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Annex XIII

Horizon Europe

Work Programme 2026-2027

13. New European Bauhaus Facility

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Introduction

The New European Bauhaus (NEB) Facility is a multi-annual (2025-2027) and cross-cutting tool to revitalise European neighbourhoods with design for sustainability and inclusion. It covers the full cycle of implementation from research and innovation to deployment thanks to its R&I component and its roll-out component. The [NEB Facility roadmap](#) will guide its implementation.

The NEB Facility will support projects for the beautiful, sustainable and inclusive transformation of the built environment of neighbourhoods, aiming to make its inhabitants partners of the change towards the delivery of the Clean Industrial Deal and the European Green Deal.

Activities under the NEB Facility will look at different forms of innovation (e.g. governance innovation, social innovation, systems innovation) which can contribute to the wider social acceptability of the solutions developed, accelerating the Green Deal and the Clean Industrial Deal (also considering its digital dimension) and strengthening and restoring inhabitants' trust in democracy. The activities of the NEB Facility will also explore the contribution of the built environment to the conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems, its relation to historical and cultural urban, peri-urban or rural areas, the improvement of social cohesion and belonging, as well as peoples' health and well-being.

NEB Facility: R&I component

Activities under the NEB Facility's R&I component in this work programme will contribute to all Key Strategic Orientations (KSOs) defined by the Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027:

- KSO 1: Green transition: Horizon Europe R&I activities must support Europe to become the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050 and to tackle biodiversity loss and pollution. At least 35% of Horizon Europe's resources are committed to be spent on climate action and 10% for 2025-2027 on biodiversity action.
- KSO 2: Digital transition: Investment in R&I in key digital technologies is crucial for improving Europe's competitiveness in the digital value chain. The green and digital transitions are intertwined and expected to mutually benefit each other. In 2021-2027, it is agreed to invest at least EUR 13 billion from Horizon Europe in core digital technologies.
- KSO 3: A more resilient, competitive, inclusive, and democratic Europe: Europe's social rights and democratic values and principles need a strong foundation so they can be promoted globally. Horizon Europe research activities will help provide this foundation. This includes research on civil security, on a fair and environmentally friendly economic model, on health and wellbeing and on democratic participation.

As the NEB Facility approaches neighbourhoods holistically, the three Destinations of the R&I component capture the different dimensions of neighbourhood transformation, complementing each other:

- Destination 1 focuses on the human dimension of neighbourhood transformation, including social and cultural aspects.
- Destination 2 pays special attention to the physical dimension of neighbourhood transformation, including environmental aspects.
- Destination 3 focuses on the economic and financing dimensions of neighbourhood transformation, including innovative investment and business models.

As a result, the NEB Facility is expected to lead to more transdisciplinary approaches aligned with the NEB concept being available, demonstrated and applied to support research and innovation for the green transition in neighbourhoods.

In work programme 2026-2027, these Destinations will build upon previous knowledge and solutions generated by the NEB¹, the NEB Facility, other Horizon Europe parts, and other research and innovation activities.

1. Connecting the green transformation, social inclusion and local democracy

This Destination will explore ways in which environmental and climate challenges can be addressed through innovative approaches at the neighbourhood level that also aim to reduce socio-economic inequalities and reestablish a strong connection between the environment, people and democratic institutions. This Destination will emphasise equality and ensure that the green transition does not happen at the expense of the most vulnerable groups. Considering climate and green justice and that the greening of neighbourhoods often leverages negative effects of gentrification processes, this Destination aims to ensure that the sustainable transformation of the built environment involves measures that promote social and territorial cohesion.

This Destination will also take into account local and cultural specificities and give special consideration to the inclusion of the voice, needs and knowledge of the different sociodemographic groups in the actions supported. It will pay attention to the participation of those at risk such as vulnerable, poor or marginalised groups, as those being least responsible and having lower capacity to adapt are often more exposed to and affected by the impacts of climate risks, biodiversity loss and pollution.

This Destination will look at the institutional landscape(s) of neighbourhoods as well as the informal processes which take place at the micro-level in neighbourhoods (e.g. social dynamics, networks, grassroots initiatives), and how these different scales and dimensions can influence each another and lead to different forms of innovation. The rural, peri-urban and urban environments should be considered.

¹ Including – but not limited to – knowledge produced by previous NEB projects and [NEB tools](#).

In light of the above, in Work Programme 2026-2027 this Destination will contribute to the following expected impacts set out in the Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027: 8 *Realising the full potential of cultural heritage, arts, and cultural and creative sectors*, 10 *Boosting inclusive growth and reducing vulnerabilities*, 31 *Sustainably developing rural, urban and coastal areas*, and 32 *Developing innovative governance models and tools enabling sustainability and resilience*.

2. Circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment

This Destination aims to make neighbourhoods more sustainable, circular and regenerative but also inclusive, accessible and beautiful, turning them into places where nature and biodiversity can thrive, contributing to a better health and wellbeing for living beings, clean air, soils, water, energy and food security. It will do so by contributing to making buildings – including heritage ones – common spaces² and construction materials and products more sustainable, circular, adaptable and reusable and by rethinking how we design, build and use our surrounding spaces. Specific attention will be paid to the re-use of existing infrastructure and materials. It will also explore the potential of digital tools and technologies to achieve its objectives by looking for instance how they can optimize construction methods and resources' use and reduce construction time and costs. The solutions developed will be user-centered, place-based and will consider cultural heritage, vernacular knowledge, reflecting local cultural identity and meeting people's needs.

This Destination will be looking at the built environment but also at neighbourhoods as a whole in a more systemic and holistic approach, considering aspects such as the energy or mobility systems for instance. The rural, peri-urban and urban environments should be considered.

In light of the above, in Work Programme 2026-2027, this Destination will contribute to the following expected impacts set out in the Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027: 2. *Living and working in a health-promoting environment*, 15 *Achieving global leadership in climate-neutral, circular and digitised industrial and digital value chains*, 28 *Putting biodiversity on a path to recovery, and protecting and restoring ecosystems and their services*, and 31 *Sustainably developing rural, urban and coastal areas* in the strategic plan 2025-2027.

3. Innovative funding and new business models for the transformation of neighbourhoods

The built environment faces challenges and barriers that hinder its transition towards social and environmental sustainability. It has traditionally been resistant to change due to established norms and practices. For the built environment in neighbourhoods to change, it is key to ensure demand and appropriate incentives. New business and funding models can provide a framework to rethink how projects are conceived, planned, executed, and invested in. Demonstrating the social, environmental, and economic viability and benefits of new business models can incentivise the built environment and its related ecosystems (e.g.

² Common spaces are spaces that are brought into being through common practices. These common practices are linked to a physical public, semi-public or private place that is accessible by all. This physical public place is demarcated by the built environment, which can facilitate or hinder social activities.

banking, insurance, social economy, and real estate) to embrace solutions and practices that are circular and resilient to natural, including climate change-induced, and human-made hazards while promoting affordability, inclusion, diversity, functionality, sustainability, and beauty. New business and innovative funding models are thus crucial to encourage the uptake of practices and approaches that do not only focus on cost-effectiveness and efficiency but align with larger societal goals and values and incorporate long-term and life cycle thinking, driving positive cultural, social and environmental change in the built environment while enhancing its long-term competitiveness.

Efforts under this Destination address the positive cultural, social, aesthetic, and environmental transformation and renovation of buildings, common spaces, and infrastructures as well as the more intangible (including social) dimensions and transformations that constitute neighbourhoods beyond the building scale at a more systemic level.

This Destination focuses on neighbourhoods across urban, peri-urban and rural areas as well as their interlinkages.

In light of the above, this Destination delivers on the expected impacts 8 *Realising the full potential of cultural heritage, arts, and cultural and creative sectors*, 9 *Strengthening social and economic resilience and sustainability*, and 15 *Achieving global leadership in climate-neutral, circular and digitised industrial and digital value chains* in the strategic plan 2025-2027.

Under the R&I component of the NEB Facility, applicants are encouraged to explore complementarities with topics and activities in Horizon Europe partnerships (in particular: Built4People, Circular Bio-based Europe and Driving Urban Transition, Forests and Forestry for a Sustainable Future, Innovative Materials for the EU, Processes4Planet, Resilient Cultural Heritage, Social Transformations and Resilience, and Textile of the Future), Missions (in particular the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission, the Adaptation to Climate Change Mission and the Mission “A soil deal for Europe”) and Clusters (in particular Cluster 2 on Culture, Creativity, and Inclusive Society, Cluster 3 on Civil Security for Society, Cluster 5 on Climate, Energy and Mobility, and Cluster 6 on Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment). Opportunities for collaboration and synergies should also be explored and, as appropriate, pursued with other relevant initiatives such as the innovation ecosystems or the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). Additionally, Horizon Europe grantees are invited to consider possible collaborations and cross-fertilisation between their project and other projects selected under the same or other relevant calls. When possible and relevant, actions are also strongly recommended to collaborate with and build on the work of relevant research, including national or European funded research, and to avoid duplication.

NEB Facility: roll-out component

The deployment of innovative solutions will be supported by the roll-out component of the NEB Facility through various sources of funding, including EU funds (except Horizon Europe), but also national or private ones. Applicants are encouraged to identify areas of convergence between the NEB Facility and national priorities, as well as possible funding

opportunities at national, regional or local levels or from private sources, including philanthropic. Applicants are also encouraged to develop new collaborations or to build on and expand existing collaborations under the roll-out component with other EU programmes, like the Cohesion policy funds, European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Fund (ESF+), the Just Transition Fund (JTF), Single Market Programme, Digital Europe Programme, Creative Europe, Erasmus+, European Solidarity Corps, Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP), the Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE), the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF). Applicants could enhance the reach and impact of their projects for instance through broader stakeholder cooperation and follow-on activities.

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Glossary

Aesthetics refers to a particular theory or conception of beauty or art: a particular taste for or approach to what is pleasing to the senses and especially sight.³

Beautiful is one of the three core values of the NEB. Beautiful means aesthetically pleasing, emphasising the quality of experience, beyond mere functionality. Projects are in line with this value if they are genuinely attentive to their context, which includes arts and culture, quality, diversity and heritage. They contribute to people's physical and mental health and well-being, foster a sense of belonging and quality of individual and collective experience. These projects promote a high-quality living environment and activate the cultural, social and natural qualities of a place.

Bio-based products are wholly or partly derived from materials of biological origin (such as plants and trees, animals, enzymes, and microorganisms, including bacteria, fungi and yeast).⁴ For example, bio-based plastics, as defined by the European Union, are made from biomass. This biomass originates mainly from plants grown specifically to be used as feedstock to substitute fossil resources. Other sources are organic waste and by-products, such as used cooking oil, bagasse and tall oil.⁵

Built environment refers to human-made buildings and infrastructures that provide physical settings for human activities. This includes, but is not limited to, public and private buildings, streets, transport and energy infrastructure, common spaces, public places, and green open spaces⁶. The built environment plays an essential role in addressing the basic needs of society, such as having places to live, work, learn, consume, travel and entertain. The built environment can contribute to a more just society by accommodating the needs of different individuals and groups.⁷ It influences the physical health of inhabitants⁸ (e.g. by encouraging physical exercise) as well as their mental health (e.g. by helping reduce stress).

Circular economy is a business concept aiming to create a closed-loop system and maintain the value of products, materials, and resources for as long as possible by returning them into the product cycle at the end of their use, while minimising the generation of waste. In this economic system, 'waste' can become a feedstock source for another process or value chain.⁹ Resource value retention options (R-strategies) form one of the circular economy fundamental

³ [AESTHETICS Definition & Meaning - Merriam-Webster](#)

⁴ https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/biotechnology/bio-based-products_en

⁵ European Commission: Directorate-General for Environment (2022, November 30). *Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. EU policy framework on biobased, biodegradable and compostable plastics.* COM/2022/682 final. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52022DC0682>

⁶ Thompson, S. M., & Kent, J. L. (2017). Human Health and a Sustainable Built Environment. *Encyclopedia of Sustainable Technologies*, 2, 71-80. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-409548-9.10178-2>

⁷ Seyedrezaei, M., Becerik-Gerber, B., Awada, M., Contreras, S., & Boeing, G. (2023). Equity in the built environment: A systematic review. *Building and Environment*, 245, 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2023.110827>

⁸ Roof, K., & Oleru, N. (2008). Public Health: Seattle and King County's Push for the Built Environment. *Journal of Environmental Health*, 71(1), 24-27. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/26327656>

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principles. The 10 R strategies can be classified with three clusters: 1. R-strategies closely related to consumer/customer alternatives (refuse, reduce, resell/reuse, repair); 2. R-strategies referring to various forms of upgrading used products on the side of users but dominantly carried out by business actors (refurbish, remanufacture, repurpose); 3. R-strategies referring to aggregate material flows, often resulting in downcycling (recycle, recover, re-mine).¹⁰

Common spaces are spaces that are brought into being through common practices.¹¹ These common practices are linked to a physical public, semi-public or private place that is accessible by all.¹² This physical public place is demarcated by the built environment, which can facilitate or hinder social activities.

Community is a social unit. Interactions that occur in the built environment can foster a sense of community and belonging in many ways.¹³ Interaction enables people to build communities, commit themselves to each other, and knit the social fabric (see the respective entry in this glossary). The perception of being part of a collective¹⁴ and locally-based social relationship beyond the household and family¹⁵ are essential to define a coherent social group as a community. The coherence of a social unit, that is a community, includes the capacity to act, a shared social reality, and a relatively stable culture and identity.¹⁶

Construction ecosystem covers contractors for building and infrastructure projects, construction product manufacturers, engineering and architectural services, urban planners, construction workers, engineers as well as other relevant actors and economic activities (e.g., rental and leasing of machinery and equipment, employment agencies)¹⁷ involved in the design, construction, maintenance, refurbishment, and demolition of buildings and infrastructure.^{18 19}

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- ¹⁰ Reike, D., Vermeulen, W.J.V., Witjes, S. (2022). *Conceptualization of Circular Economy 3.0: Synthesizing the 10R Hierarchy of Value Retention Options*. In: Alvarez-Risco, A., Rosen, M.A., Del-Aguila-Arcentales, S. (eds) *Towards a Circular Economy. CSR, Sustainability, Ethics & Governance*. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-94293-9_3
- ¹¹ Cianciotto, L. M. (2020). Public Space, Common Space, and the Spaces In-Between: A Case Study of Philadelphia's LOVE Park. *City & Community*, 19(3), 676-703. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cico.12454>
- ¹² Zhang, X., & He, Y. (2020). What Makes Public Space Public? The Chaos of Public Space Definitions and a New Epistemological Approach. *Administration & Society*, 52(5), 749-770. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0095399719852897>
- ¹³ Thompson, S. M., & Kent, J. L. (2017). Human Health and a Sustainable Built Environment. *Encyclopedia of Sustainable Technologies*, 2, 71-80. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-409548-9.10178-2>
- ¹⁴ Zanbar, L. (2020). Sense of Belonging and Commitment as Mediators of the Effect of Community Features on Active Involvement in the Community. *City & Community*, 19(3), 617-637. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cico.12420>
- ¹⁵ Horak, M., & Vanhooren, S. (2024). Somebody to Lean On: Community Ties, Social Exchange, and Practical Help during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *City & Community*, 23(1), 3-25. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15356841231159370>
- ¹⁶ Whitham, M. M. (2019). Community Entitativity and Civic Engagement. *City & Community*, 18(3), 896-914. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cico.12385>
- ¹⁷ European Commission Annual Single Market Report (2021) (https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2021-05/swd-annual-single-market-report-2021_en.pdf)
- ¹⁸ Adner, R. (2017). Ecosystem as Structure: An Actionable Construct for Strategy. *Journal of Management*, 43(1), 39-58. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0149206316678451>
- ¹⁹ Vigren, O. (2023). Ecosystems in construction management and urban development: a comprehensive review of conceptualizations and contributions. *Construction Management and Economics*, 42(2), 162–181. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01446193.2023.2247496>

Green transition is a concept of moving from a carbon-based economy to a more sustainable economy while transforming environmental challenges and climate related difficulties into prosperous opportunities that benefit everyone in society. The green transition fosters welfare and well-being through a new sustainable economic model, while ensuring socioeconomic systems remain within ecological planetary boundaries.

