



PROJECT 101055705 — DIALOG CITY

DELIVERABLE 5.3

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

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Sustainability Report

The DIALOG CITY Project -

Ensuring Long-Term Impact and Replication Beyond 2025

Executive Summary (EN)

Deliverable 5.3 presents the Sustainability Report of the DIALOG CITY project, outlining a forward-looking strategy to ensure the continuation, integration, and replication of its core results beyond the project's conclusion in January 2026. Moving from impact assessment to long-term legacy, the report focuses on embedding the project's key "transportable mechanisms" into institutional and operational structures .

The sustainability strategy is structured around the three main project pillars: the Citizen Archive Platform (CAP), the Futures Literacy (FL) Toolkit, and the Dialog City Festivals including the ART FOR PUBLIC residency programme. For each pillar, concrete measures are defined, such as institutional anchoring of the CAP within municipal archives, the establishment of a Train-the-Trainer network for Futures Literacy, and the development of a replicable "Future Festival Playbook."

A central component of the report is the replication model "How to DIALOGCITY Your City," which provides a structured framework for other European cities to adopt and adapt the methodology. The model identifies key prerequisites, including cultural institutions, municipal engagement, and heritage partners, and is supported by practical tools, guidelines, and case studies.

The report also emphasises the sustainability of partnerships through the transition from a project consortium to a long-term advisory network and the creation of a broader DIALOG CITY Network to facilitate knowledge exchange and peer learning.

Environmental sustainability is addressed as a cross-cutting priority, with concrete measures implemented throughout the project, including reduced travel, sustainable event management, and the use of recycled materials, aligning with the objectives of the European Green Deal.

Overall, Deliverable 5.3 provides a comprehensive and actionable roadmap for sustaining the project's outcomes, ensuring their scalability and long-term relevance, and reinforcing the role of culture as a driver for democratic participation and sustainable urban transformation.

Nachhaltigkeitsbericht

Das DIALOG CITY Projekt –

Sicherstellung langfristiger Wirkung und Replikation über 2025 hinaus

Executive Summary (DE)

Deliverable 5.3 präsentiert den Nachhaltigkeitsbericht des Projekts DIALOG CITY und beschreibt eine zukunftsorientierte Strategie zur Sicherstellung der Weiterführung, Integration und Replikation der zentralen Projektergebnisse über das offizielle Projektende im Januar 2026 hinaus. Im Fokus steht der Übergang von der Wirkungsanalyse hin zu einer nachhaltigen Verankerung der entwickelten „übertragbaren Mechanismen“ in bestehenden Strukturen .

Die Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie basiert auf den drei zentralen Projektpfeilern: der Citizen Archive Platform (CAP), dem Futures Literacy (FL) Toolkit sowie den Dialog City Festivals inklusive des ART FOR PUBLIC-Residenzprogramms. Für jeden dieser Bereiche werden konkrete Maßnahmen definiert, darunter die institutionelle Verankerung der CAP in kommunalen Archiven, der Aufbau eines Train-the-Trainer-Netzwerks für Futures Literacy sowie die Entwicklung eines übertragbaren „Future Festival Playbooks“.

Ein zentrales Element des Berichts ist das Replikationsmodell „How to DIALOGCITY Your City“, das einen strukturierten Rahmen für die Übertragung der Methodik auf andere europäische Städte bietet. Es definiert notwendige Voraussetzungen wie die Einbindung kultureller Einrichtungen, kommunaler Strukturen und Gedächtnisinstitutionen und wird durch praktische Leitfäden und Fallstudien ergänzt.

Darüber hinaus hebt der Bericht die nachhaltige Weiterentwicklung der Partnerschaften hervor, insbesondere den Übergang des Konsortiums in ein beratendes Netzwerk sowie die Etablierung eines offenen DIALOG CITY Netzwerks zur Förderung von Wissensaustausch und Peer-Learning.

Die ökologische Nachhaltigkeit wird als Querschnittsthema behandelt und durch konkrete Maßnahmen wie die Reduktion von Reisen, ressourcenschonende Veranstaltungsorganisation und die Nutzung recycelter Materialien umgesetzt, im Einklang mit den Zielen des Europäischen Green Deal.

