

NEB Academy: How the NEB learns, tests, and scales

NEBA Workshop @ NEB Festival 2026

Brussels, June 11th 2026, 13:00-14:00 | Art & History Museum, Parc du Cinquantenaire | Co-hosted by the University of Primorska and InnovaWood



- The **New European Bauhaus Academy** is the European Commission's **flagship initiative** for skills development, knowledge, experimentation, and innovation enabling the clean transition of the construction sector. Initially launched by President von der Leyen in 2022 to address critical skills gaps in sustainable construction, the **NEB Academy is now evolving into a broader learning and innovation infrastructure for the New European Bauhaus**. Its mission is to help people, communities, and organizations access knowledge and inspiration from existing NEB projects, develop the skills needed to turn ideas into reality, and connect with the networks, partners, and environments that can support implementation and scale-up across Europe.
- The **NEB Academy Alliance** laid the foundation of the NEB Academy. Bringing together researchers and practitioners from 11 Member States, the Alliance mapped skills gaps and training opportunities in the European construction ecosystem and established the first five regional NEB Academy Hubs. The Hubs have piloted training models on bio-based materials, timber engineering, building design, circular economy, cultural heritage, digitalisation, and more. The NEB Academy's initial collection of open trainings can be consulted in the online *catalogue of courses*.

- The NEB Festival creates a place to understand people's needs and aspirations and showcase projects that successfully reflect them. In doing so, it demonstrates how an inclusive, sustainable and high-quality built environment can foster community, strengthen resilience and boost competitiveness. The biennial Festival showcases the best practices of the New European Bauhaus, the European Commission initiative that brings the clean transition to our built environments and improves everyday life for everyone. It aims to inspire communities to reimagine spaces, design better living environments and drive sustainability and inclusivity.

NEBA workshop programme

- **Welcome & Interactive Opening** – [Florence Kuijl](#), InnovaWood
- **The NEBA Alliance: Building a European Network of Training Hubs**
[Andreja Kutnar](#), University of Primorska, coordinator of the NEBA Alliance | Presentation of the NEBA Alliance vision, achievements, and future ambitions
- **NEBA North Hub: Co-Creating the NEB Across Estonia, Finland and Sweden**
[Sille Pihlak](#), EKA | Insights into regional collaboration, stakeholder engagement, and cross-border approaches to implementing the New European Bauhaus in Northern Europe.
- **Teaching the NEB to Architecture Students in Poland**
[Anetta Kepczynska-Walczak](#) & [Bartosz Walczak](#), Lodz University of Technology | Experiences and methodologies for integrating NEB principles into architectural education and design thinking.
- **The NEBA Alliance Open Platform: Connecting Knowledge, Training and Communities**
[Frank van der Hoeven](#), TU Delft | The NEBA Alliance open platform for training materials and its role in supporting collaboration, learning opportunities, and knowledge exchange.
- **Train-the-trainer concepts and learning materials in VET education (eLABoration Wood)** – [Stefan Leitner](#), Holzbau Austria | Lessons learnt from training pilots and [elaborationwood.at](#)
- **Closing Remarks & Next Steps**
Key takeaways and announcement and open call for hosting the 2nd NEB Academy Conference – [Andreja Kutnar](#)