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## **Horizon Europe**

### **Work Programme 2026-2027**

#### *13. New European Bauhaus Facility*

*(European Commission Decision C(2025) 8493 of 11 December 2025)*



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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<sup>1</sup>. 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](#)<sup>2</sup> will guide its implementation.

The **NEB Facility** will support projects for the beautiful<sup>3</sup>, sustainable<sup>4</sup> and inclusive<sup>5</sup> transformation of the built environment<sup>6</sup> of neighbourhoods, aiming to make its inhabitants partners of the change towards the delivery of the Clean Industrial Deal<sup>7</sup> and the European Green Deal<sup>8</sup>.

The NEB Facility will support innovations (e.g. governance, social and systems) 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 supported through the NEB Facility also seek to explore the contribution of the built environment to the conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems (including through the green and blue economy), its relation to historical and cultural urban, peri-urban or rural areas, the improvement of social cohesion and belonging, as well as individuals' and communities' health and well-being<sup>9</sup>. The NEB Facility also aligns with the relevant UNESCO and Council of Europe conventions to protect and safeguard cultural and natural heritage<sup>10</sup>.

### NEB Facility: R&I component

Activities funded 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:

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<sup>1</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>2</sup> European Commission, 'Roadmap for the New European Bauhaus Facility', *New European Bauhaus*, 2025, <https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/system/files/2025-03/NEB%20Facility%20Roadmap.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>4</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>5</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>6</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>7</sup> European Commission, 'Clean Industrial Deal', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal_en)

<sup>8</sup> European Commission, 'European Green Deal', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en)

<sup>9</sup> In line with the "Council conclusions on culture, high-quality architecture and built environment as key elements of the New European Bauhaus initiative". Council of the European Union, "Council conclusions on on culture, high-quality architecture and built environment as key elements of the New European Bauhaus initiative", 30 November 2021, <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-14534-2021-INIT/en/pdf>

<sup>10</sup> Some examples would be the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada, 1985), the European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2000), the Convention on Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) and, where possible, the Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe (Valletta, 1992)

- **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 develop this foundation. This includes research on civil security, on a fair and environmentally friendly economic model, on health and well-being 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 supports research and innovation that is expected to lead to more transdisciplinary<sup>11</sup> approaches aligned with the NEB concept being available, demonstrated and applied for the green transition<sup>12</sup> in neighbourhoods. In addition, the NEB Facility fosters solutions that consider and are applicable across urban, peri-urban and rural contexts, including coastal communities and territories.

In the work programme 2026-2027, these Destinations will build upon previous knowledge and solutions generated by NEB<sup>13</sup>, the NEB Facility, other Horizon Europe parts, and other research and innovation activities.

In all interventions related to the built environment (e.g. its design, construction, renovation, impact, etc.) it is required to ensure the participation<sup>14</sup> of relevant key professionals from the

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<sup>11</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>12</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>13</sup> Including – but not limited to – knowledge produced by previous NEB projects and [NEB tools](https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources_en) ([https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources\\_en](https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources_en)).

<sup>14</sup> See definition of “participatory process” in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

building sector, such as architects, urban planners and landscape designers, while participation of other actors from the construction ecosystem<sup>15</sup> is also recommended wherever relevant.

## **1. Destination: Connecting the green transformation, social inclusion and local democracy**

This Destination explores ways in which environmental and climate challenges can be addressed through innovative approaches at the neighbourhood level, while reducing socio-economic inequalities and reestablishing a strong connection between the environment, people and democratic institutions. This Destination emphasises equality and ensures that the green transition does not happen at the expense of groups in a vulnerable situation. Considering that the greening of neighbourhoods can unintentionally reinforce the negative effects of gentrification and exacerbate existing inequalities, this Destination aims to ensure that the sustainable transformation of the built environment involves measures that promote social and territorial cohesion.

This Destination also takes into account local and cultural specificities and gives special consideration to the inclusion of the voices, needs and knowledge of the different sociodemographic groups in the actions supported. This includes children, youth and older adults, with a view to promoting intergenerational fairness<sup>16</sup>. It also encourages the participation of those at risk, such as poor or marginalised groups or those in a vulnerable situation (including Roma people or people with physical or psychological functional variations). As they are often least responsible for climate risks and have lower capacity to adapt, they are often more exposed to and affected by the impacts of climate risks, biodiversity loss and pollution.

This Destination looks at the institutional landscape(s) of neighbourhoods as well as the informal aspects and processes which take place at the micro-level in neighbourhoods (e.g. historical values, social dynamics, networks, grassroots initiatives), and how these different scales and dimensions can influence each another and lead to different forms of innovation.

In light of the above, in the 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*, 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. Destination: Circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment**

This Destination aims to make neighbourhoods more sustainable<sup>17</sup>, circular<sup>18</sup> and regenerative<sup>19</sup> but also inclusive, accessible, affordable and beautiful<sup>20</sup>, turning them into

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<sup>15</sup> See definition of “construction ecosystem” in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>16</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>17</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

places where nature and biodiversity can thrive, contributing to a better health and well-being for all, as well as clean air, soils, water, and energy, in line with the Davos Declaration 2018<sup>21</sup>. It does so by contributing to making the built environment - including cultural heritage buildings - and its composing construction materials and products more sustainable and circular and by rethinking their design, construction, use, maintenance and disassembly. Specific attention is paid to the reuse and to extending the lifespan of existing infrastructure in order to minimize extraction of resources from the natural environment. It also explores the potential of digital tools and technologies to achieve these objectives as well as the potential of the cultural and creative sectors. The solutions developed should be user-centred and place-based, and consider cultural heritage and vernacular knowledge<sup>22</sup> while reflecting diversity and local cultural identity and meeting people's (long-term) needs.

This Destination looks at the built environment and neighbourhoods in a more systemic and holistic way, considering aspects such as energy or mobility systems, for instance.

In light of the above, in the 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*, and 31 *Sustainably developing rural, urban and coastal areas* in the strategic plan 2025-2027.

### **3. Destination: 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, as well as the lack of supportive legislative frameworks. 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 stakeholders in the built environment and related ecosystems (e.g. construction, banking, insurance, social economy, and real estate) to embrace solutions and practices that are circular and resilient to natural, climate change-induced and human-made hazards, while promoting affordability, accessibility, inclusion, 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.

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<sup>18</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>19</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>20</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>21</sup> Davos Declaration, 'Davos Declaration 2018', 2018, <https://davosdeclaration2018.ch/en/>.

<sup>22</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

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 Transitions, 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 of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), the recently adopted European Ocean Pact<sup>23</sup>, and urban-related initiatives such as the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, the Green City Accord and the European Urban Initiative. 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.

Eligibility to participate is also subject to the ‘Participation of Chinese universities linked to the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT)’ eligibility condition (see General Annex B of the General Annexes).

### **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 - Pillar II), 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 EIT as well as 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), and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund

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<sup>23</sup> In particular its Coastal Communities and Islands pillar.



(EMFAF). Applicants could enhance the reach and impact of their projects, for instance, through broader stakeholder cooperation and follow-on activities.

## Glossary

**Beauty** is one of the three core values of NEB<sup>24</sup>. Beauty in the built environment results from a highly positive aesthetic, spatial and atmospheric impact on the observer who experiences the place emotionally. Beauty goes beyond mere functionality and aesthetic/visual pleasure as it reflects the quality of the whole spatial experience. Projects are in line with this value if they are genuinely attentive to the built environment's cultural, historical and social context as well as surrounding (natural and cultural) landscape. They contribute to people's physical and mental well-being, foster a sense of belonging and enhance the quality of individual and collective experience. These projects promote a high-quality living environment and activate the cultural, social, natural and spatial 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)<sup>25</sup>. 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. If sustainably harvested and used in long-lasting (construction) products these products can constitute carbon removals. Other sources are organic waste and by-products, such as used cooking oil, bagasse and tall oil<sup>26</sup>.

**Built environment** refers to human-made spaces, 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 spaces, blue and waterway corridors, and green open spaces<sup>27</sup>. 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. A quality built environment can contribute to a more just and cohesive society by accommodating the needs of diverse individuals and groups<sup>28 29</sup>, for example, by facilitating social interaction and integration, and by fostering their physical and mental health (e.g. by encouraging physical exercise and 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

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<sup>24</sup> See definition of "NEB core values" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>25</sup> European Commission, 'Bio-based products', Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, accessed 5 August 2025, [https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/biotechnology/bio-based-products\\_en](https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/biotechnology/bio-based-products_en)

<sup>26</sup> European Commission: Directorate-General for Environment, '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 bio-based, biodegradable and compostable plastics', COM/2022/682 final, 30 November 2022, accessed 5 August 2025, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52022DC0682>

<sup>27</sup> Thompson, S. M., & Kent, J. L., 'Human Health and a Sustainable Built Environment', *Encyclopedia of Sustainable Technologies*, 2, 2017, pp. 71-80, . <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-409548-9.10178-2>

<sup>28</sup> Seyedrezaei, M., Becerik-Gerber, B., Awada, M., Contreras, S., & Boeing, G., 'Equity in the built environment: A systematic review', *Building and Environment*, 245, 2023, pp. 1-19, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2023.110827>

<sup>29</sup> Roof, K., & Oleru, N., 'Public Health: Seattle and King County's Push for the Built Environment', *Journal of Environmental Health*, 71(1), 2008, pp. 24-27, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/26327656>

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.<sup>30</sup> Resource value retention options (R strategies) form one of the circular economy’s fundamental principles. The 10 R strategies can be classified into 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)<sup>31</sup>.

**Co-creation** refers to the process of participation, interaction, collaboration and co-production of solutions with inhabitants (organised or non-organised), political representatives, public officers, private and public stakeholders and researchers<sup>32</sup>.

**Co-governance** refers to processes and structures of public decision-making and management that engage people across the boundaries of public agencies and different levels of governance<sup>33</sup>.

**Community** is a social unit. Interactions that occur in the built environment<sup>34</sup> can foster a sense of community<sup>35</sup> and belonging in many ways<sup>36</sup>. Interaction enables people to build communities, commit themselves to each other, and knit the social fabric<sup>37</sup>. The perception<sup>38</sup> and locally based<sup>39</sup> are essential to define a coherent social unit as a community. The

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<sup>30</sup> Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking, ‘Annual Work Programme and Budget 2022’, 2022, [https://www.cbe.europa.eu/system/files?file=2023-03/CBEJU\\_AWP\\_2022\\_3rd\\_Amend.pdf#%5B%7B%22num%22%3A179%2C%22gen%22%3A0%7D%2C%7B%22name%22%3A%22XYZ%22%7D%2C69%2C769%2C0%5D](https://www.cbe.europa.eu/system/files?file=2023-03/CBEJU_AWP_2022_3rd_Amend.pdf#%5B%7B%22num%22%3A179%2C%22gen%22%3A0%7D%2C%7B%22name%22%3A%22XYZ%22%7D%2C69%2C769%2C0%5D)

<sup>31</sup> Reike, D., Vermeulen, W.J.V., Witjes, S., ‘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, 2022, [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-94293-9\\_3](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-94293-9_3)

<sup>32</sup> European Commission: Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Andersson, I., Ferreira, I., Arlati, A., Bradley, S. et al., Guidelines for co-creation and co-governance of nature-based solutions – Insights from EU-funded projects, Ferreira, I., Lupp, G. and Mahmoud, I.(eds), Publications Office of the European Union, 2023, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/15706>.

<sup>33</sup> European Commission: Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Andersson, I., Ferreira, I., Arlati, A., Bradley, S. et al., Guidelines for co-creation and co-governance of nature-based solutions – Insights from EU-funded projects, Ferreira, I., Lupp, G. and Mahmoud, I.(eds), Publications Office of the European Union, 2023, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/15706>.

<sup>34</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>35</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27,

<sup>36</sup> Thompson, S. M., & Kent, J. L., ‘Human Health and a Sustainable Built Environment’, *Encyclopedia of Sustainable Technologies*, 2, 2017, pp. 71-80, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-409548-9.10178-2>

<sup>37</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>38</sup> Zanbar, L., ‘Sense of Belonging and Commitment as Mediators of the Effect of Community Features on Active Involvement in the Community’. *City & Community*, 19(3), 2020, pp. 617-637, <https://doi.org/10.1111/cico.12420>

<sup>39</sup> Horak, M., & Vanhooren, S., ‘Somebody to Lean On: Community Ties, Social Exchange, and Practical Help during the COVID-19 Pandemic’, *City & Community*, 23(1), 2024, pp. 3-25, <https://doi.org/10.1177/15356841231159370>

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<sup>40</sup>.

**Construction ecosystem** covers contractors for building and infrastructure projects, construction product manufacturers, engineering and architectural services, urban planners and designers, construction workers, engineers as well as other relevant actors and economic activities (e.g., rental and leasing of machinery and equipment, employment agencies)<sup>41</sup> involved in the design, construction, maintenance, refurbishment, renovation and demolition of buildings and infrastructure<sup>42 43</sup>.

**Frugal innovation** describes the process of innovating in conditions of constraint, to produce solutions that are substantially more affordable than alternatives, and accessible to a broader range of people, while meeting user needs as – or even more – effectively. The frugal innovation process is a problem-oriented, creative approach to problem solving which starts from user needs and works from the bottom up to develop contextually appropriate solutions. It tends to be frugal both in ends and means, e.g. relying on the recombination of existing knowledge and technologies from previous efforts rather than substantial, dedicated R&I investments<sup>44</sup>.

**Green transition** is a concept of moving from a carbon-based economy to a more sustainable<sup>45</sup> 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.

