by the head curator. To this end, the contractor will propose activities related to the research project that can be incorporated into Medialab's programming, such as meetings and visits by groups related to the project.
- Facilitate the documentation and dissemination of the research project, the contractor will provide MADRID DESTINO with text, graphic and/or visual contents that serve to explain the research project and its development, in addition to the reports on the results and final report of the project required as billing milestones.
- Comply with the rules of use of Matadero Madrid's facilities whenever accessing them.
- To have a professional insurance policy covering the entire research period.

- The contractor will be subject to the MADRID DESTINO Code of Ethics, which is mandatory for all MADRID DESTINO contractors. The code is available at the following link on the website www.madrid-destino.com under the Transparency and Good https://www.madrid-destino.com/sites/default/files/202012/C%C3%B3digo%20%C3%A9tico_Madrid%20Destino_2.pdf section. In particular, project members must behave correctly and avoid racist, homophobic, transphobic and/or sexist behavior, and in general any other conduct that may violate human dignity, will be grounds for immediate cancellation.

The contractual relationship may be terminated in case of serious breach of any of the essential conditions established.

9. DOCUMENTATION TO BE SUBMITTED AND APPLICATION DEADLINE

To apply, the following online form must be duly completed before January 24, 2022, 23:59 CET.

REGISTRATION FORM:

CONTACT INFORMATION: Complete social or personal and contact information (name of the entity or name and surname of the representative, address, email, telephone number).

Attachments:

1. Applicant's documentation: the applicant's documentation must be attached in a single PDF file with the name of the entity or representative (authorname.pdf) in A4 format, and must include:
 - Biographical summary and motivation letter (maximum 500 words).
 - Portfolio with previous or similar projects, maximum 10 pages.
2. Project documentation: The project documentation must be attached in a single PDF file with the name of the organization, representative and the title of the research proposal (authorname_projectname.pdf) in A4 format, and must include:
 - Project title.
 - Description of the project (1,000 - 2,000 words), which must include the following sections: background, approach, objectives, communities with which it is proposed to work, work schedule, methodology and expected results. Graphic material illustrating the project may be included, maximum 10 images.

- Link to a video file with a personal presentation and an introduction to the proposed project, maximum 3 minutes.

Proposals may be submitted in Spanish or English.

The submission of projects implies full acceptance by the candidates of the rules of this call and does not grant any rights to the participants.

Any doubts will be resolved at the following e-mail address: propuestas@medialab-matadero.es, indicating in the subject 'Convocatoria proyectos de investigación Medialab Matadero 2022'.

Without prejudice to the documentation requested for participation, in the case of passing the selection process, it will be requested prior to the start of the corresponding contracting procedure:

DOCUMENTATION TO BE SUBMITTED IN CASE OF SELECTION

- Copy of the signatory's valid ID card or passport.
- Copy of the signed rules of the center and use of space.
- Once the contract has been formalized, or if not required, after notification of the award, in accordance with the protocols of Madrid Destino's Safety and Emergency Department, the contractor will receive the following Occupational Risk Prevention documentation from the MADRID DESTINO Self-Protection and CAE Subdirectorate:
 - Evaluation of Occupational Risks of the spaces that make up the Matadero cultural center attached to Madrid Destino.
 - Emergency Measures for the four areas that make up the Matadero cultural center attached to Madrid Destino.

The Contractor must send the signed acknowledgement of receipt to the assigned technician at the following address: seguridadprevencion@madrid-destino.com. Técnico CAE y Autoprotección, Subdirección Autoprotección y CAE, Dirección de Seguridad y Emergencias, Madrid Destino, Cultura, Turismo y Negocio, S.A., Calle Conde Duque 9-11, 1ª Planta. 28015, Madrid. Área de Gobierno de Cultura y Deportes. Madrid City Council.

DOCUMENTATION TO BE PRESENTED TO FORMALIZE THE FIRST PAYMENT:

Certificate of bank ownership, signed, stamped and dated during the current year.

10. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

MADRID DESTINO at MEDIALAB aims to foster open knowledge and promotes the free use and reuse of the works and prototypes resulting from the working groups, workshops and laboratories through the website www.medialab-matadero.es.

The texts (except where otherwise noted) are licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International license that permits:

- Copy, distribute and publicly communicate the texts of the website.
- Make commercial use of the contents.
- Generate derivative works.

For this, only conditioned to:

- Acknowledgement, making explicit the source of information through the following formula in a visible place: "Information obtained from the web page www.medialab-matadero.es.
- Include the same obligation of acknowledgement in the license terms of any derivative product that makes use of this information.
- Do not distort the meaning of the reproduced information.
- Avoid any presentation feature that suggests that Madrid Destino or the Madrid City Council supports or promotes the use made of the information disseminated.

