



Helsinki-Uusimaa
Region



Centre for Economic Development,
Transport and the Environment



THE HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGIONAL PROGRAMME

VISION AND STRATEGY 2040, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2014–2017

Publication of the Uusimaa Regional Council A31 - 2014
ISBN 978-952-448-388-9 (pdf)
ISSN 1236-679X

Translation: Tiina Sjølvgren
Layout: Anni Levonen
Pictures: Tuula Palaste-Eerola

Helsinki, Finland 2014

Uusimaa Regional Council // Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

Esterinportti 2 B • 00240 Helsinki • Finland
+358 9 4767 411 • toimisto@uudenmaanliitto.fi • uudenmaanliitto.fi

THE HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGIONAL PROGRAMME

VISION AND STRATEGY 2040
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2014–2017

HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGIONAL PROGRAMME

THE HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGION – ON TOP OF THE BALTIC SEA REGION	6
WHAT IS THE HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGIONAL PROGRAMME?	7
Regional programming in Finland	7
THE VISION OF HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGION 2040	9
" Helsinki-Uusimaa – On Top of the Baltic Sea Region"	9
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2040	10
Cradle for Smart Growth	10
Easy to Reach and Live and Work In	11
Clean and Beautiful Helsinki-Uusimaa Region	12
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2014–2017	13
Smart Specialisation as the Framework for Strategic Choices	14
Implementing and Monitoring the Programme	14
Impact Assessment	14
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 : OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH	15
1.1. Open Development Environments and Intelligent Services	16
1.2. Regenerating Business	17
1.3. Environmental Business – Cleantech	17
1.4. Urban Food Services	18
1.5. Growth from the East	19
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: WELL-FUNCTIONING EVERYDAY LIFE	20
2.1. Intelligent and Smooth Traffic	21
2.2. Comfortable Housing and Living Environment	22
2.3. Good Work!	23
2.4. Immigration and Integration	23
2.5. Localness, Local Democracy and Youth Participation	24
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: SUSTAINABLE ECOLOGY	25
3.1. Natural Diversity and Natural Resources	26
3.2. Improving the State of Waterways and the Baltic Sea	26
3.3. Environmentally Smart Lifestyle	27
3.4. Carbon Neutral Helsinki-Uusimaa Region	28
Financial Sources for the Implementation of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme	29
Environmental Report: A Summary	30
Matrix for Impact Assessment	31
Appendix 1. Premises of Development	32
Appendix 2. Smart Specialization of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region	47
Appendix 3: Terms Used in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme	48

OUTLINE DESCRIPTION OF PUBLICATION

Title

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme – Vision and Strategy 2040 – Strategic Priorities 2014–2017

Author(s)

Uusimaa Regional Council

Report written by

Eero Venäläinen, Lauri Kuukasjärvi, Vesa Lipponen

Title of series and publication no.

Publication of the Uusimaa Regional Council A31 - 2014

Date of publication

2014

ISBN

978-952-448-388-9 (pdf)

ISSN

1236-679X

Language of publication

English

No. of pages

50

Abstract

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region has reviewed and clarified its regional planning. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme has been drawn up as a co-operation between The Uusimaa Regional Council and The Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY). The programme includes a vision and a strategy 2040 as well as strategic choices for 2014-2017.

The programme is based on nationwide regional development and usage targets, Uusimaa regional plan 2033, regional land use plans as well as other regional plans that have an impact on regional development. When the programme was drawn up, its impact on the work of municipalities, regional authorities and the regional council of Uusimaa was ascertained.

The vision for 2040 is "The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region – on top of the Baltic Sea Region". This means creating and taking advantage of economic and mental growth, enabling a practical everyday life for the inhabitants and arranging activities in an ecologically and economically sustainable way.

There are three strategic development goals for 2040. "Platform for intelligent growth" is based on sustainable development and intelligent solutions. "Easy to reach and live and work in" puts an emphasis on effortless transport, working and functioning, and an agreeable living environment. "Clean and beautiful Helsinki-Uusimaa Region" emphasizes a sensible use of natural resources, maintenance of natural diversity, and becoming carbon neutral.

The strategic choices for 2014–2017 are "Opportunities for Growth", "Practical Everyday Life" and "Sustainable Ecology". These choices are based on the premises presented in the vision and strategy of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme, and on the special characteristics and opportunities of region. The choices are geared towards a balanced development of the different areas in the region. The municipalities' strategic development objectives are also a part of the foundation of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme. The choices focus on the division of labour between various EU funding instruments and national funding, and to the utilisation of different funding programmes.

Key words

Regional planning, Uusimaa, Helsinki-Uusimaa region, Strategic planning, Opportunities for growth, Practical everyday life, Sustainable ecology, The Uusimaa Regional Council, The Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY)

Note

A PDF version of the publication can be found on our website: www.uudenmaanliitto.fi/julkaisut. The publication is published both in Finnish and in Swedish.

THE HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGION – ON TOP OF THE BALTIC SEA REGION

Helsinki-Uusimaa reviews and clarifies its regional planning. For the first time, vision and strategy (regional plan for 2040) and strategic priorities (regional development programme 2014–2017) have been drawn up in a joint process and as a co-operation between Uusimaa Regional Council and The Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Uusimaa (ELY). During the process, the objectives of the next regional land use plan have also been identified. The work has resulted in **the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme**. The so called implementation plan is a part of the programme. The plan includes a list of priority projects for implementing the programme.

Regional development is mainly the responsibility of the municipalities and the state agencies. The practical development work is extensive and done in co-operation across administrative boundaries. Different actors in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region play an important role in this work. The feasibility of plans and actions is higher when different authorities and actors are working in close collaboration with each other. Co-operation is needed when drawing up development plans and programmes, and implementing projects and actions. In addition, the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme is an instrument for the implementation of regional land use plans.

The Programme has been developed in an open interaction with municipal decision-makers, business developers, enterprises, the educational sector, NGOs, and inhabitants. The aim is to describe the general approach and strategic guidelines for regional development, the regional

development objectives based on regional features and possibilities, as well as actions needed in order to achieve the objectives for future development.

The Programme is based on nationwide regional development and land use targets, regional strategies according to sectors to administrate, regional strategies, Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Plan 2033, regional land use plans as well as other regional plans that have an impact on regional development. When the Programme was drawn up, its impact on the work of municipalities, regional authorities and Uusimaa Regional Council was ascertained.

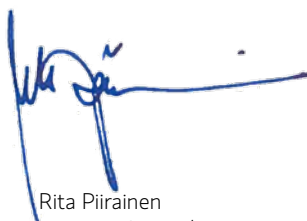
The newest strategies adopted by the municipalities and regions in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, the scenario work Uusimaa 2040 implemented in the metropolitan area in 2012, and the future study Siivet ja juuret (Wings and roots) have all built a strong strategic foundation for the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme. The European Union's strategy 2020 and the smart specialization approach have been an important frame of reference in the preparation of the programme.

Setting up the programme has been an inspiring journey and an ambitious move towards a new way of regional planning. The Uusimaa Regional Council and the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region for Uusimaa (ELY) will support the strategic priorities made in this Programme. We hope that the good collaboration continues, that regional actors make good use of the programme and that the result of this is Helsinki-Uusimaa – on top of the Baltic Sea Region.

Helsinki, 11 December 2013



Ossi Savolainen
Regional Mayor
Helsinki-Uusimaa Region



Rita Piirainen
Director General
Centre for Economic Development,
Transport and the Environment in for Uusimaa



WHAT IS THE HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGIONAL PROGRAMME?

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme is a Regional Strategic Plan and a Programme of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. It sets out the general long-term development aims and associated strategies for the region. The programme also outlines the central development projects and other activities for the following four-year period.

The programme is produced by The Uusimaa Regional Council in close co-operation with the regions municipalities and other actors in the region. The target of the programme is to lift put Helsinki-Uusimaa Region among top actors in the Baltic Sea Region by 2040.

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme combines two major instruments of the Finnish regional development: a long-term Regional Strategic Plan and a four-year period Regional Programme, which are combined into one single, effective programme.

The aims of The Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme are carried out with the help of a more detailed, annual Regional Implementation Plan. It outlines the actors for individual projects and preliminary project budgets stated in the programme.

Regional programming in Finland

In Finland, there are altogether 18 regional councils, which are formed by municipalities. The councils have two main functions laid down by law: regional development and regional land use planning. In their planning, the regional councils take account of the national targets set by the Government and ministries.

All regional councils produce:

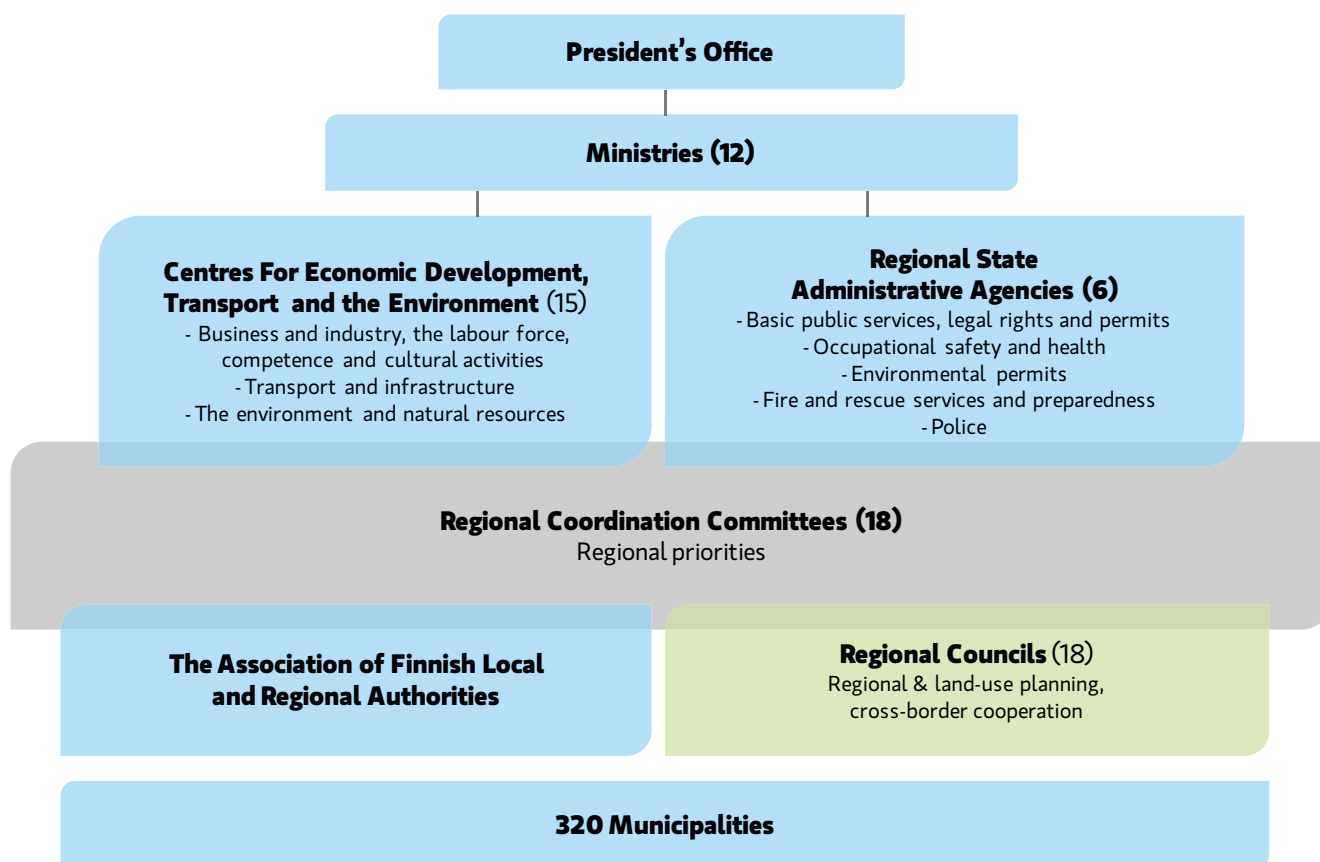
- Regional Strategic Plan (long-term)
- Regional Programme (four-year period)
- Regional Land Use Plan (long-term)
- Regional Implementation Plans (annual)

The plans and programs of regional councils have mandatory legal consequences. Local and national government authorities must take account of the councils' plans and programmes in their own action.

Regional development is intersectoral in nature. The better the cooperation between different administrative sectors, the more effective the measures employed.

Government and Public Sector in Finland

Summary of Main Institutions



Uusimaa Regional Council

- Serves as regional development authority in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region
- Is responsible for developing the only metropolitan region in Finland
- Consists of 26 municipalities situated in southern Finland
- Is governed by a regional assembly and a regional board assisted by the council office, run by Regional Mayor Ossi Savolainen

Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

- Is home to almost 1,6 million inhabitants, which is more than a quarter of the country's total population.
- Is the most urbanized area in Finland, but outside the metropolitan region there are still small towns, villages and rural areas
- Is situated on the south coast of Finland, with the Baltic Sea playing a major role in the region's life

THE VISION OF HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGION 2040

"HELSINKI-UUSIMAA – ON TOP OF THE BALTIC SEA REGION"

In 2040, Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will be on top of the Baltic Sea Region when it comes to creating and taking advantage of socio-economic growth, enabling a well-functioning everyday life for its inhabitants and arranging activities in an ecologically and economically sustainable way.

