October 20th, 2026

Gemini Centre for Postgrowth Future's Day

EVENT SUMMARY



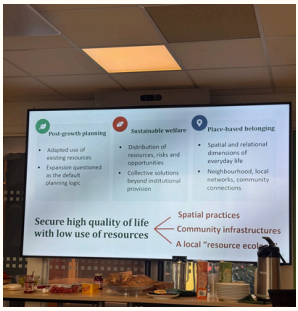
Presentation 1

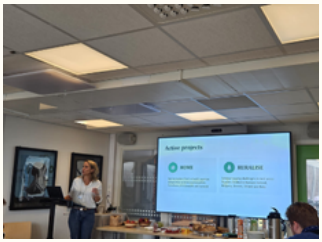
After a delicious breakfast, we began the day with a fascinating presentation by PhD student Mari Synnøve Gjerstsen. She shared her artistic research on Fossil Fictions in built infrastructures, reimagining how we build our homes and live together. We learned how creative and inspiring architectural research can be!



Presentation 2

Following a vibrant conversation about Mari's ongoing work and the challenges of navigating artistic research within the sciences, Tanja Plasil presented the HOME project. She illuminated the challenges the elderly face in Norway, while emphasizing many people's desire to stay in the comfort of their own homes as they age. Yet, most homes in Norway are not adequately adapted for seniors. Therefore, the HOME project explores ways to reimagine the home as more age-inclusive, advocating a more visionary approach to meaningfully address and anticipate the needs of an aging population.



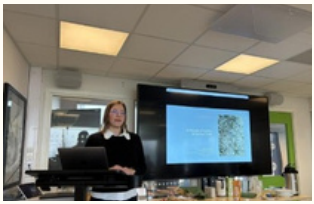


Presentation 3

Continuing the discussion of Aging in Place, Berit Nilson presented a developing framework for a post-growth vision for place-based community and belonging. She used examples from the HOME and RURALISE projects to illustrate how the meaning of aging in community varies across rural and urban contexts in Norway. Berit also highlighted the different challenges aging communities in rural areas face across European countries.

Workshop

After lunch, we participated in a fun and collaborative imagination workshop. The group divided into four teams, and each received a case about a specific space in 2045. Two groups imagined what the NTNU Dragvoll campus looks like and the role it plays in the Trondheim community after the university's relocation. The other two teams explored possibilities for an abandoned data center space in Tydal, giving the existing infrastructure new purposes. This workshop offered valuable insights into how post-growth thinking applies across contexts and challenged us to imagine revitalizing existing spaces without complete demolition and new construction.



Presentation 4

The day's final presentation brought us back to energy narratives, particularly the Afterlives of decommissioned energy infrastructures. Melina Buns shared her captivating, often overlooked research on what happens to spaces where different energy infrastructures once existed but no longer serve that role. Her work particularly focuses on the afterlives of nuclear energy spaces and how different communites in Scandinavia have "managed" and reimagined these potentially hazardous environments.