



New European Bauhaus
beautiful | sustainable | together

Feasibility report, Mapping
- New European Bauhaus
& Designed living environment
"Gestaltad Livsmiljö"

Communication level one

Boråsregionen Sjuhärad municipal association and
Science park University of Borås

ABSTRACT- New European Bauhaus in Sjuhärad

During 2023, a preliminary study/mapping of the New European Bauhaus was carried out in the region of Sjuhärad by Science Park Borås, part of Borås University

Both the New European Bauhaus and the national policy- "Gestaltad livsmiljö"- Designed Living Environment somewhat the national equalling to New European Bauhaus are policies that require collaboration between the community building function, social sustainability and culture. The culture arena can contribute with its expertise but not drive processes on its own.

New European Bauhaus offers inspiration and knowledge to create a sustainable society together with its values Sustainable, Beautiful, Together. It is a way of working together and learning from each other, a top-down perspective parallel to a bottom-up perspective. The assignment for the mapping was to see what the New European Bauhaus could bring to our municipalities, with an extra focus on rural areas. What is needed to increase the accessibility of the European processor and connect it to what is going on locally.

The mapping partly took the form of a "design thinking" method with unconditional meetings, joint investigations and inventories at both international, national, regional and local level. Some initial tests and dialogues started with Tranemo municipality, Marks municipality and Herrljunga municipality. In addition, the use of strategic improvisation, a method that requires an agile way of working, constantly open to adapting to challenges.

During the process, the following needs were identified

Information - In order to take part in what NEB has to offer, information and knowledge are required.

Capacity- since NEB consists of horizontal perspectives, an organization is required locally that can match it.

Funding - Applying for EU structural funds requires coordination and knowledge.

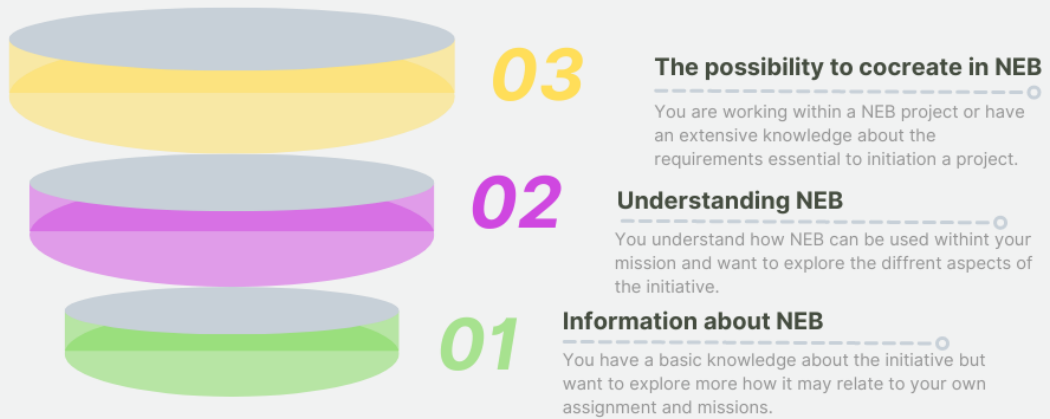
Collaboration - To establish collaboration between different actors and partners nationally and at EU level.

Test beds - Dare to test in the small format, without having a clear goal.

We have also created a ladder of communication to easier communicate about NEB, both within organization and collaborate.

The next step in the process is reconnecting with the municipalities and together explore the possibilities for NEB for their community.

Ladder of communication



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"Det tomma rummet framtiden
Allting som väntar oss
Som väntar på oss
Årstider helger
Veckodagar
Musik

Ja så flyttar vi in
Var och en med sin
levnadsbråte..."

Ur Hjärtat, av Bodil Malmsten

Introduction

The Swedish policy of designed living environment, established since 2018, has a holistic view on shaping the living environment encompassing architecture, form, and design - as well as art, cultural environment, and social values. This aligns well with the objectives of NEB. Like NEB, the policy for designed living environment is based on a holistic approach rooted in the ideals of constitutional democracy. Local and regional conditions are intertwined with global societal challenges.

"Sweden welcomes a broad EU-wide effort that, based on a holistic view, emphasizes the importance of design issues and the role of culture and creativity in the development work towards sustainable societies, providing member states with both common goals and concrete tools to achieve them. It also creates good conditions for continued work and potential new initiatives at the national level in a variety of areas that in some way relate to architecture, form, design, art, culture, cultural heritage, and sustainable urban development. One of the greatest challenges in transitioning to a sustainable society is creating and developing places where we live, reside, and work into sustainable, enriching, democratic, and meaningful places for all. Places and environments that we can all be proud of for generations to come. Achieving this is a major and complex challenge where various disciplines such as architects, designers, conservators, artists, engineers, and social scientists need to collaborate. Dialogue must also take place across public actors, businesses, academia, and residents."¹

In 2023, we conducted a feasibility study aimed at inventorying opportunities to develop capacity and create umbrella projects that allow even smaller municipalities to access the European context for creating a sustainable society. The NEB model for local partnerships has been examined and discussed.

The mission has had a dual purpose - partly to jointly with municipalities and other stakeholders map and explore how local ecosystems can be supported and developed through NEB - partly to evaluate and

¹ ¹ Faktapromemoria 2021/22: FPM6 Det nya europeiska Bauhaus 2021/22:FPM6.

analyze what municipalities and other stakeholders may need to participate in NEB. The feasibility study will lay the groundwork for continued work and contribute with proposals.

The feasibility study has entailed a collective learning about new contexts, pathways, and alternatives through environmental scanning, co-creative dialogue, lectures, and workshops. The work on the feasibility study has mainly been conducted from March to December 2023 - with some extension into January 2024 in order to supplement with important pieces and address needs that have arisen during the process and could not have been foreseen. The work has been limited to the main outlines, and the proposals should be seen as the beginning of long-term development work as NEB is implemented in Sweden and other EU member states.

Main Question

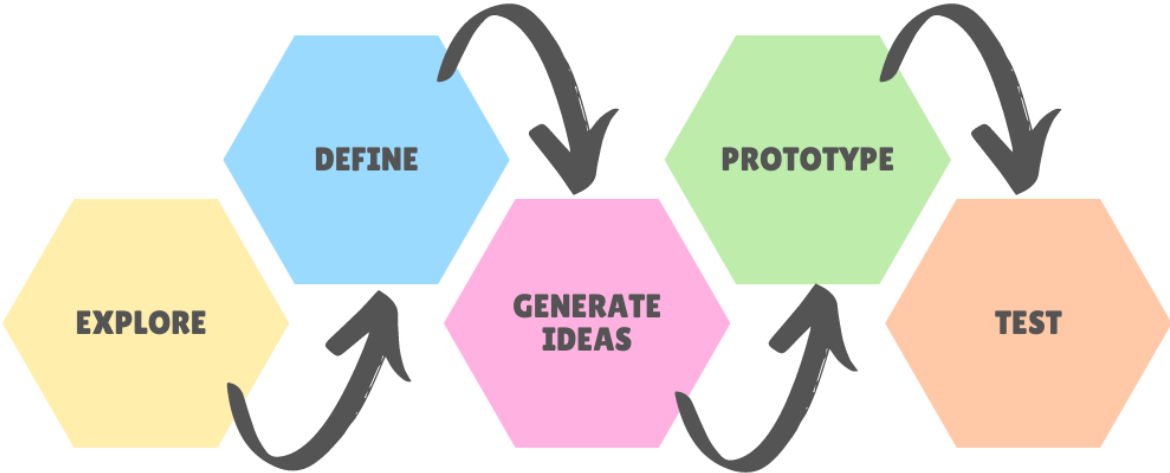
How can NEB and designed living environment be an asset for our municipalities and sub-regions?

How can local ecosystems be supported and developed through the New European Bauhaus?

Methodology

The working process has been characterized by "strategic improvisation," an approach often used in the pursuit of what does not yet exist, which can entail communicative challenges and place higher demands on analysis and evaluation. A process that allows balancing the constant with change, with openness to the possibility of making mistakes. Strategic improvisation should not be misunderstood; it is not about allowing impulses to lead in various directions arbitrarily but presupposes a direction towards set expectations.

The work also demands organizational recipient capacity; often, new working methods and partnerships are developed and tested as part of the process. Design methodology has been used as a complementary tool. The design methodology can be used to formulate a common goal together with stakeholders and enablers. In the next step, ideas are generated that can be further developed into concrete concepts/structural sketches, which, in turn, are tested as the basis for innovative decision-making with proposals for change and implementation. It is a creative and co-creative process where professionals with different profiles reflect on and exchange experiences in a complex reality.



Objective

The mission included mapping the opportunities and needs of municipalities with a particular focus on rural areas. The project's target audience should, after the end of the assignment, have received information and knowledge about the basic components of NEB. The ambition was to identify 3-4 local and/or sub-regional initiatives and environments with the potential to develop in line with designed living environments and NEB. The Borås region aims to create participation in regional development work from the grassroots level. Not only between sub-regions and municipalities but also with key actors in the larger ecosystem for innovation regionally and nationally. The long-term goal is to create common conditions for future work. The results should contribute to a strategic direction for collaboration and umbrella projects in a European context that would not otherwise have been possible.

