

EXTERNAL
REPORT

MIDWAY THROUGH CS BODY/IES: A GLIMPSE AT THE PROJECT

ARTCENA

ARTCENA is the National Center for Circus, Street and Theatre Arts, supported by the French Ministry of Culture. It coordinates Circostrada and is a permanent member of its steering committee. It works in close collaboration with professionals in the sector and offers them both publications and digital resources via its web platform. It also develops mentoring and training actions, tools and services to help them in their everyday practices. It supports contemporary creation through national support programs and encourages the international development of these three sectors.

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This publication
was edited
by Circostrada

CIRCO
STRADA

EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR
CONTEMPORARY CIRCUS
AND OUTDOOR ARTS

Circostrada is the European Network for contemporary circus and outdoor arts. Created in 2003 with the core mission of furthering the development, empowerment and recognition of these fields at European and international levels, over the years the network has become an important anchoring point for its members – 153 organisations from over 42 countries – and a key interlocutor in the dialogue with cultural policy makers across Europe.

THEMATIC FOREWORD

As Circostrada is half-way through the CS Body/ies project, we are delighted to introduce its midterm report, which aims to offer a snapshot overview of the network's accomplishments, challenges, insights and future prospects. This report showcases the dedication and hard work of its members and partners, who have collectively contributed to fostering cooperation and the exchange of good practices, supporting the international presence of contemporary circus and outdoor arts while providing accurate resources on the sectors, developing capacity building, encouraging the emergence of new talents, supporting advocacy actions, and creating synergies with other EU networks.

It also reflects the commitment to transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement that Circostrada stands for. Indeed, the report was realised with the collaboration of the network's external evaluator, Kai Brennert, bringing a unique perspective to the evaluation process, and ensuring a comprehensive and objective assessment of our network's performance.

As we celebrate the achievements of CS Body/ies project's first half, we must also look ahead to the future with a sense of purpose and optimism, as we continue our journey towards contributing to a better connected and more robust ecosystem for the contemporary circus and outdoor arts communities. Last but not least, this report lays the foundation for strategic planning and collective action that will guide the network in the second half of its activities.

About Kai Brennert



Kai Brennert is the Founder of edge and story, an evaluation, research and policy consultancy at the intersection of culture and sustainable development. Currently based in Cambodia, he has worked in more than 20 countries across four continents on partnerships, strategy and evaluation in arts, culture, and the creative industries. Kai is also the author of *curious patterns*, a newsletter that explores current issues and policies in the field of arts, impact, international cooperation and sustainable development.

🌐 edgeandstory.com

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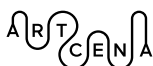


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FOSTER AND INCREASE COOPERATION, LEARNING AND CONNECTIONS AMONG AND BETWEEN MEMBERS

When organisations sign up for Circostrada membership, they look for professional connections. Lucky there are several formats to choose from, all of which with insights into national scenes and space for for meeting new peers, and perhaps even new friends.

ALL FOR THE VIBRANCY

Circostrada is called the *European Network for Contemporary Circus and Outdoor Arts* for a reason - it's all about networking. While networking clearly is the main intention for many Circostrada members, it is not an end in itself. It is the learning, connection, and cooperation that contribute to a vibrant sector. And vibrancy demands continuous engagement with aesthetic developments, learning about scenes, and forging collaborations.

LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

Different types of organisations have different needs, styles, and goals for engaging with other institutions. A festival might be on the look-out for their next big act, a national federation might seek a partner for a joint EU grant proposal, a residency space might want to exchange experiences with peers.

And while every Circostrada activity has networking opportunities built-in, some are specifically designed to lay the foundation for future cooperation.

- Annual General Meeting: aimed at all members, this gathering is the network's annual melting pot of ideas and connections.
- Global Crossing: an intimate curated trip to connect with non-European contemporary circus and outdoor arts scenes.
- FRESH: an extravaganza between festival and conference, with lots of room for connecting.

NOT WHAT YOU MIGHT THINK

Unusual and quirky venues, bicycle tours and other activities seemingly disconnected from the overall theme, as well as having the time and space to engage in deep conversation and relationship forging rank highest for most Circostrada members. It is important that connecting with each other is not just a strategy but allows for one's full self to be present and flourish.

Being introduced to whole country scenes in their very homes and discussing topics you would probably not be able to otherwise for lack of the right conversation partners are valued greatly by the membership, and feature as key motivator for new members.

This strong value of cooperation among the membership is also reflected in members' approval of Circostrada's robust internal governance processes and transparency.