Insgesamt bietet Deliverable 5.3 einen umfassenden und praxisorientierten Fahrplan zur Sicherung der Projektergebnisse und unterstreicht die Rolle von Kunst und Kultur als Motor für demokratische Teilhabe und nachhaltige Stadtentwicklung.

Rapporto di sostenibilità

Il progetto DIALOG CITY –

Garantire un impatto a lungo termine e la replicabilità oltre il 2025

Executive Summary (IT)

Il Deliverable 5.3 presenta il rapporto di sostenibilità del progetto DIALOG CITY, delineando una strategia orientata al futuro per garantire la continuità, l'integrazione e la replicabilità dei risultati principali anche oltre la conclusione del progetto nel gennaio 2026. Il documento segna il passaggio dall'analisi dell'impatto alla costruzione di un'eredità duratura, concentrandosi sull'integrazione dei meccanismi "trasferibili" nelle strutture esistenti.

La strategia di sostenibilità è articolata attorno ai tre pilastri principali del progetto: la Citizen Archive Platform (CAP), il toolkit di Futures Literacy (FL) e i Dialog City Festivals, inclusi i programmi di residenza ART FOR PUBLIC. Per ciascun pilastro sono definite azioni concrete, tra cui l'integrazione istituzionale della CAP negli archivi pubblici, la creazione di una rete "Train-the-Trainer" per la Futures Literacy e lo sviluppo di un "Future Festival Playbook" replicabile.

Un elemento centrale del rapporto è il modello di replicazione "How to DIALOGCITY Your City", che fornisce un quadro operativo per l'adozione della metodologia da parte di altre città europee. Il modello identifica prerequisiti chiave, come la presenza di istituzioni culturali, il coinvolgimento delle amministrazioni locali e il ruolo degli enti del patrimonio ed è supportato da strumenti pratici e casi studio.

Il rapporto evidenzia inoltre la sostenibilità delle partnership attraverso l'evoluzione del consorzio in una rete di consulenza di lungo periodo e la creazione di un network DIALOG CITY più ampio per lo scambio di conoscenze e l'apprendimento tra pari.

La sostenibilità ambientale è affrontata come priorità trasversale, con misure concrete quali la riduzione dei viaggi, l'organizzazione sostenibile degli eventi e l'utilizzo di materiali riciclati, in linea con gli obiettivi del Green Deal europeo.

Nel complesso, il Deliverable 5.3 fornisce una roadmap completa e operativa per garantire la sostenibilità e la scalabilità dei risultati del progetto, rafforzando il ruolo della cultura come motore di partecipazione democratica e trasformazione urbana sostenibile.

1. Introduction: From Impact to Legacy

The DIALOG CITY project has successfully identified and developed a set of innovative, "transportable" mechanisms for cultural mediation and public engagement. The purpose of this Sustainability Report is to transition from evaluating "what was achieved" to planning "how it will live on."

Sustainability in this context is defined as the embedding of these mechanisms into permanent structures and the creation of clear pathways for other cities to adopt and adapt them. This forward-looking approach was a core theme from the project's inception during the DIALOG CITY Unconference in September 2022 and was the central question of our DIALOG CITY Final Conference in November 2025 entitled "Where do we go from here?"

2. Sustaining the Three Project Pillars

This section moves beyond describing the pillars' impact to proposing concrete steps for their future viability. During the implementation phase, a sustainability manager was collecting important findings during the process that helped us to organise the Final Conference programme and then to finalise the report in the end of the project also based on the outcome of the conference.



@Birgitte Seibold



@Stefan Horn

Pillar 1: Citizen Archive Platform (CAP)

The goal was the development of the Citizen Archive Platform for submitting digital data to throw open the doors to our cultural heritage for our children and grandchildren. In doing so, we took a crucial step towards fostering broader social participation in data protection and archival work. We reached out directly to the public, inviting them to actively participate as creators of digital material with permanent value.

