



GREEN DEAL IN PRACTICE

..... 2023

Sustainability in Arts & Crafts & Culture

 NOT QUITE

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 Nordic
Culture Point

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COLOPHON

Title: Green Deal in Practice

Projekt between: Institut for (X) (DK), Not Quite (SE), Rucka (LV)

Projekt spand: September 2022 - May 2023

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Special thanks to: Nordic Culture Point and all the participants



**Nordic
Culture Point**





INTRO

The network aims to bring together arts & cultural organisations from Denmark, Latvia and Sweden to share challenges related to sustainability issues in the cultural sector; prototype green solutions for cultural spaces; work on sustainable working conditions for artists; and potentially develop new projects and collaboration.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Three Nordic-Baltic organisations will work with sustainability throughout the Nordics and beyond:

Institut for X (Aarhus, DK), RUCKA (Cesis, LV) and Not Quite (Fengersfors, SE). The urgency arises as the precarity of artistic work has been shown during covid as well as the environmental threats in the world. 'Green Deal In Practice' (GDIP) wants to address sustainability in practice as much as on a working level as from a building perspective. Many organisations in our networks are struggling with the following questions:

"How to create sustainable working practices and working conditions for artists?"

"How to create sustainable and environmentally friendly cultural spaces in which artists thrive?"

These two interlinked questions are at the core of this project, as many organisations need to provide future-proof buildings and environments for artists to create and to be able to sustain themselves with a long-term perspective. GDIP short term network projects consists of 3 parts: partner meetings and exchange; practical workshops; mapping and booklet design - a booklet with collection of sustainable practices and tools practiced among the network partners that can be used by others. This framework will be tested with Nordic-Baltic partners in a workshop at Trans Europe. The mapping of sustainable solutions and further avenues will be guided by the current expertise areas of the three Nordic-Baltic partner organisations: for (X) that is boosting biodiversity, sustainable building projects and social sustainability of cultural institutions; at NQ it encompasses Healing Heritage: remediation of polluted landscapes and rural public space; at RUCKA it is sustainable energy solutions for the residency building and using sustainable architecture for turning auxiliary buildings into living, working or workshop spaces.





PARTNERS AND THEIR AREAS OF EXPERTISE

NOTE QUIT has been exploring sustainable working in rural areas for 20 years. They will bring 70 artists to the prototyping activities as well as similar rural self-organised organisations will be invited to work on these topics. They are hosts of the Trans Europe Halles conference in September 2022.

RUCKA will contribute years of experience in downshifting, community involvement, and sustainable working structures.

INSTITUT FOR (X)'s contribution comes in years of experience with sustainable and upcycled architecture & furniture making, working with biodiversity mapping, degentrification solutions, and collaborating with public bodies on sustainability. X brings local actors to share their knowledge, and will guide the booklet design process, sourcing from their previous experience in developing toolkits, and inspirational materials for e.g. sustainable building.



PROGRAM

Time line

1) Aug - Sept

- 2 partner meetings
- 'Workshop at TEH conference (21-22 September) - hands on building workshop.
- Participants welcome to stay for the TEH conference (22 - 25 September).
- Collection of material for the booklet. All workshops will be documented in text, drawing/photo/video format.

2) December 7 & 8

- Workshop at institut for X, focused on biodiversity, social sustainability, circular economy
- Collection of material for the booklet. All workshops will be documented in text, drawing/photo/video format.

3) April 5&6

- Workshop at Rucka, LV, focused on community involvement in sustainability projects and downshifting.
- Collection of material for the booklet. All workshops will be documented in text, drawing/photo/video format.
- Design of the final booklet with practices, tools, further directions

4) May

- Dissemination activities
- Creating booklet

TOOL BOX:

Tools used and developed during the workshop

SOCIAL GLUE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Doing is cluing". Collaborating on creating a project with others creates a special strong social sustainable bond.	
FIRE SOULS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Heroes will rise with fire in their eyes"... Creating any project is best when driven by passion.	
CROSS POLLINATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The act of transferring any given set of working-methods and/or competences, from one platform to another.	
DO-OCRACY.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you don't like how something is being done, volunteer to make it better.	
BOOTS ON THE GROUND	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leading by example. Visibility and accessibility. "These boots are made for working"	



NOT QUITE

SWEDEN

Not Quite bought Strands Carpentry 2021 to expand their possibilities and make space for more shared workshops and studios. The building is from 1940s and has around 1300m².

With our Green Deal in practice-workshop in September 2022 we wanted to lay a foundation to create new working spaces for the artist community. We think that sustainability in the countryside requires to use the spaces/buildings that exists. Trough repairing, reshaping and adding we create and grow a self-made space that is used and taken care of. Spaces that a community build by own hands are not easily abandoned, destroyed or unused due to emotional connections: you build and invest in your own space and future.

A method we use at Not Quite is "doocracy" the one who does and works hands on is in charge of the project that they want to do. That was something we wanted to use in this projekt.