The feasibility study is the start of a joint effort forward. It should provide conditions and opportunities for municipalities and the sub-region to work with the New European Bauhaus.

Target Audience

The feasibility study has been conducted in collaboration with member municipalities in the Borås region. All municipalities have been invited to participate based on their own interest.

Dialogues with relevant officials in municipal associations (Borås region, Fyrbodal, Gothenburg region, Skaraborg); Västra Götaland Region; Röhsska Museum; the Swedish National Board of Housing, Building, and Planning (National Contact Point for NEB); the Swedish Arts Council (Creative Europe Desk); NEB partners and Friends; and the NEB Team at the European Commission (hereafter referred to as the Commission) have occurred as needed throughout the process.

Cultural directors in all member municipalities have followed and contributed to the project's implementation through contacts with the cultural strategist at the Borås region.

A sub-regional network for Designed Living Environment & NEB was established in 2022. Network meetings are convened twice a year (spring and autumn) by the cultural strategist at the Borås region. Themed network meetings open up for more participants from member municipalities, Västra Götaland Region, the University of Borås, as well as from civil society and business.

The project's activities otherwise have included participation from a range of experts, officials, and politicians employed at various levels of society with diverse professional backgrounds from multiple sectors and policy areas (academia, culture, democracy, public health, urban planning, public transportation, environment, business, architecture, social sustainability, welfare, among others).

A New European Bauhaus

A New European Bauhaus (abbreviated NEB) aims to accelerate the green transition by supporting an emerging grassroots movement and engagement. A New European Bauhaus has been inspired by the older Bauhaus movement, known in Europe and internationally from 1919 to 1933. The German Bauhaus school, founded by Walter Gropius, was closed down by Nazism at the outbreak of World War II but remains one of the world's most famous architecture, art, and design schools in modern times.

"The historical Bauhaus, created in 1919, emerged during a period of profound transformation - towards the modern era of society and industry. The founders addressed this transformation in their work and sought solutions to the new challenges. The initiative quickly developed into a global cultural movement. It brought together artists, designers, architects, and craftsmen. This interdisciplinary approach is also crucial for the challenges of our time, where we once again face profound transformation. Like a hundred years ago, the question of innovative materials is crucial. Back then, the solution was cement and steel, but now we must explore more nature-based materials that are sustainably produced and develop low-carbon production solutions for all materials. This applies to construction, fashion, design, furniture, transportation, and energy."

The Commission's initiative has been inspired by the spirit that existed within the original movement, which helped bring together worlds of architecture, art, culture, philosophy, science, and technology. The original movement had ideals of functional aesthetics and simplicity in harmony with nature. The ambition is to promote societal engagement that can address contemporary and common challenges in our time - climate change, social sustainability, and democratic crisis. Science shows that we become innovative together when our different perspectives have the opportunity to meet. The power of innovation expressed in collective societal engagement can contribute creativity and ingenuity on the path to a sustainable society.

NEB - What is it?

NEB is based on three inseparable core values in English: 'Beautiful', 'Sustainable', 'Together'. Today, we can see various translations and interpretations of these values into Swedish, all depending on the observer's perspective. The national translation to be used is found in the Commission's communication 'Vackert, hållbart, tillsammans' (until the EU presents a new translation).

The core values are subject to philosophical discussions within NEB circles. Around 'Beautiful', there is a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary discourse constantly present. 'Beautiful' encompasses aesthetics and quality beyond technical functionality, the public environment, and neighborhood life. It is easier to translate 'Sustainable' with the concept of 'environmental sustainability' and 'Together' with 'social, cultural, and equitable' sustainability.

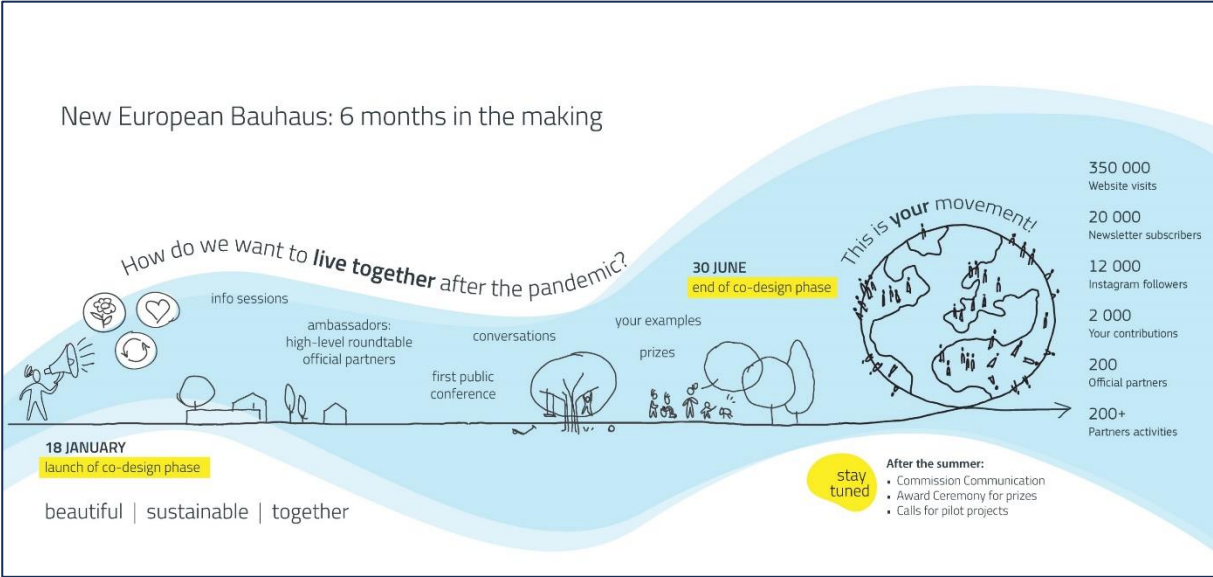
NEB was first announced by the President of the Commission, Ursula von der Leyen (September 2020), in a speech to the European Parliament. The initiative is anchored in the Commission's political objectives, strategic priorities, and action plans. It responds to the EU's vision of A Clean Planet for All, the European Green Deal, as well as several parts of EU policy areas - the recovery plan, cohesion policy, and support for Ukraine. NEB Synergies exist with EU missions especially for sustainable cities and communities. Particularly worth mentioning are the EU action plans for 'circular economy', 'social economy', and the EU's new action

plan for 'democracy'. The democracy action plan significantly sharpens the tone and constitutes a new effort in response to the democratic crisis prevailing in Europe and the world at several societal levels. It will entail increased support for democracy research and test environments for citizen-driven initiatives and processes. Europe aims to be climate-neutral by 2050. To succeed in the transition, we need to consider the social and cultural perspectives aiming for a sustainable society. NEB questions fundamental norms and value creation, how we innovate, what we innovate, and for whom we innovate.

NEB has four thematic areas decided by the Commission to promote comprehensive system transformation:

- Reconnecting with nature.
- Regaining a sense of belonging.
- Prioritizing the places and people who need it most.
- Promoting a long-term lifecycle approach in the industrial ecosystem.
- Three guiding principles will contribute to shaping the continued development of capacity:
 - A combination of the global and local dimension (multi-level engagement).
 - Participation (participatory process).
 - Interdisciplinary nature (transdisciplinary approach).

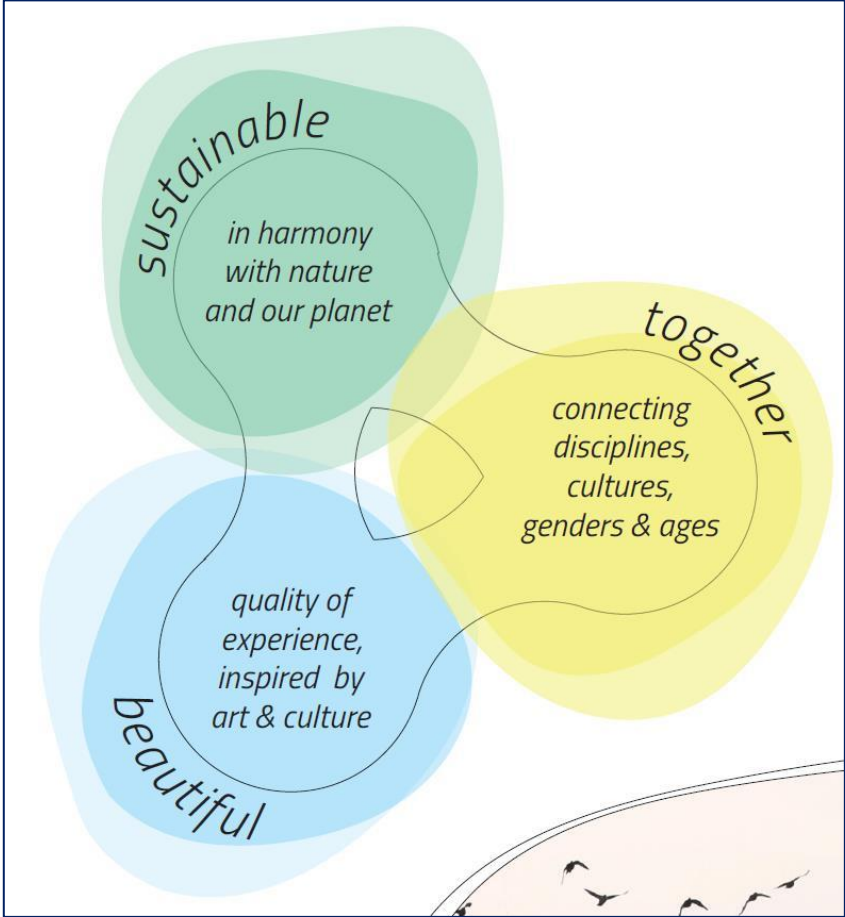
NEB, Past and Future



Visionary Outlook of NEB Six Months into the Pilot Project

A pilot phase of NEB commenced in 2021 with an implementation that encompassed three parts - co-design, capacity building, and knowledge dissemination. The Commission announced in September 2021, "The New European Bauhaus: Beautiful, Sustainable, Together," is built on unique grassroots participation. Public actors, academia, organizations, and citizens in EU member states have together discussed and developed ideas and tested solutions for sustainable and inclusive living environments of the future. Capacity building has included the establishment of a Bauhaus laboratory and think tank commonly

