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Empowering Cultural & Creative Sector Professionals (CCI): Developing a New European Bauhaus (NEB) inspired, learning platform to drive sustainable cultural and economic transformation across Europe.

INCLUSIVE SUSTAINABLE BEAUTIFUL

NEWSLETTER 3 → October 2026

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Welcome to the 3rd Agents of Change Newsletter

Quick Reminder: Agents of Change (AoC) is an Erasmus+ project that aims to develop a New European Bauhaus inspired challenge-based capacity-building programme to empower cultural and creative professionals (CCI) and drive a sustainable cultural and economic change across Europe. What did the past 9 months bring?

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TURNING STRATEGY INTO LOCAL ACTION

Over the past year, the consortium finalised key foundational deliverables—including the NEBComp Competence Framework, the interactive NEB Map, development of the individual competency and
a Partner Meeting in Matera, Italy.



Moving to Implementation:

We are transitioning from framework design into field testing, co-creating micro-learning paths directly with local creative operators.

The Core Question:

How can local places become more beautiful, sustainable, and inclusive simultaneously by equipping creative workers with interdisciplinary leadership skills?

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CREATIVE MINDS. REAL CHANGE:
CO-CREATING THE AGENTS OF CHANGE PLATFORM

Something exciting is taking shape! The Agents of Change Learning Platform will officially launch in early 2027 — a dedicated space designed for cultural and creative professionals who want to lead sustainable, inclusive, and meaningful community transformations.

Right now, we are building it with the creative community! Across all project locations, in-person and online local labs are currently taking place with local creative professionals. Together, we are testing, validating, and co-creating the platform's resources, self-assessment tool, and learning modules to ensure they address real-world challenges.

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THE MARKATIA FESTIVAL IN PATRAS, GREECE

A Living Demonstration of NEB Values: **Organised by project partner MOSAIC / Culture & Creativity, the 3rd edition of the Markatia festival (25–27 September 2026) transformed the historic market quarter of Patras into a shared community stage.**



Heritage as a Place-Based Stage: **Turned local shops, open spaces, historic monuments, and workshops into interactive cultural sites.**

Community Co-Creation: **Demonstrating the conviction that lasting change happens when it is designed with communities, not for them.**

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LOCAL PILOT LABS:
TESTING & REFINING THE LEARNING PLATFORM

Hands-on Validation:

Following initial local workshops with CCI professionals in Sweden, Spain, Serbia, Poland, and Greece, partners are conducting local pilot labs.



Testing the Modules:

Creative operators test the 15-question self-assessment tool and preview micro-learning modules across the 4 core learning areas.

Early Feedback:

Spain, Sweden and Italy welcomed the content, while requesting easier navigation, clearer language and more time.
Italy combined quizzes with hands-on activities using sustainable materials.

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LOCAL PILOT LABS:
TESTING & REFINING THE LEARNING PLATFORM

Co-creating Solutions:

Participants work in local action groups to map real community challenges and explore creative solutions, connecting the learning materials with their own practice.



Local Ideas, Shared Learning:

In Spain, participants chose Valencia's Fallas festival as a focus for NEB-inspired solutions. In Sweden, they highlighted the platform's potential for collaborative workshops and project development.

Towards the European Lab:

Local feedback and ideas will inform the European pilot in Serbia in February 2027 and help refine the platform ahead of its 2027 public launch.

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LOCAL PILOT LABS: INSIGHTS

How did local creative professionals test and react to the Learning Platform & modules and how well did they fit in your local context?

ITALY:

"The learning platform and modules were well received; in particular, our local lab was attended mainly by local creative professionals with strong links to the world of craftsmanship, but also by young people working with 3D printing, sustainable materials, recycling and upcycling. One of the key aspects was to introduce them to certain skills they had not yet acquired within the NEB field, which could enhance their artistic – and in some cases, entrepreneurial ideas."

SPAIN:

"The platform is attractive in design, and the content seems a priori relevant for them in the scope of integrating the NEB principle to their work. They recognise the fundamental importance of the topics approached, even if in some cases they would appreciate to get more support at political level and from the administration to really be able to apply those in their projects. When developing new proposals (both public and private contexts), they recognise that applying the NEB might be a differentiator. So for this the platform is helpful. They like the possibility of interaction and knowledge check (activities), they request more time to go over full content."

SWEDEN:

"The learning platform and modules were well received; in particular, our local lab was attended mainly by local creative professionals with strong links to the world of craftsmanship, but also by young people working with 3D printing, sustainable materials, recycling and upcycling. One of the key aspects was to introduce them to certain skills they had not yet acquired within the NEB field, which could enhance their artistic – and in some cases, entrepreneurial ideas."

