

# SEARCH FOR PARTNERS

Creative Europe – Bridging culture and audiovisual through digital  
(EACEA EACEA-28-2019) – deadline May 14<sup>th</sup> 2020.

[link](#)

**Who:** [HOGENT](#) - [Howest](#) – Belgium

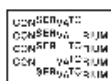
**Proposal:** Three pilot projects on how digital communities can participate in the valuation, opening-up or development of cultural heritage sites.

**Partners needed:** Cross-sectoral partners who approach the question from within their interest and want to organize a pilot in their region but within an international context.

We are a new found research consortium named '**Innovative future through design**' and are connected to the HOGENT-Howest in Flanders Belgium. We have a strong expertise in research, prior to the forming of this consortium. We systematically utilize design as a creative, investigative, participative and solution-oriented process to initiate and guide the transition to a sustainable future. We create physical and mental space for innovation and focus both on a material change and a change in the behavior & value patterns of society. Our consortium brings together **expertise in landscape & garden architecture, interior design, product design and digital design**.

We are currently drafting a project to reactivate the inherent and historical multifunctional ecosystems of **rural estates** and connect them to the digital technologies of the future. This as a continuation of our research expertise on rural estates through the Interreg Europe project [Innocastle](#) and the research project '[Preservation through Development](#)' as well as our expertise in community building and digital storytelling in the '[Design for Everyone](#)' project. This last project focuses on co-creation and make-ability in self-supported communities through the development of platforms and digital tools.

We see an important link to the creative Europe call and want to set up **a pilot project around the participation of digital communities in the valuation, opening up or redevelopment of cultural heritage**. In our case this will be more specifically related to rural estates and their landscapes within phase 2 of an ongoing research project. By facilitating a bottom-up approach, we want to stimulate inhabitants to become active participants in the development of their surroundings. What is needed to establish these communities or stimulate existing communities to participate in the development of cultural heritage. Can **digital tools** and **AI implementations** create a participative valuation process of cultural heritage? Is digital accessibility to heritage sites equal to physical accessibility and what if physical accessibility is not possible? How to participate in the forming and development of a heritage site in a non-physical way? What does all this mean for the landscape that surrounds us?



For this Creative Europe call we want to propose **three pilot projects with a clearly defined focus** originating out of the broad questions above. The focus will be defined together with you as potential partner. It can be beneficial to connect the pilots to ongoing projects or to develop them as spin-offs. We propose that each pilot project will be carried by the respective participating partner region. This has clear benefits because each partner can develop a pilot connected to his own expertise but within the boundaries jointly set in the proposal. Each partner can work within his own region and with his own stakeholders. The three partners can share methodologies, results, challenges and help each other to reach a certain success.

We are looking for partners who have an expertise both in **cultural heritage** as well as in **digital development**. An interest in **rural heritage** as well as **AI implementations** can be a plus in drafting the proposal. A partner who has the expertise needed to **independently start a pilot project** in their region but is however interested to form a **learning network** with two other partners across Europe who will be working on a similar theme.

If interested please contact us through the contacts below.

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