



Call for Expression of Interest for New European Bauhaus Mentors

17th November, 2023

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1. Call Summary

The aim of this Call for Expression of Interest, launched under the EIT Community New European Bauhaus (NEB), is to set up a list of independent external experts, hereinafter referred to as “NEB Mentors”.

Topic:	Call for Expression of Interest (Eoi) for New European Bauhaus (NEB) Mentors
Dates:	Opening Date: 17 th November, 2023 Call Deadline: 29 th December, 2023 (23:59 CEST) Evaluation: on an on-going basis Results of the Call for Expression of Interest announced: February 2024 Mentorship Assignments: from February 2024 through to February 2025, as follows: Grow NEB: February – August 2024 Connect NEB: February - November 2024 Co-create NEB: February - December 2024 Catalyse NEB: April - November 2024 Enhance NEB: June - February 2025
Link to the Application Form:	https://forms.office.com/e/6YSaT36tSz

2. EIT Community New European Bauhaus (NEB)

The EIT Community New European Bauhaus (NEB) is committed to delivering the [European Green Deal](#) in terms of:

- **Sustainability** (goals to circularity, zero pollution, and biodiversity);
- **Aesthetics** (quality of experience and style, beyond functionality);
- **Inclusion** (from valuing diversity to securing accessibility, and affordability).

To transition towards a more sustainable, resilient, and inclusive society, EIT Community NEB aims at identifying and supporting start-ups, scale-ups, higher education institutions (students) and spin-offs as well as communities (citizens) and public decision-makers, who converge on the common NEB goals.

For a coordinated and joint approach in the abovementioned EU policy areas, EIT Community NEB is led by [EIT Climate-KIC](#) with support from [EIT Urban Mobility](#), [EIT Food](#), and [EIT Manufacturing](#).

3. Objective of the Call for Expression of Interest

The objective of this Call for Expression of Interest is to set up a list of independent external experts — **NEB Mentors** — to support EIT Community NEB activities. Mentors are to “think Bauhaus” and encourage participants of EIT NEB Calls under Horizon Europe as well as related programmes to further integrate the core values of “Sustainability”, “Aesthetics”, and “Inclusion” underlying the NEB ways of thinking and doing into their practices.

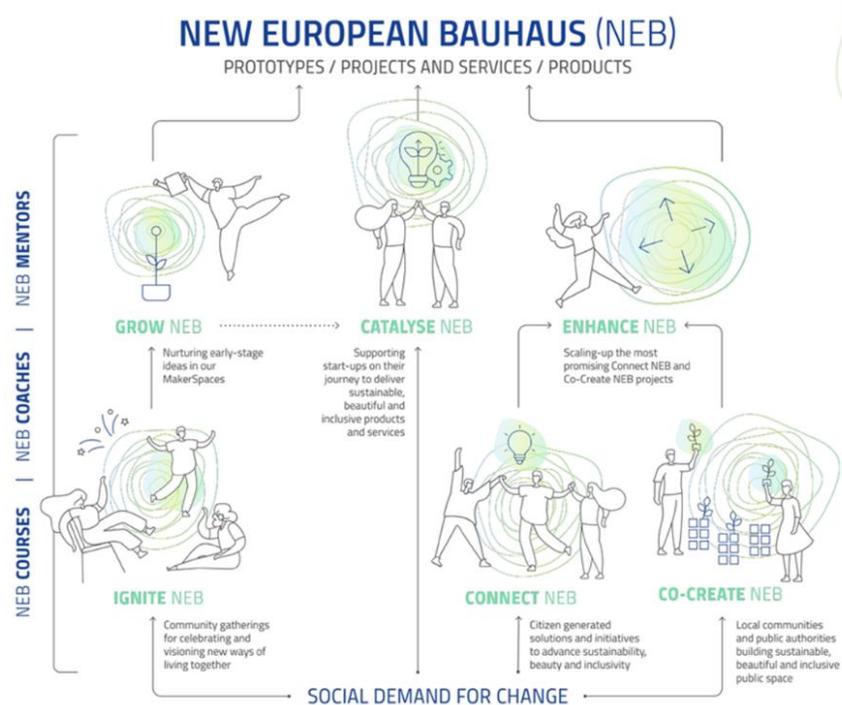


Fig 1. 2023-2024 NEB Calls under the Horizon Europe

NEB Mentors might be assigned to any of the following EIT Community NEB Calls: **Catalyse NEB**, **Connect NEB**, **Co-create NEB**, **Enhance NEB**, and **Grow NEB**. That is, **NEB Mentorships** will be adjusted, as needed, to deliver the desired outcome for:

