Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

PUBLIC

Interinstitutional files:
2026/0068 (COD)

Brussels, 11 May 2026

WK 6637/2026 INIT

LIMITE

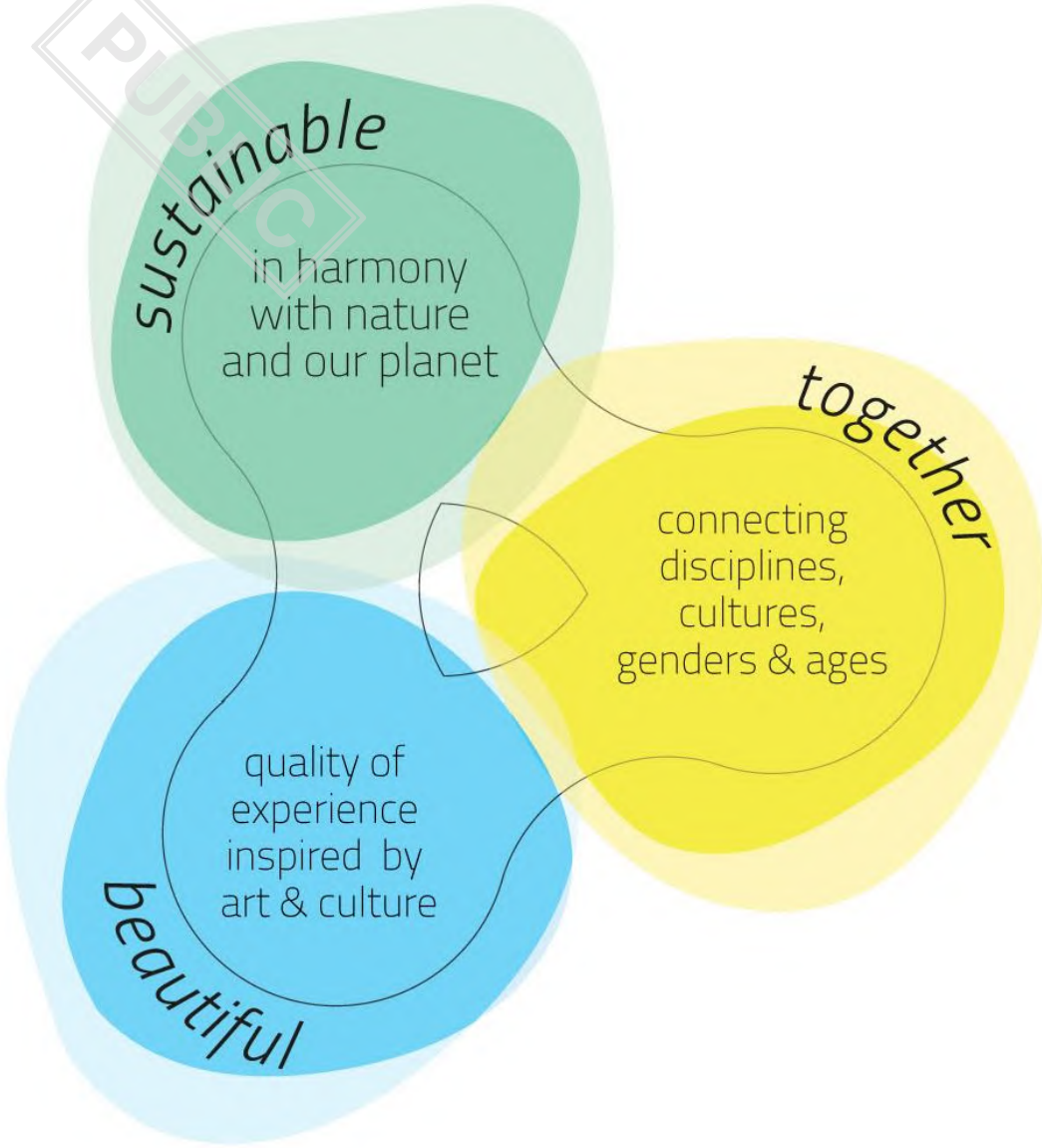
COMPET
IND

This is a paper intended for a specific community of recipients. Handling and further distribution are under the sole responsibility of community members.

WORKING DOCUMENT

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (Industry)
Subject:	Presentations by the European Commission : New European Bauhaus: from vision to implementation (agenda item 2) Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (Industry) meeting on 11 May 2026

THE NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS (NEB)



PUBLIC

Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (Industry)

11 May 2026

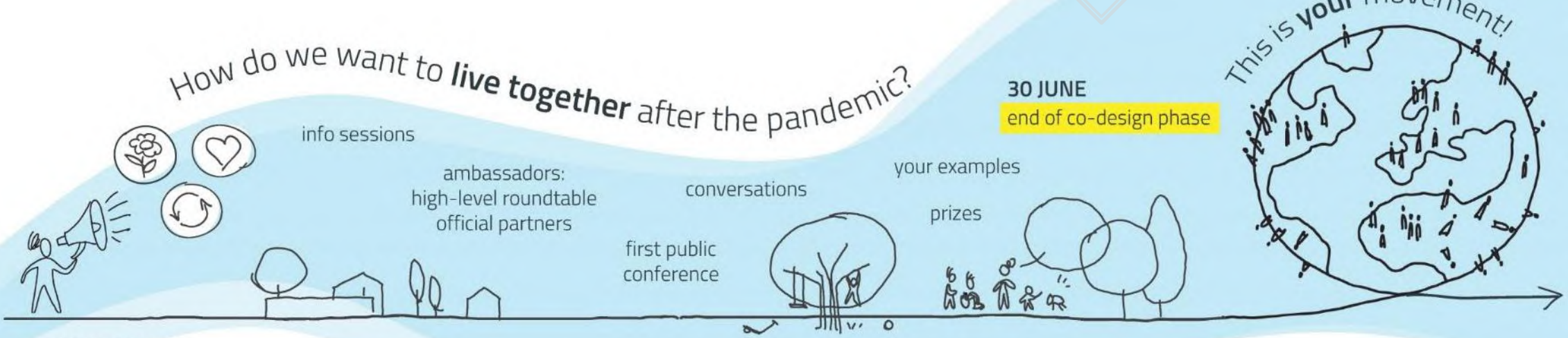
PUBLIC

Part 1

5 years of NEB and the NEB in the new Commission

January – June 2021:
6 months of co-design open to all

PUBLIC



350 000
Website visits

20 000
Newsletter subscribers

12 000
Instagram followers

2 000
Your contributions

200
Official partners

200+
Partners activities

beautiful | sustainable | together

What is the New European Bauhaus?

