Definition of NEBA Hub

Open call for cascade grants of NEBA Alliance

Open date for proposals: Friday, February 28, 2025, at 13:00 (Brussels Time)

Deadline: Monday, May 5, 2025 at 17:00 (Brussels Time)

NEB Academy

The New European Bauhaus Academy (NEBA), a flagship initiative of the European Commission on skills for sustainable construction, accelerates the up- and re-skilling of the current and future workforce to transition to a resilient domestic building construction sector. It is being formed at the University of Primorska (Slovenia) as a network of NEBA Hubs. The NEBA is comprised of Hubs spread across Europe with regional and/or topical reach. Currently, there are five NEBA Hubs forming the NEBA (founders of separate NEBA hubs are in parenthesis):

* NEBAP Hub (Founders: University of Primorska (Slovenia), Politechnika Lodzka (Poland), Holzbau Austria (Austria))
* NEBA Central Hub (Founders: Bauhaus Earth (Germany), TU Berlin (Germany), University of Sustainability Eberswalde (Germany), TU Delft (Netherlands));
* NEBA South Hub (Founders: IAAC (Spain), Cesefor (Spain), Regione Liguria (Italy));
* NEBA North Hub (Founders: RISE (Sweden), Aalto (Finland), EKA (Estonia));
* NEBA Outreach Hub (Founders: InnovaWood (Belgium), EAAE (Belgium), BOKU (Austria));

Bodies of the NEBA are managing Body, Steering Committee, Council Board, and Advisory Board.

NEBA’s mission is to train, upskill, and reskill the construction ecosystem to achieve a carbon neutral building sector and a beautiful, sustainable, and inclusive transformation of the built environment.

NEBA Hub

NEBA Hubs serve as a meeting point between trainers, knowledge seekers, policy and advocacy actors, as well as international and multi-cultural actors. NEBA Hubs are also central contact points for promotions and administration of NEBA activities. NEBA Hubs contribute to shape a building culture that consider ecological limitations, circularity, waste reduction, technical innovations and novel construction materials. NEBA Hubs organisational structure can take various forms depending on the specific needs and conditions of the region with the goal to connect different regional actors and make relevant training available to a broad audience.

Activities of NEBA Hubs:

* **Training for upskilling and reskilling of construction ecosystem**
  + Identifying skills and knowledge gaps and supporting the development of training programmes to resolve them.
  + Assuring quality of training materials and delivery, monitoring alignment with NEB values and principles, especially through Train-the-Trainer type events
  + Mapping relevant actors and resources. Identify who may provide training, who may seek it, where training may take place, which digital resources trainers have (or have access to), any requirements that may be placed on training for certain actors (such as accreditation).
* **Awareness raising activities**
  + Facilitating adoption of the NEB values and principles by the society through various communication activities and channels.
  + Engaging with the society through co-creation activities and participatory actions in developing the future training activities.
* **Networking with NEBA Hubs, NEB partners, and stakeholders**
  + Facilitating networking and collaboration between actors; i.e., connecting trainers with other trainers, trainers with knowledge seekers, linking transdisciplinary actors from industry, society, academia, and policy.
  + Supporting gathering and sharing best practices among other NEBA Hubs, identifying synergistic opportunities.
* **Shaping policy and legislative frameworks following NEB values and principles**
  + Facilitating funding acquisition and distribution.
  + Liaising with national, international, and regional actors.
  + Advocating for modernisation of professional standards for current and future needs in line with NEB values and principles (i.e., seeking updates to the requirements for life-long learning attestation, professional degree programme accreditation).
  + Advocating for a conducive policy environment for NEBA Hubs operations, sustainable construction, and broader NEB implementation.

In addition to these activities, NEBA Hubs have additional responsibilities, such as:

* Establishment of its own governance structure that is tailored to its regional/national/international context, that includes identifying a responsible entity to chair the organisation, administration, and management of the NEBA Hub.
  + It is important that the governance structure plans for expansion through the addition of new members – NEBA Hubs should be mindful of the inclusive NEB value. Additionally, as new training needs emerge, partnering with trainers outside the network may be the most effective way to address them.
* Define the mission and measurable key performance indicators of their the NEBA Hub.
* Establish international collaborations and facilitate their collaboration with the NEBA Hub’s activities.
* Continuous improvement by collecting feedback from training participants and other activities.
* Responsibly manage the NEBA Hub, develop annual plans and annual reports to be shared with the NEBA.

Each NEBA Hub is to define:

* Form a governance structure, defining roles and responsibilities as well as mechanisms for collaboration and engagement
* Define main activities to be performed by the NEBA Hub. It can be accredited courses, trainings, awareness raising activities, either online, offline, or mixed that address the knowledge gaps in their target audience.
* Target audience to be trained and type of trainings to be performed (examples given in Table 1)
* Define short term, midterm and long-term objectives. Set up measurable indicators for these objectives, e.g., number of people trained, number of people to be reached by promotional activities, number of study visits, amount of funds secured, etc.
* Set up the equipment and infrastructure needed for the Hub's activities
* Develop partnerships with stakeholder organizations
* Develop or modify training materials
* Recruit training participants
* Implement trainings
* Evaluate the training processing and iterate to improve

Table 1. Stakeholder groups and type of trainings to be offered to them

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| *Stakeholder group* | *Type of trainings* |
| Policy makers, public officials | Debates, study visits, courses recognized for their promotion, short-form courses |
| Architects, engineers | Courses recognized by attestation, updated study programmes |
| Industry | Trainings courses by recognised professionals/practitioners, hands-on training, study visits |
| Blue-collar workers | Demonstrations, study visits, hands-on training |
| Society | Videos, podcasts, open house events, gallery displays, public seminars for non-academic audiences, etc. |
| Students | Study programmes, summer schools, study visits, guest lectures, study exchanges |