

# Charter for the Creation of a European Community Land Trust Network

# Community Land Trusts: a proven solution for inclusive and sustainable development

Since the late 2010s, European cities have been experiencing a structural crisis in affordable housing. Rising costs primarily affect the most vulnerable households, endangering the social and spatial cohesion of our cities. But more and more households in Europe are deprived of their fundamental right to access decent and adequate housing, with the covid-19 pandemic exacerbating housing insecurity, household over-indebtedness, and risk of homelessness.

In that context, the Community Land Trust (CLT) model, which is flourishing in Europe since the late 1990s, represents a proven solution with respect to the ongoing housing crisis. CLTs - and their French iteration *Organismes de foncier solidaires* - are one of the best instruments to tackle out of control land speculation; providing affordable housing, strengthening community assets and enabling tenure security across Europe, especially for disadvantaged households at risk of eviction or unable to access traditional housing markets. The CLT model addresses the dual crises of climate change and social inequality by increasing the capacity of communities to self-organise and adapt to life within planetary boundaries. The CLT model acts as an intermediary to foster social, economic and environmental values for generations to come.

## A European network to promote the Community Land Trust model and foster cooperation

We are a wide variety of actors actively developing the Community Land Trust model, either directly working with CLTs, networks of CLTs, or supporting the creation of new CLTs. We are networked to combine our efforts in promoting the CLT model. We foster cooperation among ourselves and other interested actors. To this end, we develop projects and undertake activities together, such as:

- Campaigning for the CLT model at the European level; and supporting local, regional, and national advocacy efforts as well
- Exploring strategies to access European funding opportunities
- Capacity building: organising peer-to-peer learning events and mutual exchanges
- Streamlining tools and methodologies geared to catalyse the CLT model all around Europe

#### A common vision of the Community Land Trust model

We define CLTs as non-profit, democratic, community-led organisations. They develop and manage homes that are affordable to low and median income households, as well as other assets that contribute to thriving local communities. They act as long-term stewards of these assets, ensuring they remain permanently affordable. This is achieved through mechanisms that ensure that any additional value generated is retained within the CLT.

# The voice of the European Community Land Trust movement

The network hereby established shall be the voice of the movement. It will take part in European activities, in particular those of other relevant European networks.

# List of signatories

CLT Bjlmer (And The People ad interim)





National CLT Network of England and Wales



**CLT Brussels** 



OFS Métropole lilloise



**CLT Ghent** 



Self-organised Architecture Self Organised Architecture

Fonds mondial pour le Développement des Villes



South of Scotland Community Housing



supporting

QUARTER

London CLT



Stadtbodenstiftung (CLT) Berlin