Global economy and the challenges it poses is the starting point for future work. The development of Asia, USA and the so called BRIICS countries is important even for the economic growth and business development in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. The development objective of the EU countries has been defined in the EU2020 strategy. Helsinki-Uusimaa Region plans its activities and estimates the results of these activities on a regional level, as a part of Finland's economic and innovation system, in the Gulf of Finland and in the Baltic Sea Region, as a part of Europe and in relation to Russia and Asia.

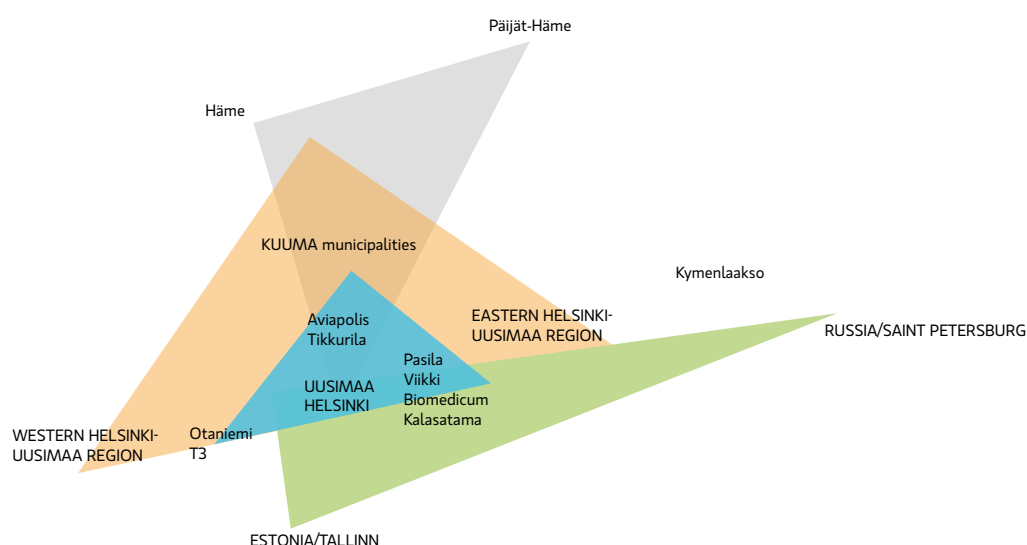
The triangles in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme describe the direction of growth and collaboration in the coming years. The core is **the spearhead triangle of the metropolitan area** formed by the T3 area in Espoo (T3 stands for the economy, art and science), the Aviapolis area in Vantaa as well

as the regional centres of Viikki-Biomedicum-Pasila-Kalasatama in Helsinki. In addition, Western, Central and Eastern Helsinki-Uusimaa Region interlink in the spearhead triangle with their own strengths forming **the growth triangle of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region**.

The development triangle of the metropolitan area consists of the regions of Häme, Päijät-Häme and Helsinki. When the perspective is further extended, the result is **the future triangle of the Gulf of Finland**, which consists of the cities of Tallinn, Helsinki and Saint Petersburg. Helsinki and Tallinn regions are in close collaboration with each other, and daily contacts are vital for both. The twin city of Tallinn-Helsinki is already a fact.

Northern Growth Corridor Stockholm-Saint Petersburg connects Helsinki-Uusimaa Region with two of its most important trading partners and re-establishes a historical connection between the East and the West. Growing trade, tourism and interaction means that a triplet city of Tallinn-Helsinki-Saint Petersburg is becoming more and more a reality in the future.

Figure 1. Growth and co-operation triangles in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region (see appendix 1 on page 31)



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2040

The strategic development objectives of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region for the period up to 2040 are to make the Region:

1. CRADLE FOR SMART GROWTH – foundation in sustainable development and intelligent solutions.
2. EASY TO REACH AND LIVE AND WORK IN – emphasis on effortless transport, working and functioning, and an agreeable living environment.
3. CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL – sensible use of natural resources, maintenance of biodiversity, and becoming carbon neutral.

Cradle for Smart Growth

In 2040, the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will be:

- the most competitive region in the Baltic Sea Region.
- one of the most important information technology utilising innovation hubs for sustainable growth.
- making the most of its logistic position in the future triangle of the Gulf of Finland.

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is the centre of Finland's economic activity. Its strengths are skilled people; a research and education environment that is of high international quality; and a versatile business landscape and the basis it creates for innovations. There is a concentration of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large companies in the area – both Finnish and international ones. The region's industrial structure is extremely versatile and its population structure highly international. In fact, 55% of Finland's non-Finnish speakers reside in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. The region is easily accessible both on the national and regional level. It is, nevertheless, vital to ensure and develop connections to international markets. To this end, the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region has a fast rail link to Russia, good flight connections to Europe and Asia, and frequent maritime connections to Tallinn, Stockholm and Saint Petersburg.

The challenges that concern Finland's

international competitiveness are especially relevant in this region. Maintaining and enhancing economic competitiveness requires continual economic investment and competence development, and the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region has good prerequisites to grow and to sustain that growth. The decisions taken in this region are vital for the future of entire Finland.

An important strategic development objective of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme is to generate intelligent and sustainable growth and to secure the region's place among the leading thriving areas in Europe. The successful achievement of this objective requires enhancing the region's innovation ability and regional and national innovation systems; maintaining a high-quality competence base; creating an encouraging atmosphere for new companies and start-ups; favouring renewable energy; and improving the services and logistics systems necessary for business.

Intelligent and sustainable growth requires the utilisation of the region's full potential and particular attention to its three largest innovation hubs. Internationally significant investments that focus on Espoo, Helsinki and Vantaa provide an excellent growth base for innovations. With the right measures and policies, the entire Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will be able to reap the benefits.



Easy to Reach and Live and Work In

In 2040:

- Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will have an intelligent public transport system in operation.
- Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's urban structure will be integrated.
- the living conditions in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will be at the leading edge internationally.

The second strategic objective of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme concerns the residents, housing, working and leisure in the region. Its most important dimensions are work and livelihood, smooth transport, good housing and living environments, and active participation in the immediate surroundings and society at large. Transport impacts the daily lives of families and other residents; the objective of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme is therefore to ensure smooth transport connections that are easy to use and environmentally sustainable. Ease of use is pursued with continual and comprehensive enhancement of the system that guides traffic and transport flows, and sustainability is pursued by favouring public transport, cycling and walking.

Housing and living environments are the foundation of a well-functioning everyday life. Crucial to this are a versatile housing base and the central location of accommodation, jobs, services and green areas so as to reduce the need for transportation altogether. A better integration of urban structure also positively impacts the provision of housing, services and other everyday functions as well as

environmental sustainability. These can be impacted on the regional level for example by steering the development work of municipalities and other parties using programmes, projects and planning.

The themes of inclusion and participation concern all citizens, but especially young people and immigrants. Attention is focused on matters related to young people's participation, enhancement of the employment rate, inclusion

of immigrants, and everyday safety while observing the crucial role of work and entrepreneurship in the prevention of exclusion. Employing young people is an effective means to strengthen inclusion and participation. Participation and local democracy bring about multiple benefits, such as a better engagement of residents to their living environment and its development, enhanced safety and a smoothly running everyday life.

The dependency ratio in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is the best in the country, and the volume of working age population keeps growing, mainly thanks to the increase in immigrant population. The working population needs affordable housing that is located close to public transport and services. As the demographic change progresses, the need of workforce in the social and health care sectors continues to grow, and these industries will need a significant increase in the number of employees to secure their service provision for the needs of the welfare society.

The strengths of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region are bilingualism, internationality and skilled population. The region has both metropolitan and non-urban features. To attract new jobs and employees in the future, the region should invest particularly in quality-of-life issues, life-long education, a working culture that adapts to different life situations, and a good living environment. It also needs to reduce the share of workforce on disability pensions and to facilitate access to working life for young people, immigrants and people who are disadvantaged on the job market.

Clean and Beautiful Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

In 2040,

- the state of waterways will be good.
- the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will be carbon neutral (by 2050).
- natural diversity will be safeguarded in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.

The third strategic objective of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme for 2040 is a clean and beautiful Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. This is pursued from the perspectives of carbon neutrality, cleanliness of waterways, and natural diversity. Generating and retaining the beauty and cleanliness of the environment requires controlled population growth and brisk economic activity, as well as sufficient attention to the quality of the living environment and to the efficient resource utilisation of production activities in urban, residential and non-urban areas alike.

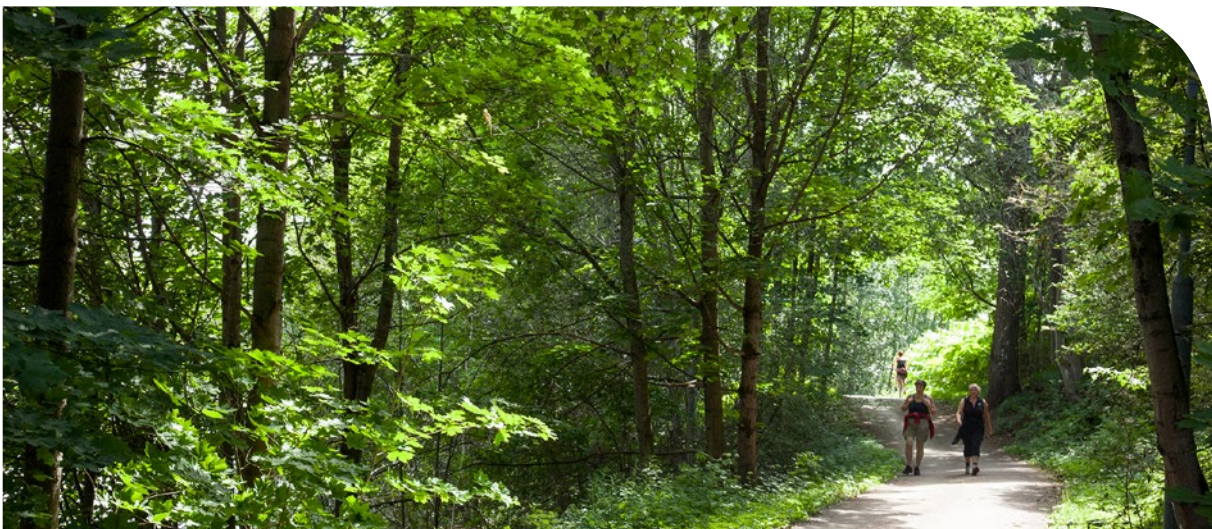
Becoming carbon neutral is both an opportunity and strength for the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region: fossil fuels are mainly imported goods. To enhance versatility, diversified energy production is developed, and the use of renewable energy sources and fuels is increased without compromising the benefits of heat and electricity cogeneration. Increasing consumers' awareness of energy use and energy efficiency supports the objective of becoming carbon neutral.

Forests, fields, waterways and other natural environments form the green backbone of the

entire region. The planning and improvement of green spaces is particularly important in urban and residential areas, where the volume of available land is reducing while the population is growing.

The Baltic Sea is one of the worst polluted seas in the world, and the Gulf of Finland is its most heavily burdened area. Finland is not alone in carrying the responsibility for the Baltic Sea, but the current state of the coastal waters in the Gulf of Finland is mainly the consequence of our own actions. One of the main sources of nutrients and causes of eutrophication in the Baltic Sea is agriculture. Improving the state of the Baltic Sea is a matter of local, national and international priority.

Environmental challenges can be solved with regulations, taxation, agreements, and other means. The power of citizens, consumers and various other players has been found to be highly effective: it steers policymakers, entrepreneurs, authorities and all other players towards heightened environmental responsibility. Awareness also motivates people to make sustainable choices and pursue a sustainable lifestyle. The promotion of environmental awareness forms the backbone of promoting the other sustainable development objectives as well. The currently valid government programme includes the objective of making Finns the world's most environmentally aware people. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is a pioneer in the Baltic Sea area and takes up on the challenge of increasing environmental awareness.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2014–2017

The strategic priorities of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region form sets of measures for implementing the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region vision and the most important objectives.

