



# New European Bauhaus Festival 2024

## Press file

### The New European Bauhaus Initiative

#### Background

The **New European Bauhaus (NEB)** is an initiative launched by the European Commission in 2021 that translates the European Green Deal into tangible change on the ground to improve our daily lives. It brings about sustainable solutions for **transforming the built environment and lifestyles** for the better under the green transition, matching **sustainability** with **good design** that needs less carbon. At the same time, it makes these solutions **inclusive, accessible and affordable** for all, while respecting the **diversity of places, traditions, and cultures** that we have in Europe and beyond.

The New European Bauhaus is committed to engaging people at a **grassroots level**. Instead of applying the same solution everywhere, the NEB principle lies in understanding the individual needs of different communities. By doing this, communities can develop **tailor-made solutions** that truly address what matters most to each of them.

Moreover, the New European Bauhaus is defined by its **openness to dialogue and adaptability**, actively incorporating the views of various stakeholders into the process of design and implementation. With this collaborative and flexible approach, it fosters sustainable and inclusive development in Europe's built environment and lifestyles and showcases that a positive transition through co-creation is possible.

While the European Commission provides **guidance, norms and tools** for the implementation of the New European Bauhaus, the real change comes from the people on the ground turning the NEB's principles and guidelines into reality in specific projects.

In only three years after its launch, the New European Bauhaus has already inspired a **strong grassroots movement on the ground** and the active involvement of Member States, regions and municipalities across the EU. It brought forth numerous activities in every Member State – more than **150 dedicated projects** in total – in the areas of research and innovation, cohesion, regional and urban development, skills development and culture. There is now a **vibrant NEB Community** in place with almost **1,400 members** to date uniting non-profit organisations, businesses, public authorities, NEB project holders, National Contact Points, and members of the High-Level Roundtable, reaching several millions of Europeans. A strong network of practitioners promotes a growing number of NEB innovation, research and project implementation initiatives across several sectors and policy areas, while the New European Bauhaus Prizes motivate many individuals and organisations to on-board the NEB ideas and values in their projects.



## The New European Bauhaus Festival

The NEB calls for collective multi-level action and citizen participation in building a more beautiful, sustainable, and inclusive future. Since its launch, events organised by and for the NEB Community, as well as for stakeholders and the wider public, provided numerous occasions to exchange ideas, stimulate discussion on NEB topics and explore opportunities for future cooperation.

To foster the community, provide a platform for exchange and to bring people from different backgrounds together, the Commission organises every second year a New European Bauhaus Festival. The first **Festival of the New European Bauhaus** (9-12 June 2022) was the biggest event for the NEB Community since the launch of the initiative and brought together over 200,000 people on- and offline in Brussels and in the Member States. It acted as a platform to communicate, celebrate and discuss good practices for building a more sustainable, beautiful, and inclusive world. The event was designed around three main pillars: a FAIR (exhibition of NEB initiatives), a FEST (cultural programme), and a FORUM (discussions on NEB-related topics).

The biannual Festival is coming back with its [second edition](#) on 9-13 April 2024 in Brussels, casting a spotlight on the **results achieved** since the launch of the New European Bauhaus three years ago. It will showcase NEB projects, celebrate success stories, and offer the community an opportunity to meet, exchange, and build further networks. It will also serve as a hub to bring together relevant stakeholders, the NEB Community, and EU citizens to **collect insights** and **define the way ahead together**.

## The second edition of the New European Bauhaus Festival in 2024

The second edition of the [New European Bauhaus Festival](#) is taking place from 9 to 13 April 2024, centring at the Parc du Cinquantenaire/Jubelpark and the Art & History Museum in Brussels. It also features Satellite Events from all over Europe and beyond. The Festival is organised by the European Commission and will be part of the official programme of the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The 2024 Festival will focus on the **results achieved** since the launch of the New European Bauhaus three years ago. It will showcase NEB projects, celebrate success stories, and offer the community an opportunity to meet, exchange, and build further networks. It will be a **key transition moment for the NEB**, serving as a platform to bring together relevant stakeholders from different paths of the economy and society, industry leaders, policy figures, the NEB Community, and all EU citizens to **collect insights**, **showcase lessons learnt** and **define the way ahead together**.