The philosophy behind this approach was simple: what is born digital should be preserved digitally and remain accessible in a digital form. The short-term impact is that we built something that is truly accessible. We succeeded in lowering the barrier to entry, making that first step into the world of archives feel less like a leap and more like a welcome invitation.

Initial Sustainability Plan:

Institutional Anchoring

Formalize the handover of the CAP to the lead archival partners (Graz and Aschaffenburg) for long-term hosting, technical maintenance, and content moderation.

Integration into Public Services

Position the CAP as a standard digital service offered by municipal archives and libraries, integrating it into citizen science initiatives, local history programs, and educational outreach. The free-to-use ingest tool is a key enabler.

Sustainable Funding Model

Explore a mixed funding model comprising modest municipal operational budgets, grants from digital heritage and cultural programs (e.g., Creative Europe), and partnerships with academic institutions for ongoing research and development.



@Ariele Pirona – RebelHands

Pillar 2: Futures Literacy (FL) Toolkit

The Futures Literacy methodology has been validated as a "robust and replicable mechanism" with high transportability. Its value lies in its applicability across diverse sectors. Unlike attempts to predict a single future, Futures Literacy emphasizes anticipation as a dynamic process of reflection, creativity, and transformation. It shifts the mindset from reactive responses to proactive imagination, fostering a deeper awareness of uncertainty and complexity.

This capacity is particularly important in today's world, where challenges such as climate change, social inequality, and rapid technological evolution demand participatory and democratic approaches.

Initial Sustainability Plan:

Train-the-Trainer Network

Sustain and grow the network of trained artists and facilitators. Establish a formal community of practice or a roster of certified trainers who can offer FL workshops to schools, NGOs, and corporations, integrating this service into their professional portfolios.

Open-Access Dissemination

The FL Design Thinking Toolkit is published online under a Creative Commons license to encourage widespread, unrestricted adoption and adaptation.

Curricular Integration

Actively partner with educational institutions in partner cities and beyond to integrate FL methodologies into formal curricula for arts, social sciences, and urban planning.



@Cirko Vertigo

Pillar 3: Dialog City FUTURE FESTIVALS & HYBRID FESTIVALS & ART FOR PUBLIC

The FUTURE FESTIVALS acted as hybrid cultural platforms to engage broad audiences in conversations about common futures. They were held in Montpellier (France) and in Aschaffenburg (Germany) in 2025. Programmes included Futures Literacy workshops, Game Jams that foster playful idea generation and creative responses to urgent challenges, lectures and discussions on topics such as climate change and digitalization.

The ART FOR PUBLIC residency programme invited artists to develop participatory urban interventions. The residency outcomes were showcased during the festivals. Lessons from the Hybrid Festivals (2023 in Mondovì, Italy, and 2024 in Graz, Austria) showed the value of integrating DIALOG CITY events with established festival formats to create synergies and reach larger, more diverse audiences.

Initial Sustainability Plan:

Future-Festival Legacy

Package the successful festival model into a replicable "Future-Festival Playbook," detailing the concept, planning, and execution.

Biennial or Rotating Festival

Encourage the consortium cities to commit to hosting a smaller scale "Dialog City" event on a biennial basis or to establish a rotating hosting schedule among a wider network of cities.

Continuation of ART FOR PUBLIC

Seek new funding streams (e.g., national arts councils, private foundations, corporate sponsorship) to continue the artistic residency program, potentially by embedding it within established local or regional festivals.



@Stefan Horn

3. The Replication Model: "How to *DIALOGCITY* Your City"

To systematically scale the project's impact, a basic replication model can be developed. The model is ideally suited for European small and medium-sized cities (50,000–300,000 inhabitants) with a strong foundational cultural infrastructure.

Replication Prerequisites

The base of three assets for successful adoption requires three local partners:

- A Cultural Convenor: A festival or cultural institution to host and curate the event.
- A Civic Anchor: A municipal office or department to connect the project to local policy and administration.
- A Heritage Partner: A museum, archive, or library to host and manage the CAP.

Replication Toolkit

A tangible output containing elements from previous deliverables of the project's ongoing report:

- The Transportability Framework (from the Impact Analysis Report).
- Practical Guides for implementing the three pillars (CAP manual, FUTURE LITERACY Training Guidebook, Future-Festival playbook).
- Detailed case studies from the four pilot cities of the Future Festivals and Hybrid Festivals.