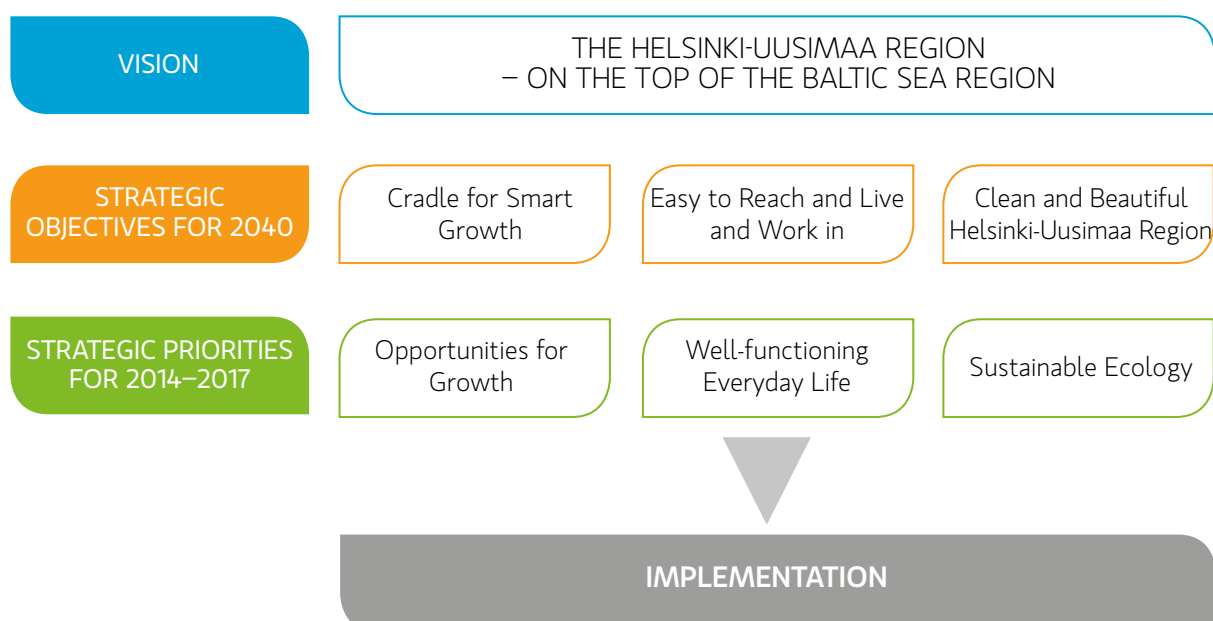
The strategic priorities of the 2014–2017 Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme are: Opportunities for Growth, Practical Everyday Life, and Sustainable Ecology. These priorities are based on the premises presented in the vision and strategy of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme, and on the special characteristics and opportunities of region. The priorities are geared towards a balanced development of the different areas in the region. The municipalities' development objectives are also a part of the foundation of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme: the work is based on an analysis of municipalities' strategic development objectives and priorities. From the programme implementation perspective, the choices focus on the division of labour between various EU funding instruments and national funding, and to the utilisation of different funding programmes.

The preparation of the Helsinki-Uusimaa

Regional Programme acknowledged the fact that the Regional Development Act (602/2002) and the Structural Fund Act (1401/2006) were under review when this programme was written. The ongoing municipality reform has also impacted the drafting of this programme. However, assessing the impact of the upcoming unified administration model in the Helsinki metropolitan area is more difficult. The strategic priorities of this programme can nevertheless be implemented in a flexible manner, independently of the upcoming administration reforms. Broad strategic development projects in the collaboration area (entailing the Helsinki, Kanta-Häme and Päijät-Häme regions) have been prepared based on the futures review work (Siivet ja juuret, 'Wings and roots') and will be highlighted in the programme's implementation plan.

The following issues were observed when selecting the strategic priorities: enhancing people's engagement and resources; making use of the Baltic Sea area and responding to its challenges; and regional specialisation and collaboration. These permeating perspectives were identified

Figure 2. The vision, strategy and strategic priorities of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme govern its implementation.



as important for the future in the scenario work preceding the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region Programme.

Smart Specialisation as the Framework for Strategic Choices

The European Commission has actively highlighted the regional design of research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3) in the preparation for the 2014–2020 programming period. The Finnish Ministry of Employment and the Economy has also emphasised the importance of smart specialisation for growth, and instructed the Finnish regions to use these strategies in the preparation of their regional programmes.

Smart specialisation is a strategic approach to economic growth, which uses carefully targeted R&D investments. On the regional level, the objective of smart specialisation is to utilise the region's competence potential. This requires creating a vision, identifying competitive advantages, and making strategic choices.

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme is based on the choices and solutions of the entire region and its individual areas, which have been presented for example in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region competitiveness strategy, Open Cities programme, growth agreements of towns and cities, and the preparation documents of the Innovative Cities Programme. The smart specialisation choices in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region are presented in a matrix, which can be found in Appendix 2.

Implementing and Monitoring the Programme

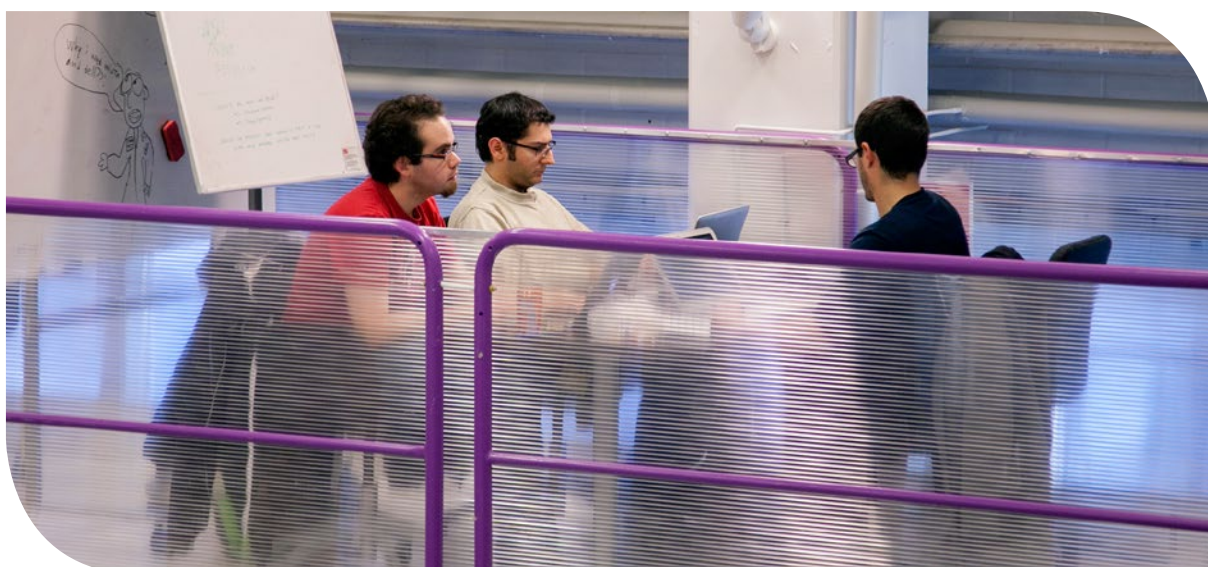
The strategic priorities for 2014–2017 presented in this document are collected into sets of spearhead projects and measures in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme's 2014–2015 implementation plan. The implementation of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme will be complemented on a rolling basis in accordance with the decisions and guidelines of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region Collaboration Board. The implementation is monitored annually based on the strategic choices, implemented actions and achieved results.

The region's development is monitored with approximately 20 indicators that describe the state of well-being, the economy and the environment, and are collected together into a single GPI indicator. The region's general economic development is described with GDP.

The impacts and results of the sets of spearhead projects presented in the implementation plan are evaluated on a project level.

Impact Assessment

The environmental and other impacts of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme were assessed during the programme's preparation. A summary and an evaluation matrix of these impacts can be found on pages 28–29. The full environmental declaration is an independent document.





STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is the most important hub of economic activity and population in Finland. The strengths of the region are a versatile business landscape and an educational environment that is of international high quality, both of which lay a firm foundation for innovations. The region's competitive advantage comes from high competence, comprehensive services and innovative product development. The focus of development in industrial and commercial activity lies in knowledge-intensive fields. To this end, the universities and the universities of applied sciences play a crucial role as they nurture experts for the future. They create the preconditions for innovations and for the development of working life and the operations of businesses and organisations.

Increasing collaboration between municipalities is needed in order for the metropolitan area to function as a 'smart region' and for the strengths of the different areas in the region to be fully utilised. A smartly specialising metropolitan area makes use of

the opportunities that information technology, open data, participation and new innovation platforms (real life development environments) provide for services and business. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is the most well-equipped region in Finland to utilise creative economy and creative competence. For example, both media and gaming industries are new, rapidly growing industries that operate directly in international markets.

The greatest opportunity for new growth in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is brought about by the move to a global digital economy. Digital services are the most rapidly growing area of business in the world. Almost half of the world's population – up to three billion people – will be online by the year 2016. The impact of intelligent digital services and the internet also extends to traditional livelihoods across geographical borders. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is well prepared to make use of this international opportunity. The development and application of ICT requires constant attention because the industry

is undergoing significant changes and is a growth enabler for most industries.

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is Finland's strongest entrepreneurial area. Even so, it needs new, young entrepreneurs. Nurturing an atmosphere that is conducive to entrepreneurship and integrating entrepreneurial education at different levels of education promote the development of a flourishing entrepreneurial culture. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region needs many kinds of entrepreneurs: existing businesses need new hands on deck in their succession, and the region needs more start-ups and companies driven towards exports. Immigrants are also often potential new entrepreneurs.

The EU has made a decision about the construction of a significant LNG (liquefied natural gas) terminal in the Baltic Sea region; the terminal is currently being planned. In the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, potential locations include (primarily) Inkoo and (secondarily) the Porvoo area. Thanks to the terminal, Finland's energy production can become more diversified and the much-needed competition in energy generation and import can be created. If realised, the project will enhance opportunities for economic growth also in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.

The Ring Rail Line and the western metro (Länsimetro) line extension are highly significant transport solutions that impact traffic, housing construction and location of businesses. These nationally significant infrastructures must be utilised to the fullest in generating economic growth in the region.

The logistical situation in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is excellent thanks to direct flight connections that enable the region to act as a gateway between Europe and Asia. Measured by sales turnover, Russia is Finland's most important export country. Russia's economic significance has recently declined, but it is worth looking east for internationalisation and growth as the economic crisis in Europe continues. Finnish businesses are interested in Russian and Asian markets for example in the cleantech and food industries. Private consumption in Russia keeps growing, which increases food consumption and the demand for processed foodstuffs.

1.1. Open Development Environments and Intelligent Services

The strengths of innovation activity in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region stem from a user-driven and

open operational model that is based on real-life development environments, which can, for their part, actively support both local and international R&D projects. The model brings together collaboration between universities, universities of applied sciences, municipalities, and SMEs.

The spearhead triangle of strong and internationally significant innovation centres in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is formed by the T3 area in Espoo (T3 stands for the economy, art and science), the Aviapolis area in Vantaa and the Forum Virium, Viikki, Arabianranta, Biomedicum and Kumpula hubs in Helsinki. Other regionally significant innovation centres include the Technology Center Techvilla in Hyvinkää, NOVAGO in Western Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, HighTechCenter in Kirkkonummi, and STOK-Electrical building services centre in Eastern Helsinki-Uusimaa Region as well as the Kilpilahti area, cleantech innovation environment in Porvoo. The development work is conducted not only in these large centres but also in projects related to everyday work and in premises where new innovations are tested in everyday life conditions. Open development environments allow innovators to experiment, succeed and fail; to do everything required to create successful innovations.

Opening GIS data, maps and other information sources enables the development of municipal services for example in construction, public transport, waste management, energy distribution and the well-being sector. The harmonisation of open data also increases new business opportunities.

Objective

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will be an international centre of innovations and a pioneer in the deployment of innovative products and services.

Measures

1. Support business and innovation through urban planning.
2. Support actions to remodel and network the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's innovation structure.
3. Promote the development of new service solutions by utilising open data and societal and social innovations.

4. Create pioneering markets for high competence products and SME services.
5. Add intelligence to public transport services and systems (digital services, etc.).
6. Support actions to raise the universities in the region among top universities in the world.

1.2. Regenerating Business

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region – like the entire Finland – has relatively few SMEs that are looking to grow, irrespective of measures implemented to promote start-up entrepreneurship. There is also a shortage of venture capital for the growth phase. Even so, the start-up activities of universities and universities of applied sciences can create more potential for generating new start-ups; Finland has, in fact, become a European centre for technology start-ups in particular. Entrepreneurship in general is the prerequisite for growth. A diversified business structure secures service provision; the significance of entrepreneurship in the promotion of employment continues to grow.

In addition to supporting start-up creation, the renewal of existing businesses must be supported. The structural change in global economy reflects strongly on the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, and businesses are undergoing a continuous structural change. The most significant change on the structures of the economy concerns the technology industry, and the diverse ICT industry in particular. The utilisation of the open data approach in business can generate new opportunities for start-ups with the will and the ability to seek growth. Also, the increasing demand for well-being, health and education services creates new business opportunities both in Finland and abroad.

Internationalisation and the availability of competent workforce are critical factors for the competitiveness and growth of SMEs. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region features solid primary industry: it is important to renew this sector because it already has ready-made structures for innovating completely new business. An increase in population means an increase in the demand for services, thus generating opportunities to offer new services on the domestic market.

Objective

The position of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region as a hub for innovative business activity will be strengthened.

Measures

1. Strengthen the region's status as an international hub for start-ups. Promote measures that create incentives and small-scale financing instruments for early-phase start-ups. Support the networking and internationalisation efforts of start-ups.
2. Increase interest in entrepreneurship among young people and students at all levels of education. Supporting an entrepreneurial culture and student entrepreneurship strengthens entrepreneurial foundations and enables the successful succession of businesses.
3. Promote the renewal and internationalisation of traditional industry and technology industry SMEs and support new operational models to retain competitiveness.
4. Support measures for stepping up business advisory services and pilot a business advisory service targeted especially at entrepreneurs with an immigrant background.
5. Support the development of new intelligent service concepts in well-being and health services.
6. Support corporate internationalisation projects in accordance with the Team Finland strategy.

1.3. Environmental Business – Cleantech

Cleantech is part of the green economy and can be applied in various industries. It is one of Finland's fastest growing industries and highly export-driven: key markets can be found in developed and newly industrialised countries. The current international business potential of the cleantech industry comes from enhancing energy efficiency.

