

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.)

 *Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)*

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	NETCO
Participant:	Manresa Municipality
PIC number:	944068991

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	3
Event name:	COLLABORATIVE HOUSING AND APPLIED RESEARCH
Type:	Round table, workshops and research cooperation
In situ/online:	in situ
Location:	Brussels (BE) and Manresa (ES)
Date(s):	25-26.02.2026
Website(s) (if any):	https://netcoproject.org/
Participants	
Female:	17
Male:	9
Non-binary:	1
From country 1 [Serbia]:	1
From country 2 [Belgium]	18
From country 3 [Germany]:	1

From country 4 [Italy]:	1		
From country 5 [Croatia]:	1		
From country 6 [The Netherlands]	2		
From country 7 [France]	2		
From country 8 [Spain]	1		
Total number of participants:	27	From total number of countries:	8

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

1. Target groups:

The activity targeted NETCO partners and stakeholders, collaborative housing practitioners and citizen-led initiatives, housing providers and agencies, municipalities and local authorities, European housing networks and civil society organisations, as well as researchers and European policy actors. The event brought together **27 participants from eight EU countries, plus the UK and Switzerland**, exceeding the initial target of 3 countries and 25 participants. Most participants were NETCO partners and stakeholders.

2. Description and context:

Within Work Package 3, the activity aimed to strengthen the connection between applied research, collaborative housing (CH) practice and European policy development, contributing to a stronger evidence base for innovation and supporting the recognition of collaborative housing as a relevant component of the European housing ecosystem.

Against this background, NETCO and its partners initiated and led a dedicated European-level meeting in Brussels on 25–26 February 2026, bringing together

collaborative housing practitioners, housing organisations, citizen-led initiatives, civil society representatives and European policy actors. The activity was closely aligned with NETCO's role as a large-scale European network fostering cooperation and knowledge exchange on collaborative housing.

The Brussels meeting was organised in the context of the emerging **European Alliance for Collaborative Housing** and the implementation of the European Affordable Housing Plan (EAHP). It provided an opportunity for NETCO and its partners to bring the experience and knowledge of collaborative housing initiatives into the European policy debate, while also strengthening cooperation among organisations working on CH across Europe.

The activity therefore contributed to WP3 by:

- facilitating exchange between practitioners, researchers, networks and policy actors;
- strengthening the evidence and knowledge base around different collaborative housing models;
- connecting experiences from different European contexts;
- identifying common policy, governance, financing and implementation challenges; and
- positioning NETCO as an active European-level actor in the development of the collaborative housing field.

The activity consisted of two interconnected parts:

- Public event on February 25th, 16:00-18:45
- Task force meeting on February 26th, 10:00-11:30

25 February 2026 – Collaborative Housing Alliance Meet & Greet and policy discussion

The public event took place at Arc-en-Ciel in Molenbeek-Saint-Jean, Brussels, a Community Land Trust project. It brought together practitioners, policy actors and housing innovators to discuss how collaborative housing models, including community land trusts and cooperatives, can contribute to long-term affordability, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.

The event was strongly driven by NETCO and its partners. **Maite Arrondo, Director of NETCO, opened the meeting, contributed to the policy discussion**

and presented the next steps for continued engagement. NETCO was therefore not only represented at the event but played a leading role in shaping its content, facilitating the exchange and connecting the meeting to the wider European collaborative housing agenda.

The programme included:

- an introduction to collaborative housing and the Community Land Trust model;
- presentations from members of the Collaborative Housing Alliance showcasing initiatives from different European countries;
- a policy discussion on the role of collaborative housing in the European Affordable Housing Plan;
- exchange on financing, collective ownership, affordability and scaling of community-led housing models; and
- discussion of opportunities for continued cooperation at European level.

The geographical diversity of the contributions, including experiences from Croatia, Catalonia, Germany and Switzerland, supported the exchange of different approaches and socio-economic and institutional contexts.

26 February 2026 – Collaborative Housing Alliance / European Commission Task Force meeting

The second part of the activity consisted of a dedicated meeting between representatives of the Collaborative Housing Alliance and the European Commission. NETCO was represented by its Director, Maite Arrondo, alongside representatives of other European collaborative housing networks and organisations.

The discussion focused on the implementation of the European Affordable Housing Plan and, in particular, on how collaborative housing could be integrated into European peer-learning, investment and financing mechanisms. Key issues included the development of appropriate financial instruments for community-led and not-for-profit housing, recognition of collective ownership models, access to EU funding instruments, and the possibility of establishing a dedicated European workstream or hub for collaborative housing.

