

2021



Practices of urban inclusion

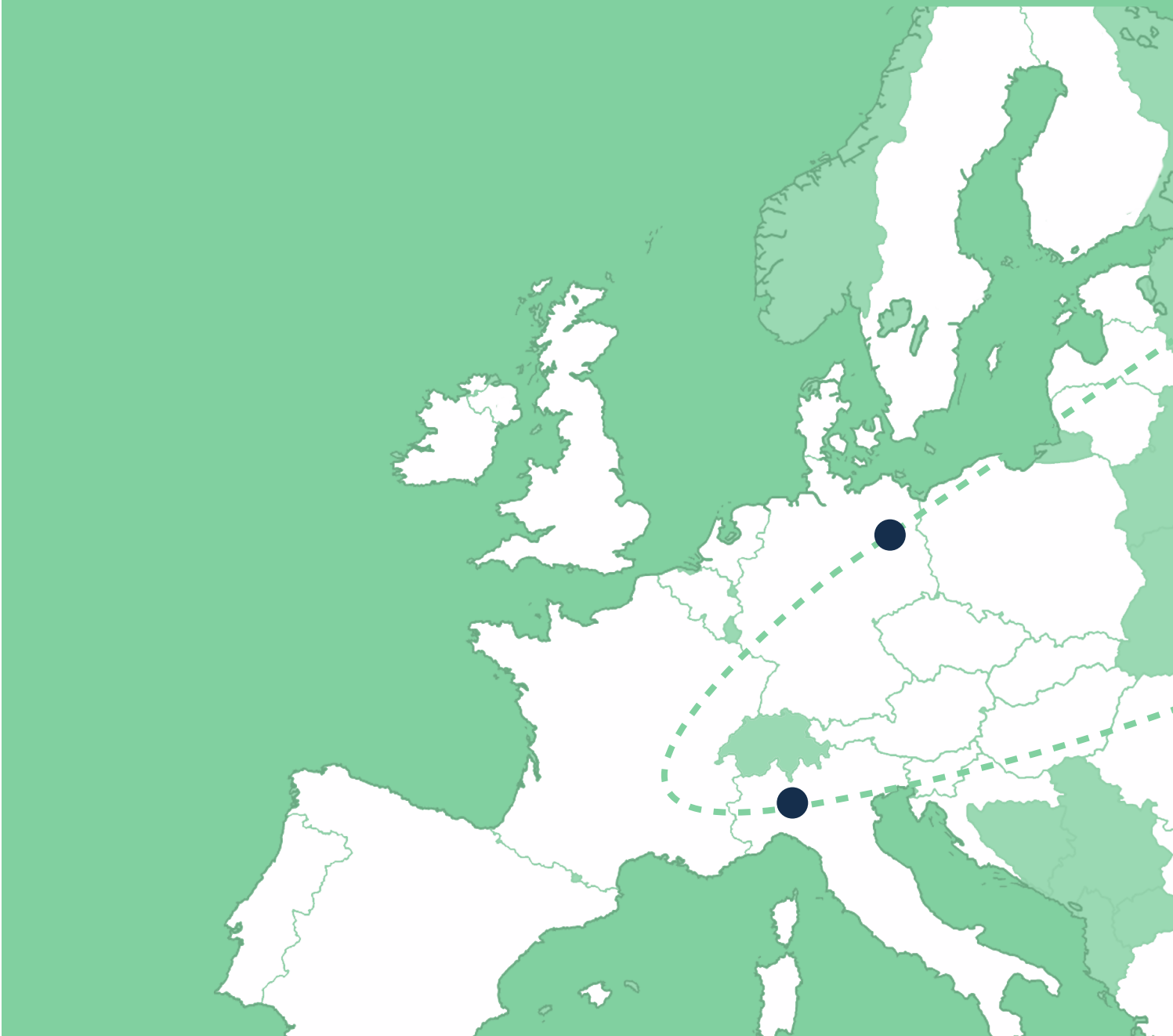


Live Workshops



Live Workshops 2021

The two live workshops aim to enhance participants' capacity to work collaboratively and reflexively, engage with diverse stakeholders, map complex urban territories and produce multi-dimensional analyses of places, and envision and test potential change via performative actions and temporary interventions.



