

# EIT Community New European Bauhaus Call for Organisers: Ignite NEB Event Series & Grow NEB Programme version 5

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This document covers proposals for funding under EIT Community Strategic Synergies Cluster.

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## Document History

Version	Change	Page Number	Date published

Sometimes it is necessary to issue amendments or make clarifications through additional guidance or Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ). Any updates will be posted on the website: <https://www.climate-kic.org/get-involved/apply-for-a-grant/> and other publication sites.

Please address any questions or general inquiries to [igniteneb@climate-kic.org](mailto:igniteneb@climate-kic.org).

Please use the following portal to submit proposals: <https://neb.awardsplatform.com/>.

## 1. Call Summary

This call is for organising partners or consortia to host Ignite New European Bauhaus (NEB) events and support the Grow NEB programme. This call aims to award subgrants to organisations that support social Changemakers in transforming their solutions into real businesses and projects to deliver systemic change, produce new ways of living, and empower and expand the vision of sustainability, inclusivity, and quality of experience. The call is funded through the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) Community New European Bauhaus (EIT Community NEB). It is anticipated that four subgrants will be awarded for project durations of 12 months in the amount of EUR 22,500 each for the Ignite NEB events with an additional EUR 20,000 each to support Grow NEB teams.

### 1.1 Background

#### 1.1.1 EIT Strategic Synergies Cluster

The EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda (SIA) 2021-2027 sets the strategic direction, priorities, and objectives of the EIT and its Knowledge and Innovation Communities (EIT KICs). One specific objective in the new EIT SIA 2021-2027 is to establish and foster appropriate synergies and complementarities between EIT activities and other relevant European Union (EU), national and regional initiatives, instruments, and programmes. This will help ensure consistency with EU priorities and commitments, including the European Green Deal, the Recovery Plan for Europe, the European Strategy for data, the Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) Strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe, and the New Industrial Strategy for Europe<sup>1</sup>.

To realise such ambitions, the EIT and the EIT KICs have established the Strategic Synergies Cluster of activities, to strengthen EU's innovation and entrepreneurial capacity and integrate into and engage with innovation ecosystems. By doing so, the EIT KICs aim at becoming real engines of impact and support the realisation of a carbon-neutral, digital, circular, and inclusive European society.

The EIT Strategic Synergies Cluster includes three key initiatives co-designed and co-created by the EIT KICs with their innovation ecosystems: [EIT Community Artificial Intelligence for Europe](#), [EIT Community New European Bauhaus](#), and [EIT Community Women Entrepreneurship](#).

The call for proposals below sits within EIT Community NEB (see [section 1.1.3](#) of this document for reference).

At the EIT Community we believe in the power of diversity and gender equality. We are Europe's largest innovation network, uniting various nationalities, ages, abilities, and genders. Every day we foster a sense of belonging, we listen, and engage with diverse communities across Europe. We are convinced that for European innovation to thrive, we need more women innovators, entrepreneurs, and more women in decision making. Diversity powers us to bring best solutions to pressing global challenges and enables us to make innovation happen.

It matters for us to cooperate with organisations which value diversity and gender equality, therefore we would like to invite you to share with us your diversity values, and measures you take to ensure gender equality during the performance of the contract, including elimination of gender pay gap, work-life balance, and gender-balance in teams performing the contract, with a special focus on managerial levels. We hope we can learn from each other.

We believe there is no excellence in innovation, without taking into consideration diverse situation and needs of both women and men, therefore we ask you to incorporate gender dimension in the design of activities, including intended impact, outputs, outcomes, beneficiaries.

### 1.1.2 New European Bauhaus

The [NEB initiative](#), initially announced by President Von der Leyen in her [State of the Union address](#) and launched by the European Commission (EC) in early 2021, is an environmental, social and cultural initiative that is guided by three core values:

- **Sustainability:** from climate goals, to circularity, zero pollution, and biodiversity;
- **Aesthetics:** from design beyond functionality, to quality of experience, lifestyle and well-being;
- **Inclusion:** championing diversity, equality for all, accessibility, and affordability.

In addition, the following three key **principles** guide and integrate the development of the NEB dimensions:

- A **multilevel** engagement (from global to local);
- A **participatory** process;
- A **transdisciplinary** approach.

Based on the analysis of the inputs received during the co-design phase of NEB, the Commission identified the following four **thematic axes** that would follow during the implementation of the NEB:

- **Reconnecting with nature;**
- **Regaining a sense of belonging;**
- **Prioritising the places and people that need it the most;**
- **The need for long-term, life cycle thinking in the industrial ecosystem.**

The EIT is ideally placed to support implementation of the NEB as it has created Europe's largest innovation ecosystem with over 2,000 partners (business, research, education, cities) cooperating in over 60 hubs across Europe, and is represented in all EU Member States and beyond. The EIT KICs cover climate, sustainable energy, digital, healthcare, food supply, urban mobility, manufacturing, raw materials, and more recently, culture and creative sectors and industries. All these are critical fields of engagement for the blending of social inclusion, quality of experience, and sustainability, envisioned by the NEB movement, as a means of making the Green Deal a human-centred experience that reaches hearts, minds, and homes.

### 1.1.3 EIT Community New European Bauhaus

The EIT Community NEB, is led by EIT Climate-KIC with participation of EIT Food, EIT Manufacturing and EIT Urban Mobility. The mission aims to bridge the gap between science and technology on the one hand, and arts and culture on the other, promoting business through start-ups, ideation and education, as well as citizen education and engagement.

With that purpose, the EIT Community NEB engages with European innovators to overcome fragmentations in the European innovation landscape, works together with universities and stakeholders in the identification of problems and ideation of solutions, and ensures civil society engagement in the NEB movement.

## 1.2 Call Intent

The intent of this call is to identify and work with four organising partners that will host Ignite NEB events and support Grow NEB teams. Such events will combine activities that focus on entrepreneurship and NEB celebration, using cultural and artistic elements to engage participants.

### 1.2.1 Ignite NEB

Ignite NEB events are in-person events held on at least two consecutive days, preceded by either online or in-person pre-event sessions. Ignite NEB events are an important part of bringing together

and facilitating connections between business, creativity, design and ordinary citizens who are interested in making connections with others who want to transform their local community. Ignite NEB events will bring to life ideas and solutions related to NEB with the power to create sustainable, beautiful, and just communities via entrepreneurship. They will celebrate the NEB movement and raise awareness and understanding of its core values, principles, and approaches.

