

Smart Shelter Foundation - Partnership Overview

Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society & Horizon Europe.

SSF AT A GLANCE & CONTACT.

Smart Shelter Foundation

- 20+ years of experience
- Dutch registered NGO / Public Benefit Organization
- 3× Horizon Europe MSCA Seal of Excellence
- Europe - Middle East - Asia
- PIC: 884832740

Dr. Martijn Schildkamp — Founder, Director & Research Lead

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WHO WE ARE.

Smart Shelter Foundation (SSF) is an independent Dutch registered NGO with 20 years of research and expertise in resilient low-carbon natural-material construction systems based on vernacular knowledge and climate-adaptive design.

Led by **Dr. Martijn Schildkamp** (MSc Architecture, PhD Engineering, 3× Horizon Europe MSCA Seal of Excellence), SSF bridges traditional construction knowledge and contemporary engineering research to develop affordable, resilient and environmentally responsible building solutions.

SSF works across Europe, the Middle East and Asia, operating at the intersection of **cultural heritage, vernacular knowledge, social inclusion, community participation, trans-disciplinary education, multi-hazard resilience, and climate-adaptive design.**

CORE EXPERTISE.

Seismic & structural safety	Assessment, experimental testing and validation of earthen and stone masonry assemblies for disaster resilience
Circular soil upcycling	Practical R&D methodologies for transforming excavated construction site soils into validated structural components (Stabilized Earth Blocks)
Climate adaptation	Vernacular knowledge & climate-adaptive strategies supporting heritage resilience, community well-being and sustainable built environments
Environmental assessment	Circular and low-carbon construction methodologies backed by Life Cycle Assessments (LCA) and whole-life carbon comparisons
Code development	Transitioning non-engineered, traditional material systems into formal national building codes, technical manuals, and regulatory frameworks
Knowledge transfer	International training programmes, academic workshops, public engagement and intergenerational knowledge-transfer models

CONSORTIUM ROLES OFFERED & CALL ALIGNMENT.

SSF seeks participation in Horizon Europe Cluster 2 and related consortia as **technical, research, training & demonstration, knowledge transfer, dissemination, sustainability assessment, and stakeholder engagement partner** across the following European funding tracks:

HORIZON-CL3	Cultural Heritage & Creative Ind.	SSF Contribution
2026-01-HERITAGE-05	Fostering global partnerships in cultural policies and CCI innovation	<i>International knowledge transfer, cross-cultural practices, student workshops, global partnerships</i>
2027-01-HERITAGE-07	Societal impact of cultural heritage	<i>Societal impact assessment of earthen & stone vernacular housing, community resilience, LCA</i>
2027-01-HERITAGE-08	Safeguarding & transmission of intangible cultural heritage	<i>Documenting and transmitting vernacular building knowledge and skills to new generations</i>
2027-01-HERITAGE-09-two-stage	impact-driven research on cultural heritage, arts and creative industries	<i>Upgrading and validating vernacular construction as sustainable innovation driver</i>
HORIZON-CL3	Transformations	SSF Contribution
2026-01-TRANSFO-07	Fostering competences for the green transition	<i>Developing green construction skills, educational toolkits, and vocational frameworks</i>
2026-01-TRANSFO-10	Fostering cooperation & integration between research and innovation	<i>Bridging structural engineering (STEM) with vernacular social identity (SSH) in the field.</i>
HORIZON-MISS & -NEB	Cross-Cutting Call Alignment	SSF Contribution
2026-01-CLIMA-05	Protect & preserve cultural heritage from climate change	<i>Climate resilience of earthen & stone heritage, LCA, passive thermal adaptation strategies</i>
2026-01-PARTICIPATION-03	Neighbourhoods health & well-being	<i>Participatory & transdisciplinary research, cultural identity, socio-educational academic workshops</i>
2027-01-PARTICIPATION-03	Novel knowledge and research methods for fair green transition	<i>Transdisciplinary research, vernacular knowledge & system documentation, cross-cultural approaches</i>

WHY PARTNER WITH SSF.

20 years of proven expertise: Established deep project, construction, research and development credibility with an international track record.

Civil society perspective: SSF provides an independent NGO framework (with Public Benefit Organization status) supporting social inclusion, community engagement and participatory design.

Academic rigour: Directed by an architect / engineer holding a PhD, with an extensive list of peer-reviewed research and three successive HORIZON EUROPE MSCA Seals of Excellence.

Practical implementation: Demonstrable history of built projects, educational programmes, knowledge-transfer initiatives and cross-border training frameworks.

Global cross-border footprint: Active across Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, making SSF perfectly positioned for multi-country consortium requirements.