

## **Peripheral aspirations in the search of a collective reuse for an abandoned civic center in Bologna: the INstabile-community creative hub project.**

Why don't we rescue the abandoned civic center building, that since 30 years lies vacant, to turn it into an innovative source for social, welfare and job services?

At the end of 2014, in the last peripheral neighbourhood of Bologna's urban space, a group of citizens gathered together around a common aspiration. It was clear since the very beginning that no traditional ways (asking for a financial support of public administration or search for a real estate investor), were feasible to be addressed. New hidden resources were to be mobilized and activated, and they could be found only in a collective commitment and in an engagement of a larger participation of "active" citizens.

With the involvement of Architetti di Strada Association, it was organized a permanent "laboratory" (called IN-stabile to highlight the very first aim or to re-enter "in" the vacant space, [www.instabileportazza.wordpress.com](http://www.instabileportazza.wordpress.com) ) with the goal to listen and to organize the blossoming aspirations into an effective process, in which we participate as both designer and community enabler.

After one year of initiatives, on the edge of the new re-opening of the vacant space through the first "Collaboration agreement" for the re-use of a vacant building, this unusual on-going process can be questioned to extract on one side the unexpressed demands and needs in a contemporary peripheral neighbourhoods and in the other to highlight the new availability of social sources, skills and attitude to be employed in space qualification actions.

The presentation through a narrative approach aims to illustrate the contemporary condition of peripheral urbanity through a case-study that at the same time highlights troublesome aspects (lack of social, welfare and job services) and proposes a new model of intervention – centered on values of personal and collective commitment – able to answer to both social and spatial issues.