Ignite NEB events must contain the following eight characteristics:

1. **NEB thematic axis:** Ignite NEB events focus on one NEB thematic axis (section [9 NEB Thematic Axes and Sub-Themes](#)) that is identified as pertinent to the location and defined/optimized according to local context.
2. **Venue:** Ignite NEB events are held at original non-standard venues or facilities embodying the NEB core values and serving as inspiration.
3. **In-Person NEB Celebration and NEB Ideation:** Ignite events simultaneously celebrate NEB through exemplary activities, whilst ideating NEB solutions in a hackathon-style approach across the course of at least two consecutive days:
  - 3.1. **NEB Celebration** includes a combination of unique artistic interventions, performances, games, dance etc. that will operate as both an example of the NEB spirit for participants and an inspiration to NEB Changemakers.
  - 3.2. **NEB Ideation** is the process of forming NEB ideas from conception to implementation in a business setting. NEB Ideation is expressed in this case via graphical, written, or verbal methods, and arises from knowledge and experiences gain within the Ignite NEB events, but also influences, opinions, experiences, and personal convictions. NEB Ideation includes sessions where teams will work with the support of their coaches throughout different workshops, which will include:
    - i. Analysis of NEB thematic axis in the local context and identification by each team of a specific challenge.
    - ii. Brainstorming approaches to selected challenge using the NEB core values and principles.
    - iii. Defining and design of potential NEB solution.
    - iv. Presenting the NEB solution to the jury.
4. **Pre-event sessions:** Ignite NEB events are preceded by four distinct pre-event sessions, held either online or in-person, that aim at preparing the Changemakers for the NEB Ideation during the event. The following sessions require mandatory attendance from Changemakers:
  - i. General intro to NEB which must include a presentation from an EIT Community NEB staff member.
  - ii. Identification of specific local NEB challenges according to the thematic axis chosen.
  - iii. Team formation with attention to diversity in membership, and allocation of coaches to each team.
  - iv. Preliminary exercises to form NEB ideas from conception to implementation in a business context.
5. **Coaches:** Ignite NEB events require the participation and support of NEB and business coaches. Such coaches will be identified and engaged by organising partners, and eventually allocated to the created Changemakers teams via a match-making exercise. Coaches will bring into the Ignite NEB events diverse expertise ranging from industry, research and development, and academia ([EIT Knowledge Triangle](#)).

6. **Challenge owners:** Local stakeholders representing the public and private local context will participate and actively contribute to the NEB Ignite events (e.g., social representatives or groups, local authorities, business representatives, innovation and research centres, academia, cultural, artistic and creative representatives, etc.). Challenge owners may give key-note speeches or presentations at both the NEB celebrating and ideation parts of the events. At least one challenge owner, but desirably more, are expected to be part of the jury.
7. **Jury:** A jury will be responsible for selecting the most promising business solution proposed by one team of Changemakers at the NEB Ideation sessions. Additionally, the jury will select the most promising social project. The jury will be integrated by diverse individuals representing NEB, business, challenge owners, and local community leaders relevant to the NEB challenge selected for the event. The jury will also include an EIT Community NEB representative.
8. **Winners:** Each Ignite NEB event will release one winner featuring the most promising NEB business solution and one winner featuring the most promising social project responding to the local challenge selected. The winners will be selected by the jury and awarded respectively the Grow NEB business and Grow NEB social programmes by the EIT Community NEB.

Ignite NEB events are addressed to several target audiences:

- **Changemakers** ready, willing, and able to contribute to societal change through innovative concepts for products or services. These participants will form teams and pitch their idea to the jury in the hope of gaining support by securing a spot in the Grow NEB programmes.
- **Challenge owners** who can provide a deep dive and insights into the local specificities and context around the NEB thematic axes the event is tackling.
- **General public** mainly joining the celebratory part of the event but also invited to contribute voices and perspectives underlining the local challenge the event works with.
- **Coaches** with NEB and business expertise supporting the Changemaker teams from the pre-event sessions through to the in-person NEB Ideation sessions.

The expected timeline for Ignite NEB events is as follows:

- June 2024: co-design the structure, content, target audience and flow of the event under monitoring of the EIT Community NEB
- July to September 2024: mobilising all target audiences, pre-event sessions and in-person NEB Celebration and NEB Ideation.

It is possible to build on existing programmes/activities and work on tie-ins with established cultural/social phenomena.

### 1.2.2 Grow NEB

Grow NEB is an eight-month programme that supports winning Changemakers in the development of their solutions/ideas. Grow NEB is structured in two similar pillars with distinct goals of creating a start-up (business pillar) and implementing a citizen engagement project (social pillar). Both pillars contain three key elements that mirror each other as shown in the table below.

Business	Social
20h of Business Mentoring	20h of NEB Design Mentoring



Consumer testing with at least 20 potential customers	Mobilising at least 20 local stakeholders in the co-creation process
Implementing at least 3 prototyping sessions	Implementing at least 2 workshops or events
<b>Objective – Register as a start-up</b>	<b>Objective – Implement a citizen engagement project</b>

### 1.2.2.1 Business

Grow NEB business is an eight-month programme that supports Changemakers in the reinforcement of the business model for their solution with the goal of constituting into a legal entity; the prototyping of their solution; and the testing of their solution with potential consumers over the course of 2024 and 2025. Each team will receive a grant of EUR 10,000 and the support of the EIT Community NEB to continue its EIT Community NEB Journey. The Grow NEB business programme includes, but is not limited to, the following activities for each of the four winning teams of Changemakers:

- Assessment of business needs linked to the development of the solution ideated during the Ignite NEB events.
- Matchmaking sessions with EIT Community NEB business mentors with relevant expertise.
- Mentoring sessions (about 20h per team) with selected NEB business mentors to define and strengthen the business model for the solution.
- Implementation of a minimum of 3 prototyping sessions within the NEB MakerSpace of choice.
- Implementation of sessions of testing of the solution with a minimum of 20 potential consumers.

At the end of the Grow NEB business programme, the maturity of the solutions prototyped and tested by the four teams of Changemakers will be assessed by the EIT Community NEB. In case any of the solutions developed within Grow NEB will be deemed suitable and the associated teams have incorporated, the relevant start-ups will be invited to apply to the 2025 edition of the EIT Community NEB start-up acceleration programme (Catalyse NEB).

### 1.2.2.2 Social

Grow NEB social is an eight-month programme that supports Changemakers in the development of their citizen engagement project; the outreach and mobilisation of relevant stakeholders; and the implementation of their proposal over the course of 2024 and 2025. Upon constituting into a legal entity, each team will receive a grant of EUR 10,000 and the support of the EIT Community NEB to continue its EIT Community NEB Journey. The Grow NEB social programme includes, but is not limited to, the following activities for each of the four winning teams of Changemakers:

- Assessment of team needs linked to the development of the project ideated during the Ignite NEB events, including research, bid-writing, and mobilising stakeholders.
- Matchmaking sessions with EIT Community NEB design mentors with relevant expertise.
- Mentoring sessions (about 20h per team) with selected NEB design mentors to develop the project.
- Identification of suitable space to test their project.
- Implementation of a minimum of 2 workshops or events to reimagine the public space of choice.
- Engagement of a minimum of 20 local stakeholders to participate in the co-creation process.

At the end of the Grow NEB social programme, the quality of the social project and levels of public participation for each of the four teams of Changemakers will be assessed by the EIT Community NEB. In case any of the projects deployed within Grow NEB will be deemed suitable and the associated teams have a legal entity, the relevant teams will be invited to partner with past Connect NEB and Co-Create NEB cohorts to apply to the 2025 edition of the EIT Community NEB citizen engagement and co-creation of public space scale-up and replication programme (Enhance NEB) should EIT funding be made available for Enhance NEB in 2025.