**Homelessness** encompasses, according to the European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion<sup>46</sup> the following situations: rooflessness (people living rough and people in emergency accommodation); houselessness (people in accommodation for the homeless, in women's shelters, in accommodation for migrants, people due to be released from institutions and people receiving long-term support due to homelessness); living in insecure housing (people living in insecure tenancies, under threat of eviction or violence); living in inadequate

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<sup>40</sup> Whitham, M. M., 'Community Entitativity and Civic Engagement', *City & Community*, 18(3), 2019, pp. 896-914, <https://doi.org/10.1111/cico.12385>

<sup>41</sup> European Commission, 'Annual Single Market Report', 2021, [https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2021-05/swd-annual-single-market-report-2021\\_en.pdf](https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2021-05/swd-annual-single-market-report-2021_en.pdf)

<sup>42</sup> Adner, R., 'Ecosystem as Structure: An Actionable Construct for Strategy', *Journal of Management*, 43(1), 2017, pp. 39-58, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0149206316678451>

<sup>43</sup> Vigren, O., 'Ecosystems in construction management and urban development: a comprehensive review of conceptualizations and contributions', *Construction Management and Economics*, 42(2), 2023, pp. 162–181, <https://doi.org/10.1080/01446193.2023.2247496>

<sup>44</sup> Kroll, H, et al., 'Study on frugal innovation and reengineering of traditional techniques', European Commission: Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, 2017, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/94587>

<sup>45</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>46</sup> FEANTSA, 'ETHOS - European Typology on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion', accessed on 26 August 2025, <https://www.feantsa.org/en/toolkit/2005/04/01/ethos-typology-on-homelessness-and-housing-exclusion?bcParent=27>.

housing (living in unfit housing, non-conventional dwellings or in situations of extreme overcrowding)<sup>47</sup>.

**Housing-led approaches** describe 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<sup>48</sup>. These approaches treat housing as a fundamental right and a prerequisite to solving other problems, such as social, health and employment issues. Housing-led approaches should not consider policy formulations that entail conditionality, temporariness, or disciplinary mechanisms through the backdoor and that risk legitimising minimal interventions that fall short of transformative change. ‘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 whereby homeless people, particularly those with complex support needs, should move through various stages in different residential services before becoming “ready” for re-housing<sup>49</sup>.

**Inclusive** is a core value of NEB<sup>50</sup> that revolves around the essential idea of granting and securing equal access to opportunities and resources for all and encouraging exchanges among people with a different culture, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or sex characteristic, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, and physical and psychological functional variations. 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 and natural environment<sup>51</sup>.

**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<sup>52</sup>.

**Local knowledge** is a collection of facts and relates to the entire system of concepts, beliefs and perceptions that people hold about the world around them. This includes the way people observe and measure their surroundings, how they solve problems and validate new

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<sup>47</sup> FEANTSA, ‘About Homelessness’, accessed on 26 August 2025, <https://www.feantsa.org/en/about-us/faq>.

<sup>48</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>49</sup> FEANTSA, ‘European Consensus Conference on Homelessness: Policy Recommendations of the Jury’ (2010), [https://www.feantsa.org/download/2011\\_02\\_16\\_final\\_consensus\\_conference\\_jury\\_recommendations\\_en-22191246727835177211.pdf](https://www.feantsa.org/download/2011_02_16_final_consensus_conference_jury_recommendations_en-22191246727835177211.pdf)

<sup>50</sup> See definition of ‘NEB core values’ in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>51</sup> See definition of ‘built environment’ in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27

<sup>52</sup> United Nations, ‘A Declaration on future Generations’, United Nations Summit of the Future, <https://www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future/declaration-on-future-generations>

information. It includes the processes whereby knowledge is generated, stored, applied and transmitted to others<sup>53</sup>.

**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<sup>54</sup>. It acknowledges human life and society as being deeply interconnected with non-human entities, such as animals, plants, technologies, and natural systems<sup>55</sup>.

**Motorway** means a road specially designed and built for motor vehicle traffic, which does not directly provide access to the properties bordering on it, and which: (i) is provided, except at special points or temporarily, with separate carriageways for the two directions of traffic, separated from each other either by a dividing strip not intended for traffic or, exceptionally, by other means; (ii) does not cross at grade with any road, railway or tramway track, or footpath; (iii) is specifically designated as a motorway<sup>56</sup>.

**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<sup>57</sup>.

**Nature-based solutions** are inspired and supported by nature. They are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help improving buildings' and neighbourhoods' 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<sup>58</sup>.

**Nature positive** refers to a societal goal aiming at halting and reversing nature, including improving and maintaining biodiversity<sup>59</sup>. It means also restoring nature for its intrinsic values while benefitting human and planetary well-being<sup>60</sup>.

**NEB thematic axes**<sup>61</sup> 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

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<sup>53</sup> FAO, 'What is local knowledge?', <https://www.fao.org/4/y5610e/y5610e01.htm>

<sup>54</sup> Bernardes de Souza Júnior, C. R., 'More-than-human cultural geographies towards codwelling on earth;', *Mercator - Revista de Geografia da UFC*, 2021, accessed 22 May 2023, <https://www.redalyc.org/journal/2736/273665153007/273665153007.pdf>

<sup>55</sup> Lorimer J. & Hodgetts, T., 'More-than-Human', Routledge, 2024

<sup>56</sup> EEA, 'motorway', *Glossary*, 1999, <https://www.eea.europa.eu/help/glossary/eea-glossary/motorway>

<sup>57</sup> For more detailed information, see the [NEB Compass](#) and the [NEB Investment Guidelines](#).

<sup>58</sup> European Commission, 'Nature-based solutions', European Commission website, accessed 5 August 2025, [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/environment/nature-based-solutions\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/research-area/environment/nature-based-solutions_en)

<sup>59</sup> Nature Positive Initiative, 'What is Nature Positive', Nature Positive Initiative website, accessed 1 October 2025, <https://www.naturepositive.org/what-is-nature-positive/>.

<sup>60</sup> GoNaturePositive!, 'Concept note. Framing the Nature-Positive Economy. Version 1.0.', October 2024, accessed 1 October 2025, <https://www.gonaturepositive.eu/s/GoNP-Concept-Note.pdf>.

<sup>61</sup> For more detailed information, see the [NEB Compass](#) and the [NEB Investment Guidelines](#).



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, lack of accessibility, 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 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**<sup>62</sup>. 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**<sup>63</sup>. 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), healthcare facilities, 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 coordinated development and 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 km<sup>2</sup> 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 and transparent implementation in order to ensure that they are genuinely inclusive and impactful. Successful participatory processes strengthen social

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<sup>62</sup> For more detailed information, see the [NEB Compass](#) and the [NEB Investment Guidelines](#).

<sup>63</sup> For more detailed information, see the [NEB Compass](#) and the [NEB Investment Guidelines](#).

cohesion and foster a sense of co-ownership and co-responsibility. Participatory processes may include a range of approaches, such as co-creation or participatory budgeting<sup>64</sup>.

**Regenerative design** aims to actively restore, revitalise and enhance ecosystems and create sustainable, thriving environments for local communities and nature<sup>65</sup>. 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<sup>66</sup>, regenerative design offers pathways to develop construction and renovation methods and designs that go beyond 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<sup>67</sup>, therefore enhancing the local quality of living.

**Social fabric** is knitted through interactions between people and within communities (see the entry for *Community*). It is crucial for a sense of belonging and placemaking. 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<sup>68</sup>.

**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 wide range of disciplines such as sociology, economics, political sciences, anthropology, ethnology, philosophy, linguistics, psychology, communication sciences, law, the arts, history and more<sup>69</sup>. 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.

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<sup>64</sup> For more detailed information, see the [NEB Compass](#) and the [NEB Investment Guidelines](#).

<sup>65</sup> Tainter, J. A., 'Regenerative design in science and society', *Building Research & Information*, Vol. 40, Issue 3, 2012, pp. 369–372, <https://doi.org/10.1080/09613218.2012.671998>

<sup>66</sup> European Commission: Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Schellnhuber, H., Widera, B., Kutnar, A., Organschi, A., Hafner, A., Hillebrandt, A., Murphy, O., & Nakicenovic, N., *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, 2012, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/49925>.

<sup>67</sup> Arup, *Arup Explores Regenerative design*, London, 2020, pp. 4-11.

<sup>68</sup> Tanner, W., O'Shaughnessy, J., Krasniqi, F., & Blagden, J., *The State of our Social Fabric: Measuring the changing nature of community over time and geography*, Onward, London, 2020. Available at: <https://www.ukonward.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/The-State-of-our-Social-Fabric.pdf>

<sup>69</sup> European Commission: Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, *Integration of social sciences and humanities in Horizon 2020 - Participants, budgets and disciplines 2014 - 2020 - Final monitoring report*, Publications Office of the European Union, 2023, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/075642>.



**Sustainable** is a core value of the NEB. In alignment with the European GreenComp framework, sustainability is about preserving and prioritising the needs of all life forms and of the planet by ensuring that human activity does not exceed planetary boundaries<sup>70</sup> which define a safe operating space for humanity based on the intrinsic biophysical processes that regulate the stability of the Earth system<sup>71</sup>. 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 land and the extraction of 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 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<sup>72</sup>. 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 communities<sup>73</sup> and can apply to various domains such as architecture.

**Vertical space** in the context of this work programme refers to the currently unused or under-used spatial layer located above existing buildings, streets, and infrastructure in cities, towns, and rural settlements alike that can offer untapped potential for sustainable housing, green spaces, and public amenities.

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<sup>70</sup> 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>

<sup>71</sup> 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., 'Planetary Boundaries: Guiding human development on a changing planet', *Science*, Vol. 347, Issue 6223, 2015, <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1259855>.

<sup>72</sup> Darbellay, F., 'Rethinking inter- and transdisciplinarity: Undisciplined knowledge and the emergence of a new thought style', *Futures*, Vol. 65, 2015, pp. 163-174, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.futures.2014.10.009>

<sup>73</sup> Valk Ü. and Bowman M. (eds), *Vernacular knowledge. Contesting Authority, Expressing Beliefs*, Equinox, 2022.

## Calls

### Call - Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities

***HORIZON-NEB-2026-01***

#### Overview of this call<sup>74</sup>

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

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million) <sup>75</sup>	Indicative number of projects expected to be funded
		2026		
Opening: 05 May 2026 Deadline(s): 01 Dec 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	12.60	Around 6.30	2
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-02: Innovative approaches for the spatial design of neighbourhoods	IA	10.00	Around 5.00	2
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-03: Understanding inhabitant’s experiences of neighbourhoods to support their health and well-being	RIA	15.00	Around 5.00	3
Destination - Circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment				

<sup>74</sup> 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.

<sup>75</sup> Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

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HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-01: Sustainable, inclusive, affordable and beautiful solutions for thermal comfort in buildings	IA	12.00	Around 4.00	3
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-02: Advancing sustainable maintenance and repair measures for existing buildings	IA	10.00	Around 5.00	2
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-03: Innovative solutions for the sustainable and beautiful use of vertical space	IA	15.00	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 coordinated social infrastructure and services in neighbourhoods	IA	10.50	Around 3.50	3
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-02: Understanding capital market dynamics for increased investment in New European Bauhaus projects in neighbourhoods	RIA	7.00	Around 3.50	2
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-03: Approaches to reuse vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces	RIA	9.00	Around 4.50	2
Overall indicative budget		101.10		

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

***HORIZON-NEB-2027-01***

**Overview of this call<sup>76</sup>**

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

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million) <sup>77</sup>	Indicative number of projects expected to be funded
		2027		
Opening: 05 May 2027 Deadline(s): 01 Dec 2027				
Destination - Connecting the green transformation, social inclusion and local democracy				
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-01: The transformative potential of co-governance in the green transition of neighbourhoods	IA	10.76	Around 5.38	2
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-02: Intergenerational neighbourhoods and communities aligned with the New European Bauhaus	IA	10.50	Around 5.25	2
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-	RIA	14.00	Around	4

<sup>76</sup> 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.

<sup>77</sup> Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

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03: Novel combinations of knowledge and research methods to address social issues and advance a fair green transition of neighbourhoods			3.50	
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 sustainable and beautiful buildings	RIA	12.00	Around 4.00	3
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-02: Sustainable, beautiful and healthy construction and renovation sites	RIA	8.00	Around 4.00	2
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-03: Revitalising neighbourhoods around existing railway and motorway corridors	IA	11.00	Around 5.50	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	Around 5.00	2
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-02: Innovative models for collective community investment and ownership	RIA	10.50	Around 3.50	3
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-03: Anticipating the long-term future of neighbourhoods in line with the New European Bauhaus	RIA	7.00	Around 3.50	2
Overall indicative budget		93.76		

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.

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<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 call<sup>78</sup>**

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

Topics	Type of Action	Budgets (EUR million)	Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million) <sup>79</sup>	Indicative number of projects expected to be funded
		2027		
Opening: 05 May 2027 Deadline(s): 15 Sep 2027				
Joint topics				
HORIZON-NEB-2027-02-NEB-SOIL-01: Reducing soil sealing through sustainable	IA	15.00	Around 7.50	2

<sup>78</sup> 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.

<sup>79</sup> Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

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urban and territorial design in the New European Bauhaus				
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.