GETTING IT RIGHT

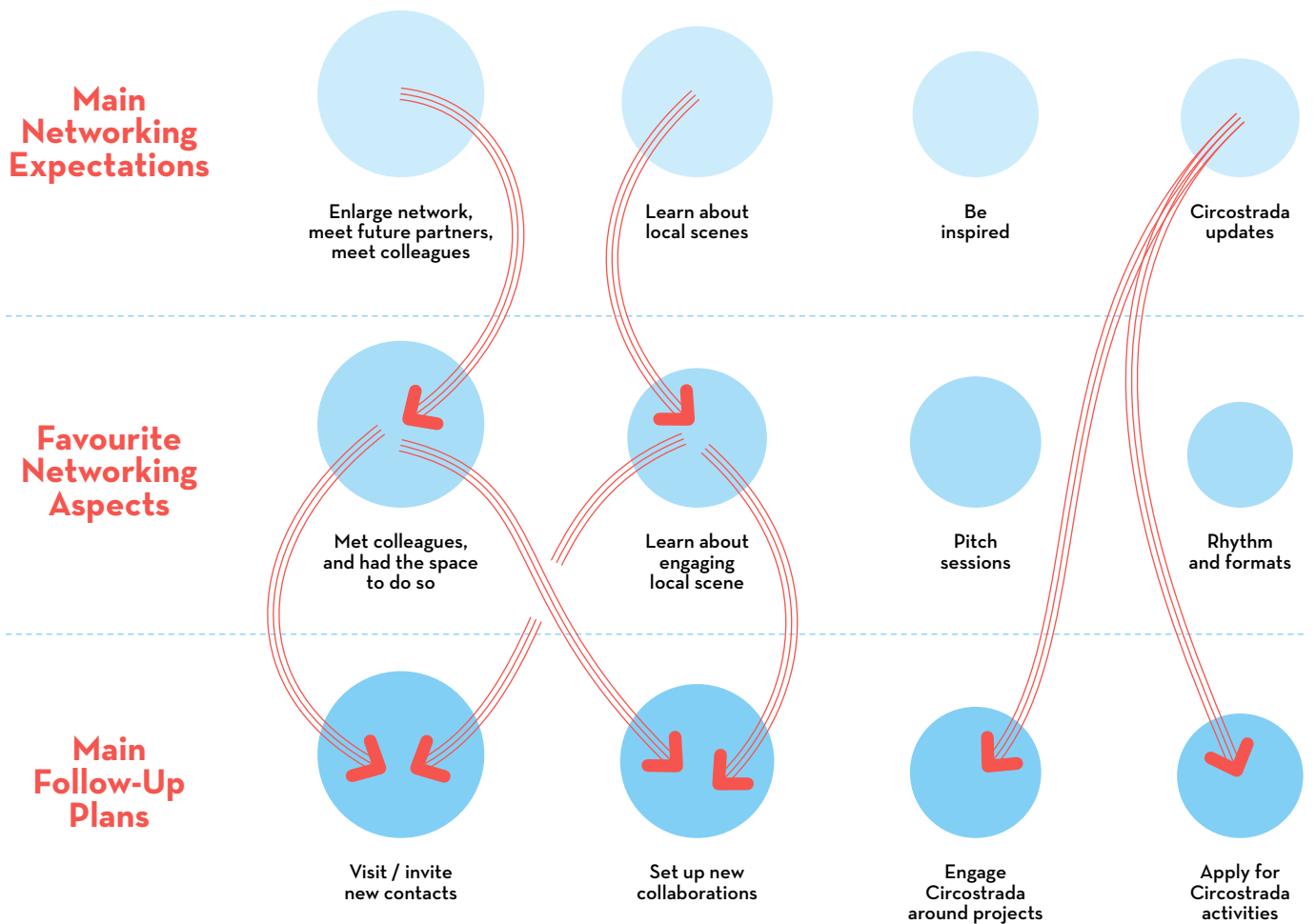
There is a slight disparity in the representation of the two distinct art forms supported by Circostrada within its membership. Establishing separate channels of connection and involvement specifically tailored to the outdoor arts community is an opportunity to rectify this imbalance. By doing so, a positive cycle could be initiated where new members in this category feel more welcomed and, in turn, fortify this segment of the network. This becomes particularly crucial when the network's events coincide with circus festivals.

AVERAGE PARTICIPANT ACHIEVEMENT SCORE FOR JOINING A CIRCOSTRADA NETWORKING ACTIVITY



CENTRAL NETWORKING EXPECTATIONS AND OUTCOMES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN LITHUANIA IN 2022

The size of each circle indicates how many participants shared these points



SUPPORT THE INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE OF CONTEMPORARY CIRCUS AND OUTDOOR ARTS

Sometimes, recognition comes from numbers. By lending legitimacy, building relationships, and connecting with local ecosystems, Circostrada supports the international presence of contemporary circus and outdoor arts across Europe and internationally. And there is room to go more virtual

THE POWER OF THE NETWORK

In comparison to other performing arts fields, contemporary circus and outdoor arts enjoy great visibility in only very few countries. And with visibility often come opportunities, infrastructure, and funding.

As an individual festival or residency space it is much harder to shift this needle of public recognition, but with the full vibrancy of an active network behind it, the presence and importance of these arts can be illuminated. A well-respected and better resourced sector will create benefits way beyond the membership.

ONE ACTIVITY AT A TIME

The solution? Actively going to places to learn about local contexts, build crucial relationships, and create external visibility through a variety of activities:

- FRESH: international lighthouse event for the development of the sector, featuring performances, talks, workshops, and networking opportunities.
- Global Crossing: strategic relationship building with scenes in non-EU countries.
- Annual General Meeting: in-depth connection with a national scene, its artists, and stakeholders.
- SAIL: support for members' own hyperlocal advocacy activities to raise the sector's profile.
- Advocacy: participation in international conferences and joint advocacy efforts.

IMPACT BEYOND PRESENCE

At a normal Circostrada activity, you will likely meet lots of people from France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Germany - countries with well-established contemporary circus and outdoor arts scenes. When an activity such as the Annual General Meeting comes to Lithuania, though, things are different. Not only is it a great opportunity for the many network members to familiarise themselves with the intricacies of the local scene, it also creates a sense of legitimacy for the hosting partner and the wider sector.

For Circostrada member *Cirkuliacija / Teatronas*, hosting the network's AGM in 2022 led to a boost in national recognition of contemporary circus in Lithuania and becoming a trusted partner for the Baltic Nordic Circus Network.

By bringing a delegation of European network members to Chile, Circostrada created valuable opportunities for international networking of Chilean and European practitioners.

