OPEN CALL ANALYSIS

HORIZON EUROPE NEB FACILITY 2026: NINE NEIGHBOURHOOD TOPICS

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01: homelessness, public space, inhabitants' experience, buildings, vertical space, capital markets and vacant spaces

EUnita strategic translation

The call pays consortia of at least three independent organisations from three countries to research, test and prove ways of making neighbourhoods more beautiful, sustainable and inclusive. Nine separate topics share one deadline: three on people and public space (homelessness, public-space design, inhabitants' experience), three on buildings (thermal comfort, maintenance and repair, vertical space) and three on money and spaces (homelessness services, capital markets, vacant buildings). Each topic is expected to fund two or three projects of around €3.5 to €6.3 million as a lump sum fixed from a budget table, at a maximum rate of 70% for Innovation Actions (up to 100% for non-profit legal entities) and up to 100% for Research and Innovation Actions. The topics ask for real neighbourhood sites, social-science input, resident co-creation and an expected share of the budget for engaging with the NEB hub. The deadline is 1 December 2026, 17:00 Brussels time.

NEB 2026 ANALYSIS

Fit assessment | Sources | What it funds | Boundaries | Budget & competition | Funded before | Who should apply | Eligibility | Money | Evaluation | Application & timeline | Risks | Recommendations

Deadline: 1 December 2026, 17:00 Brussels time (18:00 in Romania)

Call budget: €101.10 million | Topics: 9 | Projects: around 22 (derived: sum of the topic figures) | Per project: around €3.5–6.3 million | Maximum rate: IA 70% (non-profits up to 100%), RIA 100% | Form: lump sum

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Analysis date: 20 November 2026

*This analysis interprets the official call documentation for applicants. It is not legal advice. The official texts are the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026–2027, Part 13 (New European Bauhaus Facility) and Part 15 (General Annexes), adopted by Commission Decision C(2026) 6687/2 of 29 September 2026, the Funding & Tenders Portal topic pages with their Portal answers, the application form, the lump-sum model grant agreement and the Online Manual; where this analysis and an official text differ, the official text prevails. Labels used: **Confirmed** (stated in an official source), **EUnita interpretation** (a reading or recommendation by EUnita), **Derived estimate** (arithmetic by EUnita on official figures).*

1. Decision summary: is this call for you?

HORIZON-NEB-2026-01, “Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities”, is the 2026 call of the New European Bauhaus (NEB) Facility under Horizon Europe. It has nine topics in three destinations: six Innovation Actions (IA) and three Research and Innovation Actions (RIA), €101.10 million in all for around 22 projects (derived estimate: the sum of the nine topic figures). Every grant is a lump sum, and submission has one stage. The deadline is 1 December 2026, 17:00 Brussels time (18:00 in Romania). **Who can still use it:** a consortium whose proposal is already written and needs a last check of the rules, and a partner joining a proposal in its last days. **Who should prepare for the next round instead:** a team starting from zero. HORIZON-NEB-2027-01 is planned to open on 5 May 2027 with a deadline of 1 December 2027, and its topics differ from these (section 13).

Item	Confirmed position	Source
Call	HORIZON-NEB-2026-01, nine topics; managed by the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)	WP13 pp. 19–20; CINEA call page
Dates	Opened 5 May 2026. Deadline 1 December 2026, 17:00:00 Brussels time. Not extended at an applicant's request	WP13 p. 19; GA p. 36
Money	€101.10 million; around €3.5–6.3 million per project (other amounts allowed); maximum rate 70% for IA (up to 100% for non-profit legal entities) and 100% for RIA, applied inside a lump sum	WP13 pp. 19–20; GA p. 31
Who	Any legal entity, in a consortium of at least three independent legal entities from three different countries, at least one in an EU Member State. Romania is eligible	GA pp. 11, 13
China	Entities established in China are barred in the six IAs; not barred in the three RIAs (PARTICIPATION-03, BUSINESS-02, BUSINESS-03), but China is not a funded country (details in section 8)	GA pp. 6–7, 11–12; WP13 p. 45
NEB duties	Expected: at least 0.8% of the budget for the NEB hub (no separate cost heading); participatory and transdisciplinary work; building-sector professionals; SSH contribution in seven topics	WP13 pp. 6–7 and topic texts; Portal answer 102435
Application	Portal forms; Part B of 45 pages; detailed budget table	GA pp. 4, 27

