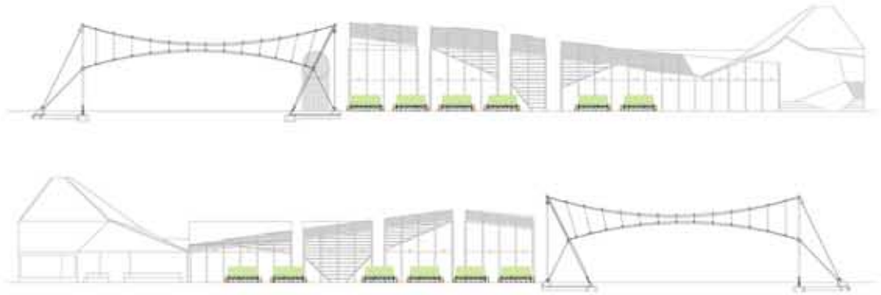

Aim of the intervention

Our intention was to articulate our site, a regular rectangle, creating two spatial conditions completely different but clearly connected in an evidence of unity. We were looking for intensity, presence, expression, which have to be obtained through the architectural form. Inspired by the Valley concept, we worked on this system of open central spine with the two rows of pavilions on both sides, the continuous garden (the Valley) in the middle and the piazza, at the the end of the axis, covered by a monumental suspended roof. The architectural connection between the well ordered sequence of the cubic pavilions and the roof, which its complex and irregular shape, was found through an aerial structure, a light canopy that runs on the tops of the facades, lightly shadowing the main outdoor exhibition space.

Description

The cluster is then articulated with the dialogue of these two spaces: the first is "the valley", a space to go through, a promenade that puts at its center a sequence of gardens and, on both sides, give access to the indoor spaces of the national exhibitions. The pavilions' facades are dressed with two different kind of material, with opposite characters. The somber one, is a cheap tissue for insulation, dark and rough, which acts in counterpoint with the other material, the translucent polycarbonate employed in large semi-opaque panels with the super graphic insertion of texts, national symbols, images and figurative patterns and nocturnal light effects.
The second space, the piazza, it is a place to stay, and it is the visual and social focus at the end of the promenade, a huge open air interior covered with a rusty dome of metal sheets, dedicated to the main cluster activities: to relax, drinking or eating seated at the open air restaurant, and to attend, standing in front of the stage, at the folk spectacles organized by the teams of the national pavilions.