## **Destinations**

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

This Destination addresses three of the Commission political guidelines 2024-2029<sup>80</sup>, namely:

- Supporting people, strengthening our societies and our social model,
- Protecting our democracy, upholding our values, and
- 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 equal<sup>81</sup>, this Destination focusses on inhabitants, social inclusion and local democracy as key pillars. It seeks to reduce inequalities and strengthen social cohesion, in line with the Strategies for a Union of equality and the European Pillar of Social Rights. It also aims to contribute to local democracy and sense of belonging in communities<sup>82</sup> as well as the overall increase in their quality of life, and support both a competitive economy as well as an inclusive<sup>83</sup>, fair, climate-neutral and circular<sup>84</sup> society supporting peaceful coexistence.

This Destination looks into innovative participatory<sup>85</sup>, co-governance<sup>86</sup> and co-creative approaches to actively engage inhabitants in decision-making processes for the revitalisation of their neighbourhoods<sup>87</sup>. It also explores how to increase the sense of belonging and engagement between people with different age, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, gender, sexual orientation, and physical and psychological functional variations to reunite society, increase ownership of the green transition<sup>88</sup> on the ground, and ensure more inclusive neighbourhoods.

Moreover, this Destination also fosters a better understanding of how inhabitants experience their neighbourhoods as well as further investigates the role that arts, culture, the cultural and creative sector, cultural heritage, cultural and linguistic diversity, informal and local<sup>89</sup> forms of knowledge systems and different types of research can play in placemaking and enhancing neighbourhood transformation processes.

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<sup>80</sup> European Commission, 'Von der Leyen Commission 2024-2029', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://commission.europa.eu/about/commission-2024-2029\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/about/commission-2024-2029_en)

<sup>81</sup> European Commission, 'Fairness, Inequality and Inter-Generational Mobility', accessed 5 August 2025, <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/2652>

<sup>82</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>83</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>84</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>85</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>86</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>87</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>88</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>89</sup> See definition of 'Local knowledge' in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.



As the green transition is at the heart of the NEB Facility, this Destination contributes to the Clean Industrial Deal<sup>90</sup>, the European Green Deal<sup>91</sup> and the European Climate Pact<sup>92</sup> as well as to the key policy spending target of Horizon Europe for climate and biodiversity action. This Destination also contributes to the delivery of the New European Agenda for Culture<sup>93</sup>, Davos Declaration 2018<sup>94</sup>, the New Leipzig Charter<sup>95</sup>, the European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage<sup>96</sup>, and the EU Intergenerational Fairness strategy<sup>97</sup>.

Finally, by exploring how digital technologies can play a role in transforming neighbourhoods into beautiful<sup>98</sup>, inclusive and sustainable<sup>99</sup> places, this Destination contributes to the key policy spending target of Horizon Europe for digital.

In Work Programme 2026-2027, this Destination aims to:

- Better understand the impacts of neighbourhoods on inhabitants' experiences, health and well-being, to inform the development of more beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods.
- Develop innovative design, planning, and management strategies for neighbourhoods to prioritise adaptability, quality of experience, accessibility and inclusion – especially of groups in a vulnerable situation – while enhancing health, well-being and community cohesion.
- Enhance the green transition, including renewable energy supply and efficiency aspects, through inclusive and transdisciplinary<sup>100</sup> approaches to innovation that leverage arts, culture, cultural heritage, history, design, architecture, digital technologies, social innovation, (citizen-)science, and informal and local forms of knowledge systems.
- Encourage co-governance approaches to enhance transparency, multi-level engagement<sup>101</sup>, and community resilience, to give nature a voice, and to support adaptive

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<sup>90</sup> European Commission, 'Clean Industrial Deal', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal_en)

<sup>91</sup> European Commission, 'The European Green Deal', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en)

<sup>92</sup> European Commission, 'European Climate Pact', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://climate-pact.europa.eu/index\\_en](https://climate-pact.europa.eu/index_en)

<sup>93</sup> European Commission, 'A New European Agenda for Culture - SWD(2018) 267 final', 2020, <https://culture.ec.europa.eu/document/a-new-european-agenda-for-culture-swd2018-267-final>

<sup>94</sup> Davos Declaration, 'Davos Declaration 2018', 2018, <https://davosdeclaration2018.ch/en/>

<sup>95</sup> European Commission, 'The New Leipzig Charter. The transformative power of cities for the common good', 2020, [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/information/publications/brochures/2020/new-leipzig-charter-the-transformative-power-of-cities-for-the-common-good](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/brochures/2020/new-leipzig-charter-the-transformative-power-of-cities-for-the-common-good)

<sup>96</sup> European Commission, 'European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage', Publications Office of the European Union, 2019, <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/5a9c3144-80f1-11e9-9f05-01aa75ed71a1>

<sup>97</sup> European Commission, 'Paving the way for an EU Intergenerational Fairness Strategy', EU Policy Lab, 2025, accessed 5 August 2025, [https://policy-lab.ec.europa.eu/news/paving-way-eu-intergenerational-fairness-strategy-2025-02-25\\_en](https://policy-lab.ec.europa.eu/news/paving-way-eu-intergenerational-fairness-strategy-2025-02-25_en)

<sup>98</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>99</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>100</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>101</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

and inclusive decision-making for the long-term social, environmental, cultural and economic sustainability of neighbourhoods.

- Explore evidence-based mechanisms to foster ownership, balance public and private interest, and enhance acceptability and democratic participation by neighbourhood actors towards a fair green transition at the neighbourhood level as well as to tailor 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 neighbourhoods; climate; inhabitant's experiences; health and well-being; inequalities; and democratic, participatory and deliberative practices and governance approaches in neighbourhoods.
- Inclusive, healthy, and active communities with sustainable ways of living and consumption develop a sense of belonging and ownership of change that supports a fair green transition in neighbourhoods.
- Better embedding history, arts, culture, cultural heritage, cultural and creative industries, cultural and linguistic diversity, cultural participation, placemaking and digital technologies in innovation, transformation, social inclusion and civic engagement processes for a fair green transition in neighbourhoods.

When possible and relevant, actions are strongly recommended to collaborate with and build on the results of past and ongoing relevant research projects, including regional, national or European funded projects and/or European partnerships, to ensure consistency and continuity in research, as well as to integrate expertise from the relevant actors from the construction ecosystem<sup>102</sup> (such as architects, urban planners, landscape designers).

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**

<b>Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<i>Expected EU contribution per</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 6.30 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately.

<sup>102</sup> See definition of “construction ecosystem“ in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<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 12.60 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) <sup>103</sup> .

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

- Housing-led approaches<sup>104</sup> aligned with the NEB are made available to stakeholders involved in tackling homelessness<sup>105</sup>.
- Robust evidence on NEB-aligned housing-led approaches tackling homelessness (including people temporarily hosted by acquaintances and family) to inform the development and/or update of policies and services for prevention and early intervention in the context of the green transition<sup>106</sup> in neighbourhoods<sup>107</sup>.

Scope: Social and affordable housing is being advanced in the EU, including through the Affordable Housing Initiative<sup>108</sup>. Despite efforts, current policies for the green transition are failing to adequately address the housing crisis. Homelessness remains 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<sup>109</sup> (e.g. pressure on public services, erosion of social fabric<sup>110</sup>, etc.).

Research and innovation gaps in tackling homelessness range from data collection (i.e. the variety of approaches to defining, measuring and monitoring homelessness), to integrating

<sup>103</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>104</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>105</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>106</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>107</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>108</sup> European Commission, ‘Affordable Housing Initiative’, European Commission website, accessed on 29 September 2025, [https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/proximity-and-social-economy/social-economy-eu/affordable-housing-initiative\\_en](https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/proximity-and-social-economy/social-economy-eu/affordable-housing-initiative_en)

<sup>109</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>110</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

housing-led approaches with resilience strategies for homeless populations in a climate-changing world.

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.

This topic focuses on developing and/or updating housing-led approaches that apply NEB values<sup>111</sup> and principles<sup>112</sup>. Such approaches are expected to cover measures ranging from upstream preventive measures to those giving access to green, low-carbon, climate-resilient, health-promoting 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 of the following:

- Refine and demonstrate at least three housing-led approaches in at least three neighbourhoods (in urban, peri-urban and rural areas) located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries, that:
  - o Are adapted to the specific characteristics of the neighbourhoods where the approaches will be applied (e.g. existing local/national regulations, composition of the population, cultural differences, existing infrastructure, etc.).
  - o Provide permanent housing to homeless people, as defined by the European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion<sup>113</sup>, complemented by services that (re-)integrate homeless populations in their local community.
  - o Integrate plans for the green transition of the permanent housing, taking into consideration climate mitigation and adaptation aspects (for instance, through the inclusion of renewable energy solutions and/or nature-based solutions<sup>114</sup>) and the social dimension of living conditions for a conflict-minimised cohabitation of different social groups.
  - o Are co-created<sup>115</sup> with the targeted homeless populations, paying special attention to families with minor children, and people temporarily hosted by acquaintances and family.
  - o Include measures to address the institutional barriers that hinder access to housing in the selected neighbourhoods.
  - o Present the highest potential for replication and adaptability to local specificities.

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<sup>111</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>112</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>113</sup> FEANTSA, 'ETHOS Typology on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion', accessed 26 August 2025, <https://www.feantsa.org/en/toolkit/2005/04/01/ethos-typology-on-homelessness-and-housing-exclusion>

<sup>114</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>115</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

- Develop and implement a methodology to monitor, analyse and document the effectiveness of the selected approaches in reducing homelessness compared to conventional approaches, building upon the European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion<sup>116</sup>. The methodology is expected to ensure the comparability of data and results across neighbourhoods.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>117</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>118</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>119</sup> 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 encouraged to explore synergies with successful proposals from the topic 'HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-01: Structurally addressing homelessness through coordinated social infrastructure and services in neighbourhoods' to exploit opportunities for increased impact.

Proposals are expected to allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

### **HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-02: Innovative approaches for the spatial design of neighbourhoods**

<b>Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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

<sup>116</sup> FEANTSA, 'ETHOS Typology on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion', accessed 26 August 2025, <https://www.feantsa.org/en/toolkit/2005/04/01/ethos-typology-on-homelessness-and-housing-exclusion>

<sup>117</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>118</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>119</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

	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) <sup>120</sup> .
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Demonstrated approaches aligned with NEB allow architects, designers, spatial planners and neighbourhood<sup>121</sup> decision makers to ensure an efficient and effective integration of user perspectives in the spatial design and/or transformation of public spaces.
- The demonstrated approaches deliver positive climate, environmental, social and cultural impact (such as addressing inequalities and enhancing social cohesion, community<sup>122</sup> resilience, civic engagement and a sense of security, ownership and belonging).

Scope: The design of neighbourhood public spaces defines their functionality, but also other aspects such as power dynamics and sense of belonging. A fair green transition<sup>123</sup> calls for neighbourhood public spaces to be designed and managed for diverse users. Integrating new methods (such as research-by-design, security-by-design<sup>124</sup>, or life-centric design) in the architectural design and spatial planning of public space can help reflect on the values, practices and stakeholder relations that underpin the design of public spaces; rethink how public spaces are understood; overcome the potential conflict between the need to accelerate planning and the time needed for participatory<sup>125</sup>, inclusive<sup>126</sup> and deliberative processes; and speed up their green transition while actively including their inhabitants' diverse perspectives.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Assess how spatial design determines gendered, age-appropriate and identity-related patterns of use (e.g. in terms of mobility, safety, sense of security and access to public and private spaces) and how inclusive approaches and accessibility can address diverse needs and experiences of users and the community.

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<sup>120</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>121</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>122</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>123</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>124</sup> LARCHER, M., KARLOS, V., SCHUMACHER, R., STREZOVA, D., CAVERZAN, A. et al., 'Security by Design: Protection of public spaces from terrorist attacks', Publications Office of the European Union, 2022, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/654492>

<sup>125</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>126</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

- Develop one approach to designing and planning public space that uses innovative methods. These innovative methods are expected to:
  - o Analyse the values, practices and stakeholder relations that underpin the design of public space in neighbourhoods.
  - o Be adapted to the sociocultural factors of the neighbourhoods and use co-creation<sup>127</sup> to incorporate inhabitants' diverse perspectives and to exploit the potential of cultural, creative, and educational (academic) sectors.
  - o Address climate-resilience, water resilience, civil security, and biodiversity of public space and the safety, well-being and security of its users.
  - o Assess the multisensory perception of public spaces, including their beauty and aesthetics, by users and the community.
  - o Be adaptable, replicable and scalable to local specificities.
- Demonstrate the approach in at least three neighbourhoods (in urban, peri-urban and rural areas) located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries.
- Develop plans and recommendations for the take up of the demonstrated approach. This includes assessing its potential application to other areas of the green transition of neighbourhoods (e.g. water resilient design planning, public service design, procurement, etc.) as well as identifying skills needs and gaps.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>128</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>129</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>130</sup> 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 allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

**HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-03:      Understanding      inhabitant's  
experiences of neighbourhoods to support their health and well-being**

**Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities**

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<sup>127</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>128</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>129</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>130</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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>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) <sup>131</sup>.</p>

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

- Robust evidence on how inhabitants experience their neighbourhood<sup>132</sup> and the impact of these experiences on their health and well-being.
- The research informs policies, strategies, neighbourhood planning and procurement for the green transition <sup>133</sup> of neighbourhoods, including their nature-positive <sup>134</sup> transformation and climate resilience.