The nine topics side by side

Topic	Type	Budget; per project; projects	Must-haves beyond the general rules
PARTICIPATION-01 Housing-led approaches to homelessness	IA	€12.6m; ~€6.3m; 2	At least 3 approaches in at least 3 neighbourhoods (urban, peri-urban, rural) in different Member States and/or Associated Countries; co-creation with homeless people; SSH
PARTICIPATION-02 Spatial design of neighbourhoods	IA	€10m; ~€5m; 2	One public-space design approach shown in at least 3 neighbourhoods in different Member States and/or Associated Countries; use patterns by gender, age, identity; SSH
PARTICIPATION-03 Inhabitants' experience, health and well-being	RIA	€15m; ~€5m; 3	Findings validated in at least 3 neighbourhoods in at least 3 countries; NEB self-assessment method; SSH. China not barred
REGEN-01 Thermal comfort in buildings	IA	€12m; ~€4m; 3	TRL 5–7. At least 2 solutions, one on a heritage building, in at least 2 climatic zones in different Member States and/or Associated Countries. No SSH sentence

Topic	Type	Budget; per project; projects	Must-haves beyond the general rules
REGEN-02 Maintenance and repair of existing buildings	IA	€10m; ~€5m; 2	TRL 6–8. Predictive-maintenance tool plus measures on 3 buildings in 3 countries, one heritage, one social housing; SSH
REGEN-03 Vertical space	IA	€15m; ~€5m; 3	TRL 6–8. At least 1 solution above buildings or streets giving housing or green space; community co-creation; SSH
BUSINESS-01 Homelessness: social infrastructure and services	IA	€10.5m; ~€3.5m; 3	System-based approach validated in at least 5 neighbourhoods in different Member States and/or Associated Countries (whether each needs its own country is not stated); SSH
BUSINESS-02 Capital-market dynamics for NEB investment	RIA	€7m; ~€3.5m; 2	Market analysis plus investment solution validated in at least 3 countries; NEB Investment Guidelines. No SSH sentence. China not barred
BUSINESS-03 Reuse of vacant, obsolete or underused spaces	RIA	€9m; ~€4.5m; 2	Approach validated in at least 3 neighbourhoods (urban, peri-urban, rural) in different Member States and/or Associated Countries; SSH. China not barred

Good fit

- ✓ A consortium with a written proposal that needs a final rules check before 1 December 2026
- ✓ A partner with a clear role (site, SSH, design, finance) joining a nearly complete consortium
- ✓ Municipalities, housing providers, NGOs, universities, design practices and building-sector firms with partners in three countries
- ✓ Research-led teams for the three RIAs, where China-based entities are not barred (but not funded as a rule)
- ✓ Organisations that can run co-creation with residents, including vulnerable groups

Not a fit

- ✗ A single organisation, or a consortium from fewer than three countries
- ✗ A team with no draft and no partners yet
- ✗ Projects that only build or renovate and have no research, demonstration or evidence design
- ✗ Proposals with no SSH contribution where the topic requires it
- ✗ Consortia that need China-based partners in an Innovation Action topic

EUnita verdict (interpretation)

The call is a strong fit for experienced consortia with sites and partners already agreed, and for partners joining in the last days. It is a poor fit for anyone starting from zero: every topic needs partners from three or more countries, and most ask for real sites, SSH input and building-sector professionals. Competition is per topic, and only two or three projects are expected in each. For late starters, the next round and the 2027 topics are the better target.

2. Source verification and document status

Document	Version and date printed	Role
Work Programme 2026–2027, Part 13 (NEB Facility), "WP13"	Commission Decision C(2026) 6687/2 of 29 September 2026	Topics, budgets, topic conditions
Part 15, General Annexes, "GA"	Same Decision	Admissibility, eligibility, criteria, procedure, grant rules

Document	Version and date printed	Role
Application form (RIA, IA)	V5.1, 22 January 2026	Part A and Part B template; the Portal form is used
Evaluation form (RIA, IA)	V4.0, 12 November 2025	Scoring scale and criteria
Lump-sum model grant agreement	V1.0, 1 November 2024	Governs the grant after signature
Detailed budget table (HE LS)	Version 3.6	Excel annex to Part B
Lump sums: what do I need to know?	V3.0, 24 June 2024	Guidance
Online Manual	V1.3, 1 May 2026	Submission steps
Portal topic data and pages (nine topics); Portal answers 98594 and 102435	Checked 20 November 2026; notice of 26 October 2026	Status, dates, extra explanations
NEB Facility glossary	v1.0, 29 July 2026	Information only

The Work Programme and General Annexes set the call conditions. The forms inside the submission system apply, not the templates shown on the topic page (GA p. 4). The model grant agreement governs after signature.