4. Partnership and Network Sustainability

During the Final Conference, the current project consortium agreed to support an initial sustainability plan.

Consortium Role Evolution

Existing Partners will transition from an implementation-focused group to an advisory and quality assurance network, providing guidance and support to new cities.

New Network Creation

Officially launch the DIALOG CITY Network, an open group for interested cities to share best practices, troubleshoot challenges, and facilitate direct peer-to-peer learning for replication.

Arts and Culture for Democracy

The consortium also discussed the European Commission's view on the role of arts and culture in safeguarding democracy. They discussed the concept of the new European public sphere and the Agora program, which aims to integrate various cultural and creative sectors.

They finally expressed interest in exploring how art and culture can contribute to making democracy more resilient, suggesting further discussion on this topic and potential actions within the partnership or pillars.

5. Environmental Sustainability: Walking the Talk

The DIALOG CITY project has made significant strides in contributing to the European Green Deal by integrating environmental sustainability as a core operational principle throughout its lifecycle. While the project's primary focus is on cultural mediation and public engagement, it has taken concrete steps to align its activities with the broader goals of creating a resource-efficient, climate-conscious Europe.

These efforts demonstrate the project's commitment to not only addressing cultural and societal challenges but also contributing to the European Union's environmental transformation.

Keyways in which the DIALOG CITY project has supported the European Green Deal include:

Operational Sustainability

The project has embedded environmental responsibility in its management practices. One of the most notable efforts was the radical reduction of travel for project administration,

shifting most coordination to online platforms post-kick-off. This reduced carbon emissions associated with unnecessary travel and helped minimize the project's overall environmental footprint.

Sustainable Travel Practices

DIALOG CITY implemented a mandatory travel policy that prioritizes rail over air travel, thereby reducing CO2 emissions from flights. For necessary air travel, the project adopted a CO2 compensation strategy, demonstrating its commitment to minimizing environmental impact while ensuring the project's activities continued smoothly.

Resource-Efficient Event Management

The project's event management processes followed resource-efficient principles, ensuring that events, particularly the Future Festivals, minimized waste and environmental harm. This included careful planning to reduce energy consumption and utilizing sustainable materials and practices for all aspects of event organization.

Use of Recycled Products

The project made a deliberate effort to reduce its consumption of new materials by ensuring that recycled products were used in all administrative functions. This commitment to recycling and reducing the demand for raw materials aligns with the European Green Deal's emphasis on circular economy principles, fostering resource efficiency and waste reduction.

Commitment to Long-Term Environmental Responsibility

DIALOG CITY's environmental policies were not isolated actions but rather embedded within the project's broader organizational structure. A Memorandum of Understanding among all project partners formalized these commitments to sustainability, ensuring a shared responsibility for minimizing the environmental impact and supporting the EU's Green Deal goals even after the project's conclusion.

In these ways, DIALOG CITY has demonstrated that cultural projects can and should align with the EU's sustainability objectives. By prioritizing environmental responsibility in its operations and fostering awareness of sustainable practices, the project contributes to the broader vision of a greener, more resource-efficient Europe while also encouraging other cultural and civic initiatives to adopt similar practices in support of the European Green Deal.

6. Conclusion

The DIALOG CITY project has set a strong foundation for lasting impact, ensuring that its key outputs—the Citizen Archive Platform (CAP), the Futures Literacy (FL) Toolkit, and the Future Festival model—remain sustainable and adaptable beyond the official project timeline. By focusing on institutional anchoring, creating robust replication pathways, and forming lasting partnerships, the project is poised to extend its reach, allowing other cities to adopt and benefit from these innovative tools. This applies both to the three individual project pillars mentioned above and to the combination of the three project components as a whole.

The CAP, with its focus on digital heritage and public participation, will be integrated into public services and local archives, ensuring its continued accessibility and relevance.