**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 natural and built environment<sup>135</sup> they comprise. An increasing body of research is looking at the relationship between people and the built environment, from neuro-architectural aspects of space to atmosphere and ambiance aspects in urban design and planning, influencing also the perception of beauty. Digitalisation is also allowing to understand, map and enhance how inhabitants experience the built environment. Yet, more evidence is needed on how inhabitants react to and identify with their neighbourhoods as well as the effects of these experiences on their physical and mental health and overall well-being. Such insights can help

<sup>131</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>132</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>133</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>134</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>135</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.



inform spatial planning and regeneration strategies for the green transition of neighbourhoods, including their nature-positive transformation and climate resilience, while delivering positive social and cultural impacts such as sense of community, security and belonging, or cultural identity.

This topic will further investigate how inhabitants experience their neighbourhoods, the impact of these experiences on their health and well-being, and how these experiences can be improved through NEB in the context of the green transition.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Obtain a deep understanding of inhabitants' sensory and emotional experience of their neighbourhood and the impact of these experiences on their health and well-being. Proposals are expected to:
  - o Involve in the research a diversity of people and groups, including those in a vulnerable situation and/or marginalised (such as women, children, youth, older adults, people with physical and psychological functional variations and their families/carers, LGTBIQA+ people, migrants and refugees).
  - o Assess the extent to which experiences and impacts vary across sociodemographic groups as well as in neighbourhoods with different characteristics. For example, in relation to the geography (e.g. urban, peri-urban, rural, coastal, insular areas); the quality of the built environment, including its accessibility and perceived beauty; social, economic and demographic characteristics (e.g. population density, social mixing, social infrastructure<sup>136</sup>, property census); reputation; access to natural, cultural and artistic spaces and offers.
  - o Provide consistent and comparable data across different project sites and populations, making use of, among others, the NEB self-assessment method<sup>137</sup>.
  - o Validate the findings in at least three neighbourhoods (in urban, peri-urban and rural areas) located in at least three different Member States and/or Associated Countries.
- Based on the research evidence, provide recommendations to local authorities and the artistic, cultural and heritage sector in those neighbourhoods on how to:
  - o Improve inhabitants' experiences and sense of belonging of/in their neighbourhoods.
  - o Support the health and well-being of neighbourhood inhabitants.

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<sup>136</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>137</sup> European Commission, 'NEB Self-Assessment Method', *New European Bauhaus*, accessed 5 August 2025, [https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-self-assessment-method\\_en](https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-self-assessment-method_en)

- o Guide the green transition of neighbourhoods, including their nature-positive transformation and climate resilience.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>138</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>139</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>140</sup> 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 allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

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

<b>Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5.38 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 10.76 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:  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:

<sup>138</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>139</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>140</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

- Policy makers, local administrations and neighbourhood<sup>141</sup> actors across Europe and beyond have access to evidence-based guidance and recommendations to support public participation in the green transition<sup>142</sup> of neighbourhoods, including their nature-positive<sup>143</sup> transformation.
- Co-governance<sup>144</sup> approaches aligned with NEB help balance interests, power and knowledge asymmetries and adopt more-than-human<sup>145</sup> approaches at the neighbourhood level; and inform policy, legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks at the national and EU levels.

Scope: Public participation in the governance of the green transition of neighbourhoods presents an opportunity to improving inhabitant's quality of life while addressing climate, biodiversity, and pollution challenges. For instance, co-governance may contribute to enhancing representation, legitimacy, transparency and accountability, but also to balancing interests, flattening knowledge hierarchies, fostering inclusion and equity, and building a more balanced human-nature relationship. However, despite robust evidence, the connection between culture and democracy remains underused in co-governance approaches. As platforms for civic participation, cultural institutions and actors can have a key role in fostering engagement and cohesion among diverse participants and communities<sup>146</sup>. Digital tools (such as AI-supported participatory platforms, open data environments, and interactive modelling systems) can facilitate co-governance by enabling real-time feedback, broader engagement, and evidence-based decision making.

This topic will investigate how co-governance can support a fair green transition in neighbourhoods while also provoking positive changes in society, culture, the arts, the natural environment as well as the public perception and reputation of those neighbourhoods.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Refine and demonstrate co-governance approaches in at least ten neighbourhoods. The selected neighbourhoods are expected to be located in at least three different Member States and/or Associated Countries, as well as comprise a variety of contexts (i.e. urban, peri-urban and rural areas) and experiences (i.e. neighbourhoods with and without experience in public participation in governance of transition processes).
- Ensure that the co-governance approaches facilitate the inclusive, cultural, environmental and sustainable<sup>147</sup> development of neighbourhoods by:
  - o Giving nature a voice, using more-than-human approaches, and addressing climate, biodiversity, and pollution challenges.

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<sup>141</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>142</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>143</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>144</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>145</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>146</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>147</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

- o Balancing interests, power and knowledge asymmetries among the different neighbourhood actors (e.g. inhabitants, real estate developers, cultural institutions, social economy actors, businesses, etc.).
  - o Empowering inhabitants (especially groups in a vulnerable situation and/or marginalised) to actively participate, in the green transition in their neighbourhood.
  - o Making use of digital technologies (such as civic tech, open data platforms, other participatory digital tools) for all neighbourhood actors to make participatory processes more inclusive, transparent, accessible and efficient.
  - o Engaging cultural actors and making use of informal and local<sup>148</sup> forms of knowledge systems (such as those embedded in cultural heritage, communities, etc.).
- Evaluate and compare the extent to which the demonstrated co-governance approaches effectively and measurably deliver on the aspects listed under the previous point.
  - Based on the evidence collected, produce guidance and recommendations for policy makers and neighbourhood actors on co-governance (including on best practices; the benefits of co-governance for the green transition of neighbourhoods, including their nature-positive transformation and climate resilience, as well as for other levels of governance; administrative, legislative and regulatory changes to facilitate co-governance)

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. 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 demonstration of the co-governance approaches in neighbourhoods.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>149</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>150</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>151</sup> 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 allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

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<sup>148</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>149</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>150</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>151</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

**HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-02: Intergenerational neighbourhoods and communities aligned with the New European Bauhaus**

<b>Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5.25 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>	<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) <sup>152</sup>.</p>

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

- Demonstrated methodology is used by architects, spatial planners, designers and other relevant actors to identify the extent to which neighbourhoods<sup>153</sup> and communities<sup>154</sup> are intergenerational<sup>155</sup>.
- Demonstrated solutions for intergenerational neighbourhoods and communities are available to public authorities, public/private real estate developers and owners, and stakeholders involved in the green transition<sup>156</sup> of neighbourhoods.
- The demonstrated solutions make a significant contribution to intergenerational living and measurably advance the green transition in the neighbourhoods (for example in the

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<sup>152</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>153</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>154</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>155</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>156</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

field of sustainable mobility, accessibility, climate-resilience, water resilience, and/or biodiversity conservation).

Scope: Research shows that countries with lower age-related inequalities have higher levels of life satisfaction overall<sup>157</sup>, and that governments that balance the needs and interests of the present and future generations have higher levels of trust<sup>158</sup>.

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

This topic will support the development of intergenerational neighbourhoods and communities that better address the needs of the different age groups, while simultaneously tackling various local challenges (including, but not limited to the demographic transition, climate change, pollution, biodiversity loss, loss of cultural heritage, feelings of insecurity).

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Demonstrate a methodology to measure and monitor the extent to which neighbourhoods and communities are intergenerational. These may include digital platforms, smart sensing systems, or participatory data collection methods that enhance inclusiveness<sup>159</sup>, accessibility, and real-time insight. Among others, the methodology is expected to:
  - o Identify barriers (e.g. legal, regulatory, institutional) to intergenerational living in neighbourhoods and communities.
  - o Explore perceptions of the different generations.
  - o Determine the role of informal services (including culture, social and health care, and education), in fostering intergenerational neighbourhoods and communities.
- Demonstrate at least three solutions that promote intergenerational living in at least three neighbourhoods (in urban, peri-urban and rural areas) located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries. The solutions are expected to:
  - o Redesign neighbourhood spaces, functions and/or services, where possible building upon the cultural and creative sectors and analysing users’ perception. This includes multisensory perceptions as well as perceived beauty.
  - o Be adaptable to different local contexts.

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<sup>157</sup> OECD, ‘How’s Life? 2020 Measuring Well-being’, 2020, [https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/how-s-life/volume-/issue-\\_9870c393-en/full-report.html](https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/how-s-life/volume-/issue-_9870c393-en/full-report.html)

<sup>158</sup> OECD, ‘OECD Survey on Drivers of Trust in Public Institutions – 2024 Results: Building Trust in a Complex Policy Environment’, OECD Publishing, 2024, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9a20554b-en>.

<sup>159</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

- Monitor, evaluate, and document the demonstrated solutions. Based on the evidence, propose recommendations for their adaptation and uptake.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>160</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>161</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>162</sup> 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.

In order to achieve the expected outcomes, international cooperation<sup>163</sup> is encouraged.

Proposals are encouraged to exploit synergies with successful proposals from the topics ‘HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-BUSINESS-03: Anticipating the long-term future of neighbourhoods 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’.

Proposals are expected to allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

**HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-03: Novel combinations of knowledge and research methods to address social issues and advance a fair green transition of neighbourhoods**

<b>Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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

<sup>160</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>161</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>162</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>163</sup> International cooperation and participation of countries beyond EU Member States, associated countries, or third countries under the Horizon Europe programme.

	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) <sup>164</sup> .
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- The scientific community, public authorities and neighbourhood<sup>165</sup> actors have a better understanding of social issues that influence the green transition<sup>166</sup> in neighbourhoods thanks to novel, transdisciplinary<sup>167</sup> combinations of knowledge and research methods.
- Robust evidence resulting from novel, transdisciplinary combinations of knowledge and research methods informs decision-making, policymaking, design and planning, and/or public service design for the green transition of neighbourhoods, including their nature-positive<sup>168</sup> transformation.
- Skills transfer among the scientific community and non-scientific actors involved in planning and implementing the green transition at the neighbourhood level.

Scope: Social challenges (e.g. access to affordable housing, energy poverty, access to quality green spaces) impact the quality of life, health and well-being of individuals and communities<sup>169</sup> in neighbourhoods and influence how inhabitants experience and engage with the green transition. Advancing the green transition requires approaches that consider these varied experiences and ensure fairness and inclusion of all. However, the know-how of local communities and other non-scientific actors remains underexplored when it comes to generating and/or validating solutions to advance the green transition.

This topic focuses on innovative approaches for combining knowledge from local communities and non-scientific actors with scientific knowledge and/or formal research methods to address social issues that influence the green transition in neighbourhoods.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop an innovative, transdisciplinary approach that brings novel insights on social issues that hinder a fair green transition in neighbourhoods, including their nature-positive transformation. The approach is expected to:

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<sup>164</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>165</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>166</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>167</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>168</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>169</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.



- o Define the social issue(s) to be investigated. Where relevant, identify links between the social issue(s), relevant social phenomena and local specificities.
- o Integrate knowledge from local communities and non-scientific actors with scientific knowledge and/or formal research methods that are not usually combined.
- o Be tested or validated in at least three neighbourhoods (in urban, peri-urban and rural areas) located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries.
- Propose guidelines and recommendations for the uptake of the resulting insights and transdisciplinary approaches in decision-making, policymaking, design and planning, and/or public service design for neighbourhoods.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>170</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>171</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>172</sup> 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 allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

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<sup>170</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>171</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>172</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

## **Destination - Circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment**

Destination 2 aims to make neighbourhoods<sup>173</sup> more sustainable<sup>174</sup>, circular<sup>175</sup> and regenerative<sup>176</sup> but also inclusive<sup>177</sup>, accessible, affordable and beautiful<sup>178</sup>, turning them into resilient places where nature and biodiversity can thrive, contributing to a better health and well-being for all, as well as clean air, soils, water and energy, in line with the Davos Declaration 2018<sup>179</sup>. It does so by contributing to making the built environment<sup>180</sup> – including cultural heritage buildings – and its composing construction materials and products more sustainable and circular and by rethinking their design, construction, use, maintenance and disassembly. Specific attention is paid to the reuse and to extending the lifespan of existing infrastructure in order to minimize extraction of resources from the natural environment. It also explores the potential of digital tools and technologies to achieve these objectives as well as the potential of the cultural and creative sectors. The solutions developed should be user-centred and placed-based, and consider cultural heritage and vernacular knowledge<sup>181</sup> while reflecting local diversity and cultural identity and meeting people's (long-term) needs.

Destination 2 thus addresses 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, manufacturing of products, construction, use and end-of-life while keeping reusable products and materials in multiple use cycles as long as possible, Destination 2 contributes 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<sup>182</sup> and sustainable prosperity. Moreover, by exploring how the existing built environment can be used more efficiently, it contributes to the Renovation Wave and potentially the European Affordable Housing Plan<sup>183</sup>.

Destination 2 explores how the built environment can contribute to restoring its environment by leveraging nature-based-solutions<sup>184</sup>, biomimicry and regenerative designs. This includes

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<sup>173</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>174</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>175</sup> See definition of 'Circular economy' in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>176</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>177</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>178</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>179</sup> Davos Declaration, 'Davos Declaration 2018', 2018, <https://davosdeclaration2018.ch/en/>.

<sup>180</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>181</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>182</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>183</sup> This document is not yet published at the time of writing. The Commission adoption is currently planned for the first quarter of 2026.

<sup>184</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

clean soil, water and air and thus contributes to the Zero Pollution Action Plan<sup>185</sup>, the EU Biodiversity Strategy<sup>186</sup>, the Nature Restoration Regulation articles<sup>187</sup>, as well as the EU Strategy on Green Infrastructure<sup>188</sup> and the Water Resilience Strategy<sup>189</sup>. Such innovative designs and solutions should also improve the climate adaptability and resilience of buildings, neighbourhoods, cities and regions, thus contributing to the European Climate Adaptation Strategy.