Where the official documents differ

- Deadline hour: the Portal data file stores the date as 1 December 2026, 00:00 UTC; the topic page, WP13 (p. 19) and CINEA state 17:00 Brussels time. WP13 is followed.
- Dates can move: WP13 says the Director-General may delay deadlines by up to two months, while GA p. 36 says deadlines cannot be extended at an applicant's request. Both hold: only the Commission may move a deadline.
- Budget year: the Portal shows 2026; WP13 refers to appropriations of 2026 and 2027. WP13 is followed.
- Amount per project: the Portal fields repeat the “around” figure; WP13 says a different requested amount is not precluded.

3. What the call funds

The NEB Facility supports the beautiful, sustainable and inclusive transformation of neighbourhoods. Its research and innovation component works through three destinations: the human dimension (social inclusion and local democracy), the physical dimension (circular and regenerative buildings) and the economic dimension (funding and business models) (WP13 pp. 5–8). **Common to all nine topics:** a participatory and transdisciplinary approach, an expected allocation of at least 0.8% of the budget (no separate cost heading, Portal answer 102435) for engaging with the NEB hub for results and impact, and the participation of building-sector professionals (architects, urban planners, landscape designers) in work on the built environment. A neighbourhood means an area of at most 25 km² or at most 10,000 inhabitants, part of or representing the lowest level of public administration (WP13 p. 16).

Destination 1: connecting the green transformation, social inclusion and local democracy

- **PARTICIPATION-01, IA.** Refine and demonstrate at least three housing-led approaches to homelessness in at least three neighbourhoods located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries, with permanent housing, services and a green-transition plan, co-created with homeless people. A monitoring method compares them with conventional approaches. *Consortium:* housing providers or municipalities in three countries, homelessness NGOs, SSH

researchers. *Differs:* the only topic that gives homeless people housing; twin of BUSINESS-01.

- **PARTICIPATION-02, IA.** Develop one innovative approach to designing public space and demonstrate it in at least three neighbourhoods. It must assess gendered, age-related and identity-related patterns of use, climate and water resilience, security, biodiversity and multisensory perception. *Consortium:* design practices, municipalities in three countries, SSH and cultural partners. *Differs:* design practices and architects are the core users.
- **PARTICIPATION-03, RIA.** Research on how inhabitants sense and feel neighbourhoods and how this affects health and well-being, with diverse and vulnerable groups, comparable data (NEB self-assessment method) and validation in at least three neighbourhoods in at least three countries. *Consortium:* research groups in three countries (health, environmental psychology, sociology), municipalities, cultural bodies. *Differs:* the only research-led topic of this destination; entities established in China are not barred (see section 8).

Destination 2: circular and regenerative approaches for the built environment

- **REGEN-01, IA, TRL 5–7.** At least two thermal-comfort solutions (vernacular, nature-based, bioclimatic or frugal) on buildings, including at least one heritage building, in at least two different climatic zones in different Member States and/or Associated Countries, with life-cycle emissions and cost evaluated. *Consortium:* building-physics and design partners in at least two climatic zones and the owner of a heritage building. *Differs:* the only topic with no SSH sentence in the buildings group.
- **REGEN-02, IA, TRL 6–8.** A life-cycle-assessment-based predictive-maintenance decision tool and a package of repair measures, demonstrated on three buildings in three countries, including one heritage and one social or affordable housing project. *Consortium:* building owners in three countries, life-cycle-assessment and monitoring specialists, SSH. *Differs:* the only topic that requires a social or affordable housing project among its demonstration buildings.
- **REGEN-03, IA, TRL 6–8.** At least one solution using unused vertical space above buildings or streets (for example rooftop farming, vertical extensions) to add housing or green space, with circularity, life-cycle assessment and community co-creation. International cooperation is encouraged. *Consortium:* structural, design and greening firms, municipalities, community groups, SSH. *Differs:* no fixed number of sites.