Berlin, Germany

The Berlin workshop will take place in the district of Marzahn, located on the outskirts of the city. Here, a refugee camp initially set up as an emergency shelter is now one of the largest accommodations for refugees in Berlin. The workshop will engage with this context through the 'experimental construction site' known as Stadtwerke mrzn, which was initiated by S27 in Summer 2020 as a model campus for the new citywide urban practice network.

Stadtwerke mrzn utilises art-based methods to explore how local residents can gain agency to transform both their livelihoods and the spaces where they live. The workshop will ask how art and architecture can contribute to building local resilience in the context of migration and social exclusion – particularly during the current global pandemic. The workshop will take a collaborative and cross-disciplinary approach, to understand urban space as a product of multiple relationships, and urban practice as an instrument for social change.



Otto-Rosenberg Platz, Marzahn, Berlin.

Milan, Italy

The Milan workshop will be set in the district of San Siro. San Siro is one of the largest public housing estates in Milan and a large percentage of its population has a migratory background. Despite its physical proximity to the city centre, the area is generally perceived to be part of Milan's periphery due to its challenging material and social conditions, ranging from intense intercultural and intergenerational conflicts to poor buildings maintenance. At the same time, San Siro is also home to a vibrant network of individuals and organisations – known as Sansheros – who collaborate closely to support local residents and ameliorate living conditions in the neighbourhood. Their work of Sansheroes ranges from research-based, policy-oriented initiatives, to the provision of day-to-day services such as legal counselling, language courses, and more. The workshop will engage with the reality of San Siro and its many stakeholders, addressing questions of diversity, cohabitation and care through collaborative storytelling, mapping and scenario building.



San Siro neighbourhood, Milan.

Milan, Italy

Theme: Narratives of Space

The seven-day live workshop in Milan will take place in San Siro, one of the biggest public housing neighbourhoods in Milan. The urban area is located in the North-western part of the city and was built between the 1930s and the 1950s. It is composed of around 6.000 housing units which are home to around 11.000 people. 85 nationalities are represented here, Egyptian, Moroccans, Filipinos and Peruvians being the largest communities.

The live workshop will be hosted and run by the action research group “Mapping San Siro” (Politecnico di Milano) together with Refugees Welcome Italia. Mapping San Siro is an interdisciplinary team working on issues of housing, public space, and empowerment. Founded in 2013, it has engaged in action-research and planning and worked to enhance Sansheroes, a network of NGOs and associations working in the district. Members of the network will participate in the workshop as experts. Refugees Welcome Italia is an independent organisation that promotes the mobilization of citizens to encourage the social inclusion of refugees and young migrants who arrived in Italy as unaccompanied minors.

Our engagement will be framed within the issue of narrating space and will stem from a specific provocation: What are the dimensions of inclusion and exclusion of migrant people in the neighbourhood? The workshop will be aiming at producing an original and comprehensive narration of the migrant condition in the district stemming from four fundamental axes of inquiry: work and commerce; mutual help and services for migrants (i.e., language, health, administrative status, and so forth); public space and the street; “backyard life” and neighborhood relations.

The workshop will engage with a neighbourhood that is generally depicted as “inner city”, a place of insecurity, criminality, and illegality. San Siro is indeed labelled as “little Molenbeek”, a “Casbah”, and the “Behind-the-scene” of the so-called “Milanese Renaissance” that started with the projects of urban regeneration leading to the World Exposition Milan 2015. Contrary to this description, the workshop will create room for a different way of narrating space and its inhabitants through a horizontal and cooperative relation with experts, professionals, and the inhabitants themselves. The underlying learning process can therefore be defined as “apprehending (with) the city”.

