

## BEINSITU Sustainability Institute ASBL

---

Founded in 2023 in Brussels, Belgium, BEINSITU Sustainability Institute ASBL is a non-profit organization that aims to develop sustainable and participatory practices and actions to protect and strengthen local settlements, communities, craft neighbourhoods, and ecosystems. Its activities include organizing workshops, creating research projects, and hosting educational programs, exhibitions, publications, and conferences, primarily in collaboration with partners in Belgium and Türkiye, as well as other European countries. One of its main goals is to bring cultural heritage issues into contemporary discussions.

The association embraces the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and UNESCO's principles in the field of cultural heritage as a foundation for its work. Additionally, it addresses "Design for Sustainability (DfS)" concepts and methods within the context of local sustainability. BEINSITU believes in the power of local communities to contribute to positive change through collective action.

The institute aims to provide its expertise on the intersection of sustainability, cultural heritage, creative industries, local communities, women's labour, design, and craftsmanship. In this context, it plans to carry out projects within the framework of European Union programs, aiming to foster knowledge sharing and collaboration. BEINSITU also seeks to create a hub that brings together local communities, stakeholders, professionals, universities, and institutions. Additionally, it focuses on developing new partnerships, creative methods, and innovative design tools and tactics for positive social impact and change.

The organization prioritizes taking a holistic and systematic approach to sustainability and achieving its goals by working closely with local communities. As a Belgium-based association, it is open to sharing and enhancing its expertise in various fields, such as education, art, culture, youth, research, social innovation, ecology, and urban and rural contexts. Additionally, the association involves organizing workshops and activities with youth and children, centred around creative design and urban spaces, working closely with local stakeholders such as libraries, municipalities, and community centres.

**BEINSITU Sustainability Institute ASBL** embraces the principles of UNESCO and the United Nations in the fields of sustainability and cultural heritage. Believing that cultural and natural heritage are deeply interconnected, BEINSITU aims to achieve a sustainable future by strengthening these ecosystems with a multidisciplinary approach.

BEINSITU places special importance on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in its work. It closely follows the 17 interconnected global goals. As an organization focused on sustainability and cultural heritage, it particularly emphasizes SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), which aims to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. Additionally, in line with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), BEINSITU aims to promote more sustainable use of resources and encourage small-scale, craft-based production.

It also adopts UNESCO's approach to the preservation and promotion of the world's recognized cultural heritage. With globalization and modernization, many traditional skills, practices, and

knowledge face the risk of being lost. In this context, BEINSITU works closely with local communities to identify, document, and preserve their intangible cultural heritage and carry it forward with innovative approaches.

For more information, please visit our website and social media accounts:

Website: [www.beinsitu.org](http://www.beinsitu.org)

Instagram: @beinsitu.be

Twitter: @beinsitu

LinkedIn: BEINSITU Sustainability Institute ASBL



### **Peace Scarf & Craft Stories Project**

In light of UNESCO's cultural heritage and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, BEINSITU proudly presented the Peace Scarf at a reception organized by the Permanent Representation of Türkiye to the European Union and H.E. Ambassador Faruk Kaymakcı on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Türkiye-EU Association Agreement and the 101st anniversary of the Republic of Türkiye in December 2024.

The Peace Scarf is part of BEINSITU's new project called "Craft Stories." The institute organized and documented the creation process of the scarf. Inspired by the traditional block printing of Kastamonu and motifs from the 100-year Republic period of Türkiye, the Peace Scarf was handcrafted by a team of women artisans led by researcher and craftsman Veliye Martı.