- **Catalyse NEB** the objective of which is to improve the value proposition, business plan, and investor pitch of altogether **28 startups** addressing societal challenges with the wider aim of improving the well-being of people and the Planet;
- **Connect NEB**, **Co-create NEB**, and **Enhance NEB** the objective of which is to support **24 initiatives** with the potential to scale up (inter)nationally and increase citizens' involvement in the (urban) planning and design of cities and the communities;
- **Grow NEB** the objective of which is to support **4 Ignite NEB teams** in prototyping, validating and testing their early-stage social impact solutions with end-users.

To be able to truly contribute to a more just society and sustainable forms of living, **NEB Mentors** are to support the selected **Mentees** in their transition towards digital, greener, and more resilient practices. This means putting the Mentees' design and entrepreneurial capability into action through combining analytical tools of systems-thinking with the creative methods of human-centric design to solve many and diverse challenges that our society will have to face, including, in terms of:

- **Reconnecting with nature:** more awareness and willingness to address climate change and reduce exposure to pollution;
- **Regaining sense of belonging:** building bridges between people, emphasizing the role of cultural and social assets as key factors to make places unique and meaningful;
- **Prioritizing the places and people that need it the most:** affordable and accessible solutions for all, with focus on the most vulnerable groups and individuals;
- **Fostering long-term, life cycle and integrated thinking in the industrial ecosystem:** the need for more circularity to tackle unsustainable use of resources and waste.

For further information on the four thematic axes as well as a guiding framework on the NEB principles, please see the New European Bauhaus Compass https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/system/files/2023-01/NEB_Compass_V_4.pdf.

4. Eligibility Criteria

NEB Mentors are expected to have proven professional experience as well as a strong grasp of design-led strategy and development processes in at least one of the four challenges defined by the New European Bauhaus initiative, as outlined in Section 3 — Objective of the Call for Expression of

Interest. Mentors are to act as promoters of design for (social) innovation with the aim of creating an enabling ecosystem for NEB. That is, Mentors collaborate with the Mentees to come up with, and put into practice, NEB ways of living and acting, to which they themselves, the Mentees, attribute value.

NEB Mentors must have the following relevant experience and mindset to apply:

- **Systems Thinking:** communicate complexity in simple ways;
- **Life-Centred:** articulate a human- and planet-centric approach to NEB;
- **Design:** understand when and how to apply (service) design to solve complex challenges;
- **Savvy:** think strategically and identify a compelling path forward for NEB;
- **Enabling:** be(come) part of social change.

Additionally, **NEB Design Mentors** must have:

- experience in designing materials, products, services, systems, and/or experiences taking into account inclusivity, quality of experience, and sustainability;
- comprehensive approach to design thinking and an ability to address large-scale challenges to climate and the environment through design;
- creativity, and ability to consider social activation, arts and culture, while placing the human experience and collaboration at its core;
- a vision of how NEB could help build a fairer and more inclusive society at a time of intense economic, political, and ecological instability.

NEB Business Mentors must have:

- demonstrable experience taking an idea from (design) research into a market launch as a core member of a start-up, an entrepreneur, and/or a venture capitalist;
- ability to generate new opportunities by thinking creatively about financial impact, risk analysis, and data;
- essential tools for developing environmentally and socially responsible business models that drive positive impact;
- ability to inspire the EIT Community NEB through business and entrepreneurial thinking while recognizing the complementary nature of design and entrepreneurial capacity.

Mentors must be able to demonstrate **English language proficiency.**

5. NEB Mentorship Assignments

Each Mentee will be assigned one Design Mentor and one Business Mentor, who are expected to share their responsibility for the growth of the Mentee; that is, Co-Mentor their Mentee.

EIT Community NEB Mentors' monthly commitment varies depending on the Mentorship Assignments taken. However, Mentors are expected to meet with their Mentees **a minimum of twice a month** and should therefore estimate a monthly time commitment of **approximately 2-4 hours per Mentorship Assignment**.

