

OPEN CALL: *Accelerator4Crafts* Residency Programme



Are you a craftsperson, creative entrepreneur, or artisan business looking to expand your horizons, share your expertise, and engage in collaborative experimentation? The Tracks4Crafts project invites applications for the *Accelerator4Crafts residency programme*, an exciting opportunity for individuals outside the Tracks4Crafts network to immerse themselves in a dynamic peer-to-peer learning environment.

About Tracks4Crafts

Tracks4Crafts is a Europe-wide initiative that supports and revitalizes traditional crafts by connecting local craftsmanship with contemporary markets and audiences. Through a series of pilot cases across Europe, Tracks4Crafts fosters cross-cultural exchange, innovation, and sustainable business practices, ensuring that crafts continue to thrive in the modern world.

About the residency

The Accelerator4Crafts Residency invites craftspeople, creative entrepreneurs, and businesses to join a unique collaborative journey. Selected participants will take part in a hybrid programme that combines:

- A. A **two-week in-person** residency at a hosting pilot site
- B. **Three online sessions**: one onboarding session before arrival and two follow-up sessions afterwards.

A total of **eight residency opportunities are available**. Each selected resident will have their flights covered and will receive paid accommodation where necessary, if not provided by the host.

- **Hybrid residency method:**
 1. Introductory online session with the selected pilot case
 2. 2 weeks in-person in the pilot site (*the exact schedule, activities, and logistical details will be further developed and planned by each pilot site based on their specific context and needs. Participants should coordinate directly with their chosen site to finalize the details of their visit*)
 3. Follow-up online session after the residency
- **Budget:** The residencies cover travel and accommodation expenses up to a maximum total budget of €1,900 per resident. Transportation and accommodation costs will be covered directly by the T4C project. Accommodation will be provided where needed and where not already offered by the host. Any additional support (such as workspace, local transport, or other resources) may be offered by pilot sites at their discretion but cannot be guaranteed.
- **Timing:** (2026) April-May-June.¹

¹ Exact dates to be agreed with pilots.

Our Pilot cases

You can select one of our pilot cases. *(Additional information is available in the registration form, which can be accessed after [logging in](#))*

[Pilot 1: Waag FutureLab \(The Netherlands\)](#)

Waag FutureLab operates at the intersection of science, technology, and the arts, focusing on technology as an instrument of societal change, guided by the values of fairness, openness, and inclusivity.

Key words: research, design, technology

[Pilot 2: Icelandic Textile Center \(Iceland\)](#)

The Icelandic Textile Centre aims to support research, innovation and education in textiles. Its makerspace is not a place for full-blown production, but for sampling, experimenting and learning, particularly with sustainable and local materials, such as wool, hemp and fish leather.

Key words: innovation, education, textiles

[Pilot 3: Bokrijk \(Belgium\)](#)

Crafts Campus Bokrijk has 3 pillars for transmitting craftsmanship: OpenAir Museum, focused on the preservation, restoration and (re)construction of craft techniques related to the historical buildings on its site. VAKlab, a center of expertise and services on craftsmanship and entrepreneurship. Craftsmanship and Heritage, the platform for historical and contemporary craftsmanship in Flanders.

Key words: craftsmanship, entrepreneurship, preservation

[Pilot 4: Onl'fait \(Switzerland\)](#)

Onl'fait is an open Fab Lab that offers technical, technological and human resources for digital craftsmanship. It provides professional and amateur craftspeople with the necessary tools for repairing, creating, developing and conceiving a prototype of product, supporting circularity in the economy and embedding crafts skills in the urban fabric.

Key words: digital craftsmanship, manufacturing

[Pilot 5: Semne Cusute \(Romania\)](#)

Semne Cusute blends cultural preservation, sustainable fashion, community building, and education to promote and protect the heritage of the Romanian traditional shirt. It highlights the intricate patterns and wisdom encoded in its design, showcasing it as a masterpiece of collective creativity.

Key words: Needlework, Needlelace, Textile, Heritage, Sustainable Fashion, Fashion Activism, Education, DIY fashion.