In doing so, the workshop will engage learners and teachers in mapping, interviewing, walking, and observation activities aiming at assessing the way migrant people try to find their way to inclusion with the support of local players.

The aim of the (two) workshops in Berlin and Milan is to improve the skills of learners in exploring original ways to engage with social realities of local networks and communities and identifying emerging issues, producing in-depth analysis, envisioning and testing potential change via performative actions and temporary interventions.

During the workshop, the participants will experience life in the neighbourhood and will tackle the issue of living in an “internal periphery” such as San Siro. The participants will be asked to produce outputs based on the four axes mentioned above, with particular attention to the different scales of migrant experience (the courtyard, the district, and the city). Everyone will be asked to engage in a collective process of knowledge production, which includes site explorations, mapping, creating 1:1 relations with locals, interviewing experts and local players, and reflecting on the whole experience.

IMPORTANT: Due to the current pandemic, local measures have to be applied - which means that we will work in smaller groups, keep the distance, and wear masks!

Venues

Main workshop venue: Off Campus San Siro

Address: via Giacinto Gigante (in front of n. 5)

The space is located in San Siro neighbourhood, in the north-west part of Milan

Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/cNFJq7U4RbPaDaeU9>

To get there: Underground line M5, stop Segesta

Other workshop venues:

Il Nero Distribution - viale Mar Jonio 7

Shifton - via Abbiati 1

Spazio Colibrì, Cooperativa Tuttinsieme - via Micene

Contacts

Organisation at San Siro & general information while in Milan

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Programme

Monday, 6th September

- 10-10:30 Welcome
- 10:30-11 Introduction to the workshop, *led by PoliMi & RWI*
- 11- 13 Working in groups - Walks with rooted researchers (*R. Ferro; P. Grassi; G. Orsenigo; A.Ranzini - Mapping San Siro research group - PoliMi*)
- 13-14 Lunch with rooted researchers
- 14-15:30 Working in groups - Establishing the research aims of each group, *led by rooted researchers*
- 15:30-16 Break and go to main base
- 16-17:30 Seminar - 1. Mapping as a research tool, *led by B. De Carli (LMet)*

Tuesday, 7th September

- 10-11 Seminar - 2. Local network as devices of inclusion, *led by E. Maranghi (Mapping San Siro - PoliMi)*
- 11-13 Working in groups - Dialogues with local actors, *led by F. Cognetti & S. Pontiggia (PoliMi), G. Baracco & A. Villa (RWI), S. Uberti Bona & A. Priano (Sansheros network)*
in collaboration with:
Maria Dellagiacoma & Lucia Ventura - Legal Clinic, Università Bocconi;
Nancy Boktour - Associazione Mamme a Scuola;
Daniel de la Traba Lopez - COOPI;
Valentina Valfrè - Fondazione Soleterre;
Maria Chiara Cela - Cooperativa DarCasa;
Federico Bottelli - Comitato di Quartiere San Siro;
Members of Comitato Abitanti San Siro;
Anna Todeschini - Ass. Alfabeti & Marielle Binken - Shifton
- 13-14 Lunch break with local actors
- 14-16:30 Working in groups @ *Off Campus San Siro; Il Nero Distribution space; Shifton space; Colibrì space*

- 16:30-17 Break and go to main base
- 17-18 State of the art - Sharing the research wall, *led by L. Caistor-Arendar (LMet)*
- 20:30 *Optional: dinner@P.Sarpi neighbourhood, led by PoliMi local cluster*

Wednesday, 8th September

- 10-11:30 Seminar - 3. Unpanicked Multiculturalism. Concepts, places and policies in the cities of difference, *led by P. Briata (DASU - PoliMi)*
- 11:30-13 Working in groups - San Siro explorations
- 13-14 Lunch break
- 14-16 Working in groups @ *Off Campus San Siro; Il Nero Distribution space; Shifton space; Colibrì space*
- 16-17 Reviews with rooted researchers
- 17-18:30 Break and go to main base
- 18:30-19:30 Life journeys - Introductions with local residents, *led by PoliMi & RWI, M. Castelli & A. Priano (Sansheros network)*

