



ADRIATIC
GREENLAB

INITIATED BY ADRIATIC GREENLAB
AN INITIATIVE OF FABLAB · ZAGREB

— MEDITERRANEAN MAKERS INITIATIVE

The Mediterranean Makers Manifest

Forging a shared future through
innovation, skills and sustainable
production.

A civil-society, private-sector and educational
response to the
Pact for the Mediterranean (M-PACT) & the New
European Bauhaus.
Submitted in the context of the 2026 Croatian
presidencies · Zagreb

IN PARTNERSHIP



FABLAB.HR
Association for
the promotion of
digital fabrication

A movement for the Mediterranean as a common space

This Manifest is a call to bring together Mediterranean makerspaces, labs, creative hubs, educators and local communities to build resilient, self-sufficient and future-ready territories — especially in places often overlooked: islands, rural areas, small towns, mountains and remote regions. It proposes a movement that connects communities across borders through distributed innovation, shared learning and collective empowerment.

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WHY WE EXIST

"The Mediterranean is our common space. Let us shape its future — together."

12

COUNTRIES

3

LIVING-LAB
CONTEXTS

5

STRATEGIC
ACTIONS

5-yr

INITIATIVE

The Mediterranean as a common space

We see the Mediterranean not as a dividing line, but as a Common Space for Innovation and Creative Production.

The Mediterranean Sea has historically been a cradle of civilization, trade and exchange. Today, however, it is often viewed as a border, a barrier, or a site of crisis. We, the Makers, propose a different vision — a region driven by a new generation of entrepreneurs, artisans and innovators who use technology and tradition to solve shared challenges.

This Manifest is a civil-society, private-sector and educational response to the Pact for the Mediterranean and the New European Bauhaus. It addresses the urgent need to revitalize remote and rural areas — islands, mountains and plains — by empowering citizens to become active problem solvers rather than passive consumers.

The Maker ethos

Our approach is human-centred, holistic and intergenerational. Drawing from the global Maker movement and the specific needs of our region, we stand on three pillars of value.

01 THE SOCIAL PILLAR

Community & resilience

Inclusive & intergenerational

Bridging youth and elders — digital-native skills meet traditional wisdom.

Fighting loneliness

Spaces as social sanctuaries that rebuild community ties in remote areas.

Empathy

Solutions designed around the real needs of people, not market trends.

02 THE OPERATIONAL PILLAR

Openness & sharing

Culture of sharing

Open-source knowledge — a solution on a Croatian island instantly reaches a village in Egypt.

Connecting boundaries

Rejecting silos; linking diverse communities, disciplines and cultures.

Accessibility

Tools and technology affordable and accessible to all citizens.

03 THE ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR

Sustainability & autonomy

Circular & practical

Repair, reuse and local production over global consumption.

Self-sufficiency

Communities resilient to external shocks through local manufacturing.

Regeneration

Guided by circularity and care for place across every project.

We commit to a Mediterranean future that is

Inclusive

Welcoming people of all backgrounds and capacities.

Participatory

Shaped collectively, through co-design and open collaboration.

Distributed

Networks of small but powerful hubs across the region.

Resilient

Preparing communities for future challenges.

Human-centred

Supporting people first, technology second.

Intergenerational

Connecting youth, artisans, educators and experts.

Resourceful

Doing more with less, as our communities always have.

Sustainable

Guided by regeneration, circularity and care for place.

Creative

Design, craft and imagination as tools for transformation.

Open

Sharing tools, knowledge and practices as commons.

FOUNDATIONAL KEYWORDS

Inclusive

Holistic

Practical

Sustainable

Experimental

Intergenerational

Human-centred

Accessible

Affordable

Sharing

Empathy

Resilience

Participatory

A response to high-level policy, built from the ground up

This Manifest responds to the high-level policy frameworks of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. It is based on the Pact for the Mediterranean, launched in Barcelona on 28 November 2025 — the 30th anniversary of the Barcelona Process.

The initiative uses the Adriatic GreenLab (AGL) as a "living laboratory" and model for the future of sustainable communities. Inspired by the New European Bauhaus, AGL connects creators, experts and local citizens to find solutions that empower individuals to become active problem solvers.

THE MANIFEST AIMS TO

01

Strengthen Europe's role in the Mediterranean and create a vital link toward Africa.

02

Empower grassroots actors to realize the innovation potential of their territory.

03

Promote people mobility and residency to bond communities around shared challenges.

ACCESSIBLE · RESPONSIBLE · INCLUSIVE

Adriatic GreenLab, established in Zagreb, is the defining model of this hub — a citizens-science NGO working in social innovation and social entrepreneurship.

One model, three territories

Adriatic GreenLab is our proven island flagship — a "Living Lab" now scaling across the Mediterranean. The island is only one of three territorial contexts: the same model adapts to agricultural plains and to mountain and forest regions — not general-purpose labs, but targeted resilience hubs tuned to their territory.

CONTEXT 01 ·
ISLAND

Adriatic GreenLab

Water conservation, marine protection and isolated energy systems; rainwater micro-grids and circular use of marine waste.

CONTEXT 02 ·
PLAIN

Farming & food systems

Smart agriculture, precision farming, food repair and bio-based materials from agricultural waste.

CONTEXT 03 ·
MOUNTAIN

Forestry & wood

Sustainable forestry, digital fabrication in wood, remote connectivity and eco-tourism tools.