The NEB Festival is designed around three strands: the **Forum**, featuring keynotes and panel discussions, the **Fair** of workshops, labs, and exhibitions, and the **Fest** part, showcasing artistic performances. Meanwhile, Satellite Events will take place all over Europe and beyond, ensuring that the spirit of the New European Bauhaus Festival reaches far and wide.

Among the speakers attending are the Senior Curator at the Museum of Modern Art Paola Antonelli, sound and installation artist Emeka Ogboh, Pritzker Prize-winning architect Shigeru Ban, as well as Edilia Ganz, Director of Fedora and recipient of the Forbes 30 under 30 award, along with several others.



This year's Festival will also feature the fourth edition of the **New European Bauhaus Prizes** ceremony, rewarding 20 projects, designs, and ideas that align and exemplify the movement's commitment and embody the NEB values. More information follows below.

The Festival will be launched on the evening of 9 April with the **official Opening Ceremony** featuring, among others, **President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, European Commissioners Ferreira and Ivanova**, Belgian Prime Minister de Croo.

### **What to expect from the 2024 edition:**

#### **Forum**

The Forum is a platform to explore engaging ideas and insights that shape the future of our neighbourhoods and communities. It features **keynotes, lively round tables, and debates** led by creatives, policymakers, and practitioners from around the globe as well as architects, artists, scientists, and climate activists that will also contribute to the discourse. From discussions on architecture, science, technology, and culture to the future of constructions, regional development and international perspectives, the public is part of a global conversation. A spotlight will also be put on the **NEB's role in the sustainable reconstruction of Ukraine**.

The different panel discussions of the Forum will give **concrete recommendations** for the future of the New European Bauhaus. Hence, the NEB Festival will be a **major milestone for the NEB**, poised to leave a **lasting impact on the initiative** and the broader community it serves, laying the foundation for continued success and positive change on the ground.

Among other areas, this year's edition will place a **special focus on slow fashion**, inviting 16 young fashion designers from the EU and beyond to display their designs in a '**sustainable NEB catwalk**' on 11 April. It will be the occasion to demonstrate alternatives to fast fashion, and innovative materials, giving space to creativity.

For the full programme and list of speakers and panel discussions, have a look [here](#)!

#### **Fair**

An **interactive exhibition** where innovation meets inspiration, and where solutions for a sustainable and fair future come to life. Visitors can engage with **immersive displays and interactive experiences** to discover cutting-edge designs that address societal and environmental needs. More than **70 innovators** are showcasing their work and demonstrating innovative solutions to building a more sustainable and equitable future. Experience those innovations and exchange with visionaries from all over Europe and beyond. Visitors will have the opportunity to get a closer look at these innovative projects, celebrate success stories, exchange ideas, network and build partnerships.

Find the overview of the projects and workshops [here](#).



## Fest

Culture, art, and fun are coming together in this joyful celebration of creativity, innovation, and diversity. Artists from around the globe are gathering in Brussels to showcase their talents and visions for a better tomorrow. Visitors are invited to join interactive workshops, inspiring music, theatre and dance performances, to reconnect with our living spaces and nature and share a memorable moment with artists and participants. Moreover, a movie screening on 10 April invites guests to immerse themselves in a series of **EU-funded short films** on climate change, water pollution, deforestation, and more.

The full list of artists, performances and activities of the Fest can be found [here](#).

## **Our commitment for a sustainable event**

The New European Bauhaus Festival is built on the core NEB values: “**Beautiful, Sustainable, Together**”. Every aspect of the Festival aims to be aligned with the commitment to aesthetic integrity, sustainability, and community cohesion. Through the 4 Rs approach – **Reduce, Refuse, Reuse, and Recycle** – we minimise waste, avoid single-use plastics, and prioritise recycling. Sustainable transport is promoted, urging the use of public transport. Our communication efforts prioritise digital channels. Local and seasonal ingredients are sourced for food and beverages, with an emphasis on **reducing food waste** through recovery and redistribution. Local suppliers are engaged to support economic growth and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Diversity and inclusion are paramount in supplier and staff selection. Additionally, we are dedicated to mitigating our environmental impact, and as part of these efforts, we will **compensate carbon emissions** at the end of the event.

