

ex-GKN FOR FUTURE

CROWDFUNDING CAMPAIGN FOR ITALY'S FIRST COMMUNITY AND NON-PROFIT FACTORY

With one email, they wanted to plunge more than 300 families into the abyss.

But they failed because of our solidarity.

Only with your help will we now be able to win.

So not only we win, but everyone wins.

OUR GOAL: ITALY'S FIRST COMMUNITY AND NON-PROFIT FACTORY

After one and a half years of permanent works council assembly, many struggles, hopes and disappointments, and after being without wages for five months, we have no choice but to take over our former GKN factory in self-management. In just under two weeks, we and our region have collected 17,000 signatures for an intervention of the state. And that remains our main demand. Nevertheless, we need a plan B, that is supported only by us 300 workers who were laid off on 9 July 2021 and our forces of solidarity.

We want to involve the region, which made it possible for us to resist for so long, in the management of the first communal, sustainable and public-spirited factory in Italy.

We want to convert the production of the former GKN factory to environmentally friendly photovoltaic systems, batteries and cargo bikes.

We want the supporters of this crowdfunding campaign to launch the eco-socialist factory GKN for Future.

After a year and a half of restless struggle, we need socially and ecologically sustainable alternatives in production: help us create a laboratory for eco-socialist alternatives!

We are always made to believe that there is no alternative. Now we have to create it ourselves.

THE CROWDFUNDING-CAMPAIGN

The crowdfunding campaign is supported by [Banca Etica](#), [ARCI](#) and [Fridays for Future Italia](#) and consists of two phases:

- In the first phase, donations will be collected through Produzioni dal basso's website **from March to May the 2nd 2023** to launch our production

conversion plan. Produzioni dal basso is a crowdfunding platform run by the cooperative bank Banca Etica.

- In the second phase, we will launch a so-called equity crowdfunding **from summer 2023**. This will consist of small, medium and large investments.

WHY WOULD WE SET A PRECEDENT?

Firstly: In Italy, GKN is the **first factory to be taken over by the workers** and to be community-based through the active participation of an entire region.

Secondly, after a year and a half of struggle, we are trying to break the siege of our factory by means of our own plan. In this way, we want to **win back the jobs of more than 100 former GKN workers** and employ even more in the future.

Thirdly: We are preventing the settlement of an environmentally harmful company in Campi Bisenzio and are producing environmentally friendly **photovoltaic systems, batteries and cargo bicycles**.

Fourth: As planned, the **workers are directly involved in the management** of the new production project.

Fifth: In addition to public and private investors, **representatives of the region and all participants in the equity crowdfunding will be elected to the board of our cooperative called "Insorgiamo"**.

WHO DEVELOPED THE PLAN?

The **factory collective of the former GKN plant**, solidary scientists from all over Italy and activists from different groups and organisations ([Co.Mu.net-Officine Corsare](#), [Autogestione in Movimento - Fuori Mercato](#), Rete italiana Imprese Recuperate, MAG) who have tirelessly kept our labour struggle alive.

WHO IS LAUNCHING THE CROWDFUNDING CAMPAIGN?

The [support association "SOMS Insorgiamo"](#), which was created as a tool for mutual help among and for the workers of the former GKN plant. In this way, we not only want to continue the tradition of cooperativism, but also to continue to activate and involve our region, because the latter was indispensable for the resistance of the workers so far.

THE GOALS OF THE CROWDFUNDING CAMPAIGN

WITH THE FIRST PHASE OF OUR CROWDFUNDING CAMPAIGN WE ARE PURSUING THE FOLLOWING GOALS:

1. To help workers **finance the new cooperative**.
2. To cover the costs of **equity crowdfunding**.

3. Support the **launch of the plan** (loans for the purchase of new machinery, rent of the site, energy costs, setting up a distribution network, marketing)
4. Cost recovery of regional, national and European **funding acquisition**.

IN DETAIL

With the amount of 75.000€ targeted during the first phase, we want to cover the costs incurred for the foundation of our cooperative and the start-up:

- **Support for financing the cooperative shares** for 10 members who are in financial difficulties: 40.000€.
- **Registration costs for the cooperative:** €5,000
- **Advance payments for the start of equity crowdfunding** via the relevant platform: 3,000€.
- Cost coverage of regional, national and European **funding acquisition:** 13.800€.
- **Covering the loan instalments** for the acquisition of the new industrial plant before the start of production: 13,200€.

