

## Revitalise vacant spaces in the city centre - Pori, Finland 1/2



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The City of Pori aims to revitalize vacant spaces in the city center through this pilot project. Former retail spaces, currently unused, are being transformed into new areas for living and working. These spaces will host a variety of events, which are excellent for bringing people together and encouraging them to become active participants in their city. Co-creating in these spaces will foster a sense of belonging and contribute to a vibrant city center for everyone

### WHY | Purpose

The main goal of the Liveability pilots in Pori is to bring life back to the city centre and revitalise vacant spaces. The city's attractiveness has gradually diminished and has yet to fully recover since the COVID crisis.

The Pori city centre consists of public and private buildings and spaces that have potential to enhance the city's vibrancy and attractiveness.

The project offers a user-friendly space for citizens to organise their own events in city-owned properties, alleviating concerns about rent and electricity expenses. Organizing long-term events in privately owned properties can be challenging, but having a culture-friendly entrepreneur is crucial for effectively utilizing these business spaces.

### HOW | Field of Action

The Pori pilot is envisioned in two sites:

1. Pori old bus station - city owned property
2. Business space in shopping mall - privately-owned property

#### 1. Pori Old Bus Station

- Facilitating a workshop session that engages, inspires, and builds trust with active citizens, where we collectively ideate and envision creative uses for Pori's old bus station.
- Identify and engage with fellow business owners within the same building and nearby vicinity.
- Organize an event at Pori's old bus station together with a multidisciplinary team and partners, inviting city residents to share their memories related to Pori's former bus station.

### WHO | Actors

- Public administration
- Citizens of Pori
- Private sector: restaurant owner
- Satakunta museum
- Porin linjat - public transportation
- University Consortium of Pori

### Contact

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*"Our goal is to create a more liveable and inhabitable city centre by developing a routine of creativity and encouraging the city residents themselves to produce a liveable city centre" - Petri Haavisto, Change Implementer*



# 1. Pori Old Bus Station





## Revitalise vacant spaces in the city centre - Pori, Finland 2/2



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### 2. Pori Business Space in Shopping Mall

The initial step involves meeting with the property owner to understand the entrepreneur's requirements, establish mutual agreement, and define contract terms.

- Inform citizens creatively and inspiringly through the city and various media about the opportunity to use the vacant commercial space, TGT, for their events.
- Host a communal art project and event on May Day Eve where residents jointly revitalize an empty commercial space with a balloon installation.
- In Pori, the focus is on finding new property owners willing to open their spaces for agile events. The goal is to establish a network of vacant business spaces for events of various sizes, aligned with property owner conditions.

### WHO | Actors

- Public administration
- Citizens of Pori
- Private sector: shopping mall commercial space owner.

### Contact

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## 2. Pori Business Space in Shopping Mall