referred to as the NEB Lab. A NEB Lab project led by the Commission is the development of an innovative framework for impact evaluation, the 'NEB Labeling Strategy.' The needs of the architecture and construction sector as well as the textile sector were mapped in line with relevant decisions and directives. Within the framework of the 'NEB Labeling Strategy,' the new NEB compass has been developed. Other important components that have been established include NEB Website, NEB Community, NEB Festival, and NEB Prize Competition. The 'New European Bauhaus Progress Report' provides an overview of the combined results of the pilot phase. Documents, reports, and other information are collected on the Bauhaus initiative's website.



Sustainability encompasses the EU's climate goals for a climate-neutral society (circularity, zero pollution, biodiversity). Together includes inclusion and diversity, equality, and accessibility. Beautiful includes the multidisciplinary discourse of culture, aesthetics, and the role in societal construction, with humans at the center.

In 2024, NEB exits the pilot phase. The original focus on architecture and design for transition in the timber and construction sectors is expanded to include the textile sector and its challenges (such as resource recycling, product and service design, value creation, consumption, and public procurement). Discussions about the continuation of the initiative are ongoing. New proposals have been presented and are subject to ongoing negotiations with member states. Among them are proposals for the 'NEB Facility,' 'NEB Mission,' and 'NEB Destination,' as well as financing through calls in various framework programs within multiple policy areas. A dedicated NEB program from 2028 in the next framework period is also one of the proposals that has begun to be discussed in the corridors of EU. A strategic framework for how NEB will be implemented in the coming years has been developed in line with the ongoing planning of how the EU's multiannual budget will be implemented from 2021 to 2027. Annexes provide a description of the important components of NEB.

NEB Financing

The Commission has conducted an overarching assessment of EU initiatives and financing systems in adjacent areas. Several of the existing framework programs for 2021-2027 have been strategically linked to the implementation of the initiative, and a range of calls for proposals have been carried out for everything from micro-projects to small, medium, and large investments. A similar effort has been undertaken in parallel by national authorities in the member states. A variety of calls are implemented through the EU's existing framework programs but also through the NEB Lab to support and encourage NEB projects in local and national ecosystems. Examples of framework programs linked to NEB during the pilot phase include 'COSME', 'Creative Europe', 'Erasmus', and 'LIFE', to name a few. The Horizon Europe framework program for research and innovation has contributed to financing six system demonstrators, known as 'lighthouse projects'. 'ERUF' has financed 60 'NEB Local Initiatives'. Further examples of support for local development include the 'Enhance NEB Programme' - which can be applied for at the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). The European Investment Bank is working on producing an investment guide aimed at promoting innovation and business development in line with NEB. Therefore, during the current framework program's second half, the strategy for NEB is strengthened as it enters a new development phase from 2024 to 2027. Below are some of the NEB proposals, some of which have been preliminarily decided upon and some of which are subject to advanced discussions and negotiations between EU member states.

'NEB Community' Pilot Program 2024 – 2026

Support for smaller projects and innovative solutions has been mapped out. Within the framework of a NEB Lab project focusing on innovative financing, two studies have been conducted to improve support for small-scale NEB projects in municipalities and regions: 'PHILANTROPHY', Expert report in innovative funding, and 'Report on Crowdfunding for the New European Bauhaus – Is Crowdfunding a digital solution... for us?'. The mapping highlights support for citizen-driven innovation, which often falls outside existing financial frameworks and has difficulty accessing funds. The mapping has contributed to a support program to be implemented by the Commission in collaboration with the Committee of the Regions over two years, from 2024 to 2026. The European Parliament has decided to finance the pilot project with 1.45 million euros, which will start with calls for proposals as early as the first quarter of 2024. Within the project, a function called the 'NEB Advisory Centre' will be established to act as a sort of financing hub at the EU level.

From 'Mission' to 'Destination New European Bauhaus 2024 – 2027'

During the summer of 2022, the EU level announced a new proposal for the NEB Mission. In the fall, the proposal was further developed into 'Destination New European Bauhaus 2024 – 2027'. Forte – the Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare - coordinates the Swedish program committee for Horizon Europe Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity, and Inclusive Societies.

The destination.

The outcome regarding the proposal for the NEB Mission is unclear, but in the meantime, parts of the proposal are being integrated into Horizon Europe within Cluster 2. The destination builds on NEB's original focus on architecture, design, and living environments, as well as the transition in the timber and construction sectors. At the same time, the focus is broadened to include the textile sector and its challenges, as mentioned above. The proposal also includes the establishment of a permanent NEB facility from 2025, as well as a collection of new calls for proposals. On an overarching level, a new European Bauhaus is strengthened with the integration of social sciences and humanities as important drivers and professions for a transformative society. In December 2023, the European Parliament and the Member States reached a preliminary agreement on the EU budget for 2024, which currently amounts to 142.6 billion euros, of which around 500 million euros is expected to be allocated for Bauhaus initiative financing. Negotiations on the mid-term review of the Union's multiannual budget, which extends to 2027, are ongoing. This includes the work program for Horizon Europe 2024 – 2027, in line with EU regulations and existing administrative procedures, the program must be approved by all EU Member States before it can take effect. It should be emphasized that everything said at this point is unclear, especially considering the upcoming EU election in May 2024. However, strong support for NEB as such is observed among Member

States. Proposals may be dropped or reshaped, and new ones may emerge in the future, all in line with the political nature of the EU.

National Participation in NEB

In Sweden, there is a growing community of NEB partners (20) and friends (6). The Hub and Science Park applied early to join the official NEB partnership (spring 2021).

The Swedish partnership is considered by the Commission as a local NEB partnership in the making - often mentioned by the Commission in official contexts as an inspiring example and referenced in EU reports and concepts. Discussions on the next steps in organizing a national NEB partnership have matured. Regionally, several processes for establishing local NEB partnerships are underway. In addition to Sjuhärads and Västra Götaland, which have been pioneers, several similar initiatives have started, including the 'Stockholm Local Chapter' (Research Institute RISE and Cultural Center Blivande/Trans Europe Halles). Processes have also begun in Skåne, Kronoberg, Västerbotten, Norrbotten, and Östergötland.

NEB Model for Local Partnerships

As the movement establishes itself in EU member states, the need for coordination at various levels of society increases. Engaging local actors in co-creating NEB projects that can contribute to a sustainable society is at the core of the Bauhaus initiative. An important part has therefore been to, together with the official partnership, explore the needs for new capacity-building to promote grassroots participation. A co-creation workshop with NEB partners, thinkers, and practitioners was held online on October 28, 2022. The joint workshop was followed by a collection of ideas and reflections. The process resulted in an innovative model for local (territorial) partnerships, called 'NEB Local Chapters'. The model is detailed in the 'NEB Local Chapters Concept Note' (April 2022).

THINK GLOBALLY – ACT LOCALLY

NEB Local partnerships, or local chapters, according to the EU's Bauhaus initiative, can build bridges and contribute ideas and initiatives to address global societal challenges anchored in Agenda 2030. Local partnerships are community incubators for pilot projects, prototypes, system demonstrators, and can generate actions and policy proposals in the local community.

In the long term, the local NEB partnerships can evolve into local/regional NEB portals with the ability to accelerate and promote larger NEB initiatives aimed at fostering a transformative society. Joint projects can be introduced in the NEB Lab and accelerated in a transnational societal context provided they meet the selection criteria in line with NEB's core values and guiding principles. Instead of competing for project funding among NEB partners, partnerships can choose to establish a 'collaborative budget' and focus on collaboration around common touchpoints. Here, there is potential for local NEB partnerships to overcome the classic silos represented by divisions and sectors and instead encourage multi and interdisciplinary collaboration in smaller islands with open borders. Actors in local NEB partnerships have opportunities to work together on their applications, create consortia, and develop financing strategies. Desirable synergies between local, regional, national funds, and EU funds can be achieved.