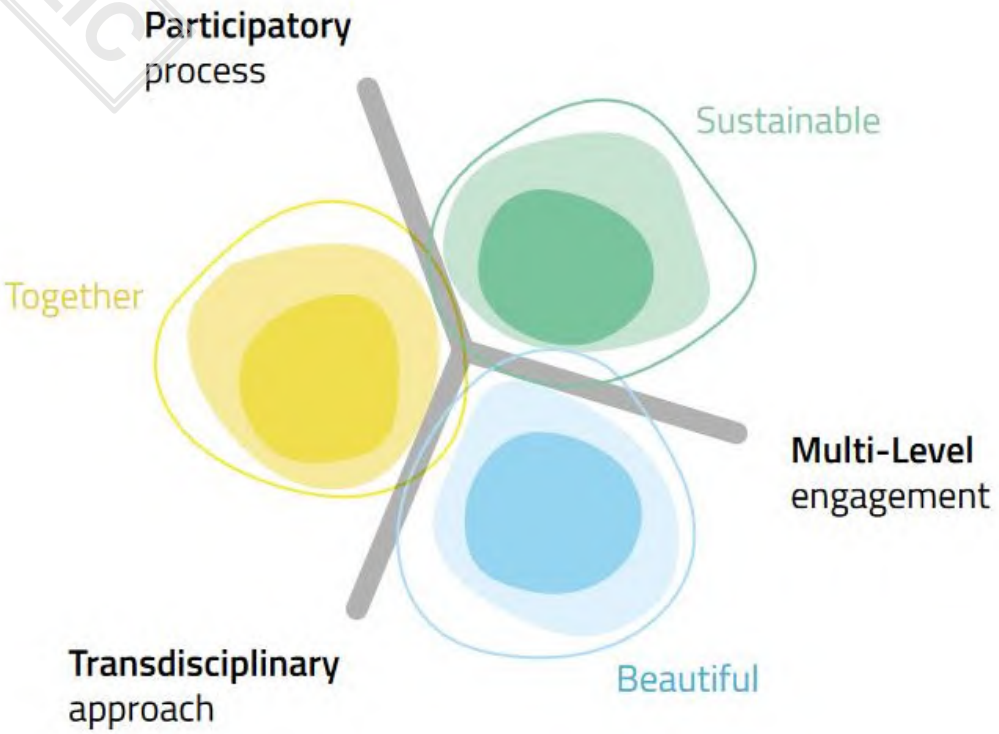
PUBLIC

The **New European Bauhaus** (NEB) is an initiative launched by the European Commission in 2021 with the aim of translating **the European Green Deal** into tangible change on the ground that improves citizens' daily life and accelerates the green transition.

NEB promotes an **integrated approach** to the Green Transition of our economy and societies, building on:

3 Values

3 Working Principles



What have we achieved since 2020?

PUBLIC

- ✓ **NEB Community** across Europe
- ✓ **NEB Prizes, support to bottom-up initiatives and funding projects**
- ✓ **NEB objectives in EU programmes and policies**, and within the European Commission
- ✓ **Tools and guidelines** to support NEB projects (i.e. NEB Compass, Investment guidelines)
- ✓ **Awareness, mobilisation, sharing of best practices**