Housing-led describes all policy approaches that identify the provision and/or sustaining of stable housing with security of tenure as the initial step in resolving or preventing situations of homelessness. These approaches treat housing as a fundamental right and a prerequisite to solving other problems, such as social, health and employment issues. ‘Housing-led’ represents a significant departure from the ‘staircase’ or ‘continuum of care’ approach. According to the ‘staircase’ or ‘continuum of care’ approach, stable housing is the end goal in the reintegration process and homeless people, particularly those with complex support needs, should move through various stages in different residential services before becoming “ready” for re-housing²⁰.

Inclusive is a core value of the NEB that revolves around the essential idea of granting and securing equal access to opportunities and resources for all and encouraging exchanges across cultures, genders and ages. The basic ambition addresses the physical, social and economic inclusion of all members of the society which also includes affordability for all and accessibility. The second level targets the broader concept of social justice, to be achieved not only by specific, temporary solutions at project level but through institutional setups, governance and business models, and structural safeguards. The third and highest level of ambition refers to fundamentally equitable societal models based on solidarity and cooperation. A part of these ideas and ambitions is directly linked to the physical characteristics of the built environment.

Indigenous knowledge focuses on the plurality of ways of knowing the environment and explores the importance of understanding how knowledge production is tied to place and culture.²¹ Indigenous knowledge is locally developed over centuries and has been transmitted orally from generation to generation. Indigenous knowledge systems are fundamentally important to indigenous identity, culture, languages, heritage, and livelihoods.²² Some issues of indigenous knowledge, such as a more-than-human approach, continue to intersect with questions about the authority of science and its representations of nature, about the politics of science and technology as interpreted by institutions and policymakers at all levels, and about the role of technology and development in the forging of a more equitable world.²³

²⁰ European Consensus Conference on Homelessness: Policy Recommendations of the Jury (2010).

²¹ Doolittle, A. A. (2010). The Politics of Indigeneity: Indigenous Strategies for Inclusion in Climate Change Negotiations. *Conservation and Society*, 8(4), 286–291. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/26393018>

²² Malapane, O. L., Chanza, N., & Musakwa, W. (2024). Transmission of indigenous knowledge systems under changing landscapes within the vhavenda community, South Africa. *Environmental Science & Policy*, 161, 1–9. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2024.103861>

²³ Philip, K. S. (2015). Indigenous Knowledge: Science and Technology Studies. In J. D. Wright (ed.), *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences* (2nd ed., pp. 779-783). Elsevier. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-08-097086-8.85012-6>

Intergenerational fairness is defined in the UN Declaration on Future Generations as the commitment to meet the demands of the present in a way that safeguards the needs and interests of future generations, while leaving no one behind.²⁴

Low-tech refers to technologies, tools, or methods that are simple, unsophisticated, and do not utilise the most recent or advanced equipment or techniques. These solutions are often characterized by their ease of use, affordability, and minimal reliance on complex systems.²⁵

More-than-human is a theoretical concept established as a counterpoint to the dualistic ontology that understands humans as exceptional and defined in opposition to nature.²⁶ It acknowledges human life and society as being deeply interconnected with non-human entities, such as animals, plants, technologies, and natural systems.²⁷

Multi-level engagement refers to the implementation of an effective exchange between peers and others who operate on a different scale or level of governance, bridging the local, regional, federal, European and global dimension.

Nature-based solutions are inspired and supported by nature. They are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help improving building's resilience and climate adaptability. Implementing nature-based solutions such as green infrastructure, water-efficient landscaping, and erosion control will enhance soil, thus ecosystem stability, which will bring more and more diverse, nature and natural features and processes into cities, landscapes and seascapes, through locally adapted, resource-efficient and systemic interventions.²⁸

NEB thematic axes²⁹ link the initiative to the people and their interests, needs and motivations in order to foster dialogue, collaboration, creativity, bringing together different disciplines and different stakeholders. The first axis is about reconnecting with nature and going beyond a human-centred to a life-centred perspective. This reflects widespread awareness and willingness to address climate change (mitigation and adaptation) and to reduce exposure to pollution. In this context, education and culture play a key role in the shift of paradigm towards new behaviours and values. The second axis is about regaining a sense of belonging and magnifying and linking collective and private experiences and building bridges between people. This path ranges from intergenerational solidarity over cultural heritage to proximity economy. The third axis is about prioritising the places and people that need it the most and ensuring that beauty and sustainability are affordable and accessible to all. Exclusion, segregation, or poverty are real threats in many built environments, which the NEB must encounter and help to overcome. The fourth axis is about the need for long-term, lifecycle thinking in the industrial ecosystem and tackling unsustainable use of resources, including obsolete buildings or infrastructures, and waste. NEB projects promote a thorough

²⁴ A Declaration on future Generations - United Nations Summit of the Future | United Nations

²⁵ Cambridge Dictionary.

²⁶ Carlos Roberto Bernardes de Souza Júnior, *More-than-human cultural geographies towards codwelling on earth*, <https://www.redalyc.org/journal/2736/273665153007/273665153007.pdf> (22 May 2025).

²⁷ Jamie Lorimer, Timothy Hodgetts, *More-than-Human*, Routledge, 2024.

²⁸ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/environment/nature-based-solutions_en

²⁹ For more detailed information, see the [NEB Compass](#) and the [NEB Investment Guidelines](#).

circular economy mindset and address these challenges in terms of design, materials, technologies, processes and behaviours.

NEB core values: The commitment and the support of innovative solutions are rooted in the three intertwined NEB values **sustainable, inclusive and beautiful**³⁰. See their respective entries in this glossary.

NEB working principles are an addition to the three NEB core values. They describe the process through which a project should operate and work to achieve the highest level of ambition in the three core values. A NEB project should embrace three working principles: **participatory process, multi-level engagement and transdisciplinary approach**³¹. See their respective entries in this glossary.

Neighbourhoods are understood as comprehensive residential systems in rural, peri-urban or urban areas with mixed functions. A neighbourhood ideally includes public and private functions and infrastructures such as education institutions (e.g. kindergartens, primary schools), cultural facilities, community centres, youth centres, retirement homes, post offices, banks, stores, parks, and workplaces. Neighbourhoods are where people live, socialise and find services to meet a substantial part of their daily needs. In contrast to communities, which are social units, neighbourhood refers to a physical unit where one can address local-level challenges through planning initiatives. For the purpose of the NEB Facility implementation, a neighbourhood will be understood as an area that either has a maximum of 25 km² or a maximum of 10,000 inhabitants. A neighbourhood should also be part of or represent the lowest level of a public administration or elected body such as a quarter, borough or district.

Participatory process consists of concrete steps and activities that are an integral part of a project's preparation and operation. Participatory processes ensure that stakeholders have a voice in projects that affect them in addressing transformational change. Participatory processes require a careful implementation in order to ensure that they are genuinely inclusive and impactful. Successful participatory processes strengthen social cohesion and foster a sense of co-ownership and co-responsibility.

Regenerative design aims to actively restore, revitalise and enhance ecosystems and create sustainable, thriving environments for local communities and nature.³² It is based on a holistic worldview that sees humans and economies as an integral part of nature. It is about sustaining qualitative growth for the well-being of all life on Earth in cooperation with nature. Applied to the built environment and following regenerative design criteria,³³ regenerative design offers pathways to develop construction and renovation methods and designs that go beyond

³⁰ For more detailed information, see the [NEB Compass](#) and the [NEB Investment Guidelines](#).

³¹ For more detailed information, see the [NEB Compass](#) and the [NEB Investment Guidelines](#).

³² Tainter, J. A. (2012). Regenerative design in science and society. *Building Research & Information*, 40(3), 369–372. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09613218.2012.671998>

³³ European Commission: Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Schellnhuber, H., Widera, B., Kutnar, A., Organschi, A., Hafner, A., Hillebrandt, A., Murphy, O., & Nakicenovic, N. (2022). *Horizon Europe and new European Bauhaus NEXUS report : conclusions of the High-Level Workshop on 'Research and Innovation for the New European Bauhaus', jointly organised by DG Research and Innovation and the Joint Research Centre*, Publications Office of the European Union. <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/49925>

conventional approaches. Regenerative designs will contribute to long-term ecosystem resilience and improved soil quality in urban and rural NEB neighbourhoods, creating a more harmonious coexistence between the built environment and nature, while saving and sustainably producing resources and making the built environment more resilient, sustainable, inclusive and beautiful.³⁴

Social fabric is knitted through interactions between people and within communities (see the entry for *Community*). It is crucial for a sense of belonging. The interplay between economic and social factors drives the improvement or deterioration of the social fabric of a place. Therefore, social fabric requires actions to take place at local or community level, rather than regional or national level.³⁵

Social infrastructure refers to the institutional and spatial frameworks that support collective civic life, including community facilities and public spaces that foster social interaction, community development, and social cohesion.

Social sciences and humanities (SSH) conduct broader research on societies and the members and their interactions within societies. The sustainable societal impacts sought by policy makers often depend on the contributions of SSH researchers working in multi- and/or interdisciplinary scientific collaborations. SSH encompasses a broad range of disciplines such as sociology, economics, political sciences, anthropology, ethnology, philosophy, linguistics, psychology, communication sciences, law, the arts, history and more.³⁶ Within the scientific field, SSH will play an important role in the R&I component of the NEB Facility to emphasise the holistic nature of the initiative.

Sustainable is a core value of the NEB. In alignment with the European GreenComp framework, sustainability is about prioritising the needs of all life forms and of the planet by ensuring that human activity does not exceed planetary boundaries³⁷ which define a safe operating space for humanity based on the intrinsic biophysical processes that regulate the stability of the Earth system.³⁸ Particularly, construction methods and materials that are resource-efficient and avoid damaging local soils, while using bio-fabricated materials or recycled components, minimizing waste and reducing the need for extracting raw resources, should be encouraged. The basic sustainability ambition is concerned with conventional features like the ability to preserve or prolong usability, and the next level considers the entire

³⁴ Arup (2020, February 6). Arup Explores Regenerative design [Report]. Arup.

³⁵ Tanner, W., O'Shaughnessy, J., Krasniqi, F., & Blagden, J. (2020). *The State of our Social Fabric: Measuring the changing nature of community over time and geography* [online]. London: Onward. Available at: <https://www.ukonward.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/The-State-of-our-Social-Fabric.pdf>

³⁶ European Commission: Directorate-General for Research and Innovation. (2023). *Integration of social sciences and humanities in Horizon 2020 : participants, budgets and disciplines 2014 - 2020 : final monitoring report*. Publications Office of the European Union. <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/075642>

³⁷ Bianchi, G., Pisiotis, U., & Cabrera Giraldez, M. (2022). *GreenComp. The European sustainability competence framework* (Y. Punie and M. Bacigalupo, Eds.). Publications Office of the European Union. <https://doi.org/10.2760/13286>

³⁸ Steffen, W., Richardson, K., Rockström, J., Cornell, S. E., Fetzer, I., Bennett, E. M., Biggs, R., Carpenter, S. R., de Vries, W., de Wit, C. A., Folke, C., Gerten, D., Heinke, J., Mace, G. M., Persson, L. M., Ramanathan, V., Reyers, B., & Sörlin, S. (2015). Planetary Boundaries: Guiding human development on a changing planet. *Science*, 347(6223). <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1259855>

system of a project. The highest ambition is to regenerate and reconnect to nature (see additionally the entry for *regenerative design*).

Transdisciplinary approaches aim for higher integration of formal and informal knowledge and go beyond technical disciplines while addressing in particular social, artistic and design expertise. They should ground scientific expertise in society by drawing on the knowledge of non-academics, the public and public administrations. This contributes to the construction of knowledge and solution of social problems that go beyond disciplinary boundaries and provide a systemic, global and integrated perspective.³⁹ Within the scientific field, the social sciences and humanities (SSH) will play an important role in the R&I component of the NEB Facility to emphasise the holistic nature of the initiative.

Vernacular knowledge encompasses local, community-based understandings that often operate outside formal scientific or academic frameworks. It is deeply rooted in cultural, historical, and environmental contexts and is transmitted through generations multiple communication strategies such as oral traditions and daily practices. Vernacular knowledge is shared and shaped by communities⁴⁰ and can apply to various domains such as architecture.

³⁹ Darbellay, F. (2015). Rethinking inter- and transdisciplinarity: Undisciplined knowledge and the emergence of a new thought style. *Futures*, 65, 163-174. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.futures.2014.10.009>

⁴⁰ Ülo Valk and Marion Bowman, *Vernacular knowledge. Contesting Authority, Expressing Beliefs*, Equinox, 2022.

Calls

Call - Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01

Overview of this call⁴¹

Proposals are invited against the following Destinations and topic(s):

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million) ⁴²	Indicative number of projects expected to be funded
		2026		
Opening: 05 May 2026 Deadline(s): 10 Nov 2026				
Destination - Connecting the green transformation, social inclusion and local democracy				
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-01: Addressing homelessness through housing-led approaches aligned with the New European Bauhaus	IA	10.50 ⁴³	Around 3.50	3
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-02: Creative experimentation with architectural-, spatial planning- and design-based approaches for the green transition in neighbourhoods	IA	10.50 ⁴⁴	Around 3.50	3
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-03: Redefining aesthetics in the built environment through sustainability and affordability	RIA	7.00 ⁴⁵	Around 3.50	2

⁴¹ The Director-General responsible for the call may decide to open the call up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date(s) of opening.
The Director-General responsible may delay the deadline(s) by up to two months.
All deadlines are at 17.00.00 Brussels local time.
The budget amounts are subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2026 and 2027

⁴² Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

⁴³ Of which EUR 10.50 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.

⁴⁴ Of which EUR 10.50 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.

⁴⁵ Of which EUR 7.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.

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HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-04: Connecting the built environment with inhabitants' senses and experiences	RIA	10.50 ⁴⁶	Around 3.50	3
Destination - Circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment				
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-01: Sustainable, inclusive and beautiful solutions for thermal comfort in buildings inspired by low-tech and vernacular knowledge	IA	10.50 ⁴⁷	Around 3.50	3
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-02: Predictive maintenance for existing building stock	RIA	10.00 ⁴⁸	Around 5.00	2
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-03: Sustainable and creative solutions for urban air space use	IA	15.00 ⁴⁹	Around 5.00	3
Destination - Innovative funding and new business models for the transformation of neighbourhoods				
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-01: Structurally addressing homelessness through integrated social infrastructure in neighbourhoods	IA	15.00 ⁵⁰	Around 5.00	3
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-02: Addressing capital market failures towards increased investment in New European Bauhaus projects in neighbourhoods	RIA	7.00 ⁵¹	Around 3.50	2
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-03: New approaches for turning vacant, obsolete and underutilised sites, buildings, and infrastructures into thriving community spaces	RIA	9.00 ⁵²	Around 4.50	2
Overall indicative budget		105.00		

General conditions relating to this call

<i>Admissibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General
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⁴⁶ Of which EUR 10.50 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁴⁷ Of which EUR 10.50 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁴⁸ Of which EUR 10.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁴⁹ Of which EUR 15.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁵⁰ Of which EUR 15.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁵¹ Of which EUR 7.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁵² Of which EUR 9.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.

	Annex A.
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex B.
<i>Financial and operational capacity and exclusion</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex C.
<i>Award criteria</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex D.
<i>Documents</i>	The documents are described in General Annex E.
<i>Procedure</i>	The procedure is described in General Annex F.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G.