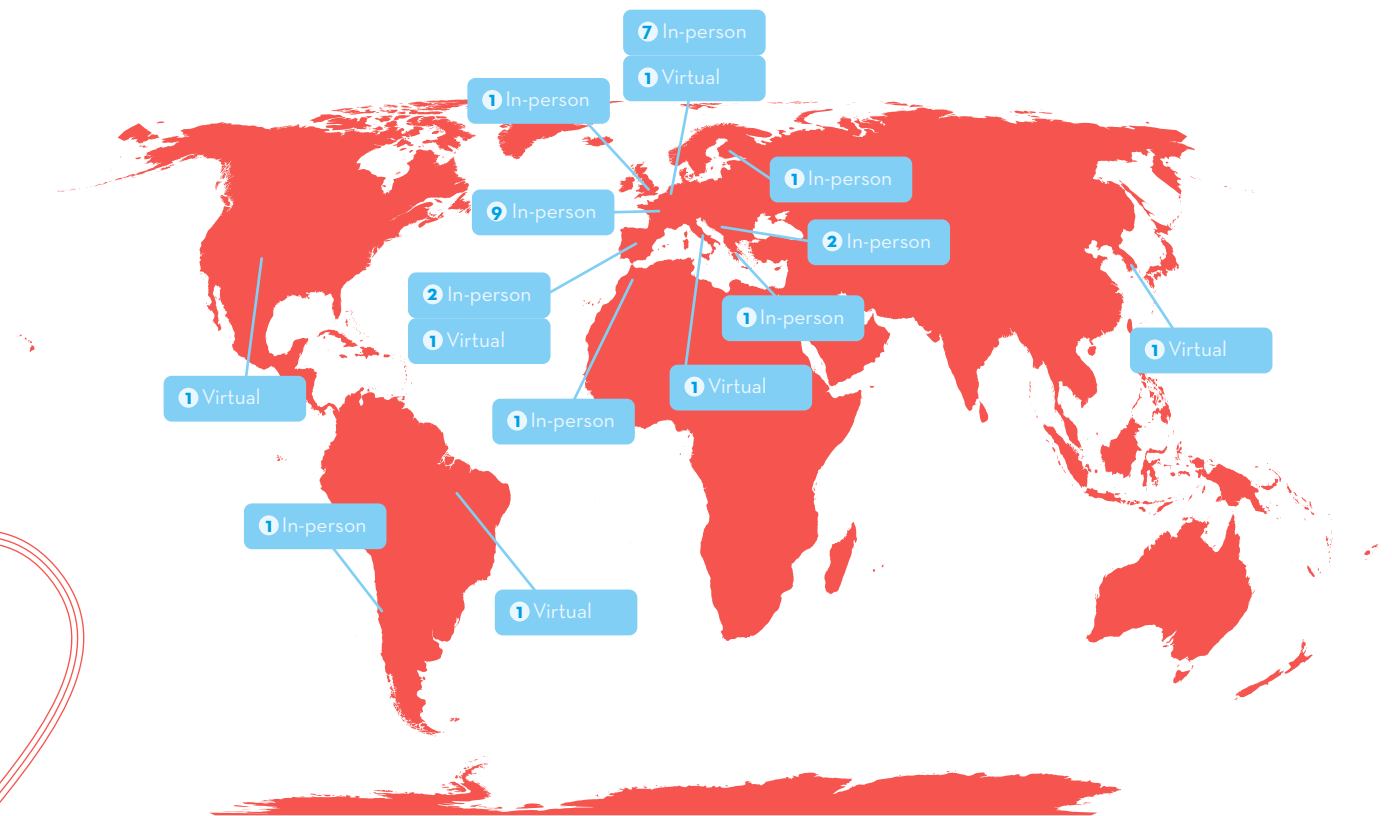
GOING GLOBAL VIRTUALLY

Circostrada has made conscious decisions to limit flying halfway around the world for just a panel discussion. These new virtual synergies can be explored even further to present the network's quest to boost the presence of contemporary circus and outdoor arts whilst crafting avenues for international collaboration, especially with regions that traditionally have less recognised scenes.

TOTAL CIRCOSTRADA ADVOCACY ENGAGEMENTS SEP 2021 - FEB 2023

Between September 2021 and February 2023, Circostrada participated in 31 events related to advocacy and strengthening the international presence of contemporary circus and outdoor arts. A total of six events were attended virtually, including one in the United States, South Korea, and Brazil each. Circostrada attended 25 events in person, five of which were in non-EU countries such as Serbia, Morocco, Chile, and the UK.

31 Advocacy Engagements



FOMENT EXPERIMENTATION AND INNOVATION TO INCREASE RESISTANCE AND RESILIENCE

Even a network for contemporary circus and outdoor arts must respond to the growing challenges of our times. Circostrada members can help to spark transformative ideas for globally relevant but sector-specific challenges in cross-sectoral cooperation. Because we are better together.

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Climate change is everybody's business these days. There is no way out of our shared responsibility, including the outdoor arts and contemporary circus communities. A host of other emerging social, environmental, and economic issues is just waiting to further challenge our very foundations of living and artmaking.

Circostrada has positioned itself to take on responsibility and structured its activities along the three annual themes of environmental sustainability, diversity, and solidarity. But issues of such scale and complexity can only be addressed when working together.

ALWAYS IN COOPERATION

What better way to find ideas than to strategically stick heads together and pool all the knowledge and experiences of those working on the ground?

As almost everywhere in life, solutions are best found in dialogue. That's why Circostrada's experimentation and innovation activities always take a cross-sectoral approach, inviting practitioners from disciplines such as design, architecture, and the life sciences.