Destination 3: innovative funding and new business models for the transformation of neighbourhoods

- **BUSINESS-01, IA.** A system-based approach that coordinates social infrastructure and services (health, education, employment, integration) at neighbourhood level to reduce homelessness, validated in at least five neighbourhoods located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries. *Consortium:* service providers, NGOs, local authorities and researchers from at least three countries, SSH. *Differs:* the largest site requirement of the call.
- **BUSINESS-02, RIA.** Analyse capital-market demand and supply for NEB-aligned projects, then build and validate an innovative, place-based impact-investing solution in at least three countries, building on the NEB Investment Guidelines. *Consortium:* finance researchers, impact investors or funds and public authorities in three countries. *Differs (EUnita interpretation):* finance and investors, not residents, are the main partners.
- **BUSINESS-03, RIA.** A systematic approach to find, prioritise and reuse vacant, obsolete or underused buildings and spaces, co-created with community stakeholders, with funding mechanisms and side-effects (displacement, gentrification) assessed, validated in at least three neighbourhoods. *Consortium:* municipalities in three countries, researchers, property and finance experts, community organisations, SSH. *Differs:* local authorities are the target users.

Topic text: WP13 pp. 27–35 (PARTICIPATION), 46–52 (REGEN), 64–72 (BUSINESS).

4. Boundaries: avoid the wrong door

What this call does not do

- It is the research and innovation component of the NEB Facility. The separate roll-out component, which scales up place-based NEB projects, is expected to draw on other EU programmes (NEB Facility roadmap); it is not part of these nine topics.
- It does not fund a project from one organisation or one country: the consortium needs three or more countries, and some topics ask for at least three or at least five neighbourhoods in different Member States and/or Associated Countries (section 8).
- It does not set a project duration; the grant agreement does.
- It does not allow entities established in China in the six Innovation Actions.

Neighbouring topics

PARTICIPATION-01 and BUSINESS-01 both address homelessness and each text encourages synergies with the other; they are separate proposals, and the topic texts contain no rule against the same organisation taking part in both. Organisations may take part in several applications, but “if there are several applications for the same/very similar project, only one application will be accepted and evaluated” (GA p. 36); Part A asks whether this proposal or a very similar one was submitted in the past two years, including to this call. REGEN-01 names the Mission topic HORIZON-MISS-2025-01-CLIMA-04 (extreme heat) as a synergy to consider. For subjects that no 2026 topic covers, see the 2027 topics in section 13.

5. Budget, competition and expected number of grants

Group	Topics	Budget	Projects
Destination 1	PARTICIPATION-01, -02, -03	€37.60 million	7
Destination 2	REGEN-01, -02, -03	€37.00 million	8
Destination 3	BUSINESS-01, -02, -03	€26.50 million	7
Innovation Actions	six topics	€70.10 million	15
Research and Innovation Actions	three topics	€31.00 million	7
Total	nine topics	€101.10 million	22

Confirmed: budgets, per-project figures and numbers of projects per topic are in WP13 pp. 19–20 (table in section 1). *Derived estimate:* the sums above add the topic figures. The figures are indicative and may change by up to 20% after evaluation (GA p. 29), and a proposal may ask for a different amount than the “around” figure.

Competition. Each topic is evaluated and ranked on its own, so only the two or three projects of one topic compete with each other. No figure on applications to HORIZON-NEB-2026-01 is published. For the previous round (HORIZON-NEB-2025-01, 11 topics) the Commission's info-day slide shows 367 proposals submitted, around 25 expected to be funded and a success rate of 6.8%; its topics had different subjects, so the figures do not transfer topic by topic.

6. What has been funded before

HORIZON-NEB-2025-01 closed on 12 November 2025 with eleven topics (PARTICIPATION-01 to -04, REGEN-01 to -04, BUSINESS-01 to -03). Its subjects differ from the 2026 topics: none dealt with homelessness, thermal comfort, vertical space, capital markets or vacant spaces. The Portal and CORDIS list 25 funded projects, two or three per topic and one Coordination and Support Action.

Item	Figure (Portal, CORDIS, info-day slide)
Proposals submitted per topic	PARTICIPATION 76, 43, 38, 18; REGEN 25, 33, 18, 27; BUSINESS 26, 49, 14 (sum 367, derived)
Funded projects	25; EU contribution €2.50 million to €7.99 million each; about €117.17 million in all (derived)
Innovation Actions funded	11 projects, €3.35–7.99 million each, 12–20 participants
Research and Innovation Actions funded	13 projects, €3.00–5.00 million each, 7–19 participants
Signature and start	EC signatures 23 June to 3 July 2026, one on 18 September 2026; starts 1 June to 1 September 2026
Coordinators	11 research organisations, 10 universities, 3 private companies, 1 public body; in 15 countries (Italy 4, United Kingdom 3, Greece 3)
Romania	Romanian partners in 4 of 25 projects (RENEW-Futures, CANVAS, INUA, BRICKS); no Romanian coordinator

Derived estimate: the CORDIS participant lists show 7 to 20 participants and at least 4 countries per funded project, a guide to the size of consortia that were selected.