Space for informal border crossings is created as the boundaries between different levels of society are blurred - from top to bottom, bottom to top - something that can contribute to desired synergies and bridge a democratic deficit. New conditions for collaboration between actors within local ecosystems are created. In a local partnership, citizens, organizations, and businesses can come together from different interests.

Stakeholders constellation

Local partnerships according to the NEB model gather groups with different affiliations in one or more cultural-geographic areas. Neighborhoods, districts, municipalities, subregions, regions, countries, the Nordic region, or elsewhere. According to the logic of the NEB model, there can only be one local NEB partnership within a geographic area. Therefore, there cannot be two partnerships for a city or a district, but only one joint interdisciplinary. NEB partners who wish to jointly establish a local NEB partnership at the EU level based on a common agreement or vision apply with a simple letter (by email) addressed to the NEB Team at the Commission - which approves the establishment according to an administrative routine. How local partnerships should be structured may vary between EU member states, considering cultural-geographic differences and democratic organization.

Guiding principles for the establishment of local NEB partnerships.

- Bottom-up and participation-based strategy
- Transparency, sense of local belonging, established context
- Well-coordinated and organized with a clear home base
- Relevant to the local community
- Multidisciplinary, cross-sectoral, penta-helix collaboration
- Citizens are 'NEB Change Agents' in the local community

Coordinating role

Local NEB partnerships have a coordinating function established from the grassroots. Starting from the local needs and challenges in the work. The coordinating role is established through an agreement between official NEB partners together with relevant actors and sponsors in broader collaboration. The coordinator can be appointed indefinitely, or the assignment can be rotated among the participants (NEB Partners). The coordinator can be an employed individual(s) or service(s), part of an operational mission in an organization linked to service(s), or take the form of an interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral local NEB Team with collective competencies and service assignments from several different organizations in broad collaboration, a so-called 'NEB Change Team'.

Public support regionally and locally is significant for the formation of partnerships. Public actors can contribute to capacity and capability development, for example, through one or more services i.e., the coordinator role, provide innovation environments or meeting places, or host various activities together with the local NEB partnership such as meetings, seminars, or conferences.

The coordinator's role is both strategic and operational, aiming to:

- Develop and implement strategy and vision for the local partnership.
- Develop and coordinate website and digital tools
- Develop and coordinate the local NEB Community and public meeting places.
- Develop capacity and capability to strengthen the local ecosystem as a whole.
- Coordinate and develop capacity for citizen-driven innovation in the local community.
- Coordinate and develop capacity for co-creative citizen dialogue.
- Coordinate and facilitate activities within the local partnership
- Collaborate with national contact points and the NEB unit at the Commission.
- Collaborate with other local partnerships and local ecosystems in Sweden and Europe.
- Monitor the environment and contribute to knowledge dissemination.
- Facilitate networking and matchmaking and cluster collaboration (interconnection)
- Evaluate and analyze results.
- Map financing and co-create programs and new calls.
- Represent the partnership locally, nationally, and internationally through EU cooperation.

The above list is not exhaustive; actors in a local NEB partnership can agree on more or fewer areas of responsibility as they see fit in broad collaboration.

Support and financing for local NEB partnerships

Local NEB partnerships cannot apply for operational support from the EU level; however, partnerships can apply for all forms of EU funding for their projects and activities in the spirit of NEB. Local NEB partnerships can receive guidance from national contact points and can turn to the Creative Europe Desk for information exchange and support in developing project proposals within existing calls. The national contact point in Sweden, Boverket, can provide guidance on strategic issues regarding EU strategies and financing systems and help to promote the partnership on its website, promote networking, and collaboration. In addition, Boverket collaborates with the Council for Sustainable Cities to create synergies with national initiatives and efforts linked to the EU's mission for sustainable cities and communities.

National NEB work has primarily focused on the strategic innovation program 'Viable Cities' and the initiative for climate-neutral cities. The NEB Team at the Commission can guide and facilitate local NEB partnerships in further developing ideas and initiatives. The NEB Team follows and supports partnerships and can facilitate the interconnection of local partnerships in Europe and globally upon request. Between the NEB Team at the EU level and the official NEB partnership, a transparent and trust-based closeness is created that has not existed before. Members, subject matter experts, and officials from the EU level may, when acquired, participate in local activities such as networking meetings, seminars, and conferences. New working methods are created from the top-down and bottom-up. The NEB Team offers partners regular digital meetings for the exchange of ideas, expertise, and knowledge. Meetings can address a theme, a specific challenge, initiate an NEB Lab project, or a new strategic EU initiative.

NEB partners are important dialogue partners and are continuously updated and consulted on matters concerning change at the EU level. NEB partners have a given role as co-creators and test pilots for innovative proposals and solutions. Support from the national contact point and the NEB Team depends on the resources available.

Tools for local NEB partnerships

There are visual NEB tools for communication and dissemination that local NEB partnerships can use. There is also a digital platform, the NEB Community Wiki. The platform provides opportunities for the various local NEB partnerships to interact with each other, share experiences, and create collaborations. Local NEB partnerships are allocated a collection page for their work (documentation, discussion threads, contact information, presentations, blogs, calendar). Furthermore, there is a collection page for the NEB Team with contact information for officials, presentations, and info threads.

Recently, the "NEB Dashboard" was launched to facilitate the mapping of projects and initiatives. The NEB Community Wiki is maintained by the Commission, and the dashboard is updated continuously. There is also a growing database for publications, research reports, articles, and similar resources.

Local NEB Ambassadors

In line with the Bauhaus Initiative's 'ambassador strategy', partnerships can choose to appoint local NEB ambassadors, individuals, or civil society organizations. Actors in the cultural and societal sphere are important agents of change and can contribute to increased engagement and grassroots inclusion. This opens up for exciting and innovative collaborations with established visual artists, fashion designers, actors, philosophers, writers, musicians, poets, and other creators.

Local partnership in Sjuhärad and Sweden

According to the NEB model for local partnerships, two or more NEB partners can formally form a local partnership. Navet and science park, as official NEB partners, have unique opportunities to lay the foundation for a local NEB partnership for Sjuhärad - in expanded collaboration with interested municipalities and actors in the local community such as organizations and companies. At the same time, there are opportunities to participate in various forms of local NEB partnerships with a larger geographical area. At the regional level, discussions are ongoing regarding the establishment of a local NEB 'partnership' for all of Western Sweden through the Dynamo Väst network. Science park has participated in discussions regarding the organization of the 'NEB Sweden Local Chapter'. National organization is seen as significant to bring together partners, friends, initiatives, and projects across the country, as well as to be able to monitor and influence changes within NEB with a Swedish voice. Examples of activities for a national partners and friends could include collecting and sharing information about funding opportunities and collecting and sharing lessons learned, case studies, reports, and feedback from local ecosystems. In a future scenario, we can imagine a network of NEB collaborations through local partnerships and their activities that are given a task as 'networkers', or NEB Weavers.

Local stakeholders that can be part of a local partnership

Navet

Navet is a science center operating on behalf of the municipalities in Sjuhärad to promote interest in and knowledge of natural science/technology and 2030 Agenda. Navet is the sister organisation of Boråsregionen. In addition to this, Navet is a meeting place for innovation, creativity and civic dialogue. Navet has a well-visited physical meeting place in Borås and a solid network for co-creation between citizens, academia, business, and politics.

Navet uses its expertise to communicate, disseminate experiences, and drive new working methods, processes, and projects, primarily aimed at children and youth and groups that otherwise have difficulty making their voices heard in society. Navet works both in ongoing processes and in project-based forms within relevant and current societal issues. The Borås region is Navet's principal, whose Board appoints Navet's steering group and decides on its operations.

Social Innovation Meeting Place, Science Park Borås

The science park at the University of Borås has an emerging innovation environment for sustainable societal development and is a driving force in broad collaboration with local, regional, national, and international actors in line with the university's collaboration policy. The activities contribute to the promotion and utilization of research and innovation in the areas of textiles, consumption, and societal development, also with a social dimension. In line with NEB, the activities are developed in connection with the national policy area for designed living environments and democracy (participation-based forms, organization, new ways to innovate with citizens in focus). The science park is part of the Vice chancellor Office under the unit for Research and Innovation.

The Social Innovation Meeting Place, a joint initiative between universities in Sweden, is one of several opportunities for municipalities to receive assistance and support regarding the challenges posed by complex societal issues.

Social Sustainability - Subregional Initiative: Goodlash – An Innovative Societal Incubator

Goodlash is an example of a subregional initiative funded from 2021 to 2023 by Vinnova - Sweden's innovation agency. In the pilot project, the science park and Navet have been driving forces together with Coompanion Sjuhärad (project owner) with common ambitions to strengthen the local ecosystem for social innovation. The collaboration, under the leadership of a joint change team, has laid the foundation for a prototype for a local societal incubator in the spirit of NEB. In the next step, Goodlash can be integrated into local NEB partnerships to develop established support for active citizenship at several societal levels.

Meeting NEB at the municipal level

A municipality is often organized into different administrations, sectors, and/or units. These operate according to their own business plans and mandates, based on political governance. There is usually a desire to work horizontally within the organization, but it is challenging and can take time. The New European Bauhaus is constructed based on collaboration to collectively build a more sustainable society at all levels.



