



the art of recycling with light ↘

MY UMBRELLA IS NOT DEAD

Rewiring the Waste Paradigm

DRAFT EVENT PROGRAMME

20 June 2026 · VIVA FabLab, Porto, Portugal · 14:00 – 17:00

14:00 – 17:00 · Partner Event — EU Green Week 2026

About the Workshop

What does it really mean to throw something away? Participants arrive with two objects from home — a broken umbrella and an old sports bag — and leave with one new functional object built from both. Like nature itself, which absorbs to regenerate, we reclaim this cycle: today you enrich a workshop, tomorrow you think like a maker and build your own venture.

Programme

TIME	PHASE	DESCRIPTION
14:00 14:20	Welcome & Framing	Introduction to C-USINARTE and the concept of phantom waste. Participants present the objects they brought. Setting the challenge: what will we build today?
14:20 15:00	Phase 1 Deconstruction	Manual dismantling of the umbrella and sports bag. Material identification by touch, weight and resistance. Understanding why each material was chosen — and what remains when the object no longer functions. Note: dismantling a standard umbrella takes approximately 5 minutes.
15:00 15:30	Phase 2 Recombination	Guided ideation: what new function can these materials serve together? Participants map material properties against possible uses. Group discussion on design decisions and circular logic.
15:30 16:30	Phase 3 Fabrication	Hands-on construction of a new functional object from the combined waste streams. Facilitated making with VIVA FabLab tools. Each participant or group produces a tangible result.
16:30 17:00	Reflection & Closing	Collective presentation of creations. Structured reflection on phantom waste flows and the maker as agent of circular change. Resources and next steps shared with participants.

Target Audience

- Open to all — no prior experience required.
- General public & families
 - Students (design, engineering, management)
 - Makers & FabLab community
 - Educators & social workers
 - Entrepreneurs & circular economy practitioners

Key Objectives

- Shift perception: waste as resource, not endpoint
- Develop systemic thinking on composite lifecycles
- Demonstrate functional upcycling without heavy infrastructure
- Connect individual gesture to collective responsibility
- Inspire the maker mindset as circular economy driver