### 1.3 Funding Amounts

The total budget associated with this call is EUR 170,000. Each of the 4 Ignite NEB event organising partners or consortia will receive EUR 22,500. An additional EUR 20,000 per event will be awarded to two selected projects for participation in the Grow NEB programme, with EUR 10,000 for Grow NEB business and EUR 10,000 for Grow NEB social. In the case of a consortium, the EUR 20,000 subgrant for Grow NEB, along with the responsibilities for coordinating the programme alongside the EIT Community NEB, must be allocated to a single partner.

#### 1.3.1 EIT Climate-KIC

The Ignite NEB events will be contracted by EIT Climate-KIC. The EUR 22,500 for the Ignite NEB events will follow EIT Climate-KIC's budget compliance (sections [4.1](#) and [7.1](#)).

#### 1.3.2 EIT Food

The Grow NEB hosts will be contracted by EIT Food. The EUR 20,000 for the Grow NEB programme will follow EIT Food's budget compliance (sections [4.2](#) and [7.2](#)).

Co-funding provided by the partners is not compulsory but will be positively assessed during the strategic selection phase ([section 6.3](#)). The grant will cover the costs actually incurred by the project activities as described in [section 3](#) of this document.

Pre-financing for the Ignite NEB events is available upon request. Up to 50% of the Ignite NEB event subgrant (up to EUR 11,250) can be requested once the Financial Support Agreement (FSA) is signed.

### 1.4 Subgrant Payments

Financial support will be provided in the form of subgrants based on and reimbursed against actual eligible costs incurred. Payments to subgrantees will be made in tranches to allow for monitoring and to mitigate risks, with the below payment schedule. Payments will be subject to satisfactory reporting and associated financial risk factors, as outlined in the subgrant agreements.

Payment	Description	Percentage
1	Ignite pre-financing made after subgrant agreement is signed.	Up to 50% of Ignite NEB event subgrant (EUR 11,250)
2	Payment made after subgrant agreement signed.	40% of Grow NEB subgrant (EUR 8,000)
3	Payment made within 2 months after approval of final reporting on Ignite NEB event.	Up to 100% of Ignite NEB subgrant (EUR 22,500)
4	Payment made after approval of final reporting on Grow NEB programme.	60% of Grow NEB subgrant (EUR 12,000)

## 2. Timeline

Call Opens	25.03.2024
Information Session	18.04.2024 15:30 CET <a href="#">Link to register</a>
Content Related FAQs Due	26.04.2024 17:00 CET
FAQs Released	02.05.2024
Proposal Deadline	20.05.2024 17:00 CET
Review and Selection Period	21.05.2024 – 28.05.2024
Notification Period	29.05.2024
Subgrant Agreement	05.06.2024
Publication of Call Awards	06.2024
Deadline for Redress	12.06.2024
Start of Implementation	13.06.2024

## 3. Scope

The Ignite NEB events are unique experiences bringing to life entrepreneurship and experiences that draw on the NEB guiding values and principles. They aim to gather NEB experts, practitioners, entrepreneurs and stakeholders, helping to expand the EIT Community NEB. This call will provide subgrants to Sole Proposers or Consortia that implement the Ignite NEB events and Grow NEB programmes described in [section 1.2](#). In the following section, the requisite profile for proposers is described, including specific responsibilities for both the Ignite NEB events and Grow NEB programmes. Additionally, required Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), outputs, and deliverables are listed.

### 3.1 Organising Partner Profiles

This call is open to EIT KIC partners and non-partners<sup>2</sup>. Individual organizations and consortia are both welcome to apply. Consortia can be formed by a maximum of three organizations whose complementarity in their profiles and experience should be demonstrated in the proposal form. Both in the case of individual applicants and consortia, connections enabling reach of unusual audiences, NEB alignment and track record will be assessed, as well as demonstration of entrepreneurial mindset and capacity.

The range of potential organising partners encompasses both public and private entities, and includes but is not limited to foundations, associations, participation collectives, organizations, consultancies,

business accelerators, universities, research centres, local and regional authorities, as well as bodies affiliated to them.

We are looking for organizers in locations within EU members states or Horizon Europe Associated Countries. Proposals from Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) countries will be positively considered<sup>3</sup>.

At any time, subgrantees will be required to avoid any conflict of interest ([section 7.1](#)) and comply with the principles of transparency, non-discrimination, equal treatment, and sound financial management.

We are looking for organising partners that:

- Hold a track-record in NEB compatible implementation and relations with the culture, artistic and creative industries and sectors.
- Have experience in convening workshops/sessions/events oriented to the development of ideas and solutions with a business and entrepreneurship mindset.
- Ability to convene entrepreneurs aiming to create a start-up in the near future.
- Capable of hosting the Grow NEB programmes (see Annex 1).

### 3.2 Ignite NEB – Responsibilities

Subgrantees will act with agency and ownership over the Ignite NEB event, in close collaboration with the EIT Community NEB, and adhering to streamlining efforts to ensure a consistent and recognizable event series.

Organising partners will oversee the end-to-end delivery of both the NEB celebration component of the event, and the business and social ideation element from the pre-event sessions to the selection of the two winning team to be further supported in the Grow NEB programmes.

The EIT Community NEB relies on organising partners to promote the event and invite stakeholders to engage with the challenge, actively recruiting participants (Changemakers, challenge owners, general public and coaches) through the most effective mix of communication channels.

Finally, organising partners are to contribute extensive feedback and insight to further develop the Ignite NEB format for future iteration and delivery as part of their Ignite NEB reporting expected in October 2024.

Within their tasks and responsibilities Ignite NEB events organising partners are expected to<sup>4</sup>:

- Identify a NEB thematic axis operating as context for the event. The axis needs to be included in the title of the event and in all communication and dissemination efforts.
- Identify a suitable venue and hold both pre-warm-up sessions and an in-person two-day event.
- Identify, attract and engage, through the necessary event promotion, diverse audience with the broadest reach (please refer to [section 1.2.1](#) for more information), including motivated entrepreneurs and social Changemakers.
- Facilitate the Ignite NEB event, involving moderation of the event including set-up, agenda and schedule, as well as ensuring simultaneously both the NEB cultural and business creation components. Interactions with the challenge owners, coaches, jury and teams, including participant check-in and event hosting.

- Create a jury with NEB stakeholders including NEB and entrepreneur/business experts, as well as relevant local individuals or representatives, including public authorities and culture. The jury will include at least one member of the EIT Community NEB staff.
- Ensure the event releases one business winner and one social winner among the participating teams of Changemakers to be further supported by the EIT Community NEB through the Grow NEB programmes.
- Post-event: Contribute insights, communication materials such as videos, pictures, interviews etc., identify good practices and learnings resulting from the experience.

Each Ignite NEB event will express two winning team – one business and one social – of Changemakers which will be further supported by the EIT Community NEB through the Grow NEB programme. As such, the Sole Proposer or partner in the Consortium responsible for Grow NEB must be capable of exercising the responsibilities detailed in the following [section 3.3](#). The winning teams will be selected by the jury, including an EIT Community NEB representative, and it will be the jury’s responsibility to assign one winning team to each of the Grow NEB programmes.