With Spark, Circostrada's living laboratory encourages members and domain experts to ideate and prototype solutions to globally relevant but sector-specific challenges, ranging from the conceptual to the experiential.

GLOBAL IDEAS AND LOCAL CONTEXTS

Think of a literal spark. A thought sparks an idea, sparks a response, sparks a use case, sparks a limitation, sparks an adaptation, sparks a solution.

The first edition of these laboratories sought such solutions to the future of circus tents, in face of the growing climate emergency. Conversations ranged from the potential of the circular economy to unintended consequences of greening actions. The intricacies of local contexts provided the necessary perspective for deep learning and cooperation.

Participants found that the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of working in and with circus tents is directly connected to the cultural dimension of sustainability and the values of the art form itself.










































In the end, the ideation process found a balance between experimentation and implementation that holds promising potential for prototyping, small-scale initiatives, and organisational change.

BETTER TOGETHER

Future editions of Spark should focus on topics that can be explored deeply but remain relevant to both contemporary circus and outdoor arts communities. Because only when we are working together can we build the resilience necessary for the challenges we will have to face.

CONCEPTS FOR THE FUTURE OF CIRCUS TENTS DEVELOPED DURING SPARK IN THE NETHERLANDS 2022

26

CONCEPTS / INITIATIVES / PROTOTYPES	RELEVANCE TO ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY	IMPLEMENTABILITY / SCALABILITY
'Working with Circus Tents' Cookbook	Yes 	High 
Event dedicated to circus tents in Circostrada programme 2024-2028	No	High 
Tour with cleaner trucks instead of cars	Yes 	Medium 
Solar panels on trucks and tent roofs	Yes 	Medium 
Tent exchanges / loans / swaps	Yes 	Medium 
Knowledge platform on empty or idle circus tents, open for use and rent	Yes 	Medium 
Audience engagement re sustainable transport (information, incentives)	Yes 	High 
Policy advocacy for circus funding	No	High 
Local advocacy for dedicated circus tent spaces	No	Low 
Integrate 'creating in circus tents' in circus school curricula	No	Medium 
Training on audience development	No	High 
Commissions on diversity for audience development	No	Medium 
Commissions for a standardised tent to allow for easy touring	Yes 	Medium 
Transition to LEDs	Yes 	High 
Self-sufficient accommodation	Yes 	Low 
Link between science and circus	Yes 	Medium 
Scholarships for circus students	No	Medium 
Artistic residencies in circus tents	No	Medium 
Seasonal tours (migrating with the weather)	Yes 	Low 
Eco-toilets producing sustainable fuel	Yes 	Low 
Identify circus tent ambassadors	No	High 
Plant trees to become CO2-neutral companies	Yes 	High 
Use of bio-degradable products and materials	Yes 	High 
Universal regulatory framework for circus tents	No	Low 
Visitors' car batteries powering shows	Yes 	Low 
Knowledge sharing on accessibility of circus tents (incl. physical and social accessibility)	No	High 

 58 %

 23 %

 38,5 %

 38,5 %

DEVELOP SKILLS AND CAPACITIES IN THE MEMBERSHIP AND BEYOND

One of Circostrada's central offerings as a network for contemporary circus and outdoor arts is a diverse array of capacity development activities, responding to the equally diverse needs of its members. They value intimacy, criticality, care, and mutuality of these learning experiences, and want more.

START WITH YOURSELF

When your mission is the development and empowerment of contemporary circus and outdoor arts, you need to think big. But before you think big, you need to think small. A cultural network thrives because of its members. The more skilled and capable these members are, the more ambitious the network can be in developing and boosting these sectors. And since we live in an ever-changing world, these skills need to adapt continuously, capacities grow steadily.

GROW ACROSS THE BOARD

Circostrada has a diverse membership: ranging from small local festivals to national sector representatives, from public bodies to nonprofits, from organisations with barely a full-time staff member to fully stocked offices. Unsurprisingly, capacities as well as needs differ greatly.

The network's offer is a variety of activities that centre various ways of learning and growing:

- Dive: an in-depth training and exchange gathering around a specific theme
- Spark: a trans-disciplinary solutions laboratory for very specific issues relevant to a larger portion of the membership
- Bounce: an intensive one-on-one mentoring offer for emerging professionals to reflect upon career ambitions and project visions
- Switch: an unstructured job-shadowing scheme designed to be immersed in another organisational culture

INTIMACY AND MUTUALITY

One aspect that members value greatly in Circostrada's approach to capacity development is the ambition to create a safe space for learning and intimacy. An environment where encouragement, criticality, and care from peers and mentors flourish is the result.

And throughout all the sharing and experimenting, the tea drinking and debating, learning becomes mutual and networking secondary to honest exchange about individual and communal wellbeing in artistic work, planetary health, and the future of circus tents.

It is important to understand that skills and capacity might not always come in the form of hard skills and actionable ideas but may also appear as deeper understanding of a certain topic and strengthened confidence.