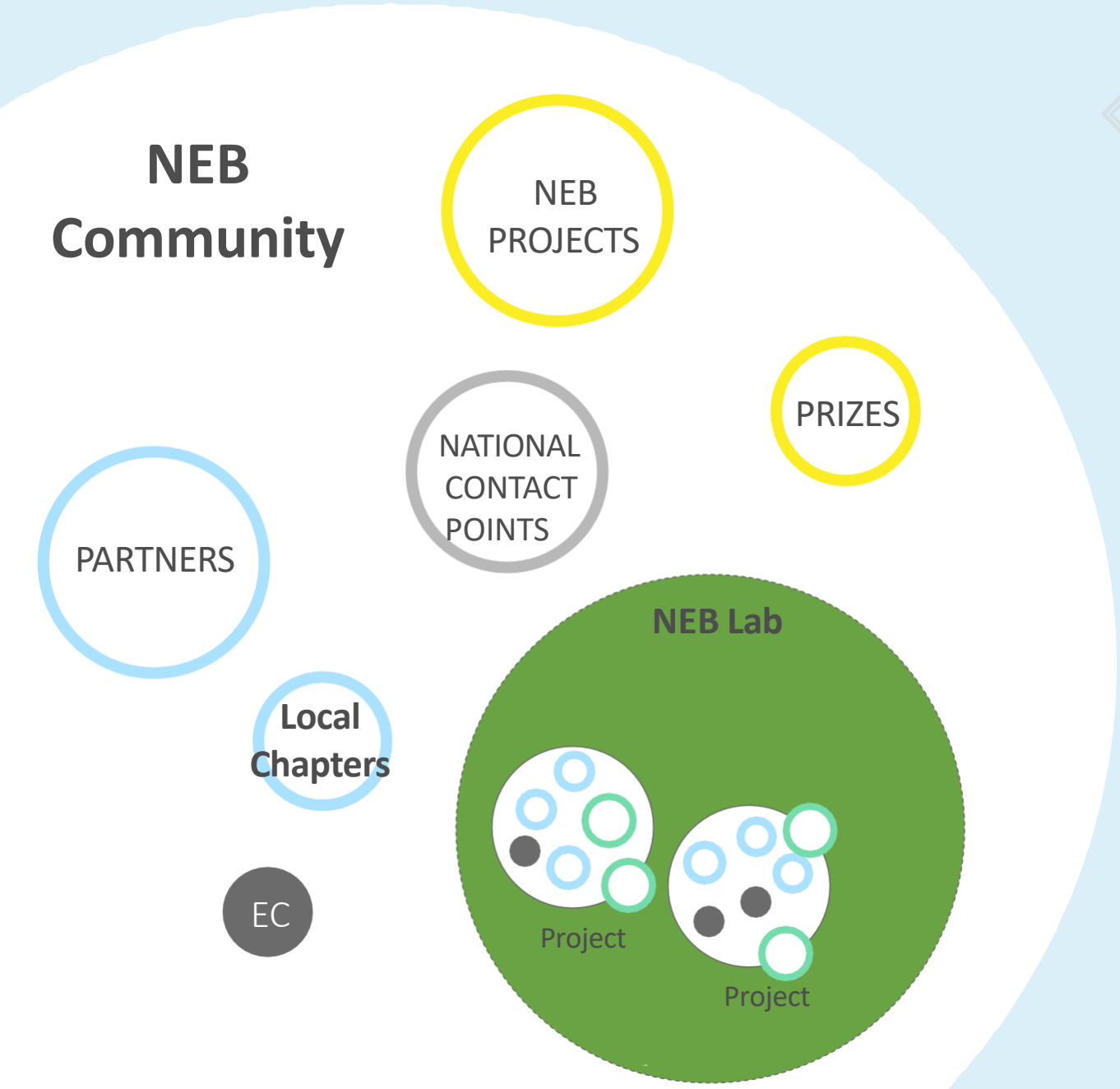
2,300
Members of the NEB Community

700
projects

840 million from Cohesion

530 million from Horizon Europe

9
EU programmes supporting NEB



NEB governance

1300+ Community Partners

700+ NEB calls beneficiaries

243 NEB Prizes Winners and Finalists

65 NEB National Contact Points (NEB Policy NCPs and NEB R&I NCPs)

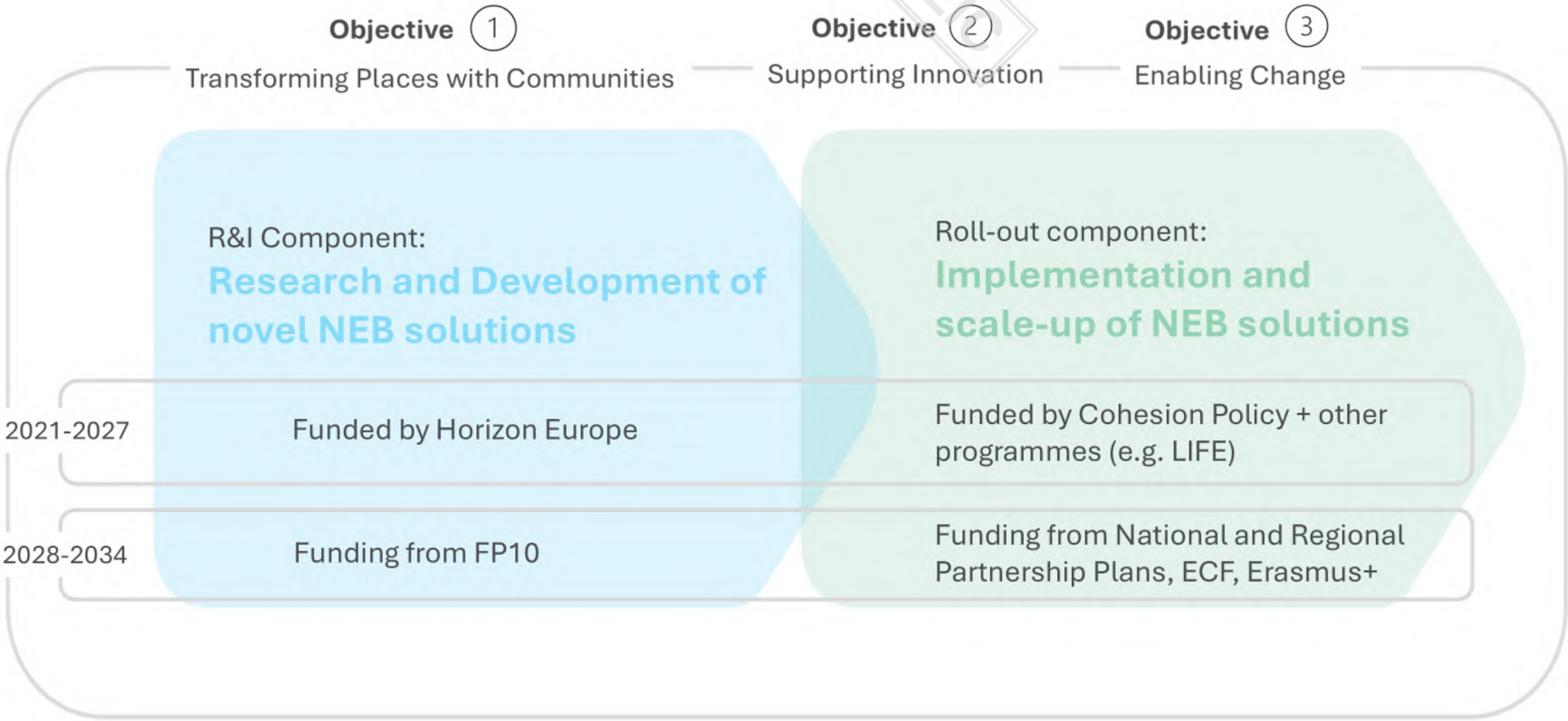
Priorities:

- **Enlarging the Community** (housing, businesses)
- **Going more local** (Local Chapters, Pilot with Cities) and allowing experimentation (NEB Labs)
- **Strengthening the role of MS** (see also Recommendation)