Each hub functions as a **civil-defence centre** during crises — producing PPE and spare parts — and a **community centre** in peacetime, for education and social gathering.

01

People & innovation

Ljudi i inovacije

PACT FOCUS

People as a driving force for change, connection and innovation — higher education, vocational training, skills, jobs, youth and civil-society empowerment. A Mediterranean University and a Heritage mechanism are flagship projects.

MANIFEST STRATEGY

- Collaborate with the Mediterranean University, a flagship project of the Pact.
- Establish the Distributed Designing the Future Academy (DFA) for non-institutional education and citizen empowerment.
- Use social entrepreneurship as a tool for development.
- Promote Living Archives of cultural heritage.

02 Sustainability & connectivity

Održivost i povezivanje

PACT FOCUS

Stronger, more sustainable and integrated economies — trade, energy and clean technologies, water resilience, blue economy and digital connectivity. T-MED and StartUp4Med are flagship projects.

MANIFEST STRATEGY

- Accelerate the Green Transition through hands-on, regenerative projects.
- Network makerspaces via Fablab through Vulca.
- Expand the AGL model across island, plain and mountain contexts.
- Align with the New European Bauhaus (NEB LAB for Med).

03 Security & resilience

Sigurnost i otpornost

PACT FOCUS

Security, preparedness and migration management — common security challenges, regional disaster preparedness and a whole-of-route approach to migration.

MANIFEST STRATEGY

- Develop local maker networks for rapid response.
- Leverage local resources and knowledge for community self-reliance.
- Build replicable models that adapt across borders.
- Strengthen emotional networking with people and places.

Five commitments that turn vision into reality

1

A distributed network of resilience hubs

GOAL

Create a physical infrastructure of makerspaces in remote areas.

EXECUTION

Replicate the AGL model across the Mediterranean. Hubs act as civil-defence centres in crises (PPE, spare parts) and community centres in peacetime (education, gathering).

2

The Distributed Designing the Future Academy

GOAL

Democratise education and validate "maker knowledge".

EXECUTION

With the Mediterranean University, recognise that everyone is both teacher and learner — issuing micro-credentials for informal skills currently unrecognised by formal systems.

3

The Euro-African Innovation Bridge

GOAL

Strengthen geopolitical stability through shared innovation.

EXECUTION

Operationalise Europe-Africa links via frugal-innovation partnerships, combining high-tech digital fabrication with resource-efficient innovation.

4

The Green Transition through "Local Loops"

GOAL

Replace global supply chains with local circular economies.

EXECUTION

Every signatory makerspace implements a Repair & Reuse Protocol — empowering citizens to repair devices and locally manufacture spare parts, cutting waste and carbon.

5

Living Archives of heritage

GOAL

Preserve cultural identity through emotional networking.

EXECUTION

Use 3D scanning and VR/AR to document traditional crafts and heritage at risk, building platforms where makers' stories keep heritage alive.

EURO-AFRICAN INNOVATION BRIDGE

Both shores face water scarcity and extreme heat. We combine Europe's digital-fabrication capacity with Africa's leadership in frugal, resource-efficient innovation.

THE NOMADIC MAKER PROGRAMME

Innovators travel between the North and South shores to co-develop open-source hardware for climate adaptation.

Mechanism & partnership network

NETWORKING

Vulca partnership

The Vulca partnership for the Mediterranean connects and networks the makerspaces.

EDUCATION PRACTICE

The DFA

The Distributed Designing the Future Academy is the primary education-practice infrastructure for citizen empowerment.

CORE HUB

Adriatic GreenLab

Established in Zagreb and defined as an ACCESSIBLE · RESPONSIBLE · INCLUSIVE hub.

CROATIAN INSTITUTIONAL & NGO PARTNERS

- Udruga Fablab (Fablab Association)
- Institute for Entrepreneurial Education and Innovation
- Faculty of Architecture, University of Zagreb
- Association of Islands (Udruga Otoka), Prvić Island

STRATEGIC TIMING

Positioned to leverage the visibility of the 2026 Croatian presidencies.

A five-year initiative led by a citizens-science NGO working across social innovation and social entrepreneurship.

A maker network across the Mediterranean

Networked through the Vulca partnership, the Distributed Designing the Future Academy serves as the shared education-practice infrastructure for citizen empowerment across twelve countries.

01	Portugal	Buinho · Vivalab Porto · Biolab Lisboa	02	Spain	Fablab Cuenca · Fablab Barcelona
03	France	Makers des Montagnes · Agrilab UniLaSalle	04	Italy	Fablab Olbia · SciFabLab ICTP
05	Slovenia	Center Rog · KreatorLab	06	Croatia	Adriatic GreenLab (AGL) · Fablab.hr
07	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Fablab.ba · GaražaLab	08	Albania	Things Lab
09	Greece	SYNFabLab · TransfoLab Ath	10	Malta	VCA Makerspace
11	Türkiye	Design Interactions Lab	12	Egypt	Fablab Egypt

12

COUNTRIES

20+

MAKER HUBS

2

CONTINENTS
LINKED

1

COMMON SPACE

— CALL TO ACTION

Do not just buy the future — help make it

To policymakers

Recognise makerspaces as essential public infrastructure — like libraries or schools — and support the Distributed Academy to validate the skills of the future workforce.

To educators

Partner with us. Move out of the lecture halls and into the Living Labs where practical innovation happens.

To citizens

Join us. Do not just buy the future; help make it.

The Mediterranean is our home. Let us build it together.



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