The Futures Literacy Toolkit, an essential mechanism for fostering proactive, creative approaches to complex global challenges, will be sustained through a network of certified trainers and open-access resources, contributing to a more anticipatory mindset across sectors.

The Future Festivals, having already demonstrated their potential to spark meaningful cultural conversations, will evolve into biennial events, with the possibility of expanding to new cities through the Future-Festival Playbook.

Central to this sustainability is the replication model, which provides a clear blueprint for other European cities to adopt the DIALOG CITY methodology. By focusing on cultural infrastructure, civic engagement, and heritage partnerships, the model is designed for scalability and long-term viability, particularly in small and medium-sized cities.

The project's sustainability extends beyond its cultural goals, embracing environmental responsibility in line with the European Green Deal. Through a commitment to reducing its carbon footprint, the DIALOG CITY project demonstrates that sustainability is a holistic concept, integrating both social and environmental considerations.

Ultimately, the DIALOG CITY project has provided a comprehensive and actionable strategy for ensuring that its core principles—cultural engagement, democratic participation, and environmental sustainability—continue to thrive. Its legacy will be shaped not only by the mechanisms it has created but also by the partnerships, networks, and mindsets it has inspired across Europe.

Annex 1

FINAL CONFERENCE

TIMELINE and PROGRAMME as of 30 October 2025

WED 5 NOV 25

9.30 – 11.30 Digitalladen Aschaffenburg

13.00-17.45 Digitalladen Aschaffenburg and Storchennest, City Archive Aschaffenburg

TIME SLOT	ACTIVITY	PARTICIPANTS	MODERATOR HOST	FORMAT	
9.30 - 11.30	<p>Presentation of results for local stakeholders in Aschaffenburg. Meet and Greet with Associated Partners from Mondovì, Italy.</p> <p>Presentation of the Evaluation report and Impact Analysis Report (Maria-Louiza Laopodi/CulturePolis).</p> <p><i>moderated by Stefan Horn (Project Coordinator/ City of Aschaffenburg)</i></p>	<p>ALL PARTNERS</p> <p>LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS</p> <p>ASSOCIATED PARTNERS</p>	Stefan Horn	Analog	
11.30-13.00	LUNCH BREAK				
13.00-17.45	<p>WORKSHOPS SESSIONS</p> <p>Some of the workshops are more internally and only selected experts and contributors will take part for quite specific conversations. Others will be open to a specific audience. Nevertheless, it will be by invitation only for all slots. No recording, no livestream!</p>				
	FUTURE FESTIVALS AND RESIDENCIES	ARCHIVING OUR CITY	OUR COMMON FUTURE		HYBRID
13.00-14.15	<p>Gathering of all Residents</p> <p><i>Presentation and discussion focusing on festivals and</i></p>		<p>Lessons Learned</p> <p><i>How can we adapt our approach to meet local</i></p>	<p>ALL PARTNERS</p> <p>ASSOCIATED PARTNERS</p>	Stefan Horn

	<p><i>residencies of the DIALOG CITY project and the Art for Public programme.</i></p> <p>Luke Conroy and Anne Fehres News From Home, Mondoví 2023</p> <p>Lenka Horliková Longings, Graz 2024</p> <p>Alexandre Benetas-Ottobrini Standing in the Salt, Montpellier 2025</p> <p>Lisa Maria Baier Papiernetz, Aschaffenburg 2025</p> <p><i>moderated by Stefan Horn</i></p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89466603313?pwd=ekpnVXZRMIFOUWZO MTBxMFpBNm81QT09</p>		<p><i>cultural needs while maintaining a cohesive project vision?</i></p> <p>Speaker: Vicky Karaïskou Open University of Cyprus</p> <p><i>How can we foster collaboration among facilitators and participants?</i></p> <p>Contributors: Elena Domenicucci and Elisa Patriarchi (artists from Italy and graduates of <i>Our Common Future</i> training programme)</p> <p><i>moderated by Maria-Louiza Laopodi</i></p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81110258074?pwd=UNWribSGZcbgD8LNW2EF9efyUf6ZVP.1</p> <p>Meeting ID: 811 1025 8074 Passcode: 976780</p>	RESIDENTS SPECIFIC AUDIENCE BY INVITATION	Maria-Louiza Laopodi	
14.15-14.45	COFFEE BREAK					
14.45-16.00	Participation and Audience Engagement	Expert Feedback on Citizen Archive Platform (CAP)		ALL PARTNERS	Stefan Horn	