PUBLIC

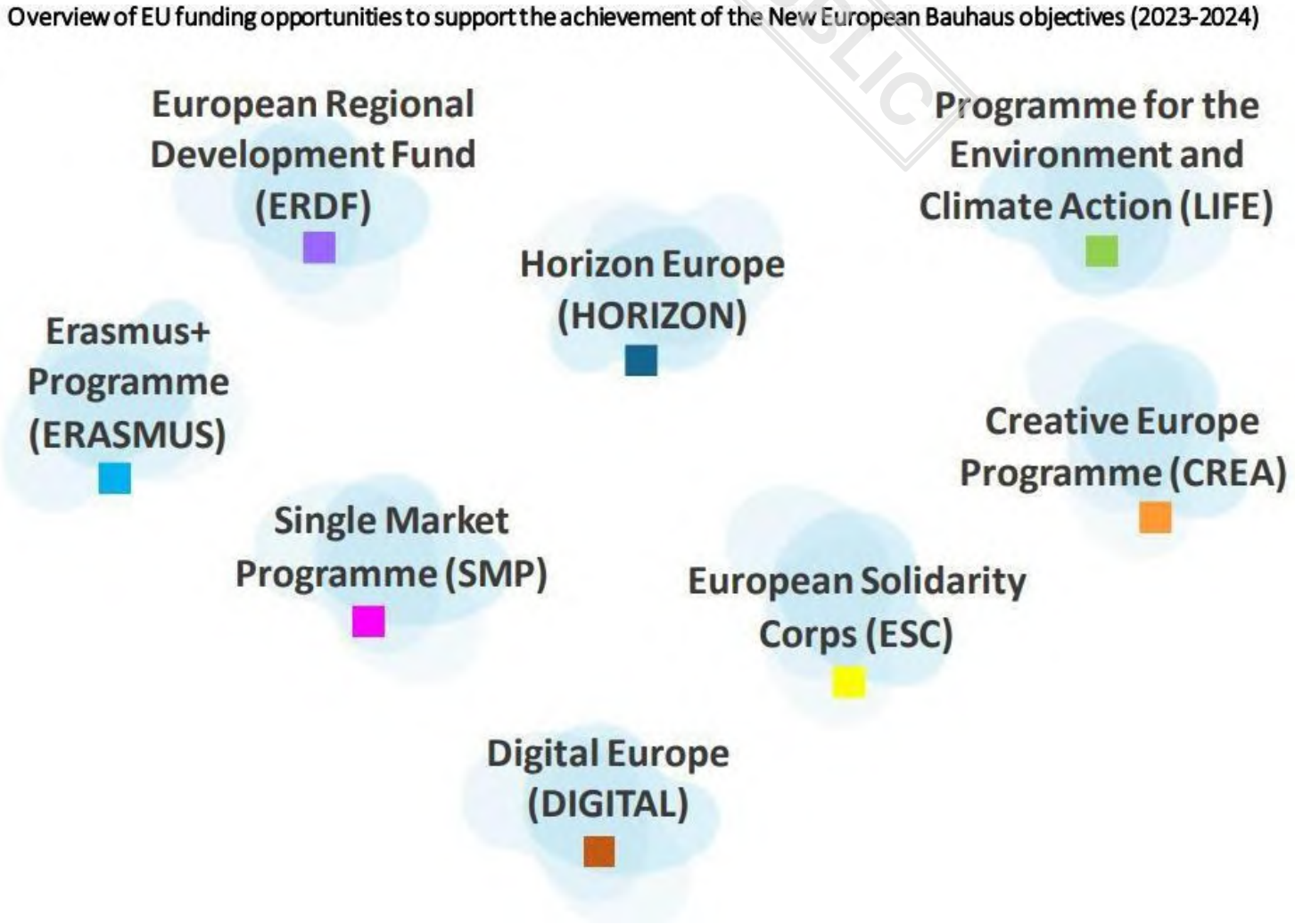
Funding the NEB: the NEB Facility

PUBLIC



NEB funding opportunities

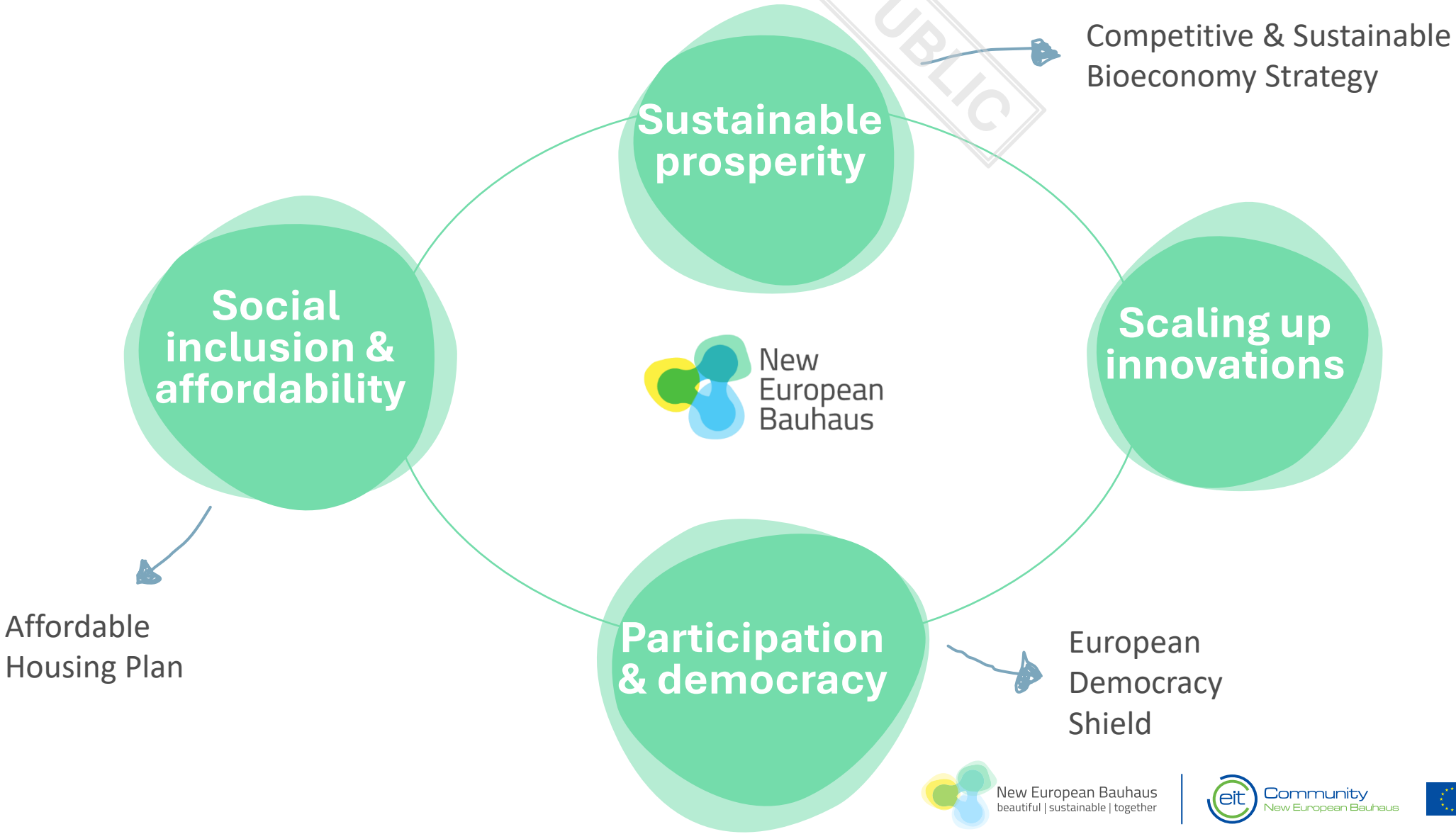
PUBLIC



https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/funding/how-new-european-bauhaus-funded_en

NEB in current political priorities

PUBLIC



NEB in current political priorities

PUBLIC



"A home is not just four walls and a roof.
It is safety, warmth, a place for family and friends.

This is more than a housing crisis.
It is a social crisis.
It tears at Europe's social fabric.

Still this year we will present the first ever
European Affordable Housing Plan.
To make housing more affordable,
more sustainable, and of better quality.
It will be a European effort, anchored
in local realities."

Totolo project – Licenced to European Union 2022

Affordable Housing Package – 16 December 2025

PUBLIC

- **European Affordable Housing Plan**
- **European Housing Construction Strategy**
- **Commission Communication on the New European Bauhaus: from vision to implementation, and proposal for Council Recommendation**
- **Revised EU State aid rules**

NEB Communication	**Council Recommendation (adoption on 11 May)**
Sets EU vision & priorities	Invites MS to act
Launches tools & initiatives	Embeds NEB in national/regional frameworks
Mobilises EU funding & markets	Strengthens multilevel governance
Commission-led	Member State-owned

Key message

Together, they move NEB from inspiration to systemic change.

PUBLIC

Part 2

Specific objectives and enablers

in the NEB Communication

Three specific objectives of the Communication

PUBLIC

- Enhancing **circularity, sustainability** and **innovation in the built environment** by supporting the circular economy and bioeconomy, promoting research, scaling up innovative solutions and reinforcing community resilience to natural disasters;
- Empowering citizens through **participatory processes** to strengthen **democratic, inclusive** and **resilient** neighbourhoods;
- Harnessing the transformative **power of education, arts** and **culture** to boost creativity and innovation for local transformation**.**







Specific objective 1

Enhance circularity, sustainability and innovation in the built environment

PUBLIC



1. Fostering innovative and sustainable solutions

Support the transition of the construction ecosystem towards low-carbon, circular and bio-based solutions, by:

- Developing **a NEB Label** to reward NEB projects and practices and increase their visibility with potential promoters and investors.
- Funding the development of **NEB demonstrators** for innovative solutions.
- **Supporting entrepreneurs and SMEs in NEB-relevant sectors**, helping them access funding to commercialise and scale up new solutions.

Specific objective 1

Enhance circularity, sustainability and innovation in the built environment

PUBLIC

2. Inclusive, sustainable and quality-driven transformation of neighbourhoods

