



Greece
Italy



Topic:
Mobility

Achievement:
Resilience through
Mobility

Sector:
All CCS and Cross-
sectoral

Rooted in Place, Open to Exchange: Cherimus as a Cultural Catalyst in Rural Sardinia

Last October, Cherimus welcomed Cotranspose to Sardinia for an exchange that highlighted how long-term co-creation and the creative reuse of spaces can turn remote communities into vibrant cultural centres. The experience led to concrete plans for collaboration and strengthened their sense of belonging to a wider European network of creative initiatives.



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Challenge

Cherimus operates in a rural area of Sardinia facing depopulation, economic decline, and limited access to cultural infrastructure. Like many decentralised cultural organisations, it needed to sustain long-term community engagement, make contemporary art accessible, and strengthen local participation while overcoming isolation and building connections beyond its immediate region.

Solution

Cherimus developed a place-based cultural model that combines contemporary art, community participation, mobility, and the creative reuse of local spaces. Through long-term co-creation with residents, artists, students, and researchers, alongside international exchanges such as the visit from Cotranspose, the organisation fostered cultural regeneration, knowledge-sharing, and stronger connections between local communities and wider European networks.

Impact

The exchange generated concrete plans for new youth-focused workshops, participatory art projects, and potential artist residencies. It strengthened confidence in rural cultural work, expanded professional networks, and reinforced the value of long-term community engagement. For both Cherimus and Cotranspose, the experience deepened their sense of belonging to a wider European ecosystem of cultural organisations working toward local regeneration and social cohesion.

Milestones & Learnings

Established a replicable rural cultural model based on co-creation, mobility, and community engagement.

Activated public spaces through exhibitions, concerts, site-specific artworks, and cultural events.

Delivered Communities Between Islands, connecting artists and communities across Sardinia, Corsica, and Syros.

Developed Giardini Possibili, transforming neglected village spaces into community gardens designed with local children.

Explored cultural regeneration, heritage, overtourism, and community-building through site visits and shared experiences.

Reinforced the role of nature, well-being, and cultural participation in rural development.

Strengthened both organisations' understanding of operating sustainably in rural contexts.

Key Takeaways

- Long-term co-creation and community participation transform residents from audiences into active contributors to cultural and social change.
- Rural cultural organisations can drive regeneration by combining artistic practice, local knowledge, and the creative reuse of spaces.
- International exchanges and peer learning create lasting partnerships, new projects, and stronger resilience for organisations working in remote areas.

Learn more about [Cotranspose](#) and [Cherimus](#).



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