	<p><i>An online discussion with</i> Johannes Honeck Kunsthalle Aschaffenburg</p> <p><i>How to open a classical art institution for the public and new target groups?</i></p> <p>Philip Horst and Mathias Einhoff ZKU Berlin - Centre for Art and Urbanistics</p> <p><i>How to survive as an independent art organisation in the age of radical funding curbs?</i></p> <p>Christos Savvidis Artbox Thessaloniki</p> <p><i>How to influence the cultural sector as a freelancing agency in South-East Europe?</i></p> <p>Anthony Schrag Academic and Art Practitioner Queen Margret University of Edinburgh</p> <p><i>Socially Engaged Art and Ethics: Power, Politics and Participation</i></p> <p><i>moderated by Stefan Horn and</i></p>	<p><i>How to make use of the CAP and what needs to be improved or reconfigured?</i></p> <p>This session will convene a diverse group to shape the Citizen Archive Platform. Practitioners from German municipal archives will contribute practical insights on local community engagement. Their perspectives will be complemented by academic researchers from Austrian, German, and Swiss universities in public history and digital humanities.</p> <p>Furthermore, specialists from key technical and infrastructure institutions will advise on the platform's long-term sustainability and architecture. Together, this group will ensure the platform is developed with rigor, technical robustness, and practical utility.</p> <p>Participants: Maya Brockhaus (Landkreis Wolfenbüttel), Marco Birn (Kreisarchiv Reutlingen), Prof. Sebastian Haumann (University Salzburg, Public</p>		<p>ASSOCIATED PARTNERS</p> <p>EXTERNAL EXPERTS</p>	<p>Peter Panes</p> <p>Wolfram Dornik</p>	
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	<p><i>Peter Panes (External Advisor DIALOG CITY)</i></p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89466603313?pwd=ekpnVXZRMlFOUWZOMTBxMFpBNm81QT09</p>	<p>History), Wolfgang Göderle (University Graz), Achim Oßwald (Institut für Informationswissenschaft TH Köln), Martin Iordanidis (Hochschulbibliothekszenrum of the State Landes NRW), Sven Schlarb (Austrian Institute of Technology), Moritz Feichtinger (University Basel), Dr. Thomas Aigner (Heritage Consulting)</p> <p><i>moderated by Wolfram Dornik (City Archive Graz)</i></p> <p><i>For meeting link please contact markus.schmitt@aschaffenburg.de</i></p>				
16.00-16.30	COFFEE BREAK					
16.30-17.45		<p>Citizen Archive Platform – next level in Europe</p> <p>Vlatka Lemic from Croatian National Archives and Arnold Tóth from the City of Miskolc (Hungary) will actively participate in this session.</p>	<p>Audience Development and Impact</p> <p><i>What specific skills and knowledge do we need to provide to artists and facilitators to ensure they can effectively support citizens and decision-makers in envisioning</i></p>	<p>ALL PARTNERS</p> <p>ASSOCIATED PARTNERS</p> <p>POTENTIAL FUTURE PARTNERS</p>	<p>Wolfram Dornik</p> <p>Joachim Kemper</p> <p>Maria-Louiza Laopodi</p>	

		<p>It aims at discussing the potential partnership in a future Citizen Archive Platform project in collaboration with City Archive Graz (Austria) and the City of Aschaffenburg.</p> <p><i>moderated by Wolfram Dornik and Joachim Kemper (City Archive Aschaffenburg)</i></p> <p><i>For meeting link please contact markus.schmitt@aschaffenburg.de</i></p>	<p><i>future cities? What Capacity Building structures do we need?</i></p> <p>Speaker: Roby Parissi Opportunity Manager, Forward.to</p> <p><i>What steps can be taken to ensure that the ideas generated during the workshops lead to actionable outcomes that contribute to sustainable urban development?</i></p> <p>Speaker: Romain Minod CEO Association Quatorze</p> <p><i>moderated by Maria-Louiza Laopodi</i></p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88017481147?pwd=w6kf1s9ZvM78OMftHe4SoZL6j6pTdY.1</p> <p><i>Meeting ID: 880 1748 1147 Passcode: 238518</i></p>	EXTERNAL EXPERTS		
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THU 6 NOV 25