Boosting **resilience and preparedness to climate-related risks and natural disasters** of neighbourhoods by:

- Promoting **spatial planning** that integrates **low carbon, water-efficient, water resilient and nature-based solutions**
- **Capacity building and guidance**, from prevention to post-disaster recovery
- Promoting **AI-powered analytics** to enable data-driven decision-making

Promoting a **whole-life cycle approach to buildings** and prioritising a **better use of existing buildings through renovation or refurbishment** by:

- Providing **evidence and methodologies** on the decarbonisation of buildings and on prioritising the efficient use of the built environment.
- Fostering **procurement procedures that enable sustainable, inclusive and quality-led solutions**.

Specific objective 1

Enhance circularity, sustainability and innovation in the built environment

PUBLIC

COMMUNICATION

NEB as an **enabler for the clean transition**, enhancing **innovation, resilience and stability:**

- Fostering **innovative and sustainable solutions**, enhancing **circular economy** and the **bioeconomy** [industry dimension]
- Inclusive, sustainable and quality-driven **transformation of neighbourhoods**, including **resilience and crisis preparedness** [neighbourhood dimension]

RECOMMENDATION

Enhance the **sustainability of the built environment**, including:

- A clean, circular, resilient, energy and water efficient **built environment**
- A competitive, circular and sustainable **bioeconomy** industry
- An **efficient use of the built environment** in spatial planning and development decisions
- Integrated spatial planning for **crisis preparedness and resilience**
- **Digital solutions** for circularity and energy efficiency

Specific objective 2

Empower citizens through participatory processes to build democratic, inclusive and resilient neighbourhoods

PUBLIC



NEB is a catalyst for empowering citizens and mainstreaming democratic participation processes in local transformation projects

- Expand **democratic design and citizens' co-ownership** of urban and rural regeneration processes **through digital platforms, virtual reality and immersive digital environments**
- Launch a 2026 edition of the **NEB Boost for Small Municipalities**
- Support local democracy through innovative approaches to community engagement and inclusive public spaces (as part of EDS)
- Support **public authorities** in designing and implementing participatory processes (EU Competence Centre on Participatory and Deliberative Democracy)

Specific objective 3

Harness the transformative power of education, arts and culture

PUBLIC



Culture and arts are a core feature of individual and communities' well-being and have the power to unleash creativity and innovation. NEB will foster the **interaction** of cultural professionals, artists and academics with engineers and entrepreneurs to provide new perspectives and co-create out-of-the box solutions.