[Pilot 6: The Art of Silk Museum \(Greece\)](#)

The Art of Silk Museum aims to showcase and preserve the region's rich silk-making tradition through exhibitions, tours, workshops and a school for teaching with handlooms. Leftovers from silk production are used for creating products like rugs.

Key words: silk, preservation, education

[Pilot 7: MX3D \(The Netherlands\)](#)

MX3D is an Amsterdam-based company that revealed the potential of robotic wire arc additive manufacturing (WAAM). By combining a well-known process of robot welding with 3D printing knowledge, large-scale 3D metal printing becomes more flexible, faster and cheaper.

Key words: 3D printing, metal, high-tech

[Pilot 8: Artex \(Italy\)](#)

The Ceramic Futures pilot, implemented by Artex is a multifunctional and cross-sectoral space where craftspeople, designers, students and anyone interested in the world of crafts can meet, work and learn together, and form a unique community. It supports young craftspeople and SMEs to get established and grow into sustainable businesses by providing physical facilities, including a ceramics workshop, a network of experts and support with specific skills.

Key words: ceramics, community, crafts

Resident commitments

To ensure mutual benefit for both residents and hosts, selected residents are expected to:

- Participate in all scheduled online and in-person activities.
- Develop and deliver a tangible output showcasing the residency experience, which take different forms:
 - A crafts object, design, or documented process.
 - A short film or visual documentation of their residency experience.
 - A written reflection or brief report for Tracks4Crafts and the pilot's communication channels.
- Engage with the hosting pilot in knowledge exchange activities, including sharing specific skills or methodologies during the residency.
- An online interview will be recorded and used as promotional material within the framework of the project. This interview will serve as a platform to showcase the artist's work, insights, and experience during the residency.

Residency highlights

- **Collaborative learning:** Engage in meaningful interactions with like-minded craftspeople and artisans at a chosen Tracks4Crafts pilot site.
- **Experimentation:** Explore new methods, materials, and perspectives within a supportive and inspiring community.
- **Platform access:** All residents will be invited to join the Tracks4Crafts online platform (*Accelerator4Crafts*), enabling ongoing connections with a wider network of craft professionals across Europe.

Who should apply?

- Skilled craftspeople and artisans passionate about their craft and interested in collaborative opportunities.
- Small businesses and entrepreneurs in the creative industries looking to expand their practice, build networks, and innovate.
- Individuals and entities committed to sustainable and culturally significant practices in traditional or contemporary crafts.

Benefits of the residency

- **Peer exchange:** Learn from and share your skills with other craftspeople in a vibrant, culturally rich setting.
- **Network expansion:** Build relationships with peers, mentors, and industry experts within and beyond the Tracks4Crafts community.
- **Visibility:** Gain exposure through Tracks4Crafts communications, bringing visibility to your craft and brand across Europe.

Application process

Interested applicants should submit via this [online form](#) (*can be accessed after logging in*)

Selection criteria and process

The selection criteria are:

Only candidates that are residents in the 27 EU Member States or in countries associated to Horizon Europe (check the list at this [link](#)), are eligible for this program.

- Alignment with Tracks4Crafts values
- Willingness to collaborate and share knowledge
- Innovation and experimentation
- Community impact and future potential
- Portfolio quality and artistic vision
- Adaptability and cultural sensitivity
- Geographic and cultural diversity
- Language and communication skills

A selection committee will be built including T4C consortium partners, advisory board members and other experts which will assess all the applications against the selection criteria following a mixed, quantitative and qualitative, assessment process.

Applicants may be called for an interview if the selection committee members consider it appropriate.

Practical information

- **Duration of the residency:** Hybrid model with a 2 week in-person residency and 3 online sessions (dates to be agreed between the resident and the hosting pilot).
- **Financial support:** Transportation and accommodation expenses will be covered by the T4C project, up to a maximum total amount of €1,900 per resident.
- **Application deadline:** March 13, 2026

For further details on the Tracks4Crafts project and the *Accelerator4Crafts Residency programme*, please visit our website at [Tracks4Crafts](https://Tracks4Crafts.com) or contact us at projects@3walks.com

Join us in preserving, transforming, and expanding the world of crafts – apply now for the Tracks4Crafts Accelerator Residency Programme!