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

- Living and working in a health-promoting environment
- Achieving global leadership in climate-neutral, circular and digitised industrial and digital value chains
- Putting biodiversity on a path to recovery, and protecting and restoring ecosystems and their services
- 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<sup>190</sup> and more circular construction materials and products in new construction and building renovations, while complying with current European standards and regulations, as well as informing them.

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<sup>185</sup> European Commission, Directorate-General for Environment, 'Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.. Pathway to a Healthy Planet for All EU Action Plan: 'Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil', COM/2021/400 final, 12 May 2021, accessed 5 August 2025, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52021DC0400&qid=1623311742827>.

<sup>186</sup> European Commission, Directorate-General for Environment, 'Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. Bringing nature back into our lives', COM/2020/380 final, 20 May 2020, accessed on 5 August 2025, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A52020DC0380>.

<sup>187</sup> European Parliament, Council of the European Union, 'Regulation (EU) 2024/1991 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2024 on nature restoration and amending Regulation (EU) 2022/869', 29 July 2024, accessed on 5 August 2025, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32024R1991&qid=1722240349976>.

<sup>188</sup> European Commission, 'Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. Green Infrastructure (GI) — Enhancing Europe's Natural Capital', COM/2013/0249 final, 6 May 2013, accessed on 5 August 2025, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A52013DC0249>.

<sup>189</sup> European Commission, Directorate-General for Environment, 'European Water Resilience Strategy', 3 June 2025, accessed on 5 August 2025, [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/european-water-resilience-strategy\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/european-water-resilience-strategy_en).

<sup>190</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

- Rethinking the way we design, build, use, renovate and disassemble our built environment over its entire life cycle to reach a more circular and sustainable built environment, better health and well-being of their occupants, better resources management, better biodiversity and regenerated ecosystems.
- Leveraging digital tools and technologies, local cultural identity and heritage as well as traditional and 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 the development of circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment and more specifically to one or several of the following impacts:

- The built environment, including cultural heritage buildings, and its composing elements and materials in neighbourhoods are more sustainable, circular, adaptable, multi-purposed, long-lasting, and have net-zero GHG emissions (and beyond) over their entire life cycles, resulting in an overall more sustainable, and climate-neutral building stock.
- Neighbourhoods are more beautiful, healthier places where human beings, natural ecosystems and biodiversity can thrive.
- Spaces, existing buildings and resources for construction and renovation are optimally used without compromising affordability, comfort and living conditions.
- 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 users – including minorities, underrepresented groups and groups in a vulnerable situation.
- Information on long-term environmental, social, economic impacts of sustainable and circular construction and renovation solutions for built assets are simplified, detailed and reliable, and better support decision-making process for built environment.

When possible and relevant, actions are strongly recommended to collaborate with and build on the results of past and ongoing research projects, including regional, national or European funded projects, to ensure consistency and continuity in research.

Legal entities established in China are not eligible to participate in both Research and Innovation Actions (RIAs) and Innovation Actions (IAs) falling under this destination. For additional information please see “Restrictions on the participation of legal entities established in China” found in General Annex B of the General Annexes.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

**HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-01: Sustainable, inclusive, affordable and beautiful solutions for thermal comfort in buildings**

<b>Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 4.00 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 12.00 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>	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) <sup>191</sup> .

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

- Significantly higher awareness of the construction ecosystem actors about solutions that are inspired by vernacular knowledge<sup>192</sup>, nature-based solutions<sup>193</sup>, bioclimatic design and/or frugal innovation<sup>194</sup>.
- The application of the developed solutions helps to achieve and maintain the thermal comfort in buildings while significantly reducing life cycle energy use, GHG emissions and costs compared to solutions that currently dominate the market.

Scope: Reducing life cycle GHG emissions in buildings is key to meet the Green Deal's objectives and make the built environment more sustainable<sup>195</sup>. However, achieving thermal

<sup>191</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>192</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>193</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>194</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

comfort inside buildings with poor thermal resilience often relies on energy-intensive solutions, such as air conditioning which not only emits GHGs and represents significant energy costs, but also contributes to urban heat island effects, impacting the health and well-being in neighbourhoods<sup>196</sup>, particularly for groups in a vulnerable situation such as the elderly and low-income households.

There is therefore a need to further develop and demonstrate the effectiveness of beautiful<sup>197</sup>, sustainable and affordable solutions for achieving thermal comfort in buildings that are inspired by vernacular principles, nature-based solutions, bioclimatic design and/or frugal innovation.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop and demonstrate at least two solutions for achieving thermal comfort in buildings based on vernacular principles, nature-based solutions, bioclimatic design and/or frugal innovation. Demonstrate the two solutions on new and/or existing buildings – including at least one cultural heritage building – in at least two different climatic zones located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries.
- Evaluate the reduction in life cycle GHG emissions and life cycle costs as well as the improvement in affordability compared to solutions currently on the market.
- Ensure the accessibility of the solution to groups in a vulnerable situation and the aesthetic appeal<sup>198</sup> of the solutions developed.
- Identify barriers hindering the implementation, scalability and replicability of the proposed solutions, including regulatory aspects, and provide recommendations and guidance to overcome them.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>199</sup> and transdisciplinary approach<sup>200</sup> through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

Synergies should be explored and, as appropriate, pursued with other relevant initiatives such as the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change. In particular, the topic *HORIZON-MISS-2025-01-CLIMA-04: Testing and demonstrating innovative solutions to improve resilience to extreme heat, including addressing health impacts* should be considered.

Proposals are expected to allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

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<sup>195</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>196</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>197</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>198</sup> See definition of "beautiful" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>199</sup> See definition of "participatory process" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>200</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

## **HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-02: Advancing sustainable maintenance and repair measures for existing buildings**

<b>Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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>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) <sup>201</sup>.</p>

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

- Extended service life and reduced life cycle environmental impacts of existing buildings, contributing to a more sustainable<sup>202</sup> built environment<sup>203</sup>.
- Easier application and more frequent use of predictive maintenance in existing buildings.

**Scope:** Prolonging the lifespan and improving the performance of existing buildings are among key strategies to decrease new construction rates, which will help reduce the extraction of raw materials, manufacturing of new construction products, generating less waste and thus reducing GHG emissions and contributing to a more sustainable built environment. Recent legal and policy developments such as the recast Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) reinforce the importance of preserving and upgrading existing buildings as part of

<sup>201</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>202</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>203</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

Europe's climate and circular economy<sup>204</sup> objectives. However, maintenance and repair intervention are often reactive, which can lead to inefficiencies and a lack of environmental sustainability. They can also take time, be costly and disruptive for the building's users and inhabitants as they can cause noise and air pollution, utility interruptions, or temporary unavailability of rooms or services. There is therefore a need to develop solutions allowing the efficient, sustainable, timely, and high-quality maintenance and repair of existing buildings to extend their lifespan.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop at least one prospective LCA-based decision-support tool for predictive maintenance and repair of existing buildings.
- Develop at least one package of maintenance and repair measures to extend the estimated service life of existing buildings, which:
  - o Integrates circularity principles, is environmentally sustainable and financially feasible over the remaining life cycle of building(s);
  - o Involves building's inhabitants, users and owners in the design and implementation of maintenance and repair measures;
  - o Complies with European and national regulatory requirements;
  - o Minimises disruption for building inhabitants or users in terms of noise and duration of the works.
- Demonstrate these solutions (both the decision-support tool(s) and the package(s) of measures) on three buildings, including at least one heritage building and at least one social and affordable housing project<sup>205</sup>, located in three different Member States and/or Associated Countries.
- Explore the potential for a wide-spread application of predictive maintenance applied to existing buildings, identify barriers that hinder the implementation of predictive maintenance on existing buildings, and propose solutions to overcome them.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>206</sup> and transdisciplinary approach<sup>207</sup> through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>208</sup> disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of

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<sup>204</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>205</sup> This topic also considers social care homes, elderly houses, and other form of inclusive housing with residential function complemented with social welfare as forms of social and affordable housing.

<sup>206</sup> See definition of "participatory process" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>207</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>208</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.



relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are expected to allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

**HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-REGEN-03: Innovative solutions for the sustainable and beautiful use of vertical space**

<b>Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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>	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) <sup>209</sup> .

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

- Higher availability of innovative solutions for vertical space<sup>210</sup> use on the market.
- The application of innovative solutions for vertical space use allows for a more efficient use of the existing built environment<sup>211</sup> and provides green spaces and/or affordable housing in neighbourhoods<sup>212</sup>.

<sup>209</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>210</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

Scope: The increased demand for housing and thus land can conflict with the need to preserve and restore nature and biodiversity in our neighbourhoods. Rethinking the way we use existing buildings and applying a smart and efficient use of space is thus crucial to limit urban sprawl.

There is therefore a need to develop solutions that make use of the under-used and un-used vertical space above our streets and buildings. Urban vertical farming, community gardens on rooftops, vertical extensions and other alternative multifunctional structures making use of these spaces might be suitable solutions to high-quality, sustainable<sup>213</sup> and affordable housing and green spaces while limiting land use. However, if not carefully planned and integrated, these solutions might face challenges such as social acceptance, regulatory barriers, and hold risks of excessive densification, neighbourhoods profound alteration as well as environmental risks.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop and demonstrate at least one innovative solution that makes use of the un-used or under-used vertical space above buildings and/or streets in a beautiful<sup>214</sup> and sustainable manner to improve the availability and affordability of housing and / or provide more green spaces.
- Integrate circularity principles<sup>215</sup> to the solution(s) developed.
- Assess the life cycle environmental social and economic impacts of the proposed solution(s) with appropriate methods.
- If relevant, minimize and mitigate the negative effects of densification.
- Assess the potential for the proposed solutions to contribute to a reduction in demand for land use.
- Identify and address the regulatory, technical and societal barriers to the implementation of the proposed solution(s) and propose solutions to overcome them.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>216</sup> and transdisciplinary approach<sup>217</sup> through the integration of different actors and disciplines and to involve the local community<sup>218</sup> and, if relevant, cultural and creative industries, in the co-creation<sup>219</sup> of the solution(s) developed. Proposals are expected – to the extent possible – to contribute to the urban greening goals set out in the Nature Restoration Regulation.

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<sup>211</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>212</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>213</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>214</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>215</sup> See definition of ‘Circular economy’ in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>216</sup> See definition of “participatory process” in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>217</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>218</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>219</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

In order to achieve the expected outcomes, international cooperation<sup>220</sup> is encouraged.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>221</sup> 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 allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

**HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-01: Combining conventional and innovative construction materials, products and techniques for sustainable and beautiful buildings**

<b>Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 4.00 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 12.00 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) <sup>222</sup>.</p>

<sup>220</sup> International cooperation and participation of countries beyond EU Member States, associated countries, or third countries under the Horizon Europe programme.

<sup>221</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>222</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

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

- More optimised construction or renovation processes and improved building performance thanks to hybrid building solutions combining innovative and conventional construction materials, products or techniques.
- Increased awareness of the construction ecosystem<sup>223</sup> actors of the positive and negative aspects of hybrid building solutions.

Scope: The transition to a more sustainable<sup>224</sup> built environment<sup>225</sup> has led to the development of innovative constructions materials, products and techniques supporting the decarbonisation, climate resilience, circularity<sup>226</sup>, durability or adaptability of buildings and the built environment, such as bio-based<sup>227</sup> and circular building materials, 3D-printed building elements or the redevelopment and/or adaptation of vernacular and traditional construction materials, products and techniques. 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 combine the two. Yet, hybrid building solutions hold potential to improve the sustainability, performances and architectural quality – including beauty<sup>228</sup> – of the built environment. Similarly, combining traditional craftsmanship with state-of-the-art techniques and modern technology can improve the performance, durability, resilience, or sustainability of new buildings and renovation projects. This topic thus seeks to develop innovative hybrid solutions that combine conventional materials, products and/or techniques with innovative ones and hold significant advantages for the construction sector.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop at least one replicable and scalable hybrid building solution that combines innovative and conventional construction materials, products and/or techniques that:
  - o Is applicable to new construction and renovation projects;
  - o Offers potential to optimise the construction or renovation process in terms of time, cost and/or resources used;
  - o Complies with relevant regulatory requirements, such as safety and security ones, (e.g. structural and fire safety etc.) and standards;
  - o Incorporates circularity principles.

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<sup>223</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>224</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>225</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>226</sup> See definition of ‘Circular economy’ in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>227</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>228</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

- Validate the proposed solution and assess the extent to which it supports and/or improves the sustainability, performances, durability, resilience and architectural quality – including beauty<sup>229</sup> – of buildings, by using relevant indicators.
- If relevant, explore the compatibility and interaction of the different types of materials or products in terms of their long-term performance (e.g., moisture management, adhesion, degradation, etc.).

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>230</sup> and transdisciplinary approach<sup>231</sup> through the integration of different actors and disciplines and to co-create<sup>232</sup> the solution(s) with the relevant public and private stakeholders of the construction ecosystem.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>233</sup> 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 allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

#### **HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-02: Sustainable, beautiful and healthy construction and renovation sites**

<b>Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 4.00 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 8.00 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</i>	The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:

<sup>229</sup> See definition of "beautiful" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>230</sup> See definition of "participatory process" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>231</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>232</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>233</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<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) <sup>234</sup> .
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Construction ecosystem actors<sup>235</sup> are better aware of the negative effects of construction and renovation sites on natural ecosystems as well as on the health and well-being of construction workers and all people living, working or passing through the vicinity.
- Significant reduction of negative effects of construction and renovation sites on natural ecosystems, health and well-being of construction workers and all people living, working or passing through the vicinity.