Thursday, 9th September

- 10-11 State of the art - Sharing the research wall, *led by L. Caistor-Arendar (LMet)*
- 11-13 Seminar - 4. Building emergent bonds for knowledge production: methods and tools, *led by PoliMi & RWI*
- 13-14 Lunch break
- 14-16 Working in groups - Life journeys: exploring the everyday life of/with the inhabitants
- 16-18 Working in groups @ *Off Campus San Siro; Il Nero Distribution space; Shifton space; Colibrì space*
- 16-18 Learning Provocation with Resolve, *led by KU Leuven & LMet*

20:30 *Optional: aperitif with hosting families & RWI activists and volunteers, led by RWI*

Friday, 10th September

10-13 Working in groups - Life journeys: exploring the everyday life of/with the inhabitants

13-14 Lunch break

14-17 Working in groups - Life journeys: exploring the everyday life of/with the inhabitants

17:30-18 State of the art - Finalising the outputs, *led by L. Caistor-Arendar (LMet)*

Saturday, 11th September

10-10:30 Introduction to aims of the day, *led by PoliMi & RWI*

10:30 -13 Working in groups - Finalising outputs to present, with rooted researchers @ *Off Campus San Siro; Il Nero Distribution space; Shifton space; Colibri space*

13-14 Lunch break

14-15:30 Working in groups - setting up @ *Off Campus San Siro; Il Nero Distribution space; Shifton space; Colibri space*

15:30-16 Break and welcoming the audience

16-19 Presentations to rooted researchers & local partners
Graphic recording activity led by Marielle Binken (Shifton)

Celebration w/ rooted researchers, local partners & inhabitants

Sunday, 12th September

11-13 Brunch with learners & feedbacks, *led by PoliMi local cluster*

Guests & local partners

Speakers:

Marielle Binken, as a graphic recorder, co-designs and facilitates collaborative events. She summarizes the participants' ideas and expressions into big drawings and text in real-time. These visuals stimulate dialogue and mutual understanding, support the sense-making process and enrich learning and engagement, allowing group-genius to emerge. Before Marielle worked for over 15 years as PR & Communication Manager in the ICT.

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Paola Briata, PhD, is associate professor in Planning and Urban Policy at Dastu Polimi. Her research interests, empirically situated in North Italy and in the United Kingdom, are related to planning tools and urban policy in multi-ethnic contexts; to “hyper-diverse” social mobilisations surrounding planning and regeneration; to ethnographical approaches in urbanism. On these topics, from 2012 to 2014 she has been Marie Curie Research Fellow at the Bartlett School of Planning, University College London, and she is currently consultant of the European Commission Joint Research Centre.

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Beatrice De Carli is a Senior Lecturer in Urban Design at London Metropolitan University, and an Associate at Architecture Sans Frontières–UK. Her research and teaching employ a collaborative, design-based approach to address issues of equity, diversity and inclusion in the production of urban space.

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Elena Maranghi, she graduated in Architecture at the University of Roma Tre in 2010 and in 2014 she earned a PhD in Urban Studies at the University of Rome La Sapienza. Since 2013 she has been collaborating with Mapping San Siro action-research lab. From 2017 to 2020 she was a research fellow at Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (Politecnico of Milan) where she worked for the SoHoLab project (www.soholab.org), investigating the role and the characteristics of socially-oriented urban living labs in the regeneration of marginalized contexts, such as public housing neighbourhoods. Her research interests are: social housing policies, “empowerment” planning, local networks, and processes of locally based urban regeneration. Currently, she works for the Municipality of Genoa in the Urban Regeneration Office.

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RESOLVE is an interdisciplinary design collective that combines architecture, engineering, technology and art to address social challenges. They have delivered numerous projects, workshops, publications, and talks in the UK and across Europe, all of which look toward realising just and equitable visions of change in our built environment.