7. Who should apply, and with which ideas

Organisation	Topics that fit	Typical role
Municipalities and local authorities	P-01, P-02, P-03, B-01, B-03, R-02, R-03	Site host, user of results, access to public space and buildings
Housing providers, social-service NGOs	P-01, B-01, B-03, R-02	Housing units, services, co-creation with residents
Universities and research bodies (social science, health, design, building physics)	All nine; lead role in P-03, B-02, B-03	Method, evidence, evaluation, SSH input
Architecture, urban design and landscape practices	P-02, R-01, R-02, R-03, B-03	Design approach, required building-sector participation
Building, materials and energy firms (SMEs and large)	R-01, R-02, R-03, P-01	Solutions to demonstrate, TRL 5–8
Investors, banks, foundations, social-economy bodies	B-02, B-03	Capital mobilisation, financing mechanisms
Cultural, creative and heritage organisations	P-02, P-03, R-01, R-02	Co-creation, heritage buildings and sites

Ideas named in the topic texts: renewable energy and nature-based solutions for housing (PARTICIPATION-01); research-by-design, security-by-design and life-centric design (PARTICIPATION-02); vernacular, bioclimatic and frugal solutions (REGEN-01); urban vertical farming, rooftop community gardens and vertical extensions (REGEN-03); digital financial

instruments, platforms for community co-investment and blockchain-enabled transparency (BUSINESS-02).

EUnita interpretation: Romanian municipalities, NGOs, universities and companies can join as beneficiaries in any topic. A partner that supplies a site in a country or neighbourhood type the consortium lacks (for example a rural neighbourhood) is the easiest to place in the last days, because the topics count countries and neighbourhood types. Public bodies are normally exempt from the financial capacity check (GA p. 20) but need a gender equality plan at grant signature and during the grant (GA p. 17).

8. Eligibility checklist

✓	Consortium of at least three independent legal entities from three different countries: one in an EU Member State, the others in Member States or associated countries (GA p. 13)
✓	Any legal entity may take part, in any role: companies of every size, universities, research bodies, public bodies, NGOs (GA pp. 4–5)
✓	Romanian entities of every kind are eligible for funding (GA p. 11)
✗	Affiliated entities, and entities from the low- and middle-income countries of Annex B, do not count towards the three-country minimum (GA p. 13)
✗	Entities established in China in the six Innovation Action topics, in any capacity; exceptions only case by case (GA pp. 6–7; WP13 p. 45)
?	Entities established in China are not barred from PARTICIPATION-03, BUSINESS-02 and BUSINESS-03, but China is not among the countries eligible for funding (GA pp. 11–12): such an entity may take part without EU funding unless the exception of GA p. 12 applies; Chinese universities under the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology are excluded everywhere (GA p. 7)
✗	Entities under EU restrictive measures, and entities in Russia, Belarus or non-government-controlled Ukraine, in any capacity (exceptions for the last three case by case; also entities more than 50% owned by an entity established in Russia) (GA p. 10)
?	Hungarian public interest trusts: GA p. 10 still names the measures of 2022; Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/2324 of 13 October 2026 lifted them and repealed Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 (Official Journal of 21 October 2026); an entity of this kind should check the Portal or ask CINEA before submitting (GA pp. 10–11)
✓	Gender equality plan at grant signature and during the grant for public bodies, research organisations and higher education establishments (private ones included) from Member States and associated countries, as beneficiaries or affiliated entities (GA p. 17)
✓	A PIC for every beneficiary, affiliated entity and associated partner before submission; beneficiaries and affiliated entities are validated at grant preparation, associated partners are not (GA pp. 5, 36)
?	Expected in all nine topics: at least 0.8% of the budget (calculated on the total project budget) for engaging with the NEB hub; there is no separate cost heading for it (topic texts; Portal answer 102435)
✓	Effective contribution of SSH disciplines and involvement of SSH experts and institutions, as the topic text asks in PARTICIPATION-01 to -03, REGEN-02, REGEN-03, BUSINESS-01 and BUSINESS-03
✓	Building-sector professionals where a proposal works on the built environment (WP13 pp. 6–7)
✓	Sites that meet the neighbourhood definition (at most 25 km² or 10,000 inhabitants, lowest administrative level) and, where asked, urban, peri-urban and rural types per the Eurostat degree of urbanisation (WP13 p. 16; Portal answer 98594)
?	Neighbourhoods or climatic zones “located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries” (PARTICIPATION-01, -02, REGEN-01, BUSINESS-01, -03): the texts do not state whether each needs its own country; an applicant who needs certainty should ask CINEA in writing before the deadline