Scope: Construction and renovation sites can significantly contribute to environmental degradation through noise, air pollution, litter and waste. They also cause other disturbances such as soil compaction, dust emissions, water contamination, or vibration that can negatively impact surrounding natural ecosystems and biodiversity but also the health and well-being of construction workers and all people living, working or passing through the vicinity. Moreover, construction and renovation sites are often visually unappealing and poorly integrated into their surrounding environment, which can create a sense of disruption and negatively affect the well-being of nearby residents and all people living, working or passing through the vicinity.

Yet, construction ecosystem actors, such as urban planners, architects, project developers, and construction site managers, are often unaware of the full extent of these negative effects on natural ecosystems, the environment and human health and well-being, or unable to mitigate them. As a result, these negative effects are rarely given adequate consideration. There is a need to better understand these negative effects and develop solutions that reduce them.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Assess the negative environmental, ecological and health effects of construction and renovation sites on surrounding natural ecosystems, construction workers and all people living, working or passing through the vicinity.

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<sup>234</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>235</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

- Develop at least two solutions to reduce the negative environmental, ecological and health effects of construction and renovation sites while also paying attention to the visual impact of these sites on their surroundings.
- Validate the proposed solution and assess their costs and benefits using appropriate methods and indicators.
- Provide recommendations and guidance to construction ecosystem actors on how to reduce the negative environmental, ecological and health effects of construction and renovation sites and develop a draft "European Charter for sound environmental and working environment management of renovation and construction sites" that can be endorsed by companies and entities.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>236</sup> and transdisciplinary approach<sup>237</sup> through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>238</sup> 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 allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

### **HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-REGEN-03: Revitalising neighbourhoods around existing railway and motorway corridors**

<b>Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<i>Expected EU contribution per project</i>	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 5.50 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 11.00 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.

<sup>236</sup> See definition of “participatory process” in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>237</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>238</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<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>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 100 000 to allow for the co-creation and demonstration of the solution in neighbourhoods.</p>
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- The use of the innovative solutions reduces the environmental, ecological, economic, social and health negative effects of existing, active railway lines and motorways<sup>239</sup> on demonstrator sites, contributing to their revitalisation.
- Improved adoption of solutions by the stakeholders such as local authorities, inhabitants, architects, engineers, landscape architects or urban planners.

Scope: Active railway lines and motorways are an integral part of the European landscape. However, they can be perceived as sources of disturbances such as pollutants, noise and air pollution, invasive alien plants species vectors, potential hazards, etc. Moreover, railways lines and motorway may negatively impact surrounding neighbourhoods<sup>240</sup> through which they pass, making them unsightly, neglected, unattractive as well as biodiversity harmful.

Innovative solutions are thus required to reduce the environmental, ecological, economic, social and health negative effects that active railway lines and motorways can have on surrounding neighbourhoods and to revitalise these places and turn them into more liveable, inclusive, safe, attractive and biodiverse ones in line with the sustainability<sup>241</sup>, inclusion<sup>242</sup> and aesthetic<sup>243</sup> values of the New European Bauhaus.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop and demonstrate a package of measures to mitigate the negative effects of active railway lines and motorways on nearby neighbourhoods and revitalise those neighbourhoods. Implement this package of measures in three distinct neighbourhoods – one urban, one peri-urban, and one rural – located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries.
- Measure and assess the changes in environmental, ecological, economic, social and health impacts resulting from the package of measures developed and applied in the demonstrator sites.

<sup>239</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>240</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>241</sup> See definition of “Sustainable” in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>242</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>243</sup> See definition of “Beauty” in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.



- Identify barriers hindering the implementation of the proposed measures, including regulatory aspects and propose solutions to overcome them.
- Ensure the scalability and replicability of the measures through guidance and documented best practices for municipalities and relevant stakeholders.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>244</sup> and transdisciplinary approach<sup>245</sup> through the integration of different actors and disciplines and to co-create<sup>246</sup> the solution(s), engaging with relevant stakeholders such as public authorities, architects, urban and landscape planners or inhabitants. 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 social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>247</sup> 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 allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment. Synergies should also be explored and, as appropriate, pursued with other relevant initiatives, such as the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking (EU-Rail)<sup>248</sup>.

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<sup>244</sup> See definition of “participatory process” in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>245</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>246</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>247</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>248</sup> See <https://rail-research.europa.eu/>

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

Revitalising neighbourhoods for communities to come together is about ensuring the right conditions. 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<sup>249</sup> in line with New European Bauhaus (NEB) values<sup>250</sup> and working principles<sup>251</sup>. Demonstrating the socioeconomic, environmental, financial, aesthetic<sup>252</sup> and cultural value creation of NEB-aligned solutions and projects can incentivise stakeholders in the built environment<sup>253</sup> and its related ecosystems (e.g. construction<sup>254</sup>, banking, insurance, social economy, and real estate) to invest and participate in the circular<sup>255</sup>, inclusive<sup>256</sup>, affordable, accessible, sustainable<sup>257</sup> 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, sustainable competitiveness.

This Destination will 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

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, biodiversity, responsible and sufficient use of natural resources, and sustainable competitiveness contributes to the Clean Industrial Deal<sup>258</sup>, EU Circular Economy Action Plan<sup>259</sup>, new Circular Economy Act<sup>260</sup>, Zero Pollution Action Plan<sup>261</sup>, EU Biodiversity Strategy<sup>262</sup>, and European Climate Adaptation Plan<sup>263</sup>. This Destination also seeks to engage

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<sup>249</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>250</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>251</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>252</sup> See definition of "beautiful" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>253</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>254</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>255</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>256</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>257</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>258</sup> European Commission, 'Clean Industrial Deal', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/topics/eu-competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal_en)

<sup>259</sup> European Commission, 'Circular Economy Action Plan', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/circular-economy-action-plan\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/circular-economy-action-plan_en)

<sup>260</sup> Under development and with expected adoption by the end of 2025.

<sup>261</sup> European Commission, 'Zero Pollution Action Plan', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/zero-pollution-action-plan\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/zero-pollution-action-plan_en)

<sup>262</sup> European Commission, 'Biodiversity Strategy 2030', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/biodiversity-strategy-2030\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/biodiversity-strategy-2030_en)

local stakeholders and the local social economy in neighbourhood transformation while addressing community<sup>264</sup> challenges and needs as well as better understanding and leveraging appropriate market dynamics. It thereby offers potential contributions to the EU Startup and Scaleup Strategy<sup>265</sup>. By focusing on the reuse of the existing building stock, the provision of key social infrastructures<sup>266</sup> and services, and addressing homelessness<sup>267</sup> at neighbourhood level, it also contributes to the EU Renovation Wave<sup>268</sup> and potentially contributes to the European Affordable Housing Plan<sup>269</sup>.

In work programme 2026-2027, this Destination contributes to the following overarching 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

In addition, 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:

1. Better understanding of the contextual local conditions that drive or hinder sustainable neighbourhood developments and the uptake of NEB-aligned solutions and projects, such as capital and real estate market dynamics and socioeconomic, cultural, demographic, and climatic changes.
2. Anticipation and consideration of future needs, functions and inhabitants (including more-than-human<sup>270</sup> perspectives) of neighbourhoods and their developments towards the future.
3. Demonstrated socioeconomic, financial, environmental, cultural, and aesthetic value of NEB-aligned solutions and projects driving the revitalisation of the built environment in neighbourhoods.

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<sup>263</sup> European Commission, 'EU Adaptation Strategy', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/adaptation-climate-change/eu-adaptation-strategy\\_en](https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/adaptation-climate-change/eu-adaptation-strategy_en)

<sup>264</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>265</sup> European Commission, 'EU Startup and Scaleup Strategy', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/jobs-and-economy/eu-startup-and-scaleup-strategy\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/jobs-and-economy/eu-startup-and-scaleup-strategy_en)

<sup>266</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>267</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>268</sup> European Commission, 'Renovation Wave', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-performance-buildings/renovation-wave\\_en](https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-performance-buildings/renovation-wave_en)

<sup>269</sup> European Commission, 'European Affordable Housing Plan', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14670-European-Affordable-Housing-Plan\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14670-European-Affordable-Housing-Plan_en)

<sup>270</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

4. Increased investment in the transformation of neighbourhoods in line with NEB through alternative, innovative, and community-based investment and ownership approaches<sup>271</sup>.
5. Community and place-based approaches that adopt a systemic perspective and use co-creation<sup>272</sup> approaches with diverse local stakeholders, including marginalised or underrepresented groups or those in a vulnerable situation, and contribute to addressing pressing community challenges and needs such as homelessness and housing.
6. Circular manufacturing, renovation, and reuse approaches in the built environment contribute to the sufficient use of resources and space.

When possible and relevant, actions are strongly recommended to collaborate with and build on the results of past and ongoing research projects, including regional, national or European funded projects, to ensure consistency and continuity in research.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

**HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-01: Structurally addressing homelessness through coordinated social infrastructure and services in neighbourhoods**

<b>Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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>	<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</p>

<sup>271</sup> See the NEB Investment Guidelines for more information. European Commission, 'NEB Investment Guidelines', *New European Bauhaus*, accessed 5 August 2025, [https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-investment-guidelines\\_en](https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-investment-guidelines_en). Sections of particular relevance for applicants to consider include: 1. Introduction; 2. Mapping the NEB; 4.4 Project risks; 5. Making the NEB case; and 6. Conclusions.

<sup>272</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

	Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) <sup>273</sup> .
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Evidence of the structural social infrastructure <sup>274</sup> and services needed to address homelessness<sup>275</sup> at neighbourhood<sup>276</sup> level is made available to stakeholders involved in tackling homelessness.
- Improved availability and accessibility of key social infrastructure and services for homeless groups in the targeted neighbourhoods.

Scope: Based on 2024 data, over 1.2 million people are estimated to experience homelessness in Europe<sup>277</sup>, with a significant proportion (45%) of surveyed homeless individuals finding themselves in a situation of chronic homelessness for over two years<sup>278</sup>.

While housing-led approaches<sup>279</sup> 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<sup>280</sup> sector facilities and services that support and enable access to healthcare, employment, education, community integration, and other social services. They must be developed and made available in a coordinated manner that mitigates the interconnected root causes of homelessness in the long term and supports the reintegration and social inclusion of individuals in communities by avoiding long-term dependence on emergency support. This is especially important considering that chronic homelessness is often accompanied by a complex mix of needs and physical and psychological functional variations.

Research is required on how to analyse the interconnected, contextual conditions that drive and mitigate homelessness at the neighbourhood level and how to inform strategies to structurally address homelessness.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

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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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

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See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

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See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

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See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

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

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FEANTSA, ‘Homelessness in Europe The State of Play’, NINTH OVERVIEW OF HOUSING EXCLUSION IN EUROPE, Chapter 1, 2024, "https://www.feantsa.org/public/user/Activities/events/2024/9th\_overview/EN\_Chap/1.pdf" https://www.feantsa.org/public/user/Activities/events/2024/9th\_overview/EN\_Chap/1.pdf

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See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

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See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

- Develop a system-based approach to mitigate homelessness and support the reintegration of individuals in communities by coordinating key social infrastructure and services (including healthcare, education, employment, community integration and other relevant social services) at neighbourhood level. The approach must cover at least the following:
  - o Analysis of local neighbourhood context and existing built environment<sup>281</sup> in terms of availability and equitable access to relevant social infrastructures and services, particularly for chronic homelessness and marginalised groups or those in a vulnerable situation.
  - o Assessment of the impact and potential correlation between infrastructure and service design in the built environment and the degree of homelessness in neighbourhoods.
  - o Development of strategies to overcome challenges of coordinating key social infrastructure and services at neighbourhood level (such as data limitations and fragmentation, siloed and fragmented social service systems, and funding challenges for scalability).
  - o Analysis of 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.
  - o Assessment of the potential impacts on community (re)integration and participation<sup>282</sup>, well-being, social cohesion, and a sense of belonging in neighbourhoods for both homeless groups and the broader community in neighbourhoods.
  - o Assessment of the socioeconomic impact of the system-based approach through measurable indicators on social infrastructure and service accessibility and use.
  - o Provision of recommendations and guidance to apply the approach in other neighbourhoods, considering contextual factors such as unequal geographical distribution of and access to social infrastructure and services (considering factors including gender, sexual orientation, age, physical and psychological functional variations, or other relevant social factors), and local homelessness conditions.
- Develop and validate the approach in at least five neighbourhoods located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>283</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>284</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

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<sup>281</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>282</sup> See definition of "participatory process" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>283</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>284</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>285</sup> 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 encouraged to exploit synergies with successful proposals from the topic 'HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-01: Addressing homelessness through housing-led approaches aligned with the New European Bauhaus' to avoid duplication and exploit opportunities for increased impact.

Proposals are expected to allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learnings, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

**HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-02: Understanding capital market dynamics for increased investment in New European Bauhaus projects in neighbourhoods**

<b>Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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>	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) <sup>286</sup> .

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

<sup>285</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>286</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

- Project promoters, public authorities, and investors have a better understanding of the capital market demand and supply dynamics that underlie investments in projects fostering the transformation of neighbourhoods<sup>287</sup> in line with the New European Bauhaus (NEB).
- Increased investments towards NEB-aligned projects for the sustainable<sup>288</sup> and inclusive<sup>289</sup> transformation of neighbourhoods.