Cleantech SMEs need help to support their internationalisation and business development. In the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, the most important environmental technology competence area is

energy efficiency. Other important competence areas include recycling and waste processing, water treatment, and sustainable traffic. The strengths of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region are a solid business base, a concentration of cutting-edge research competence and educational institutions in the area, and a broad consumer base.

The cleantech industry has the ability to use new innovations open-mindedly, and collaboration between the cleantech and ICT industries can create new business. Significant business opportunities could also be found in renewable energy, energy efficient buildings, intelligent grids, energy warehousing, etc. Thanks to international regulation and the EU's climate policy, the markets for clean energy are growing significantly.

In line with the Finnish government's decision-in-principle, national and local governments must observe cleantech solutions in their public procurement. According to the decision, public procurement must move from old practices towards new, energy-efficient solutions. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region must be a pioneer also in the procurement of resource-efficient, clean technology.

Objective

A resource-efficient model of operations will be deployed in different products and services and incorporated into business.

Measures

1. Generate locally significant business to achieve resource-efficiency and the climate objectives set for urban environments.
2. Launch experiments and pilot projects related to the use and production of renewable energy.
3. Start extensive projects on enhancing the energy efficiency of buildings, and promote urban wood construction and resource-efficient urban construction.
4. Accelerate the re-use and recycling of excess masses and demolition materials.
5. Commercialise competence in urban air quality monitoring for international markets.
6. Create prerequisites for business in the bioeconomy and water sectors.

7. Support the municipalities' actions to develop their procurement so that it supports sustainable development.

1.4. Urban Food Services

The food industry is a growth business: there are twice as many growth companies in the food sector than there are in the Finnish business landscape on average, and almost 90 businesses are increasing their net sales by more than 10% annually. Measured by the value of production, the food industry is Finland's fourth important industrial sector.

Food preparation and consumption impact climate almost as much as housing or traffic. Comprehensive development of the food chain aims at combating climate change, which can be achieved by reducing the amount of generated waste and by using the waste effectively.

It is also important to anticipate consumer behaviour. Local food, organic food and awareness of food and foodstuff origins and healthiness are current trends whose significance will only grow in the future. The significance of local food was also recognised in the Finnish government's 'Local Food Programme 2020'. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region has excellent opportunities for increasing local food production: the distribution routes are short, the demand is present in large cities, and a broad group of consumers with purchasing power and quality awareness is close at hand.

Objective

The environmental load caused by foodstuffs will be reduced and the market share of local food increased.

Measures

1. Build new, consumer-driven food solutions for eating, food business and logistics.
2. Reduce food waste by employing new technologies to reduce and utilise co-streams.
3. Develop measures to make the Finnish food safety excellence into an exportable product.
4. Support the networking of small local food producers and the development of

municipalities' food procurement practices. Develop distribution chains to increase the market share of local and organic food.

1.5. Growth from the East

As the economic crisis continues in Europe, it is worth turning to Russia and Asia for internationalisation and growth. Measured by sales turnover, Russia is Finland's most important export country. Finnish businesses are also interested in Russian markets for example in the cleantech, health and food industries. SMEs in particular should be encouraged and supported in their Russian business. Tourism from Russia to the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is growing strongly and there is much potential for further growth. It has been estimated that should the visa exemption be implemented, the volume of Russian tourism could multiply within a few years.

Functional logistics are essential for trade and industry. The challenge is that logistics companies are moving further away from the capital city region and the existing logistics areas are spread wide apart – they have not merged into internationally significant logistics hubs. Collaboration and the centralisation of existing and planned logistics centres should continue to be supported in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.

The Northern Growth Corridor is a central route that connects the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region to Sweden and Russia; it is aimed at transports to Russia and Saint Petersburg in particular. The attractiveness of the Corridor and the development of intelligent traffic solutions must be ensured through different measures. The Northern Growth Corridor also functions as a frame for important business hubs, such as Techvilla in Hyvinkää, Aviapolis in Vantaa, and Kilpilahti in Porvoo.

The position of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is excellent thanks to direct flight connections, and the region acts as a gateway between Europe and Asia. Ensuring the operational preconditions of the Helsinki Airport is vital for the region's

attractiveness. The Finnish government's decision to capitalise Finavia enables billions of euros' worth of investments in the expansion and development of the Helsinki Airport.

Tallinn and Helsinki are – virtually speaking – a joint economic area. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region depends on Estonian workforce in certain sectors, such as construction and social and health care industries. The planned Rail Baltica and Via Baltica would also significantly improve connections to Central Europe.

Objective

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's logistical position and business opportunities in Russia and Asia will be utilised.

Measures

1. Promote the entry of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's SMEs to Russian markets by creating a targeted business service.
2. Take advantage of peak seasons in Russian tourism, create new and attractive events and cultural tourism products, and improve the level of service.
3. Increase interest towards Russia among Finnish university students by creating new Russian study modules and increasing the number of exchange programmes available.
4. Support actions to develop the Northern Growth Corridor business and to improve traffic to Russia (Ring Road III and Ring Road V).
5. Support improvement measures for the Helsinki-Tallinn connection.
6. Form a uniform view on logistical solutions in urban planning and other areas.
7. Promote the matching and division of labour in measures concerning Chinese markets among development companies in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: WELL-FUNCTIONING EVERYDAY LIFE

The basic preconditions of a well-functioning everyday life are work and livelihood; comfortable housing and a pleasant living environment; and flexible transportation. One of the most important objectives of urban planning is to achieve safe, smooth, equal and sustainable transport. Agreeable and affordable housing that suits people's life situations is important both for people who live in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region and for people who are moving to the area. A well-functioning everyday life is also experienced through work and participation of the community. The well-function of everyday life facilitates the coordination of work and family life. Everyday life of families can be supported with services that work across municipal borders. Cultural services can also prevent exclusion and enhance people's well-being and the ability to work.

An integrating urban structure promotes effective transport. Everyday life runs smoothly when there are several alternatives for safe transport and

moving about does not consume inordinate amounts of time. An important objective of urban planning is to enable transport that causes least damage to the environment and is equal for different population groups. An integrated urban structure offers the best prerequisites for this. An integrated urban structure also enables the generation of private local services and the cost-effective organisation of public services, and improves people's possibilities to move around by bike and by foot. In non-urban areas, compact communities support the organisation of public transportations and the retention of local services.

Effective use of a transport system requires influencing people's transport choices as well as developing the services required by sustainable traffic and accelerating their marketing. The key elements of effective transport are compatible transport system plans and their updates, and accessible public transport. The sustainability

of traffic can be emphasised by highlighting the significance of cycling and walking for everyday exercise.

For questions of transport, housing and land use, the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region has put together a letter of intent between the municipalities and the state (MAL) for the years 2012–2015 defining the objectives of housing production, the planning principles of municipalities, and the measures related to the development of the transportation system. Their implementation can significantly improve the smooth running of the everyday lives of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's residents.

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is Finland's most international, multicultural and rapidly growing region. Its population growth stems largely from immigration. Growth and cultural diversification bring about many new challenges and opportunities. For the growth of the region and the smooth running of the society, it is important that all population groups are engaged in society.

The themes of inclusion and engagement have been incorporated in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme as a mean to enhance social cohesion. The key measures to strengthen social engagement are the improvement of youth employment opportunities, the successful integration of immigrants, and the activation of local activities. Reshaping working life is also crucial in preventing exclusion.

2.1. Intelligent and Smooth Traffic

Finland has national projects to develop a functioning public transport system where municipalities and the government work together to optimise their resources. These projects include public transport information systems, harmonised payment and ticketing systems, and increasing the trip chaining approach in planning (park-and-ride, good transfer connections, etc.) Customer perspective and the compatibility of systems are integral to these reforms. Financing questions and long-term agreements are essential in responding to the upcoming challenges in public transport.

In regional development, priority is on those residential areas that can easily be reached by public transport. Important and urgent development targets include raising the capacity of the Pasila–Riihimäki rail route, constructing an urban rail

line from Leppävaara forwards, and constructing the Helsinki City Rail Loop. Urgent projects in the transverse traffic in the capital city region are the construction of the express rail link between eastern Helsinki and Espoo, and the organisation of the transverse bus route across city. Ensuring the functionality of public transport requires many other solutions, too: comprehensive information systems, a harmonised ticketing system, park-and-ride facilities, the construction of well-operating transfer connection sites, and the extension of the metro network.

Transport system plans (for the Helsinki, Eastern Helsinki-Uusimaa Region and Western Helsinki-Uusimaa Regions) are important tools for governing transport system-related measures and for enhancing the vitality and competitiveness of the region. A good example of the interaction between land use and transport planning is the transport system plan for the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region (HLJ 2015), which is being prepared in collaboration with the region's joint land use plan.

The growth of population and the number of jobs in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region creates the need to develop and maintain roads to ensure smooth and safe traffic. Attention must be paid to the smoothness of bus traffic especially in areas where there is no rail transport available. The maintenance and repair of traffic routes (surfaces of heavily trafficked roads, bridge renovations, etc.) take up the majority of basic road maintenance funding, but are essential for securing smooth and safe traffic. Basic road maintenance funding at its current level is not, however, enough to secure the maintenance of the lower level road network. A growing region needs investments in its road and rail network; the electrification of the railroad between Hanko and Hyvinkää is an example of this.

To improve the smoothness and safety of cycling, cycling routes in city centres in particular need improvements. Bicycle parking needs to be developed in city centres, but also on public transport stops and stations.

Objectives

The share of sustainable transport forms will be increased and the smoothness and safety of the transport system improved.

Measures

1. Implement low-key and cost-effective development measures in the traffic network in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region (transport system plan, small and cost-effective projects, HLJ KUHA 2013–2016).
2. Support the implementation of the most urgent rail projects in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.
3. Promote the implementation of other transport projects (transport system plans and transport policy report).
4. Strengthen collaboration between the municipalities and the government in public transport development projects; implementation of the new ticketing system, etc.
5. Improve the cycling and walking route network and bicycle parking in city centres, public transport stops and stations.

2.2. Comfortable Housing and Living Environment

Population continues to grow in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. The growth sustains the need for housing construction particularly in the capital city region and surrounding municipalities. There are differences in the municipalities' role as actors in housing policy. Migration to the municipalities surrounding Helsinki is selective: many educated people with jobs and middle class incomes seek to move. Families favour the surrounding municipalities, where the number of immigrants is low but the share of single households is growing. The surrounding municipalities are equipped to handle the need for rental housing that is work-related or generated within the municipalities themselves, but are unable to tackle the shortage of rental housing that exists in the capital city area in general. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council aims at developing the region's land use policy so that the region's ability to respond to plot and housing issues will be improved.

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region needs more housing that suits different life situations and is agreeable, affordable and well-situated. The elderly people need the possibility to continue living at home even when their ability to function deteriorates, while families wish for more space and a safe environment. Single households need housing that suit their situation. At the same time, there is a

need to prevent the segregation of neighbourhoods in the region. In the future, island living could be an ecological and natural way of life that combines housing and work by utilising the latest communication and environmental technology.

In addition to the prerequisites of housing production, it is necessary to ensure the quality of the living environment, cultural environment and the retention of natural diversity. Natural diversity lays the foundation for services provided by the ecosystem. Ecosystem services comprehensively highlight the benefits of green areas. Securing these areas is important for people's well-being. Our knowledge base on these topics must be complemented so that it can be used, for example, in urban planning and in the drafting of the region's green strategy that brings together regional objectives. National parks and the region's green belts are important for natural diversity and the recreation of residents.

The quality of immediate surroundings and recreational areas considerably impacts the attractiveness of living and moving about in one's immediate surroundings. Of all quality factors, valuable cultural environments are particularly important for Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's identity and strengthen the residents' relationship with their living environment. For this reason, it is important to improve the abilities of various parties to work for the good of the immediate surroundings and valuable cultural environments.

Objective

The prerequisites of healthy life will be improved through high-quality housing and agreeable living surroundings.

Measures

1. Implement the measures in accordance with the MAL Agreement (land use, housing and traffic).
2. Combat the segregation of neighbourhoods.
3. Use various measures to increase affordable housing production in the region.
4. Draft a green strategy for the region to support regional planning, and include the perspectives of nature, recreation and cultural environments in the strategy.

5. Increase cross-municipal use of sports and recreation areas.

2.3. Good Work!

The number of working age population decreases in Finland as the demographic change progresses. The development of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region differs from this trend, thanks especially to immigration. Nevertheless, even in this region the dependency ratio is becoming unfavourable. An aging population and the demographic change translate into a growing demand for services. The demand for social and health care services especially will continue to grow. On the other hand, the increasing demand will improve employment outlook. However, the need for workforce alone will not guarantee a positive development; the quality of working life should be observed, too. It is important to be able to combine studying, working and leisure more flexibly than before.

Employment brings wellbeing to people and the region. To increase the employment rate, it is crucial that the workforce demand meets the supply. This requires that people have competences that correspond to the needs of the job market. Although individuals continue to train themselves throughout their careers, the problem of mismatched supply and demand should be eliminated at early stages. This can be achieved through the optimisation of young people's training by targeting it to sectors with favourable employment prospects.

Structural change in the ICT cluster is strong also in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. Change is, however, also an opportunity, because there are plenty of internationally qualified experts in the region. Retaining that expertise in the region is on the one hand a question of enhancing the prerequisites for the emergence of new businesses, and on the other hand a question of actively targeting growth industries, such as information security and gaming. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region must hold on to its skilled workforce, create new employment opportunities and support the reshaping of traditional industry. In service industries, attention should be paid (in addition to growth in the number of jobs) to questions of working life quality (wages, salaries, contract types, training opportunities, etc.) and to preventing the polarisation of job markets.