DIVE EVEN DEEPER

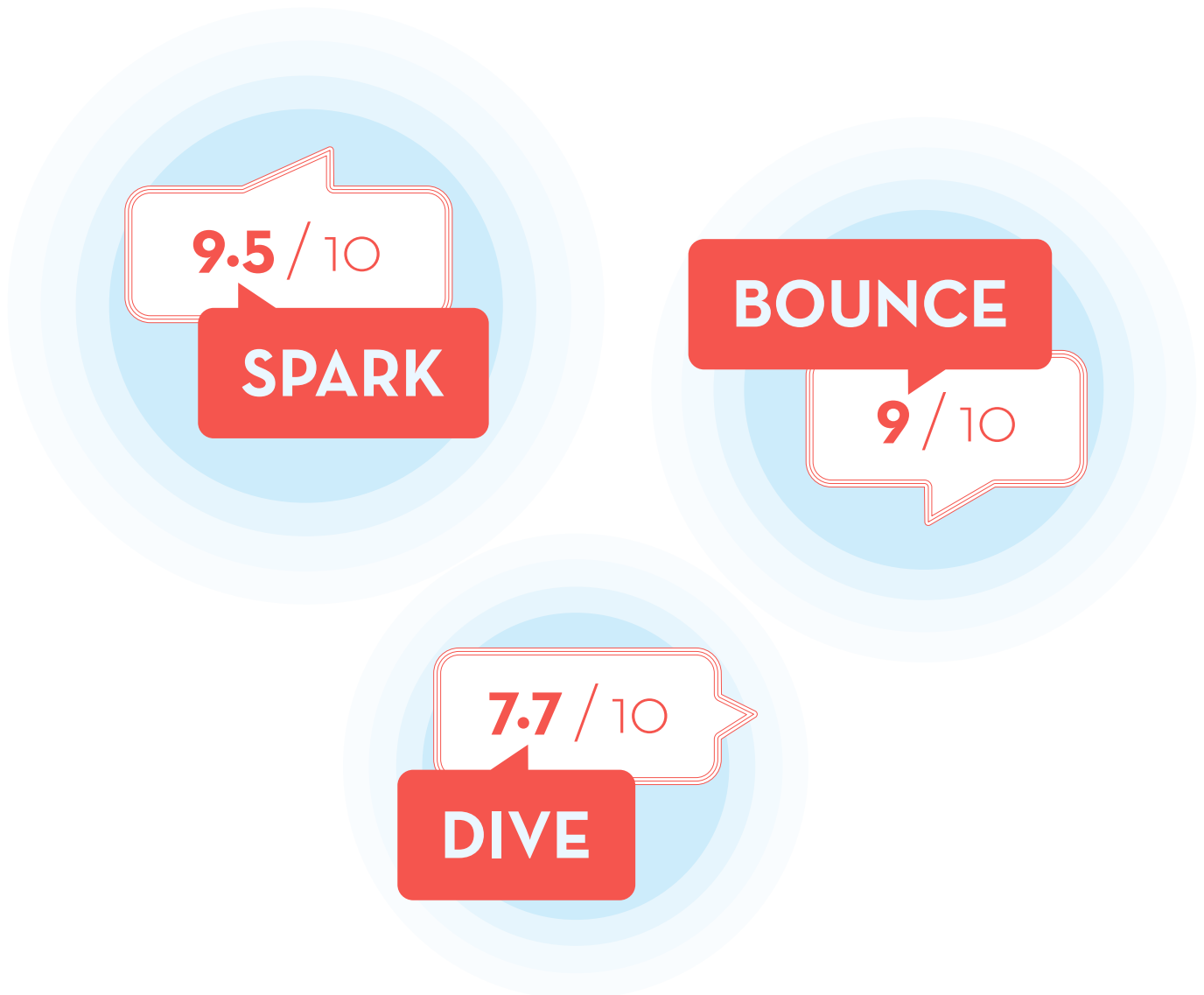
A thirst for more and deeper engagement with certain topics is always a good sign for the healthiness and aspiration of a sector. Even more so, when the issues requested for deeper inquiry are about environmental sustainability and diversity - the network's annual thematic focus areas in 2022 and 2023 respectively.

Circostrada could certainly have increased intensity and depth of navigating certain topics of complexity, but it always comes back to the delicate balancing act of catering to diverse expectations, capacity levels, and needs.

AN UNEXPECTED REVELATION AT DIVE 2022 IN WALES

The focus of the Dive 2022 event in Wales was predominantly on care and the relationship between humans and the natural environment in outdoor arts, landscape and site-specific art. Many Welsh participants of the local arts community did not initially locate themselves within the outdoor arts community. Testimonials of some of these artists revealed, however, that they found the capacity building event very relevant to their work whilst feeling encouraged to be part of that specific group and connected the wider outdoor arts network.

QUALITY OF ACTIVITY AS RATED BY PARTICIPANTS IN 2022



ENCOURAGE THE EMERGENCE OF NEW TALENTS

Talent needs nurturing, and the best way to do this involves a whole lot of personal attention and care. Circostrada's mentoring activity Bounce matches rising stars with seasoned professionals for a one-on-one exchange journey based on their preferences. And they might even become friends.

PEOPLE ARE INFRASTRUCTURE

A sector, a scene, an artistic community – they are not going to develop themselves. It takes an array of support mechanisms to create sustainable infrastructure for contemporary circus and outdoor arts to flourish. An essential part is the continuous influx of fresh ideas, new people, and artistic innovation. And while emerging talents have been led by passion, there comes a time when they need to expand their horizons and learn from those more experienced.

MATCHMAKING

To facilitate structured exchange between sector veterans and rising stars, Circostrada set up the one-on-one mentoring activity Bounce. Each year, four experienced mentors from among Circostrada's membership are paired with new talents in the field of contemporary circus and outdoor arts production, direction, management, and coordination, many of whom are not yet members of the network.

In one joint physical kick-off meeting, a series of unstructured online meetings, and a physical reunion at the Annual General Meeting, mentors help mentees to grow as a person and grow their networks.