✓	TRL targets: REGEN-01 TRL 5–7; REGEN-02 and REGEN-03 TRL 6–8; no TRL in the other six (WP13 pp. 46, 48, 50)
?	Financial capacity: normally checked for the coordinator if it requests €500,000 or more, except public bodies, international organisations and grants of not more than €60,000; it may also be done for other participants if needed (GA p. 20)
?	Ethics self-assessment, and a plan for exploitation and dissemination, are part of the application (GA pp. 4, 15)

9. How the money works

Form of grant and rate

- Lump sum: the Commission fixes the grant from a detailed budget table (Excel) that applicants fill in. The costs in the table must meet the eligibility rules of actual-cost grants, and purchases and subcontracting must give best value for money (GA p. 27).
- Maximum rates (GA p. 31): IA 70%, and up to 100% for non-profit legal entities; RIA 100%. For a lump sum the rate is applied inside the amount, so it does not appear in the grant agreement (GA p. 32). A for-profit partner in an IA therefore plans for at most 70% of its estimated costs and for its own share.
- The grant awarded may be lower than requested (GA p. 31). Evaluators comment on the budget table only for proposals invited to grant preparation, placed on the reserve list or rejected for significant over- or underestimation (GA p. 28).

Budget table and evaluation of costs

- Experts judge whether the estimate is reasonable and the resources match the work. Overestimated costs lead to a lower lump sum without a lower score; a budget unfit for purpose lowers the Implementation score (guide “Lump sums: what do I need to know?”, p. 10).
- Experts use a personnel-cost dashboard by country and organisation type (20th to 80th percentile); high costs need a justification in the “Any comments” tab (same guide, p. 11). Ineligible costs in the table can reduce the grant, even after the project (GA p. 27).

Payments

- Payment follows completed work packages: an incomplete one can be completed and paid in a later period, and in the final period partial completion can be declared. Completion means the activities of the description of action, not a successful outcome (same guide, pp. 17–20).
- Pre-financing is normally 160% of the average EU funding per reporting period, with 5% to 8% of the maximum grant amount kept for the mutual insurance mechanism (GA p. 33). The model agreement shows an interim payment ceiling of 90% of the maximum grant, a periodic report after each reporting period and the final payment after the report; each grant agreement fixes the values and time limits (MGA Data Sheet 4.2).
- Each beneficiary is liable only for its own debt; payments are offset against debts to the EU (GA p. 33).

Derived estimate: for an IA at around €5 million, a for-profit beneficiary receives at most 70% of its estimated costs and covers the rest. Whether a lump sum split by work packages suits a partner's cash flow should be tested in the budget table before submission.

10. Evaluation

Independent external experts evaluate each topic separately against three criteria, then rank the proposals by score (GA pp. 23, 28). Aspects are read to the extent that the proposed work corresponds to the Work Programme description.

Criterion	What is looked at (RIA and IA)
Excellence	Clarity and pertinence of objectives, ambition beyond the state of the art; soundness of methodology, including inter-disciplinary approaches, the gender dimension, open science and engagement of citizens and end-users
Impact	Credibility of the pathways to the expected outcomes and impacts of the topic; quality of dissemination, exploitation and communication measures
Quality and efficiency of the implementation	Work plan, risk assessment, effort per work package and resources overall; capacity and role of each participant and the consortium as a whole

- Each criterion is scored from 0 to 5, half marks allowed. Thresholds: 3 per criterion and 10 for the sum (GA p. 26; evaluation form).
- For Innovation Actions the Impact score has a weight of 1.5 in the ranking. Research and Innovation Actions have no weighting (GA p. 26).
- Proposals that pass both thresholds are considered within the topic budget. Invitation to grant preparation is not a commitment to fund (GA p. 29).

Ties inside a topic budget (GA p. 28)

1. Proposals covering aspects of the topic that higher-ranked proposals do not cover.
2. Then the Excellence score, then the Impact score (for Innovation Actions: Impact first, then Excellence).
3. Then gender balance among the researchers with a leading role.
4. Then geographical diversity: the number of Member States or associated countries in the proposal that do not otherwise receive funds from projects ranked higher.
5. Then other factors for the portfolio, such as synergies and SMEs.

The coordinator may ask for an evaluation review of procedural aspects, within the time limit given in the evaluation result letter; the merits of the proposal are not reviewed (GA p. 30). *Planned results:* around 5 months after the deadline, indicative (GA p. 30).