Objective

Employment ratio will be raised and the quality of working life improved.

Measures

1. Utilise workforce reserves effectively; develop services targeted at open job markets for international experts and for people who have lost their jobs due to the structural change; and promote the employment of people with partial working capacity.
2. Anticipate changes in competence needs and maintain workforce competence in job market changes.
3. Promote operational models that improve the working culture and that are based on equal and wide-scale employee participation.
4. Improve educational offerings and their quality in growth industries and structural change industries.

2.4. Immigration and Integration

Immigration is seen as positive for both the immigrants themselves and the Finnish host society. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is ready to receive competent workforce and entrepreneurial immigrants and, as a region, to carry its responsibility towards refugees coming to Finland. The municipalities and the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment pioneer and show the way in recruiting immigrants. It is important to provide advice and training for skilled immigrants and to ensure a better match between workforce demand and supply. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region strives to actively increase its international attractiveness and to support work-related immigration.

It is important to offer immigrants language training and other integration training from the moment the person enters the country. Each immigrant's situation is observed by offering language training and further education that corresponds to his or her needs and competences at the right time and at the right level.

Successful integration is a two-way process: immigrants are integrated into the Finnish society,

which makes the society more multicultural. Immigrants, original population, authorities, educational institutions and businesses all play a role in integration. The immigration experts of municipalities and the Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Uusimaa offer their expertise to businesses in the region so that they can better recruit immigrants residing in the country and thus implement ethnic diversity at work. Training employees and entrepreneurs is also important for a successful change.

Objective

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will be multicultural and socially integrated.

Measures

1. Improve the preconditions for recruiting international experts and their integration into the society.
2. Develop a regional advisory and steering network for work-related immigration to enhance the attractiveness and competitiveness of the metropolitan area.
3. Strengthen the working life connection of immigrants who live and study in Finland.
4. Increase the selection of field-specific, targeted language training needed at work.
5. Prepare an objective programme for two-way integration.

2.5. Localness, Local Democracy and Youth Participation

Localness and local democracy are important factors when participation is developed into a resource for the region and community. Activities that take place locally, in the community, in families or through hobbies strengthen people's ties to their living environment and allow residents to adopt different roles and tasks in local activities and development.

The quality of neighbourhoods can be improved with community spirit. Residents can enhance the amenity, safety and services of their neighbourhoods through spontaneous projects and by taking advantage of the support available. Resident-driven activities strengthen collaboration and increase the attractiveness of neighbourhoods more permanently than one-time investments.

The ongoing municipality and service structure reforms and the preparation of legislation concerning a joint metropolitan area pose challenges for the organisation of local democracy. A functional local democracy offers opportunities for local activities and the development of residents' own neighbourhoods in cities and non-urban areas alike.

Promoting young people's employment and preventing their exclusion are the goals of the youth guarantee launched by the Finnish government. Its measures are implemented in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region in a way that allows young people to be heard, influence their life courses and access education and job markets. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region carries out other measures, too: for example, infrastructure investments in whose planning and implementation young people's employment must be raised to the fore.

For young people the world of peer communities is a crucial and active environment and a way to integrate into the community. Young people's integration and participation is promoted by improving their possibilities to enhance their own living environments and exert societal influence.

The anticipation of workforce and education needs conducted together with educational players strengthens education providers' commitment to the results of forecasting. This can then strengthen national and regional collaboration on forecasting.

Objective

Community spirit in neighbourhoods will be enhanced and young people's employment and participation will be improved.

Measures

1. Ensure secondary education for all young people in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.
2. Promote young people's access to education and work by supporting outreach youth work and youth workshops and by promoting access to summer jobs.
3. Develop and implement a forecasting of educational needs together with regional players.
4. Support local democracy pilot projects in municipalities. Promote local development projects by neighbourhoods associations, action groups and peer communities.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: SUSTAINABLE ECOLOGY

Climate change is a serious threat. If the earth's temperature increases by more than two degrees Celsius from the pre-industrial level, we may not be able to stop global warming anymore. Stopping global warming – dangerous to life as we know it – requires that global emissions must be stabilised by 2020.

In addition to an increase in the global average temperature, the temperature of seawater has increased, ice and snow covers have melted in large areas, and sea levels have risen. The effects of climate change can already be seen in Finland, too, in elevated temperatures and an increased number of extreme weather phenomena. Indirect impacts in the upcoming years include price fluctuations in fuel imports, economic instability, and large numbers of environmental refugees.

The environmental burden caused by human activity is heavy in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, and land use changes are rapid. Transport routes

and the sprawling urban structure have reduced intact green areas. The expansion of sparsely populated areas often features insufficient wastewater treatment solutions, which increases the burden on waterways and ground water. Agriculture also heavily burdens waterways due to large arable areas and soil that is sensitive to erosion.

The nature in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is highly diverse, and the cultural values associated with built environment are great. The regional plan holds a crucial role in securing natural diversity; the region's green structure will be discussed as a whole in the regional planning process. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region coastline, archipelago, sea area and waterways form a valuable part of nature, also from the perspective of tourism.

Resilience to change must be strengthened on account of population growth, climate change and other impacts. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region needs to be able to retain and remodel the operations

that help society recover from disruptions caused by unexpected natural phenomena. A compact and well-integrated urban structure enables a smoothly running everyday life with little need for energy and other infrastructure, and retains forests and fields for primary production. This in turn enables the production of local food and the development of other natural resource economy, and maintains natural diversity. When targeted right, infill development will not threaten ground water resources or surface waters.

3.1. Natural Diversity and Natural Resources

In the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, land use planning faces unusually tough and partly contradictory demands due to the strong construction need in the metropolitan area as population increases and business grows. Construction, transport network, recreational use, agriculture, and forestry all compete over land area. Thanks to its southern location, diverse ground and extensive but delicate archipelago, the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region also features unique habitats of several species.

The area of arable land has been reduced as fields are used particularly for the construction of housing and office space, roads, and recreational housing. Forestry is important also in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. Forest owners are interested in environmental subsidies for forestry, and interest in voluntary protection agreements is high in the region. The region's forests and waterways offer excellent recreation possibilities.

Rock aggregate is needed in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region in large quantities because the capital city has already used up all areas that can be easily constructed. More than half of the rock aggregate used in the capital city area is currently made from solid rock. The environmental impacts caused by the excavation and refining of solid rock are considered to be much less harmful than the impacts of gravel extraction. To avoid unnecessary aggregate transportations and problems concerning the disposal of excess material, we need to develop soil work technologies that utilise soil stabilisation and other techniques.

Ecosystem services are material and immaterial services that are derived from nature and necessary for people; safeguarding these services is essential

for human well-being. Natural diversity is largely the foundation for any benefits that humans can derive from the ecosystem. Ecosystem services are thus an important perspective in regional planning.

Objective

The preconditions of business activity in non-urban areas will be improved. Investments will be made in forest multipurpose use, natural diversity and the maintenance of ecosystem services.

Measures

1. Reduce the burden caused by agriculture on the ground, surface waters, ground waters and air by promoting environmentally friendly production methods.
2. Increase the multipurpose use of forests by supporting the co-existence of various forest use forms (wood production, recreation, hunting, etc.) through advisory programmes.
3. Promote sustainable rock aggregate service and the recycling of materials.
4. Control the spreading of non-indigenous species in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.
5. Strengthen environmental benefits by seeing to natural diversity and ecosystem service provision.
6. Implement fishways strategy measures (as adopted by the Finnish government) in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.

3.2 Improving the State of Waterways and the Baltic Sea

The state of waterways in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is markedly worse than in the rest of the country. The ecological state of rivers and coastal waters of the Gulf of Finland is particularly poor. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region also features many more groundwater areas that are in a bad state compared to the rest of Finland.

The main reason for the poor state of surface waters in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is the heavy burden of nutrients, the majority of which are field-derived, agricultural nutrients. The burden of waste slurry used in landscaping on waterways must also be investigated. Nutrient burden causes a general eutrophication of waters and accelerates the growth

of algae, which in turn leads to hypoxia and an increased internal load in lakes and coastal waters. Nutrient reduction measures in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region are important for the improvement of the entire Gulf of Finland, but particularly for our own coastal waters.

The ecological state of surface waters is also deteriorated by the heavy construction use of waterways that has continued for decades in the region. Only few natural river or stream beds remain in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region: most river waterways that run into the Gulf of Finland have been dammed up. Dams, weedings, dredging and other construction activities also threaten the remaining fish stocks and other species.

The groundwater areas in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region are extremely vulnerable because the majority of towns and residential areas outside the capital city area are located in them. Significant industrial and business hubs, growing residential areas, and traffic routes are also located in groundwater areas. Groundwater reserves must not be left to deteriorate to such an extent that they would no longer be suitable for water provision. Infill development and the placing of new operations in groundwater areas must be made with careful consideration and by conserving land area. Land use solutions must be based on sufficiently detailed information about the structure and characteristics of the groundwater area in order for clean water sourcing to be secured also in the future.

As a result of climate change, the flooding situation will change. In addition to current flooding that mainly takes place in the spring, summer floods caused by heavy rains as well as winter floods caused by rapid melting snow will become more common. This continues to add to the amount of nutrients and solid matter washed from fields. In densely constructed areas these weather phenomena can cause storm water floods and, for example, harmfully impact water quality in groundwater areas if the handling and shunting of flood waters is not done carefully.

Objective

The state of waterways will be good.

Measures

1. Implement the measures proposed in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's waterway management programme and maritime management plan.
2. Acquire more detailed information about the state of ground waters and their structure.
3. Support projects in line with the HELCOM programme to improve the state of the Baltic Sea.
4. Prepare for floods in land use planning, construction, agriculture and forestry.

3.3.Environmentally Smart Lifestyle

Difficult environmental challenges await solutions. The realization of environmental risks that threaten well-being are combatted through regulations, taxation, agreements, etc. The most effective means, however, has been proven to be the power of citizens, demand and different players. They steer policy-makers, entrepreneurs, authorities and all actions towards heightened environmental responsibility. Everything starts with environmental awareness that wakes people up to environmentally responsible lifestyles and choices.

The promotion of environmental awareness is an activity that aims at creating environmentally responsible actions in line with sustainable development. It applies to all demographic groups. Attitude change is essential because even the most progressive land use and transport planning cannot yield the desired results if the residents themselves don't adopt the new opportunities around them. The need for resource- and energy-efficient solutions also concerns recreational housing. Efforts made to use renewable energy sources and new energy systems will not mean anything if the residents cannot not see their benefits and embrace them. The currently valid government programme includes the objective of making Finns the world's most environmentally aware people.

Objective

The residents of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will be environmentally aware, smart players and consumers.

Measures

1. Support the actions, collaboration and visibility of environmental educators in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.
2. Promote advice and guidance related to energy and environmental matters, waste waters and domestic waste waters outside sewer networks.
3. Promote a sustainable lifestyle throughout the Southern Finland collaboration area.
4. Develop recreational and secondary housing in a more sustainable direction.

3.4. Carbon Neutral Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

The EU's objective is to reduce greenhouse gases by 80–95% by 2050 from the 1990 level. Finland is committed to the EU's objectives in her government programme, and the objective of the national energy and climate strategy is a carbon neutral society by 2050. The measures must be started immediately, interim objectives must be set, and, at the same time, local initiatives must be supported.

Becoming carbon neutral is an opportunity for Finland because all our fossil fuels are imported. For the same reason, carbon neutrality is an opportunity to the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. Breaking away from fossil fuels requires a long-term change of the energy system and the modification of the vehicle fleet and service infrastructure to support carbon neutrality. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region can increase the use of solar energy, generate solar electricity and heat, and take other measures. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region also has good preconditions for the provision of wind power and for bioenergy production. These actions can complement and even partly replace the current energy system.

The improvement of constructed environments is essential for the creation of a carbon neutral,

competitive and sustainable society because the majority of energy consumed in Finland is consumed in constructed environments. The improvement of constructed environments covers the enhancement of urban structure, new and old buildings, the transport system, infrastructure and energy solutions. Renovations hold a significant role in the achievement of a carbon neutral society.

Planning in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region must be based on principles that strengthen the integration of communities. From the perspective of carbon neutrality, energy efficiency and emission reductions are crucial in land use planning. Land use, traffic and services must meet more efficiently than before.

Objective

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will be carbon neutral in 2050.

Measures

1. Draft a plan on making the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region carbon neutral by 2050.
2. Make local and renewable energy forms attractive and easy for the residents of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region to use.
3. Investigate the technical, economic and environmental preconditions of renewable energy production in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.
4. Develop community structure by better intertwining the location of housing, services and jobs. Observe carbon sinks in land use planning and make use of emission calculations and total energy reviews.
5. Develop environmental risk evaluation and prevention methods and accident management.

FINANCIAL SOURCES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGIONAL PROGRAMME

Along with the Structural Funds Programme for Mainland Finland, Interreg programmes and the ENI Programme, EU programmes such as Horizon 2020, COSME and Life+ will be used, if possible, in the funding of development measures and projects. National funding, for example development funding from municipalities, the Finnish Funding

Agency for Innovation (Tekes) and the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Uusimaa, will also be utilised in the implementation. The Uusimaa Regional Council grants regional development fund, which is allocated to different development projects in a new way.