## **Programme 2024**

To check the full programme, click [here](#).

## The New European Bauhaus Prizes 2024

The Festival will feature the [New European Bauhaus Prizes 2024](#) Ceremony on 12 April, rewarding 20 existing projects as well as concepts developed by young talents in four categories:

1. Reconnecting with nature;
2. Regaining a sense of belonging;
3. Prioritising the places and people that need it the most;
4. Shaping a circular ecosystem and supporting life-cycle thinking.

For the first time, the competition welcomes projects and concepts from Ukraine in addition to EU Member States and the Western Balkans. In addition, a “Special Recognition to Ukraine's Reconstruction and Recovery Effort” Prize will be awarded to projects and concepts contributing to Ukraine's



reconstruction and recovery effort in line with the New European Bauhaus values and principles. The 2024 Prizes edition will also put the spotlight on projects and concepts from regions across the EU facing more intensively socio-economic constraints, and places challenged the most by the need to evolve to a carbon neutral economy, by awarding one fourth of the Prizes to projects and concepts that can be inspirational and contribute to positive transformation in those places.

In 2024 and after an assessment by external experts, 49 applications were selected as finalists out of more than 530 applications. The 20 awarded projects and concepts – including winners (first place) and runners-up (second place) - will be selected by an expert jury and by an online public vote.

The winners and runners-up will receive a monetary prize of:

1. EUR 30,000 for winners of the New European Bauhaus Champions (Strand A)
2. EUR 15,000 for winners of the New European Bauhaus Rising Stars (Strand B)
3. EUR 20,000 for runners-up of the New European Bauhaus Champions (Strand A)
4. EUR 10,000 for runners-up of the New European Bauhaus Rising Stars (Strand B)
5. EUR 30,000 for the winner of the 'Special Recognition to Ukraine's Reconstruction and Recovery Effort' prize.
6. EUR 15,000 for the runner-up of the 'Special Recognition to Ukraine's Reconstruction and Recovery Effort' prize.

In addition to a monetary amount, each winner and runner-up will benefit from a communication package provided by the European Commission to help them further promote and develop their projects and concepts.

The NEB Prizes Ceremony will be hosted by European Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, Elisa Ferreira, and European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education, and Youth, Iliana Ivanova.

## Nominees 2024

- In Albania, 1 project is nominated for the Rising Stars in the category Reconnecting with nature ("A New Cycling Hub for Tirana").
- In Austria, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Shaping a circular industrial ecosystem and supporting life cycle thinking ("Re-Sourcing Commons").
- In Belgium, 1 project is nominated for the Rising Stars in the category Shaping a circular industrial ecosystem and supporting life cycle thinking ("The Station").
- In Bulgaria, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Regaining a sense of belonging ("Concrete to Culture").
- In Bosnia and Herzegovina, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Regaining a sense of belonging ("Map4Water : ONE THOUSAND FOUNTAINS CITY").



