CALL / TOPIC DOSSIER

# Addressing homelessness through housing-led approaches aligned with the New European Bauhaus

Beautiful, inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods for communities

*A decoded reading of one funding call: what it asks for, what it will be judged on, and what you would have to commit to. Read it to decide whether this call is worth a proposal — then verify anything you rely on against the official call text before you write.*

## KEY FACTS

*The administrative frame of the call: how much money is available, how many projects will be funded, and by when you must apply. Check the budget per grant and the deadline first — they decide whether this call is worth your time before anything else does.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Call code | HORIZON-NEB-2026-01 |
| Topic code | HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-PARTICIPATION-01 |
| Programme | Horizon Europe |
| Status | Open |
| MGA Type | HORIZON Lump Sum Grant |
| Action Type | HORIZON Innovation Actions |
| Deadline model | single-stage |
| Opening date | 2026-05-05 00:00:00 |
| Deadline date | 2026-12-01 00:00:00 |
| Budget (EUR) | 12,600,000.0 |
| No. of grants | 2.0 |
| Budget / grant (EUR) | 6,300,000.0 |

## EXPECTED OUTCOME

*The changes the European Commission wants to see in the world because this project existed. Your proposal will be scored on how convincingly it promises these specific outcomes, so treat each one as a target you must explicitly claim and evidence.*

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Housing-led approaches [1] aligned with the NEB are made available to stakeholders involved in tackling homelessness [1] .
- Robust evidence on NEB-aligned housing-led approaches tackling homelessness (including people temporarily hosted by acquaintances and family) to inform the development and/or update of policies and services for prevention and early intervention in the context of the green transition [1] in neighbourhoods [1] .

## SCOPE

*What the project is actually supposed to do, and the boundaries of what counts. Read the activity lists closely: they are the Commission's own description of the work, and a proposal that skips one of them is usually marked down for incomplete coverage.*

Social and affordable housing is being advanced in the EU, including through the Affordable Housing Initiative [5] . Despite efforts, current policies for the green transition are failing to adequately address the housing crisis. Homelessness remains a structural challenge across Europe, with negative impacts on both individuals experiencing it (e.g. physical and mental health, social and economic conditions) and neighbourhood communities [1] (e.g. pressure on public services, erosion of social fabric [1] , etc.).

Research and innovation gaps in tackling homelessness range from data collection (i.e. the variety of approaches to defining, measuring and monitoring homelessness), to integrating housing-led approaches with resilience strategies for homeless populations in a climate-changing world.

Housing-led approaches cover diverse policy responses to homelessness that provide immediate and permanent access to housing, targeted prevention, and needs-based, person-centred support services across several areas of the individual’s life while giving homeless populations a high degree of choice and control.

This topic focuses on developing and/or updating housing-led approaches that apply NEB values [1] and principles [1] . Such approaches are expected to cover measures ranging from upstream preventive measures to those giving access to green, low-carbon, climate-resilient, health-promoting and socially inclusive housing that ensures quality of experience for homeless populations across neighbourhoods in urban, peri-urban and rural areas.

Proposals are expected to address all of the following:

- Refine and demonstrate at least three housing-led approaches in at least three neighbourhoods (in urban, peri-urban and rural areas) located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries, that:
  - Are adapted to the specific characteristics of the neighbourhoods where the approaches will be applied (e.g. existing local/national regulations, composition of the population, cultural differences, existing infrastructure, etc.).
  - Provide permanent housing to homeless people, as defined by the European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion [10] , complemented by services that (re-)integrate homeless populations in their local community.
  - Integrate plans for the green transition of the permanent housing, taking into consideration climate mitigation and adaptation aspects (for instance, through the inclusion of renewable energy solutions and/or nature-based solutions [11] ) and the social dimension of living conditions for a conflict-minimised cohabitation of different social groups.
  - Are co-created [1] with the targeted homeless populations, paying special attention to families with minor children, and people temporarily hosted by acquaintances and family.
  - Include measures to address the institutional barriers that hinder access to housing in the selected neighbourhoods.
  - Present the highest potential for replication and adaptability to local specificities.
- Develop and implement a methodology to monitor, analyse and document the effectiveness of the selected approaches in reducing homelessness compared to conventional approaches, building upon the European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion [10] . The methodology is expected to ensure the comparability of data and results across neighbourhoods.

Proposals are expected to follow a participatory [1] and transdisciplinary [1] approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines.

This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) [1] disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to produce meaningful and significant effects enhancing the societal impact of the related research activities.

Proposals are encouraged to explore synergies with successful proposals from the topic ‘HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-01: Structurally addressing homelessness through coordinated social infrastructure and services in neighbourhoods’ to exploit opportunities for increased impact.

Proposals are expected to allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings and learning, as well as to contribute to impact assessment.