11. Application package and timeline

- Part A is filled in online. Part B is a PDF with three sections that match the criteria (Excellence, Impact, Quality and efficiency of the implementation), at most 45 pages for the title, list of participants and sections 1 to 3; pages beyond the limit are made invisible after the deadline (GA p. 4; application form).
- The detailed budget table (Excel) is saved as .xlsx and uploaded; work packages follow Part B and beneficiaries follow Part A.
- Documents to include: a plan for exploitation and dissemination, the ethics self-assessment, the planned resources for engaging with the NEB hub (expected: at least 0.8% of the budget), and an SSH contribution where the topic requires it. The coordinator confirms the mandate and that all participants meet the conditions (GA pp. 4, 27).
- Every beneficiary, affiliated entity and associated partner needs a PIC to submit (associated partners are not validated; GA p. 36), and each contact needs an EU Login account. A Portal notice of 26 October 2026 says Part A was moved to a new technology and some data may need

to be entered again.

- Submission is electronic only. The Online Manual advises submitting at least 48 hours before the deadline; each version replaces the previous one and the proposal stays sealed until the deadline (Online Manual, PDF p. 38).

Date	Event	Source
5 May 2026	Call opened; submission session available for the nine topics	WP13 p. 19; Portal
29 November 2026, 17:00 Brussels (Sunday)	Latest time that matches the Online Manual advice (derived: 48 hours before the deadline)	Online Manual
1 December 2026, 17:00 Brussels (18:00 Romania)	Deadline	WP13 p. 19
About May 2027	Evaluation result, indicative (about 5 months after the deadline)	GA p. 30
About August 2027	Grant signature, indicative (about 8 months after the deadline)	GA p. 30
5 May 2027; 1 December 2027	HORIZON-NEB-2027-01 opens; its deadline (planned)	WP13 p. 21
15 September 2027	Deadline of the joint call HORIZON-NEB-2027-02 (planned)	WP13 p. 24

12. Risks and red flags

Risk	What the documents say	Response
Time	The deadline is 1 December 2026, 17:00 Brussels time; no corrections afterwards; excess pages are not read	Submit early; resubmissions replace earlier versions
Site and country minimums	At least three or five neighbourhoods in different Member States and/or Associated Countries, in urban, peri-urban and rural areas where asked (section 8)	Agree the site partners before writing
Breadth of the topic text	Each topic lists many required actions; evaluators read aspects to the extent the work matches	Map every required element to a work package
Vulnerable participants	Several topics involve homeless people, children, migrants or older adults; ethics review may follow (GA p. 15)	Plan consent, data protection and ethics early
SSH and building professionals	Named in most topic texts; building-sector professionals for work on the built environment	Show in the work plan where SSH experts and design professionals contribute
Lump-sum mechanics	Payment per completed work package; ineligible costs reduce the grant	Build the budget table with realistic costs per partner and country
China	Barred in six topics; not barred in three RIAs but not a funded country; sanctions rules apply to every partner	Check every partner and subcontractor
Competition	Two or three projects per topic; no 2026 applicant figures	Treat selection as uncertain; keep a next-round plan
Dates	The Commission may delay the deadline by up to two months; evaluation and signature dates are indicative	Do not plan on a delay

13. EUnita recommendations

If the proposal is already written

1. Run a rules check against the topic text: every “all of the following” item, the site and country counts, TRL, the SSH contribution, the planned resources for the NEB hub (expected: at least 0.8% of the budget), the 45 pages and the budget table.
2. Submit well before 1 December 2026, 17:00 Brussels time. *Derived estimate:* the Online Manual's 48-hour advice points to Sunday 29 November 2026, 17:00.
3. Check Part A again if it was edited or opened after the Portal notice of 26 October 2026.

If a partner is joining in the last days

1. Obtain an EU Login account and a PIC at once, and agree the partner's work package, effort and share of the budget with the coordinator.
2. Public bodies, research organisations and universities need a gender equality plan at signature.
3. Choose the role the consortium lacks: a site in a missing country or neighbourhood type, SSH, design or finance expertise.

If you are starting from zero: prepare for the next round

HORIZON-NEB-2027-01, “Innovative models for neighbourhoods that integrate beauty, inclusiveness and sustainability”, is planned to open on 5 May 2027 with a deadline of 1 December 2027, 17:00 Brussels time, and an indicative budget of €91.76 million (WP13 pp. 21–24). The joint call HORIZON-NEB-2027-02 (New European Bauhaus Facility and the Soil Deal for Europe Mission) has one topic and a deadline of 15 September 2027. The Portal lists these topics as forthcoming; other call documents are not published.