3. Contribution to NETCO and WP3

The Brussels activity represented an important practical implementation of WP3's objective of connecting research, practice and policy. The meeting created a European-level space for comparing models, sharing evidence and identifying common challenges and policy needs. For NETCO, the activity also reinforced its role as a large-scale European cooperation network on collaborative housing. By bringing together its partners and stakeholders and engaging directly with European policy actors, NETCO contributed to building a stronger European ecosystem for collaborative housing and to ensuring that the knowledge and experience of its members are reflected in policy discussions.

The activity also strengthened NETCO's position within the emerging European Alliance for Collaborative Housing. A concrete follow-up outcome was that NETCO became a recognised actor in the new trans-European European Alliance for Collaborative Housing. The outcomes of the Brussels meeting were subsequently circulated among NETCO partners, supporting further knowledge exchange and cooperation.

Follow-up will include continued engagement with the European Commission and the European Alliance for Collaborative Housing, dissemination of the meeting outcomes within NETCO, and further European-level exchanges, including the 8 June 2026 workshop on developing an efficient ecosystem for municipal housing.

3. Agenda of the event.

**Collaborative Housing Alliance x European Commission Meeting:
Implementation & next steps for the EAHP**

Collaborative Housing Alliance Meet & Greet

25 February 2026 | 16:00–18:45

[Community Room, Arc-en-Ciel](#), Rue Vandenpeereboom 22, 1080
Molenbeek-Saint-Jean

Why collaborative housing, and why now? Europe's housing crisis demands solutions that are not only ambitious, but durable. As the European Affordable Housing Plan takes shape, we must ensure that public investment delivers on public interest: long-term affordability, greater social inclusion, and better environmental sustainability.

This event brings together practitioners, policy actors, and housing innovators to explore how collaborative housing models - from community land trusts to cooperatives - can move from promising pilots to scaled, systemic impact across Europe.

During this event, we will:

- Unpack how the European Affordable Housing Plan can foster a vibrant and thriving collaborative housing sector in Europe.
- Showcase innovative housing solutions from across Europe - from Croatia to Catalonia, from Germany to Switzerland.
- Link up with organisations, housing providers, and networks of municipalities and local authorities who are spearheading collaborative housing projects and bringing them to scale.
- Discover a proven housing solution right here in Brussels, as the event will be hosted in [Arc-en-Ciel](#), a Community Land Trust

Agenda

15:30	Arrival	<i>We will begin on time, at 16:00. Please arrive early and enjoy a snack and a drink before we get started.</i>
16:00	Welcome & Introduction	Why collaborative housing, and why now? <i>Maite Arrondo, Network of Cities for Collaborative Housing (NETCO)</i> Introduction to Arc-en-Ciel and the Community Land Trust model <i>Geert De Pauw, Community Land Trust Brussels</i>
16:10	The Collaborative Housing Alliance: Innovation at Scale	Short introductions by members of the Collaborative Housing Alliance , telling the stories of innovative housing initiatives from across Europe.
16:45	Unpacking the EAHP and the role of collaborative housing	Kick-off policy discussion: Insights from collaborative housing initiatives on each of the European Affordable Housing Plan's four pillars, in conversation with the audience. <i>Moderator: Mariana Gallo, World Habitat,</i> <i>Contributions from:</i> - <i>Giulia Barnhisel, European Community Land Trust Network,</i> - <i>Maite Arrondo, Network of Cities for Collaborative Housing (NETCO),</i> - <i>Léa Oswald, UrbaMonde,</i> - <i>Ana Džokić, MOBA,</i> - <i>Jens-Uwe Köhle European Student Cooperative Housing Alliance (ESCHA).</i>

18:00	Closing Remarks	Final remarks and reflections: How can we build on the growing momentum at EU level to tackle the housing crisis, and ensure it translates into real change for local actors and local communities? <i>Geert de Pauw, Community Land Trust Brussels</i> Next steps & how to stay engaged <i>Maite Arrondo, Network of Cities for Collaborative Housing (NETCO)</i>
18:10	Networking Drinks	<i>Please stick around to connect with practitioners, policy actors, and housing innovators over drinks and snacks.</i>
18:45	End of event	

February 26, 2026 | 10.00-11:30

Attendees: **Collaborative Housing Alliance representatives:** Ella Hancock (World Habitat), Geert de Pauw (Community Land Trust Brussels), Léa Oswald (urbaMonde), Joran Jeras (MOBA), Maite Arrondo (**Network of Cities for Collaborative Housing - NETCO**), Jens-Uwe Köhler (European Student Cooperative Housing Association); **European Commission representatives:** Matthew Baldwin, Mariangiola Fabbri, Edit Lakatos, Mathieu Prengel, Grzegorz Gajewski, Margit Perko, Stefan Moser, Charlie Watson, Lucia Caudet, Tatiana Uriarte Marquez

Welcome & Introductions (15 min):

- Each member of the Collaborative Housing Alliance and EAHP Task Force / European Commission introduces themselves.

