

FAIRVILLE Final Conference

Co-producing Democratic Cities in Unequal Times

16-17 November Paris & 18 November Brussels

DAY 1 – 16/11/2026 – Nanterre (Université Paris Nanterre)

Morning

Theme: Unequal Cities: Housing, Environmental Risk and Democratic Vulnerability.

09:00 - 09:30: welcome

09:30 - 10:00

Opening remarks: Short introductory interventions from organizers and FAIRVILLE labs.

10:00-11:30

Session 1: Locating Urban Inequalities

Learning on housing and environmental inequalities through the Fairville labs

Format: Research conversation

11:30 - 11:45 > *Coffee Break*

11:45-12:45

Session 2: Democracy, governance and uneven cities

How urban inequality reshapes democratic participation, institutional trust and urban governance.

Format: Research conversation

12:45 – 14:15 > *Lunch*

Afternoon

Theme: can co-production respond to democratic fragmentation and inequality?

14:15 - 15:15

Session 3: Co-production in Times of Democratic Backsliding **Why co-production? What does co-production offer?**

Format: roundtable lab members, academics, activists

15:15 - 15:30 > *Coffee Break*

15:30 - 17:00

Session 4: Knowledge Co-production in practice

Exploring how co-production is shaped by and reshapes knowledge practices and epistemic justice through methods such as co-mapping, co-evaluation (and counter-manuals).

Format: Long-table discussion that brings in dialogue theory and methods

Suggested structure: 3–4 short provocations followed by collective discussion

17:00-18:00

Session 5: Concluding discussion: Conditions for Co-production in Unequal Times

Format: plenary

Suggested structure: Reflections followed by collective discussion

18:00 - 20:00

Evening: apéro

DAY 2 – 17/11/2026 – Paris (Académie du Climat)

Theme: The practices of co-production, practicing co-production

The day will explore the echoes and synergies that can emerge between different co-production initiatives, asking how co-produced knowledge can be recognised, enabled, and sustained over time.

Morning

Theme: Building the Conditions for Co-production Around Environmental, Climate, and Risk Challenges

09:30 - 11:00

Opening Plenary: The politics of environment and risk-focused Co-production:

Format: Plenary discussion

Participants: Local authorities, policy actors, researchers, FAIRVILLE labs, practitioners

Room: Salle des Fêtes

11:00 - 11:15 > *Coffee break*

11:15 - 12:45

Parallel Sessions: Complexities, Tensions and Infrastructures of Co-production

Session 2A: From community-led Co-production to institutional recognition : accomodating Political Tensions

Format: Research-led debate

Participants: Authors of the Marseille/Johannesburg paper + discussants

Room: Salle la Pépinière

Session 2B: Intermediation, Facilitation and Urban Change

Format: Comparative panel discussion

Focus: How intermediary actors enable, translate, support or constrain co-production and urban transformation.

Participants: Researchers, facilitators, activists, municipal intermediaries.

Room: Salle des Mariages

Session 2C: Conflict and Disagreement for Deep Co-production

Format: Open thematic discussion

Focus: Examining disagreement, friction and antagonism within co-production processes.

Room : Salle des Fêtes (format discussion)

12:45 - 13:45 > *Lunch*

Afternoon

Theme: Making co-production work: fostering the right to question and long-term supports

13:45 -15:30

Session 3 Supporting and nurturing transformative co-production as catalyst to democratic deepening

Format: Round table discussion

Room: Salle des Fêtes

Pathways to transformative coproduction : embracing a wider definition of democracy

- Bringing the right to question at the forefront of a renewed citizenship
- Lessons from comparative urban experiences : small democratic victories of coproduction (within and out of Fairville)
- Multiple enabling factors and graded practices

End of Day 2

17:25 Train to Brussels

DAY 3 – 18/11/2028 – Brussels (ULB Faculty of Architecture)

Topic: What should remain : how do urban justice alliances, knowledge networks and co-production practices endure, & transform beyond the FAIRVILLE project

09:00 - 10:30

Itinerant breakfast with exhibition: Urban Inequality and Co-production

Format: Exhibition + guided walking exploration

10:30 - 13:00

Session: After FAIRVILLE: Legacy, Alliances and Co-production Futures

Format: Roundtable discussion on Manifesto and other alliance-based co-production initiatives

Building on FAIRVILLE and related initiatives, the roundtable will bring together actors working across housing justice, public policy, municipal governance, research, advocacy, and civic organizing.

A particular focus will be placed on the European Affordable Housing Plan as an opportunity to link EU-level agendas with local and civic action. The session will consider how housing alliances, municipalities, foundations, grassroots organisations, and public institutions can work together to develop more inclusive and accountable approaches to affordable housing.

The conversation will also explore the contribution of the renewed municipalist movement alongside emerging municipal practices, especially where local governments are experimenting with new participatory and co-produced pathways to respond to housing inequalities and strengthen civic capacity.

Potential contributors include Fondation du Logement, European housing justice alliances, EU representatives, municipal actors, and organisations involved in co-production and affordable housing advocacy.

13:00- 14:00

Lunch

14:00

End of conference

Conference Summary

DAY 1 – Nanterre (Université Paris Nanterre)

Learning from FAIRVILLE: inequality, risk and democratic vulnerability

Focus on how urban inequalities are produced through housing systems, environmental exposure and uneven protection from climate risks, and how these processes shape democratic capacity across cities. The morning brings together academic and practitioner perspectives with FAIRVILLE cases to examine unequal urbanisation and its political implications.

The afternoon shifts the discussion toward co-production in conditions of democratic fragmentation, asking what it can enable and where its limits lie. It focuses on epistemic justice, co-production tools (co-mapping, co-evaluation, counter-manuals) and the politics of knowledge production, linking methods to broader theoretical questions that have guided the project.

DAY 2 – Paris (Académie du Climat)

Making co-production matter: institutions, conflict and practice

Focus on how co-production can be made effective and contribute to urban transformation, while engaging with the tensions, conflicts and controversies it generates. The day examines co-production through various angles of trust building, collective awareness and agency building. It will question the conditions for real horizontality and progressive urban cooperation in situations of growing strain on public resources and real estate extractivism. Yet, we question the conditions under which co-production can be supported, constrained or reconfigured through municipal or local government engagement, support from independent facilitators and policy frameworks.

The morning focuses on building the conditions for a wide array of community-based co-production through a plenary on collective responsibility for urban inequality and institutional capacities, followed by parallel sessions on institutional co-production and political tensions, intermediary actors in urban change, and the accommodation of conflict within co-production processes. The afternoon turns to democratic support for community-based co-production, examining the right to question, legal and routinised obstacles, enabling factors and long-term policy structures.

DAY 3 – Brussels (ULB Faculty of Architecture)

After FAIRVILLE: legacies, alliances and futures

Focus on how co-production practices, knowledge and alliances developed within FAIRVILLE circulate beyond the project across academic, policy and activist networks. The day reflects on what persists, what is transformed with and after the project, and on the conditions under which co-production can be sustained or reconfigured within broader urban justice agendas in Europe.