Call - Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01

Overview of this call⁵³

Proposals are invited against the following Destinations and topic(s):

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million) ⁵⁴	Indicative number of projects expected to be funded
		2027		
Opening: 05 May 2027 Deadline(s): 10 Nov 2027				
Destination - Connecting the green transformation, social inclusion and local democracy				

⁵³ The Director-General responsible for the call may decide to open the call up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date(s) of opening.
The Director-General responsible may delay the deadline(s) by up to two months.
All deadlines are at 17.00.00 Brussels local time.

The budget amounts are subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2026 and 2027

⁵⁴ Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

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HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-01: The transformative potential of inclusive governance in the green transition of neighbourhoods	RIA	11.55 ⁵⁵	Around 5.775	2
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-02: Intergenerationally inclusive neighbourhoods aligned with the New European Bauhaus	IA	10.50 ⁵⁶	Around 3.50	3
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-03: Understanding social phenomena in neighbourhoods through novel combinations of knowledge	RIA	14.00 ⁵⁷	Around 3.50	4
Destination - Circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment				
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-01: Combining conventional and innovative construction materials, products and techniques for a sustainable and beautiful built environment	RIA	15.00 ⁵⁸	Around 5.00	3
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-02: Sustainable and healthy construction and renovation sites	RIA	10.00 ⁵⁹	Around 5.00	2
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-03: Revitalizing railway and motorway corridors for beautiful, inclusive, and sustainable neighbourhoods	IA	9.00 ⁶⁰	Around 4.50	2
Destination - Innovative funding and new business models for the transformation of neighbourhoods				
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-01: Mass customisation of offsite manufactured modular construction components to transform the existing built environment	IA	10.00 ⁶¹	Around 5.00	2
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-02: Innovative models for collective community	RIA	10.50 ⁶²	Around	3

⁵⁵ Of which EUR 11.55 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁵⁶ Of which EUR 10.50 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁵⁷ Of which EUR 14.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁵⁸ Of which EUR 15.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁵⁹ Of which EUR 10.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁶⁰ Of which EUR 9.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁶¹ Of which EUR 10.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
⁶² Of which EUR 10.50 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.

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investment and ownership			3.50	
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-03: Anticipating neighbourhoods of the future in line with the New European Bauhaus	RIA	7.00 ⁶³	Around 3.50	2
Overall indicative budget		97.55		

General conditions relating to this call

<i>Admissibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex A.
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex B.
<i>Financial and operational capacity and exclusion</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex C.
<i>Award criteria</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex D.
<i>Documents</i>	The documents are described in General Annex E.
<i>Procedure</i>	The procedure is described in General Annex F.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G.

Call - Joint Call between the New European Bauhaus Facility and the Soil Deal for Europe Mission

HORIZON-NEB-2027-02

Overview of this call⁶⁴

Proposals are invited against the following Destinations and topic(s):

Topics	Type of	Budgets (EUR)	Expected EU	Indicative number
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⁶³ Of which EUR 7.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.

⁶⁴ The Director-General responsible for the call may decide to open the call up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date(s) of opening.

The Director-General responsible may delay the deadline(s) by up to two months.

All deadlines are at 17.00.00 Brussels local time.

The budget amounts are subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2026 and 2027

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	Action	million) 2027	contribution per project (EUR million) ⁶⁵	of projects expected to be funded
Opening: 05 May 2027 Deadline(s): 10 Nov 2027				
Joint topics				
HORIZON-NEB-2027-02-NEB-SOIL-01: Reducing soil sealing through sustainable urban design in the New European Bauhaus	IA	15.00 ⁶⁶	Around 7.50	2
Overall indicative budget		15.00		

General conditions relating to this call	
<i>Admissibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex A.
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	The conditions are described in General Annex B.
<i>Financial and operational capacity and exclusion</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex C.
<i>Award criteria</i>	The criteria are described in General Annex D.
<i>Documents</i>	The documents are described in General Annex E.
<i>Procedure</i>	The procedure is described in General Annex F.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G.

⁶⁵ Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

⁶⁶ Of which EUR 5.00 million from the 'Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment' budget and EUR 10.00 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.

Destinations

Destination - Connecting the green transformation, social inclusion and local democracy

This Destination will address three of the Commission political guidelines 2024-2029, namely:

- Supporting people, strengthening our societies and our social model and
- Protecting our democracy, upholding our values
- A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness

At a moment where less than half of Europeans believe that society is fair and equal⁶⁷, this Destination will take inhabitants, social inclusion and local democracy as key pillars. It will seek to reduce inequalities and strengthen social cohesion, in line with the Strategies for a Union of equality and the European Pillar of Social Rights, as well as aim to contribute to local democracy and sense of belonging in communities, the overall increase in their quality of life, and benefit both a competitive economy as well as an inclusive, climate-neutral and circular society. It will look into innovative participatory approaches and governance models to actively engage inhabitants in decision-making processes for the revitalisation of their neighbourhoods. It will also explore how to increase sense of belonging and engagement between people of different ages, backgrounds, genders, and physical and psychological functional variations in order to reunite society, increase ownership of the green transition on the ground, and ensure a more inclusive built environment.

Moreover, this Destination will also foster a better understanding of the experiential dimensions of the built environment as well as the role of the cultural and creative sector, cultural heritage, cultural and linguistic diversity, and the inclusion of indigenous and marginalised forms of knowledge in enhancing transformation processes for the green transition.

As the green transition will be at the heart of the NEB Facility, this Destination will contribute to the Clean Industrial Deal, the European Green Deal and the Climate Pact as well as to the key policy spending target for climate action. This Destination will also contribute to the delivery of the New European Agenda for Culture, Davos Declaration 2018, and the European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage.

Finally, by exploring how digital and emerging technologies can play a role in transforming neighbourhoods into inclusive and sustainable places, this Destination will contribute to the key policy spending target for digital.

This Destination aims to:

⁶⁷ Eurobarometer – 2022 ([Fairness, Inequality and Inter-Generational Mobility - February 2023 - - Eurobarometer survey](#))

- Better understand the impacts of the built environment on the intangible aspects of neighbourhoods (e.g. how the built environment affects the dynamics of local communities, including inhabitants' experiences, environmental stressors, etc.) for inclusive sustainable neighbourhood development.
- Develop innovative design, planning, and management strategies for the built environment that prioritise adaptability, accessibility and inclusion -especially of socially vulnerable groups- while enhancing health, well-being and community cohesion.
- Enhance the green transition, including renewable energy supply and efficiency aspects, through creative, transdisciplinary approaches and inclusive innovation, leveraging arts, culture, cultural heritage, history, design, architecture, digital and emerging technologies, social innovation and vernacular knowledge.
- Design and test governance models that enhance transparency, multi-level engagement, and community resilience, supporting adaptive and inclusive decision-making for long-term social, environmental and economic sustainability at the neighbourhood level.
- Explore mechanisms to foster ownership, acceptability and democratic participation of local actors in the green transition at the neighbourhood scale, using evidence-based approaches to inform tailored policy-making and public service design for neighbourhoods.

Proposals for topics under this destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to connecting the green transformation, social inclusion and local democracy, and more specifically to one or several of the following impacts:

- Stakeholders involved in the green transition in neighbourhoods adopt a holistic approach which takes into consideration the complex interplay between local and cultural specificities; the social, cultural, economic and environmental dimensions of the built environment; climate; health; and democratic, participatory and deliberative practices and governance models in neighbourhoods.
- Inclusive, healthy, and active communities with sustainable ways of living and consumption create a sense of belonging and ownership of change that support the green transition in neighbourhoods.
- History, arts, culture, cultural heritage, cultural and creative industries, cultural and linguistic diversity, cultural participation, placemaking, etc., as well as, where relevant, digital and emerging technologies, are embedded in innovation, transformation, social inclusion and civic engagement processes for the green transition, contributing as well to address vulnerability and social equity concerns and foster a sense of belonging in communities.

This Destination considers neighbourhoods in urban, peri-urban and rural environments.

When possible and relevant, actions are strongly recommended to collaborate with and build on the work of relevant research, including national or European funded research, and to avoid duplication.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-01: Addressing homelessness through housing-led approaches aligned with the New European Bauhaus

Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 3.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 10.50 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply: Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁶⁸ .

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Demonstrated housing-led approaches aligned with the NEB are made available to stakeholders involved in tackling homelessness.
- Robust evidence on NEB-aligned housing-led approaches to tackle homelessness (including ‘hidden homelessness’) informs the development and/or update of policies and services for prevention and early intervention in the context of the green transition in neighbourhoods.

Scope: Social and affordable housing is being advanced in the EU, including through the [Affordable Housing Initiative](#) as a flagship of the NEB. Despite efforts, current policies for the green transition are failing to adequately address the housing crisis. Homelessness remains

⁶⁸ This [decision](#) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

a structural challenge across Europe, with negative impacts on both individuals experiencing it (e.g. physical and mental health, social and economic conditions) and neighbourhood communities (e.g. pressure on public services, erosion of social fabric, etc.). This requires an urgent and integrated response, which provides not only a pathway out of homelessness but also examines and addresses the root causes leading to it.

Housing-led approaches cover diverse policy responses to homelessness that provide immediate and permanent access to housing, targeted prevention, and needs-based, person-centred support services across several areas of the individual's life while giving homeless populations a high degree of choice and control.

Research and innovation gaps in tackling homelessness range from data collection (i.e. the variety of approaches to defining, measuring and monitoring homelessness) to failing to address the needs of specific homeless groups (data fragmentation results into the under- or over-representation of various groups⁶⁹), to integrating housing-led approaches with resilience strategies for homeless populations in a climate-changing world.

Placing human dignity and community resilience at the centre of spatial transformation, this topic focuses on applying the NEB values and principles to develop and/or update housing-led approaches, from upstream measures for prevention to access to green, low-carbon, climate-resilient, energy and socially inclusive housing that ensures quality of experience for homeless populations across neighbourhoods in urban, peri-urban and rural areas.

Proposals are expected to address all the following points:

1. Demonstrate at least 3 housing-led approaches in at least 3 neighbourhoods located in at least 3 Member States or Associated Countries that:

- Protect at-risk groups (such as people with low income, levels of education and/or social resources and supports, with rental stress, vulnerable to discrimination, experiencing domestic abuse, needing support to access or maintain a living situation, etc.).
- Ensure the long-term sustainability of the housing-led approaches.
- Provide permanent supportive housing that integrates a community dimension, renewable energy solutions, climate resilience, and evidence- plus nature-based solutions for homeless populations.
- Are tailored to the specific needs of and co-created with homeless populations (including conventional and single-parent families with minor children), paying special attention to those experiencing 'hidden homelessness' such as women, young people, LGBTQIA+, ethnic minorities, migrants and refugees. Proposals are expected to take into account the intersectionalities of homelessness.
- Present the highest potential for replication and adaptability to local specificities.

⁶⁹ [JRC Publications Repository - The different faces of homelessness: exploring specific data and policy needs](#)

2. Monitor, analyse and document the impact of the demonstrated approaches on homelessness through quantitative and qualitative data comparing to other conventional approaches, building upon the European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion⁷⁰ and taking into account gender, inequalities and intersectionalities. Proposals are expected to also analyse and document the impact on aspects relevant to all three core values of the New European Bauhaus (e.g. reduction of individuals experiencing homelessness; improvement of their quality of life, health and well-being; enhanced social cohesion; increased community resilience; integration in the community and reduction of social stigma and discrimination; resources consumption, GHG emissions, materials use...).

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, social actors and homelessness populations from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, NGOs, cultural and creative actors, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to envisage coordination among the successful proposals from this topic as well as those from the topic 'HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-01: Structurally addressing homelessness through integrated infrastructure in neighbourhoods' to avoid duplication and to exploit complementarities as well as opportunities for increased impact.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-02: Creative experimentation with architectural-, spatial planning- and design-based approaches for the green transition in neighbourhoods

Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 3.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 10.50 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions

⁷⁰ [ETHOS Typology on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion](#)

<i>set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	apply: Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁷¹ .
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Demonstrated tools and approaches aligned with NEB are available to actively engage inhabitants and other relevant actors in the green transition in neighbourhoods.
- Decision-makers in neighbourhoods progressively include demonstrated architectural, spatial planning- and design-based approaches in their green transition strategies.
- Enhanced collaboration among cultural and creative professionals, researchers, local neighbourhood actors, competent authorities and other relevant actors to support the green transition of neighbourhoods.

Scope: Ensuring the fairness of the green transition requires overcoming the potential conflict between the need to accelerate change to deliver on targets and the time needed for participatory, inclusive, deliberative and transformative processes. In this context, methodologies from the architecture, spatial planning and design sectors have the potential to speed up transformation processes in neighbourhoods while taking into account local and cultural specificities (including secure integration of legacy systems), increasing ownership of change, and fostering individual and collective action.

This topic focuses on developing strategies to accelerate the green transition in neighbourhoods through creative experimentation with architectural, spatial-planning and design-based approaches in alignment with NEB values and principles.

Proposals are expected to:

1. Develop at least 3 strategies that creatively use or adapt architectural-, spatial planning- and design-based approaches (approaches from other cultural and creative fields are not excluded) to accelerate green transition processes in neighbourhoods through co-created place-based transformation aligned with NEB. These strategies are expected to:
 - o Be demonstrated in at least 3 neighbourhoods from urban, peri-urban and rural areas located in at least 3 Member States or Associated Countries.

⁷¹ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

- o Include core principles of safety and security-by-design, climate-resilience and biodiversity-friendly approaches.
 - o Support different forms of innovation.
 - o Enhance social cohesion and participation, community resilience, sense of security, ownership, and belonging, and civic engagement.
 - o Be adaptable to local and cultural specificities.
 - o Where relevant, build upon the potential of cultural and creative ecosystems, the educational (academic) sector as well as of digital and emerging technologies and infrastructures to support such approaches. Concerning the later, proposals should explicitly ensure that the digital technologies used respect ethical considerations and fundamental principles of data protection, accessibility, and inclusivity across all phases, ensuring transparency and equal access for all community members.
2. Propose tools and recommendations to replicate or adapt and scale up the deployment of such strategies in different local contexts. This includes, where relevant, identifying skills needs and gaps.
 3. Assess the effectiveness of the proposed strategies, and the efficiency of the proposed tools and recommendations to deliver social and cultural impact in the context of the green transition.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, artists and cultural and creative sectors, NGOs, actors from the private sector, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-03: Redefining aesthetics in the built environment through sustainability and affordability

Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 3.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a

<i>project</i>	proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 7.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁷².</p>

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- New concepts of aesthetics in the built environment through sustainability and affordability increase the understanding, appreciation, inclusiveness and sense of ownership of changes connected to the green transition of neighbourhoods.
- Robust evidence on redefining aesthetics in the built environment through sustainability and affordability informs green transition policies, decision-making, and procurement in neighbourhoods.

Scope: Embedding circularity in our daily lives will require redefining our understanding of aesthetics in the built environment and creating new forms of values that integrate principles of circularity, inclusivity, and affordability. This involves for instance using sustainable materials such as waste, recycled, up-cycled, and bio-fabricated products while considering their entire lifecycle and minimising material usage. The appreciation of these new forms of value and aesthetics needs to go hand in hand with design processes for circularity. However, people and organisations sometimes lack incentives to do so. The green transition in neighbourhoods will largely depend on how new forms of value are created, expressed, understood and recognised by redefining aesthetics in the built environment through sustainability and affordability.

Transdisciplinary research integrating scientific, artistic and design perspectives is needed to co-create new concepts of aesthetics in the built environment through sustainability and affordability. Actively engaging inhabitants and communities as well as taking into account the cultural, artistic, historical, natural and symbolic dimensions of places (e.g. local identity and placemaking, collective memory and experiences, native ecosystems, etc.) will also be key.