Depending on the Assignment, Mentors might be expected to carry out a variety of tasks, including:

- participate in briefings and agree on an Individual Development Plan (IDP) with the Mentee;
- organize workshop(s) and/or related online and/or off-line activities to put the Mentees' entrepreneurial (Business Mentorship) and design capability (Design Mentorship) into action;
- lead 4 to 24 hours of 1-on-1 Mentorship Sessions;
- help validate Mentee's Design and Business Ideas, gather feedback, and test usability;
- outline a roadmap for reaching the Mentee's longer-term objectives;
- report on the assigned Mentorship and participate in the Mentee's debrief.

Most importantly, Mentors are to help the Mentees to clarify their **Individual Development Plans** (IDP); that is, goals, strengths, and areas of desired growth to ground and guide the Mentees as they progress throughout their Mentorship. Additionally, both Mentors and the Mentees are to use **Progress-Plans-Problems** (PPP) management technique for status and final reporting on the NEB Mentorship Assignments.

All details relating to **NEB Mentorship Assignments**, including tasks, deliverables, working arrangements and remuneration will be detailed in the **Mentorship Contract** and other Call-related materials by EIT Community NEB.

All decisions regarding the acceptance or rejection of Applications is taken by EIT Community NEB — [EIT Climate-KIC](#) , [EIT Urban Mobility](#), [EIT Food](#), [EIT Manufacturing](#) — in charge of the given Call and dependent on the budget available.

6. Inclusion into the List of NEB Mentors

EIT Community NEB will set up a list of NEB Mentors selected from the Call for Expression of Interest. Inclusion into this list does not mean that a Mentor is guaranteed to be assigned a Mentee. A Mentor and a Mentee will be paired on a case-by-case basis to ensure that all Mentees are matched with Mentors who best corresponds to their needs.

By replying to this Call for Expression of Interest and signing the Contract, all Mentors are expected to perform their Assignments to the highest professional standards, and in compliance with the conditions set out in this Call; and the **Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct, and Declaration of Honour**.

Notwithstanding any preliminary agreement between the Mentor and the Mentee, no Mentorship Contract will be issued if EIT Community NEB considers that there is a conflict of interest that may compromise the impartial and objective selection of Mentee and/or the provision of Mentorship Assignment for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other shared interest.

7. Selection Criteria

Inclusion into the list of EIT Community NEB Mentors will depend on:

- the need for a specific NEB Mentor profile as detailed under Section 3;
- recognition of the Mentor's skills and qualifications as detailed under Section 4;
- if applicable, impact of previous NEB Mentorship, or other related, Assignments.

Applicants will be assessed at a 5-point rating scale — with 1 indicating "low", 2 "limited", 3 "satisfactory", 4 "high", and 5 "excellent" compatibility with the Mentorship Programme — against the following criteria:

- Experience (threshold 3/5) the extent to which the applicant has prior experience and expertise, including educational qualification, to serve as a NEB Mentor;
- Personal (threshold 4/5) the capability and motivation to undertake a Mentorship Assignment;
- Technical (threshold 5/5) English language proficiency.

Additionally, the rotation of Mentors as well as absence of any conflict of interest and/or potential bias, which may affect the Mentor's impartiality, will be considered.

Only applicants meeting the threshold standards for each of the criteria will be added to the list of NEB Mentors.

8. Remuneration

All **Mentorship Assignments** and Mentors' **Fees** will be **fixed in advance** in the **Mentorship Contract** and are estimated to remain in between €1250 and €3000 per Assignment, all costs and taxes included.

EIT Community NEB reserves the right to update the Mentorship Assignments and the Fees at the time of signing the Mentorship Contracts. All fees payable to the NEB Mentors will be subject to the approval by EIT Manufacturing as the Contracting Authority.

9. Application Requirements and Instructions

Applications must be submitted via the [Application Form](#). All documents, including a copy of CV and portfolio of no more than 10MB, must be submitted in English.

EIT Manufacturing as the Contracting Authority reserves the right to request additional documents (proof of professional experience, diplomas, certificates etc.), including review its assessment on the basis of the original documents submitted.

Inclusion into the list of NEB Mentors entails no obligation for EIT Manufacturing conclude any contracts with the enlisted external experts.

10. Expiry Date of the List Resulting from the Call for Expression of Interest

The list of NEB Mentors resulting from this Call for Expression of Interest is valid for the duration of two years as of 2024. Those interested in serving as NEB Mentors may submit their Expression of Interest by any of the annual Call deadlines set by EIT Community NEB.

