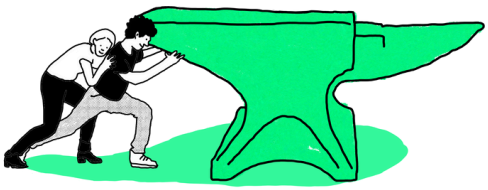
Issue #1 | July 2024

HEPHÆSTUS







Horizon Europe project HEPHAESTUS newsletter

We are excited to share that the Horizon Europe project, HEPHAESTUS, has recently celebrated its first year of implementation. In this newsletter, we will provide you with updates on our progress, key milestones, and the achievements we've accomplished so far.

Each and every consortium partner has demonstrated outstanding collaboration, driving significant progress toward the goals of our project. Together, we continue to achieve milestones, underscoring the strength and unity of our collective efforts.

Marta Gasparin
HEPHAESTUS project coordinator
Copenhagen Business School



Funded by the European Union

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HEPHAESTUS team initiates active networking efforts

The HEPHAESTUS team has started to establish connections within the four ecosystems of our project and beyond. Our goal is to create a dynamic network that supports our mission of fostering sustainable and ethical innovation in the craft sector.

We have begun engaging with a diverse range of stakeholders, including craft makers, policy makers, local craft communities, and other relevant entities. This collaborative approach aims to bring together the expertise and perspectives necessary to drive meaningful change and innovation.

By working closely with these stakeholders, we are building a foundation for a sustainable craft ecosystem that values tradition while embracing modern advancements. These efforts will not only enhance our project's impact but also contribute to the broader discourse on the future of crafts and sustainability.

HEPHAESTUS symposium in Gothenburg, Sweden

Learn more about the symposium

The HEPHAESTUS symposium brought together a diverse audience, including policy makers, craft makers, researchers, and representatives from our sister projects. This event served as an invaluable opportunity to exchange information and knowledge, fostering collaboration and innovation.

Attendees participated in several workshops, engaged in panel discussions, enjoyed an exhibition, and took advantage of extensive networking opportunities. The symposium was a resounding success, highlighting the collective efforts and shared vision of all participants in advancing sustainable and ethical innovation in the craft sector.







Active involvement of HEPHAESTUS craft ambassadors

The HEPHAESTUS team is proud to highlight our close collaboration with craft ambassadors from all four ecosystems of our project. This partnership is vital to our mission of integrating sustainable and ethical innovation within the craft sector.

In early May 2024, we were thrilled to co-organize an exhibition titled SEMBLANCE in Gothenburg, Sweden. This event was a collaborative effort with our craft ambassadors, showcasing the rich diversity and creativity within 4 craft ecosystems.













Learn more about the exhibition SEMBLANCE

Learn more about the 4 ecosystems and craft ambassadors

First article published

Read the article on Zenodo

The tile: Commoning through institutional aesthetics: Crafting frames, boundaries and reflections in practice