### 3.3 Grow NEB – Responsibilities

Subgrantees will act with agency and ownership over the Grow NEB programme, in close collaboration with the EIT Community NEB, and adhering to the stated outcomes of both the business and social Grow NEB programmes. Grow NEB hosts will oversee the end-to-end delivery of both the Grow NEB business and Grow NEB social programmes, providing the tools, space, and expertise for both teams to achieve their objectives.

Within their tasks and responsibilities Grow NEB hosts are expected to<sup>5</sup>:

- Support in access to tools, materials, and technologies to experiment and learn.
- Support in the assignment of NEB mentors from the EIT Community NEB mentors’ pool.
- Facilitate the interactions, with help from the EIT Community NEB, between NEB business and NEB design mentors with their respective teams.
- Ensure the business team conducts at least 3 prototyping sessions and tests their solution with at least 20 potential customers.
- Ensure the social team engages in a co-creation process with at least 20 local stakeholders and implements a minimum of 2 workshops or events.

### 3.4 Key Performance Indicators

As required by the EIT, the EIT Community NEB must achieve the KPIs listed below for the programme as a whole. Awarded subgrantees will support the EIT Community NEB in striving to achieve these KPIs and are expected to submit within their report of activities both content and proof confirming EITHE08.1. The EIT Community NEB will be responsible for collecting the content and proof confirming EITHE04.1.

KPI code and name	KPI description	Target
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<p><b>EITHE08.1</b> Participants in (non-degree) education and training</p>	<p>Successful participants in EIT professional development courses, online training courses and other education/training activity delivered or in a process of delivery (by country and type of programme), including data on country of citizenship and gender. Only participant who successfully finished the programme can be counted. For this KPI, only those education and training activities that have clearly defined learning outcomes and carry out competency assessment method are applicable.</p> <p>One evidence document is required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List of successful participants in non-labelled education and training, incl. unique ID, names, contact details, gender, country of origin, education programme, start and complete dates.</li> </ul>	<p>50 per Ignite NEB event (200 in total)</p>
<p><b>EITHE04.1</b> Start-ups established/created</p>	<p>Start-ups established as a result/based on the output(s) of Innovation/Research related KAVA(s), or start-ups created for the purpose of an innovation project to organise and support the development of an asset (but not later than three years after completion of the KAVA).</p> <p>Two separate evidence documents are required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration certificate of a start-up established.</li> <li>Declaration of the start-up demonstrating substantial link with the specific KIC KAVA (indication of the specific output of KIC KAVA(s) or asset development) and proof for the KAVA investment in the start-up. The declaration shall include short description of the start-up and its core business.</li> </ul>	<p>4 start-ups in total</p>

### 3.5 Outputs and Deliverables

Proposers will be required to achieve the following mandatory outputs with associated deliverables. See [section 4.3](#) for detailed descriptions of partner roles in the case of a consortium.

Programme (Responsible Partner in case of Consortium)	Output	Deliverable
Ignite NEB (Consortium Coordinator)	NEB Celebration and Ideation event, culminating in the selection of two teams of Changemakers for Grow NEB.	Report on project preparation, dissemination and communication, event implementation, selection of winners, and lessons learnt.
Grow NEB (Grow NEB Host)	Supporting the development of the winning Ignite NEB entrepreneurial solution,	Activity report on the 8 months of support provided to the winning team.

	culminating in the registration of the Changemakers' team.	
	Supporting the development of the winning Ignite NEB social solution, culminating in the partial implementation of their project.	Activity report on the 8 months of support provided to the winning team.

## 4. Budget Compliance

This call is the result of a collaborative effort between KICs within the EIT Community NEB. All contracting, reporting, and budget compliance for the Ignite NEB events follows EIT Climate-KIC guidelines. The contracting, reporting, and budget compliance for the Grow NEB programmes follows EIT Food guidelines. All funding is subject to Horizon Europe guidelines.

### 4.1 Ignite NEB Budget Compliance

Proposers will sign a Financial Support Agreement (FSA) with EIT Climate-KIC to deliver the Ignite NEB event. The FSA will include a timeline for the reporting period depending on when the project ends (within the timeframe provided at the end of [section 1.2.1](#)). For performance reporting, the Sole Proposer or Consortium Coordinator will be required to submit the deliverable listed in [section 3.5](#). Cost reporting will be required as per the [EIT Cost Reporting guidelines](#) for EUR 22,500 part of the budget.

### 4.2 Grow NEB Budget Compliance

This call is the result of a collaborative effort between KICs within the EIT Community NEB. The contracting, reporting, and budget compliance for the Grow NEB programmes follows EIT Food guidelines. All funding is subject to Horizon Europe guidelines.

Selected applicants will receive a second communication with instructions regarding the completion of the following documents, as well as agreeing to EIT Food's conflict of interest policy:

- A. **Framework Agreement**
- B. **KAVA Contract**

The Subgrant is based on actual costs and value for money. All costs need to comply with Horizon Europe regulations regarding the eligibility of expenses and reporting categories. Please refer to Article 6 of the [Model Grant Agreement](#) and the [Annotated Model Grant Agreement](#).

### 4.3 Eligibility

The following section outlines the eligibility requirements for a subgrant award. Proposers must meet all of the following eligibility requirements to move onto the evaluation phase:

1. Proposals must be submitted on time, in English, and proposers must complete all sections of the proposal form on [Awards Force](#).
2. Proposer must be a private or public “legal entity”<sup>6</sup> and must be established in one of the Horizon Europe eligible countries<sup>7</sup>.
3. Proposals must be submitted by a Sole Proposer or on behalf of a Consortium with a designated Consortium Coordinator. Consortia are encouraged and eligible to apply but **must have a single designated Coordinator and must be independent organisations**, meaning there cannot be an affiliated link between consortium members. Consortia can be formed by a maximum of three organizations whose complementarity in their profiles and experience should be demonstrated in the proposal form.
4. Proposals must have a total EIT funding at or below EUR 22,500 for the Ignite NEB events.
5. Proposals must include EUR 20,000 of EIT funding for the two Grow NEB programmes. In the case of a Consortium, only one partner must be designated Grow NEB responsibilities and the associated budget.
6. Proposals must clearly address and identify the mandatory EIT Core KPIs, including the reference to the target values.
7. Proposals must clearly select one EIT Community NEB sub-theme ([section 9](#)).

Grow NEB Hosts must satisfy the additional eligibility criteria listed in [Annex 2](#).

Proposals from organisations in RIS countries<sup>8</sup> are encouraged and will be positively assessed during strategic selection ([section 6.3](#)). The range of potential organising partners encompasses both public and private entities, and includes but is not limited to foundations, associations, participation collectives, organizations, consultancies, business accelerators, universities, research centres, local and regional authorities, as well as bodies affiliated to them. At any time, subgrantees will be required to avoid any conflict of interest ([section 7.1](#)) and comply with the principles of transparency, non-discrimination, equal treatment and sound financial management.

#### **Coordinator Role:**

The coordinator is the central contact and represents the consortium. For Sole Proposers, they hold the coordinator role. At minimum the coordinator is responsible for:

- a. Submitting a single proposal, including all required attachments;
- b. The signature of the subgrant agreement (the other consortium members sign a consortium agreement);
- c. Leading the consortium agreement drafting and signature process;
- d. Distributing payments to the consortium partners; and
- e. Managing the delivery of and compliance to the subgrant ensuring high-quality and on-time reporting.