REFERENCES (16) — FROM THE CALL TEXT


[1] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[2] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[3] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[4] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[5] European Commission, ‘Affordable Housing Initiative‘, European Commission website, accessed on 29 September 2025, https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/proximity-and-social-economy/social-economy-eu/affordable-housing-initiative_en

[6] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[7] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[8] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[9] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[10] FEANTSA, ’ETHOS Typology on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion’, accessed 26 August 2025, https://www.feantsa.org/en/toolkit/2005/04/01/ethos-typology-on-homelessness-and-housing-exclusion

[11] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[12] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[13] FEANTSA, ’ETHOS Typology on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion’, accessed 26 August 2025, https://www.feantsa.org/en/toolkit/2005/04/01/ethos-typology-on-homelessness-and-housing-exclusion

[14] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[15] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.

[16] See definition in the Glossary section of the NEB part of the HE WP26-27.


## DESTINATION

*The larger group of calls this one belongs to, and the shared goal that group serves. It tells you which policy conversation your proposal is joining, and which other funded projects the evaluators will have in mind when they read yours.*

Connecting the green transformation, social inclusion and local democracy (2026-27)

## IMPACT POSITION IN THE EC ARCHITECTURE

*Where this call sits in the chain that runs from the EU's political priorities down to this individual topic. Use it to frame your opening pitch in the language the Commission already uses for this area, rather than inventing your own framing.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Policy priorities | New European Bauhaus · Renovation Wave · KSO 1 · The green transition · KSO 3 · A more resilient, competitive, inclusive and democratic Europe |
| Expected impact (Destination) | New European Bauhaus — “Place-based, citizen-co-created transformation joining sustainability, aesthetics and inclusion.” (Horizon Europe - New European Bauhaus facility) |
| Demand signal | 37 organisations registered a partner-search on this topic |

> Outside the Pillar II clusters this strategic frame is context — expected impacts in this work programme part are not derived directly from the Strategic Plan.

## KEY IMPACT PATHWAYS & EC INDICATORS

*The standard measures the Commission uses to judge whether funded research paid off. These are the yardsticks your project will eventually be measured against, so quoting the matching indicator when you state your own targets makes your claims easy to score.*

KIP 6 · Strengthening the uptake of R&I in society (primary)

KIP 4 · Addressing EU policy priorities and global challenges through R&I (secondary)

| PATHWAY | HORIZON | INDICATOR TO MIRROR IN §2 |
|---|---|---|
| KIP 6 | short | Projects with citizen / end-user co-creation |
| | medium | Outreach / diffusion to citizens |
| | long | Societal uptake of R&I outputs |

## IMPACT WRITING BRIEF (PER EXPECTED OUTCOME)

*An analysis decoding some of the requirements for each stated outcome, who benefits, what angle the story could take, and which numbers you might use to prove it. Drafting suggestions to react to, not facts about the call.*

### 1 · NEB housing-led approaches available

> "aligned with the NEB are made available to stakeholders involved in tackling homelessness"

| | |
|---|---|
| Target groups | stakeholders tackling homelessness · housing providers and local authorities · the New European Bauhaus community |
| Narrative | Make NEB-aligned housing-led approaches to homelessness available to stakeholders — combining the Housing First evidence base with NEB values of beauty, sustainability and inclusion. |

| CANDIDATE KPI | BASELINE SOURCE |
|---|---|
| NEB-aligned housing-led approaches made available to homelessness stakeholders | current availability of NEB-aligned housing-led approaches |
| Stakeholders adopting the approaches | current housing-led approach uptake |

### 2 · Evidence for prevention policy

> "Robust evidence on NEB-aligned housing-led approaches tackling homelessness (including people temporarily hosted by acquaintances and family) to inform the development and/or update of policies and services for prevention and early intervention in the context of the green transition"

| | |
|---|---|
| Target groups | homelessness policymakers and service designers · researchers on homelessness · people experiencing hidden homelessness |
| Narrative | Generate robust evidence on NEB-aligned housing-led approaches — including hidden homelessness — to inform prevention and early-intervention policies and services. |

| CANDIDATE KPI | BASELINE SOURCE |
|---|---|
| Robust evidence on NEB-aligned housing-led approaches generated | current evidence on housing-led homelessness approaches |
| Policies/services for prevention/early intervention informed | current prevention/early-intervention policy basis |

## BARRIERS IN THIS DOMAIN (§2.1.2)

*The obstacles that typically stop work in this field from reaching real use, and ways proposals commonly answer them. Naming the barrier you face and your answer to it is usually stronger than implying the path is clear.*

| BARRIER | WHY IT BITES HERE | MITIGATION ANGLE |
|---|---|---|
| Persistent homelessness | the call targets housing-led approaches to homelessness | NEB-aligned housing-led (Housing First) approaches |
| Hidden homelessness | an outcome includes people temporarily hosted by family/acquaintances | evidence covering hidden homelessness |
| Evidence-to-policy gap | an outcome targets informing prevention/early-intervention policy | robust evidence; policy/service design |
| Aligning housing with NEB values | approaches must be NEB-aligned | beauty/sustainability/inclusion in housing-led approaches |