If **more than 75.000€** are collected, the following costs will be covered for the start-up:

- **Costs of the site** in the first semester of start-up (purchases, rent if applicable);
- **Setting up the distribution network;**
- **Covering further cooperative shares;**
- **Montage and contracting;**
- **Covering further loan instalments** for the purchase of the new industrial plant before production starts.

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT THE CROWDFUNDING CAMPAIGN?

1. **Donations:** every euro counts for our conversion project;
2. **Publicity:** [download our campaign materials](#) and post them in your clubs or organisations, share the campaign on your social media channels, talk about it with your family and friends. The more people know about this struggle, the more likely we are all to win;
3. **Events:** organise debates and information evenings about the campaign. For example, you can organise the following events in your city:
 - Film screening of ["E tu come stai?"](#) (documentary by F. M. Gori and L. E. Gori, 2022)
 - Film screening of ["Let's stand up! - The factory collective GKN"](#) (Labournet TV, 2022)
 - Performance of the play ["Il capitale"](#) (2022)
 - Book launch of ["A future plan for the Florence factory. From the former GKN factory to a factory for the common good"](#) (Feltrinelli Foundation, Milan 2022)

- An event with the former GKN workers.

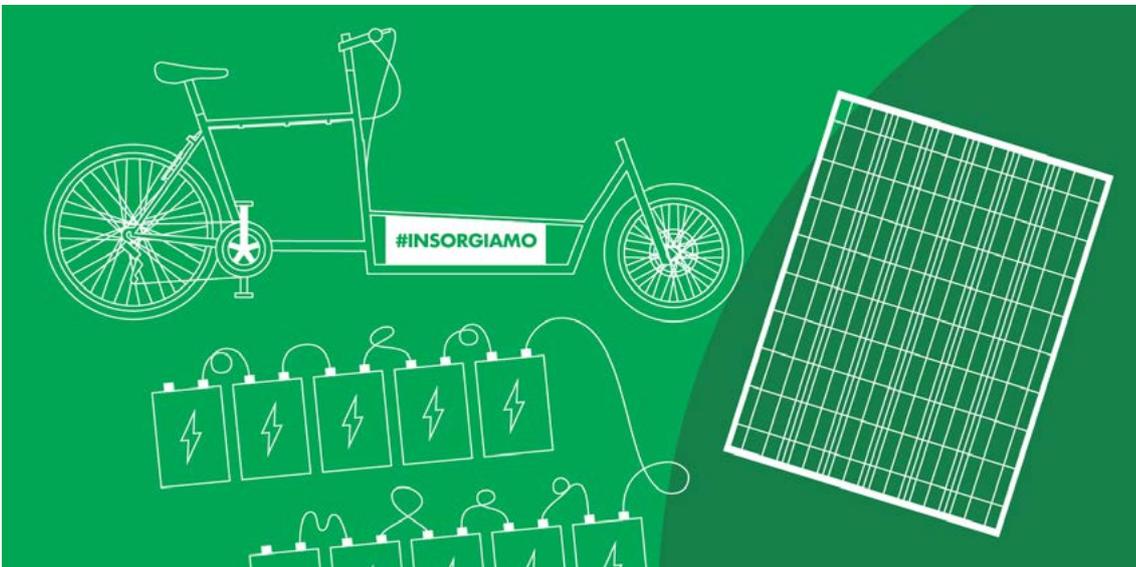
AND WHAT IF IT ALL GOES WRONG?

Should the implementation of the industrial plan fail, regardless of the will of the initiators, all the money collected would be used for the mutual aid of the "Insorgiamo" cooperative.

THE PRIZE FOR CAMPAIGN SUPPORTERS

All supporters of the campaign will be invited to Campi Bisenzio on **9 July 2023**, exactly two years after the dismissal email to the GKN workers: we will celebrate the beginning of this new adventure together. A group photo will also be taken and engraved on the façade of the factory to immortalise our region's crucial contribution to the struggle and the launch of our new project. The names of all supporters will be listed on the website as a further sign of their indispensable work.





MAIN PARTNER