The results of the research will be published under Creative Commons By-SA in the terms established in <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/es/>. However, the authors may license their contents under any other free license, in order to guarantee a wider dissemination, and must indicate this in a notorious manner in their publication or corresponding work.

In this context, participants, by the mere fact of submitting the research project to this call, are responsible for the originality and authorship of the project submitted, and guarantee that they legitimately hold all intellectual property rights over the same and, in this sense, guarantee the peaceful use by Madrid Destino and third parties and expressly exempt them

from any liability for damages and/or losses that directly or indirectly, the breach by them of this guarantee could cause with full indemnity guarantee.

If necessary, the candidates of the projects that are selected at the time of contracting will be required to undertake to execute, subscribe and sign as many documents as necessary for the maximum and full effectiveness of the planned transfer or assignment of rights.

11. DATA PROTECTION

Madrid Destino guarantees researchers that their personal data will be processed in accordance with current legislation and to this end informs them that they will be included in a file owned by Madrid Destino under the following terms:

Responsible: Madrid Destino Cultura Turismo y Negocio, S.A., with address in Madrid, calle Conde Duque, 9-11 de Madrid (C.P. 28015).

Data Protection Delegate: dpd@madrid-destino.com

Purposes: To manage and fulfill the established relationship (including the management of the legal contracting file, the formalization and filing of contracts and deeds, accounting management, compliance with tax, invoicing, transparency and control obligations).

Conservation period: It will be limited to the period necessary to comply with the contractual relationship and during the statute of limitations of civil, criminal, administrative or any other type of actions that may arise from the activity or service provided.

Recipients: Tax Agency and other public administrations, for the fulfillment of obligations of transparency and control, fiscal, as well as, to financial entities for the management of collections and payments and judicial authorities. Transparency obligations entail the publication in the corresponding electronic headquarters of the list of contracts signed by Madrid Destino, with mention of the signatory parties, their purpose, term, modifications made, obliged to perform the services and, where appropriate, the agreed economic obligations.

Legitimacy: Execution of a contract.

Rights: The exercise of rights of access, rectification, deletion, portability and limitation or opposition of can be requested by e-mail addressed to dpd@madrid-destino.com, with reference "Medialab/ Matadero" and identification of the applicant by official document. "You can also file a complaint with the Spanish Data Protection Agency (AEPD).

12. IMAGE RIGHTS OF PARTICIPANTS

By submitting their project, candidates accept that in the event that their project is selected and contracted they may appear in images (photography, video, etc.) taken by MADRID DESTINO for the documentation of the research project for subsequent informative or promotional dissemination of the activity of Medialab, Matadero and/or Madrid Destino, on their respective websites and official profiles on RRSS and authorize such uses.

Likewise, they accept that their image may be used in catalogs or other documents compiling the activity of Medialab, Matadero or Madrid Destino.

All of the above with the exception and limitation of those uses or applications that could infringe on their right to honor in the terms set forth in Organic Law 1/1982, of May 5, 1982, on Civil Protection of the Right to Honor, Personal and Family Privacy and Personal Image. Any other use outside the above scope is expressly excluded from this authorization.

13. ACCEPTANCE OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The participants, by the mere fact of applying for the competition, accept these terms and conditions.

14. RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS

For the resolution of any question or controversy arising from the competition, participants must write to Madrid Destino so that both parties may reach an amicable resolution.

In the event that such amicable resolution is not reached, the parties, expressly waiving their own jurisdiction, submit to the Courts and Tribunals of the city of Madrid.

If you need more details, please write to: propuestas@medialab-matadero.es

All doubts will be solved through this e-mail address and will be published in the web page www.medialab-matadero.org

ANNEX 1: RESEARCH LINES OF MEDIALAB MATADERO 2022-2023

Medialab's programming for 2022-2023 will orbit around 8 cross-cutting research lines that will mark the themes of interest for the program over the next two years.

NUEVAS DINÁMICAS

Nuevas Dinámicas (New Dynamics) uses the tools of computational social science to ask how we can better organize social, governmental and institutional structures.

The trends of new technologies bring us an increasingly automated and decentralized future: Blockchain, smart contracts, DAOs or Artificial Intelligence offer new governance mechanisms never before imagined. These new technologies have opened a different paradigm and, thanks to them, we can glimpse ideas that break with the current order: from giving voice and legal representation to non-human entities to building more agile, transparent and fair democratic systems.

What role do these technologies play in proposing new legal, economic, political or ecological models?

