



10 Mar 2025, online

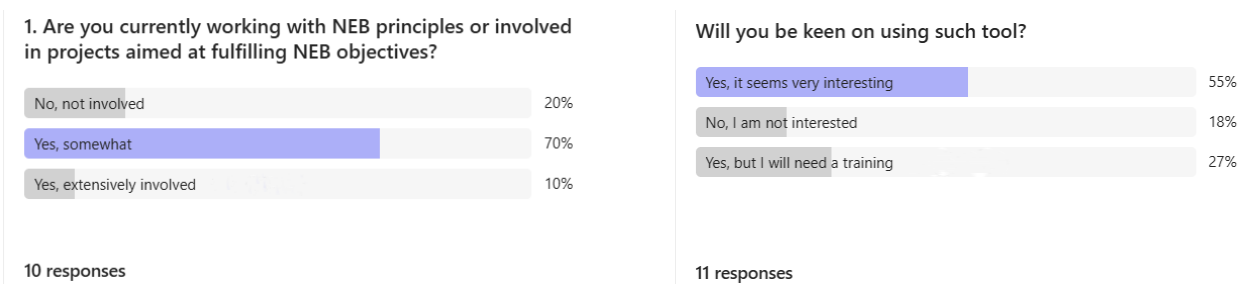
Workshop @#2 of the Community of Cities Initiative in the EHHUR project

The series of workshops

The workshops are part of the Eyes, Hearts, Hands: Urban Revolution (EHHUR) project, an initiative dedicated to creating a new Community of Cities. The initiative aims to bring together more than 50 city representatives to work together to implement the New European Bauhaus (NEB) framework by sharing ideas, addressing urban challenges and refining tools and guidelines. The aim is to provide concrete ideas on how to move towards more sustainable, inclusive and beautiful cities, learning from the EHHUR pilot sites and capturing the needs and challenges of city representatives and policymakers.

Insights from the polls

The workshop included polls organized through MS Teams to assess participants' familiarity with the NEB framework, values and principles and their perspectives on its implementation. Half of the participants (50%) said that they were "somewhat familiar" with the NEB, highlighting a basic understanding of the framework; it also shows that there remains room for increased awareness and capacity building to ensure wider adoption of the NEB values. When asked about their current involvement with the NEB in the second survey, 70% of the respondents indicated that they were "somewhat" involved in projects aimed at fulfilling NEB objectives. When further exploring the opportunity to use a dedicated tool that would support municipalities in making informed decisions while implementing the NEB principles, based on the best practices on the seven EHHUR Lighthouses, the majority of participants responded positively, and some highlighted the need for a specific training. This suggested that the NEB is a familiar concept for the audience, but its practical application is not straightforward.



Insights from the collaborative exercise

Participants were asked to work in groups in separate breakout rooms to discuss their priorities and preferences regarding the functionality of the Decision Support System (DSS) tool. In this second workshop, the exercise focused on the identification of challenges regarding the DSS tool input categories: participants

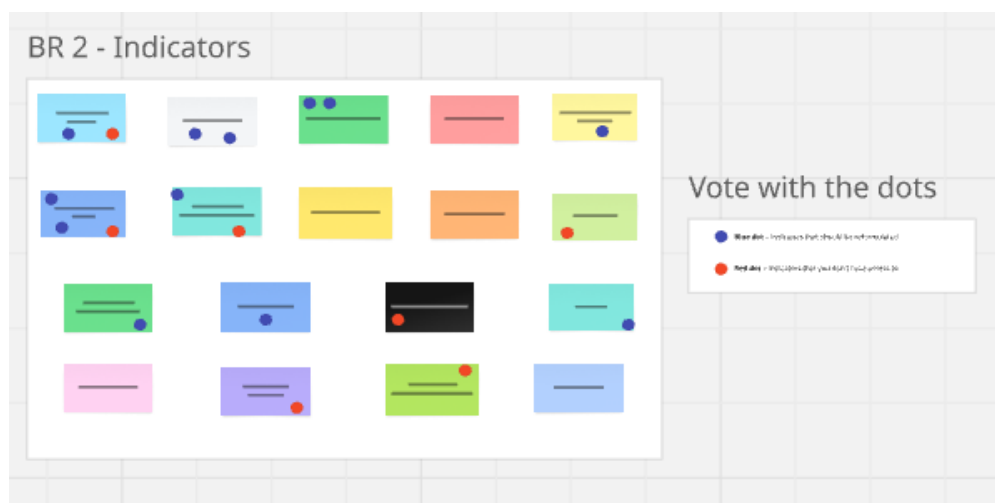


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engaged in a dot-voting exercise on categories that either required reformulation or could not be selected due to a lack of available data. The categories most frequently flagged for requiring a redrafting included “CO2 emissions of buildings”, “RES implementation”, “Total area affected by implementation”, “Existing network engagement”, “Tools/methods to engage stakeholders”, “Project phase for stakeholder engagement”, “objective of your engagement activities”, “Type of site” and “Financial resources”. These responses suggest a need to clarify definitions, standardize terminology, and ensure that the categories reflect the **practical language and workflows** used by municipal actors, especially in relation to the engagement of stakeholders.

On the other hand, categories such as “Investment costs”, “Potential revenue streams”, “Energy poverty/vulnerability”, “Primary energy consumption of buildings”, and again “CO2 emissions of buildings”, “Existing engagement network” and “Project phase for stakeholder engagement” were identified as lacking sufficient data. This highlights a significant challenge in aligning the DSS tool’s functionality with **real-world data availability**, particularly regarding economic and energy-related indicators.

Notably, “CO2 emissions of buildings”, “Existing engagement network” and “Project phase for stakeholder engagement” appeared in both lists, indicating they are simultaneously recognized as a crucial input presenting both conceptual and data-related barriers. This dual flagging points to a broader tension between the ambition of cities to address climate goals and the current capacity to track and measure key performance indicators.



The results of the breakout rooms emphasise the need for **clear and practical input definitions** and greater alignment with the realities of data access in municipal contexts. Financing and social measures emerged again as critical priorities, and the discussions highlighted the need for common definitions that support local decision-makers while acknowledging the constraints they face.

What’s next

The next workshop in the series is coming soon—stay tuned for further updates!

The EHHUR Project team