⁷² This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

This topic focuses on redefining aesthetics in the built environment through sustainability and affordability and applying the resulting insights to deliver tangible outcomes for the green transition in neighbourhoods.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

1. Co-create and generate at least 2 new concepts of aesthetics in the built environment through sustainability and affordability that:
 - o Use the transformative potential of imagination
 - o Are piloted in at least 3 neighbourhoods in urban, peri-urban and rural areas located in at least 3 Member States or Associated Countries.
 - o Are applied to indoor and outdoor spaces.
 - o Are validated through their application in sustainable (re-)use of the existing built environment, considering their potential to become cultural heritage in the future.
2. Explore the factors that may influence the understanding and appreciation of aesthetics in the built environment inspired by circularity and affordability (e.g. perceptions, beliefs, cultural values, power relations, historical traditions, relation with the various perimeters of belonging, local, historical and cultural specificities, indigenous knowledge, creative practices, community bonds, etc.) to identify sources of resistance to these aesthetic paradigms and develop practical strategies to address and overcome such resistance.
3. Propose practical and user-friendly tools and implementation plans to adapt or take up the generated concepts in the green transition of neighbourhoods (e.g. procurement, policymaking, etc.).

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, NGOs, artists, cultural and creative operators, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-04: Connecting the built environment with inhabitants' senses and experiences

Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 3.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 10.50 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁷³.</p>

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Evidence and validated approaches/tools/solutions on the experiential dimensions of the built and urban natural environment in neighbourhoods inform policies for and transformation processes in the context of the green transition and climate change.
- Evidence and recommendations on the experiential dimensions of the built and urban natural environment are used by neighbourhood decision-makers to support the mental health and sense of community, security, and belonging in neighbourhoods, as well as enhance the social acceptability of circularity changes for the green transition.

Scope: Neighbourhoods are human-social constructs and environments. They are shaped by complex inter-connections and interdependencies of human and non-human actors in the built environment. An increasing body of research on the experiential dimensions of the built environment is allowing to better understand how inhabitants react to and identify with their built and urban natural environment as well as how this relates to other aspects of human life such as social interactions, sense of security, or mental health.

This topic will investigate the different experiential dimensions of the built and urban natural environment of neighbourhoods on inhabitants' mental health and well-being and how these can inform urban and community planning to contribute to sustainability goals (such as the green transition and climate resilience of neighbourhoods) as well as deliver social and cultural impacts (such as sense of community, security and belonging, cultural identity).

⁷³ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under 'Simplified costs decisions' or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

1. Conduct a comprehensive study of diverse built environments in at least 3 EU Member States or Associated Countries that:
 - o Provide a deeper understanding of how inhabitants perceive and experience their built and urban natural environment through sensorial, emotional, cultural, natural, symbolic and artistic dimensions, while attempting to establish meaningful correlations and causal links, where possible.
 - o Gather information if -and to what extent- experiences vary in neighbourhoods with different characteristics, for example, in terms of geography (e.g. urban, peri-urban, rural, coastal, insular areas), population density, cultural heritage, social mixing, property census, economy, housing ownership patterns, proximity to and quality of green areas, social infrastructure, services, petty crime rates and sense of security, visibility or pervasiveness and social acceptance of surveillance/ policing capabilities, nature and artistic integration in the neighbourhood fabric, etc.
2. Propose standardised and reliable methodologies for measuring these subjective experiences, and clearly define and validate the tools and approaches for measuring these dimensions ensuring consistency and comparability across different sites and populations.
3. Propose and validate at least 3 approaches, tools and/or solutions to integrate experiential dimensions into the design, planning, construction/ renovation, and management of the built and urban natural environment to improve the quality of experience of inhabitants and inform placemaking. This includes:
 - o Incorporating aesthetics and building upon cultural and creative actors.
 - o Ensuring the inclusion of the experiences of vulnerable and marginalised groups (such as women, children, youth, older adults, people with disabilities, underrepresented, vulnerable and marginalised groups, LGTBIQA+) and people with mental health conditions (e.g. depression, neurodiversity, etc.), including variations across the year.
 - o Taking into account the intangible features of the built environment, such as the quality of services, facilities and interactions, and the secure integration of legacy systems.
 - o Replicability and transferability to different urban/regional contexts.
4. Provide recommendations for public administrations and other relevant stakeholders to use the evidence for the green transition of neighbourhoods, notably to support inhabitants' health and well-being, quality of experience, sense of community and belonging, community resilience, also considering Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans, Noise Action Plans, Air Quality Roadmaps and Plans.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, NGOs, artists, nature conservationists, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities⁷⁴].

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-01: The transformative potential of inclusive governance in the green transition of neighbourhoods

Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5.775 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 11.55 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply: Beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties. The support to third parties can only be provided in the form of grants. The maximum amount to be granted to each third party is EUR 150 000 to allow for the experimental work on public participation in governance of transition processes.

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Policy makers and other actors involved in the green transition of neighbourhoods have access to data-driven and evidence-based user-friendly tools, guidance and policy recommendations to support public participation in green transition processes at neighbourhood level.

- Data and evidence on inclusive governance inform the update or development of administrative practices and legislative and regulatory frameworks at different institutional levels.
- Data-driven and evidence-based inclusive governance aligned with NEB helps neighbourhood actors (e.g. inhabitants, real estate developers, cultural institutions, social economy actors, businesses, etc.) to balance interests, address power and knowledge asymmetries, and adopt more-than-human approaches.

Scope: Transformation processes often involve a shift in power dynamics. Therefore, the green transition presents an opportunity to deliver social and cultural impact at neighbourhood level while addressing climate, biodiversity, and pollution challenges. For instance, inclusive governance may contribute to enhancing representation, legitimacy, transparency and accountability, but also to balancing interests, flattening knowledge hierarchies, fostering equity, and building a more balanced human-nature relationship.

More research is needed to explore the social, environmental and cultural impacts of inclusive governance, as well as to better understand how governance in the design phase of spaces influences the life and governance in those spaces during their use phase.

This topic will investigate public participation in the governance of neighbourhoods' transition processes towards a fair and equitable green transition that is aligned with NEB values and principles and positively contributes to the social, cultural, artistic, natural and symbolic dimensions of neighbourhoods.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

1. Carry out experimental work on inclusive governance with at least 20 neighbourhoods in urban, peri-urban and rural areas located in at least 5 Member States or Associated Countries, building upon historical traditions, culture and creative practices as well as indigenous and marginalised forms of knowledge. Proposals should aim that the selection comprises neighbourhoods with and without experience in public participation in governance of transition processes.
2. Conduct scientific and analytical work, including accompanying scientific activities, to support and analyse experimental work on inclusive governance and public participation in the governance of transition processes in Europe and beyond. This includes data collection and assessment of the inclusive governance effectiveness and efficiency of its practices being experimented concerning all of the following:
 - o Giving nature a voice and supporting more-than-human approaches.
 - o Balancing interests, power and knowledge asymmetries among the different actors.
 - o Inclusiveness, engagement, resilience, satisfaction and sense of ownership and belonging of actors.
 - o The integration and ethical use of digital technologies, including civic tech, open data platforms, and other participatory digital tools, to enhance inclusivity,

transparency, and efficiency of governance. Proposals should explore how these technologies can foster meaningful participation of inhabitants, especially for vulnerable and marginalised groups, and ensure equitable access and use for all neighbourhood actors.

3. Based on the evidence collected, produce user-friendly tools, guidance, and policy recommendations, addressing all of the following:
 - o Understanding the connections between local and national governance and overcoming barriers for implementation and long-term sustainability.
 - o Influence of the governance mechanisms used during the design phase of spaces on the life and governance of those spaces during their use phase.
 - o Adaptive mechanisms for administrative practices, legislative and regulatory frameworks to local, natural and cultural specificities and, where possible, to crisis (e.g. natural hazards).

To achieve this, project consortia may provide financial support to public administrations, SMEs, education or research institutions, and other relevant actors (such as not-for profit entities) in the form of Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP). Given the type of action and its level of ambition, the amount to be granted to each third party may be a maximum of EUR 150 000 to allow for the experimental work on public participation in governance of transition processes.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, NGOs, property owners, artists, cultural operators, natural conservationists, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-02: Intergenerationally inclusive neighbourhoods aligned with the New European Bauhaus

Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability

Specific conditions

Expected EU contribution per

The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 3.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately.

<i>project</i>	Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 10.50 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply: Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁷⁴ .

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Demonstrated models of intergenerationally inclusive neighbourhoods and communities that align with NEB and address the needs of the different age groups are progressively implemented by public authorities and other stakeholders involved in the green transition of neighbourhoods.
- User-friendly tools aligned with NEB are used to identify the extent to which the built environment supports intergenerationally inclusive neighbourhoods and communities and, where relevant, to identify the measures needed to enhance it.

Scope: Research shows that countries with lower age-related inequalities have higher levels of life satisfaction overall⁷⁵, and that governments that balance the needs and interests of the present and future generations have higher levels of trust⁷⁶.

There is an increasing body of research on concepts such as ‘independent living’, age-friendly housing’ and ‘smart multigenerational neighbourhoods’ and their benefits. Although different solutions have been developed over the years, the focus of investments remains on age-segregated housing and communities for older adults (such as large nursing homes and large assisted living facilities).

This topic will focus on the large-scale demonstration of intergenerational neighbourhood and community models to simultaneously tackle various challenges (including, but not limited to the demographic transition, climate change, pollution, biodiversity loss, loss of cultural heritage, feelings of insecurity) while better addressing the needs of the different age groups.

⁷⁴ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

⁷⁵ 2020, OECD, How is Life? 2020. Measuring Well-being ([Full Report | OECD](#)).

⁷⁶ OECD Survey on Drivers of Trust in Public Institutions – 2024 Results Building Trust in a Complex Policy Environment ([Overview of the 2023 OECD Trust Survey Methodology | OECD](#))

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

1. Develop user-friendly tools to measure and monitor the extent to which the built environment supports intergenerationally inclusive neighbourhoods and communities. This includes collecting and/or generating relevant evidence on the following:
 - o Challenges and perceptions of the different generations when it comes to engaging and living in communities that are intergenerationally inclusive, taking into consideration variations across different local contexts.
 - o Influence/impact of intergenerational inclusion on the relationships between different generations within a community, on social bonds, social cohesion, sense of belonging, sense of security (real or perceived), transfer of cultural heritage and the knowledge embedded therein, quality of life, satisfaction, civic participation, community resilience and cultural identity.
 - o Role of culture, cultural institutions, and informal services, (including social and health care and education), in fostering intergenerational inclusion in communities. Skills needed for actors and communities to implement intergenerationally inclusive neighbourhoods.
2. Demonstrate at least 2 intergenerational design approaches in urban, peri-urban and rural neighbourhoods located in at least three Member States or Associated Countries that enhance the quality of life of the different age groups, from children to older adults, in a balanced way. The approaches are expected to:
 - o Assess differences across neighbourhoods and implement flexible, context-sensitive approaches that adapt to local cultural characteristics and variations in needs and usage over the different periods of the year.
 - o Use inclusive (design) methodologies to consider diverse needs and create meaningful experiences for all users. This may involve fostering aspects such as ageing in place, shared public life, a sense of belonging, sense of security, neighbourhood-based care practices, and intergenerational knowledge sharing and interaction.
 - o Address the redesign of housing, urban functions, and services, as well as indoor and outdoor spaces.
 - o Identify and address barriers and challenges of creating intergenerationally inclusive neighbourhoods and communities, also taking into account legal, administrative, technical and technological solutions as well as social, economic and cultural trends.
 - o Enhance the clean energy transition, sustainable mobility, climate-resilience, biodiversity preservation, social cohesion, cultural diversity and cultural heritage of the local community.

3. Analyse, measure and document the impact of the demonstrated approaches in a quantifiable and qualitative way. Based on the evidence, propose recommendations for their adaptation, uptake, and, where relevant, standardisation of the proposed approaches.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors and different age groups from the targeted neighbourhoods, property owners, artists and cultural operators, nature conservationists, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to envisage coordination among the successful proposals from this topic as well as those from the topics 'HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-03: Anticipating neighbourhoods of the future in line with the New European Bauhaus' and 'HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-10: Intergenerational fairness in the context of demographic change in the EU' to exploit complementarities as well as opportunities for increased impact.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-03: Understanding social phenomena in neighbourhoods through novel combinations of knowledge

Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 3.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 14.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply: Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for

	Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁷⁷ .
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Experience with and insights from novel transdisciplinary approaches aligned with NEB support decision-making, policymaking, public service design and the development of solutions to address NEB-relevant social phenomena and/or challenges and ensure a just and equitable green transition for all in neighbourhoods.
- More efficient transdisciplinary collaboration among the scientific community and non-scientific actors facilitates flows of knowledge and information.

Scope: The complexity of the challenges linked to the green transition calls for holistic approaches. Silos persist despite efforts towards more transdisciplinary approaches and integration across disciplines. The potential of combining different forms of knowledge (such as scientific, indigenous and marginalised forms knowledge) with different types of research (e.g. action research) remains underexplored.

Under this topic, proposals are welcome to address NEB-relevant social phenomena and/or challenges to support a just and equitable green transition for all in neighbourhoods, including, if appropriate, new, upcoming or unforeseen ones through the integration of different –often separate- scientific representations, types of research and forms knowledge.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

1. Develop a novel combination of knowledge, integrating scientific representations, types of research and forms of knowledge that:
 - o Facilitates flows of knowledge and information between scientific and non-scientific actors
 - o Address NEB-relevant social phenomena and/or challenges in neighbourhoods to support a just and equitable green transition for all in neighbourhoods, including cross-cutting civil security considerations, and taking into account the territorial levels of transition.
2. Explain how they will plan and/or carry out testing or validation of developed approaches.
3. Conduct testing or validation of the developed approaches in at least 3 neighbourhoods in urban, peri-urban and rural areas located in at least 3 Member States or Associated Countries

⁷⁷ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

4. Delineate the plans to develop possible future uptake and upscaling at national and EU level for possible next steps after the project.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, artists, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, NGOs, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Coordination among the successful proposals from this topic should be envisaged in order to avoid duplication and to exploit complementarities as well as opportunities for increased impact.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

Destination - Circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment

Destination 2 aims to make neighbourhoods more sustainable, circular and regenerative but also inclusive, accessible and beautiful, turning them into resilient places where nature and biodiversity can thrive, contributing to a better health and wellbeing for all, as well as clean air, soils, water and energy. It will do so by making the built environment including common spaces and cultural heritage infrastructures and their composing construction materials and products more sustainable and circular and by rethinking their design, construction, use, maintenance and disassembly. Specific attention will be paid to the re-use of existing infrastructure. It will also explore the potential of digital tools and technologies to achieve these objectives as well as the potential of the cultural and creative sectors. The expected solutions should be user-centred and context-specific, and will consider cultural heritage, traditional and indigenous and vernacular knowledge while reflecting local cultural identity and meeting people's needs.

Destination 2 will thus address three of the Commission political guidelines 2024-2029, namely:

1. A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness
2. Supporting people, strengthening our societies and our social model
3. Sustaining our quality of life: Food security, water and nature

By looking into the entire life cycles of buildings, from extraction of resources, production, construction, use and end-of-life, while keeping re-usable products and materials in multiple cycles as long as possible, Destination 2 will contribute to the achievement of the Clean Industrial Deal, the EU Green Deal, the Circular Economy Action Plan, the EU Bioeconomy Strategy and the forthcoming Circular Economy Act thereby supporting Europe's leading position in the green transition and sustainable prosperity. Moreover, by exploring how the existing built environment can be used more efficiently, it will contribute to the Renovation Wave and the European Affordable Housing Plan.