Figure 3. The indicative use of different financial sources for the implementation of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme.

		Structural Funds Programme for Mainland Finland	CB Interreg V A	The Baltic Sea Programme	Interreg V C	ENI	Agricultural Fund Leader	European Maritime and Fisheries Fund	Tekes Fiksu kaupunki, Liideri BioIT Filiiksestä fykkää, Green Growth Programmes	Municipalities	The ELY Centre	Horizon 2020 Societal challenges	COSME	Life	Creative Europe
OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH	Open development environments and intelligent services														
	Regenerating business														
	Environmental business (Cleantech)														
	Urban food services														
	Growth from the East														
PRACTICAL EVERYDAY LIFE	Intelligent and smooth traffic														
	Comfortable housing and living environment														
	Good work!														
	Immigration and integration														
	Localness, local democracy and young people's participation														
SUSTAINABLE ECOLOGY	Natural diversity and natural resources														
	Improving the state of waterways and the Baltic Sea														
	Environmentally smart lifestyle														
	Carbon neutral Helsinki-Uusimaa Region														

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT: A SUMMARY

The most positive overall effect of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme has to do with the economy, people and the mitigation of climate change. The programme also has a positive impact on nature, natural resources, regional structure, the environment and traffic.

In addition, the programme's strategic priorities can have a positive impact on employment, health, and living conditions. The programme supports all actions promoting competitiveness, economic development, the attractiveness of the region, and the development possibilities of business. The programme may, however, have a conflicting effect on economy as some of the measures are thought to be aimed at only some parts of the region, which can contribute to regional inequality.

Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's strategic objective is to become carbon neutral by 2050. With this in mind, the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme will have a positive impact. Measures included in the cleantech and carbon neutral Helsinki-Uusimaa Region objectives have a particularly favourable effect. The greatest positive and negative effects have to do with the use of energy. On the one hand, the programme promotes renewable energy sources; on the other hand, economic growth increases the need for energy. According to our estimates, the programme's energy usage and renewable energy objectives will contribute to a favourable end result when it comes to mitigating climate change.

Improving the preconditions of environmental business helps to achieve the environmental objectives also in the programme region. The strategic priorities concerning the protection and usage of surface and ground waters are important when aiming at the good state of surface and ground waters as well as the Baltic Sea. The programme's aims and measures on biodiversity ensure the high quality of the living environment, recreational use of nature, and the retention of other ecosystem services. The programme does not include any environmental protection measures as such.

Making Helsinki-Uusimaa Region carbon neutral is also a central objective of the programme. Along with measures that directly aim at achieving this objective, the programme also suggests that an implementation programme – a kind of a road map – should be drawn up. Compared to the previous regional programme, the current Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme combines regional development strategies and planning more efficiently. The strategic priorities steer solutions in urban structure and transport. For example, the importance of a regional green strategy has been highlighted. Environmentally smart lifestyles enable Helsinki-Uusimaa Region to help reach nationwide goals not included in the programme.

MATRIX FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT

IMPACTS ON...		PEOPLE								ECONOMY						NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES								REGIONAL STRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT					TRAFFIC				MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE								
<div><div></div><div>+++ impacts are very positive</div></div> <div><div></div><div>++ impacts are positive</div></div> <div><div></div><div>+ impacts are mainly positive</div></div> <div><div></div><div>+/- conflicting impacts</div></div> <div><div></div><div>- impacts are mainly negative</div></div> <div><div></div><div>-- impacts are negative</div></div> <div><div></div><div>0 no impacts</div></div>		Health and well-being	Living conditions and recreation	Education and competence	Employment	Security	Comfort	Equality	Participation and interaction	Environmental awareness and education	Integration	Economic development of the region	Competitiveness of the region	Appeal of the region	Municipal economy	Entrepreneurship	Regional equality	Entrepreneurial development	Soil	Status of waters	Air	Diversity of nature	Renewable natural resources	Non-renewable natural resources	Plants and animals	Supply security	Sustainable use of natural resources	Fight against urban sprawl	Built environment	Ecological network	Landscape, cityscape and cultural heritage	Nearby recreational areas/urban nature	Public transport	Traffic network	Smooth operation of traffic system	Walking and cycling	Use of energy	Amount of renewable energy	Material efficiency	Adapting to climate change	
		Development measures																																							
		Opportunities for growth	Open development environments and intelligent services																																						
			Regenerating business																																						
			Environmental business (Cleantech)																																						
			Urban food services																																						
		Practical everyday life	Growth from the East																																						
Intelligent and smooth traffic																																									
Comfortable housing and living environment																																									
Good work!																																									
Immigration and integration																																									
Sustainable ecology	Localness, local democracy and young people's participation																																								
	Natural diversity and natural resources																																								
	Improving the state of waterways and the Baltic Sea																																								
	Environmentally smart lifestyle																																								
	Carbon neutral Uusimaa																																								
OVERALL EVALUATION																																									

APPENDIX 1.

PREMISES OF DEVELOPMENT

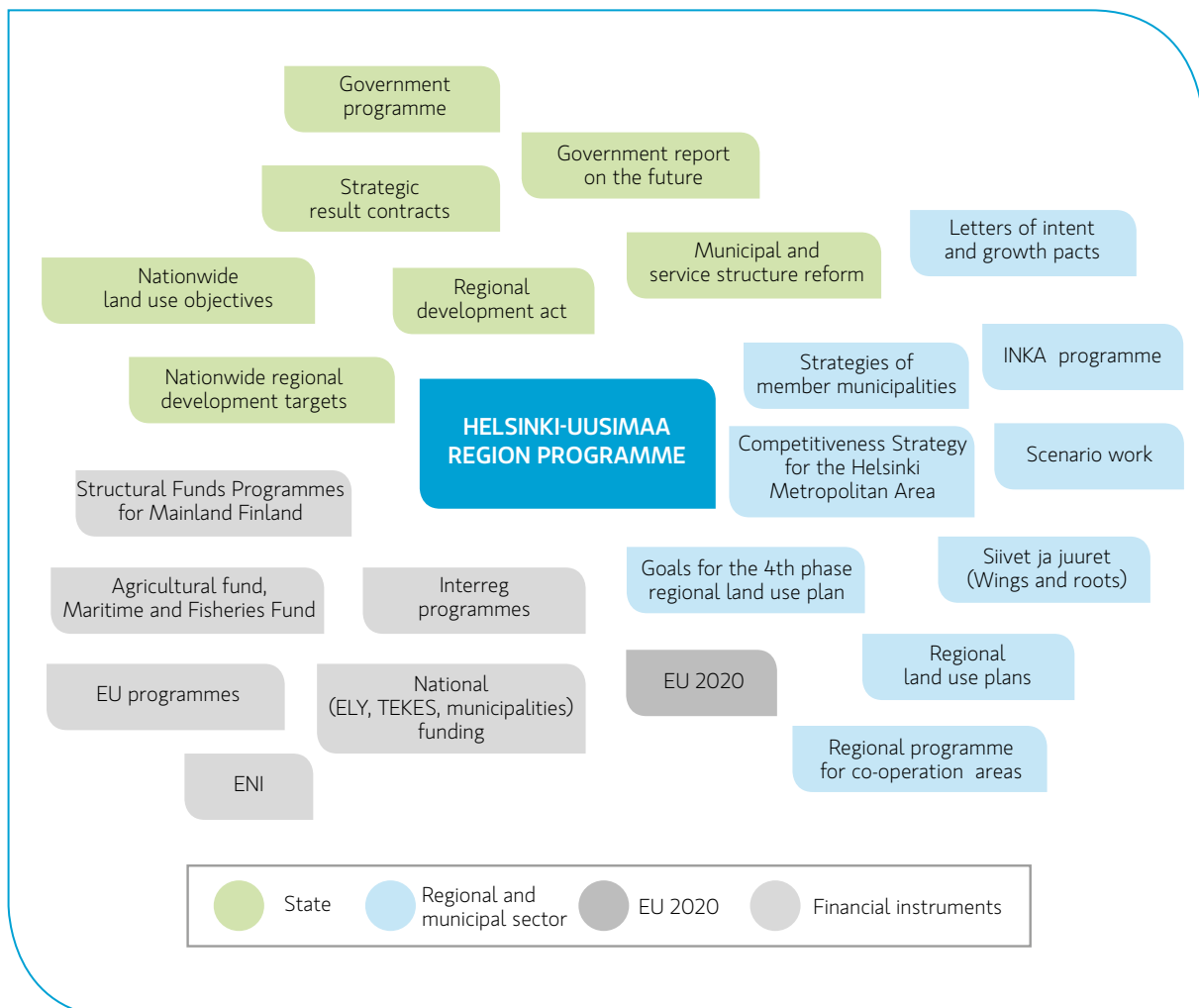
The strategic objectives of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme have been approached from many angles. The aim of the programme is to bring together different strategies and plans and to identify their key development themes.

The key components of the EU 2020 Growth Strategy form a starting point for the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme. According to the strategy, the goal is to create more intelligent growth (by making more efficient investments in education,

research and innovation), more sustainable growth (by moving towards a carbon neutral economy and by strengthening the competitiveness of industry) and more inclusive growth (by making major contributions to create jobs and reduce poverty).

The government steers regional development work especially through its national land use and development goals as well as through revised regional development legislation. The development goals set by the government for

Figure 4. The programme and strategic framework for development in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.



regional administration were taken into account when drawing up the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme.

Special emphasis was placed on regional and municipal strategies, programmes and agreements. The strategies of the member municipalities, the competence strategy for the metropolitan area (Elinvoimainen metropoli) and the growth agreements between the government and the municipalities are also observed in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme.

The EU's financial programmes and national financial instruments are used more efficiently in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme than before, and their use is targeted in a comprehensive fashion in order to implement the joint objectives of the programmes.

Triangles of Growth and Collaboration

The strength of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is reflected by its choices; we concentrate on the essential. The region is already a strong player in Finland, but it can only be strong in a global context if it can make the right strategic priorities that will lead to growth and development. A realistic view of the regional context will lead to the best results.

The future triangle consists of the regions of Tallinn, Helsinki and Saint Petersburg. The growth of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region and the entire country is constrained by the small size of its internal market. We must therefore extend the Finnish market to cover the whole Gulf of Finland area. Helsinki-Uusimaa Region and Tallinn already function as a fairly well-united employment and trade area. The challenge in the coming years is to expand this twin city and turn it into a triplet city so that Saint Petersburg and its surrounding area will be more tightly linked to the triangle. This requires closer functional collaboration and a denser infrastructure with Saint Petersburg and its surrounding area. The development of the future triangle will increase the attractiveness of both the region and the whole country and make the region more attractive globally.

The spearhead triangle entails substantial development projects in the cities of Helsinki, Espoo and Vantaa. Helsinki is building development and innovation clusters in Meilahti, Viikki and Pasila, and Espoo has the ambitious target of making

future investments in the so-called T3 area, which will become an internationally important hub for technological development and innovations. The future strength of Vantaa is based on its airport area, Aviapolis, which will be developed as a hub for logistics, employment and housing. The spearhead triangle is an engine that drives economic growth and functional development in other areas of the region as well; the biggest investments by far are made in this area. One of the key preconditions for the development of the region is that important solutions in the spearhead triangle, such as the Ring Rail Line, City Rail Loop and the Western Metro Line Extension, can be fully exploited.

The growth triangle consists of the eastern, central and western parts of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. Each part of the growth triangle has its own strengths through which it can take advantage of the growth in the metropolitan area. In the Eastern Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, the strengths are a strong energy sector, tourism, and the proximity to Russia. In the Central Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, the strengths are the comfort of living, good logistics and a large number of SMEs. In the Western Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, the strengths are efficient freight traffic connections to European countries, strong entrepreneurship and proximity to nature. To further develop these regions, it is vital that they are functionally linked to the spearhead triangle's projects. The Northern Growth Corridor links East and West to each other and to the spearhead triangle. The growth corridor spans all the way from Saint Petersburg, Helsinki and Turku to Stockholm. Enhancing the operations of this corridor is probably the greatest challenge in the region in the long run. The development of Central Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is enforced by the growth in the development belt Helsinki-Hämeenlinna-Tampere.

The development triangle defines the metropolitan region in its widest sense up to Hämeenlinna and Lahti as well as the dynamics of the metropolitan mindset. In the future, it will be easier to move between the different parts of the triangle. If needed, neighbouring regions can ease some of the growth pressures by hosting people, jobs and housing. For Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's future, it is essential that the development triangle is functionally united and that it can make joint decisions when necessary.

Regional Land Use Plans

Regional Land Use Plans shape the Environment

The objectives of the regional development strategy are put in practice in regional land use plans, in terms of the physical environment and planning. Planning steers growth, everyday life and sustainable ecology on a general level: it may concern the location of housing, jobs and services; the flow of traffic; or the location of cultural environments. A regional land use plan is more general and covers the whole region.

There are several regional land use plans in effect in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region that all steer land use as well as municipal plans. Certain themes in the regional development strategy are made concrete through area reservations. On the other hand, the regional strategy programme and its implementation plan can support the solutions put forward in the land use plan, such as the implementation of certain traffic connections.