9.00 – 12.00 Storchennest, City Archive Aschaffenburg

TIME SLOT	ACTIVITY	PARTICIPANTS	FORMAT
9.00-10.45	<p>WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? Internal discussion with all project partners to discuss the outcome of the hybrid workshop sessions WED 5NOV 25.</p> <p>Representatives from Culturepolis (GR), the Stadtmuseum Graz GmbH (AT), the Fondazione Cirko Vertigo (IT), the Centro Formazione Professionale Cebane Monregalese (IT), the Consorzio Interaziendale Canavesano per la Formazione Professionale CIAC (IT), Association Quatorze (FR) as well as the project lead City of Aschaffenburg (DE).</p> <p><i>moderated by Stefan Horn</i></p> <p>https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89466603313?pwd=ekpnVXZRMIFOUWZOMTBxMFpBNm81QT09</p>	PROJECT PARTNERS	DIGITAL CLOSED SESSION
10.45 - 11.00	COFFEE BREAK		
11.00 - 11.45	<p>WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF CULTURAL PROGRAMMES FOR OUR EUROPEAN SOCIETIES? Dialogue with Representatives from the DIALOG CITY partner consortium and</p> <p>Gabrielle Bernoville Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Education and Culture European Commission</p> <p>The discussion aims to build upon the findings of the four-year project period and explore three key areas:</p>	PROJECT PARTNERS EXTERNAL CONTRIBUTORS ASSOCIATED PARTNERS	HYBRID

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The broader societal impact of cultural programmes. ▪ The role of initiatives like the Creative Europe Programme and the forthcoming Agora EU within the wider context of European cultural policies. ▪ Addressing current developments in Europe and how we, as cultural actors, can contribute meaningfully. <p><i>moderated by Stefan Horn</i></p> <p>https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89466603313?pwd=ekpnVXZRMIFOUWZOMTBxMFpBNm81QT09</p>		
12.00	<p>DIALOG CITY - THE FINAL SCENE</p> <p>Group Photo at the FUTURE PAVILION in Aschaffenburg</p>	<p>PROJECT PARTNERS</p> <p>ASSOCIATED PARTNERS</p>	CITY WALK



Annex 2

Minutes from the Final Conference

Workshop Sessions

5 November 2025

Artist Residencies, Career Development and Application Challenges

The meeting focused on the role of artist residencies in career development and the selection process for such programs. It was discussed how residencies encourage social participation and challenge artists to work with diverse communities, with an emphasis on the importance of engaging with people outside one's usual demographic. The high volume of applications received for residency programs was highlighted, noting that they involve a detailed selection process. The artists in attendance shared their experiences, finding the application process to be relatively straightforward.

However, the group also discussed the challenges and processes involved in writing applications for residencies and other artistic opportunities. They explored the balance between creating personalized applications and conducting necessary research, as well as the ethical considerations of unpaid labour in the arts. The conversation also touched on different selection models, including the potential for more imaginative and efficient processes, and the risks of sharing ideas without proper consent.

Public Space, Participation and Audience Engagement

The meeting revolved around the role of art in public spaces as a powerful medium for challenging established hierarchies, power structures, and conventional cultural practices. Participants explored how artistic work can question who holds the authority to define cultural value, sharing international project examples that tackled themes like migration and community through repurposed urban spaces. A key part of the discussion focused on the complexities of community engagement, stressing the need for honesty about which specific groups are being reached, as the concept of a universal "public" is a misconception.

Strategies for creating lasting impact were emphasized, including the use of practical toolkits to empower citizen action and the importance of fostering long-term partnerships and local ownership. The conversation also pushed for a broader definition of public space itself—encompassing digital and non-traditional areas—and highlighted the importance of both individuals and organizations taking on active, participatory roles rather than passive ones. The group concluded that while artistic interventions are

uniquely potent for provoking public reflection and reimagining social spaces, this work is an ongoing and never-finished process of interrogation and engagement.