Much of their work aims to provide platforms for the production of new knowledge and ideas, whilst collaborating and organising to help build resilience in our communities. An integral part of this way of working means designing with and for young people and under-represented groups in society.

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Mapping San Siro Research Group, DASTU, Politecnico di Milano:

Rossella Ferro, during her studies in urban planning and policy design, approached the world of countercultures, underground and social movements. She has a background in activism for the right to the city, with an eye on solidarity movements developed in Milan after the 2008 crisis and during the pandemic. She experienced the role of coordinator and trainer in projects of non-formal education, youth volunteering and intercultural exchanges. Currently, she is involved with Politecnico di Milano in a field research for the promotion of local policies to contrast housing poverty in the milanese hinterland. She is a cofounder of Frange Mobili, a cross-disciplinary collective for inclusive architecture and territorial regeneration, developing projects of cohabitation for fragile populations and cultural initiatives in contexts of spatial marginality.

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Paolo Grassi is currently post-doc fellow at the Polytechnic, University of Milan and lecturer in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Padua. Paolo is a social anthropologist (PhD, University of Verona, and Masters, University of Milano Bicocca), with a specialisation in development (he has a second Masters in Development Project Management from the University of Milan). He also worked as a youth worker, a teacher, and a project manager assistant. Over the past ten years, he developed interests in issues relating to urban segregation, violence and insecurity, as well as the dynamics of slums and gated communities. He carried out ethnographic research in the Dominican Republic, in Guatemala and in Italy. He is member of the action-research group Mapping San Siro (Polytechnic of Milan).

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Gianfranco Orsenigo, architect and PhD in Architecture, Urban and Interior Design at Politecnico di Milano. He carries out research and project in marginal contexts (neglected urban areas, public housing neighbourhoods and prisons), focusing on the capability of the design to trigger and support the regeneration process. He is a research fellow at the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies of the Politecnico di Milano within the project ACTS A Chans Through Sport a Polisocial Award 2019. The topic of sport is the tool to develop a project of spaces and social reintegration in Milanese prisons.

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Alice Ranzini graduated in Urban Planning and Policy Design at Politecnico di Milano and obtained a PhD in Regional Planning and Public Policies at the IUAV in Venice. She conducts research on regeneration processes in marginal urban contexts, focusing on the role of local networks and the activation of inhabitants' and actors' competences. She is currently a research fellow at the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies of the Politecnico di Milano within the project Women4Intergration (AMIF 2021-2023), about economic and socio-spatial integration of migrant women in highly diverse neighborhoods in Europe.

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Local partners:

The Milan workshop is organized in collaboration with local partners:

Alfabeti Onlus is an Italian language school for foreigners. It has been active since 1995 and became a non-profit organisation in 1999. It teaches Italian to immigrants free of charge with a view to integration, acceptance and solidarity. It was established in the heart of the San Siro neighbourhood, which has always been one of the most multiethnic neighbourhood in the city of Milan. Alfabeti is made up of 70 volunteers, aged between 22 and 81, who give lessons twice a week every year from October to June to around 200 students from around 20 different countries, including: Egypt, Sri Lanka, Philippines, El Salvador, Morocco, Peru, Nepal, Senegal, China, India, Bangladesh, Ukraine, Pakistan.
www.alfabetionlus.org

Associazione Mamme a Scuola is a project that was started in 2004 by a group of volunteers. It is not intended to be a simple Italian language school for but a path of integration that relies on mothers as a vital element for the full integration of immigrant families into our society. Its specificity from the outset has been. Its specificity from the outset was that it was set up in a primary school with the aim of creating a bridge in the neighbourhood between immigrant mothers and their children's school environment. In addition to language courses, the project includes meetings with experts on health, school, nutrition, work, issues related to residence permits and citizenship. From its first location at the Istituto Comprensivo Rinnovata Pizzigoni in Via Mac Mahon, the project has been extended to three other primary schools in Milan, including the Istituto Comprensivo L. Cadorna in via Dolci 5. In January 2011 Mamme a scuola was set up as an autonomous association.
www.mammeascuola.it