Scope: Increased investment in projects for the transformation of neighbourhoods in line with the New European Bauhaus (NEB) may be hindered due to a discrepancy between the demand and supply of capital in terms of size, diversity, returns, and risk. Small-scale NEB-aligned projects typically encounter large, short-term oriented, and highly risk-averse investment funds, which seek investment opportunities able to absorb large amounts of funding, driven by present legislation<sup>290</sup>.

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<sup>291</sup> and environmental value and by helping to meet local needs in terms of community<sup>292</sup> well-being, social inclusion, local economic resilience, and sustainable development<sup>293</sup>.

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 of the following:

- Analyse the capital market dynamics that influence investments in NEB-aligned projects for the transformation of neighbourhoods. This includes analysing at least the following:
  - o The size, scale, and diversity as well as the barriers, risks, and drivers of capital market demand and supply for NEB-aligned projects.
  - o The context of NEB-aligned investment projects, including political, financial, economic, regulatory, and cultural dimensions.
- Based on the above, develop an innovative investment solution that addresses and leverages the analysed capital market dynamics towards increased investment in NEB-aligned projects. The investment solution is expected to:

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<sup>287</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>288</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>289</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>290</sup> Examples include the EU Taxonomy, Fit for 55 package, and European Social Fund (ESF+).

<sup>291</sup> See definition of "beautiful" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>292</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>293</sup> Impact Investing Institute, 'Section 1: What is place-based impact investing?', Impact Investing Institute website, accessed 29 September 2025, <https://www.impactinvest.org.uk/learning-hub/place-based-impact-investing/what-is-place-based-impact-investing/>.



- o Leverage place-based impact investing approaches and is encouraged to combine them with other diverse and out-of-the-box investment approaches, frameworks, or funding schemes that contribute to social, environmental, aesthetic, and cultural impact in neighbourhoods. This may include the use of innovative digital financial instruments, platforms for community co-investment, or blockchain-enabled transparency mechanisms, among others.
  - 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 to secure future funding and financing.
  - o Support investors to assess the investment potential and returns (including economic, social, cultural, aesthetic and environmental) of NEB-aligned neighbourhood projects.
- Conduct the above analysis and validate the developed solution in at least three different Member States and/or Associated Countries.

Projects are expected to integrate and build upon the New European Bauhaus Investment Guidelines<sup>294</sup>.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>295</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>296</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

Proposals are expected to allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learnings, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

### **HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-03: Approaches to reuse vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces**

<b>Call: Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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

<sup>294</sup> European Commission, 'NEB Investment Guidelines', *New European Bauhaus*, accessed 5 August 2025, [https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-investment-guidelines\\_en](https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-investment-guidelines_en). Sections of particular relevance for applicants to consider include: 1. Introduction; 2. Mapping the NEB; 4.4 Project risks; 5. Making the NEB case; and 6. Conclusions.

<sup>295</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>296</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

	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)<sup>297</sup>.</p>

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

- An increased number of local authorities systematically identify and quantify vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces for reuse in neighbourhoods<sup>298</sup> in a context-sensitive way to address local community<sup>299</sup> challenges and needs.
- Increase in renovated, renatured, or converted spaces that address local community challenges and needs.

Scope: Europe’s housing needs, inefficient use of the existing building stock, environmental commitments, and the EU’s goal of “no net land take” by 2050 make a compelling case for reusing the significant number of existing spaces, including buildings and infrastructure, that are vacant, obsolete or underutilised. In Europe, there are, for instance, an estimated 19,000 km<sup>2</sup> of underutilised brownfield land and 300 km<sup>2</sup> of vacant or underutilised office space<sup>300</sup>.

The reuse of vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces, following circularity<sup>301</sup> and sufficiency principles, can help address community challenges and needs thanks to their typical proximity and connection to essential infrastructure and services.

While vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces are already being renovated, renatured or converted, this happens typically at individual scale or for temporary reuse. A systematic and context-sensitive approach is required that maps vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces with

<sup>297</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>298</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>299</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>300</sup> Edmond de Rothschild, ‘THE €4 TRILLION OPPORTUNITY: REPURPOSING EUROPE’S BROWNFIELD SITES AND OFFICES’, 2025, <https://www.edmond-de-rothschild.com/media/vj4lhpez/250211-pr-urban-regeneration-ginkgo-en.pdf>

<sup>301</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

potential for reuse and involves local stakeholders in the reuse process to address local community challenges and needs in the long term.

It is also important to understand common reasons for the vacancy, obsolescence or underutilisation of spaces and challenges to their reuse, and to recognise that not all types of spaces are suitable for reuse. Factors can include, for example, building or infrastructure condition, location, and spatial or structural limitations; zoning regulations; legal barriers; lack of data; or lack of resources, funds, or incentives for property owners and public authorities to renovate spaces. In addition, certain vacant spaces might already fulfil important ecological or social functions by providing refuge to natural species as well as non-typical community lifestyles.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop a systematic and context-sensitive approach for vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces, including buildings or infrastructures. The approach must cover at least the following:
  - o Analysis of common drivers of the vacancy, obsolescence or underutilisation of spaces.
  - o Identification and prioritisation of vacant, obsolete or underutilised spaces in the targeted neighbourhoods.
  - o Assessment of local community challenges and needs, of the identified spaces being reused to address those challenges and needs, and of potential side-effects or challenges of their reuse (such as overcrowding in the neighbourhood, loss or degradation of green areas, displacement of inhabitants, affordability, potential impacts on gentrification, or regulatory, legal, or funding challenges).
  - o In cases where the spaces already fulfil important ecological or social functions: Identification of measures to strengthen the spaces' governance and oversight together with the community, while strengthening local regulatory frameworks, where relevant.
  - o Use of co-creation<sup>302</sup> methods to engage community stakeholders in the process.
  - o Identification of funding and financing mechanisms to support the reuse of the spaces.
- Validate the approach in at least three neighbourhoods in urban, peri-urban and rural areas located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries.
- Assess the social (e.g. accessibility, inclusion, social cohesion), cultural (e.g. aesthetics<sup>303</sup>), environmental (e.g. more sufficient resource use, waste reduction,

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<sup>302</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>303</sup> See definition of "beautiful" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

biodiversity, climate resilience), and economic (e.g. economies of scale, efficiency) value of the approach.

- Provide recommendations to inform the adaptation of the approach in different neighbourhood contexts.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>304</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>305</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>306</sup> 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 allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learnings, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

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

<b>Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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

<sup>304</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>305</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>306</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

	Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025) <sup>307</sup> .
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Expected Outcome: Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Stakeholders involved in the construction<sup>308</sup> and renovation ecosystem adopt innovative solutions for the mass customisation of offsite manufactured modular construction components.
- Significantly reduced waste and environmental impacts (including air quality, noise and transportation) and enhanced local cultural heritage and/or aesthetics<sup>309</sup> of the built environment<sup>310</sup> compared to using conventional modular construction components.

Scope: Solutions to transform the existing built environment<sup>311</sup> 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 require a manufacturing approach that is efficient, affordable, and accessible while at the same time being adaptable to different local needs and contexts.

The mass customisation of modular construction components<sup>312</sup> that are manufactured offsite<sup>313</sup> can contribute to the sustainable<sup>314</sup> and high-quality renovation and adaptation of the existing built environment that reflects local needs and preferences and fosters local cultural heritage, aesthetics, and identity. This can also contribute to modular disassembly, re-assembly, and renovation approaches within National Building Renovation Plans<sup>315</sup> under the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive<sup>316</sup>.

Better understanding and demonstration are required of the potential, applications, and scalability of solutions for offsite manufactured modular construction components that can be customised to the existing built environment in line with NEB.

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<sup>307</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>308</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>309</sup> See definition of "beautiful" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>310</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>311</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>312</sup> Modular construction components refer to standardised building components that can be easily rearranged, added, or removed as requirements evolve.

<sup>313</sup> Offsite manufacturing refers to the process of planning, designing, and fabricating construction components in an external facility, rather than at the final construction or renovation site, after which these components are transported and installed in place. This approach enables faster, higher-quality, and more efficient construction and renovation with reduced on-site disruption and waste.

<sup>314</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>315</sup> European Commission, 'National Building Renovation Plans', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-efficient-buildings/national-building-renovation-plans\\_en](https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-efficient-buildings/national-building-renovation-plans_en)

<sup>316</sup> European Commission, 'Energy Performance of Buildings Directive', accessed 5 August 2025, [https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-efficient-buildings/energy-performance-buildings-directive\\_en](https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-efficient-buildings/energy-performance-buildings-directive_en)

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop an innovative solution for the mass customisation of offsite manufactured modular construction components, which applies technologies and technological advancements such as distributed manufacturing, building information modelling (BIM), and modular construction approaches.
- Demonstrate the innovative solution in an operational environment in at least three Member States and/or Associated Countries. Mass customisation of the modular construction components should address the needs of at least three application areas (e.g. residential, commercial, public space, cultural heritage, education, recreation).
- Evaluate the economic, aesthetic, environmental, social, and cultural value and the business case to invest in the solution<sup>317</sup>.
- Develop and demonstrate strategies to scale up and adapt the solution to different local contexts. This includes consideration of the solution's long-term performance, durability (e.g. in changing climates), and repairability.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>318</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>319</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>320</sup> 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 allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learnings, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

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

<b>Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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.

<sup>317</sup> European Commission, 'NEB Investment Guidelines', *New European Bauhaus*, accessed 5 August 2025, [https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-investment-guidelines\\_en](https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-investment-guidelines_en). Sections of particular relevance for applicants to consider include: 1. Introduction; 2. Mapping the NEB; 4.4 Project risks; 5. Making the NEB case; and 6. Conclusions.

<sup>318</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>319</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>320</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<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>	Research and Innovation Actions
<i>Procedure</i>	<p>The procedure is described in General Annex F. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p>To ensure a balanced portfolio covering the two thematic options described in the scope below, grants will be awarded to applications not only in order of ranking but at least also to one proposal within the option A that is the highest ranked and one proposal within the option B that is the highest ranked, provided that the applications attain all thresholds. Proposals shall clearly indicate the thematic option they have selected to work on.</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) <sup>321</sup>.</p>

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

- Community <sup>322</sup> stakeholders co-create <sup>323</sup> and participate <sup>324</sup> in innovative community investment and community ownership models.
- 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 diverse local community stakeholders to collectively invest in, own, manage, and benefit from local commercial, housing, transitional, or mixed-use assets. By directly engaging community stakeholders, such bottom-up and place-based approaches respond to local community needs

<sup>321</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>322</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>323</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>324</sup> See definition of “participatory process” in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

and preferences and create local agency and long-term stewardship in the revitalisation of neighbourhoods.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop a collective community investment or ownership model that involves diverse community stakeholders, including marginalised groups or those in a vulnerable situation, in the co-creation and revitalisation of neighbourhoods in line with the New European Bauhaus by focusing on one of the following options:
  - o Option A: A community equity investment model that offers community stakeholders the ability to acquire shares in local cooperative and community-based commercial or service-oriented assets to profit from and participate in their further development without necessarily working there.
  - o Option B: An occupant equity model through which community stakeholders build equity via their occupancy and participation in the development of a local cooperative and community-based housing or mixed-use<sup>325</sup> asset where they typically live or work.
- Develop and validate the model in at least three neighbourhoods in different Member States and/or Associated Countries.
- Assess the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of the model on the targeted neighbourhood(s) and their surrounding environment, including long-term affordability, accessibility, and local community and public interest outcomes.
- Identify potential systemic challenges to the uptake of the model and formulate solutions to overcome them. This should include considerations of the influence of local capital and real estate market dynamics, and the long-term financial viability of the developed model<sup>326</sup>.
- Consider and leverage existing relevant investment and ownership regulations and legal aspects at the local, regional, and national levels.
- Provide recommendations to scale up and adapt the model in different local and cultural contexts.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>327</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>328</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

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<sup>325</sup> Mixed-used assets refer to assets that combine different functions, e.g. housing, community services, etc.

<sup>326</sup> European Commission, 'NEB Investment Guidelines', *New European Bauhaus*, accessed 5 August 2025, [https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-investment-guidelines\\_en](https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-investment-guidelines_en). Sections of particular relevance for applicants to consider include: 1. Introduction; 2. Mapping the NEB; 4.4 Project risks; 5. Making the NEB case; and 6. Conclusions.

<sup>327</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>328</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.



This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>329</sup> 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 allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learnings, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

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

<b>Call: Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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>	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) <sup>330</sup> .

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

- Local stakeholders adopt long-term stewardship and participate<sup>331</sup> in anticipating and envisioning the long-term future<sup>332</sup> of their existing neighbourhoods<sup>333</sup>.

<sup>329</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>330</sup> 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](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-decision_he_en.pdf)

<sup>331</sup> See definition of "participatory process" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>332</sup> Long-term future assumes a timeframe of 20+ years here.

- Existing neighbourhoods are more resilient and can adapt to changing socioeconomic, cultural, demographic, and climatic conditions, challenges and needs.

Scope: The New European Bauhaus (NEB) is redefining the way neighbourhoods across Europe and beyond are presently planned, designed, developed, and revitalised by fostering a new paradigm for sustainable<sup>334</sup>, inclusive<sup>335</sup>, and beautiful<sup>336</sup> living environments and lifestyles.

Neighbourhoods are currently planned for short and medium term, typically with a 5 to 10-year perspective<sup>337</sup>, often influenced by insufficient coordination with broader regional and national levels or changing political directions in local governance, for instance. However, fundamental changes in socioeconomic, cultural, demographic, and/or climatic conditions can challenge the long-term<sup>338</sup> future resilience and adaptability of neighbourhoods.