11. Other Conditions

Code of Conduct

By replying to this Call for Expression of Interest, and consequently, signing the Mentorship Contract, all experts undertake to perform their Mentorship Assignments to the highest of professional standards, and in compliance with the conditions set out in this Call, as well as the Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct, Declaration of Honour, and the Expression of Interest Guidelines, as agreed upon at the time of signing the Mentorship Contract.

Record-keeping

Any records and supporting documentation must be kept, as a proof of compliance, for at least three years after receiving the final payment under a Mentorship Contract.

In the event of any on-going checks, audits, investigations, litigation or, any other claims, records and supporting documentation must be kept until the abovementioned procedures have been concluded.

Exclusion

Only EU residents or residents of countries associated to the Horizon Europe programme are eligible to apply. Applicants who are subject to administrative sanctions in the EU (i.e. exclusion or financial penalty decision) or, in one of the following situations, will be excluded from receiving the Mentorship Contract:

- bankruptcy, winding up, court-ordered administration, arrangement with creditors, suspension of business activities or similar procedures;
- in breach of social security or tax obligations;
- guilty of grave professional misconduct;
- accused of fraud or corruption;
- related to criminal organisations:

- guilty of money laundering or terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or, human trafficking;
- show significant deficiencies in complying with main obligations under an EU procurement contract, grant agreement, prize, expert contract, or similar;
- guilty of irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of Regulation No 2988/95¹
- own an entity under a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or other legal obligations in the country of origin;

Mentors will also be refused a Mentorship Contract if it becomes evident that:

- Applicants have misrepresented information required as a pre-condition for them participate at the Call for Expression of Interest or that they have failed to provide information requested in the Call;
- there is a conflict of interest.

Ownership and use of the results — IPR

Results arising from the Mentorship Assignments (including copyright and other intellectual or industrial property rights) will remain the property of the contracting authority; that is, EIT Manufacturing. The rights will be obtained for the full term of intellectual property protection. Delivery and approval of Mentorship Assignments are considered to constitute an effective assignment of rights to EIT M.

Data protection

Mentor's personal data will be used strictly for the purposes of evaluating Applications, signing Mentorship Contracts, and reviewing the Mentorship Contracts signed. Data security and protection measures are in place to address potential data risks (including preventing unauthorized access to the Mentor's personal data).

Amendments

Mentorship Contracts may be amended unless the amendment entails changes to the Contract which would call into question the decision of awarding the Contract or lead to the breach of the principle of equal treatment. Amendments to the contract may be requested by both Contract parties in writing. The request for amendment must include the reasons for which it is made and all necessary supporting documents. Unless agreed otherwise, no new tasks can be undertaken until the Amendment has taken full effect, either, then, on the day of the last signature of the Amendment or another date, as agreed by both parties.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=celex%3A31995R2988>

Checks, audits and investigations

EIT Manufacturing Contracts may be subject to checks, audits and investigations (not only by the contracting authority, but also by the European Commission, and the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and European Court of Auditors (ECA), as provided for under their constitutive acts²) — both during and after the end of the Mentorship Contract.

Rejection — Reduction — Suspension — Termination — Recovery of undue amounts

EIT Manufacturing as the Contracting Authority may deny, withhold or reduce Mentorship fees if:

- Mentorship Assignments have not been delivered in accordance with the Mentorship Contract;
- Mentor has committed substantial errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations under the Contract or during the award of the Contract (including in terms of non-compliance with the conditions of the Call for Expression of Interest, false declarations or breach of Terms of Reference or the Code of Conduct).

Contracting Authority may terminate the Contract if Mentor's services are no longer needed or, the Contract cannot or, can no longer, be fulfilled and/or if substantial errors, irregularities, fraud or, serious breach of obligations have been identified under the Contract or during the award of the Contract (including in terms of non-compliance with the Call conditions, false declarations, breach of Terms of Reference or Code of Conduct), in particular if:

- the Mentorship Assignments have not been delivered or, is delivered poorly or, late;
- the Mentor has been found guilty of grave professional misconduct.

Liability

EIT Manufacturing as the Contracting Authority cannot be held liable for any damage caused to the Mentor (or any third party) as a consequence of performing the Contract.

Applicable law — Dispute settlement

The applicable law and dispute settlement mechanisms will be detailed in the Mentorship Contract.

²For the powers of OLAF, EPPO and ECA, see Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999 (OJ L 248, 18/09/2013, p. 1), Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/1996 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L 292, 15/11/1996, p. 2), Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 of 12 October 2017 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and Article 57 of EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046.