An example on what different sector within a municipality that need to cooperate within NEB

The clearest missions within the New European Bauhaus / Designed Living Environment often lie within the Urban Planning Department / sector / unit but require collaboration to succeed in the field.

What can culture then contribute to the Designed Living Environment and New European Bauhaus? Some of the obvious ones besides creative innovation processes are:

- Artistic designs
- Experience of a place
- Citizen dialogues, contact with associations
- Cultural heritage knowledge
- The human perspective as the basic assumption in culture

Sjuhärad perspective in the feasibility study

The NEB model for local partnerships has been discussed in an exploratory process together with municipalities, stakeholders, and facilitators in Sjuhärad, Västra Götaland Region, and nationally. Municipal visits have taken place in Herrljunga, Mark, and Tranemo. Overall questions have framed the process:

- How can NEB and the designed living environment be an asset for our subregion?
- How can local ecosystems be supported and developed through the New European Bauhaus?

The following NEB questions have been posed in conversations and workshops:

- What capacity needs to be developed?
- What competencies are needed?
- What projects can be developed and supported?

Example, Herrljunga

In Herrljunga municipality, the initial contact was established through a digital conversation with the cultural director regarding opportunities and needs. In December, a workshop was conducted with officials from various departments (culture, recreation, environment, urban planning) at Herrljunga municipal hall. First, NEB was introduced, then ideas and opportunities for local development were discussed. The NEB model for local partnerships was explored with a municipal perspective. In Herrljunga municipality, there is a need to strengthen work on the designed living environment. What this could mean in line with NEB's values and guiding principles was discussed in group discussions with the support of the NEB compass as a guiding tool. The conversation focused heavily on democracy, resilience, and the role of libraries in the local community.

The need for new democratic meeting places and hubs in rural areas for cultural life was seen as important and necessary in the context of global security policy development. In an experimental spirit, the unused milk tables in the local community were observed as untapped resources. An idea was formed around 'milk table democracy' - a 'milk table festival'. What could it be? Can milk tables be enlivened and developed into real democratic micro-places? Can the milk table be a stage in the free cultural life, contributing to resilience and strengthening neighborhoods? How do they become satellites to the municipality's other public services? How small or large is a milk table? Can they be painted like the city's facades? The idea in its infancy is not unlike the temperance movement's initiative with mini-libraries on electrical cabinets to promote reading and education in society. Today, there are 100 mini-libraries across the country. This may be an example of an idea in the making for a social innovation based on a participatory strategy from below - which can be developed in a small feasibility study together with citizens and associations and create ripples in the NEB spirit.

There are various project funds to apply for; culture and democracy networks can be developed in collaboration with actors in the Nordic countries and other EU countries, not least with the support of the Leader method. The larger idea discusses the democratic crisis in society and the ambition to want to open the town hall to citizens in new ways to bring democracy to life and revive the heart of democracy inside the town hall. Green areas were also discussed.

The response from Herrljunga municipality is positive towards NEB and the establishment of NEB capacity subregionally/regionally to strengthen the municipality's work on the designed living environment for transition and support local initiatives and projects.

Example, Mark

In Mark municipality, the initial contact was established through a digital conversation with the cultural director regarding opportunities and needs. In December, a NEB conversation was held with relevant officials at Mark municipal hall. The NEB conversation was preceded by a site visit to Rydal museum with linen weaving, a cultural environment that is brought to life and developed in collaboration with actors in the local community. The NEB conversation involved the cultural director, department head, business development manager, development leader, and cultural strategist at the Sjuhärad Municipal Association.

In Mark municipality, there are thoughts about developing the town hall into a vibrant meeting place with the citizen in focus. This is an ambition that aligns well with the designed living environment and NEB. The municipality is interested in community projects in collaboration with various societal fields; what is envisioned is opportunities for a municipal-wide initiative involving several departments in the municipality. This is more interesting than a single cultural investment in the long run.

To decide on participation in NEB as a friend or with a local project, one first needs to form a clear understanding of the possibilities in NEB. Here is a communicative challenge and translation problem; NEB is difficult to grasp in EU language, and it is not always easy to inform officials and politicians in municipalities about the broad and innovative content.

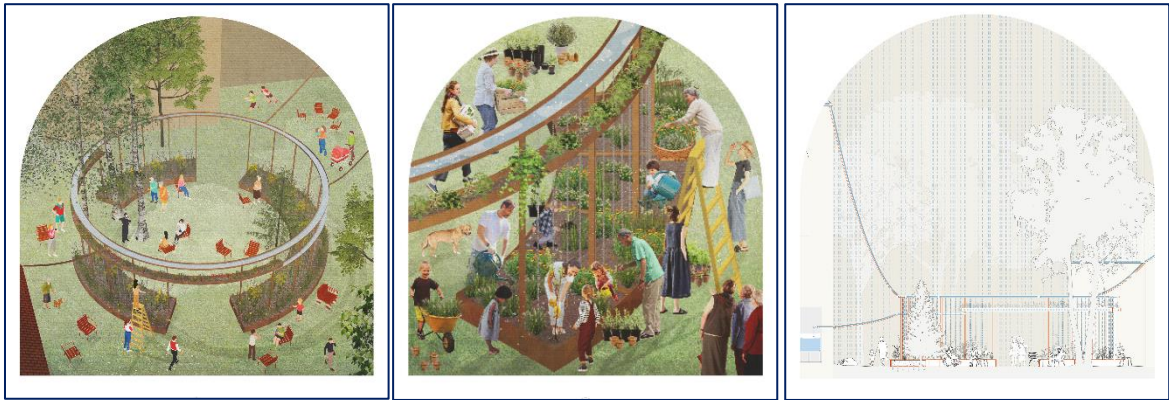
The response from Mark municipality is positively inclined towards NEB in the long run. A joint development day for municipalities regarding NEB subregionally/regionally is interesting to gain a better understanding, preferably with inspiring examples and concrete guidance.

Example, Tranemo

In Tranemo municipality, the contact was initiated through a swift effort with an EIT application under the 'Co-create NEB Public Space' call. The call was about one-year EU support for designed transition and local place development aimed at developing a 'community prototype', preferably with the support of a creative team in collaboration with a local project group. The application was developed in collaboration between the science park, the Röhsska Museum (NEB Friend, part of Gothenburg City), and Sharemusic & Performing Arts (NEB Partner). Although the application was not granted funding this time, the joint exercise has contributed to establishing contacts and collaboration for continued international development work through the EU. The work on the application contributed to increased knowledge for similar EIT calls in the future.

The concept was developed in a co-creative process together with citizens in the local community. In line with Tranemo municipality's cultural strategy 2021 - 2026, the designed living environment is included as a strategically prioritized area alongside culture in a horizontal perspective; Children and youth; Coordination; Civil society. "The cultural strategy is a document for all sections and companies of the municipality with the intention of influencing associations, the free cultural life, and the individual resident. Culture should be a natural part of residents' everyday lives, by being present in all municipal activities both in rural areas and in urban areas."

In the work on the application, opportunities for a local project for a designed outdoor environment around Tranemo's new cultural center and library, Centralen, were identified. We can draw inspiration from NEB awards, such as 'Nature's Library', which is an example of designing an outdoor environment in Vilnius, Lithuania. The concept of 'a living natural library' presented by the Lithuanian Social Innovation Cluster was awarded in the category 'regaining a sense of belonging'.



In November, an NEB dialogue was held with officials in Tranemo municipality at Centralen. The NEB dialogue included the cultural manager, city architect, urban planner, cultural coordinator, project manager

in construction and real estate, as well as the cultural strategist and cultural developer at Sjuhärad municipality. First, NEB was presented, then the idea of designing the outdoor environment for Centralen in line with NEB's values was explored.

At the time, the group felt satisfied with the basic information about NEB. About a week later, the joint learning about NEB continued through a digital workshop (60 minutes) with a special focus on the NEB model for local partnerships - using the Miro tool. The process leader and urban planner formed a duo and facilitated the workshop together.

Tranemo municipality has ambitions and future urban planning that align well with designed living environments and NEB. The municipality is interested in community projects in collaboration with various societal fields, envisioning a municipal initiative that includes multiple departments in the long run. Mutual deepened learning together with Tranemo municipality has been significant in the pre-study work.

The response from Tranemo municipality to NEB is positive. The cultural administration sees both positive opportunities in an investment in the NEB model for local partnerships regionally, as well as for Tranemo municipality itself.

Example, together we build a local NEB partnership for Sjuhärad

In December, the data collection and co-creation process together with the municipalities concluded with a joint workshop at the Do-tank Center at the science park. The workshop brought together a group of officials from Tranemo and Mark municipalities, Sjuhärad municipality federation, Navet, the Röhsska Museum, Västra Götaland Climate 2030, the University of Borås, and Science Park Borås. NEB partners from Sweden and Europe participated digitally with inspiring examples from other locations: Brussels NEB Local Chapter; Stockholm NEB Local Chapter; Sharemusic & Performing Arts. The process in an exploratory and experimental spirit has contributed to the design of two structural sketches. (see annex)



Conclusion / Evaluation / Analysis

Processes initiated to create the report:

- Co-creative dialogue sessions with stakeholders and facilitators have contributed to environmental monitoring, knowledge sharing, and the mapping of opportunities.