Comitato Abitanti San Siro Since 2009, the Comitato Abitanti di San Siro has been engaged in daily activism and political, cultural and social intervention from below in the working-class neighbourhood of San Siro and the city of Milan. In recent years, it has been involved in various struggles, challenges and transformative changes concerning the right to housing and habitation: it began by defending the houses occupied by families in a state of housing emergency from evictions and denounced the critical situation of thousands of public housing units left empty in the face of around 20,000 families waiting for a home. It has been involved in the process of requesting an amnesty for occupants in need. In the San Siro neighbourhood, it has been organising activities to upgrade the neighbourhood, through parties, social events and cultural activities. It has promoted self-organisation to cope with the difficulties caused by the crisis, particularly felt in the neighbourhood, by activating mechanisms of exchange and mutual aid, not only of material goods but also of skills and mutual aid.
www.cantiere.org/abitanti-san-siro

Comitato di Quartiere San Siro was founded in 1990 by a group of women with the aim of tackling the problems of the neighbourhood. It is composed of men and women who voluntarily decide to devote part of their time to try to solve the problems of their neighbourhood. Its goals are ensuring that empty and vacant council houses are allocated, restoring decorum and liveability to the neighbourhood, and promoting and encouraging cultural exchanges within the neighbourhood. The committee organises meetings with representatives of the institutions (Lombardy Region, Milan City Council, Aler, etc.) to bring the ruling class into contact with those who live in the neighbourhood; it fosters initiatives aimed at the

improvement and well-being of the neighbourhood (e.g. cleaning of the streets, etc.); it works to prevent the cutting off of services to the tenants of social housing; and it cooperates with other (recognised) organisations operating in the district.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/631119450307422/>

Commissione Intercultura Istituto Cadorna promotes intercultural exchange activities between families, with the aim of making participation in school life more accessible to all parents and offering them an school life and offer an opportunity to get involved in the exchange with the “different”, to rethink together the value of the value of citizenship, educational responsibility and social cohesion.

Cooperativa Sociale Tuttinsieme is a social cooperative responsible for the implementation of various projects in the neighbourhood in the fields of home care, social housing and street education. It works in partnership with other organisations to provide socio-educational services that promote the well-being of people by encouraging integration and cohesion in the community and by enhancing individual and collective resources.

The Cooperative aims at providing increasingly qualified services to enhance the prospects for social, cultural and economic development.

In the San Siro district, it is responsible for the “Colibrì” diurnal centre in via Micene and the psycho-pedagogical desks at the Istituto Cadorna and Istituto Cabrini.

www.cooptuttinsieme.it

COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale is a NGO that through the commitment, motivation, determination and professionalism of its staff, aims to contribute to the process of fighting poverty and developing the communities with which it cooperates all over the world, intervening in situations of emergency, reconstruction and development, in order to achieve a better balance between the Global North and the Global South, between developed areas and deprived or developing areas.

www.coopi.org

Dar=Casa is a non-profit co-operative founded in 1991. Its mission is to create affordable housing for low- and moderate-income citizens in Milan and surrounding areas. In order to achieve these goals, Dar=Casa obtains and then renovates vacant or dismissed apartments. Usually it rents property owned by the Municipality of Milan or other public institutions, for whose restoration or management the local government cannot provide the necessary funding.

Dar=Casa repairs the buildings and renovates apartments to rent them out to the members of the co-operative at a fixed, fair and affordable price.

www.darcasa.org

Fondazione Soleterre is a non-profit organization that works for the recognition and application of the right to health in its broadest meaning. For this reason, in addition to providing medical care and assistance, it is committed to the protection and promotion of psycho-physical well-being of everyone, both individually and collectively, at any age and in any part of the world. Prevention, report and the fight against inequality and violence, whatever the cause that generates it, are an integral part of Soleterre’s activity: because health is social justice.