OUR COMMON FUTURE Audience Development and Impact

The meeting served as a discussion on future literacy tools and training programs designed to equip artists and facilitators with the skills to support civic innovation and community engagement. A central focus was on adapting these trainings to specific local contexts and identifying the ideal profiles for facilitators who can effectively guide citizens and decision-makers in envisioning the future of their cities. A detailed case study was presented on a community project that successfully countered depopulation and isolation by establishing a "School for Futures Custodians." This initiative leveraged futures thinking as a tool for present-day social cohesion, forming a self-motivated and diverse group of community members who continued to actively promote local initiatives two years after the project's conclusion.

The conversation then expanded to the political and philosophical implications of such future literacy work, highlighting its role as an empowering tool for individuals beyond specific outcomes. Concerns were raised about avoiding tokenism, leading to proposals for strategies that enhance genuine participation. These strategies included mapping urban spaces and proactively involving decision-makers to ensure clear power dynamics and address broader societal issues effectively.

OUR COMMON FUTURE Lessons learned

The meeting focused on reviewing outcomes and key project challenges, with a central theme being the critical need to involve diverse age groups, particularly teenagers and older citizens, in workshop training. Discussions highlighted the importance of developing tailored communication strategies to effectively reach participants from different generations and professional backgrounds. A core methodology for visual literacy was presented as a highly adaptable framework, fundamental to fostering social cohesion and equipping participants to navigate transformation and uncertainty. This approach relies on creating safe, collaborative spaces for listening without judgment and uses scenario-based exercises to help individuals articulate their thoughts.

A significant portion of the conversation was dedicated to the essential competencies of a workshop facilitator, emphasizing the need for deep mastery of the tools, the confidence to adapt them to different contexts, and the ability to improvise. It was stressed that effective facilitators must be detached from their own opinions, be exceptional listeners, and focus on creating an exploratory environment that empowers participants rather than leading them to a predetermined outcome. The group also explored the ideal facilitator profile, suggesting a blend of artistic creativity and coaching skills, and

acknowledged the challenges of aligning these roles across different European cultures and partnership dynamics.

Expert Feedback on Citizen Archive Platform (CAP): How to make use of the CAP and what needs to be improved or reconfigured?

For this meeting, experts from archives and institutions, practitioners in personal digital archiving, and researchers were invited. They were given the opportunity prior to the meeting to intensively engage with and test the Citizen Archive Platform. We asked them to evaluate both the user-friendliness and the utility for archival professionals. During the exchange, we received practical, hands-on feedback from the participants. The diverse perspectives of the attendees allowed for the collection of several points for the improvement and further development of the CAP.

The feedback on the web application showed us that we had focused on an important priority. Specifically, we can use the expert feedback to enhance comprehensibility and further optimize the CAP by the project's end. Several points are particularly relevant for future development: these include suggestions for optimizing the user journey and linguistic design, for AI-supported metadata extraction, and for providing additional contextual information about the platform and the submission process.

Citizen Archive Platform – next level in Europe

Representatives from institutions that had expressed interest in the future use of the Citizen Archive Platform by signing a Letter of Intent were invited to this meeting. The participating institutions presented their respective concepts for implementing the CAP. The Graz City Archives will develop the CAP into a shared collection platform for museum and archival use, both for the submission of (re)born digital data and for the contribution of analogue objects and archival materials. The Hermann-Otto Museum in Miskolc, Hungary, is planning a project for 2026 to fund a new website, which will then include the CAP. The Aschaffenburg City and Monastery Archives will integrate the CAP into their archival structure to actively continue the collection of born-digital materials and use the tool for targeted additions to their collection profile.

The integration into the archive's digital infrastructure - from contribution to digital long-term archiving - is being actively developed further in Aschaffenburg. Additionally, as part of other digital projects of the City and Monastery Archives, there are contacts with potential re-using institutions, with whom they actively maintain an exchange.