RELATIONSHIPS ARE PRECIOUS

The mentoring programme takes a deep and personalised approach to capacity building. Each pair is given the freedom to design their interactions in a way that works for both of them. For some this means working around specific issues of a project, while others prefer holistic career and personal development.

Mentees share that actually slowing down and dedicating the time and space to learn and grow are a core part of the capacity development process. This is also true for the mentors who realise how much knowledge they acquire in these honest exchanges, for example about the ground realities of working in the contemporary circus or outdoor arts field in another country.

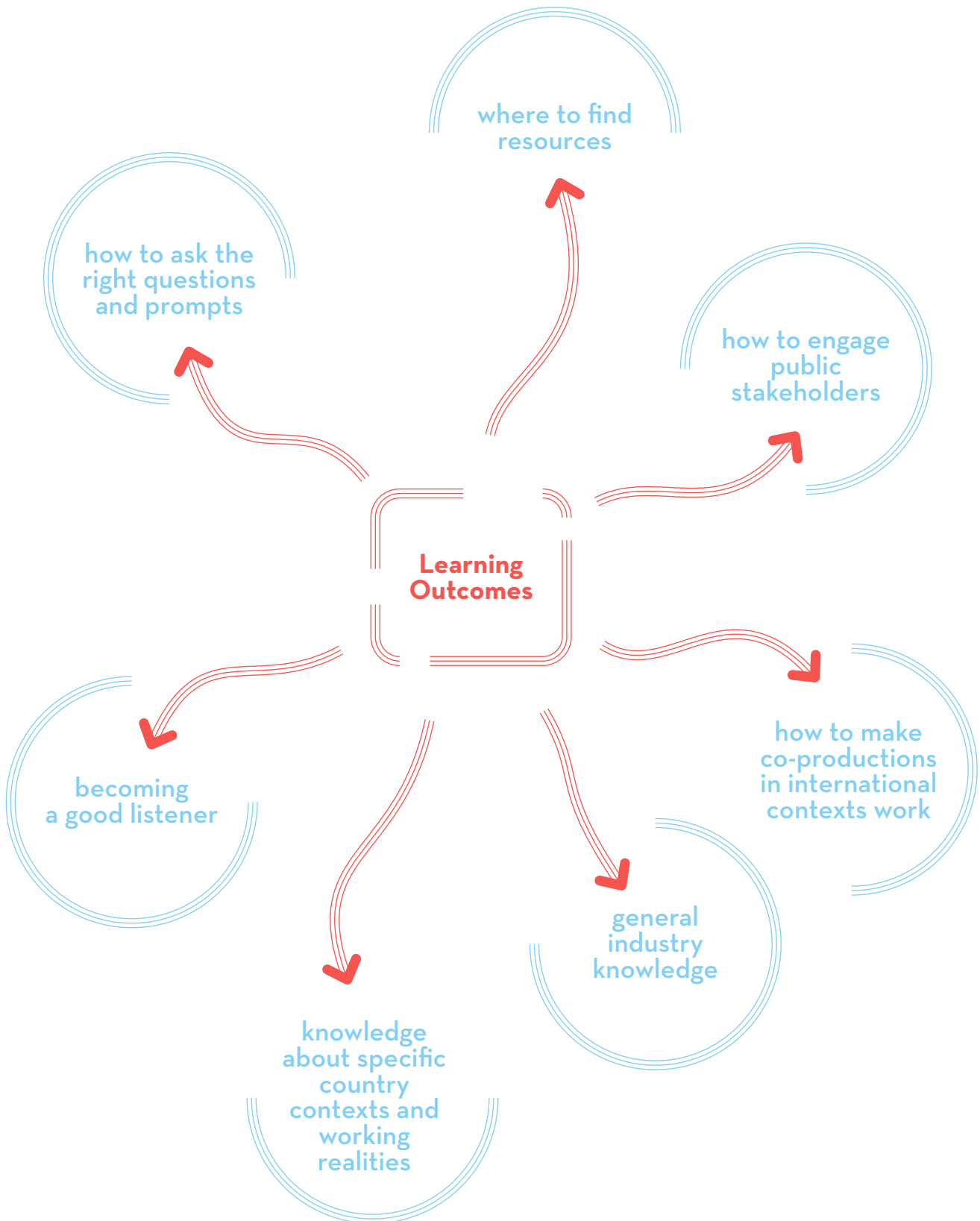
A personal objective that was achieved across all mentees and mentors is the international networking outcomes facilitated by the in-depth mentoring sessions. At least three of the mentors connected their respective mentee with external people, either to gain more specific industry knowledge the mentor couldn't provide or as an introduction for a potential.

Indeed, many formed strong ongoing professional connections and even friendships. And yet, the beauty of deep personal relationships is that each match is unique with distinct needs and preferences that generate very personal and non-reproducible results.

BE FLEXIBLE AND THRIVE

Individual preferences also come to play in how to meet, and how often. Online vs. physical exchanges, concise engagement vs. year-long mentoring – each mentoring pair is different. A little more organisational flexibility and support can go a long way to help individuals thrive.

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES OF BOTH MENTORS AND MENTEEES



SUPPORT LOCAL ADVOCACY ACTIONS

Local contexts require local solutions. Having a little international support helps with getting local solutions off the ground. Circostrada offers its members strategic, reputational, and financial support to engage local stakeholders in their own advocacy actions. Now, just engage policymakers.