#### **Consortium Partners:**

Consortium Partners are responsible for:

- a. Collectively contributing to a smooth and successful implementation of the subgrant (i.e. implement their part of the action properly, comply with their own obligations under the subgrant and support the coordinator in their obligations); and



- b. Compliance with all the other provisions of the subgrant and all the applicable provisions of EU, international and national law (including general principles, such as fundamental rights, values, and ethical principles).

**Grow NEB Hosts:**

The Grow NEB Host is the single partner responsible for owning the Grow NEB budget and delivering the Grow NEB programmes in coordination with the EIT Community NEB. For Sole Proposers, they hold the Grow NEB Host role.

The Grow NEB Host is responsible for the management and implementation of the Grow NEB program, providing tailored support to teams for prototyping and testing their products or services. This includes logistics, mentorship, workspace, prototype building, testing facilities, administrative support, networking events, and marketing guidance. Other tools or services may be provided based on team needs.

## 5. Submission

### 5.1 Submission Platform

To submit a proposal, please visit [Awards Force](#). Proposers are encouraged to register in advance of the deadline to avoid delays. Any changes to the proposal requested by the proposer after submission will not be allowed.

### 5.2 Submission Language

Proposals must be submitted in English.

### 5.3 Submission Deadline

All proposals must be submitted by the date specified in [section 2](#) of this call. Please note that late proposals will not be accepted, and the system will be locked after the deadline. No extensions will be granted.

### 5.4 Data

All platform registrants are required to accept EIT Climate-KIC's [General Terms and Conditions](#) which also includes in particular, our [Privacy Policy](#), [Acceptable Use Policy](#) and [Cookie Policy](#) and warrant and represent that they have the authority to agree and accept these on behalf of the named organisation. Personal data provided may be processed, including sharing with other organisations, by EIT Climate-KIC and certain sensitive data elements will be visible to other partners or potential partners of EIT Climate-KIC. The named partner organisation or potential partner of EIT Climate-KIC warrants and represents that in providing personal data in connection with the proposal, the data subjects have consented to the provision of this personal data and the processing of it by EIT Climate-KIC in the manner indicated in accordance with our Privacy Policy, and that the partner organisation or potential partner of EIT Climate-KIC provides the personal data in accordance with applicable law.

Personal data provided may be processed, including sharing with other organizations by EIT Climate-KIC and certain sensitive data elements will be visible to EIT Community NEB Consortium partners. The proposer warrants and represents that in providing personal data in connection with the proposal, the data subjects have consented to the provision of this personal data and the processing

of it by EIT Climate-KIC in the manner indicated in accordance with our Privacy Policy, and that the organisation provides the personal data in accordance with applicable law.

## 5.5 Confidentiality

EIT Climate-KIC will treat proposal confidentially, as well as any related information, data, and documents received in accordance with EIT Climate-KIC’s Privacy Policy or as otherwise indicated throughout the proposal form (i.e. city name, project title, summary description), subject to [section 5.4](#) in this document.

## 6. Review, Notification, and Complaints Process

This call will follow a **one-stage full proposal submission scheme** with one-phase assessment process.

All proposals will be assessed fairly and transparently through the following process. To protect against conflicts of interest, all evaluators and decision makers will abide by the Conflicts of Interest & Gifts Policy and Anti-Fraud, Corruption & Bribery Policy. Please see <https://www.climate-kic.org/policies/>. Evaluators (independent reviewers) and strategic selection committee members are appointed by EIT Community NEB based on their experience and expertise.

### 6.1 Eligibility Review

Each proposal will be assessed on whether it meets the eligibility criteria, as outlined in [section 4.3](#). Proposals must meet all eligibility requirements to move on to the next step.

Instructions to Proposers	How Evaluated
1. Register here ( <a href="#">awards force</a> ) and complete the entire proposal in English and on-time.	1. Was the proposal complete, submitted on time, in English?
2. In the proposal form, indicate entity type and country of establishment.	2. Is Proposer a private or public legal entity established in a Horizon Europe eligible country?
3. In the proposal form, submit proposal by a Sole Proposer or on behalf of a Consortium of up to 3 unaffiliated entities, with a designated Consortium Coordinator.	3. Was Proposal submitted by Sole Proposer or Consortium Coordinator with a Consortium of up at most 3 unaffiliated entities?
4. In the proposal form, submit complete the budget for the Ignite NEB event.	4. Was the proposed EIT budget below the EUR 22,500 threshold for Ignite NEB?
5. In the proposal form, include the budget for the Grow NEB programmes. In the case of a Consortium, designate the responsible partner (Grow NEB Host) for	5. Was the EIT budget of EUR 20,000 included in the proposal? If Consortium, is there one designated partner to take the Grow NEB budget and responsibilities?

delivering Grow NEB and allocate the entire Grow NEB budget to said partner.	
6. In the proposal form, identify the EIT Core Key KPIs and include target values.	6. Were the mandatory EIT Core KPIs included with required target values in the proposal?
7. In the proposal form, select one EIT Community NEB Sub-Theme.	7. Was one EIT Community NEB Sub-Theme selected in the proposal?

## 6.2 Evaluation

Eligible proposals will proceed to evaluation and will be evaluated by at least three independent evaluators against the published evaluation criteria. **All external evaluators have been selected in an open and transparent process and must contractually agree to recuse themselves in the event of a conflict of interest.** Proposals that reach the threshold of 30 points will proceed to Strategic Selection<sup>9</sup>.

The following will be used to score evaluation criteria.

Score	Description
0	None The information requested is missing or incomplete.
1	Very poor The information provided is considered irrelevant or inadequate, compared to the specific call provisions.
2	Poor The information provided lacks relevant quality and contains significant weakness, compared to the specific call provisions.
3	Fair The overall information provided is adequate, however, some aspects are unclearly or insufficiently detailed, compared to the specific call provisions.
4	Good The information provided is adequate with sufficiency outlined details, compared to the specific call provisions.
5	Excellent The information provided is outstanding in its details, clarity, and coherence, compared to the specific call provisions.

The following evaluation criteria will be assessed.

Criteria	Score
Excellence and Innovative aspects of the proposal	20
Impact: social, economic, financial, and general sustainability	15
Implementation: planning and sound financial management	15
<b>Total Score</b>	<b>50</b>

Sub-sections of the above criteria, including instructions to proposers and how each will be evaluated are in the three sections below ([section 6.2.1](#), [section 6.2.2](#), and [section 6.2.3](#)).