Destination 2 will explore how the built environment can contribute to restoring its environment by leveraging nature-based-solutions, biomimicry and regenerative designs. This includes clean soil, water and air and thus contributes to the Zero Pollution Action Plan, the EU Biodiversity Strategy, the Nature Restoration Regulation articles, as well as the EU Strategy on Green Infrastructure. Such innovative designs and solutions should also improve the climate adaptability and resilience of buildings, neighbourhoods, cities and regions, thus contributing to the European Adaptation Strategy.

In Work Programme 2026-2027, this Destination contributes to the following expected impacts set out in the Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027:

- 2. Living and working in a health-promoting environment
- 15. Achieving global leadership in climate-neutral, circular and digitised industrial and digital value chains

- 28. Putting biodiversity on a path to recovery, and protecting and restoring ecosystems and their services
- 31. Sustainably developing rural, urban and coastal areas

The Destination aims to deliver on these objectives by:

- Advancing the development and integration of innovative, bio-based and more circular construction materials and products in new construction and building renovations, while complying to current European standards and regulations.
- Rethinking our built environment over its entire life cycle, including the design, construction, use, renovation and disassembly phases, to reach more circular and sustainable built environment, better health and wellbeing of their occupants, better biodiversity and regenerated ecosystems.
- Leveraging digital tools and technologies, local cultural identity and heritage as well as vernacular knowledge and knowhow.
- Developing new methods or improve existing ones to assess environmental performance and associated impacts of solutions, designs and techniques for the built environment.

Proposals for topics under this destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to the development of circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment and more specifically to one or several of the following impacts:

1. Buildings – including historical ones –, their elements and materials, and common spaces in neighbourhoods are more sustainable, circular, adaptable, multi-purposed, long-lasting, and have (at least) a net-zero impact on the environment (going beyond CO₂ emissions and looking at the whole environmental impact over the entire life cycle), resulting in an overall more sustainable, and climate-neutral building stock.
2. Neighbourhoods are more beautiful, healthier³, places where human beings, natural ecosystems and biodiversity can thrive.
3. Spaces, existing buildings and resources for construction and renovation are optimally used without compromising comfort and living conditions.
4. The solutions developed are sustainable, beautiful, user-centred and place-based, connect with local cultural identity, historical knowledge and cultural heritage, answer the needs of and are accepted by people on the ground - including minorities, vulnerable and underrepresented groups.
5. The performances and long-term environmental, health, social, and economic impacts of sustainable and circular construction and renovation solutions, designs and techniques for buildings and the wider built environment are better understood.

This Destination considers neighbourhoods in urban, peri-urban or rural environments.

When possible and relevant, actions are strongly recommended to collaborate with and build on the work of relevant research, including national or European funded research, and to avoid duplication.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-01: Sustainable, inclusive and beautiful solutions for thermal comfort in buildings inspired by low-tech and vernacular knowledge

Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 3.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 10.50 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions
<i>Technology Readiness Level</i>	Activities are expected to achieve TRL 5-7 by the end of the project – see General Annex B. Activities may start at any TRL.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁷⁸.</p>

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Vulnerable communities have access to sustainable, effective, beautiful and affordable solutions that ensure thermal comfort in buildings.
- Improved thermal resilience of the built environment to extreme weather events through solutions for thermal comfort inspired by low-tech and vernacular knowledge.
- Better access to documented guidance and best practices for municipalities to support the development of cooling and heating plans under the Energy Efficiency Directive.

⁷⁸ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

- Reduction of the life-cycle energy use for achieving and maintaining thermal comfort in buildings.

Scope: Climate change and the increasing frequency of extreme weather events such as heat waves and cold snaps pose significant challenges. Among others, they can make thermal comfort inside buildings harder to achieve, thus impacting people's health and well-being, particularly for vulnerable populations such as the elderly and low-income communities. Thermal resilience of buildings is thus key. Ensuring thermal comfort inside buildings often relies on high-energy use and unsustainable solutions – such as air conditioning, which contributes to climate change through increasing environmental impacts and urban heat island effects. Therefore, it is critical to develop beautiful, sustainable and affordable alternative solutions, inspired by low-tech and vernacular knowledge to ensure indoor thermal comfort.

Projects should develop new and improve existing solutions for achieving thermal comfort, that are based on low-tech and vernacular principles while being beautiful, sustainable and affordable.

Proposals are expected to address the following:

- Study traditional, vernacular, low-tech and/or nature-based thermal management solutions for cooling and heating (e.g. building orientation, natural and mechanical ventilation, evaporative cooling, varied roof shapes or green roofs, reflective materials and coatings, phase-change materials, urban green and blue spaces etc.) that achieve thermal comfort.
- Develop and apply at least two solutions to new or existing buildings - including cultural heritage buildings – while demonstrating reduction in life cycle energy use and cost as well as the improvement in affordability compared to solutions currently on the market, accessibility to disadvantaged communities and ease of implementation in various environments (urban, peri-urban and rural).
- Ensure the scalability and replicability of the solutions through guidance and documented best practices for municipalities developing local cooling and heating plans under the Energy Efficiency Directive.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, engineers, private owners, etc.) and disciplines (such as architecture or design, arts, (civil) engineering, health, ecology, etc.).

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources to share their intermediate and final results and findings with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' , enabling projects to learn from one another, to enable learning from other projects [as well as to and to apply the Key Performance Indicators for Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-02: Predictive maintenance for existing building stock

Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 10.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Technology Readiness Level</i>	Activities are expected to achieve TRL 5 by the end of the project – see General Annex B. Activities may start at any TRL.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁷⁹.</p>

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- New tools and strategies based on life cycle assessment and/or circularity assessment, are developed for building maintenance and demonstrated on built assets, such as cultural heritage buildings under protection, to extend their service lives, reduce demolition and new construction.
- Higher and more active participation of inhabitants in the maintenance process, enhancing social resilience and contributing to more sustainable living environments.
- Higher testing and implementation of predictive maintenance strategies to existing buildings by better understanding and overcoming associated barriers

Scope: The European building stock is aging and faces new stresses and threats due to climate change. Ensuring its longevity is a key strategy for reducing material consumption, waste generation and greenhouse gas emissions, thus contributing to a more sustainable built

⁷⁹ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

environment. However, extending the lifespan and improving the climate-resilience of existing buildings presents significant challenges. Traditional building maintenance can lead to inefficiencies (e.g. reactive rather than preventive, labour and time intensive, inefficient material flows), and premature demolitions. A potential solution might be predictive maintenance, based on machine learning models trained with dynamic real-time data to predict material damages before they occur. Such solutions might enable preventive interventions for optimising operational efficiency (e.g. quicker, more targeted interventions) and resilience while extending buildings' lifespans of existing buildings.

Proposals are expected to address the following:

- Develop and validate at least one decision-support method or tool for identifying and developing maintenance strategies and extension of service lives of existing building stock – including heritage buildings – and assessing whether the maintenance intervention is worth undertaking considering factors such as the financial costs-benefit, the waste generation, or the GHG emissions of the possible maintenance intervention.
- Develop and validate at least one method or tool to integrate real-time monitoring in existing buildings. The method(s) or tool(s) should be as affordable and user-friendly as possible to ensure accessibility to high-quality, resilient, and sustainable living spaces for everyone.
- Engage inhabitants in the maintenance process through participatory approaches that enable them to take an active role in monitoring of their living spaces, thereby fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility.
- Better implementation of maintenance strategies for existing buildings, by identifying barriers that hinder the implementation of predictive maintenance on existing buildings and propose ways to overcome them.
- Assess the life cycle environmental impacts of predictive maintenance strategies applied to existing building stock (e.g. reduction of premature renovations, of new constructions, the savings in environmental flows such as energy, GHGs, materials, etc.).

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, residents, construction workers, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-03: Sustainable and creative solutions for urban air space use

Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 15.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions
<i>Technology Readiness Level</i>	Activities are expected to achieve TRL 6-8 by the end of the project – see General Annex B. Activities may start at any TRL.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁸⁰.</p>

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Higher availability of sustainable, beautiful and socially accepted solutions to make use of currently un-used or under-used air space and increase the number of housing units and/or green spaces in neighbourhoods while limiting land occupation and urban sprawl.
- The use and repurposing of air space for housing units and/or for green spaces decreases the pressure on land for new buildings while greening neighbourhoods and providing affordable housing.

Scope: The global population is increasing, with more people living in urban areas, leading to increased demand for housing. At the same time, we are facing climate and biodiversity crises. A smart and efficient use of space is thus crucial to limit urban sprawl. In this context, the under-used and un-used air space above our streets and buildings is getting more and more attention. Vertical extensions and other alternative structures making use of these spaces

⁸⁰ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

might be suitable solution to high-quality, sustainable and affordable housing and green spaces while limiting land use. If not carefully planned and integrated, these solutions might face challenges such as social acceptance, regulatory barriers and risks of excessive densification.

Under this topic, proposals are expected to:

- Develop and demonstrate innovative solutions that make use of the un-used or under-used air space above neighbourhoods located in urban, peri-urban or rural environments in a creative, beautiful and sustainable manner to provide better quality and affordability of housing and / or green spaces. Urban and vertical farming, community gardens and multifunctional uses can also be considered.
- Involve local communities and cultural and creative industries in the co-creation of the solutions developed, ensuring that they are inclusive and socially accepted.
- Measure the life cycle environmental, social and economic impacts of the proposed solutions with appropriate methods, including but not limited to life cycle assessment and life cycle cost analysis. Particular attention should be paid to densification, and how to balance densification with the need to maintain or enhance social cohesion, ensuring that vertical expansion can contribute positively to the urban social fabric.
- Identify and address the legal, regulatory, technical and societal barriers to the implementation of the proposed solutions and study their feasibility in terms of market uptake by the building sector.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, higher education institutions, nature conservationists, real estate companies, etc.) and disciplines. Proposals are expected to, to the extent possible, contribute to the urban greening goals set out in the Nature Restoration Regulation.

This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-01: Combining conventional and innovative construction materials, products and techniques for a sustainable and beautiful built environment

Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 15.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Technology Readiness Level</i>	Activities are expected to achieve TRL 4-5 by the end of the project – see General Annex B. Activities may start at any TRL.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁸¹.</p>

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Hybrid building solutions with proven benefits in terms of sustainability, properties, and aesthetics are available to the construction ecosystem actors.
- Enhanced environmental sustainability with reduced environmental impact and whole-life carbon emissions of the built environment.

Scope: The search for a more sustainable built environment has led to the development of innovative constructions materials, products and techniques, such as bio-based materials or 3D-printed structural elements. These are often conceived as alternatives to conventional construction materials, products and techniques such as concrete, steel, or on-site construction, and efforts are not always made to integrate the two together. This dichotomy can slow down the systemic change needed in the construction sector. Yet, combining conventional and innovative solutions holds potential to make the construction ecosystem more sustainable, improve the built environment's performance and enhance architectural quality. Indeed, combining the strengths of different materials and products such as earth, stone, timber, steel, concrete, bio-based and composite materials, on the one hand, and merging the effectiveness of traditional craftsmanship with recent techniques and modern technology, on the other hand, can improve the structural performance, durability, resilience,

⁸¹ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under 'Simplified costs decisions' or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

or sustainability of contemporary building projects. Such integration might leverage the natural strengths and aesthetic appeal of traditional materials while enhancing them with properties through modern engineering techniques. It also offers sustainable solutions to minimise the carbon footprint of buildings and their impact on the environment.

Proposals are expected to address the following:

- Develop one innovative hybrid building solution applicable to new construction or renovation that combines innovative and conventional construction materials, products or techniques in a way that can optimise the construction or renovation process (e.g. in terms of time, cost, amount of materials and energy used), improve the properties of the built environment (e.g. air quality, insulation, cooling, etc.), makes it aesthetically pleasing and/or enhance its structural performance, resilience, durability, and environmental sustainability.
- For the solution developed:
 - o Explore the compatibility and interaction of the different types of materials or products used for their long-term performance (e.g., moisture management, adhesion, degradation, etc.).
 - o Ensure an optimal life cycle costs analysis, life cycle assessment as well as circularity assessment and solutions for buildings end-of-life stages, such as design-for-disassembly or material reuse.
 - o Ensure its compliance with safety and security requirements (e.g. fire resistance etc.) as well as with relevant regulations and standards.
 - o Assess the benefits of the proposed solution in terms of aesthetic appeal of the built environment.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, higher education institutions, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-02: Sustainable and healthy construction and renovation sites

Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and
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sustainability	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 10.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Technology Readiness Level</i>	Activities are expected to achieve TRL 4-5 by the end of the project – see General Annex B. Activities may start at any TRL.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply: Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁸² .

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Better construction and renovation processes on construction sites with decreased impacts on the natural ecosystems that surround them and the health of construction workers.

Scope: Although significant attention is often given to the biodiversity loss and environmental impacts of completed construction, or renovation projects, far less is known about the environmental and health impacts of construction and renovation sites. Yet, the activities on those sites can generate pollution, waste, noise, and other disturbances that can degrade surrounding natural ecosystems and negatively impact the health and well-being of construction workers but also of nearby residents and pedestrians. Soil compaction, dust emissions, water contamination, noise and ecosystem disruption are just a few examples of the overlooked pressures caused by poorly managed construction activities.

Construction ecosystem actors such as urban planners, architects, project developers, construction site managers are not always aware of the full extent of these negative consequences on natural ecosystems, the environment and human health. They are thus rarely

⁸² This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

taken into account. There is a pressing need to better understand how to and make construction and renovation sites more environmentally sustainable and mindful of the natural ecosystems they can impact, while also improving conditions for construction workers.

Proposals are expected to address the following:

- Develop life cycle inventories and assess impact of construction and renovation activities on site on natural ecosystems and health of construction workers
- Investigate and increase awareness levels, and develop educational materials for stakeholders, such as construction workers, construction site managers, architects, engineers, residents, ...
- Develop solutions to improve the environmental performance and sustainability of construction and renovation sites by enhancing site management practices to minimise impacts on surrounding natural ecosystems and ensuring healthy and safe working conditions for construction workers. The solutions will include a “more-than-human” perspective fostering a deeper connection between construction ecosystems actors and activities and natural ecosystems.,
- Develop strategies for improving processes on construction and renovation sites, to have measurable reduction of environmental impact and risks to workers’ health and well-being.
- Develop a draft « European Charta for sound environmental and working environment management of renovation and construction sites” that can be endorsed by progressive companies and entities.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, higher education institutions, real estate companies, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-03: Revitalizing railway and motorway corridors for beautiful, inclusive, and sustainable neighbourhoods

Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 4.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 9.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions
<i>Technology Readiness Level</i>	Activities are expected to achieve TRL 6-8 by the end of the project – see General Annex B. Activities may start at any TRL.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply: Beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties. The support to third parties can only be provided in the form of grants. The maximum amount to be granted to each third party is EUR 60 000.

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- More attractive living spaces adjacent to railway lines and motorways with measurable improvements in their environmental sustainability, biodiversity, inclusiveness and aesthetics.
- Lower impacts of the inconveniences caused by railway lines and motorways on inhabitants of spaces adjacent to railway lines and motorways.
- Demonstrated solutions and database of design projects to mitigate the negative impacts of railway lines and motorways are available to the stakeholders, such as local authorities, inhabitants, architects, engineers, landscape architects, urban planners, etc.

Scope: Railways and motorways are an integral part of the European landscape. However, they can be perceived as sources of disturbances such as noise and air pollution, invasive alien plants species vectors, potential hazards, etc. Moreover, their surroundings are often unsightly, neglected, and unattractive.