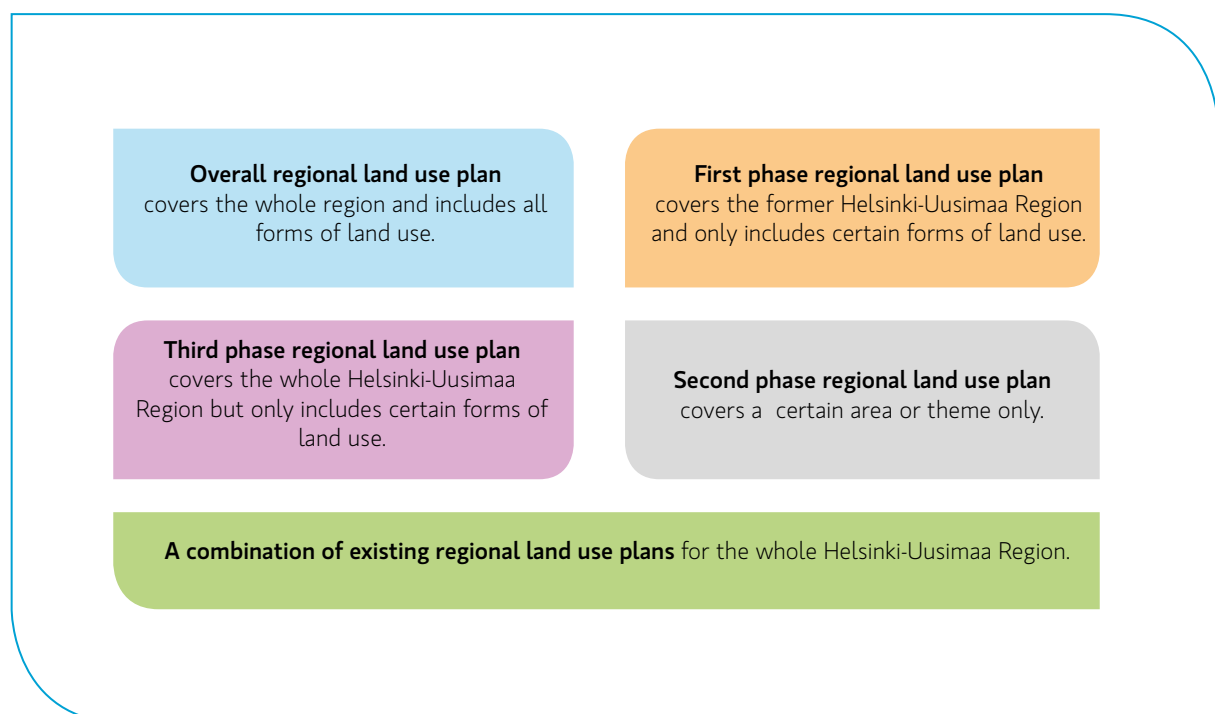
Strong Core and Versatile Centres

Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's second phase regional land use plan promotes the well-being of citizens and the vitality of the region: its objective is to overcome regional and urban fragmentation and to increase the competitiveness of the region. The network-like structure of the region can be strengthened by indicating which residential areas could form centres and nodes of good public transport connections through better integration, and by promoting transverse public transportation.

Developing residential areas as centres of housing, jobs and services reduces people's need to travel to the capital, shortens journeys and makes services easily accessible by public transport, on foot or by bike.

The core of the regional structure is made up of a strong capital region and adjacent growth zones along the main railway line, Ring Rail Line and the expanding metro network that follows the coastline. In the long term, railway connections will be further

Figure 5. Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional land use plans currently in effect.



developed. The regional structure and the service structure are balanced out by regional centres and strong municipal centres that dictate the location of retail units. In non-residential areas, the aim is to concentrate building activities in villages.

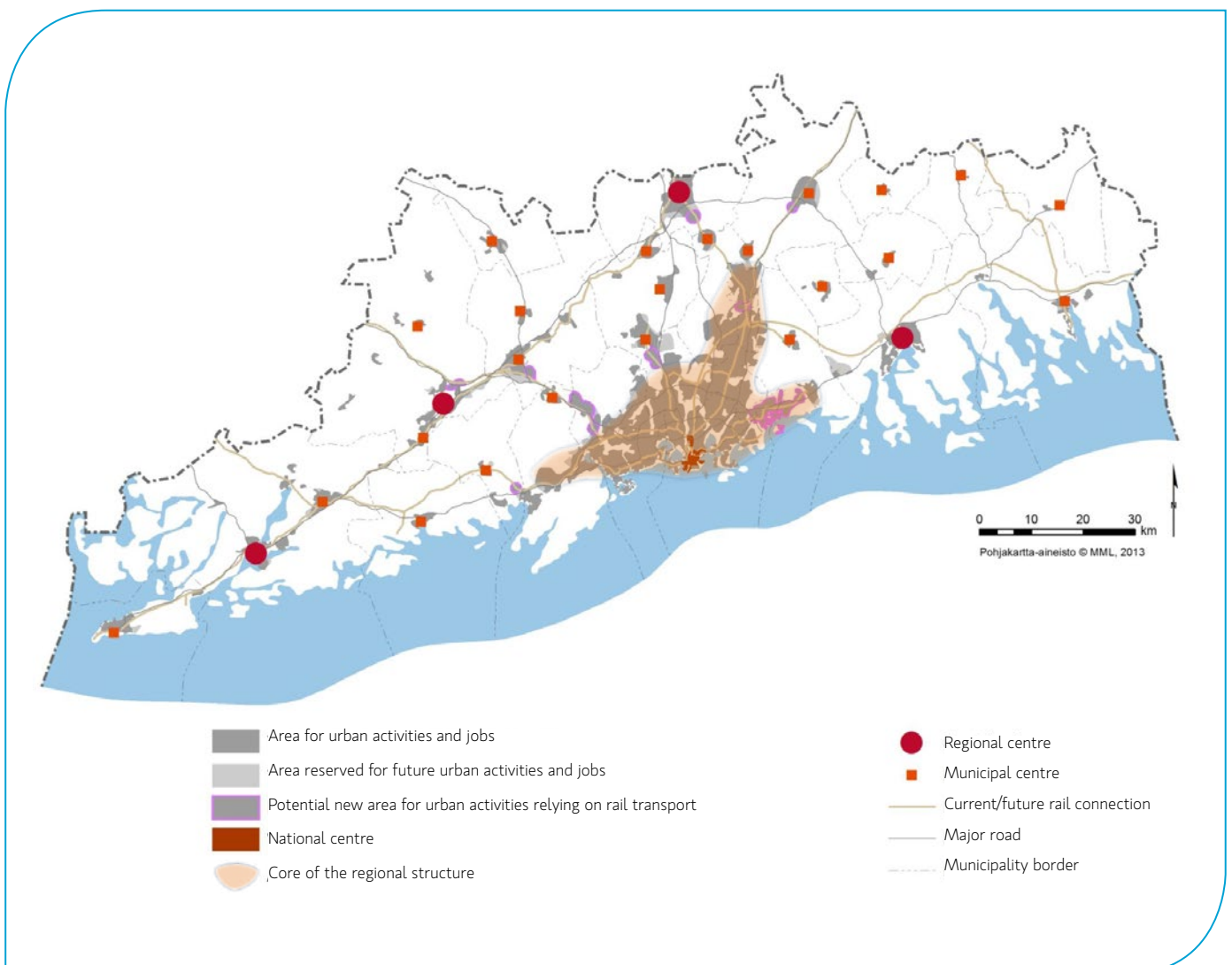
New Issues in Regional Land Use Planning

The fourth phase regional land use planning is about to begin. In addition to the Helsinki-Uusimaa

Regional Programme, the regional land use plan is affected by the following:

- Feedback from previous land use plan evaluations
- Municipalities' views
- Results of analyses concerning the future
- Themes and issues mentioned in the previous ratifications concerning regional land use plans
- Strategies and materials of municipalities, ministries and other important stakeholders.

Figure 6. The eligible regional structure of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region as defined in the regional land use plans.





The new regional land use plan will be drafted and approved during the period 2013–2016.

The main objective of the new regional land use plan is to increase sustainable competitiveness and well-being. Results from previous land use plan evaluations will be supplemented by analysing the green structure as a whole, considering recreational services and housing, valuating cultural environments, strengthening the preconditions for business development, improving logistics, and looking into the use of renewable energy, e.g. wind power, in the region. Some of the topics have not yet been discussed on a regional level, and others need to be revised, requiring the topic to be addressed during the regional land use plan process.

The upcoming evaluation process aims to examine how the regional land use plan can affect

the location of enterprises and the development of innovation environments. It is also important to discuss on a regional level what kind of logistics is needed to serve the industry in the best possible manner in the future. In planning, it is important to discuss the green network and its impact on the well-being of citizens and the competitiveness of the region.

The themes discussed in planning are closely linked to the strategic objectives of the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme. These objectives can be transferred onto the land use plan map through the new plan. In doing so, the regional land use map can steer municipal planning through joint goals and contribute to their implementation.

Municipal Strategies in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

All 26 municipalities in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region adopted a strategy during their last council period either as part of their budget or as a separate document. Municipalities have also drawn up joint regional strategies or programmes. The vision and strategy for the capital region were revised in 2009 and have served as the backbone for joint activities in the central metropolitan region ever since. Among the latest strategies are, for example, the competitiveness strategy and the proposal for a growth agreement for the 14 municipalities in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region; the applications of the Metropolitan region and the KUUMA region to the innovative cities programme (INKA); and, finally, the business and vitality programme for Western Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.

If the municipalities' population goals or capacities are reached, the population in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will increase by approximately 470,000 people by 2035; this is some 150,000 inhabitants more than Statistics Finland estimated in its latest projection.

Although the varied municipal structure in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is reflected in the strategies, municipal- and district-level goals can be utilised as common development indicators in

"ALL MUNICIPALITIES EMPHASISE THE IMPORTANCE OF COLLABORATION. FOR AN INDIVIDUAL MUNICIPALITY TO SUCCEED, THE ENTIRE REGION MUST SUCCEED."

the whole region. These common indicators are closely linked to the strategic objectives of the EU 2020 strategy concerning engaging, intelligent and sustainable growth and to EU Flagship Initiatives, which makes Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's prospects for receiving funding for development projects favourable.

Municipalities want to create an experimental and positive atmosphere so that it is easy and safe for people to try out new solutions that increase well-being and to further develop them into successful business ventures. Efficient energy and material use as well as other environmental requirements are today seen as factors that enable success and not just as something that makes business conditions more difficult. Mitigating climate change and adapting to it are central objectives in all activities on a municipal level.

Figure 7. The plan and programme matrix of the EU and the municipalities in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.

Municipalities	The Competitiveness Strategy of the Metropolitan Area	Proposal for Growth Agreement and INKA	EU Flagship Initiatives	EU 2020
WELL-BEING AND SERVICES; INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATION	Well-being and tolerance	A well-being individual Intelligent services	An agenda for new skills and jobs European Platform against Poverty	Inclusive growth
GROWTH AND ATTRACTIVENESS	Accessibility and fluency; experiments	Added value and increased business through creativity Technological solutions and services	The Digital Agenda for Europe Innovation Union Youth on the Move	Intelligent growth
COMMUNITY STRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT	Sustainability	Climate-smart metropolitan area	Resource-efficient Europe An Industrial Policy for the Globalisation Era	Sustainable growth

Regardless of the size of the municipality, it is important to improve accessibility and the smoothness of transport. This can be achieved by making the infrastructure more resilient and by developing services with users. The aim is to create an accessible system that offers smooth operations and flexibility.

As could be expected, almost all municipalities mentioned the good quality of living, the creation of a cosy, safe and sustainable living environment, and versatile housing when listing their most important objectives. In addition, proximity to nature, better employment opportunities and the integration of immigrants were mentioned as important themes. Promoting self-reliance and a safe environment that encourages people to lead an active and healthy lifestyle and to exercise were emphasised in municipal strategies more than before.