### 6.2.1 Excellence and Innovative aspects of the proposal

Criteria	Instructions to Proposers	How Evaluated	Max Score
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1. Overall quality of proposal – Completeness	In the proposal form, respond to all requirements and provide evidence of how target audience is mobilised.	Are all the requirements (i.e., NEB values and principles, as well as business creation potential) of the call addressed appropriately and in detail? And does the proposal provide convincing evidence of how it will mobilise its target audience towards the ideation of business and social products and services tackling the selected sub-theme?	5 points
2. Overall quality of proposal – Coherence	In the proposal form, define the timeline, location, communication, and dissemination plan.	Is the proposal coherent? Does the proposal define the timeline, location, communication, and dissemination plan of the proposed activity? Does the proposal avoid misuse of ChatGPT?	5 points
3. Innovation potential – Innovativeness	In the proposal form, identify innovative aspects to be tested or implemented.	Does the proposal test or implement innovative methodologies, tools or process?	5 points
4. Innovation potential – Ideation format	In the proposal form, describe the ideation process.	Does the proposal use creative and stimulating formats to initiate an ideation process with the aim of identifying challenges and co-creating potential business and social solutions?	5 points
<b>Total Score for Excellence and Innovative aspects of the proposal</b>			<b>20 points</b>

### 6.2.3 Impact: social, economic, financial, and general sustainability

Criteria	Instructions to Proposers	How Evaluated	Max Score
Ambition and impact – NEB potential	1. In the proposal form, describe how the chosen NEB thematic axis is relevant to the local community and define the replicability and scalability of the proposal,	5. Does the proposal make a clear contribution to the chosen NEB thematic axis? Does the proposal have the potential to be implemented on a broader scale in other cities/locations? Is it replicable and scalable?	5 points
Ambition and impact – Grow NEB	2. In the proposal form, describe the Sole Proposer's or Consortium's capabilities in hosting the Grow	6. Does the proposal have a clear pathway to generating future businesses and social projects to be incubated in the Grow NEB programme?	5 points

	NEB programmes, and how the Ignite NEB event will generate future projects.		
Dissemination and communication	3. In the proposal, provide a complete dissemination and communication plan, including how relevant target groups will be mobilised.	7. Does the proposal display appropriate measures for dissemination and communication in the local and/or regional context, including relevant target groups and stakeholders?	5 points
<b>Total Score for Impact: social, economic, financial, and general sustainability</b>			<b>15 points</b>

#### 6.2.4 Implementation: planning and sound financial management

Criteria	Instructions to Proposers	How Evaluated	Max Score
Network	4. In the proposal, indicate the Sole Proposer's or Consortium's networking capabilities.	8. Does the proposer have sufficient network and connections to deliver the project?	5 points
Business acumen	5. In the proposal, indicate the Sole Proposer's or Consortium's business and entrepreneurship capabilities.	9. Does the proposer demonstrate business acumen and entrepreneurship capacities?	5 points
Previous experience	6. In the proposal, indicate the Sole Proposer's or Consortium's previous experience with co-creating events.	10. Does the proposer have previous experience in leading and coordinating events and co-creation projects with the target groups involved?	5 points
<b>Total Score for Implementation: planning and sound financial management</b>			<b>15 points</b>

#### 6.3 Strategic Selection

The EIT Community NEB will appoint a strategic selection committee to select the four winning proposals during a consensus meeting. The committee will include one representative from each of the four KICs participating in the EIT Community NEB. The committee will convene once during a

consensus meeting to deliberate on the eligible proposals. Prior to the consensus meeting, the proposals and a scorecard with all evaluation scores for each of the eligible proposals will be provided. During the consensus meeting, the committee will discuss the evaluations and strategic fit. In the case that proposals are similarly scored, the committee will prioritise the following elements in order:

1. **Ensuring Geographic Spread:** Should there be more than 4 proposals of sufficient quality, the committee will ensure that awarded projects are in as many different countries as possible.
2. **Encouraging RIS Proposals:** Should there be equivalent proposals from both a RIS country and a non-RIS country, the committee will select the RIS proposal.
3. **Diversity in NEB Sub-Themes:** Should there be equivalent proposals with a different NEB Sub-Theme and a same NEB Sub-Theme compared to previously accepted proposals, the committee will select the proposal with the different NEB Sub-Theme.
4. **Encouraging New Locations:** Should there be equivalent proposals with a new location that the EIT Community NEB has not previously funded a project in and with a same location as a previous EIT Community NEB project, the committee will select the proposal with the new location.
5. **Encouraging Co-Funding:** Should there be equivalent proposals with and without co-funding, the committee will select the proposal with co-funding.
6. **Alignment to KIC Themes:** Should there be equivalent proposals that complement and overlap to each of the four themes of the KICs participating in the EIT Community NEB (i.e., climate, food, manufacturing, and urban mobility) compared to previously accepted proposals, the committee will select the proposal that is complementary.

Selected proposals may be subject to recommendations or conditions brought forth by the strategic selection committee. These recommendations or conditions will be communicated via email and the proposer will be given 5 business days to respond to the recommendations or conditions. Should the proposer respond inadequately to these recommendations or conditions, or should they not respond within the given timeline, the next best proposal as determined by the strategic selection committee will be selected. This is applicable for all selected proposals that are subject to recommendations or conditions. The selection committee will identify 4 winning proposals and 1 reserve list proposal.

## 6.4 Notification

### 6.4.1 Eligibility

Proposers who do not pass the admissibility and/or eligibility review will be notified, via email, to the email address provided to EIT Climate-KIC during the proposal submission.

### 6.4.2 Award/Unsuccessful Proposal

Successful and unsuccessful proposers will be notified, via email, to the email address provided to EIT Climate-KIC during submission. The notification period will be tentatively on the date listed in [section 2](#).

Awards will be made tentatively pending successful due diligence review.

## 6.5 Complaints

### 6.5.1 Who May Submit Complaints

Complaints may be submitted by interested parties who participated in a competitive process, such as a call or prize competition that was run by EIT Climate-KIC or its subgrantees. Complaints should be addressed to [igniteneb@climate-kic.org](mailto:igniteneb@climate-kic.org).

### 6.5.2 When Should a Complaint be Made

Complaints shall be made by complainants within five business days from the date of the unsuccessful award notification.

### 6.5.3 What Should be in a Complaint

A complaint shall be submitted in writing and shall specify the detail and the grounds asserted for the complaint regarding **a law, rule, procedure, or competitive process provision**. The complaint shall contain facts or evidence sufficient for EIT Climate-KIC to investigate and determine the validity of the complaint. The complaint shall be sent to the assigned Business Desk email specified in the competitive process document. While a complaint may be mailed, the complainant must account for mail times. Email is the preferred method to receive complaints.

When possible, the complaint should be in English. When submitting a complaint in English poses a significant barrier to the Complainant, it may be submitted in another language. When a complaint is submitted in another language, EIT Climate-KIC reserves the right to extend complaints deadlines to properly translate the complaint.

### 6.5.4 What Happens When a Complaint is Received

EIT Climate-KIC shall send a written acknowledgement of the complaint upon receipt. If the complaint is received within the five business days, EIT Climate-KIC shall have fifteen business days to provide a written response. Additional time to investigate and conclude complaints shall be granted in accordance with the level of complexity and availability of information. Once the complaint is received, an internal review is activated, bringing together the relevant information into a written response. As a preliminary step, the Business Desk shall furnish facts and information to address the Complainant's concerns in a Decision Letter.