A VICIOUS CYCLE

We all know that contemporary circus and outdoor arts have a stronger lobby in some countries, and a weaker in others. We also know that local advocacy for local issues addressing local stakeholders is producing local results. And those that need to advocate locally the most generally have the least access to resources to do so. A vicious cycle of structural disadvantage. Cultural networks are designed to bundle its members' voices and use the power of scale to make important points for the development of the sectors they represent. However, that can often only happen at the European level, where networks are well-connected themselves.

LOCAL WINS

That's why Circostrada decided to share some experience, lend its reputation, and provide funds to supports its members to conduct local advocacy actions. Members might choose to do some alliance building, boost sector visibility, learn and exchange with other actors, or maybe even attempt a little policy lobbying.

Sail stands for Support for Advocacy, Influence, and Leverage, and members can submit proposals for their own advocacy actions they seek support for. This line of support started in September 2022.

STRATEGY TO FUTURE IMPACT

The tools members use for their local advocacy activities are diverse. They range from manifesto writing and strategic public relations, to conference participation and hands-on workshops.

One member proposes a workshop series on gender and violence that explores multiple dimensions of safety and security in contemporary circus, including physical, emotional, and psychological aspects.

However, they often stop just short of actively engaging with policymakers. So far, most proposals address sector visibility and planting seed for potential future impact.

Members can also use the offered support for the development of an initial advocacy strategy if they don't have one already, and seek advice for impact measurement indicators. These measures help to bridge the gap and create a better collaborative situation for joint action in the future.

JUST A LITTLE BIT FURTHER

Advocacy does not need to stop at raising awareness. Advocacy can be multi-faceted. How about cross-sectoral alliances or a little policy change? Or maybe a public artist-run campaign?

Circostrada is in an excellent position to encourage members to take up this offer for support of local advocacy actions and get creative with their methods and knowledge of local contexts.

More importantly, however, is to formulate a clear advocacy goal. Without such a game plan and a strategy for data collection, it becomes very hard to track and measure an action's impact – locally and cumulatively, for Circostrada as a network.

MEMBERSHIP INTEREST IN RECEIVING LOCAL ADVOCACY SUPPORT

84%

of Circostrada members expressed interest in receiving support for local advocacy actions

A CASE OF LOCAL ADVOCACY SUPPORT IN ROMANIA



New Circostrada member *Sibiu International Theatre Festival* used the support to invite Circostrada Network Coordinator Stéphane Segreto-Aguilar for an online conference where the festival's membership was announced. The event was covered by several local media organisations. The festival's president Constantin Chiriac shares policy change ambitions in his advocacy agenda:

"It is an honour for our Theatre and Festival to join the 127 members of the Circostrada and to share with them our common knowledge, experience, and values. Our new membership will be an excellent opportunity to develop this area in our country and encourage policymakers to include circus and street arts in their medium and long-term strategies, giving young artists the chance to have careers in Romania."*

* the network has since grown to 153 members

A CASE OF LOCAL ADVOCACY SUPPORT IN BELGIUM



Latitude 50, member of Circostrada, received support and expertise for its inaugural event in Marchin, Belgium, in the frame of the SAIL programme of the network. The day featured several round-tables and talks, in the presence of government officials and policymakers from the Wallonia region, as well as partners of the project and more than 200 professionals from the field of contemporary circus.

CREATE SYNERGIES WITH OTHER EU NETWORKS

Cultural networks are a cornerstone of Europe's cultural governance. Circostrada takes its role as a representative for contemporary circus and outdoor arts serious. Together with other networks, they get their hands dirty and engage both their peers and policymakers for better futures.

IN NUMBERS AND DIVERSITY

Cultural networks are strong advocacy players in Europe. They organise, they mobilise, they coordinate, they formulate - in short, they contribute to a lively democratic exchange on various European governance levels. And as with most advocacy, there is strength in numbers but also in diversity. With broad coalitions, doors tend to open faster and wider, and large joint actions to shift the conversation and experiment with new approaches move into the realm of the possible.

PUSHING THE ENVELOPE

As a network representing more than 150 members, Circostrada has been an active voice for contemporary circus and outdoor arts in the wider performing arts environment in the European Union for years. The network seeks synergies with other EU networks to push the envelope through joint proposals for important initiatives, sector consultations, programme experimentation, and policy recommendations.

UP AND ACROSS

Advocacy of EU cultural networks works best when done both horizontally and vertically. Horizontally means working with peers to create new standards and build alliances; vertically means jointly advocating for policy change and formulating recommendations.

EU networks with whom Circostrada has stuck heads together or joint forces in the past 1.5 years represent the following fields:

- Artistic practice in public space
- Contemporary performing arts
- Cultural mobility
- International touring
- Intersectoral network of cultural networks

From exploring art and civil society in the public space to writing policy recommendations on imagined, sustainable future for cross-border performing arts in Europe, the scope of what Circostrada does for the external representation and development of contemporary circus and outdoor arts is broad.

And harnessing these synergies with other EU networks for policy advocacy is working. Circostrada is part of a series of three roundtables of 13 high-level representatives of the cultural and creative sectors and industries (CCSI), led at the time by Mariya Gabriel the DG EAC at the European Commission, with the aim of shaping the future of the CCSI ecosystem in Europe.

THE POTENTIAL

While cultural networks in the EU play an important role to represent, mediate, and disseminate, there is potential to recognise the added value from direct input of real-life experiences of member organisations to further embellish the existing synergies with other EU networks for advocacy purposes.

EU NETWORKS AND INITIATIVES WITH WHOM CIRCOSTRADA HAS CREATED SYNERGIES SINCE SEPTEMBER 2021



PROVIDE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE RESOURCES ON CONTEMPORARY CIRCUS AND OUTDOOR ARTS

Knowledge needs retention, information needs dissemination. Circostrada is providing insightful, reflective, as well as practical media outputs for its members. From podcast to handbook, there is plenty of material for everyone. Some might still crave something a bit snappier.

