



Czechia
Spain



Sende: A Living Model of Rural Cultural Practice

Katerina Fojtíková of Cultural Centre Schule spent six days in October 2025 at Asociación Cultural Sende in Senderiz, Galicia — a 20-inhabitant mountain village where a rural coliving and creative hub has spent a decade building something that works and even has an international reputation. Now she is planning residencies for international artists, and she is introducing new cultural initiatives.

Topic:
Mobility Innovation

Achievement:
Resilience through
Mobility Bridging
Geographies Innovative
Practices Learning
Together

Sector:
All CCS and Cross-
sectoral



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Challenge

Rural cultural organisations often struggle with limited resources, geographic isolation, and maintaining long-term sustainability without losing their local identity. Cultural Centre Schule in the Czech Republic sought new ways to strengthen community engagement, expand internationally, and develop resilient cultural practices while operating within the realities of a small rural environment.

Solution

Through the Ambassadors of Good Practice programme, Katerina Fojtková visited Asociación Cultural Sende in rural Galicia, Spain. Immersed in Sende's daily routines, she explored how coliving, coworking, cultural programming, and community participation could function as one interconnected ecosystem. The exchange inspired new residency plans, collaborative models, and relationship-based cultural practices for Schule.

Impact

The exchange reshaped Schule's long-term strategy by introducing relationship-based cultural production and international collaboration models adapted to rural contexts. It strengthened confidence in community-driven cultural ecosystems and demonstrated that small-scale, trust-based exchanges can generate durable partnerships, new residency initiatives, and sustainable approaches to rural creative practice.

Milestones & Learnings

Katerina participated directly in Sende's shared daily life and community routines.

Sende demonstrated how overlapping programmes create sustainable cultural ecosystems.

Workshops, walks, and informal presentations blended learning with social exchange.

The visit inspired Schule to develop international artist residencies.

Both organisations began exploring future collaborations in music and audiovisual production.

The exchange reinforced the value of translocal networks among rural cultural centres.

Sende reflected on its own methodology and clarified its identity as a transferable model.

Key Takeaways

- Rural cultural organisations often hold their most valuable knowledge in tacit, intangible form
- Peer exchange is most productive when the visitor is integrated into the host's daily life rather than presented with a curated programme
- Translocal communication, discovering that others across Europe share the same values and face the same tensions, is a form of support.
- Small-scale, trust-based exchanges can produce durable partnerships and concrete programme developments

Learn more about Sende [here](#).

Learn more about Schule [here](#).



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