



CENTRINNO FOCUS GROUP

In this leaflet we outline the exciting opportunity for your organisation to join the CENTRINNO Consortium in a series of inspiring workshops!

CENTRINNO – THE PROJECT

CENTRINNO is a research project focused on industrial historical sites under transformation. It showcases the potential of these cultural landscapes and their heritage to become new and inclusive hubs of entrepreneurship for city residents. The process is anchored on circularity and social inclusion in order to foster the sustainability and liveability of neighbourhoods. On the ground, CENTRINNO works in pilot projects covering a wide geographic extension and cultural realities across 9 municipalities, ranging from capital cities to small villages. The CENTRINNO process is shaped by a variety of local actors including Local Authorities, Citizen associations, research institutes and academia cooperating with SMEs and Fab Hubs to create innovation spaces.

THE CENTRINNO FOCUS GROUP

The CENTRINNO Project Consortium establishes a **Focus Group**, which opens our doors to external actors that are interested in familiarising with the project approaches and the uptake of project results. The Focus Group may include policy-makers, local authorities, SMEs, NGOs, citizen's associations, researchers, and Fab City Hubs from the enlarged-Europe and beyond. The objectives of the Focus Group will be on the one hand to share with external stakeholders the results of research and implementation activities. The discussions and feedbacks will be valuable inputs used for validation of the CENTRINNO concepts and tools. On the other hand, the Focus Group aims to make available our results and experiences so to inspire external actors in adopting new approaches to similar urban and social development opportunities. Moreover, we see this Focus Group as a base room to explore potential thematic synergies and install new networks of soft cooperation which may even vehicle potential future project collaborations.

Our common challenge within CENTRINNO is to seek if and how industrial, but also social and cultural, **heritage** is a catalyst for the circular transition within our cities. The project approach to heritage engagement is geared to be **socially inclusive** (participatory, reciprocal and beneficial for the local community). The approach is driven by an urgent desire to build a more **circular economy** that enhances the sustainability and liveability of our neighbourhoods. We have identified a cornerstone of this urban transformation process in the connection with **vocational education**, a key element to prepare the ground for such transition. Finally, in CENTRINNO all these aspects come together both theoretically and physically in the innovation spaces of the **Fab City Hubs**. These represent a modular and hybrid concept of space in the urban fabric, where regeneration activities can originate and flourish throughout the process.

THE CENTRINNO FOCUS GROUP – ACTIVITIES AND PLANNING

The CENTRINNO Focus Group consists of a series of five online workshops on the following key topics: 1) Heritage; 2) Social Inclusion; 3) Circularity; 4) Vocational Training; 5) Fab City Hubs. Each of these thematic focuses shall be seen in the underlying context of multifaceted urban regeneration processes through innovation spaces where social inclusion and circularity lie at the core of the re-activation of old industrial heritage. The project approaches and experiences on each of the five key concepts will be presented to fuel an open discussion. This introduction shall



also set the ground for collaborative exercises and clustered breakout rooms. Each workshop activity is planned for **2 hours** and it is framed according to the following agenda:

- **Heritage:** Early March 2023
- **Social Inclusion:** Late April 2023
- **Circularity:** Mid-June 2023
- **Vocational Training:** September 2023
- **Fab City Hubs:** November 2023

CENTRINNO FOCUS GROUP - THEMATIC BASE OF THE KEY CONCEPTS

Here we illustrate the theoretical starting point of the five CENTRINNO key concepts addressed in the workshop series. This information constitutes a conceptual line that will guide us through the presentation of concrete approaches and experiences adopted in our project.