| | |
|---|---|
| Scale frame | How widespread: homelessness stakeholders, policymakers and people experiencing (incl. hidden) homelessness the approaches could reach. |
| Significance frame | Value of the benefit: evidence-based, NEB-aligned housing-led approaches to ending homelessness — anchor to the European Platform on Combatting Homelessness and the New European Bauhaus. |
| KIP 6 claim | Strengthens societal benefit: NEB-aligned housing-led approaches tackling homelessness, including hidden homelessness. |
| KIP 4 claim | Serves the European Platform on Combatting Homelessness and prevention/early-intervention policy priorities. |
| Dissemination | homelessness, housing-provider and New European Bauhaus communities · open evidence and NEB-aligned housing-led approaches |
| Communication | policymaker- and service-provider-facing communication |
| Exploitation | NEB-aligned housing-led approaches and evidence adopted into prevention/early-intervention policies and services |
| DNSH | Housing-led homelessness R&I — no plausible harm to the six EU-Taxonomy objectives. |

## DECODED REQUIREMENTS (11)

*Every obligation we could find stated in the call text, pulled out and listed as separate items, each with the exact sentence it came from. Use it as a checklist: each item is something your proposal has to visibly satisfy. Verify against the official call text before relying on it.*

### REQUIRED (10)

| REQUIREMENT | WHAT THE PROPOSAL MUST DO | EVIDENCE (VERBATIM) |
|---|---|---|
| Demonstrate >=3 housing-led approaches in >=3 areas | Refine and demonstrate at least three housing-led approaches in at least three neighbourhoods spanning urban, peri-urban and rural areas, in different Member States and/or Associated Countries. | Refine and demonstrate at least three housing-led approaches in at least three neighbourhoods (in urban, peri-urban and rural areas) located in different Member States and/or Associated Countries |
| Provide permanent housing per ETHOS typology | Provide permanent housing to homeless people (per ETHOS typology) complemented by reintegration services. | Provide permanent housing to homeless people, as defined by the European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion [10] , complemented by services that (re-)integrate homeless populations in their local community. |

| REQUIREMENT | WHAT THE PROPOSAL MUST DO | EVIDENCE (VERBATIM) |
|---|---|---|
| Integrate green transition of housing | Integrate green-transition plans for the housing covering climate mitigation/adaptation (e.g. renewables, nature-based solutions) and the social dimension of cohabitation. | Integrate plans for the green transition of the permanent housing, taking into consideration climate mitigation and adaptation aspects (for instance, through the inclusion of renewable energy solutions and/or nature-b... |
| Co-create with homeless populations | Co-create the approaches with targeted homeless populations, with special attention to families with minor children and people temporarily hosted by acquaintances/family. | Are co-created [1] with the targeted homeless populations, paying special attention to families with minor children, and people temporarily hosted by acquaintances and family. |
| Monitoring methodology vs conventional approaches | Develop and implement a methodology, building on the ETHOS typology, to monitor and document the effectiveness of the approaches in reducing homelessness vs conventional approaches, ensuring comparability across neighbourhoods. | Develop and implement a methodology to monitor, analyse and document the effectiveness of the selected approaches in reducing homelessness compared to conventional approaches, building upon the European Typology of Ho... |
| Address institutional barriers to housing | Include measures to address institutional barriers hindering access to housing in the selected neighbourhoods. | Include measures to address the institutional barriers that hinder access to housing in the selected neighbourhoods. |
| Participatory, transdisciplinary approach | Follow a participatory and transdisciplinary approach integrating different actors and disciplines. | Proposals are expected to follow a participatory [1] and transdisciplinary [1] approach through the integration of different actors and disciplines. |
| Mandatory SSH integration | Effectively integrate SSH disciplines, experts and institutions to enhance the societal impact of the research. | This topic requires the effective contribution of social sciences and humanities (SSH) [1] disciplines and the involvement of SSH experts, institutions as well as the inclusion of relevant SSH expertise, in order to p... |
| Allocate >=0.8% budget to NEB hub engagement | Allocate at least 0.8% of the budget to engage with the NEB hub for results and impact, sharing results and contributing to impact assessment. | Proposals are expected to allocate at least 0.8% of their budget for engaging with the Horizon Europe-funded 'New European Bauhaus hub for results and impact' to share their intermediate and final results, findings an... |
| Lump sum grant | Budget the proposal as a lump sum per the 7 July 2021 lump sum decision, using the detailed budget table (HE LS). | Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme |

## OPTIONAL (1)

| REQUIREMENT | WHAT THE PROPOSAL MUST DO | EVIDENCE (VERBATIM) |
|---|---|---|
| Synergies with BUSINESS-01 topic | Where possible, explore synergies with successful HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-01 projects to increase impact. | Proposals are encouraged to explore synergies with successful proposals from the topic ‘HORIZON-NEB-2026-01-BUSINESS-01: Structurally addressing homelessness through coordinated social infrastructure and services in n... |

We support research and innovation organisations in the design, preparation and management of European grant-funded projects. Our practice combines deep proposal-writing experience with structured knowledge capture and a working infrastructure that bridges proposal preparation and project implementation.

# We look forward to supporting you.

For partnerships or proposal development services, please reach out to:

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