Railway and motorway corridors thus require specific solutions to revitalise their built and natural environment and turn them into more liveable and attractive places aligning with the sustainability, inclusion and aesthetic objectives of the New European Bauhaus

Proposals are expected to address the following:

- Develop solutions to mitigate the negative effects of railway lines and motorways on neighbourhoods and demonstrate them in at least three pilot projects located in different neighbourhoods urban, peri-urban and rural areas located in different Member States or Associated Countries

- Develop new and improve existing projects for common spaces along railway lines and motorways to make these areas more attractive and accessible for local communities – including vulnerable groups –, with considerations for pedestrian and cyclist access.
- Measurable improvement of the inhabitants' experience, air quality, biodiversity and community interaction (e.g. through surveys of public perception, assessment of pollution, presence of invasive alien plant species presence, changes in local use patterns, etc.).
- Participative design of solutions that engages relevant stakeholders, such as public authorities, architects, urban and landscape planners, residents, to respond to local needs and aesthetic preferences to ensure that outcomes are accepted by the local community.
- Ensure the scalability and replicability of the solutions through guidance and documented best practices for municipalities and relevant stakeholders.

To achieve this, project consortia may provide financial support to SMEs and social housing actors in the form of Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP). The amount to be granted to each third party may be a maximum of EUR 60 000.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, national railway companies, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, real estate companies, private owners, etc.) and disciplines (such as architecture or design, arts, (civil) engineering, health, ecology, etc.). Proposals are expected, to the extent possible, to contribute to the urban greening goal set in the Nature Restoration Regulation.

This topic requires the effective contribution of SSH disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

Destination - Innovative funding and new business models for the transformation of neighbourhoods

Innovative funding and new business models can provide the necessary framework and incentives to rethink how solutions and projects are designed, planned, executed, and invested in for the structural and systemic transformation of neighbourhoods in line with New European Bauhaus (NEB) values and working principles. By demonstrating the socioeconomic, environmental, financial, aesthetic and cultural viability and value of NEB-aligned solutions and projects, new business models can demonstrate the business case for stakeholders in the built environment and its related ecosystems (e.g. banking, insurance, social economy, and real estate) to invest in the circular, inclusive, affordable, sustainable and culturally significant revitalisation of neighbourhoods. New business and innovative funding models are thus crucial to encourage long-term and life-cycle thinking in the built environment while enhancing its long-term competitiveness.

Destination 3 will address three of the Commission political guidelines 2024-2029, namely:

- A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness
- Supporting people, strengthening our societies and our social model
- Sustaining our quality of life: Food security, water and nature

This Destination supports the NEB Facility's overarching aim to drive the implementation of the European Green Deal on the ground. Its focus on circular economy principles, responsible use of natural resources, and sustainable competitiveness contributes to the Clean Industrial Deal, EU Circular Economy Action Plan, new Circular Economy Act, Zero Pollution Action Plan, EU Biodiversity Strategy and European Climate Adaptation Plan. This Destination also supports the participation of the local and social economy in neighbourhood transformation by better understanding and creating appropriate market conditions. By exploring related funding and integrated infrastructure and service needs at neighbourhood level, this Destination also contributes to structurally addressing homelessness in the EU and to the European Affordable Housing Plan.

In work programme 2026-2027, this Destination contributes to the following expected impacts set out in the Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027:

8. Realising the full potential of cultural heritage, arts, and cultural and creative sectors
9. Strengthening social and economic resilience and sustainability
15. Achieving global leadership in climate-neutral, circular and digitized industrial and digital value chains

Proposals for topics under this destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to the development of innovative funding and new business models for the transformation of neighbourhoods, and more specifically to one or several of the following impacts:

- Better understanding of the wider ecosystem conditions that hinder or drive the development and uptake of NEB solutions and projects in neighbourhoods.
- Demonstrated socioeconomic, financial, environmental, cultural, and aesthetic viability and attractiveness of NEB projects driving the revitalisation of the built environment in neighbourhoods.
- Increased investment through alternative, including bottom-up, funding models that align investment demand and investor interests in NEB projects. Efforts contribute to mitigating perceived investment risks and barriers associated with sustainable, inclusive and beautiful solutions in the built environment and demonstrating their long-term economic, financial, environmental, aesthetic, social, and cultural value and investment potential.
- New business models demonstrate the value of innovative processes, methods, technologies, techniques, services, and approaches in neighbourhoods which offer competitive solutions combining environmental sustainability with other aspects that increase their acceptance, such as accessibility, affordability, circularity, aesthetics, and local and cultural significance.
- Supply chains and systems for circularity in the built environment contribute to the benefits of reuse and renovation beyond economic and financial value, including environmental, social, cultural and aesthetic value.

This Destination focuses on neighbourhoods across urban, peri-urban and rural areas as well as their interlinkages.

When possible and relevant, actions are strongly recommended to collaborate with and build on the work of relevant research, including national or European funded research, and to avoid duplication.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-01: Structurally addressing homelessness through integrated social infrastructure in neighbourhoods

Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 15.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions

<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁸³.</p>
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Evidence is available on the structural social infrastructure and services needed to address homelessness at neighbourhood level.
- Reduced levels of homelessness at neighbourhood level by integrating key social infrastructure and services.

Scope: Based on data from 2024, over 1.2 million people are estimated to experience homelessness in Europe ⁸⁴, with a significant proportion (45%) of surveyed homeless individuals finding themselves in this situation for over two years⁸⁵.

While housing-led approaches are crucial to tackle homelessness, addressing the structural and multidimensional causes of homelessness also requires systemic interventions focusing on social infrastructure and services in neighbourhoods. Social infrastructure and services include the physical places as well as public and community sector facilities and services that support and enable access to healthcare, employment, education, community integration, and other social services. This is especially important considering that chronic homelessness is often accompanied by a complex mix of needs and disabilities.

Research is required on the interconnected, contextual conditions that drive and mitigate homelessness at the neighbourhood level. Such knowledge can inform strategies to structurally address homelessness, supporting key EU policy frameworks including the European Platform on Combatting Homelessness⁸⁶.

Proposals are expected to address all the following points:

Develop a system-based approach to addressing homelessness by integrating key social infrastructure and services (including healthcare, education, employment, community

⁸³ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

⁸⁴ This figure represents rough sleepers, people staying in night shelters, and those in temporary accommodation for the homeless across Europe, including the UK.

⁸⁵ Additional information at https://www.feantsa.org/public/user/Activities/events/2024/9th_overview/EN_Chap/1.pdf at:

⁸⁶ Additional information at https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies-and-activities/social-protection-social-inclusion/addressing-poverty-and-supporting-social-inclusion/homelessness_en

integration and other relevant social services) at neighbourhood level and demonstrate the approach in at least three Members States or Associated Countries. The approach should consider the following:

- Analyse the local neighbourhood context and existing built environment in terms of equitable access to the infrastructures and services, particularly for chronic homelessness groups, marginalised groups and those in remote or underdeveloped areas.
- Assess the impact and potential correlation between infrastructure design in the built environment and the degree of homelessness in neighbourhoods.
- Understand and develop strategies to overcome challenges of integrating key social infrastructure and services at neighbourhood level to address homelessness (such as data limitations and fragmentation, siloed and fragmented social service systems, and funding challenges for scalability).
- Understand the views, willingness, and ability of homeless groups, especially those experiencing chronic homelessness, to engage with and benefit from the provided social infrastructures and services.
- Assess the potential impacts on community integration and participation, well-being, social cohesion, and a sense of belonging in neighbourhoods for both homeless groups and the broader community in neighbourhoods.
- Assess the socioeconomic impact of the system-based approach through measurable indicators on social infrastructure and service accessibility and use.

Proposals should provide recommendations and guidance to inform future strategies to adopt and scale the approach in other neighbourhoods, considering contextual factors such as unequal geographical distribution of and access to social infrastructure and services, community integration, and local homelessness conditions.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities and institutions, social and community actors and homelessness populations from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, NGOs, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to envisage coordination among the successful proposals from this topic and the topic ‘HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-01: Addressing homelessness through housing-led approaches aligned with the New European Bauhaus’ to avoid duplication and to exploit complementarities as well as opportunities for increased impact.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-02: Addressing capital market failures towards increased investment in New European Bauhaus projects in neighbourhoods

Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 3.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 7.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁸⁷.</p>

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Greater understanding by project promoters, public authorities, and investors of the capital market failures and capital supply and demand dynamics that underlie investments in projects focusing on the transformation of neighbourhoods in line with the New European Bauhaus (NEB).
- Increased investments towards NEB-aligned projects contribute to the sustainable and inclusive transformation of neighbourhoods.

Scope: There is currently a capital market failure that hinders increased investment in projects in line with the New European Bauhaus (NEB) due to a discrepancy between the size, diversity, returns, and risk-relationship between the demand and supply of capital for NEB-aligned projects focusing on the transformation of neighbourhoods. The investment needs of

⁸⁷ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under 'Simplified costs decisions' or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

small-scale NEB-aligned projects are faced with large, short-term oriented, and highly risk-averse investment funds on the supply side, which seek new investment opportunities able to absorb large amounts of funding and are driven by present legislation, including at EU level⁸⁸.

Place-based impact investing is an approach that can contribute to investments in NEB-aligned neighbourhood projects by providing risk-adjusted financial returns while creating local social, cultural, aesthetic and environmental value and by helping to meet local needs in terms of community wellbeing, social inclusion⁸⁹, local economic resilience, and sustainable⁹⁰ development.

There is a need for research to understand the capital demand and supply-side aspects that influence and shape investments in NEB-aligned neighbourhood projects and to identify appropriate mechanisms to attract increased investment. Proposals are expected to address all the following points:

- Analyse the capital market failures that hinder investments in NEB-aligned neighbourhood projects. This includes analysing the following:
 - o The characteristics (including, but not limited to, the size, scale, and diversity aspects), barriers, risks, and drivers of both the capital demand and supply sides.
 - o Investment context, including political, financial, economic, regulatory, and cultural perspectives.
- Develop at least two innovative investment solutions to structurally overcome the capital market failures. Projects should leverage place-based impact investing approaches and are encouraged to explore, leverage, and combine other diverse and out-of-the-box investment approaches, frameworks, or funding schemes. Investment solutions are expected to:
 - o Determine the types of capital (including, but not limited to, impact funds, real estate investors, family and pension funds, philanthropists, donors, and insurance companies) that can be mobilised and validate how to mobilise them.
 - o Provide recommendations for decision-making on avenues for future funding.
 - o Support investors to assess the investment potential and returns (including economic, social, cultural, aesthetic and environmental) of NEB neighbourhood projects.

Projects are expected to integrate and build upon the New European Bauhaus Investment Guidelines⁹¹.

⁸⁸ Examples include the EU Taxonomy, Fit for 55 package, and European Social Fund (ESF+).

⁸⁹ See definition in the glossary

⁹⁰ See definition in the glossary

⁹¹ Additional information at: https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/get-involved/neb-investment-guidelines_en

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach⁹² through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, private owners, investors, etc.) and disciplines (such as architecture or design, economics, finance, business, etc.).

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-03: New approaches for turning vacant, obsolete and underutilised sites, buildings, and infrastructures into thriving community spaces

Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 4.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 9.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁹³.</p>

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Validated approaches for the renovation, re-development, and conversion of vacant, obsolete and underutilised sites, buildings, and infrastructures into new mixed-use, community, cultural, and green spaces that contribute to fulfilling community needs, social cohesion, a sense of belonging, biodiversity, and sustainable re-use in the built environment.

⁹² See definition in the glossary

⁹³ This [decision](#) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under 'Simplified costs decisions' or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

- Validated funding mechanisms support and incentivise property owners and public authorities to renovate, re-develop, and convert vacant, obsolete and underutilised sites, buildings, and infrastructures.

Scope: Europe's current crisis for housing, space and environmental protection and the EU's goal of "no net land take" by 2050 highlights a need and opportunity to (re-)use existing sites, buildings, and infrastructures that are vacant, obsolete and underutilised. In Europe, there are, for instance, an estimated 19,000 km² of underutilised brownfield land and 300 km² of vacant office space.

Reusing such sites, buildings, and infrastructures can offer opportunities to meet community needs within neighbourhoods given their typical existing connection to basic infrastructure such as electricity, water, sewage, and roads and their typical proximity to and accessibility within neighbourhoods.

Common reasons for the vacancy, obsolescence, and underutilisation of such sites, buildings, and infrastructure include property owners unable to afford renovations and local authorities lacking the resources and funds to renovate communal properties and infrastructure, an exodus from rural communities and areas, and unchecked property speculation.

Research is required on approaches that can facilitate and help fund the renovation, re-development and conversion of vacant, obsolete and underutilised sites, buildings, and infrastructures into thriving community spaces in line with and contributing to beautiful, sustainable, and inclusive neighbourhoods.

Proposals are expected to address all the following points:

- Analyse the common challenges related to turning vacant, obsolete and underutilised sites, buildings, and infrastructures into thriving community spaces, such as overcrowding in the neighbourhoods; noise and air pollution; high costs of renovation, re-development and conversion; potential historical pollution or contamination of the sites, buildings, and infrastructures; loss or degradation of green spaces; displacement of current inhabitants; and regulatory and funding challenges, and develop mitigation measures.
- Develop a broadly applicable approach for the renovation, re-development, and conversion of vacant, obsolete, and underutilised sites, buildings, and infrastructures into new mixed-use, community, cultural, and green spaces based on the needs of the neighbourhoods. The approach should consider the sufficient use of space, contribute to the stabilisation of space (e.g. housing, commercial) prices; boost the local economy, and support regeneration and biodiversity.
- Identify and analyse innovative funding and financing mechanisms that allow property owners and public authorities to invest in the renovation, re-development, and conversion of vacant, obsolete and underutilised sites, buildings, and infrastructures.
- Validate the approach and funding/financing mechanisms in at least three sites, buildings, and/or infrastructures in at least three Member States or Associated Countries.

- Provide recommendations to inform future strategies for the continued (re-)development of the sites, buildings, and infrastructures and avoid the risk of their future renewed vacancy, obsolescence or underutilisation associated, for instance, with regulatory developments or their failure to adapt to changes in climate.

Vacant, obsolete and underutilised sites, buildings, and infrastructures should be considered across urban, peri-urban and rural areas and can include, but are not limited to, office spaces, brownfield and infill areas, and previously developed commercial or industrial spaces.

Preference will be given to projects that document a broad applicability of the results.

Proposals are encouraged to contribute, to the extent possible, to the urban greening goals set out in the Nature Restoration Regulation.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, NGOs, higher education institutions, nature conservationists, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-01: Mass customisation of offsite manufactured modular construction components to transform the existing built environment

Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 10.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply: Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions

	under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁹⁴ .
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Reduced waste and environmental impact due to the offsite manufacturing of mass customised modular construction components compared to current manufacturing approaches.
- The customisation of modular construction components at greater scale addresses local needs, preferences, and cultural heritage while ensuring accessibility and affordability.

Scope: Solutions to transform the existing built environment in line with the New European Bauhaus (NEB) have typically been at smaller, individual scale so far. The wider uptake and adaptation of such solutions requires a manufacturing approach that is efficient, affordable, accessible and adaptable to different local needs and contexts.

The customisation of modular construction components that are mass-produced offsite can contribute to the sustainable and high-quality renovation and adaptation of the existing built environment that reflects local needs and preferences and fosters local cultural heritage and identity.

Research and innovation are required to understand and demonstrate the potential, application, and scalability of offsite manufacturing approaches for the mass-production of modular construction components that are customised to the existing built environment in line with NEB values and working principles.

Proposals are expected to address all the following points:

- Develop an innovative solution for the customisation of mass-produced offsite manufactured modular construction components, which:
 - o Learns from, adapts, and uses local vernacular knowledge and practices and cultural heritage for the transformation of the existing built environment.
 - o Applies technologies and technological advancements such as distributed manufacturing, Building Information Modelling (BIM), and modular construction approaches.