- Conferences, seminars, and development days have contributed to environmental monitoring, knowledge sharing, and the mapping of opportunities at regional, national, and EU levels.
- Knowledge dissemination targeting the audience through mini-focus sessions, breakfast seminars, and newsletters has contributed to collective learning and increased knowledge within the local community.
- The NEB model for local partnerships has been explored and tested together with stakeholders in the local community.

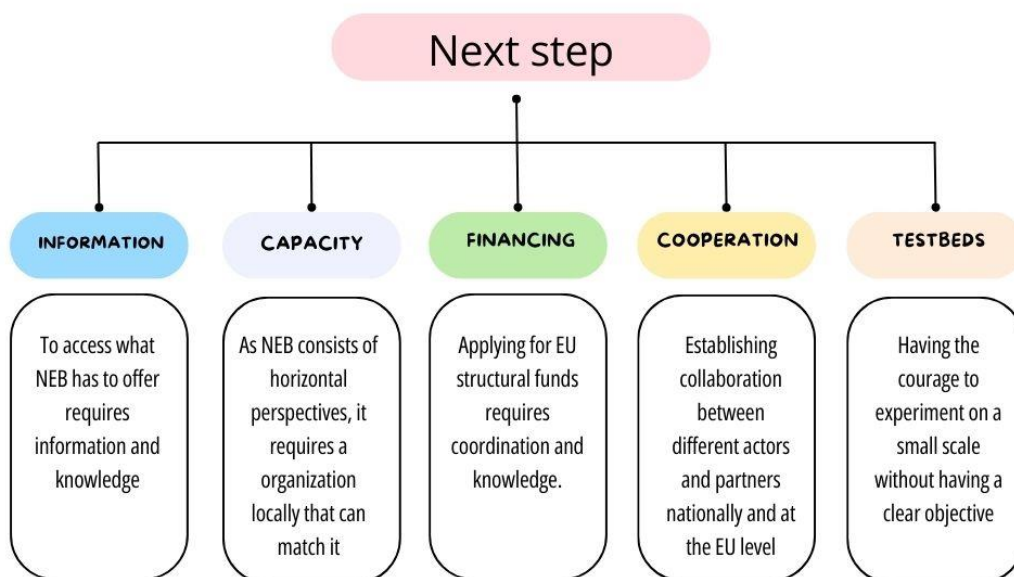
The member municipalities of the Borås region have gained knowledge about the emerging policy area for Designed Living Environments and NEB, anchored in the cultural plan for Sjuhärad 2024 – 2027, as well as information about process tools to support local development in the spirit of NEB. The process has reflected the new Bauhaus methodology of new proposals within the designed process with the support of inspiring examples and guiding questions. The entire process has been built on transparency and a bottom-up participatory strategy – with an experimental and constantly critical approach. The area is innovative, which has posed communicative challenges. In addition to the Commission's communication "A New European Bauhaus," there is a lack of translations into the Swedish language for important reports, concepts, and proposals. In contacts with stakeholders in the local community, there is a great need for national translations that can facilitate collective learning and create understanding.

The communicative challenge is mentioned by many – concerned officials in the municipalities but is also discussed in NEB circles regionally and nationally. The Swedish National Board of Housing, Building, and Planning addresses the issue in its annual report on the work as a national contact point. "Depending on translation, words can have different meanings, which can make the information difficult to grasp." Basic elements of NEB need to be described pedagogically in an inspiring format, preferably interactively, to make it easier to understand, be inspired, and see the possibilities. In conversations and workshops with municipalities, there was often a demand for a handbook or study materials. Requests for a sub-regional or regional development day have been made. In the work with stakeholders in the local community, basic educational materials in Swedish are an important part. An exciting idea borrowed from the open-source world could be to create a kind of "Open Practice Library" - a digital library with tools, methods, and processes for designed transformation.

Local Implementation of Proposals Based on the EU's NEB Model

Conversations and workshops have contributed to two structural sketches with proposals for the development of NEB capacity locally, one for collaboration in Sjuhärad and one for collaboration in Västra Götaland. The proposals are based on the EU's NEB model for local partnerships with associated coordination roles and can advantageously be implemented as pilot projects in synergy with the Bauhaus Initiative's implementation at the EU level from 2024 to 2027, with support and guidance from the NEB Team at the Commission.

The proposals involve establishing a new function, NEB Coordinator sub-regionally or regionally, which allows even the smaller municipalities to access the European context in the transition. Financing for the purpose of establishing a new function can be obtained through EU funds and especially structural funds - Leader, as well as NEB-related calls within various transnational framework programs. The mission for Cities and Sustainable Communities and the Destination for New European Bauhaus.



Next Steps

During the pre-study, we have identified a great need to acquire more knowledge about NEB and what it can entail at the local level, relating it to the societal challenges present in the municipalities. There is an opportunity to continue working on providing information to municipalities, especially now that we have found a communication model that we intend to use moving forward, to achieve the best possible dissemination while still being at the right level.

Capacity, the horizontal perspective where urban planning is expected to collaborate with the environment, culture, and the social aspects within a municipality, requires a new way of organizing itself. Collaborating humbly and exploratively requires time and courage.

Locally, operational budgets are often strained, and engaging in innovation work at the EU level can be challenging. Assistance in finding resources and opportunities is needed.

The work that is underway within the EU and nationally welcomes new collaborations; it is essential to find the right level for municipalities to engage and be matched with suitable partners.

Creating test beds sub-regionally or locally to dare to experiment can be a way to start in line with the pre-study's method of strategic improvisation and design thinking. Testing to gather knowledge to move forward together.

Closing words

Alessandro Rancati, one of the initiators of the Commission's New European Bauhaus, has provided support and guidance to our process. He has reminded us of a saying that can serve as a concluding remark—or even better, a word for the future:

“ If you want to go fast – go alone.”
“If you want to go far – go together.”

NEB provides us with the conditions to create new networks grounded in the ideals of constitutional democracy. Let's highlight our guiding stars. There are no shortcuts to democracy. That is precisely what NEB fundamentally entails. The transition to a climate-neutral society is one of our era's greatest collective challenges, as is the democratic crisis. Meetings with municipalities have been inspiring. We see opportunities. The transition is a collective journey. Built living environment and NEB can be about renovating democracy from the ground up—providing new common spaces for local community engagement in town halls and rural areas—supporting the hearts of democracy—strengthening local self-organization, resilience, and belonging.



Appendix 2: NEB's Anchoring in Policy Documents

The horizontal perspective is significant for NEB and Gestaltad livsmiljö, and in the policy documents, clear connections to NEB can be seen in several areas.

Borås Region's Cultural Plan

Relates to NEB based on its prioritized area of 'Culture and Community Development'. NEB is seen there as an additional strengthening of gestalt environment, increasing opportunities for collaboration on sustainability issues and broader funding for cultural activities.

Västra Götaland Region's Cultural Strategy

Relates to NEB within the framework of 'Collaboration and Synergy', where the Västra Götaland Region aims to enhance the collaboration of cultural policy with other policy areas and develop forms of multi-level collaboration. In the specific priority of 'Strengthening collaboration across policy areas', the work on Built living environment and local place development is linked to the implementation of the regional development strategy. This enables innovative partnerships with new societal actors for culture and opens up for broader funding of cultural activities in the coming years.

Sjuhärad Development Strategy

Relates to NEB based on its prioritized area of 'Socially Sustainable Subregion'. The area aligns with NEB's ambition of cross-sectoral collaboration and focuses specifically on creating equal opportunities with actors from the public sector, the private sector, and civil society.

Climate Västra Götaland 2030

Regarding the role of the cultural sector in regional efforts, there is a specific role in the effort for 'Circular Business Models and Climate 2030 – Västra Götaland transitioning'. There are specified needs for small-scale testing and innovation opportunities for new sharing services, changed consumption patterns, and production methods both in rural areas and in cities.

Västra Götaland Region's Strategy for Smart Specialization

Considering the EU-level strategies for smart specialization and cluster collaboration, the cultural and creative industries can create added value. In the context of the Västra Götaland Region's strategy for smart specialization, there are particularly good conditions for international cooperation through the EU in regional strengths areas focused on textiles, fashion, and game development.

EU's Agenda for Culture

The Cultural Agenda, adopted in 2018, aims to fully utilize the potential of culture to contribute to creating a more inclusive and fair union, supporting innovation, creativity, and sustainable employment and growth.

EU report 'The Cultural Dimension of Sustainable Development in EU Action'

The report provides an overview of policies and programs at the EU level that strengthen the interaction between culture and sustainable development and includes measures that the Commission has taken or plans to take to promote culture as a driver for the UN's 2030 Agenda. The report also highlights strategic overarching initiatives such as Horizon Europe's climate-neutral and smart cities and a new European Bauhaus, which permeate several policy areas and programs.



Appendix 3: Key Components within NEB

NEB Team

A NEB Team has been established at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC). The NEB Team has a strategic and operational coordination mission.