This line of research will explore the potential of new technologies to build fairer and more resilient governance structures that guarantee inclusion, accessibility and equity for different social strata.

Medialab claims the role of new technological media to foster the self-composition of our social ecosystems, as well as to propose new management models applicable to communities, cities, companies and even entire nations.

MEDIOS SINTIENTES

Microscopes did not create bacteria, but it is as if they did. After their invention we could never conceive of the world in the same way again.

The thematic line Medios Sintientes (Sentient Media) is like a telescope, it focuses on making the invisible visible. Such visibility has substantial information for conceiving the world differently in matters such as health, energy and our relationship with the environment.

Covid has shown us that those societies capable of monitoring themselves and generating correct transmission and tracking models have been the best at combating the spread of the virus. Even the very concept of Climate Change would not exist without the sensitive organ - made up of a myriad of sensors - that during the last decades we have deployed around the planet to measure with extreme granularity the consequences of alterations in weather patterns.

What new readings of the world will sensor technology deploy over the coming decades?

The aim of this line of research is to promote the creation of new computational and sensory platforms capable of deploying alternative understandings of the world, overcoming human perceptual limitations and producing new abstractions to understand the complexity of our hyperconnected reality.

The projects linked to this theme will address the invention, construction and deployment of new sensory and visualization technologies, promoting research both in physical environments -for example, the design and engineering of sensors, hardware, or new mechanisms for health or ecological monitoring-, and in digital environments -simulations, geomaps, interactive models, remote sensing, or automation of processes-, encouraging their application in a multiplicity of fields ranging from the microscopic to the planetary scale.

ECOSISTEMAS HÍBRIDOS

Cities occupy only 0.3% of the earth's surface, yet the landscapes that make the phenomenon of the city possible cover nearly 70% of the surface of the planet. Today more than ever we must be aware of the multiscale and polytemporality with which urban ecosystems operate. We need to transcend the physical delimitation of what we call "city", to intertwine it with a multiplicity of diverse ecologies. We believe that not only the city is a city, but everything that fuels it.

The Ecosistemas Híbridos (Hybrid Ecosystems) research line approaches urban design from a radical rethinking of the inherited epistemological assumptions about the natural and the synthetic. We want to redefine the term "city", providing it with an important nuance that includes in its definition the set of operational landscapes on which the city depends: the energy production systems that sustain it, the geological and extractivist practices that materialize its buildings, or the logistic mechanisms that supply and feed it. Cities could not exist without them. We need to stop looking at them as something alien to the urban.

Today the city is, for better or worse, an event of planetary dimension and scope. That is why to design the city of the future we must go beyond the design of the layout of streets or buildings. We must incorporate the design of the flows (energy, material or economic) in which the city participates and, in the context of the climate crisis, propose alternative models that are not pathological for the planet's adequate metabolisms.

Ecosistemas Híbridos operates at the intersection of infrastructural design, the incorporation of new energy models, radical urbanism, or materials science to improve the relationship between natural and man-made environments, making them operate as a single hybrid system towards adequate environmental performance.

SEMIÓTICAS INTELIGENTES

What is communication? Lately we talk a lot about interspecies communication, but not so much about inter-entity communication. Every second, all around us, millions of unspoken

"conversations" occur between living and non-living systems alike. We need to understand that language, as a semiotic science, is intertwined with other processes of information transmission to which we are often oblivious.

The *Semióaticas Inteligentes* (Intelligent Semiotics) thematic line explores the future of communication systems between different intelligent agents, with special emphasis on the semiotics between the environment and human and non-human systems. It will seek strategies both to humanize non-human language, making it more affective and accessible, and to dehumanize our understanding of language, defining new dynamics and processes. How can we better communicate with ecosystems? What role does artificial intelligence have in the future of communication? What new models of communication can we establish between organic and non-organic systems?

Topics such as humanoid robotics, facial recognition, medical telemetry, deep fake, artificial intelligence, etc., are of central interest, but so are emerging technologies such as 5G, projects like Neuralink or the Internet of Things (IoT) that foretell a future in which our bodies, devices, and infrastructures will be more connected than ever.

This line of research will promote multidisciplinary approach practices that integrate Human-Centred Design (HCD) with psychology, aesthetics and advanced computing, to create technologies capable of mediating between diverse semiotic systems. The goal is to facilitate communication between diverse intelligent entities - be they animals, machines or entire ecosystems - enabling better collaboration between them.

MICRO-MACRO-TECTÓNICAS

Sometimes huge transformations start from very, very small things.