⁹⁴ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

- o Reduces waste in line with circular economy principles and environmental impacts (including air quality, noise and transportation) compared to current approaches for mass-production of modular construction components.
- Demonstrate the innovative solution in at least 3 different applications (including residential, commercial, public space, education, or recreation units) in at least 3 Member States or Associated Countries.
- Demonstrate the economic, aesthetic, environmental, social, and cultural value and the financial incentives to invest in the developed and demonstrated solution⁹⁵.
- Develop and demonstrate strategies for the scalability and adaptability of the innovative solution to different local contexts.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, NGOs, higher education institutions, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-02: Innovative models for collective community investment and ownership

Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 3.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 10.50 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:

⁹⁵ See the New European Bauhaus Investment Guidelines at https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-investment-guidelines_en

<i>Agreements</i>	Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁹⁶ .
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Uptake of the demonstrated innovative models for collective community investment and ownership in neighbourhoods in different contexts, including commercial, housing, transitional, and mixed-use contexts.
- Community stakeholders benefit from increased local democratic participation, social equity and cohesion, a sense of place and belonging, and local economic development.

Scope: Collective community investment and ownership models can empower local community stakeholders to collectively invest in, own, manage, and benefit from local commercial, housing, and mixed-use assets. By directly engaging community stakeholders, this bottom-up and place-based approach responds to local community needs and preferences and creates local agency and long-term stewardship in the revitalisation of neighbourhoods. It aims to foster community equity, social cohesion, a sense of place and belonging, local democratic participation and decision-making as well as strengthen local cultural and aesthetic values, long-term resilience, adaptation to new or changing realities, and local economic development in neighbourhoods.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop a collective community investment or ownership model that contributes to the revitalisation of neighbourhoods in line with the New European Bauhaus values and working principles by focussing on one of the following options:
 1. Option A: A community equity investment model that offers community members the ability to acquire shares in local commercial or service-oriented properties and profit from their development without necessarily working there.
 2. Option B: An occupant equity model through which inhabitants build equity via their occupancy and participation in a local housing or mixed-use property or development where they typically live or work.
- Validate the chosen model in at least three neighbourhoods in urban, peri-urban, or rural areas in at least three Member States or Associated Countries. Proposals should convincingly explain how they will validate the developed model, which has to include:

⁹⁶ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

Participation of different relevant community stakeholders, including marginalised or vulnerable groups

- Assessment of the socioeconomic impacts of the models on neighbourhood development.
- Identification of potential challenges to the implementation and uptake of the models and mechanisms to overcome the identified challenges.
- Consideration of existing relevant investment and ownership regulations and legal perspectives at local and national level.
- Detailed plans to scale up and adapt the model to different local and cultural contexts.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, NGOs, higher education institutions, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Research proposals should consider, build on if appropriate, but not duplicate previous research, including but not limited to research by other Framework Programmes' projects.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-03: Anticipating neighbourhoods of the future in line with the New European Bauhaus

Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 3.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 7.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:

<i>Agreements</i>	Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ⁹⁷ .
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Community stakeholders co-create their future neighbourhoods, adopting long-term stewardship in their development.
- Neighbourhoods are resilient to rapidly changing, future socioeconomic, environmental, climate demographic, cultural and aesthetic challenges and needs.

Scope: The New European Bauhaus (NEB) is redefining the way neighbourhoods across Europe are designed, developed, and revitalized and fostering a new paradigm for urban, peri-urban and rural living that is sustainable, inclusive, and beautiful.

At the same time, perspectives on the design and development of future neighbourhoods need to respond to rapidly changing socioeconomic, environmental, climate, demographic, cultural and aesthetic challenges and conditions, which vary across Europe, to ensure long-term resilience.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Explore new, innovative and/or out-of-the-box perspectives and solutions to accommodate the needs, functions and inhabitants (including more-than-human perspectives) that may define future neighbourhoods, inspired by the values of the New European Bauhaus initiative.
- Analyse existing socioeconomic and demographic data and its predicted evolutions, along with intergenerational fairness perspectives that will have a major influence on the future development of neighbourhoods. (e.g. population decline, move to urban areas)
- Integrate art, culture, creativity, architecture, and science disciplines.
- Explore changing cultural, cultural heritage, architectural and aesthetic meanings in the built environment.
- Use co-creation approaches, such as participatory foresight, to involve diverse community stakeholders (especially from marginalised, vulnerable and underrepresented

⁹⁷ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

groups) that may be disproportionately affected by current neighbourhood design, planning and development decisions and challenges.

- Understand how the future needs and functions of neighbourhoods are linked to local geographical and cultural contexts, and variations across Europe and beyond.
- Identify and address potential challenges in designing and developing present neighbourhoods in a way that ensures their openness, adaptability and responsiveness to future needs, functions and inhabitants.
- Provide recommendations to inform neighbourhood governance and policies, including public (physical and digital) infrastructure investments and management.

Proposals should validate the solutions in at least three neighbourhoods in urban, peri-urban, or rural areas in at least three Member States or Associated Countries. Proposals should convincingly explain how they will validate the solutions.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach through the integration of different actors (such as public authorities, local actors from the targeted neighbourhoods, civil society, higher education institutions, etc.) and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to envisage coordination among the successful proposals from this topic as well as those from the topics 'HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-02: Intergenerationally inclusive neighbourhoods aligned with the New European Bauhaus' and 'HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-10: Intergenerational fairness in the context of demographic change in the EU' to exploit complementarities as well as opportunities for increased impact.

Proposals are expected to foresee the appropriate resources for engaging with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning.

Joint topics

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

HORIZON-NEB-2027-02-NEB-SOIL-01: Reducing soil sealing through sustainable urban design in the New European Bauhaus

Call: Joint Call between the New European Bauhaus Facility and the Soil Deal for Europe Mission	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 7.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 15.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions
<i>Technology Readiness Level</i>	Activities are expected to achieve TRL 7-8 by the end of the project – see General Annex B. Activities may start at any TRL.

Expected Outcome: Projects results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Quantified reduction in the rate of soil sealing and land take;
- Strengthened cross-sector collaboration among different stakeholders (e.g., artists, architects, startups, local authorities, urban designers and planners, NGOs, and communities) to co-create inclusive, place based solutions on reducing soil sealing;
- Increased adoption and upscaling of innovative planning and spatial design approaches and solutions that reduce the rate of soil sealing through robust evaluation, and engagement of public and private actors (including policy makers).

Scope: Reducing soil sealing and land take is a critical challenge for climate resilience, ecosystem health, and the liveability of human settlements. As urbanisation and infrastructure development expand across Europe's urban, peri-urban, and rural areas, healthy soils are increasingly sealed, contributing to biodiversity loss and growing vulnerability to climate change impacts. Despite growing awareness, there is a lack of integrated and scalable solutions to address these challenges through spatial design and planning. There is a pressing need for solutions that apply the New European Bauhaus (NEB) principles of sustainability, aesthetics, and inclusivity to develop holistic approaches that restore soil function while enabling regenerative and inclusive territorial development.

Projects will contribute to key EU initiatives including the European Green Deal, the Nature Restoration Law, the EU Vision for Agriculture and Food, the EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (including implementation of the Soil Monitoring Law) and the EU Startup and Scaleup Strategy. Activities under this topic will help to progress towards the objectives of the NEB Facility and the Mission ‘A Soil Deal for Europe’, in particular towards its specific objective 3 ‘No net soil sealing and increase the reuse of urban soils’.

Proposals should:

- Develop and pilot innovative planning and spatial design approaches for urban, peri-urban, and rural areas that integrate adaptive reuse / retrofitting strategies, nature-based solutions and regenerative approaches (e.g. ecosystem restoration, shared and community gardens, or urban agriculture), to prevent soil sealing and promote the unsealing of currently sealed soils;
- Demonstrate and upscale these approaches to improve soil health, enhance climate resilience (e.g., by mitigating urban heat islands and improving water management) and improve liveability for residents in at least three local authorities covering urban, peri-urban, and rural areas;
- Facilitate cross-sector collaboration among stakeholders (e.g., artists, architects, startups, engineers, planners and territorial managers, local authorities, NGOs, researchers, citizens and communities) to co-create inclusive, place-based solutions through participatory approaches that integrate creative, scientific, and local knowledge to address soil sealing;
- Assess the adaptability of solutions to local conditions,
- Ensure the transferability of successful solutions across diverse territorial contexts in EU and Associated Countries by fostering knowledge exchange and by building capacity for broader adoption. Build synergies with initiatives, such as the EU Mission “100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities”, to leverage demonstration sites, policy frameworks, and urban innovation ecosystems;
- Monitor and evaluate project impacts, using well-defined indicators on soil health and soil sealing. Ensure that data collected informs policy and future scaling efforts;
- Develop innovative funding models to mobilize financing, and engage investors and businesses to support the long-term sustainability and replicability of implemented solutions;
- Support policy uptake and market deployment by translating project results into actionable recommendations aligned with relevant EU strategies, and by fostering dialogue with decision-makers on their broader institutional and regulatory adoption.

Proposals are encouraged to connect with projects funded under the Mission ‘A Soil Deal for Europe’ particularly those experimenting Living Labs in urban areas (URSOILL) to ensure solutions are tested in real-life contexts and aligned with place-based experimentation and

citizen engagement ([SPADES](#)). Projects are expected to collaborate with the Mission Soil Platform.

In addition, collaboration and synergies with the Mission “100 [Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities](#)” is highly encouraged if activities are established within one or more of the cities nominated as part of that EU Mission. Where relevant, projects should also explore complementary synergies with ongoing Horizon Europe projects, such as [Cleverfood](#), which is developing a Food 2030 Connected Lab Network of living labs.

This topic implements the NEB Facility. Projects are thus expected to contribute to the New European Bauhaus initiative and share their intermediate and final results and findings with the 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact'.

This topic should involve the effective contribution of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines.

Proposals should integrate the gender dimension where applicable. Consideration of other social categories besides gender (disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnic and/or cultural origin, sexual orientation, etc.), and their intersections, must be also ensured. The use of Multi-Actor Approach is encouraged.

Other actions not subject to calls for proposals

1. Commission expert group for advice on the NEB Facility (2026)

The members of the Commission expert group for the New European Bauhaus⁹⁸ provide advice to support the work of the European Commission in the implementation phase of the research and innovation and roll-out components of the NEB Facility.

The members of the Commission expert group are required to provide advice based on deep knowledge in fields corresponding to the implementation of the NEB Facility such as business, public administration, science, climate change mitigation and adaptation, research and innovation, arts, culture, citizen engagement, and integrated urban development, and expertise in cross-sector/cross-border collaboration, governance, etc. It includes advice on achieving synergies between Horizon Europe and other EU programmes and policy areas as well as with national initiatives.

Considering the advisory role of the expert group, conflict of interest must be prevented and confidentiality must be respected notably when pertaining to work programme and other EU initiatives it will work on and to evaluation aspects.

The expert group provides high-level advice to the Commission of such a nature that, without their input, the implementation the NEB Facility would not achieve the desired large scale and breadth of impact. In light of this, and as highly qualified, specialised, independent experts, it is justified that the members of the expert groups are remunerated for the services they offer pursuant to Article 21 of the Commission's horizontal rules on expert groups ('the horizontal rules')⁹⁹.

Form of Funding: Other budget implementation instruments

Type of Action: Expert contract action

Indicative timetable: 2nd Quarter 2026

Indicative budget: EUR 0.19 million from the 2026 budget¹⁰⁰

2. Commission expert group for advice on the NEB Facility (2027)

The members of the Commission expert group for the New European Bauhaus¹⁰¹ provide advice to support the work of the European Commission in the implementation phase of the research and innovation and roll-out components of the NEB Facility.

The members of the Commission expert group are required to provide advice based on deep knowledge in fields corresponding to the implementation of the NEB Facility such as business, public administration, science, climate change mitigation and adaptation, research

⁹⁸ [Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁹⁹ C(2016) 3301

¹⁰⁰ Of which EUR 0.19 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.

¹⁰¹ [Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities \(europa.eu\)](#)

and innovation, arts, culture, citizen engagement, and integrated urban development, and expertise in cross-sector/cross-border collaboration, governance, etc. It includes advice on achieving synergies between Horizon Europe and other EU programmes and policy areas as well as with national initiatives.

Considering the advisory role of the expert group, conflict of interest must be prevented and confidentiality must be respected notably when pertaining to work programme and other EU initiatives it will work on and to evaluation aspects.

The expert group provides high-level advice to the Commission of such a nature that, without their input, the implementation the NEB Facility would not achieve the desired large scale and breadth of impact. In light of this, and as highly qualified, specialised, independent experts, it is justified that the members of the expert groups are remunerated for the services they offer pursuant to Article 21 of the Commission's horizontal rules on expert groups ('the horizontal rules')¹⁰².

Form of Funding: Other budget implementation instruments

Type of Action: Expert contract action

Indicative timetable: 2nd Quarter 2027

Indicative budget: EUR 0.19 million from the 2027 budget¹⁰³

3. Contributing to the implementation of the NEB Facility with the support of Horizon Europe and New European Bauhaus National Contact Points

Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following outcomes:

1. Enhanced collaboration and coordination on the NEB Facility between the Horizon Europe National Contact Points for the R&I component of the NEB Facility and New European Bauhaus National Contact Point networks.
2. Enhanced capacity of Horizon Europe National Contact Points for the R&I component of the NEB Facility and New European Bauhaus National Contact Points to contribute to the implementation of the NEB Facility.
3. Enhanced visibility of the NEB Facility at European and national levels, better informed prospective applicants as well as higher quality and quantity of applications.
4. Coordinated feedback from the Horizon Europe National Contact Points for the R&I component of the NEB Facility and New European Bauhaus National Contact Points to the European Commission on the implementation of the NEB Facility.

Expected Impact: Proposals should set out a credible pathway to contribute to all of the following impacts:

¹⁰² C(2016) 3301

¹⁰³ Of which EUR 0.19 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.

1. New European Bauhaus efforts and activities at the national and European levels are better coordinated to leverage synergies between the R&I and roll-out components of the NEB Facility.
2. New European Bauhaus efforts and activities at the national and European levels are better coordinated to leverage synergies between the NEB Facility and the broader New European Bauhaus initiative.

Scope: Running from 2025 to 2027, the Facility is the self-standing funding instrument for the New European Bauhaus. This pioneering funding instrument aims to support the revitalisation and transformation of neighbourhoods in line with the New European Bauhaus. It promotes innovation and new business models towards a sustainable, circular, and regenerative construction ecosystem, access to affordable housing and enables change through research and innovation to foster social cohesion and well-being.

NEB National Contact Points act as contact points for the EU Institutions, other Member States and national stakeholders. NEB National Contact Points promote the NEB agenda and coordinate efforts to implement the NEB initiative at the national level. Their mandate thus goes beyond promoting and supporting the NEB Facility and the various other tools used by the NEB. The National Contact Points of Horizon Europe are support structures established by Member States and Associated Countries in order to help participants to access to Horizon Europe, in alignment with the Council Decision establishing the Specific Programme implementing Horizon Europe¹. They can play a role in contributing to an effective communication of the Horizon Europe calls of the NEB Facility.

These two networks of National Contact Points will thus be key in the preparation and implementation of the NEB Facility, as follows: Horizon Europe National Contact Points for the R&I component of the NEB Facility will cover the Horizon Europe calls of the NEB Facility while NEB National Contact Points will cover the roll-out component of the NEB Facility. Together, they will promote the calls of the NEB Facility among interested stakeholders and support them at application stage while also supporting the Commission in ensuring the synergies and coherence of all the NEB activities at European and national level.

Moreover, the New European Bauhaus is based on co-creation to best answer the needs of citizens. The implementation of the NEB Facility has to be done in collaboration with all relevant representatives of the Member States and Associated Countries as well as relevant stakeholders, including the members of the NEB Community. Therefore, under the guidance of the Commission, NEB National Contact Points are also expected to consult interested stakeholders from their respective Member State to identify emerging needs and gaps related to the implementation of the NEB Facility.

The proposal is expected to address all the following aspects:

1. Horizon Europe National Contact Points for the R&I component of the NEB Facility and New European Bauhaus National Contact Points raise awareness at national level about the New European Bauhaus and the NEB Facility through events, matchmaking workshops and other communication activities.