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LOCAL PILOT LABS: INSIGHTS

What was a key highlight or "aha moment" for participants?

ITALY:

“One of the highlights was combining the theoretical demonstration of the modules with the skills, quizzes and interactive sections of the platform, alongside practical, hands-on sessions at the venue hosting the event, where a range of innovative and sustainable equipment, fabrics and materials were already on hand for us to test and brainstorm ideas together”

SPAIN:

“Embrace everything at once and with a constantly changing environment: this is the main challenge that overwhelms participants, as they feel that their environment changes very fast and it results hard to follow this rhythm and remain creative. Debate about the fear of AI replacing human creativity.”

SWEDEN:

“”One key insight was the potential of the Learning Platform as a collaborative tool rather than just an individual learning resource. The feedback highlighted how the platform could support creative professionals in developing projects, exchanging ideas and learning together through guided workshops. As one participant suggested: "The platform has great potential in educational settings and facilitated workshops, where participants can develop projects and ideas together using the learning material as a foundation."

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LOCAL PILOT LABS: INSIGHTS

What main idea or solution came out of your lab?

ITALY:

“The Local Lab served as a trial run for the online platform and provided an opportunity to reflect on a number of issues relating to the NEB, craftsmanship and sustainability, acting as a starting point for maintaining contact with some of the professionals who took part – and who may be potential participants in the European Lab – with whom we can continue to exchange ideas over the coming months leading up to the meeting in Serbia in February 2027.”

SPAIN:

“Our participants took some homework home to work on a creative solution. We reviewed the different scenarios/challenges identified in our region, and participants first intend to work on the cultural/folkloric event of Fallas, as a specific challenge faced in Valencia with multiple facets. -> monuments, celebrations, fireworks, textiles… ”

SWEDEN:

“A key suggestion was to use the Learning Platform as a foundation for facilitated workshops, where participants can work together on creative ideas and projects. This approach could be further explored during the European pilot in Serbia in February 2027, combining learning with practical collaboration and networking. "

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DIESIS NETWORK EUROPEAN ONLINE LAB

Calling all social economy networks, cultural managers, and creative changemakers across Europe!

Diesis Network is hosting a dedicated virtual European Network Pilot Lab.

This online session brings together Diesis Network's member organisations and European network stakeholders to test our newly developed Learning Platform and micro-learning paths, gather key feedback, and help fine-tune the resources for creative professionals across the EU.

Join the Diesis Network European Online Lab:
Shape Our Learning Platform &
Friday, 27 November
10:00 – 11:00 AM CET

💻 **Where:**
Online (Virtual Network Lab)

REGISTER HERE

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AOC PARTNERS SERIES

Agents of Change would be nothing without the community that stands behind it, starting with the project consortium partners. Today, we would like to introduce you to two more partners of our 7-partner consortium:

Ipogeos 🇮🇹
Program Design (WP3 Lead)

A consortium founded in 2018, the European Year of Cultural Heritage, in Matera, European Capital of Culture 2019. Its mission is to promote innovation, both technological and process-related, applied to cultural heritage, art, and the creative sectors, bridging the gap between research and business. They focus on developing skills for professionals and companies in the Cultural and Creative Industries sector.

Diesis Network 🇪🇺
Communication & Dissemination (WP5 Lead)

One of the world's leading networks dedicated to advancing the social economy, social entrepreneurship and social innovation. Founded in 1997, they bring together a diverse community of members to strengthen democratic, people-centred economic models that prioritise social and environmental impact over profit.

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WHAT'S COMING IN EARLY 2027



Self-Assessment Tool:
Answer 15 practical questions to evaluate your starting point and unlock a tailored learning path.

15 Micro-Learning Modules:
Upskill across 4 core areas (Sustainability, Inclusivity, Aesthetic Exploration, and NEB Engagement) at Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced levels.

Challenge-Based Learning:
Apply New European Bauhaus values to local community projects and connect with European peers.

Stay tuned as our local labs progress and follow the Agents of Change website for updates from our co-creation journey! https://agentsofchange.erasmus.site/

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NEXT PROJECT MILESTONES

- Synthesising local lab feedback to refine the 15 learning modules.
- Platform development leading to the public launch in early 2027.
- Joint European Lab in Novi Sad, Serbia, 24-25 February
- Developing the Policy Toolkit & Replication Guidelines for European stakeholders.

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Kulturanova

MOSAIC

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