NEB Community

A growing Bauhaus movement brings together a think tank, national contact points, official partners, strategic friends, as well as initiatives and projects in the NEB spirit. The think tank has a roundtable format where prominent thinkers and practitioners meet and serve as a sounding board for ideas. A European network with national contact points for NEB has been established. For Sweden, the Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning (Boverket) has the mandate to coordinate Swedish participation as the national contact point. The mandate includes knowledge dissemination and collaboration within the area between EU member states, as well as integrating NEB within national and regional initiatives and funding systems. Non-profit organizations or networks can apply to the Commission to become partners. Official partners that meet the criteria are appointed by the Commission through an open call. Public organizations such as authorities, regions, county councils, municipalities, and companies can apply to the Commission to become strategic friends. Similarly to partners, the Commission appoints strategic friends (NEB Friends) who meet the criteria through an open call. Actors in the party political system cannot be partners or friends. The official partnership gathers a variety of activities - research institutes, centers, clusters, foundations, museums, science parks, science centers, associations, universities, and community actors, among others. Partners and friends play an important role as dialogue partners in shaping new initiatives at the EU level. Partners and friends participating in discussions and workshops at the EU level can collaborate within the framework of various projects when ideas are to be realized, accelerated, and disseminated.

NEB Lab (Bauhaus Laboratory)

Projects in the NEB Lab contribute to transformation and synergies. Accelerating real projects in territorial strategies can have a greater impact and contribute to the benefit of the whole of Europe. Participants have the opportunity to develop, test, and try out new methods and tools. Innovate policies, regulations, and financing models. The NEB Lab has two categories of projects: projects initiated by the Commission (working groups, project groups, members, officials, subject experts); projects initiated by the Community (national contact points, partners, friends, officials, subject experts). Projects are proposed to the NEB Lab according to an established administrative project procedure. The NEB Lab does not have funding for projects, but a qualified project may be advised to consider various calls for proposals and financing models. EU funding is not a requirement. A project, or a project organization, can be financed nationally, regionally, or locally. Financing does not need to consist of project support; funding can also come from operational support or sponsorship. Self-organization is practiced in the NEB Lab. Examples of NEB Lab projects with Swedish

participation include 'NEB Academy,' one of the Commission's flagship initiatives for the architecture and construction sector, and 'Nordic Carbon Neutral Cities.'

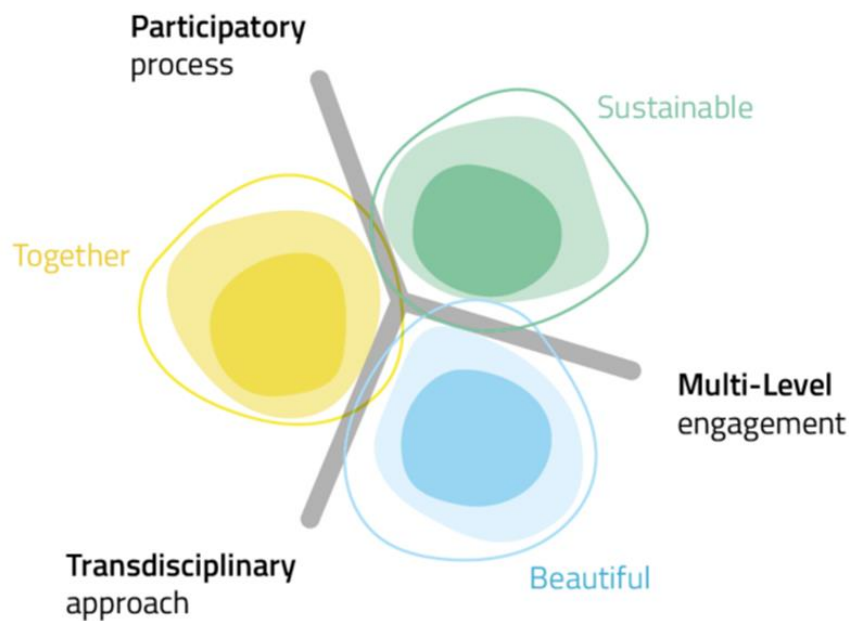
NEB Compass (Bauhaus Initiative's Compass)

'NEB Compass,' in Swedish 'NEB-kompassen,' is a guidance tool that can be used in the development of projects, strategies, or visions in line with NEB's values and guiding principles. The NEB Compass is also part of a long-term effort to develop an innovative framework for impact evaluation. The NEB Compass asks the question - how beautiful, environmentally sustainable, communal, and inclusive is your project in the short and long term? The NEB Compass can be used generally for different types of projects - designed outdoor environments, buildings, cultural events, products, services, or for the development of a new education, method, policy, vision, or even to create a framework for an entirely new organization ('new societal models').

The purpose of the compass is to guide decision-makers and process leaders in the design phase but also during implementation and evaluation of results. In addition to describing the initiative's three core values and three guiding principles, which together constitute the 'six parts' of the NEB Compass, the compass adds three ambitions for each part - with a set of guiding questions and good examples. The NEB Compass has been designed based on scientific principles with a grounding in systems theory. It has been tested and tried in the NEB Community. The NEB Compass demands completeness; no part is standalone. A project that cannot be described in all six parts according to the lowest level of ambition cannot be defined as a true NEB project and is excluded. The innovation of the NEB Compass lies precisely in this interaction between all six parts, with the aim of contributing to a larger societal transformation for the benefit of the whole of Europe. All six parts must be addressed from the beginning, individually and together. In practice, the NEB Compass functions as a self-evaluation tool with the ability to visualize long-term development, from level I to III of ambition. The core values and working principles have been color-coded in an interactive model that makes it easy for us to use the compass for our own project.

"The transition is just as much a cultural and social transition as a green one: this is the key idea that the New European Bauhaus wants us to explore - TOGETHER."²

² (NEB Compass, 2023)



“ All values and principles of the compass are not new as such, but the ambition is that all six should be integrated in projects at least at the basic level to be truly NEBISH.” (NEB Compass, 2023)

NEB Compass assists by confirming strengths and weaknesses of existing practices, providing us with challenges and opportunities in the design of new projects or actions. Existing practices serve as a starting point. This makes it easier for us to identify areas that need strengthening and further development, or areas that do not exist and need to be created from scratch. The concluding part of the NEB Compass contains good examples from real NEB projects and concepts from finalists and winners who have participated in the NEB prize competition. Calls related to NEB require an integrated project strategy in line with the NEB Compass, and it is therefore important for national and regional funders to create synergies in their calls to provide actors awarded funding with increased opportunities to accelerate local NEB results internationally through EU collaboration. The NEB Compass complements but does not replace specific selection criteria for existing calls in other framework programs. The NEB Compass is available on the Bauhaus Initiative's website.

NEB Toolbox

In early 2024, the 'NEB Toolbox' was introduced, which can be used in addition to the NEB Compass. This method book gathers process management tools and good examples from 20 local place development projects implemented with structural fund financing linked to NEB. The method book is available for download on the Bauhaus Initiative's website.

NEB Festival

The NEB Festival is designed as a biennial event. The format of the NEB Festival has been developed through a co-creation process involving thinkers, national contact points, partners, and friends. The festival is planned to take place for the second time, centered in Brussels from April 9 to 12, 2024, under the theme 'Resources for All', featuring a large number of activities, discussions, and workshops. The festival comprises four parts: 'Forum' with high-level discussions and conversations; 'Fair' with an exhibition space for NEB projects, co-creation, and inspiration; 'Fest', described as a cultural event for everyone with room for art, music, think tanks, and debates with radical foresight; 'Satellite events' held in other locations in Europe and

globally within the framework of the festival. The intention is to provide a real meeting place for radical societal ideas – genuine cultural, social, and societal innovation in the spirit of NEB. Forum and Fair primarily target professionals (experts, members, officials), while Fest is an open and accessible event for citizens in broad collaboration with established actors in the cultural and societal life (institutions, organizations, networks). Organizations and individuals can apply through public calls to participate with their own activities, projects, and satellite events. The NEB Festival is a natural meeting point for NEB partners and friends, providing a clear space for creating contacts for the further development of joint projects and policy recommendations in a European context. The program is shared and disseminated on the Bauhaus Initiative's website.

NEB Prizes

NEB prizes have been established as an annual innovation competition aimed at showcasing 'real local projects'. The format of the prize has been developed through a co-creation process involving thinkers, national contact points, partners, and friends. The call for entries is published on the Bauhaus Initiative's website, where a guide for application is also available in all EU languages. The Commission selects winners who meet the selection criteria with the assistance of an assessment committee. Winners can receive up to €30,000 and, in addition to the amount, support for further development, communication, and dissemination. Winners in the fourth edition in 2024 will be announced at an award ceremony in Brussels during the NEB Festival. So far, the prize has received over 4500 applications and had 52 winners. Project submissions and winners are presented with a film on the Bauhaus Initiative's website, which has developed into a real inspiration bank with a growing collection of cutting-edge projects.

NEB 'Local Chapters'

As the NEB movement establishes itself in EU member states, the need for coordination at various societal levels increases. Engaging local actors in co-creating NEB projects that can contribute to a sustainable society is at the core of the Bauhaus Initiative. An important part of the initiative's co-creation process has therefore been to, together with the official partnership, explore the needs for new capacity building to promote participation from the grassroots. A co-creation workshop with NEB partners, thinkers, and doers was held online on October 28, 2022. The joint workshop was followed by a collection of ideas and reflections. The process resulted in an innovative model for local territorial partnerships, called 'NEB Local Chapters'. The model is presented in detail in the 'NEB Local Chapters Concept Note' in April 2022.

