

## The New European Bauhaus Academy

Upskilling for bio-based materials, circularity & sustainability in construction

### Call for Contributions

As one flagship initiative of the **European Year of Skills**, the New European Bauhaus (NEB) initiative **launches the NEBAcademy on skills for sustainable construction**.

The NEBAcademy will provide a coherent and accessible set of online and offline trainings at the European scale and promote **inter-regional exchange of skills and best practices**. The trainings will be developed with stakeholders from the construction ecosystem and delivered by structures recognized as **NEBAcademy Hubs** (e.g. universities, research centres, professional chambers...).

The University of Primorska (SI) will host the first NEBAcademy Hub. It will initiate the coordination of the trainings' development and delivery, and support networking among future Hubs.

**In this context, the New European Bauhaus calls for contributions to the NEBAcademy.**

Are you an education or training provider working at the forefront of sustainable construction? We invite you to contribute to the NEBAcademy, for example in sharing online learning materials, hosting courses, or organising activities such as summer schools or training workshops.

The trainings/learning materials can be in your local language and/or in English and tackle topics related to (among others): principles of sustainability, bio-based materials, digital technologies, or increased circularity in construction (see Annex 1, "What will the NEBAcademy teach?")

Please fill in the [following survey](#) to **share your contributions** to the NEBAcademy.

All contributions will be examined by experts in the field of sustainable construction, coordinated by the University of Primorska and the NEB Team at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre, and selected for their high-quality content and overall clarity (e.g. clearly defined target group(s), learning objectives...).

**SAVE THE DATE: the NEB Team will hold an online info session on the call on 18 April 2023 from 16:00 to 17:00 (CET).** The link will be shared on the NEB [website](#) on 11 April. Do not hesitate to join us to learn more about the NEBAcademy and how you can contribute to it!

Please contact [EC-New-European-Bauhaus@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EC-New-European-Bauhaus@ec.europa.eu) in case you have any question.

## Annex 1, Background information

### Why creating the NEBAcademy?

During the co-design phase of the New European Bauhaus (January – June 2021), it became clear that the **lack of skills and knowledge in the construction ecosystem** was a major obstacle to the transition towards a sustainable, digital, and inclusive future, but also a big opportunity to accelerate the needed changes.

Training modules are currently not sufficiently available or accessible to meet a rapidly growing skills demands and interest in the areas of sufficiency, circularity, and bio-based materials **for the construction ecosystem**. Due to the lack of information, architects and engineers often report reluctance to introduce bio-based materials or alternative construction techniques.

To address this issue, the NEBAcademy will provide both off- and online trainings for interested individuals and organisations across the whole construction ecosystem, understood broadly to include construction workers, architects, engineers, developers, and, at a later stage, financing institutions, insurance companies, public procurers, and policy-makers.

In its first phase, the NEBAcademy will focus on **training trainers** that can then offer modules in their home countries across the EU as well as **SMEs and micro-enterprises**, which represent 99.9% of the construction sector's 5.3 million companies.

### What will the NEBAcademy teach?

In line with the integrated approach of the New European Bauhaus, the NEBAcademy embraces a **systemic thinking around sustainable construction**, looking at all the phases and links in the sector's value chain.

Identified knowledge gaps and needs for scaling-up skills in the use of **bio-based materials, digital technologies, and increased circularity in construction** offer the first focus areas.

Learning materials may touch upon topics such as (among others): principles of sustainability, bio-based solutions (e.g. knowledge on wood: fire resistance, diversification of species, durability...), modular construction, maintenance and service life performance, cultural heritage, circularity and lifetime extension, inclusive design, regeneration, smart construction and integration of digital technologies in the design.

The NEBAcademy will **draw on pre-existing learning modules** (e.g. Erasmus Plus learning modules for the construction ecosystem, eLearning on Level(s), the EU assessment framework for sustainable buildings).

### How will the NEBAcademy be funded?

For the time being, there is **no EU funding available for the establishment of NEBAcademy Hubs or activities**. As the NEBAcademy develops, further funding could be allocated via European programmes or members of the NEB Community interested in contributing to the initiative.

The NEBAcademy online platform will be designed in cooperation with [DigiNEB](#).