2. Horizon Europe National Contact Points for the R&I component of the NEB Facility and New European Bauhaus National Contact Points cooperate, exchange, share experiences and best practices to better promote the NEB Facility, support its implementation and ensure the coherence between its R&I and roll-out components.
3. Horizon Europe National Contact Points for the R&I component of the NEB Facility enhance their capacity to promote the Horizon Europe's calls related to the NEB Facility, to support prospective applicants and/or to direct them towards NEB National Contact Points for NEB-related funding opportunities in other EU programmes supporting the NEB Facility. This includes putting in place a mechanism to share within the network of Horizon Europe National Contact Points for the R&I component of the NEB Facility the questions on the relevant topics and the replies received through the Research Enquiry Service.
4. New European Bauhaus National Contact Points organise activities to consult the relevant stakeholders within their respective country to identify emerging needs and gaps related to the implementation of the NEB Facility.

The proposal is encouraged to foresee that NEB NCPs that are not part of the consortium benefit from the project and are also invited and encouraged to participate in the project transnational activities (e.g. workshops). The costs incurred by the consortium for such participation (e.g. travel costs paid by the consortium) may be included in the estimated budget and be eligible for funding by the Commission. The proposal for this topic is also encouraged to foresee mechanisms to adapt to emerging needs (e.g. association of additional third countries to Horizon Europe, appointment of new NEB National Contact Points).

This grant will be awarded without a call for proposals according to Article 195 (f) of the Financial Regulation as this topic concerns National Contact Points for Horizon Europe and the NEB, both of which are linked to specific legal entities nominated to the Commission by the Member States. Horizon Europe National Contact Points are more specialised in European level research and innovation funding. New European Bauhaus National Contact Points promote the New European Bauhaus agenda and coordinate efforts to implement the initiative at the national level.

Specific conditions:

Eligibility: Only NCP legal entities established in Member States or Horizon Europe associated countries are eligible to participate.

Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreement: The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply: Beneficiaries may provide financial support to NEB National Contact Points that are not part of the consortium which can only be provided in the form of grants. The maximum amount to be granted to each third party is EUR 60 000.

Procedure: The evaluation committee will be composed fully by representatives of EU institutions.

Legal entities: Horizon Europe National Contact Points legal entities designated to be responsible in respect of the R&I component of the NEB Facility and NEB National Contact Points legal entities.

Form of Funding: Grants not subject to calls for proposals

Type of Action: Grant awarded without call for proposals according to Financial Regulation Article 195 (f)

The general conditions, including admissibility conditions, eligibility conditions, award criteria, evaluation and award procedure, legal and financial set-up for grants, financial and operational capacity and exclusion, and procedure are provided in parts A to G of the General Annexes

Indicative timetable: Second quarter of 2026

Indicative budget: EUR 2.37 million from the 2026 budget¹⁰⁴

4. NEB Hub – Phase II: advancing impact, knowledge management and monitoring of results

In four years, the New European Bauhaus (NEB) reached traction beyond expectations. With the NEB Facility 2025-2027, the New European Bauhaus has its own self-standing funding instrument that will help turn its vision into action.

During the initial phase of the NEB Facility, a ‘New European Bauhaus hub for results and impacts’¹⁰⁵ was established to co-create an initial methodology, platform and tools for the collection, management and valorisation of the knowledge generated by the NEB projects, the NEB Community and other relevant NEB actions.

As the implementation of the NEB Facility advances, the number of NEB projects is expected to multiply under its R&I and roll-out components. There are also expectations for the NEB Community to continue growing, with new organisations joining, contributing to and embracing the New European Bauhaus.

Such development prospects demand a stable, yet adaptable New European Bauhaus hub with increased capacity. By having an overview of all the knowledge produced, the progress made, the challenges faced, and the R&I gaps yet to overcome, the Hub – Phase II will help increase the impact of the NEB Facility, advance the delivery of NEB objectives in a coherent manner, and inform future steps for the development of the NEB.

Form of Funding: Procurement

Type of Action: Public procurement

Indicative timetable: Third Quarter of 2026

¹⁰⁴ Of which EUR 2.37 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.
¹⁰⁵ HORIZON-MISS-2024-NEB-01-03

Indicative budget: EUR 2.30 million from the 2026 budget¹⁰⁶

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¹⁰⁶ Of which EUR 2.30 million from the 'Climate, Energy and Mobility' budget.

Budget^{107 108}

	Budget line(s)	2026 Budget (EUR million)	2027 Budget (EUR million)
Calls			
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01		105.00	
	<i>from 01.020250</i>	<i>105.00</i>	
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01			97.55
	<i>from 01.020250</i>		<i>97.55</i>
HORIZON-NEB-2027-02			15.00
	<i>from 01.020250</i>		<i>10.00</i>
	<i>from 01.020260</i>		<i>5.00</i>
Other actions			
Expert contract action		0.19	0.19
	<i>from 01.020250</i>	<i>0.19</i>	<i>0.19</i>
Grant awarded without a call for proposals according to Financial Regulation Article 195		2.37	
	<i>from 01.020250</i>	<i>2.37</i>	

¹⁰⁷

The budget figures given in this table are rounded to two decimal places.

The budget amounts are subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2026 and 2027.

¹⁰⁸

The contribution from each Cluster to the New European Bauhaus Facility work programme part for the year 2026 is the following: EUR 24.07 million for Cluster 1, EUR 3.05 million for Cluster 2, EUR 1.81 million for Cluster 3, EUR 18.56 million for Cluster 4, EUR 44.19 million for Cluster 5 and EUR 28.19 million for Cluster 6.

The contribution from each Cluster to the New European Bauhaus Facility work programme part for the year 2027 is the following: EUR 22.97 million for Cluster 1, EUR 4.20 million for Cluster 2, EUR 2.12 million for Cluster 3, EUR 17.98 million for Cluster 4, EUR 43.32 million for Cluster 5 and EUR 27.15 million for Cluster 6.

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Public procurement		2.30	
	<i>from 01.020250</i>	<i>2.30</i>	
Estimated total budget		109.86	112.74

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Joint topics in other Horizon Europe Work Programme parts

HORIZON-MISS-2027-06-01-CLIMA-CIT-NEB: Urban nature: supporting restoration of urban ecosystems, including along urban transport networks and in the built environment

Call: Joint Call between the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission and the Adaptation to Climate Change Mission	
Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 10.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 40.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	<p>The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>The following additional eligibility criteria apply:</p> <p>Entities from at least four cities, each from a different Member State or Associated Country, must participate as beneficiaries. At least one of the four cities must be one of the 112 cities selected for the EU Mission on Climate-neutral and Smart Cities¹⁰⁹</p>
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) [2].</p> <p>Grants awarded under this topic will be linked to the following action(s):</p> <p>Collaboration with the Cities Mission Platform and the Mission Adaptation's Platform is essential and projects must ensure that appropriate provisions for</p>

¹⁰⁹ The EU Mission on Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities aims to deliver 100 climate-neutral and smart cities by 2030 and ensure that these cities act as experimentation and innovation hubs to enable all European cities to follow suit by 2050. On 28 April 2022, the Commission announced the 100 EU cities that will participate in the Mission. In addition, 12 cities have been selected from countries associated or expected to be associated the Horizon Europe programme.

	activities and resources aimed at enforcing this collaboration are included in the work plan of the proposal ¹¹⁰ .
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Expected Outcome:

In support of the implementation of the Nature Restoration Regulation, the Adaptation and Cities Missions, and the New European Bauhaus, projects are expected to contribute to all of the following outcomes:

- Development of approaches, tools and methods, on how and where to restore, increase and maintain urban green space and tree canopy cover to achieve the greatest positive impacts - on climate mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity, soil, air and water quality, quality of life, disaster resilience, and human health.
- Uptake and deployment of solutions to map, restore, increase and maintain urban green space and tree canopy cover, via pilot sites in lead cities, including along urban transport networks.
- Monitoring, evaluation and assessment of the environmental, economic, social and health benefits of the solutions deployed in pilot sites.
- Dissemination of results to follower cities and relevant target groups in other countries and cities.

Scope:

To address the expected outcomes, individual projects will be required to address all the following aspects, with at least three in each pilot site:

- Develop and test approaches, tools and methods to understand how different patterns of urban green space and tree canopy cover impact on local temperature regulation / heat island effect, biodiversity, water scarcity, stormwater and landslide management, local air quality; and how changing / increasing the distribution / quantity / connectivity of urban green space and tree canopy cover could help build more resilient and biodiverse urban ecosystems.
- Identify obstacles and barriers limiting the development of urban green spaces and tree planting / maintenance, including interface issues between green structures and underground infrastructure (underground pipes, etc) and overall root growth and survival, and the shortage of supplies of native tree seedlings. Develop innovative solutions that address such barriers and ensure the sustainability of urban green spaces and trees.

¹¹⁰ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under ‘Simplified costs decisions’ or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

- Develop innovative measures and practices to increase urban green space and tree canopy cover, with consideration of what types of trees or other plants are best suited to enhancing biodiversity, supporting climate mitigation and adaptation, improving human health and quality of life while ensuring connectivity to avoid isolated or fragmented solutions.
- Explore multifunctional solutions, addressing infrastructure and urban planning that can bring co-benefits on aspects such as managing stormwater, enhancing biodiversity, providing recreational spaces, sheltering from extreme weather, reducing inequitable access to nature, noise reduction.

All projects are required to

- Deploy innovative measures and practices to increase urban green spaces and/or tree canopy cover in at least two pilot sites in two lead cities, including at least one pilot site along an urban transport network or in the built environment.
- Involve local communities, including disadvantaged groups, and local stakeholders, including public and private land and property owners, in the design and development of these measures and practices
- Monitor, evaluate and assess the environmental, economic, social and health impacts of the measures taken in the pilot sites.
- Outline plans for ensuring the sustainability and legacy of the efforts beyond the project's duration.

Each project funded under this topic must involve entities from at least four cities, each from a different Member State or Associated Country. At least one of the four cities must be one of the 112 cities selected for the EU Mission on Climate-neutral and Smart Cities. Pilot sites should be created in at least two lead cities, and structured engagement should take place with at least two follower cities to share best practice. Proposals should review, build on and connect to other relevant projects funded by Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020, to avoid overlaps or contradicting conclusions

To increase impact and coherence, proposals should include a mechanism and the resources to establish operational links and collaboration/coordination with the 'Climate-Neutral Smart cities' Mission platform, the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change's Implementation Platform and the Coordination and Support Action 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact'. Collaboration with these Platforms is essential, and projects must ensure that appropriate provisions for activities and resources aimed at enforcing this collaboration are included in the work plan of the proposal. Projects should engage in clustering activities with other relevant projects supported under the Climate-neutral and smart cities and Climate Adaption Missions as well as the New European Bauhaus Facility to promote synergies and complementarities. Synergies should also be explored and, as appropriate, pursued with other relevant initiatives, such as the Green City Accord, European Green Capital / Leaf Awards, European Urban Initiative and the Covenant of Mayors.

This action supports the follow-up to the July 2023 Communication on EU Missions assessment.

HORIZON-MISS-2026-06-01-CIT-NEB-B4P: Introducing circular economy models in the construction sector, from buildings to city scale

Specific conditions	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 9.50 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
<i>Indicative budget</i>	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 38.00 million.
<i>Type of Action</i>	Innovation Actions
<i>Eligibility conditions</i>	<p>The conditions are described in General Annex B. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>The following additional eligibility criteria apply:</p> <p>At least three cities, each from a different Member State or Associated Country, must participate as beneficiaries. At least one of the three cities must be one of the 112 cities selected for the EU Mission on Climate-neutral and Smart Cities¹¹¹.</p>
<i>Technology Readiness Level</i>	Activities are expected to achieve TRL 6-8 by the end of the project – see General Annex B.
<i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>Grants awarded under this topic will be linked to the following action(s):</p> <p>HORIZON-MISS-2021-CIT-02-03</p> <p>Collaboration with the Cities Mission Platform¹¹² is essential and projects must ensure that appropriate provisions for activities and resources aimed at enforcing this collaboration are included in the work plan of the proposal. The collaboration with the Cities Mission Platform must be formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding to be</p>

¹¹¹ The EU Mission on Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities aims to deliver 100 climate-neutral and smart cities by 2030 and ensure that these cities act as experimentation and innovation hubs to enable all European cities to follow suit by 2050. On 28 April 2022, the Commission announced the 100 EU cities that will participate in the Mission. In addition, 12 cities have been selected from countries associated or expected to be associated the Horizon Europe programme.

¹¹² Set up by Horizon 2020 project NetZeroCities - Accelerating cities' transition to net zero emissions by 2030, Grant Agreement n. 101036519, and scaled up through topic *HORIZON-MISS-2021-CIT-02-03: Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) for the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission Platform*.

	<p>concluded as soon as possible after the project starting date.</p> <p>Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) ¹¹³.</p>
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Measurable reduction in the energy and other resources use and the whole life-cycle GHG emissions of buildings¹¹⁴ and building stock (residential and non-residential) by introducing circular economy activities at building, district and city level;
- Measurable reduction in the material footprint of buildings and building stock;
- New and replicable business models for increased application of circularity principles in buildings and construction products.

Scope: Applying circularity principles in the construction sector at building, district and city level can reduce the whole life-cycle GHG emissions and support more efficient resource use of the building stock, and help deliver climate-neutral and smart cities, and a more sustainable built environment. To achieve this, there is a need for tools, solutions and associated business models with market potential that facilitate the adoption of inclusive circular construction economy models, as well as a more efficient use of buildings, ultimately reducing the need to extract raw materials

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop and demonstrate tools and solutions at district or city level to support the introduction of circularity principles in the construction sector, and quantify their impacts (for example: urban mining; reuse and recycling of construction products and materials and other resources, use of secondary biobased materials; building's innovative and adaptive design, renovation, and repurposing of buildings in line with waste prevention and circular economy principles).
- Develop and demonstrate solutions for the diagnosis and performance characterisation of already used construction products and demolition waste, in terms of their condition and potential reuse, and to create inventories of reclaimed products and materials, as well as appropriate business models including marketplace tools with components and material banks.

¹¹³ This [decision](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under 'Simplified costs decisions' or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf

¹¹⁴ See Article 2(24) of Directive (EU) 2024/1275

- Develop and demonstrate whole life-cycle GHG emissions inventories of buildings to support decision-making and public actions in line with the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) recast.
- Contribute to reducing regulatory barriers and developing standards, where relevant.
- Ensure the integration of different value chains, active involvement of all relevant construction sector stakeholders, policy-makers and the people impacted by the solutions developed, including SMEs, building owners, local authorities and civil society.
- Demonstrate the proposed tools and solutions in at least three cities, each from a different Member State or Associated Country, including with a view to showcase potential for large scale cross-border re-use of construction materials and products. These cities must participate as beneficiaries. At least one of the three cities must be one of the 112 cities participating in the EU Mission on Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities.

Under the guidance of the relevant Executive Agency and with input of the European Commission, the selected projects will engage in clustering activities with other relevant projects supported under the Cities Mission to promote synergies and complementarities.

This topic implements the co-programmed European Partnership on ‘People-centric sustainable built environment’ (Built4People). As such, projects resulting from this topic will be expected to contribute to the objectives of Built4People and its network of innovation clusters¹¹⁵ and report on results to Built4People in support of the monitoring of its KPIs.

This topic also implements the New European Bauhaus (NEB). As such, projects resulting from this topic will be expected to interact with the NEB hub for results and impact, the NEB Community, and other relevant actions of the NEB initiative through sharing information, best practice, and results.

This action supports the follow-up to the July 2023 Communication on EU Missions assessment¹¹⁶.

¹¹⁵ https://built4people.eu/b4pic_network

¹¹⁶ COM(2023) 457 final and SWD(2023) 260 final