- Promote **high-quality architecture** (Davos Process, Culture Compass)
- Integrate NEB values in future **European Capitals of Culture**
- Support NEB **artists' residencies** through the "Culture Moves Europe" Initiative
- Engage young people through the NEB Route of **DiscoverEU**
- Promote NEB values in **schools** (Education4Climate Coalition)

Just Transition through NEB in Saxony-Anhalt (JTF)

PUBLIC

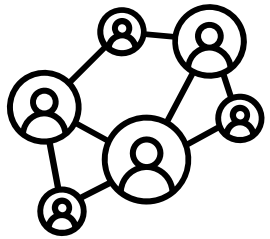
Location: Central German Mining District (Halle, Mansfeld-Südharz, Anhalt-Bitterfeld, Saalekreis, Burgenlandkreis)
Programme: Just Transition Fund (JTF)
Budget: €54 million (€25m Transformation Lab ZEKIWA Zeitz; €19million for nine NEB projects; €10m industrial heritage call)

- Example of NEB in just transition regions
- Addressing post-industrial transition in the Central German Mining District
- Tackling the shift away from fossil fuels without leaving communities behind
- Transforming former mining areas into sustainable, inclusive, attractive places
- Flagship project: Transformation Lab ZEKIWA Zeitz (€25 million)



4 enablers

PUBLIC



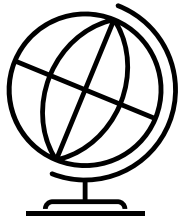
NEB COMMUNITY AND GRASSROOTS PARTICIPATION



THE NEB ACADEMY: KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



FUNDING AND GOVERNANCE



INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION

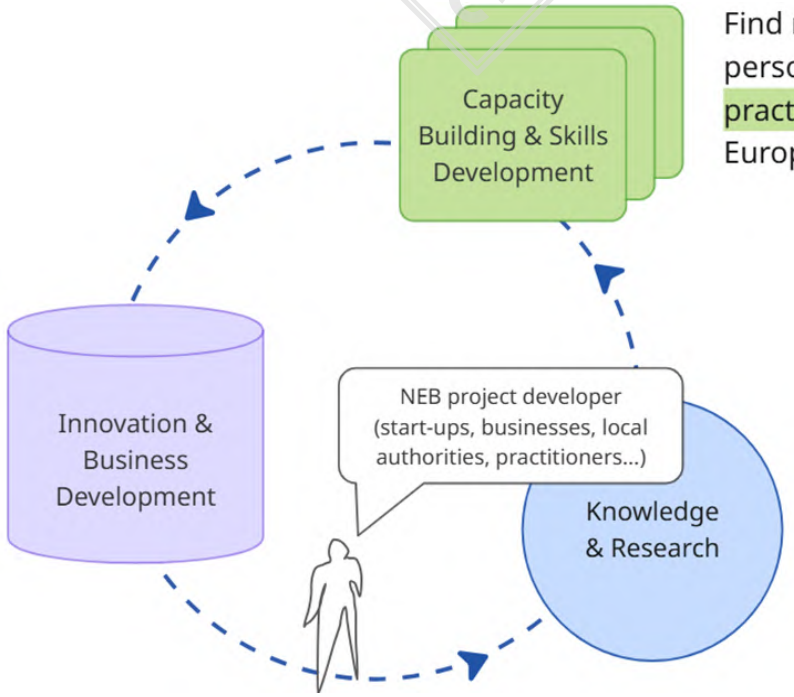
NEB Academy

PUBLIC

Capacity Building & Skills Development

Knowledge & Research

Innovation & Business Development



Find relevant training, online or in-person, connecting local knowledge and practices with innovation and expertise at European and International levels.

Test ideas in controlled environment receive support for piloting, access funding mechanisms, technical assistance or entrepreneurial support

Discover inspiring NEB best practices and blueprints, connect with others, build synergies + make sense of trials, inform, collect and share data

Stream 1

Knowledge & Research

Stimulating **research** on the NEB concept, collecting and valorising **knowledge** from NEB projects, evaluating their **impact** and allowing **replicability** of best practices



PUBLIC

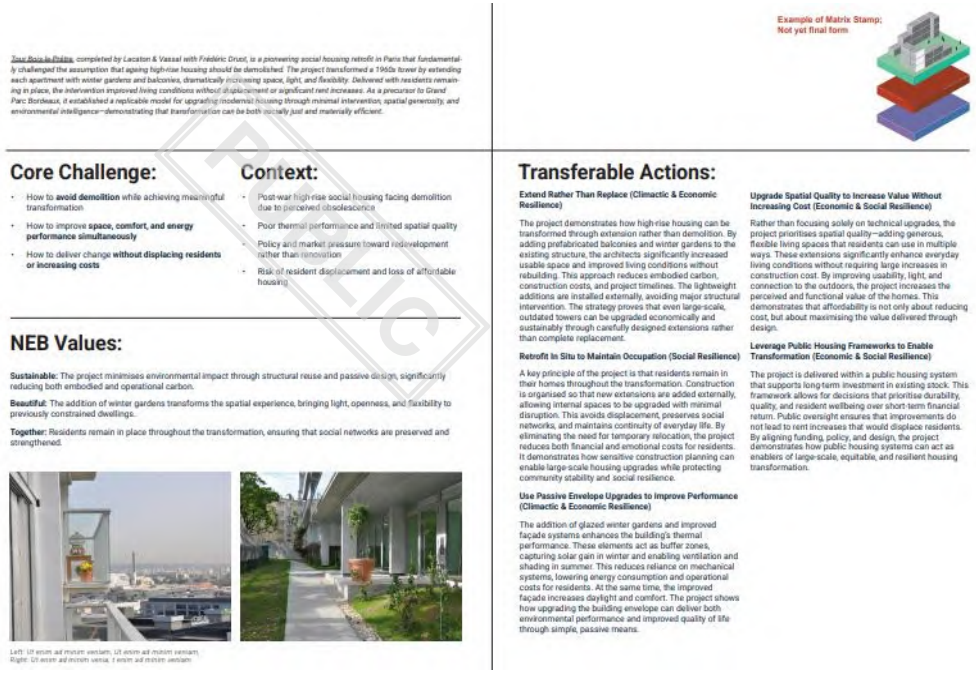
Target audience: NEB Community members, practitioners, professionals, researchers, businesses, and public authorities