www.soleterre.org

Genera Onlus is a social cooperative with 20 years’ experience in providing services to people in the Milan area and its hinterland. Throughout its history, it has developed synergies and important

collaborations with other social realities in order to respond more effectively to the needs of the territory and the community. It proposes and designs educational, social welfare and health services, but also deals with reception, co-housing and social housing. In the neighbourhood, it manages the coordination of the Social Custody Service and the Velo'cemente project, in ATI with Coop. Tuttinsieme, Azione Solidale, and Comunità Progetto.
www.generaonlus.it

Legal Clinic - Università Bocconi offers assistance and guidance on legal issues to those who request it. Legal Clinic allow students, from the end of their fourth year, to practice on real cases through pro-bono activities with the aim of: learn through learning by doing, broaden skills and consolidate relationships with leading law firms and institutions; raising awareness of the social responsibility of each citizen; and promote the recognition of rights in contexts of fragility. Legal desk is the core of the project: students, supported by teachers and professionals, offer assistance and guidance on legal issues at a number of desks directly accessible by inhabitants.

Il Nero Distribution s.r.l.s. is an independent film distribution company founded in Milan in March 2017. The company is born with the aim of presenting to the Italian audience successful cinematographic products from Egypt and other Near Eastern countries. The content proposal of absolute originality, both scenic and cultural, allows Il Nero Distribution to position itself as an element of innovation within the Italian film scene and to expand its film offer. The company takes care of the translation of the scripts into the Italian language and the dubbing, guaranteeing the preservation of the identity and cultural significance of the proposed contents.
<https://www.ilnerodistribution.com/>

Shifton - Advanced Design for Social Innovation, activates innovation processes starting from people's needs. Shifton creates positive ecosystems where people and communities can build relationships of trust and collaboration. Shifton merges profit with purpose because it combines the generation of social impact with economic objectives.
<https://shifton.it/>

Inhabitants:

We would like to thank all the inhabitants involved in the activities for their kindness and availability, and for the support to the workshop.

**Milan workshop's
curators**

POLITECNICO DI MILANO

Francesca Cognetti is associate professor of Territorial and Urban Analysis at the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies and Rector's Delegate on Civic Engagement and Social Responsibility at Politecnico di Milano. Her teaching and research activities focus on public and social housing, and social inequalities. She is the coordinator of the action-research project Mapping San Siro, an experimental living lab aimed at sharing knowledge between academia and a large-scale public housing neighbourhood in Milan.

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Ida Castelnuovo is project manager at Polisocial, the social responsibility programme at Politecnico di Milano, and she is part of the action-research group Mapping San Siro. She is PhD in Regional Planning and Public Policy with post-doc experience. Her research interests include participatory processes in urban policies, local governance, urban decision-making and public engagement of university.

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Stefano Pontiggia is post-doc fellow in Anthropology at the Politecnico di Milano (Ph.D. in Social anthropology, University of Ferrara) and professor of anthropology at the Verona Academy of Fine Arts. He conducted long-term research in Italy and Tunisia and participated in applied research. He has research interests in migration and political asylum, power, the state, social and territorial marginalisation.

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REFUGEES WELCOME ITALIA

Giorgio Baracco graduated in Law at University of Piemonte Orientale in Alessandria and attended a Post Graduate Course in International Relations organised by the University of Turin and the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Over the last 15 years he worked in IT and publishing fields as editor and social media manager. He is currently involved in two entrepreneurial projects focused on bridging the gap between social sector and innovation.

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Angelica Villa has a degree in International Relations. In her professional experience she has developed skills in cultural and social planning, social activism and urban regeneration. In RWI she works as a Project Manager.

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LONDON METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY

Lucia Caistor-Arendar is an urbanist using research, education and design to advance social practices of city-making. She is a Research Fellow at London Metropolitan University, a Senior Associate at Social Life and an Associate at Architecture Sans Frontières UK.

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Knowledge Corner: during the week, participants will have access to documents, reports, and materials produced over the San Siro neighbourhood in the last ten years. The documentation is part of the archive set up @ Off Campus San Siro.

