

Ignite NEB open call for hosts

Your community. Your challenges. Your solutions.

Become a local host & empower changemakers



What is Ignite NEB?

Ignite NEB supports **local organisations** to run a full innovation journey that helps people:

- turn ideas into real projects, start-ups or initiatives
- create their own jobs
- solve challenges in their own communities

Each selected partner will deliver:

(1) Ignite NEB event (Ideation + Celebration)

A local, inspiring, **2+ day hackathon-style experience** including:

- NEB Celebration (art, culture, performances)
- Ideation workshops (challenge → solution → pitch)
- Participants:
 - citizens & change makers
 - challenge owners (e.g. city, NGOs, industry)
 - coaches & mentors
- Pre-event sessions (training, team formation, challenge definition)
- Jury selects **two winning teams/ideas**
- *Should be delivered in September/October 2026*

(2) 8-month incubation programme

Supporting **winning teams** from the Ignite NEB event to:

- Develop their ideas
- Build and test prototypes
- Validate or co-design solutions with real users
- Develop business or implementation models
- Engage stakeholders and communities
- Create **new SMEs, start-ups, initiatives**

What do you get?

- Up to **€52,000** implementation budget per host
- Support from EIT Community NEB to deliver:
 - Ignite NEB event
 - peer group with other hosts across Europe
 - support in event design and promotion
 - Incubation programme
 - EIT Community NEB mentors assigned to winning teams
 - exchange with other programmes tapping into the pipeline of Ignite NEB winner projects
 - In-person gathering with NEB Changemakers across Europe

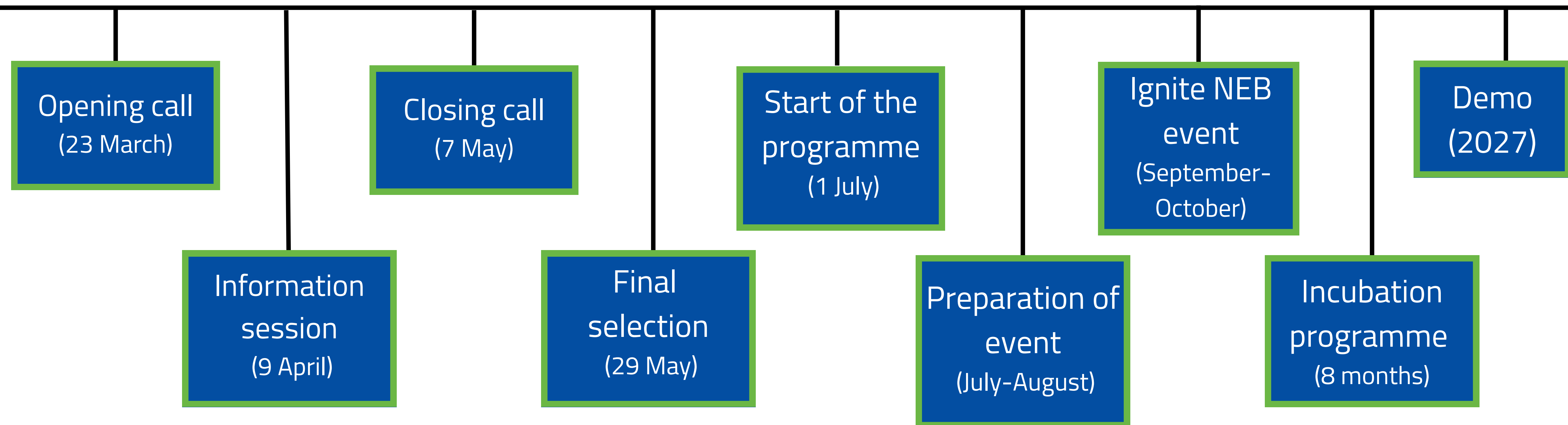
What are we looking for?

We are looking for organising partners or consortia that:

- Can mobilise local communities
- Have an entrepreneurial network
- Can support teams through idea → prototype → real-world testing
- Have experience in NEB-related fields (sustainability, design, culture, social innovation)
- Can provide or connect to:
 - mentors
 - prototyping spaces
 - local ecosystems (public, private, civil society)
- Have capacity for project, financial, and administrative management



Timeline




Checklist

You are:

- A legal entity or consortium
- Based in or connected to Europe
- Proposing activities in your location
- Experienced in community engagement/innovation/culture
- Are connected to an innovation network
- Have facilities for prototyping and testing
- Experienced in running similar events and processes

You can:

- Organise a **2+ day event + pre-sessions**
- Run a **8-month incubation programme**
- Support teams to reach **prototype and testing stage**
- Help create and set up **new ventures or initiatives**
- Manage budget and reporting

The EIT Community NEB is funded by the [European Institute of Innovation & Technology](#) and supports on-the-ground projects that embody the core [New European Bauhaus](#) values of sustainability, inclusivity and beauty.

How to apply:

- Go to neb.eitcommunity.eu
- Complete the online application form
 - *Take a look at the evaluation criteria in the Call manual!*
- Upload required documents:
 - Proof of incorporation
 - Proof of revenue or investment
- Submit by 7 May 2026

[Learn more here](#)

