

Sustainable Helsinki

From Agenda to Action

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Helsinki



Helsinki in a nutshell

Population in Helsinki	656,920
Population in Helsinki Region	1,524,489
Average age of Helsinkians	40,9
Average size of households	1,7 persons
Employment rate (2020)	73,4 %
Number of libraries	45
Kilometres of cycling routes	1,200
Greenhouse gas emissions cut since 1990	26 %
Year Helsinki was founded	1550

Helsinki



SDGs and Helsinki

- Helsinki is committed to the goals of the UN Agenda 2030 and has published two VLR reports in 2019 and 2021.
- At the same time a Sustainable Helsinki website and indicator dashboard has been built <https://sustainable.helsinki/>
- The report includes an assessment of various themes, 60 sustainable development indicators and dozens of practical actions.
- Helsinki wants to promote co-operation with cities and UN actors - VLR reporting has already spread to almost 100 cities around the world
- Active co-operation with the Prime Minister's Office, the Association of Finnish Municipalities and the six cities - a joint project for the development of strategic SDG tools started 11/2021

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Helsinki City Strategy 2021-2025

” Sustainable growth is in balance with the prevailing ecological limitations, creating benefits that are socially, financially and culturally sustainable. We are proud to continue to evaluate and guide the development of Helsinki in line with the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals. ”

Voluntary Local Review

- Highlight the role of cities > A significant part of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals takes place at local level. Therefore, cities play a significant role in the success of the goals.
- Linking sustainability to city strategy objectives, measures and impact assessment
- Promoting the involvement of citizens and stakeholders
- More transparent presentation of development points
- Ensuring a sustainability perspective as part of the city's corona recovery measures
- Strengthening cooperation and networks internationally and locally
- Taking global responsibility into account

Helsinki

Helsinki

From Agenda to Action:
Implementation of the UN Sustainable
Development Goals in Helsinki

2021



The Helsinki approach

- The aim has been a clear and transparent VLR.
- The SDG targets have been examined from the perspective of Helsinki.
- The report includes an assessment of various themes, 60 sustainable development indicators and dozens of practical actions.



Key results from second VLR

- Helsinki has the ability to put sustainable development goals into practice and many projects are underway
- A broad look at sustainability still requires investment - what does the sustainability transformation mean for the city?
- A stronger identification of synergies, contradictions and effectiveness between different goals is important and the promotion of sustainability across the organization and between different programs is important.



Assessment of the achievement of SDG targets

- **Green** = The SDG target has been reached or is close to being achieved
- **Yellow** = There are challenges in achieving the SDG target
- **Red** = There are significant challenges in achieving the SDG target



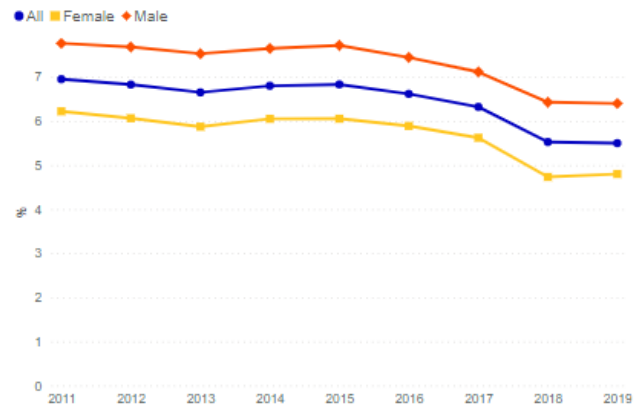
SDG –indicators

- 60 SDG indicators
- Also district-level indicators and indicators presented by different population and age groups

Helsinki **People - Education** Report page last updated 4.11.2021 4:00

- [← More](#)
[Educational structure](#)
[Out of education](#)
[NEET](#)
[Foreign language students](#)

Young adults (16-29 yrs.) not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET)



Select age group

- 16-19 years
- 16-29 years
- 20-24 years
- 25-29 years

Select language

- All
- Finnish
- Swedish
- Other

Source: Statistics Finland



Helsinki **Environment - Climate** Report page last updated 4.11.2021 4:00

- [CO2 emissions total](#)
[Per capita CO2 emissions](#)
[Renewable energy](#)
[Energy consumption](#)

Total CO2 emissions



Limit data by time period



Total CO2 emissions, t CO2-eq

2 360 000

Objective for 2030: 1 406 000
2020

Source: Helsinki Region Environmental Services HSY



Actions



Energy experts supporting housing companies

The Energy Renaissance team offers free help and advice from...



Physical Activity Programme

The aim is to encourage the city's residents to move...



OmaStadi participatory budgeting

Helsinki has allocated 8.8 million euros to realising residents' wishes....



Suburban regeneration

Positive change in old suburban areas increases well-being and achieves sustainable...



What we have learn?

- Helsinki's City Strategy is an ambitious and comprehensive document, and it corresponds with the UN Sustainable Development Goals very well
- Expanding the review to cover the entire organization provide a more in-depth understanding of the links between City operations and sustainable development goals.
- Indicators suitable for city-level monitoring of the UN goals should be developed further. The challenge is to develop a comparable set of indicators.
- Experts from all of City Divisions has to be involved in VLR process.
- We need to focus more to co-operation with external stakeholders and communication.
- We need to implement SDGs to the city's operational and financial planning and cross-cutting programs.

Goals for SDG coordination

- **Support strategically important sustainability goals and integrate sustainable development into programs**
 - Add an SDG connection to the city programs
 - Development of phenomenon-based / SDG budgeting
- **To support city divisions and city owned companies in their work on sustainable development**
 - Setting sustainability goals
 - Promoting sustainable procurement
- **Strengthens the understanding of sustainability issues**
 - Active external and internal communication
 - Electronic training package for staff
 - International cooperation and peer learning
- **Monitoring and reporting**
 - Annual follow-up / update on the sustainable Helsinki page
 - Voluntary Local Review (2023,2025)



Next steps

- We analyze and develop the implementation of SDG's goals in the city's operational and financial planning and cross-cutting programs
- Joint project of six biggest cities and Finnish association of Municipalities to development of SDG tools
- We develop staff skills and stakeholder cooperation
- We will begin the next VLR preparation in the fall of 2022



Thank you!



<https://sustainable.helsinki/> #SustainableHelsinki

Helsinki