Think for a moment of the relationship between the combustion engine and climate change, between global logistics and a cargo ship stuck in the Suez Canal, or between poor sanitary management of a food market and a catastrophic pandemic. We live in a world of scalar interdependence, where the molecular is planetary and large-scale changes are the consequence of micro-scale decisions - deliberate or accidental.

How would the world change if engines were not powered by fossil fuels, or if our eating habits were based on other types of diets?

The *Micro-Macro-Tectónicas* (Micro-Macro-Tectonics) thematic line aims to investigate technologies capable of artificializing mechanical and biological systems to produce beneficial systemic changes on a large scale. We are living at the beginning of a fascinating stage, where the development of emerging disciplines - such as bioengineering, robotics, nanotechnology, or genetic engineering - will produce futures in which technological and human progress are

not only compatible with an adequate maintenance of ecosystems, but in which all will necessarily be interdependent.

Did you know that there is a modified algae (*Asparagopsis Taxiformes*) that, if introduced into the diet of our livestock, could reduce their methane production by 99%? Or that it is possible to design trees capable of absorbing up to 60% more CO₂?

This line of research will promote the development of transdisciplinary projects that, among other topics, work on the generation of new materials, energy production systems, molecular engineering, carbon capture mechanisms, biofabrication or geoengineering; all those that make use of micro-scale strategies or technologies, but with macro-scale transforming capacity.

HERRAMIENTAS DISRUPTIVAS

Our ability to use and create tools is a substantial part of what makes us human. This characteristic has taken us from being small communities of hunter/gatherers to a hyper-connected planetary civilization capable of exploring the far reaches of the universe.

We often think of politics as laying the groundwork for societal transformation, providing the soil upon which new technological systems can emerge. However, the reverse is equally true. Technological changes often precede subsequent political and social changes.

When did we democratically decide to have platforms like Facebook or Google?

We design our tools and they design us in return. No one ever voted for the iPhone, yet this device has changed our societies more profoundly than any democratically passed law.

These contemporary tools, as well as the emerging digital ecosystems they support - Tik Tok, Instagram, Whatsapp, Tinder or Google Maps - form a technological infrastructure that is at the same time political, economical, cultural and ecological. Interfaces whose implementation radically change the protocols of social interaction and the ways we have of relating to our environment.

What new interfaces, devices or systems will appear in the coming years? How can we design them so that the structural changes they produce lead us to a better future?

The Herramientas Disruptivas (Disruptive Tools) line of research will focus on the design, development, and implementation of a wide range of new media tools and applications with the potential to transform society. We want not only to explore new physical and digital interfaces, but also to analyze the implications they may have for social, political and economic dynamics, as well as for traditional forms of artistic expression and dissemination such as music, film, literature and the visual arts.

CIBERNÉTICAS TANGIBLES

We live in the metaverse: a multiplicity of cyber environments where diverse agents (human and non-human) interact socially and economically through a digital ecosystem.

During the last decades we have witnessed the unstoppable growth of countless virtual worlds: gaming, social networks, teleworking or online commerce. Far from being mere substitutes for the "real world", the metaverse constitutes a media interface capable of integrating and intertwining physical and virtual dynamics in an increasingly interdependent ecosystem of worlds erroneously considered as opposites.

Whether we attend a virtual conference or explore a hyper-realistic MMO, we must understand that rather than inhabiting a real or an online world, we inhabit a bridge between the two; whose political, economic and social structures are indebted to the technologies with which we design them.

What is the future of the metaverse beyond Minecraft communities or obsolete Facebook accounts? In what ways will cyberspace influence the way we inhabit our physical reality? The Tangible Cybernetics research line will drive projects that inhabit the bridge between our physical and virtual worlds, as well as their ability to build dual ecosystems in which issues such as identity, privacy, portability, or ownership can be rethought.

We want to change the outdated conception of cyberspace as an "unreal world". We want to foster a new vision that conceives it as a place capable of influencing the "real world", capable of designing the societies of the future.

HORIZONTE DE SUCESOS

The event horizon (Horizonte de Sucesos) is the outermost layer of a black hole. The one that does not let us see beyond it, that we cannot pass through.

There are things that we know-that we know (Known Knowns), things that we know-that we do not know (Known Unknowns), things that we do not know-that we know (Unkown Knowns) and finally there are things that we do not know-that we do not know (Unkown Unknowns). Medialab should have a space dedicated to the latter.

The Horizon of Happenings thematic line will host all those investigations that, due to their strange, alien, or precursor nature, do not find their place in any of the other thematic lines. It should promote projects that explore the unknown-unknown, the unclassifiable, those things for which we do not even have a name yet, helping us to detect unexplored paths and the risks they may entail.