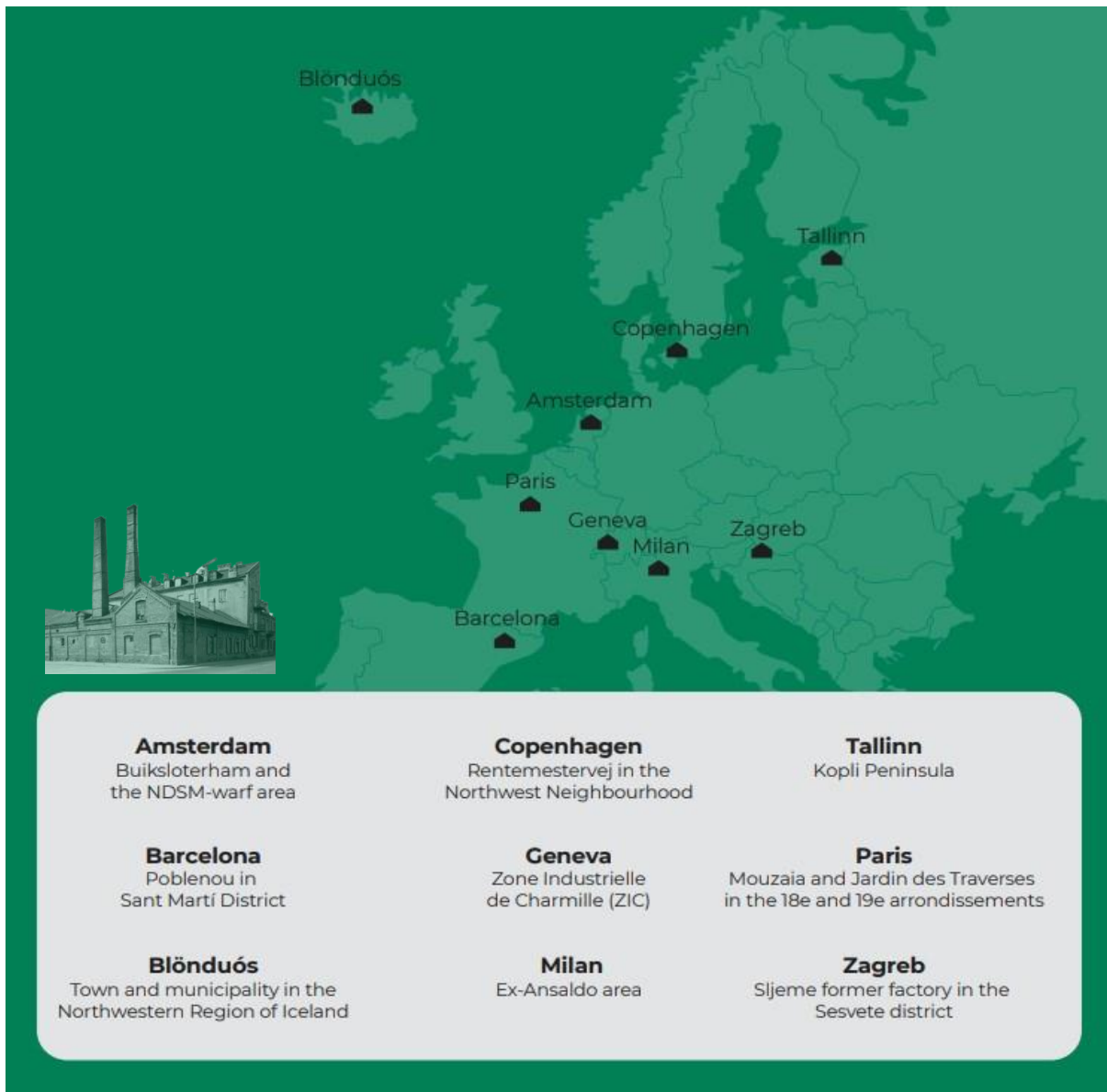
- **Heritage:** Responds to the need of taking into account the material and immaterial past (buildings, professions, traditions...) of industrial historic areas, in order to reflect about the present and discuss what we want for their future. In CENTRINNO, we understand that the definition and the connections with these features change through time and they are “the result of an interplay of forces involving a diversity of interests and emotions” (Rana, Willemsen and Dibbits, 2017).
- **Social Inclusion:** Current transformation processes in historic industrial areas, often in central or strategic metropolitan locations, usually increase land value and bring new land uses, producing drastic changes in the physical and social fabric of the city. Urban transformation process in CENTRINNO should consider the existing population in decision-making processes, as well as foster social inclusion of disadvantaged or vulnerable groups.
- **Circularity:** New productive activity needs to consider alternative and circular resource flows that move away from the dominating consumption patterns, based on extraction and depletion of resources, pollution and generation of waste on a massive scale. The circular approach adopted in CENTRINNO connects with the circular economy concept inspired by the following definition: A circular model aims to redefine growth and generate positive societal and environmental impact. It entails a transition from using finite resources, to using renewable ones (designing the concept of waste out of the system), while building economic, natural, and social capital (Corbin et al, 2020).
- **Vocational Training:** The new economy at the core of sustainable and inclusive transformation of historic industrial areas will need new professionals and jobs. Programs at the intersection of hands-on and theory, as well as open and accessible knowledge, play a key role in training this new working force, connecting tangible urban issues with local organizations and companies. Thus, the concept is about connecting training and innovation with local needs and local traditions. This includes formal (schools, research centres, etc.) and informal training (peer-led, business-led, skill- share workshops, etc.). Training programs in CENTRINNO foster life-long training and a new understanding of craftsmanship. The topics dealt with are diverse and interconnected (textile, advanced technologies, woodwork, design, agriculture, food, etc.). The training approach includes hard skills, soft skills and ethical awareness (e.g., gender issues).
- **Fab City Hub:** Circular innovation processes need physical and hybrid spaces in which productive activities are experimented from the bottom-up, based on the collaboration between different stakeholders and a democratic access to technology and knowledge. Emerging from the Fab City Global Initiative, the Fab City Hub represents an evolution of the Fab Lab, towards



embodied exploration and prototyping within and beyond the four walls of a physical space. Thus, the space can vary between centralized or distributed (Circumscribed space, neighbourhood or city level). It aims to implement new ways of working, living and playing in our cities driven by a critical application of design and making skills to produce energy, food and materials. It draws on the power of community to co-design situated responses to local needs and ignites global knowledge exchange at distance via networks of like-minded actors.

THE CENTRINNO FOCUS GROUP – JOIN US!

We are excited to warmly invite you to join our Focus Group by filling out this [Application Form - CENTRINNO Focus Group](#). As you will see, you have the flexibility to flag your interest on several key topics (not necessarily all five together), as well as to provide your suggestions on specific unanswered questions that you would like to be addressed in the workshops.



The image shows a map of Europe with several cities marked with red house icons. In the bottom left corner, there is a small illustration of a factory with two tall chimneys. Below the map, there is a white rounded rectangle containing text for each city.

<p>Amsterdam Buiksloterham and the NDSM-warf area</p>	<p>Copenhagen Rentemestervej in the Northwest Neighbourhood</p>	<p>Tallinn Kopli Peninsula</p>
<p>Barcelona Poblenou in Sant Martí District</p>	<p>Geneva Zone Industrielle de Charmille (ZIC)</p>	<p>Paris Mouzaia and Jardin des Traverses in the 18e and 19e arrondissements</p>
<p>Blönduós Town and municipality in the Northwestern Region of Iceland</p>	<p>Milan Ex-Ansaldo area</p>	<p>Zagreb Sljeme former factory in the Sestvete district</p>

