

Urban space is taken into account as a whole for the purposes of the project. A high priority is given to the transformation of European cities, the structures of which are largely already built, densely populated and have evolved over time. Cities are confronted with the need to simultaneously adapt to climate change, design attractive urban blue-green infrastructures and implement the urban mobility transition. AdNEB will address urgent challenges and aims to propose and discuss integrated solutions. To do so, fields related to construction as well as the existing building stock, green and open spaces, health and well-being, environmental justice, climate change adaptation, as well as active and sustainable mobility will be integrated. The overarching goal is to achieve a better quality of life in cities. The project will:





- Examine construction and buildings as a source of pollution also in regards to the zero-pollution target of the European Green Deal,
- Analyse the impacts of the coronavirus-pandemic on inner cities and open spaces,
- Evaluate data related to health and living environments in Germany with a special focus on social inequalities,
- Analyse multifunctional built and landscape structures as well as their potential contribution to climate change adaptation,
- Research the opportunities for sustainable mobility in so-called Living Labs,
- Develop solutions to major obstacles facing large-scale implementation of sustainable construction methods.

By developing scientific concepts for environmentally and climate-friendly settlement structures with a high quality of life for all population groups, the project intends to contribute to the socio-ecological transformation of cities. For this purpose, various research strands of the German Environment Agency are brought together to answer these overarching questions.

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Research Project AdNEB „Advancing the New European Bauhaus“

Für Mensch & Umwelt

Umwelt 
Bundesamt

Background and Goals

The project “Advancing the New European Bauhaus: Sustainable Mobility and Resilient Urban Spaces for a Better Quality of Life – (AdNEB)” is an in-house research project of the German Environment Agency. It is inspired by the European Commission’s New European Bauhaus initiative. The initiative sets out to answer the question of where and how we will live in the future and how an ecologically sustainable, socially inclusive, healthy and attractive development of urban areas can succeed. The New European Bauhaus aims to establish creative meeting places where future ways of life can be designed ecologically while incorporating art, culture, social inclusion, science and technology in an inclusive manner. The EU initiative focuses heavily upon the existing building stock and the issues related to its transformation, the use of sustainable building materials and energy efficiency.

AdNEB aims to provide a conceptual, methodical and interdisciplinary contribution to the vision of the New European Bauhaus.



Aim of the Initiative New European Bauhaus: adaptation to climate change and a better quality of life

Work Programme



Overview of the work packages (WP) of the in-house research project

The AdNEB project will last from March 2022 until September 2025 and is split up into five work packages.

In work package 1 the approach of the New European Bauhaus is further developed through a concept of “three-fold inner urban development”, which looks to combine structural inner urban development with the qualification of green spaces and the transformation of mobility. Further, additional perspectives on sustainable urban development will be evaluated, including those gained from the spatial changes experienced by the coronavirus pandemic.

Work package 2 focusses on answers to relevant research questions on resilient, sustainable and health-promoting urban development. Here, the topics of environmental justice in urban settings, health-promoting aspects of active mobility and climate adaptation strategies are researched. An additional focus is set on the concept of the sponge city as well as blue-green infrastructures.

Work package 3 will research the potential impacts of temporary actions and so-called Living Labs upon the transformation of mobility. Such actions can create tangible changes and also provide important lessons about the impact of new designs. Aspects such as participation and inclusion are to be evaluated through the testing of environmentally friendly forms of mobility. Connections will be made to planned actions within the European Mobility Week.

Work package 4 will investigate the central contributions of construction within the context of the New European Bauhaus on the scientific and political level. Activities will focus on the relatively neglected role of sustainable construction in the existing building stock as well as energy renovations. Regulatory, societal and economic challenges as well as potential solutions will be identified together with German and European partners. This package aims to create a more direct connection between sustainable construction methods and the over-arching goals of public health, social inclusion and aesthetics.

Work package 5 is dedicated to a cross-thematic synthesis by bringing together the various objectives and thematic strands of the entire project and formulating conclusions and recommendations for decision-making related to the transformation of urban space. The goal of this synthesis is to support the attainment of climate neutrality, a high quality of life and adaptable, healthy and resilient structures.

The manifold project results will be made available throughout the duration of the project through conferences, workshops and scientific publications.