Authors: Elena Raviola, Marta Gasparin, Helena Hansson

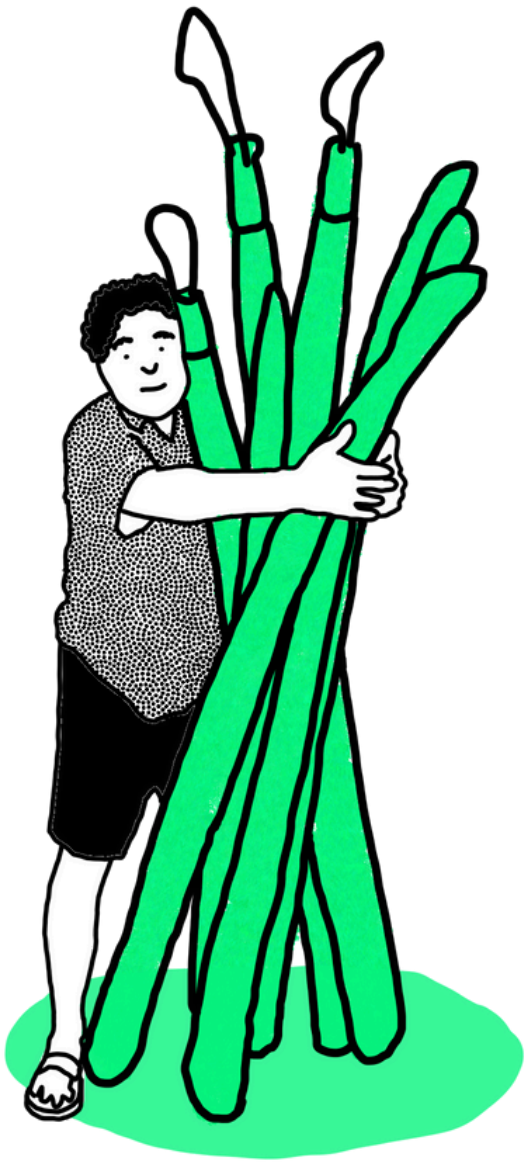
In this essay, we explore Cooper's theorizing of institutional aesthetics and technology to analyse a field study of a commoning process at a recreational area at Linnarhult near Gothenburg, Sweden. The paper focuses on a series of craft interventions that used the willow plant to make the area a common space. Using Cooper's theories, we analyse the community craft activities conducted at Linnarhult as an aesthetic process of making a common space by crafting frames, boundaries and reflections on site. We thus conclude by highlighting the process of commoning through institutional aesthetics, and we reflect on our attempt to use Cooper's theoretical ideas in analysing a concrete case. His emphasis and exemplary writing on the aesthetics of institutions has inspired us greatly, but our exploration has come with challenges and probably a deal of betrayal.

First project results available

The HEPHAESTUS project team has made available the first project results. They include: Report on establishment of the network of municipalities, heritage sites and museums participating at the Living Lab, A report on the perceived educational gaps among craft-makers, Briefs for business transformation and policymaking

As well as other important topics.

Access to project results





Sharing knowledge

Consortium partners have been very active in sharing the knowledge gained during the implementation of the project. The project partners have participated to various conferences, workshops and seminars.

Here you can find information about these events.

Partner effort



All partners of the consortium have been very actively involved in the project. Within this newsletter we will highlight the work of some of the partners.

Comune di Bassano del Grappa

After the kick-off meeting held in Bassano del Grappa on May 27th and the opening of the exhibition "Atmospheres of craft" by D20 Art Lab, which officially launched HEPHAESTUS, the Municipality have focused in the development of the network of subjects who could be involved and benefit from the project activities. In particular we got in contact with trade associations, organisations and craft makers from our territory and the surrounding areas and started to involve them in the process. On May 19, an event “Artistic Craftsmanship Between Past and Future: A European Look” was successfully held in collaboration with the City of Bassano, Copenhagen Business School, Cà Foscari University, and FabLab Venezia. Taking place during “Buongiorno Ceramica” 2024, it brought together artisans, academics, and enthusiasts to discuss and explore the evolving landscape of European craftsmanship.

Tor Vergata University

The main role of the University of Rome Tor Vergata for the Hephaestus project is to map the educational gaps perceived by craft-makers, to develop and test – together with Copenhagen Business School - innovative teaching curricula bot for life-long learning and for vocational training. During the first months of the project, the researchers conducted about 30 interviews, together with colleagues from Ca' Foscari University, with craft-makers in the ecosystems of Bassano del Grappa and Venice. These interviews were meant to better develop an online questionnaire, released at the end of 2023, that is targeted at craft-makers and students of craft in the selected ecosystems and the rest of Europe. At the beginning of 2024 data collection and analysis will permit drafting a report on such perceived educational gaps. At the same time, we are carrying out research activity to draft research papers related to the subject for dissemination activities.

Fab Lab Venezia

In late 2023, the Fablab Venezia team began actively working towards establishing a framework for the virtuous and forward-looking implementation of digital fabrication technologies in craft processes.

The initial efforts of the Fablab Venezia have focused on defining a strategy to map good practices, applications, and examples that illustrate the benefits of digital technologies for artisas, craft makers, and heritage preservation. The goal is to demonstrate that craft and technology are not opposing worlds; instead, new, excellent, and sustainable projects can emerge from the dialogue between tradition and innovation. Digital fabrication technologies can enhance traditional skills and knowledge, amplifying creative potential.



Do not hesitate!

If you have any questions or suggestions to our team,
do not hesitate to contact us hephaestus@unive.it!

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