## 7. Awarded Subgrant Requirements

### 7.1 EIT Climate-KIC

The template of a Financial Support Agreement (FSA) will be available on EIT-Climate KIC call webpage [HERE](#). EIT Climate-KIC's mission is systems transformation through innovation. Inclusion and diversity are key to transformational change. EIT Climate-KIC applies gender balance when working with project beneficiaries and participants. This includes applying participatory, inclusive practices in project activities (e.g. in workshops). EIT Climate-KIC is committed to eliminating discrimination and promoting equality and diversity within EIT Climate-KIC and will constantly strive to create a

productive environment where everyone has an equal chance to succeed. This is extended to promoting and preserving equality in areas in which EIT Climate-KIC has influence.

## 7.2 EIT Food

The template of a Framework Agreement will be available on EIT-Food call webpage.

## 7.3 Communication, Dissemination and Visibility

### 7.3.1 Communication — Dissemination — Promoting the action

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, the beneficiaries must promote the action and its results by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public).

Before engaging in a communication or dissemination activity expected to have a major media impact, the beneficiaries must inform the granting authority.

### 7.3.2 Visibility — European flag and funding statement

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, communication activities of the beneficiaries related to the action (including media relations, conferences, seminars, information material, such as brochures, leaflets, posters, presentations, etc., in electronic form, via traditional or social media, etc.), dissemination activities and any infrastructure, equipment, vehicles, supplies or major result funded by the grant must acknowledge the EU support and display the European flag (emblem) and funding statement (translated into local languages, where appropriate):

- The emblem must remain distinct and separate and cannot be modified by adding other visual marks, brands or text.
- Apart from the emblem, no other visual identity or logo may be used to highlight EU support.
- When displayed in association with other logos (e.g., of beneficiaries or sponsors), the emblem must be displayed at least as prominently and visibly as the other logos.

As set out in MGA Article 17, communication activities and infrastructure, and equipment of major results funded by the grant must display the EIT Community NEB logo with the following text: “EIT Community NEB is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union.”

For the purposes of their obligations under this Article, the beneficiaries may use the emblem without first obtaining approval from the granting authority. This does not, however, give them the right to exclusive use. Moreover, they may not appropriate the emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

### 7.3.3 Quality of information — Disclaimer

Any communication or dissemination activity related to the action must use factually accurate information.



Moreover, it must indicate the following disclaimer (translated into local languages where appropriate):

“Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or [name of the granting authority]. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.”

## 7.4 Gender Dimension

Gender dimension underpins all EIT Community NEB activities, both in terms of participant selection, staff and delivery and execution of the activities to ensure diversity equality is addressed. As part of the ongoing commitment of all KICs partners in promoting equal opportunities, the EIT Community NEB encourages a balanced participation in terms of gender at all levels of the management structures, including mainstreaming access to all activities and opportunities, to fully reflect the EC Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025. In particular, EIT Community NEB efforts strives for:

- Equal participation:
  - Activities’ composition and participants will all be gender balanced.
  - Partners will seek to remove potential barriers to equal participation of genders and social groups.
- Policy recommendations:
  - Developed by including and with an active role of all genders.
  - Recommendations may include promoting access to local training and skills development programmes, enhancing access to financing for women (public and private loans and incentives).
- Communication and Dissemination:
  - Produced materials will be gender-inclusive and will not convey normative assumptions conducive or supporting the gender divide.
- Project employment:
  - The composition of the teams reflects, and it is committed to ensure equal employment opportunities to both genders.

As such, potential organising partners are invited to address gender dimension in the design of activities and will be prompted to share gender equality measures for project implementation.

## 8. Glossary of Terms

Acronym/Term	Description
HE	Horizon Europe
Proposal	For the purposes of this Call, Proposal is the mechanism by which a Proposer submits information to assess whether a subgrant award will be made.
Proposer	For the purposes of this Call, Proposer is an entity seeking funding under this Call by submitting a Proposal.

Subgrants	Subgrants are the mechanism by which funding from the NEB grant flow to subgrantees. This is also known as financial support to third parties under the Horizon Europe requirements.
EIT	European Institute of Information and Technology
NEB	New European Bauhaus
KICs	Knowledge and Innovation Communities

## 9. NEB Thematic Axes and Sub-Themes

### 9.1 Thematic Axis 1 – Reconnecting with nature

The NEB movement aims to create greater opportunities for contact with green public spaces that translate into better health indices for the population and reduce income-related health inequalities. Nature-based solutions in cities can help address floodings and other extreme weather events while making the built environment more attractive. Climate action can improve air, water and soil quality and overall living conditions. The COVID-19 pandemic has underlined the direct link between nature protection and citizen’s physical and mental health. There is a need to go beyond a human-centred to a life-centred perspective, seeking inspiration from nature and learning from it.

Sub-Theme 1.1	Products and services (including early ideas or sketches) enhancing nature-based solutions, promoting green public spaces, and supporting urban greening.
Sub-Theme 1.2	Business models for the co-design and co-stewardship of green spaces and nature-based-solutions through public-private partnerships and citizen participation.
Sub-Theme 1.3	Business models supporting education activities on nature-based solutions, access to and increasing green spaces, as well as their collective stewardship.

### 9.2 Thematic Axis 2 – Regaining a sense of belonging

The NEB movement is about collective and private experiences. Building bridges between people implies encouraging intergenerational solidarity, developing links between education and the arts in local environments, improving common spaces and places to meet.

Sub-Theme 2.1	Products and services (including early ideas or sketches) responding to citizens’ real needs in urban and regional spaces, as well as improving accessibility and quality of experience of citizens in their daily lives, i.e., leisure, working spaces, moving around and commuting etc.
Sub-Theme 2.2	Business models for the co-design of public realm and commons with civil society and other stakeholders to favour diversity while strengthening inclusivity and equality/equity, as well as to promote co-ownership of public and private spaces.
Sub-Theme 2.3	Business models supporting education programmes to highlight the relationship between sustainability and resilience, as well as activities promoting interaction and collaboration between different social groups around urban and rural spaces, and heritage focused on nature conservation and culture.

### 9.3 Thematic Axis 3 – Prioritising the places and people that need it the most

The NEB movement promotes the inclusion of all citizens living in Europe, including places that are often left behind or not as prominently thought about. Beautiful and sustainable solutions must be affordable and accessible for all. This is particularly important when it comes to addressing the situations of groups and individuals, such as those at risk of exclusion, poverty or experiencing homelessness. For example, disadvantaged groups are at greater risk of energy poverty and air pollution and have less access to public transport therefore pursuing a ‘design for all approach’ to remove particular barriers needs to be tailored to specific group’s needs.

The NEB clearly goes beyond large city centres and encompasses places in all of their diversity, including small villages, rural areas, shrinking cities, degenerated city districts and de-industrialised areas. This calls for territorial development avoiding spatial segregation of social groups to create a sense of togetherness.

Sub-Theme 3.1	Products and services (including early ideas or sketches) delivering both online and offline (in person) support, as well as public and private realm infrastructure and facilities with a focus on specific vulnerable populations, e.g., elderly, children, ethnic minorities, marginalized groups etc.
Sub-Theme 3.2	Business models supporting multi-stakeholder engagement enhancing urban regeneration in less favoured areas, including most polluted zones, degraded or dangerous neighbourhoods, remote areas with poor communication/infrastructure, and districts with limited services.
Sub-Theme 3.3	Business models for the development and implementation of social interventions encouraging cultural understanding and connection between different social groups that otherwise would not interact. Activities enhancing the experience of belonging through shared orientation towards nature protection, sustainability, and resilience.

