

SamenStalling - ROOILIJN & ATELIER SCHELDEMAN

NEB-2025-PARTICIPATION-03

Beautiful, sustainable and inclusive street furniture for the transformation of neighbourhoods

Rooilijn architecture and **Atelier Scheldeman** are two architectural design studios from Antwerp (Belgium). Together they jointly developed an innovative modular concept for a bicycle shelter that can also serve many other collective purposes within residential neighbourhoods.

Cycling is becoming increasingly popular in and around our cities. While bikes used to be simple two-wheelers, they now come in all shapes and sizes. However, parking solutions haven't kept up with this evolution, leading to chaotic and uncontrolled growth in some areas. With SamenStalling, we aim to provide an answer to this issue. The structure is not only designed to be functional but also to contribute to the visual appeal of public space and to allow for more greenery. In addition to bike parking, we provide space for urban gardening, sports, picnicking, rest areas, play zones, and more. The goal is to encourage encounters between different users.

The design is based on circular principles, but the further development of the project focuses on exploring ways to enhance social cohesion and dynamics in urban neighbourhoods. The shape, size, and desired integrated functions are determined by the residents themselves based on their own needs and wishes. Thanks to its simple structure and assembly, residents can also easily take care of construction and maintenance themselves.

For the further development of the system, we are looking for partners who can map out the social impact (social cohesion in neighbourhoods, community dynamics, volunteerism, perceived safety, satisfaction with the living environment, etc.), partners in urban planning to determine and find possible locations and project sites, partners to increase production capacity and achieve competitive pricing and partners to develop a suitable alternative financing- and business model (as-a-service, participatory budgeting, crowdfunding, etc.). Finally, a legal partner could also make an important contribution by addressing objections and issues related to safety, responsibility, liability, and the restrictive permitting framework.

This project was developed in collaboration with Team Vlaams Bouwmeester, the Flemish Architecture Institute, Openstructures, Belalbatros, De Brug, and Tailorsteel. We are currently working on further test cases with the district of Borgerhout (Antwerp) and the municipality of Wommelgem. For the participatory aspect, we are currently collaborating with COMiSOL.

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We are interested in joining a consortium as a partner for this NEB call and have several other potential partners from knowledge institutions, local authorities, municipalities etc.

We offer:

- A designed toolbox for modular street furniture focussing on bicycle parking and inclusive participation and co-design.
- Links with municipalities for onsite testing and evaluating.
- Further prototyping of the elements of the toolbox and possible layouts, extensions and sustainable, circular and bio-based finishing materials.