- In Croatia, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Reconnecting with nature (“#ItIsNotTooLate Seagrass Beds”).
- In Cyprus, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Prioritising the places and people that need it the most (“‘FUMapp’ and cognitive navigation”).
- In Czech Republic, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Regaining a sense of belonging (“Places from Spaces”).
- In Denmark, 1 project is nominated for the Rising Stars in the category Shaping a circular industrial ecosystem and supporting life cycle thinking (“The Elite Performance”).
- In Estonia, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Shaping a circular industrial ecosystem and supporting life cycle thinking (“The Invisible Visible”).
- In Finland, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Regaining a sense of belonging (“Circular Green Blocks”).
- In France, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Prioritising the places and people that need it the most (“Yes We Camp”).
- In Germany, 1 project is nominated for the Rising Stars in the category Reconnecting with nature (“Cultivating Companionship”), 1 project for the Rising Stars in the category Prioritising the places and people that need it the most (“TEUFELSBERG TRANSFORMATION LAB”), and 1 project for the Rising Stars in the category Shaping a circular industrial ecosystem and supporting life cycle thinking (“HopfON”).
- In Greece, 1 project is nominated for the Rising Stars in the category Regaining a sense of belonging (“Co-llECTION”).
- In Hungary, 1 project is nominated for the Rising Stars in the category Regaining a sense of belonging (“Cooperative Ownership for Communities”).
- In Ireland, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Reconnecting with nature (“Eco Showboat”).
- In Italy, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Prioritising the places and people that need it the most (“Mini Mega Spazio”), and 1 project for the Champions in the category Shaping a circular industrial ecosystem and supporting life cycle thinking (“CambiaMenti Festival”).
- In Latvia, 1 project is nominated for Champions in the category Regaining a sense of belonging (“Pitragš Pavilion/Stop”).
- In Lithuania, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Reconnecting with nature (“Neringa Forest Architecture”).
- In Luxembourg, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Shaping a circular industrial ecosystem and supporting life cycle thinking (“A Sustainable Campus Transformation”).
- In Malta, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Regaining a sense of belonging (“The Malta Bus Reborn”).
- In Montenegro, 1 project is nominated for the Rising Stars in the category Shaping a circular industrial ecosystem and supporting life cycle thinking (“Green Lining”).



- In Netherlands, 1 project is nominated for Champions in the category Regaining a sense of belonging (“SET Community Gardens”).
- In North Macedonia, 1 project is nominated for the Rising Stars in the category Prioritising the places and people that need it the most (“Laboratorium”).
- In Poland, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Prioritising the places and people that need it the most (“Village hall in Just Transition of Turów”).
- In Portugal, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Regaining a sense of belonging (“The wool cycle in Barroso”), 1 project for the Rising Stars in the category Reconnecting with nature (“Hydroscape Lisbon”), and 1 project for the Rising Stars in the category Shaping a circular industrial ecosystem and supporting life cycle thinking (“Urban\_MYCOskin”).
- In Romania, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Reconnecting with nature (“Făget Forest Park; Cluj’s Green Lung”).
- In Serbia, 1 project is nominated for the Rising Stars in the category Reconnecting with nature (“Hanging Salad Gardens”).
- In Slovakia, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Reconnecting with nature (“Urban Landscape KVP”).
- In Slovenia, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Regaining a sense of belonging (“InnoRenew CoE”).
- In Spain, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Reconnecting with nature (“Forest of dreams”), 1 project for the Champions in the category Regaining a sense of belonging (“MAMMAI”), 3 projects for the Champions in the category Prioritising the places and people that need it the most (“Rooftop Garden”, “FURNISH XKIC 2021”, “Asertos Programme”), 1 project for the Champions in the category Shaping a circular industrial ecosystem and supporting life cycle thinking (“Sustainability Protocol”), 1 project for the Rising Stars in the category Reconnecting with nature (“Regenerative Agriculture Hub”), 1 project for the Rising Stars in the category Regaining a sense of belonging (“A Bite of Extinction”), and 1 project for the Rising Stars in the category Prioritising the places and people that need it the most (“Els Rajolars d’Oliva”).
- In Sweden, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Reconnecting with nature (“Flytevi – Blue Urban Community Garden”).
- In Ukraine, 1 project is nominated for the Champions in the category Reconnecting with nature (“Nad Dzherelom”), 2 projects for the Champions in the category Prioritising the places and people that need it the most (“Leo States”, “Better than Shelter: Rebuilding Ukraine”), and 1 project for the Rising Stars in the category Prioritising the places and people that need it the most (“Community rebuilding”).



## Contacts

### Contacts

The New European Bauhaus Festival is organised by the European Commission. For general enquiries on the New European Bauhaus Festival and Prizes, and interviews opportunities, please email:

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