Appendix 4: Examples of Swedish Participation in NEB

Visions in the North

In Sweden, the Swedish National Board of Housing, Building, and Planning (Boverket) has strategically collaborated with the 'Council for Sustainable Cities' (NEB Partner) to implement, integrate, and disseminate NEB's approach into other national and regional initiatives and funding systems. The Council for Sustainable Cities constitutes a network for interagency cooperation. Against the backdrop of the NEB coordination mandate and a temporary national effort in Norrbotten and Västerbotten, a joint agency activity called 'Visions in the North' was created. A call for proposals was conducted funded by Formas and Vinnova, aimed at supporting municipal societal transformation in line with NEB. The result was 11 vision documents serving as a basis for municipal work related to transformative design and the focus on climate-neutral cities. This model has inspired the design of additional calls and is highlighted in the EU's report on key events in 2022.

NEB-Lab Projects

Boverket participates in the NEB-Lab project 'Nordic Carbon Neutral Bauhaus' under Nordic collaboration. The purpose of the project is to "investigate how construction, architecture, and design can contribute to a carbon-neutral and inclusive society within the Nordic region."

Navet participates in the NEB-Lab project 'Transformation of Places of Learning' under the leadership of the Commission. The aim of the project is to find sustainable and inclusive ways to rebuild and renovate primary schools in the respective regions. The ambition is to test, consolidate, and upgrade methods and solutions to capitalize on the values in existing schools and construction.

NEB Academy

Boverket has commissioned the research institute RISE (NEB partner) to lead the work of increasing competence in timber construction and circular construction in Sweden's architecture and construction sector. "RISE, together with Swedish stakeholders, will develop educational materials for capacity building in the construction and architecture sectors, focusing on timber construction and circular construction, including an open e-learning material." The assignment runs until the end of 2024 and is part of Sweden's contribution to the Commission's NEB Academy initiative..³

NEB Lighthouse Project

'Bauhaus of the Sea Sails' is a NEB project aimed at developing system demonstrators, known as 'lighthouse demonstrators'. Six countries participate in the project (Portugal, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, and Sweden), with a total of 18 partners representing local authorities, universities, and civil society organizations. The project is coordinated by the Interactive Technologies Institute of Instituto Superior Técnico at the University of Lisbon. In Sweden, Malmö University, Mötesplats Social Innovation, and the Marine Knowledge Centre in Malmö are participating. The project's ambition is to promote a transition by collaborating with local communities in cultural and inclusive activities to foster new relationships and ways of living with the sea.⁴

Local NEB Projects

SURE Kalmar has received EU funding with the aim of transforming a centrally located industrial zone of 100 hectares in Kalmar into a vibrant neighborhood over time, in the spirit of NEB. A creative and interdisciplinary team collaborates cross-sectorally with local community stakeholders.⁵

³ <https://www.boverket.se/globalassets/publikationer/dokument/2023/koordinering-av-new-european-bauhaus.pdf>

⁴ <https://bauhaus-seas.eu/>

⁵ <https://kalmar.se/bygga-bo-och-miljo/samhallsutveckling/planering/oversiktlig-planering/fordjupade-oversiktsplaner/visionsarbete-for-gamla-industriomradet.html> <https://kalmar.se/bygga-bo-och-miljo/samhallsutveckling/planering/oversiktlig-planering/fordjupade-oversiktsplaner/visionsarbete-for-gamla-industriomradet.html>

Appendix 5: Mapping of Partners and Friends in Sweden

NEB Partners operating in Västra Götaland: University of Gothenburg – HDK Valand; Sweden's research institute RISE; Science Park Borås - University of Borås; ShareMusic & Performing Arts, Navet Science Center - Sjuhärads kommunalförbund.

NEB Friends operating in Västra Götaland: Gothenburg Municipality; Västra Götaland Region (cultural administration, environmental administration).

The Dynamo West Network

Local development through NEB is discussed in the Dynamo West network, which gathers organizations and activities within the designed living environment. Dynamo West aims to contribute to knowledge formation where research on the designed living environment is initiated, published, and discussed; competence development for relevant professions to increase competence within the designed living environment; and public activities to create participation. The network was initially initiated by Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg Municipality, University of Gothenburg, County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland, Urban Futures, and Västra Götaland Region. By participating in the network, organizations and activities contribute to strengthening the area of the designed living environment throughout the region. Dynamo West is also one of the regional network nodes within ArkDes – the Swedish National Centre for Architecture and Design, which has a government assignment regarding the implementation of the policy area of the designed living environment. Cultural strategists from all county councils (Fyrbodol, Borås region, Gothenburg region, Skaraborg) and SPB at the University of Borås participate in the network. The Dynamo West network is a natural collaboration partner in the development of NEB capacity for the entire region.

Röhsska Museum

Within the framework of the policy area of the designed living environment, Röhsska Museum is highlighted as a possible regional meeting place for design and crafts, with the mission to develop such activities in collaboration with local, regional, and national actors. Röhsska aims to contribute to implementing the political mandate for the designed living environment in an open, democratic, and thought-provoking manner along two tracks: one strategic track focusing on meeting place, active collection management, and children and youth; and one track within the framework of the museum's public activities. The ambition includes developing close collaboration with the industry and practitioners, public actors, academia, and activities, both through strategic partnerships, network work, and concrete public activities. Röhsska Museum represents Västra Götaland Region as one of the regional network nodes within ArkDes - the Swedish National Centre for Architecture and Design. Röhsska Museum is a natural collaboration partner in the development of NEB capacity for the entire region.

Länsstyrelsen- County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland

The County Administrative Boards in Sweden have a government assignment to support municipalities in their work to develop architecture strategies as tools for working with the designed living environment for transition. In Västra Götaland, the work has begun with discussions, lectures, and workshops. The County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland is a natural collaboration partner in the development of NEB capacity for the entire region.

In Fyrbodol, there are several works and local projects focusing on the designed living environment for transition. For example, the project "Our Spaces," which is based on strategies for sustainable place development. In dialogue with officials in cultural development at the county council, opportunities and needs for regional collaboration based on the designed living environment and NEB are expressed for the future.

In Skaraborg, there is a strategic development work based on the "Sub-regional Development Strategy for Skaraborg 2020" and "Skaraborg's Cultural Plan 2030." The strategic work is intended to guide cross-sectoral efforts, especially Skaraborg Transition. The designed living environment for transition is naturally linked to local place development and social sustainability. To support the development of international cultural cooperation through the EU, there is a funding opportunity.

In a broad dialogue with responsible officials at the county council in culture and urban development, opportunities and needs for regional collaboration based on the designed living environment and NEB are expressed for the future.

In the Gothenburg Region, there is an established network for the cultural and leisure sector. The network serves as a platform for idea development and knowledge sharing at municipal, inter-municipal, and regional levels. The network aims to promote the designed living environment for transition. "The policy area of the designed living environment, the role of art in the public environment, and projects within, for example, the New European Bauhaus are prioritized especially during the period 2023 and 2024." In the Gothenburg Region, there are several examples of local projects in the spirit of NEB, such as "Active Places for Waiting," which is based on sustainable place development, "The Cultural Generator in the Gothenburg Region," and "Citizen Dialogue on Young People's Everyday Environment through Minecraft." To support the development of international cultural cooperation through the EU, there is a funding opportunity.

In dialogue with the Gothenburg Region and the responsible official in culture and urban development, opportunities and needs for regional collaboration based on the designed living environment and NEB are expressed for the future.

Brief dictionary of words I relation to NEB

NEB Ambassadors

Partners, friends, projects, thinkers, practitioners

NEB Community

The Bauhaus movement with partners, friends, initiatives, projects

NEB Compass

Project tools aligned with NEB's values & principles

NEB Change Agents

NEB change agents, stakeholders that bring NEB to life

NEB Destination

Commission's proposal for upcoming funding (Horizon Europe)

NEB Festival

A biennial for the entire Bauhaus movement

NEB Lab

Bauhaus laboratory and think tank

NEB Lab Projects

Projects included in NEB Lab under the leadership of the Commission or partners and friends.

NEB Labelling Strategy

A framework for evaluation in line with NEB's values & principles

NEB Local Chapters

Concept framework for NEB Local Partnerships based on self-organization

NEB Local Circles

NEB Local circles for community engagement

NEB National Contact Point

National coordination (Boverket- Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning)

NEB Partners

Organizations and networks with official membership appointed by the European Commission

NEB Prizes

Annual innovation competition for projects in line with NEB's values & principles

NEB Roundtable Delegates

Official subject experts appointed by the European Commission

NEB Team

Coordinating function at the European Commission – Joint Research Centre (JRC)

NEB Toolkit

A toolbox with processes, methods, and tools for local development in line with NEB's values & principles

NEB Friends

Municipalities, regions, authorities, companies with strategic membership appointed by the European Commission

NEB Weavers

Intermediaries in the spirit of NEB