Key actions:

- **NEB as a space for frontier research** (i.e. scientific publications and academic gatherings)
- **NEB Knowledge Hub for Result and Impact** will make learnings and best practices from NEB projects available and accessible.
- **NEB indicators and guidance tools** to assess impact of NEB initiatives/projects.
- **Catalogue of NEB good practices and blueprints on affordable and resilient housing** will highlight state-of-the-art solutions.

NEB Catalogue





Tour Bois-le-Prêtre, completed by Lacaton & Vassal with Frédéric Druot, is a pioneering social housing retrofit in Paris that fundamentally challenged the assumption that ageing high-rise housing should be demolished. The project transformed a 1960s tower by extending each apartment with winter gardens and balconies, dramatically increasing space, light, and flexibility. Delivered with residents remaining in place, the intervention improved living conditions without displacement or significant rent increases. As a precursor to Grand Parc Bordeaux, it established a replicable model for upgrading modernist housing through minimal intervention, spatial generosity, and environmental intelligence—demonstrating that transformation can be both socially just and materially efficient.

Core Challenge:

- How to **avoid demolition** while achieving meaningful transformation
- How to improve **space, comfort, and energy performance simultaneously**
- How to deliver change **without displacing residents or increasing costs**

Context:

- Post-war high-rise social housing facing demolition due to perceived obsolescence
- Poor thermal performance and limited spatial quality
- Policy and market pressure toward redevelopment rather than renovation
- Risk of resident displacement and loss of affordable housing

NEB Values:

Sustainable: The project minimises environmental impact through structural reuse and passive design, significantly reducing both embodied and operational carbon.

Beautiful: The addition of winter gardens transforms the spatial experience, bringing light, openness, and flexibility to previously constrained dwellings.

Together: Residents remain in place throughout the transformation, ensuring that social networks are preserved and strengthened.

Left: Ut enim ad minim veniam, Ut enim ad minim veniam.
Right: Ut enim ad minim venia. t enim ad minim veniam

Example of Matrix Stamp;
Not yet final form

Transferable Actions:

Extend Rather Than Replace (Climactic & Economic Resilience)

The project demonstrates how high-rise housing can be transformed through extension rather than demolition. By adding prefabricated balconies and winter gardens to the existing structure, the architects significantly increased usable space and improved living conditions without rebuilding. This approach reduces embodied carbon, construction costs, and project timelines. The lightweight additions are installed externally, avoiding major structural intervention. The strategy proves that even large-scale, outdated towers can be upgraded economically and sustainably through carefully designed extensions rather than complete replacement.

Retrofit In Situ to Maintain Occupation (Social Resilience)

A key principle of the project is that residents remain in their homes throughout the transformation. Construction is organised so that new extensions are added externally, allowing internal spaces to be upgraded with minimal disruption. This avoids displacement, preserves social networks, and maintains continuity of everyday life. By eliminating the need for temporary relocation, the project reduces both financial and emotional costs for residents. It demonstrates how sensitive construction planning can enable large-scale housing upgrades while protecting community stability and social resilience.

Use Passive Envelope Upgrades to Improve Performance (Climactic & Economic Resilience)

The addition of glazed winter gardens and improved façade systems enhances the building's thermal performance. These elements act as buffer zones, capturing solar gain in winter and enabling ventilation and shading in summer. This reduces reliance on mechanical systems, lowering energy consumption and operational costs for residents. At the same time, the improved façade increases daylight and comfort. The project shows how upgrading the building envelope can deliver both environmental performance and improved quality of life through simple, passive means.

Upgrade Spatial Quality to Increase Value Without Increasing Cost (Economic & Social Resilience)

Rather than focusing solely on technical upgrades, the project prioritises spatial quality—adding generous, flexible living spaces that residents can use in multiple ways. These extensions significantly enhance everyday living conditions without requiring large increases in construction cost. By improving usability, light, and connection to the outdoors, the project increases the perceived and functional value of the homes. This demonstrates that affordability is not only about reducing cost, but about maximising the value delivered through design.

Leverage Public Housing Frameworks to Enable Transformation (Economic & Social Resilience)

The project is delivered within a public housing system that supports long-term investment in existing stock. This framework allows for decisions that prioritise durability, quality, and resident wellbeing over short-term financial return. Public oversight ensures that improvements do not lead to rent increases that would displace residents. By aligning funding, policy, and design, the project demonstrates how public housing systems can act as enablers of large-scale, equitable, and resilient housing transformation.

TOUR BOIS-LE-PRÊTRE

Team:	Lacaton & Vassal + Druot
Location:	Paris, France
Programme/Funding:	Paris Habitat
Primary Context:	Tour Bois-le-Prêtre responds to the economic context by upgrading an existing high-rise through cost-efficient extension and façade improvement, delivering significant gains in space, comfort, and energy performance without the expense of demolition or displacement.

Status:

- *20 blueprints based on NEB projects*
- *Tackling resilience and affordability in built environment*
- *Printed version for Festival*
- *Online platform from July onwards – together with NEB Lab on Housing*

New European Bauhaus

Stream 2

Capacity Building & Skills Development

Translate research insights into practical skills, develop **innovative training frameworks** and learning pathways, support stakeholders with **capacity to develop NEB projects**

PUBLIC



Target audience: national training institutions, workers across value-chains, students, project developers, public authorities

Key actions:

- Upskilling and **reskilling of the workforce in the construction ecosystem**, in particular for bio- and nature-based construction.
- **University-business partnerships** to develop skills and competences in NEB-related sectors (e.g. workforce and future entrepreneurs).

