Service design for the future of textile artisans’ communities [Poster]

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area of study

Textile artisanship is the human-centred economic activity of giving form and meaning to local natural fibres, by hands or by directly controlling mechanised and digital tools, and managing the process of apparel making.

The global economic and environmental crisis is leading to the transition from a linear economy based on consumption and waste, towards new ethics of sustainability and cutting-edge business opportunities.

Textile artisanship is an interesting opportunity for opening up flexible and redistributed micro-enterprises, while bridging local realities with global markets. It is a key contributor to sustainable development as it catalyses cultural heritage, provides social employment, boosts creative economies and enhances environmental stewardship.

This PhD aims to explore how service design can strategically contribute to encourage textile artisans’ communities towards a sustainable future. This means empowering artisans’ creative assets and social bonds, codesigning collaborative services and scaling up initiatives within an enabling ecosystem at a glocal level.

research questions

1. What are the barriers and enablers for textile artisans’ communities to become sustainable?
2. How can service design be used to encourage such communities toward a sustainable future?
3. How can an enabling ecosystem be codesigned to scale up innovation at a glocal level?

methodology

different stakeholders acknowledge multiple realities

interaction with participants influences the research

qualitative and flexible process of in situ data collection

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