Q&A on the EAHP and next steps (30 min):

- How can collaborative housing actors - like networks of CLTs and cooperatives, as well as members of the Collaborative Housing Alliance - be engaged in **peer exchange and learning platforms**, such as the Housing Alliance and Housing Summit, as well as the Better Homes Partnership?

- In the Plan, cooperatives and CLTs are mentioned under Action 7: addressing speculation. There is a bullet point that says *“Facilitate investments in non-profit and limited-profit housing providers by identifying technical and legislative barriers, developing a market-led investment framework for social and affordable housing and mobilising investments under the Pan-European Investment Platform (see action 4);”*. **How do you envisage investments to be “facilitated” - through which mechanisms or instruments?**
- Could a **workstream on community-led housing** be envisaged within the Pan-European Investment Platform?
- **Aside from eligibility in the NEB facility** - which was highlighted explicitly in the plan - how else can community-led housing solutions be streamlined and included in other proposed actions and financing instruments?
- What is the expected approach to develop a ‘market-led’ investment framework - and how can CLTs and cooperatives be included in its development, testing and piloting?

Q&A on Collaborative Housing Alliance (30 min) - *For colleagues from the EC to pose any questions or reflections to the CHA members.*

4. Take aways

This WP generated a set of policy and cooperation priorities addressed to the European Commission, Member States, local authorities and the European Parliament. These included stronger recognition of collaborative housing within European housing policy, appropriate financial products for community-led and not-for-profit housing, recognition of collective ownership models, improved access to public funding and technical assistance, and the integration of collaborative housing into local and national housing strategies.

The activity also established a basis for continued engagement between NETCO, the Collaborative Housing Alliance and European institutions. Follow-up activities

included further exchanges on the development of an efficient ecosystem for municipal and community-led housing, including the workshop planned for 8 June 2026 in Brussels.

Overall, the Brussels meeting strengthened NETCO's role as a European knowledge and cooperation platform for collaborative housing, linking the practical experience of its partners with research, peer learning and EU-level policy development. It provided a concrete mechanism for translating WP3's objective of strengthening the evidence base for collaborative housing into European-level dialogue, networking and policy engagement.

Key materials to reference for more information:

- [Summary of the plan by ECLTN](#)
- [The European Affordable Housing Plan - Dec. 2025 \(in full\)](#)
- [Questions & Answers about the EAHP](#)
- [Factsheet of the EAHP](#)
- [Information about the Pan-European Housing Investment Platform](#)

Thematic Workshop on Municipal Housing

08/06/2025

Hybrid

Location: European Commission

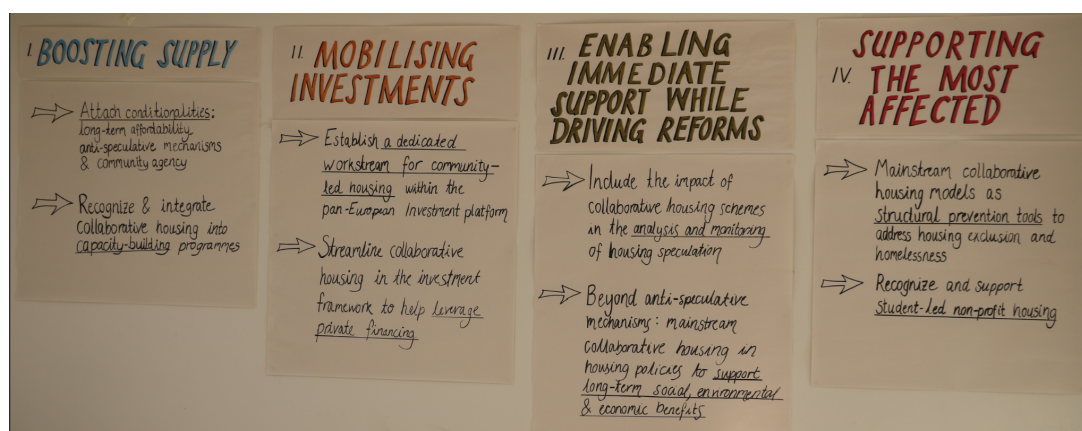
Centre Borschette



Agenda



5. Graphical elements and photos of the event





HISTORY OF CHANGES

VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).

