

Call for expressions of interest for
Satellite Events
The Festival of the New European Bauhaus
9-13 June 2026
Brussels, Belgium

Context

The European Commission organises the **third edition** of the [New European Bauhaus Festival](#) in Brussels (Belgium) on 9-13 June 2026, and you can be part of it!

The New European Bauhaus (NEB) is a European Commission initiative that aims to turn the European Green Deal and Clean Industrial Deal into tangible change on the ground, improving daily lives through sustainable solutions for the built environment and lifestyles. It combines sustainability with good design, inclusivity, accessibility, and affordability, respecting Europe's diverse places, cultural heritage, and cultures.

The NEB Festival 2026 will among other topics address the transformative power of **democratic engagement** in shaping more inclusive and sustainable communities. It will highlight how empowered citizens and local authorities can play an active role in creating their environments, with a particular emphasis on **affordable housing** as a cornerstone of democratic participation. In line with the NEB's core vision, the Festival will be a space to reimagine our built environment, **placing first life**, then spaces, and then buildings¹.

The Festival encompasses four key pillars:

- **Forum** - a platform for engaging discussions and the exchange of ideas surrounding the New European Bauhaus.
- **Fair** - a laboratory and exhibition, highlighting projects and prototypes that align with and support the core values of the New European Bauhaus.
- **Fest** - a celebration that unites culture, art, and conviviality, serving as a moment of collective rejoicing, honouring freedom of expression and embracing radical, innovative, and disruptive ideas and visions.
- **Satellite events** - initiatives and events organised independently in Brussels and beyond, aligned with the New European Bauhaus values.

Why apply

The 2026 edition of the Festival is calling for **innovators** like you to participate in this extraordinary hybrid event. With its core activities taking place in vibrant Brussels and captivating satellite events spanning across the European Union and beyond, this is an unparalleled opportunity to **gain international exposure**. You can seize this chance to reach new horizons, connect with like-minded individuals, and leave an indelible mark on the beautiful, sustainable, and inclusive vision of the New European Bauhaus.

We offer you an online space, where your event or project can shine. This includes key information about your event, such as dates, location, names of organisers, agenda, and links to your event website and social media channels. You will also have the opportunity to be featured on our interactive map, gaining exposure and connection to a wider audience. Additionally, selected events and projects may

¹ A reference to Jan Gehl's quote "“First life, then spaces, then buildings. The other way around never works.”"

have the chance for live streaming or recorded sessions on our central platform, allowing for even greater reach and engagement.

Which initiatives are eligible?

If you are part of the vibrant NEB Community, whether as a NEB Lighthouse, a NEB Prize nominee or winner, a NEB Partner, Friend of NEB, or have received EU funding for a project that embodies the principles of NEB, you meet the criteria. We also welcome other public organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and other non-profit organisations operating at the local, regional, national, European, or international level, and for-profit organisations embodying the spirit of the New European Bauhaus.

Your event should align with one of the Festival's pillars (Forum, Fair, Fest), embrace and advance at least one, if not all, of the values of the New European Bauhaus, fostering the creation of aesthetically pleasing and sustainable environments that encourage harmonious and inclusive ways of living together.

The event can be organised in Brussels, across the European Union, or even beyond its borders and should align with the NEB Festival week (9-13 June 2026). This synchronisation allows for a cohesive and impactful experience across different locations, fostering a sense of unity and shared celebration.

Your event should reflect the **New European Bauhaus** core values²:

- **Sustainability** in environmental terms, from climate goals to circularity, zero pollution, and protecting nature/improving biodiversity;
- **Aesthetics**, including quality of experience and style, beyond functionality;
- **Inclusion**, from valuing diversity to securing accessibility and affordability.

Your event should relate to at least one of the **thematic axes**³:

1. **Reconnecting with nature**
2. **Regaining a sense of belonging**
3. **Prioritising the places and people that need it most**
4. **Fostering long term, life cycle and integrated thinking in the industrial ecosystem**

Your event could also illustrate **the principles of the New European Bauhaus**:

- **A multilevel approach**: from global to local. A multi-level engagement across scales, fields, and time is necessary to anticipate the effects that global issues can have on the local dimension, and vice versa (e.g. the effects of national air quality regulations on local environments, the impact of an activity launched at neighbourhood level for cleaning the oceans...). A multi-level NEB project should implement an effective exchange both horizontally (with peers) and vertically (with others operating on a different scale), and then advance to a well-defined collaborative framework integrating the two.
- **A participatory approach**: involves civil society and people of all ages and in all their diversity, including women, youth and disadvantaged groups (disabled people) and minorities.
- **A transdisciplinary approach**: requires bringing together knowledge from different fields and practitioners from various fields. They work on solutions that affect different aspects of a project – social, economic, cultural, artistic, architectural, ecological, etc. Transdisciplinary ways of

² A detailed description of NEB core values and principles is available in the [NEB Compass](#).

³ Thematic axes are described in the [Communication on New European Bauhaus \(COM/2021/573 final\)](#).

working also encourage solutions that can be applied in a variety of disciplines and fields and are not limited to one area only.

Your event may take different formats:

- Physical;
- Hybrid (physical/virtual);
- Fully virtual.

Your event should include **engagement** with the participants.

Your event should have a **communication plan**, including:

- A dedicated website or a page on an existing website and presence on social media

When and how to apply

Please fill in the online application form by clicking on the following link: [APPLICATION FORM](#)
Your applications must be submitted in English, no later than 31 December 2025.

Once the application is submitted, the answers cannot be changed.

Validation process

The European Commission will be assessing applications on a rolling basis. You will receive a notification regarding the assessment results 45 days after you submit the application, providing you with information on whether your proposal has been accepted to be a part of the Festival. Further instructions and additional details will be communicated after the call closure.

Contact and more information

If you have any questions or inquiries regarding the call for expressions of interest, please write to EC-New-European-Bauhaus@ec.europa.eu.

For more information about the Festival of the New European Bauhaus [visit this link](#).