### 9.4 Thematic Axis 4 – Fostering long-term, life cycle and integrated thinking in the industrial ecosystem

The NEB movement promotes an economy based on circularity to tackle unsustainable use of resources and waste, including uses for obsolete buildings or infrastructures. Addressing these challenges concerns the entire industrial ecosystem, from production to delivery and consumption, with a circular economy mind-set. Recovered and renewable materials should be better recognised by all relevant disciplines and become part of design paradigms. The use of sustainably produced and procured nature-based building materials, such as wood, bamboo, straw, cork, or stone should be improved. New production technologies should help reduce the carbon footprint of steel or cement, recycle otherwise wasted textiles and accelerate the green transition of energy intensive industries. New business models, bioeconomy, social economy approaches, and Design for Sustainability can support the transformation of sectors such as textiles, tourism, waste management or energy production. The digital transition will play a systemic role in the development and implementation of the NEB.

Sub-Theme 4.1	Products and services (including early ideas or sketches) promoting long-term use and thinking, and reduce by design; also, maintenance, reusing, refurbishing, remanufacturing re-purpose and recycling of resources and waste, including digital and monitoring tools, as well as improvement of current state-of-the-art manufactured products or industrial manufacturing processes.
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Sub-Theme 4.2	Business models for Public and multi-stakeholder engagement fostering circular economy actions, namely with regards to resources, waste, product life extension and second life of products, and more efficient management of sources. Activities are to target unsustainable mind-sets or behaviours in specific social groups to maximize the potential impact.
Sub-Theme 4.3	Business models supporting education activities on circular economy aiming at changing individual and group behaviours that perpetuate an unsustainable use of resources and/or waste management, e.g., energy, water, food, plastic.

## Annex 1 – Grow NEB Host Capabilities

### **Request for comprehensive information regarding the services, tools, and materials that could be offered to Grow NEB participants to support them in the creation of prototypes and the facilitation of testing sessions**

*Please answer each point with Yes/No (in case it's possible to provide this service/tool or not), along with a description of the service/tool.*

#### **1. Logistics and Support:**

**1.1. Mentorship and Coaching:** Pair project leaders with experienced mentors who can provide guidance and industry insights.

*Important: Note that this part of the program will be taken care of by NEB Business and Design Mentors.*

**1.2. Workspace:** Access to co-working spaces, labs, or dedicated facilities for prototype development.

**1.3. Funding:** Financial support or connections to investors and funding opportunities.

**1.4. Legal and Intellectual Property Support:** Assistance with patent filing, legal guidance, and protecting intellectual property.

**1.5. Administrative Support:** Help with paperwork, registration, and other administrative tasks.

**1.6. Networking Events:** Opportunities to connect with potential collaborators, partners, and investors.

**1.7. Marketing and PR Assistance:** Guidance on building a brand, creating marketing materials, and generating public relations.

**1.8. Access to Industry Partners:** Collaboration with established companies for resources and knowledge.

#### **2. Specific Expertise:**

**2.1. Technical Expertise:** Access to engineers, scientists, and experts in relevant fields.

**2.2. Market Research:** Assistance in conducting market research and identifying target audiences.

**2.3. Business Strategy:** Help with business model development and strategic planning.

2.4. **Design and UX/UI Expertise:** Support for creating user-friendly prototypes.

2.5. **Regulatory and Compliance Experts:** Guidance on navigating industry-specific regulations.

2.6. **Financial Expertise:** Assistance with financial planning, budgeting, and forecasting.

2.7. **Product Development Expertise:** Expert advice on product development processes.

### **3. Prototype Building:**

3.1. **Equipment and Tools:** Access to necessary hardware, software, and equipment.

3.2. **Rapid Prototyping Facilities:** 3D printers, CNC machines, and other prototyping equipment.

3.3. **Prototyping Materials:** Materials such as plastics, metals, and electronics components.

3.4. **Technical Training:** Workshops and courses on prototype development.

3.5. **Technical Support:** Engineers and technical staff to assist with prototype construction.

3.6. **Design Software:** Access to design software for CAD, electronics, and other tools.

### **4. Testing:**

4.1. **User Testing Facilities:** Space and resources for conducting user testing sessions.

4.2. **Usability Testing Tools:** Eye-tracking, heatmaps, and user behaviour analysis tools.

4.3. **Quality Assurance Testing:** Support for software and hardware testing and bug-fixing.

4.4. **Data Analytics Tools:** Software for analysing and interpreting test data.

4.5. **Beta Testing Platforms:** Access to platforms for recruiting beta testers.

4.6. **Prototyping Feedback:** Facilitation of feedback loops from users for prototype refinement.

4.7. **Compliance Testing:** Assistance with regulatory and industry compliance testing.

### **5. Other tools or Services that may be provided.**

## Annex 2 – Additional Eligibility Criteria for Grow NEB Hosts

Please Note:

1. Failing any of the Call specific eligibility criteria ([section 4.3](#)) will make your application ineligible. If an applicant is ineligible, the participant will be informed.

2. According to EU policies and measures, Russian entities will not be authorised to participate in any new grant under the EU Research and Innovation programmes. This ban applies not only to their potential participation as beneficiaries, but to their potential participation in any kind of role: beneficiaries, linked third parties/affiliated entities, subcontractors, in-kind contributors, international partners/associated partners, and third parties receiving financial support. Find the full statement from the European Commission [here](#).

3. Pursuant to Article 2 (2) of the Decision 2022/2506 of 15 December 2022 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary *where the Commission implements the Union budget in direct or indirect management pursuant to of Article 62(1) points (a) and (c), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, **no legal commitments shall be entered into with any public interest trust established on the basis of the Hungarian Act IX of 2021 or any entity maintained by such a public interest trust.*** This prohibition applies to financial support to third parties (sub-grants and prizes), hence the proposal of any entity or group of entities where a Participant is included in the list of public interest trusts shall be considered as not eligible.

4. Applicants will be deemed ineligible if:

a. bankrupt, subject to insolvency or winding-up procedures, where its assets are being administered by a liquidator or by a court, where it is in an arrangement with creditors, where its business Activities are suspended, or where it is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for under national laws or regulations;

b. it has been established by a final judgment or a final administrative decision that the organisation is in breach of its obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions in accordance with the applicable law;

c. it has been established by a final judgment or a final administrative decision that the organisation is guilty of grave professional misconduct by having violated applicable laws or regulations or ethical standards of the profession to which the organisation belongs, or by having engaged in any wrongful conduct which has an impact on its professional credibility where such conduct denotes a wrongful intent or gross negligence;

d. is found to be attempting to influence the decision-making process of the call during the process;

e. attempting to obtain confidential information that may confer upon it undue advantages in the call process;

f. it has been established by a final judgment that the organisation is guilty of fraud, corruption or money laundering.