Concurrently, there is a need to include local stakeholders in anticipating and envisioning the long-term future of their existing neighbourhoods by anticipating their changing needs, circumstances, and preferences. Participatory foresight approaches can help address these challenges.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop and validate a participatory foresight approach to inform the long-term planning, (re)design and development of existing neighbourhoods. The approach must cover at least the following:
  - o Analysis of socioeconomic, cultural, demographic and climate<sup>339</sup> conditions, long-term trends (e.g. population decline; shift in population composition and diversity; migration between urban, peri-urban, and rural areas; societal and aesthetic acceptance in neighbourhoods), as well as the drivers for those long-term changes in the targeted neighbourhoods.
  - o Development of scenarios and visions for potential futures for the neighbourhood, including objectives, measurable targets and packages of measures. This should

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<sup>333</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>334</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>335</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>336</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>337</sup> Regional Foundation, *Neighborhood Planning: Strategies for Success*, Regional Foundation website, accessed 29 September 2025, [https://www.regionalfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/About-Neighborhood-Planning\\_RF\\_2023-06.pdf](https://www.regionalfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/About-Neighborhood-Planning_RF_2023-06.pdf)

<sup>338</sup> Long-term assumes a timeframe of 20+ years here.

<sup>339</sup> Including data provided by the European State of the Climate Report 2024. Copernicus, ‘European State of the Climate Report 2024’, 2025, <https://climate.copernicus.eu/esotc/2024#:~:text=The%20ESOTC%20provides%20descriptions%20and%20analyses%20of%20climate,a%20focus%20on%20resilience%20of%20the%20built%20environment.>

include intergenerational fairness<sup>340</sup> perspectives that will have a major influence on neighbourhoods in the future.

- o Use of co-creation<sup>341</sup> approaches to foster the participation of diverse local stakeholders (including marginalised or underrepresented groups as well as those in a vulnerable situation).
- Develop and validate the participatory foresight approach in at least three neighbourhoods in different Member States and/or Associated Countries.
- Provide recommendations to inform local authorities, decision makers, and the public on applying the participatory foresight approach.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory<sup>342</sup> and transdisciplinary<sup>343</sup> approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH)<sup>344</sup> 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.

In order to achieve the expected outcomes, international cooperation<sup>345</sup> is encouraged.

Proposals are encouraged to exploit synergies with successful proposals from the topic 'HORIZON-NEB-2027-01-PARTICIPATION-02: Intergenerational neighbourhoods and communities 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 avoid duplication and exploit opportunities for increased impact.

Proposals are expected to allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learnings, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

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<sup>340</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>341</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>342</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>343</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>344</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>345</sup> International cooperation and participation of countries beyond EU Member States, associated countries, or third countries under the Horizon Europe programme.

## Joint topics

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

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

<b>Call: Joint Call between the New European Bauhaus Facility and the Soil Deal for Europe Mission</b>	
<b>Specific conditions</b>	
<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 6-8 by the end of the project – see General Annex B.
<i>Eligibility and admissibility conditions</i>	Proposals must apply the multi-actor approach. See definition of the multi-actor approach in the introduction of the Mission Soil work programme part.

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

- Increased number of innovative and regenerative<sup>346</sup> planning and spatial design solutions that apply the New European Bauhaus (NEB) principles of sustainability, aesthetics<sup>347</sup>, and inclusivity<sup>348</sup> to reduce soil sealing and land take, improve soil health, support food systems transformation, and strengthen climate resilience and biodiversity are available.
- Increased adoption, upscaling and market uptake of these solutions across diverse territorial contexts (urban, peri-urban, and rural) to enhance soil health, and benefit local communities.
- Effective funding models and enabling policy frameworks to support territorial transformation.

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<sup>346</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>347</sup> See definition of "beautiful" in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>348</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

Scope: Reducing soil sealing and land take is a critical challenge for climate and water resilience, ecosystem health, biodiversity, food systems transformation, and the livability 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 the loss of vital ecosystem services and biodiversity and increased 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.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Develop innovative, regenerative and place-based planning and spatial design solutions that prevent soil sealing or promote the unsealing of currently sealed soils, improve soil health, support food systems transformation and enhance climate resilience and biodiversity (e.g., by mitigating urban heat islands and improving water management). These solutions should integrate nature-based<sup>349</sup>, human-centred and regenerative approaches (e.g., ecosystem restoration, permeable pavements, green roofs, shared and community<sup>350</sup> gardens, or urban agriculture);
- Demonstrate each one of these solutions developed in at least three neighbourhoods (i.e. at least one in urban area, one in peri-urban and one in rural area) located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries;
- Develop plans for the upscale of the solutions developed;
- Implement participatory<sup>351</sup> and co-creation<sup>352</sup> processes as well as cross-sector collaboration with different stakeholders (e.g., artists, architects, startups, engineers, planners and territorial managers, local authorities, NGOs, researchers, citizens and communities) to integrate creative, scientific, and local knowledge<sup>353</sup> in the design of the proposed solutions;
- Ensure the transferability of successful solutions across diverse territorial contexts (urban, peri-urban, and rural) in EU Member States and Associated Countries by fostering knowledge exchange and building capacity for broader adoption;
- Monitor and evaluate the impacts of the proposed solutions using well-defined indicators on soil health and soil sealing, and urban healthy city indicators (e.g., those in line with the Nature Restoration Regulation and those developed by the World Health Organization, WHO). Ensure that data collected informs policy and future scaling efforts;

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<sup>349</sup> See definition 'nature-based solutions' in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>350</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>351</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>352</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>353</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

- Develop innovative funding models to mobilize financing opportunities, 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.

Projects will contribute to key EU initiatives including the European Green Deal, the [Nature Restoration Regulation](#), the [EU Vision for Agriculture and Food](#), the [EU Soil Strategy for 2030](#) and its goal of achieving zero net land take by 2050 (including implementation of the [Soil Monitoring and Resilience Directive](#)), as well as 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 are expected to follow a participatory, multi-actor and transdisciplinary approach<sup>354</sup> through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

Proposals should include an effective contribution from social sciences, humanities and arts (SSHA) disciplines and experts in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related activities.

Proposals are encouraged to connect with projects funded under the Mission ‘A Soil Deal for Europe’ particularly those working in living labs in urban areas (URSOILL) and those developing soil-inclusive spatial planning strategies ([SPADES](#)) to ensure solutions are tested in real-life contexts and aligned with place-based experimentation and citizen engagement. 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 Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact'.

This action supports the follow-up to the July 2023 [Communication on EU Missions assessment](#).

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<sup>354</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

## **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 Bauhaus<sup>355</sup> 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, accessibility, 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')<sup>356</sup>.

Form of Funding: Other budget implementation instruments

Type of Action: Expert contract action

Indicative timetable: 2nd Quarter 2026

Indicative budget: EUR 0.16 million from the 2026 budget

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<sup>355</sup> European Commission, 'Commission expert group for the New European Bauhaus Facility (E03913)', *Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities*, accessed 5 August 2025, <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/expert-groups-register/screen/expert-groups/consult?lang=en&groupID=3913>

<sup>356</sup> European Commission, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety, 'Commission Decision of 30.5.2016 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups', C(2016) 3301, 30 May 2016, [https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/commission-decision-c2016-3301-final\\_en](https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/commission-decision-c2016-3301-final_en).

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

The members of the Commission expert group for the New European Bauhaus<sup>357</sup> 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, accessibility, 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')<sup>358</sup>.

Form of Funding: Other budget implementation instruments

Type of Action: Expert contract action

Indicative timetable: 2nd Quarter 2027

Indicative budget: EUR 0.17 million from the 2027 budget

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

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

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<sup>357</sup> European Commission, 'Commission expert group for the New European Bauhaus Facility (E03913)', *Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities*, accessed 5 August 2025, <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/expert-groups-register/screen/expert-groups/consult?lang=en&groupID=3913>

<sup>358</sup> European Commission, [Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety](#), 'Commission Decision of 30.5.2016 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups', C(2016) 3301, 30 May 2016, [https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/commission-decision-c2016-3301-final\\_en](https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/commission-decision-c2016-3301-final_en).



1. Enhanced collaboration and coordination on the NEB Facility between the Horizon Europe New European Bauhaus R&I and new European Bauhaus National Contact Point networks.
2. Enhanced capacity of the Horizon Europe New European Bauhaus R&I 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 New European Bauhaus R&I 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:

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 NEB 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 (NEB). It promotes innovation and new business models towards a sustainable<sup>359</sup>, circular<sup>360</sup>, and regenerative<sup>361</sup> construction ecosystem<sup>362</sup>, 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<sup>363</sup> 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

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<sup>359</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>360</sup> See definition of “Circular economy” in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>361</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>362</sup> See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

<sup>363</sup> European Commission, Horizon Europe (Horizon) NCP Guide - Minimum standards and guiding principles for setting up national contact points (NCP) systems, European Commission Funding & Tenders Portal, accessed on 30 September 2025 [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ncp-guiding-principles\\_he\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ncp-guiding-principles_he_en.pdf)

implementing Horizon Europe<sup>364</sup>. The New European Bauhaus R&I National Contact Points are part of the National Contact Points of Horizon Europe and can play a role in contributing to an effective communication of the Horizon Europe calls of the R&I component 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 New European Bauhaus R&I National Contact Points will cover the Horizon Europe calls in the R&I component 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 New European Bauhaus R&I and NEB 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 New European Bauhaus R&I and NEB 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 New European Bauhaus R&I National Contact Points enhance their capacity to promote Horizon Europe 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 New European Bauhaus R&I National Contact Points questions on the relevant topics and the replies submitted through the Research Enquiry Service and providing matchmaking opportunities to prospective applicants to the Horizon Europe calls in the R&I component of the NEB Facility throughout the period the calls are open.

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<sup>364</sup> Official Journal of the European Union, 'COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2021/764', 2021, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021D0764>

4. NEB 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 Horizon Europe New European Bauhaus R&I and NEB National Contact Points that are not part of the consortium benefit from the project and are also invited and encouraged to participate in the project's 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.

This grant will be awarded without a call for proposals according to Article 198 (f) of the Financial Regulation as this topic concerns Horizon Europe New European Bauhaus R&I National Contact Points and NEB National Contact Points, both of which are linked to specific legal entities nominated to the Commission by the Member States and, in the case of Horizon Europe New European Bauhaus R&I National Contact Points, also by Horizon Europe associated countries and by third countries. Horizon Europe New European Bauhaus R&I National Contact Points are more specialised in European level research and innovation funding. NEB National Contact Points promote the New European Bauhaus agenda and coordinate efforts to implement the initiative at the national level.

Specific conditions:

Eligibility: Only NEB National Contact Points legal entities established in Member States or Horizon Europe New European Bauhaus R&I National Contact Points legal entities established in Member States, Horizon Europe associated countries or third countries are eligible for funding.

Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreement: 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)<sup>365</sup>.

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

Legal entities: Designated Horizon Europe New European Bauhaus R&I National Contact Points legal entities and NEB National Contact Points legal entities.

Form of Funding: Grants not subject to calls for proposals

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<sup>365</sup> 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/lsdecision\\_he\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/lsdecision_he_en.pdf)

Type of Action: Grant awarded without call for proposals according to Financial Regulation Article 198 (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: First quarter of 2026

Indicative budget: EUR 2.40 million from the 2026 budget

#### **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’<sup>366</sup> 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

Indicative budget: EUR 2.41 million from the 2026 budget

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<sup>366</sup> HORIZON-MISS-2024-NEB-01-03

## Budget<sup>367 368</sup>

	2026 Budget (EUR million)	2027 Budget (EUR million)
<b>Calls</b>		
HORIZON-NEB-2026-01	101.10	
HORIZON-NEB-2027-01		93.76
HORIZON-NEB-2027-02		15.00
<b>Other actions</b>		
Expert contract action	0.16	0.17
Grant awarded without a call for proposals according to Financial Regulation Article 198	2.40	
Public procurement	2.41	
<b>Estimated total budget</b>	<b>106.07</b>	<b>108.93</b>

<sup>367</sup> 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.

<sup>368</sup> The contribution from each Cluster to the New European Bauhaus Facility work programme part for the year 2026 is the following: EUR 23.31 million for Cluster 1, EUR 2.96 million for Cluster 2, EUR 1.75 million for Cluster 3, EUR 17.97 million for Cluster 4, EUR 42.79 million for Cluster 5 and EUR 27.30 million for Cluster 6. From the total budget, EUR 10 million is allocated from the New European Bauhaus Facility budget in 2026 to the EU Missions work programme part to contribute to the topic “HORIZON-MISS-2026-04-CIT-NEB-B4P-CCRI-03: Introducing circular economy models in the construction sector, from buildings to city scale”.

The contribution from each Cluster to the New European Bauhaus Facility work programme part for the year 2027 is the following: EUR 22.23 million for Cluster 1, EUR 4.06 million for Cluster 2, EUR 2.05 million for Cluster 3, EUR 17.40 million for Cluster 4, EUR 41.92 million for Cluster 5 and EUR 26.27 million for Cluster 6. From the total budget, EUR 10 million is allocated from the New European Bauhaus Facility budget in 2027 to the EU Missions work programme part to contribute to the topic “HORIZON-MISS-2027-07-CLIMA-CIT-NEB-01: Urban nature: supporting restoration of urban ecosystems, along urban transport networks and in the built environment”.