MEMORY AND BEACON

Not everyone can travel to every event – and probably shouldn't either. Neither can one retain all the information shared at an activity. And yet, we want to stay engaged with the network and its individual members, be up to speed with recent developments, and get input for organisational development and crafting collaborations.

Publications are particularly important when wanting to learn more about different country scenes and how to engage with issues such as environmental sustainability or diversity. You can always go back to a well-produced piece of media and share it with colleagues and stakeholders. They can be your guide and your advocate at the same time.

CATERING FOR THE MASSES

Circostrada membership is more than attending events. It means having access to high-quality thematic cookbooks, event summaries, member voices, and all the news from fellow network members.

You want it? Circostrada's got it!

- Publications: thematic and activity-specific publications, toolkits, and more
- Newsletters: network-relevant news sent out to all members
- Flash news: member news to stay up to date with the networks' activities
- Blog posts: personal member reflections and interviews with key people
- Podcasts: well-produced audio summaries and reflection of Circostrada activities with featured member voices

RESPECTING THE INDIVIDUAL

Providing the membership of Circostrada with news, insights, and tools is no easy feat. A lot relies on experimenting with different formats and how members react to it.

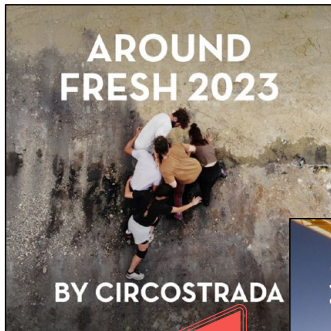
A quick blog post might be better received than an expertly produced podcast. A regular newsletter might just be as useful for members as a carefully edited publication with multiple interviews, reflections, and hands-on tools.

While both the *Spark Podcast #1: The Future of Circus Tents* and the blog post *The Big Tops: Where to Move Next?* featured voices and insights from Circostrada's Spark event in the Netherlands in 2022, each catered to different audiences: readers that prefer a brief overview and listeners who enjoy a slower, more personal approach to the topic, respectively.

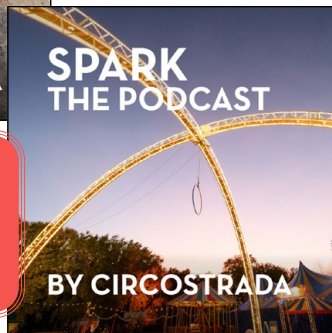
SNACKABILITY

With our ever-decreasing attention spans, snackable bits of information might be an inspiring alternative for members, who rarely find the time to sit down and read a publication in great detail.

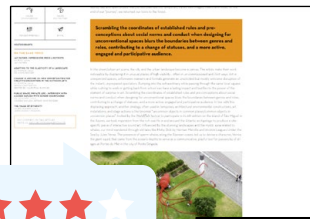
LIST OF CIRCOSTRADA COMMUNICATION OUTPUTS AND SCORING BY MEMBERS



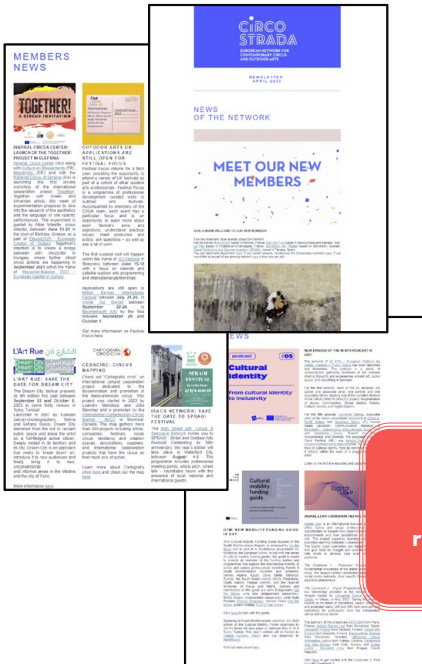
58%
rate podcasts
as good



68%
rate publication
as excellent



63%
rate blog posts
as good



63%
rate newsletters
as excellent

ABOUT CIRCOSTRADA AND ARTCENA

CIRCOSTRADA

Circostrada is the European Network for contemporary circus and outdoor arts. Created in 2003 with the core mission of furthering the development, empowerment and recognition of these fields at European and international levels, over the years the network has become an important anchoring point for its members and a key interlocutor in the dialogue with cultural policy makers across Europe. In a few words, Circostrada is:

- A community of contemporary circus and outdoor arts professionals linked together by common values and aspirations, who advocate for greater recognition and more structured cultural policies.
- The voice and reference network of contemporary circus and outdoor arts in Europe.
- A group of passionate and committed individuals who meet several times a year at the network's events.
- A network dedicated to its members, engaged in facilitating the exchange of experiences, knowledge, and good practices at European and international levels.
- A digital resource platform that provides thematic publications, observation tools and news on contemporary circus and outdoor arts, available to all free of charge in English and French.

🌐 www.circostrada.org

ARTCENA

ARTCENA is the National Center for Circus, Street and Theatre Arts, supported by the French Ministry of Culture. It coordinates Circostrada and is a permanent member of its steering committee. It works in close collaboration with professionals in the sector and offers them both publications and digital resources via its web platform. It also develops mentoring and training actions, tools and services to help them in their everyday practices. It supports contemporary creation through national support programs and encourages the international development of these three sectors.

🌐 www.artcena.fr