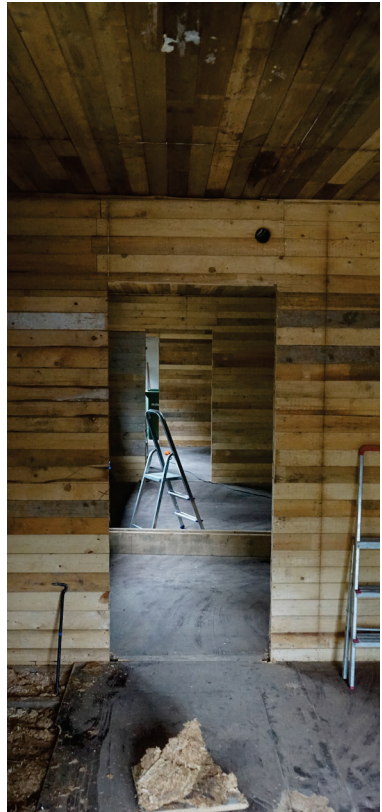
During the hands on workshop we scaled the rooms of the old apartment section and revealed the structure. By ripping off the old isolation and wallpaper we could rapidly see a visual progress. Sawing openings for new doors in the wall gave more opportunities to create separate rooms. After two days of work we successfully dug out the raw structure of the apartment.

The following months Not Quite continued the work at Strands. The leakage in the roof was fixed and four separate studios were formed from the structure. April 2023 the Studios where inaugurated.



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PICTURES DURING THE WORKSHOP





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PICTURES FROM THE RESULT





RUCKA LATVIA

“Greenhouse Without Gas” is a small, multifunctional pavilion built at Rucka Artist Residency in Cesis.

The pavilion can be used as a greenhouse, little dining spot or outdoor cinema. It is a modular structure which can be disassembled in smaller sub-components to allow for future relocation, transport and repair.

It was designed and built during a two-day workshop led by Nomad Architects from reused materials - the wooden laths and polycarbonate sheets, which were used eight months before for the stage “Misijas” for the RTU Science and Innovation Centre at the Lampa festival in Cesis, later stored for reuse at Rucka Artist Residency.

The inspiration for the modular structure was born thinking about impact of Covid-19 pandemics and war in Ukraine on global economy and effect it had on work of independent cultural institutions. These two life changing events have taught us to be flexible and adopt our ways of working so we can easily downsize in difficult times and flourish again when situation improves.





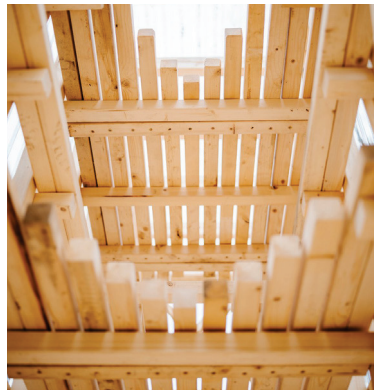
RUCKA

PICTURES DURING THE WORKSHOP



RUCKA

PICTURES FROM THE RESULT





INSTITUT FOR (X) DENMARK

The compost project is a direct response to the growing needs of our community and members who are passionate to preserve and expand the green spaces of Institut for (X).

The project's primary goal is to make use of garden and local kitchen bio waste to create nutrient-rich soil that can be used for mulching in the upcoming seasons. This project has successfully contributed to a more circular approach at Institut for (X), inspiring further progress such as the X's bar testing the use of biodegradable drink cups instead of single-use plastic.

To construct the compost structure, we repurposed wooden boxes obtained from a local woodwork school that were previously used as practice projects for the students. Other materials used were repurposed leftovers from various other projects. The design process for this project allowed the diverse skills of our guests to be utilized and encouraged collaboration amongst the workshop group and the inhabitants and users of (X).



INSTITUT FOR (X)

PICTURES DURING THE WORKSHOP





INSTITUT FOR (X)

PICTURES FROM THE RESULT





REFLECTION

"Green Deal in Practice" has undoubtedly inspired the participants both through experiencing each other's places and interacting with the different communities and cultures. But especially the bond created by building and doing the various projects together. Strengthening the Social glue. Doing is Gluing became a theme throughout the workshops.

The workshop has successfully brought together organizations from the Nordic and Baltic countries to collectively address the pressing need for sustainability in the arts and cultural sectors. It fostered collaboration, knowledge sharing, and practical experimentation, which are crucial for driving meaningful change. By combining the expertise of the partner organizations in biodiversity, sustainable building, social sustainability, healing heritage, and sustainable energy solutions, the workshop provided a holistic approach to tackling the multifaceted challenges of sustainability in the arts and cultural domain.

As the workshop concluded, the participants were equipped with new insights, practical tools, and a shared commitment to integrating sustainability into their work. The mapping of sustainable solutions and the development of further avenues will undoubtedly be guided by the knowledge gained during the workshop, serving as a foundation for ongoing collaboration and future projects. Like the Futur "Green (X) Library" Book.

"Green Deal In Practice" exemplifies the power of collective action and collaboration in addressing pressing local, regional and global challenges. By bridging the gap between sustainability and art, this workshop contributes to creating a more resilient, environmentally conscious, and artistically vibrant future. It is through such initiatives that we can forge a path towards a sustainable and inclusive world where artists and kulturel workers can thrive, create, and inspire sustainable change.





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