2027 topic	Type	Budget; per project; projects
PARTICIPATION-01 Co-governance in the green transition	IA	€10.76m; ~€5.38m; 2 (support to third parties up to €150,000 each)
PARTICIPATION-02 Intergenerational neighbourhoods	IA	€10.50m; ~€5.25m; 2
PARTICIPATION-03 Novel combinations of knowledge and research methods	RIA	€14.00m; ~€3.50m; 4
REGEN-01 Conventional and innovative construction materials and techniques (TRL 4–5)	RIA	€12.00m; ~€4.00m; 3
REGEN-02 Healthy construction and renovation sites	RIA	€8.00m; ~€4.00m; 2
REGEN-04 Enabling environments for a circular construction sector (TRL 6–8)	IA	€9.00m; ~€4.50m; 2
BUSINESS-01 Mass customisation of offsite modular components (entities controlled by China excluded)	IA	€10.00m; ~€5.00m; 2
BUSINESS-02 Collective community investment and ownership	RIA	€10.50m; ~€3.50m; 3
BUSINESS-03 Anticipating the long-term future of neighbourhoods	RIA	€7.00m; ~€3.50m; 2
NEB-SOIL-01 (call 2027-02) Reducing soil sealing through urban and territorial design (TRL 6–8)	IA	€15.00m; ~€7.50m; 2

A repeat of any of the nine 2026 topics is not published. *EUnita interpretation, from the titles only:* investment teams find a neighbour in 2027 BUSINESS-02, research teams in PARTICIPATION-03, design teams in NEB-SOIL-01 and building-solution teams in REGEN-04 (IA, TRL 6–8). Use the months before 5 May 2027 to build the consortium, agree sites and collect pilot evidence.

Unresolved points

- Project duration: not set by any topic; fixed in the grant agreement.
- Applicant numbers and success rates for this call: not published.
- Evaluation and signature dates other than “around 5 and 8 months”: not published.
- Whether each neighbourhood or climatic zone in different Member States and/or Associated Countries needs its own country: not stated in the topic texts.
- Whether the 2026 topics return, and the 2027 call forms and dates after each deadline: not published.
- Associated countries: the list in the General Annexes is correct only at adoption; the Portal list of participating countries is current.

Sources

- Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026–2027, Part 13 New European Bauhaus Facility (Decision C(2026) 6687/2): https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2026-2027/wp-13-new-european-bauhaus-facility_horizon-2026-2027_en.pdf (downloaded 20 Nov 2026)
- Work Programme Part 15, General Annexes: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2026-2027/wp-15-general-annexes_horizon-2026-2027_en.pdf (downloaded 20 Nov 2026)
- Portal topic page, PARTICIPATION-01 (the other eight follow the same pattern): https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-neb-2026-01-participation-01 (snapshots and data files of all nine topics, 20 Nov 2026)
- CINEA call page, Horizon Europe: EUR 101.1 million under the New European Bauhaus Facility: https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/funding-opportunities/calls-proposals/horizon-europe-eur-1011-million-under-new-european-bauhaus-facility_en (read 20 Nov 2026)
- Portal answer 102435 (0.8% for the NEB hub): https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/faq/102435 (read 20 Nov 2026)
- Portal answer 98594 (urban, peri-urban, rural areas): https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/faq/98594 (read 20 Nov 2026)
- Application form HE RIA and IA, V5.1: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/temp-form/af/af_he-ria-ia_en.pdf (downloaded 20 Nov 2026)
- Detailed budget table (HE LS), version 3.6: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/temp-form/af/detailed-budget-table_he-ls-euratom_en.xlsm (downloaded 20 Nov 2026)
- Lump sums: what do I need to know?, V3.0: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/ls-funding-what-do-i-need-to-know_he_en.pdf (downloaded 20 Nov 2026)
- Online Manual V1.3: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/om_en.pdf (downloaded 20 Nov 2026)
- NEB Facility glossary v1.0 (information only): https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/document/download/3678d3f3-e017-4c08-9f47-c9f590880db2_en?filename=NEB_Facility_Glossary_HE_WP2026-2027_v1.pdf (downloaded 20 Nov 2026)
- Portal data files of HORIZON-NEB-2027-01 and HORIZON-NEB-2027-02 topics: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-neb-2027-01-participation-01 (read 20 Nov 2026; status forthcoming)

Checked 20 November 2026. Official updates prevail.