Stream 3

Innovation & Business Development

Enable **experimentation environments** and provide **advisory services** and **toolboxes** to trial NEB blueprints

PUBLIC



Target audience: SMEs, start-ups and businesses, emerging projects from the NEB Facility R&I, local practitioners

Key actions:

- **Innovation pilots and pre-acceleration pathways** for early-stage innovators to accompany start-ups and scale-up of innovative, sustainable practices.
- **NEB Advisory Hub** to improve access to funding for smaller players and facilitate private, public, and blended finance.
- **NEB Labs:** testing and experimentations of solutions developed by the NEB Community.

How the NEB Funding Advisory Hub Works

PUBLIC

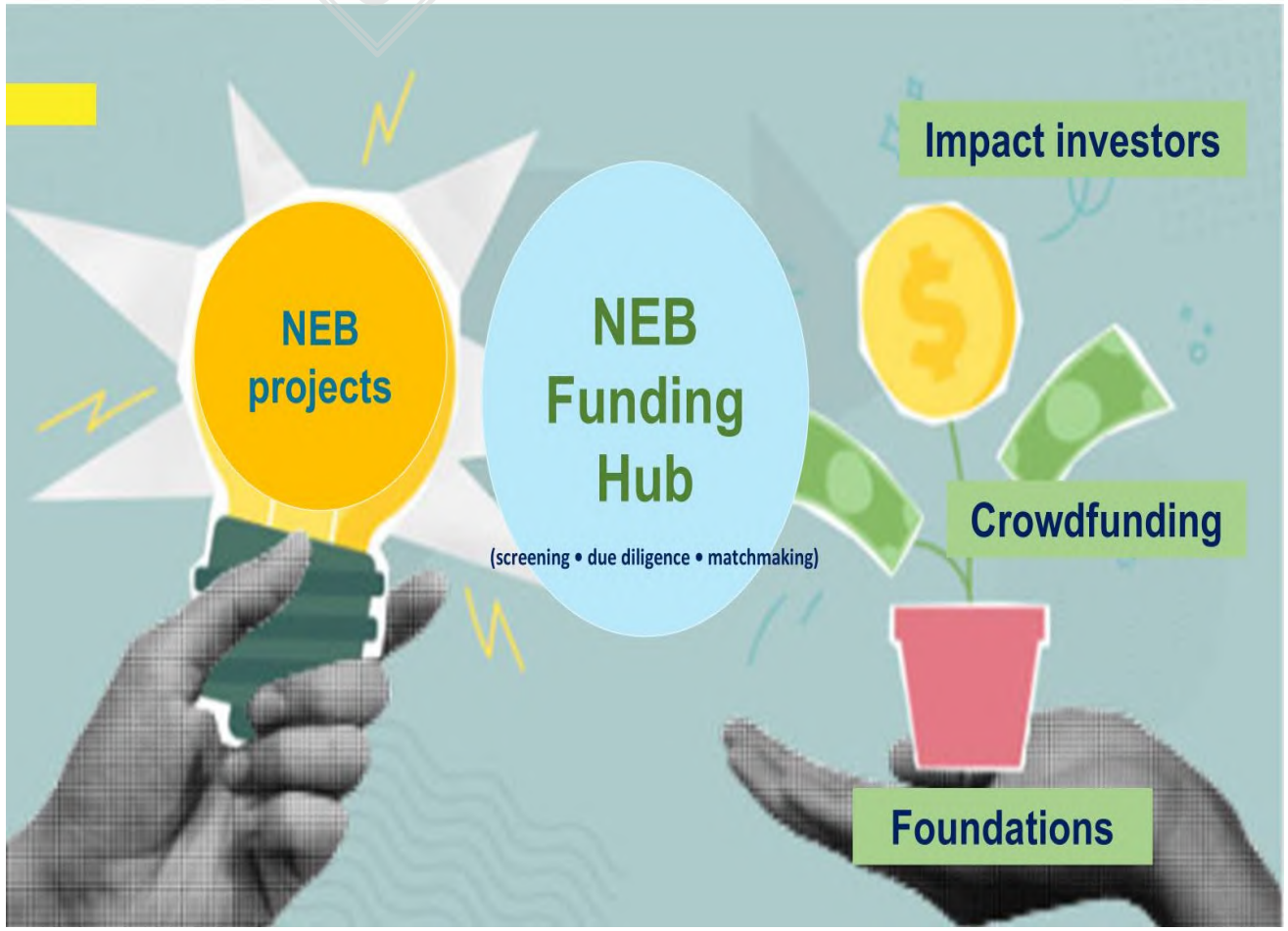
- **Project sourcing and NEB alignment**
- **Categorisation and due diligence**
- **Matchmaking with Funders**
- **Blended Financing Solutions**

The Hub aims at reducing risk and transaction costs while building a trusted pipeline of projects

Strategic Ambition: Towards a European Infrastructure for Mission-Aligned Capital

PUBLIC

- Pipeline of NEB projects
- Mobilisation of philanthropy and impact capital
- Scaling community-driven transformation



PUBLIC

THE FESTIVAL of the NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS

Life. Spaces. Buildings.

COME AND JOIN
THE MAKERS OF CHANGE

BRUSSELS
9-13 JUNE
2026

Spotlight on research, innovation and business

PUBLIC

- **Research afternoon - Wednesday 10th June**

This afternoon will place a special focus on research, featuring a Panel discussion about evidence-based design, followed by a keynote address by Commissioner Zaharieva.

- **Networking evenings – Wednesday 10th & Thursday 11th June**

In partnership with the EIT and the EIC, two networking sessions will offer opportunities to spark collaborations and build new connections with professionals, researchers, creatives and innovators from across Europe.

- **Horizon Europe projects in the spotlight**

Many Horizon Europe projects will be featured in the FAIR exhibition with more than 60 stands showcasing innovative concepts and prototypes already contributing to Europe's transformation.

PUBLIC

Thank you!

New European Bauhaus: From vision to implementation - New European Bauhaus

New European Bauhaus: beautiful, sustainable, together. - New European Bauhaus