There is, however, a clear difference between the different areas in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region when it comes to asserting themselves to the environment. The large municipalities in the capital region are

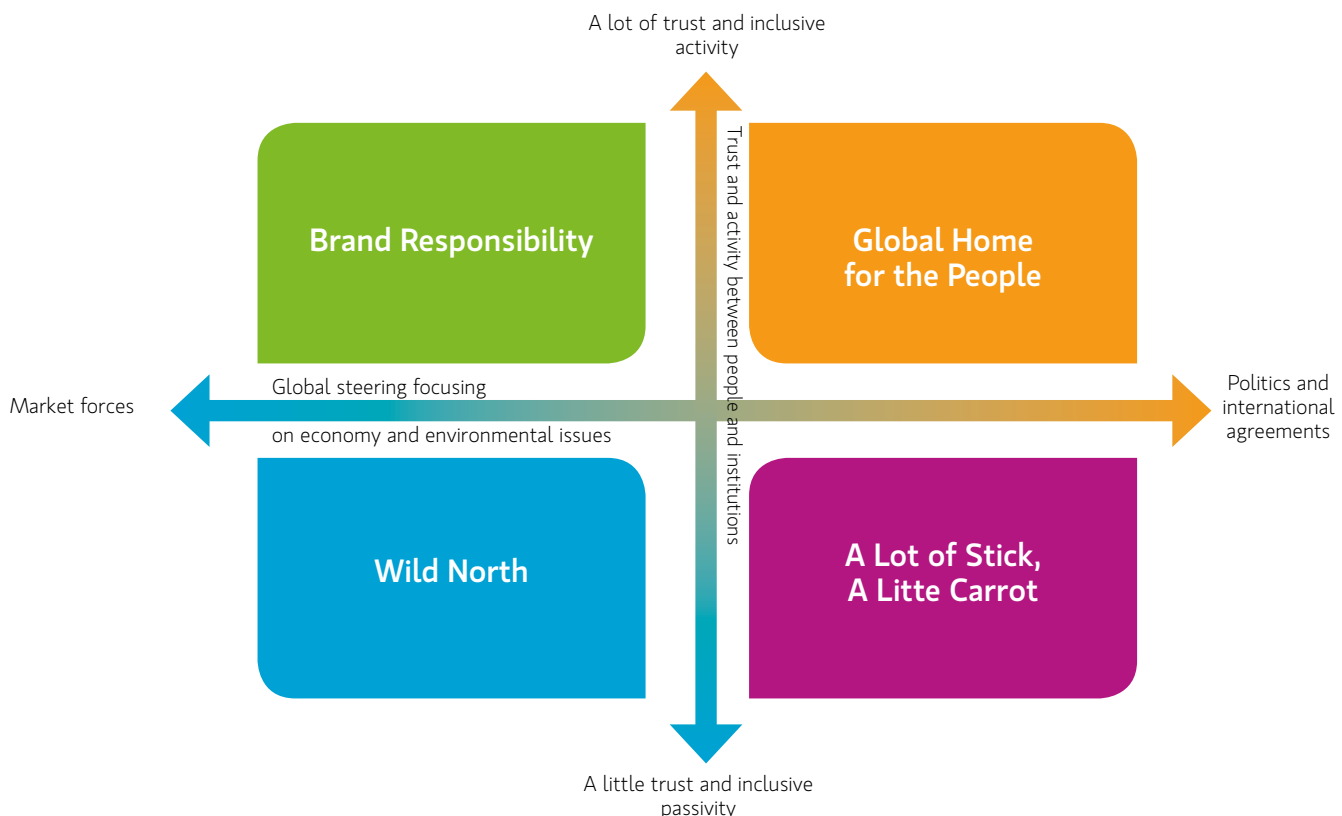
clearly focused on international contacts, whereas the surrounding municipalities emphasise the fact that they are part of the metropolitan region and aim to achieve success through joint efforts. Municipalities in the eastern and western parts of the region try to provide services and promote industry in collaboration with their neighbouring municipalities.

Creating Scenarios and Analysing Future

Scenarios

In 2012, the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Uusimaa led a scenario planning process entitled Uusimaa 2040. The results of the process were summarised into four scenarios that describe alternative futures in the region. In addition, five central factors were identified during the process. These are factors that need to be taken into consideration regardless of

Figure 8. Scenarios for Uusimaa 2040.





Siivet ja juuret

LAAJAN METROPOLIALUEEN TULEVAISUUSTARKASTELU

MILTA NÄYTTÄÄ
VUONNA 2040?

which future scenario will come true.

When defining the scenarios, the nature of society needed to be determined. The two extremes are a wild and uncontrolled market economy and a political contractual society. The question of social trust has also two extremes: a low amount of trust combined with shared passivity, and a great amount of trust combined with shared activity.

These five independent factors were identified during the process and are central for the future:

- Developing the region from the perspective of value-networks
- Increasing people's engagement and resources
- Enhancing business in a quick and agile manner
- Building a functional and flexible community
- Improving the status of the environment

Future Analysis

The future analysis entitled *Siivet ja juuret* ('Wings and roots') was carried out during the second half of 2012. It was done in collaboration among three regions: Häme, Päijät-Häme and Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. The implementation highlighted the wide-scale participation of the different regions and parties. Crowdsourcing was also highly valued as a working method, as was casual and low-key interaction on the website launched for this purpose.

The results of the analysis can be summed up as follows: the three regions in Southern Finland

decided to choose themes for joint programmes and projects to steer planning and development in the regions. These themes are: sustainable everyday living and international competitiveness. The regions will use an interactive website and crowdsourcing in their work. During the council period 2013–2016, the regions will implement three to five joint programmes or projects that focus on and build the future.

The following themes were suggested for joint programmes and projects:

- The sustainable use of natural resources
- A sustainable way of living in different regional zones
- Well-functioning and intelligent travel and transport chains
- A business plan for the Cleantech cluster
- A competence and business plan concerning Russia

In order to draw up a vision and strategy for the Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Programme, all relevant parties in the region took part in an open debate about the future of the region. Actively engaging stakeholders in the work built the foundation for a good end result. Because different parties were actively involved in the preparation process, everyone was familiar with the content and the objectives and will work towards common objectives.

Environment

Helsinki-Uusimaa Region Continues to Grow

About one-third of the whole population in Finland – that is 1.6 million people – live in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. The majority of them – more than one million people – live in the capital region.

During the past few years, the population of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region has increased on average by approximately 15,000 people each year. The growth is mainly based on immigration and a natural population increase.

The share of immigration has increased continuously during this millennium. In 2011, Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's population increased by 16,700 inhabitants, with nearly half of them being immigrants.

When we look at the different areas in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, we can see that in relative terms, the population in the so called KUUMA municipalities increased the most during the past 20 years. Numerically speaking, however, the

**"THE METROPOLITAN AREA
ACCOUNTS FOR 70% OF THE
TOTAL POPULATION GROWTH
IN FINLAND."**

growth figures were clearly the greatest in the capital region, which accounted for more than 70% of the total population growth in Finland.

People who move to Helsinki-Uusimaa Region are typically relatively young and ready to start a family. Thanks to this migration, natural population growth is relatively high in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.

It is assumed that population development will continue in the same manner in the future: the population growth in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region will rely mainly on immigration and natural population growth. Mass migration will not have a substantial effect on population growth in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.

Figure 9. Population growth in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region in 1990–2011.

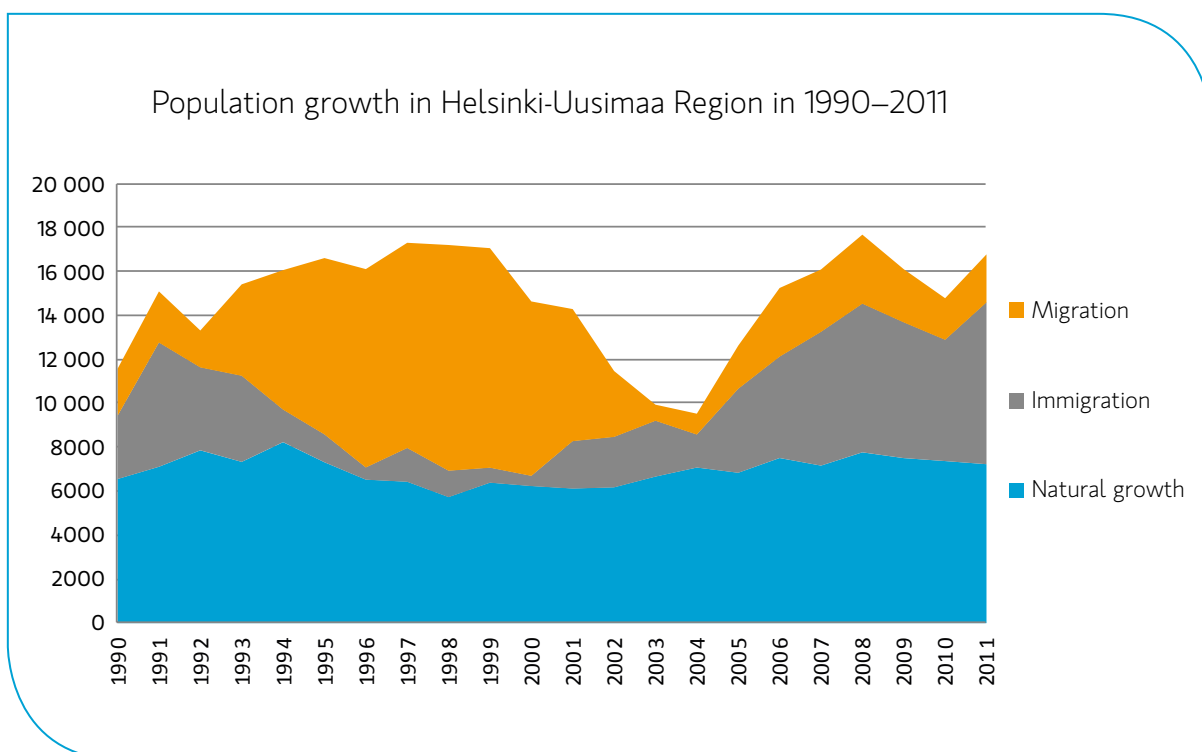


Table 1. Population change in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region during 2012–2035.

REGION	Projection by Statistics Finland in 2012						Projection by municipalities	
	31.12.2012	2020	2025	2030	2035	Change 2012–2035	2035	Change 2012–2035
Capital region	1 075 014	1 164 214	1 212 941	1 254 691	1 290 201	215 187	1 291 996	216 982
KUUMA region	308 979	335 202	349 942	362 365	372 541	63 562	478 682	169 703
Helsinki-Uusimaa region	1 383 993	1 499 416	1 562 883	1 617 056	1 662 742	278 749	1 770 678	386 685
Lohja region	62 805	67 196	69 624	71 684	73 391	10 586	83 515	20 710
Raasepori region	43 634	44 800	45 538	46 181	46 680	3 046	54 803	11 169
Loviisa region	18 348	18 380	18 528	18 697	18 827	479	22 591	4 243
Porvoo region	58 055	60 707	62 421	63 933	65 148	7 093	82 435	24 380
Helsinki-Uusimaa region	1 566 835	1 690 499	1 758 994	1 817 551	1 866 788	299 953	2 014 022	447 187
Average growth per year	17 777	15 277	13 699	11 711	9 847	13 041	19 443	19 443
Annual growth percentage	1,1	0,9	0,8	0,7	0,5	0,7	1,1	1,1

Source: Statistics Finland

Multicultural Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is a bilingual region. Nearly 83% of all inhabitants speak Finnish as their first language, while 9% speak Swedish as their first language. There are as many people with some other mother tongue than Finnish or Swedish as there are Swedish speakers, i.e. nearly 9% of the population in the region.

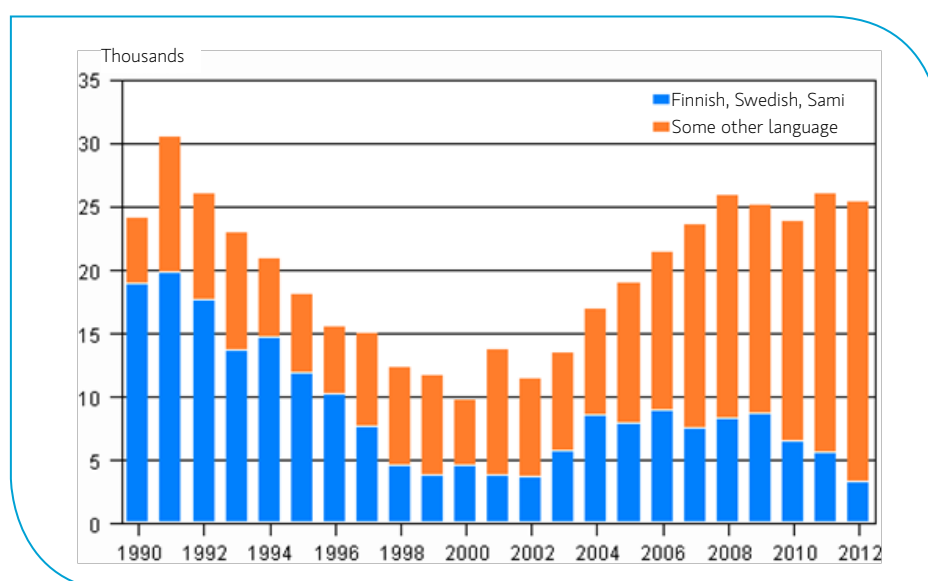
The people in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region speak altogether 141 different languages as a mother tongue, with Russian being the most common foreign language. It is followed in order of prevalence by Estonian, Somali and English. Estonians make up the biggest group of foreign nationals, followed by

"ALMOST 90% OF THE POPULATION GROWTH IN HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGION IS DUE TO IMMIGRATION."

Russians and Somalis.

The number of people with some other mother tongue than Finnish or Swedish increased by 22,122 people in 2012, which makes up 87% of the overall population growth. The number of people with Finnish as their first language increased by 3,497 people, whereas the number of people with Swedish as their first language decreased by 242 people. The number of Sami speakers increased by 30 people.

Figure 10.
Population change according
to mother tongue during
1990–2012.



Compact but Expensive Housing

Housing in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is more compact than in other parts of Finland. Flats are smaller in the capital region, which means that the average living area per person is clearly smaller than elsewhere in the country. In the municipalities surrounding the capital region, the living area in square metres per person is more or less the same as elsewhere in the country. In Eastern and Western Helsinki-Uusimaa Region as well as in Kauniainen, flat sizes tend to be larger than average.

The housing production in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region and especially in the capital region has been inadequate for years now. Construction companies in the region have not been able or willing to build housing for a price new residents would be able or willing to pay. On the other hand, the supply of plots and/or the complexity of the Finnish building regulations have made it very difficult for new players to enter the market.

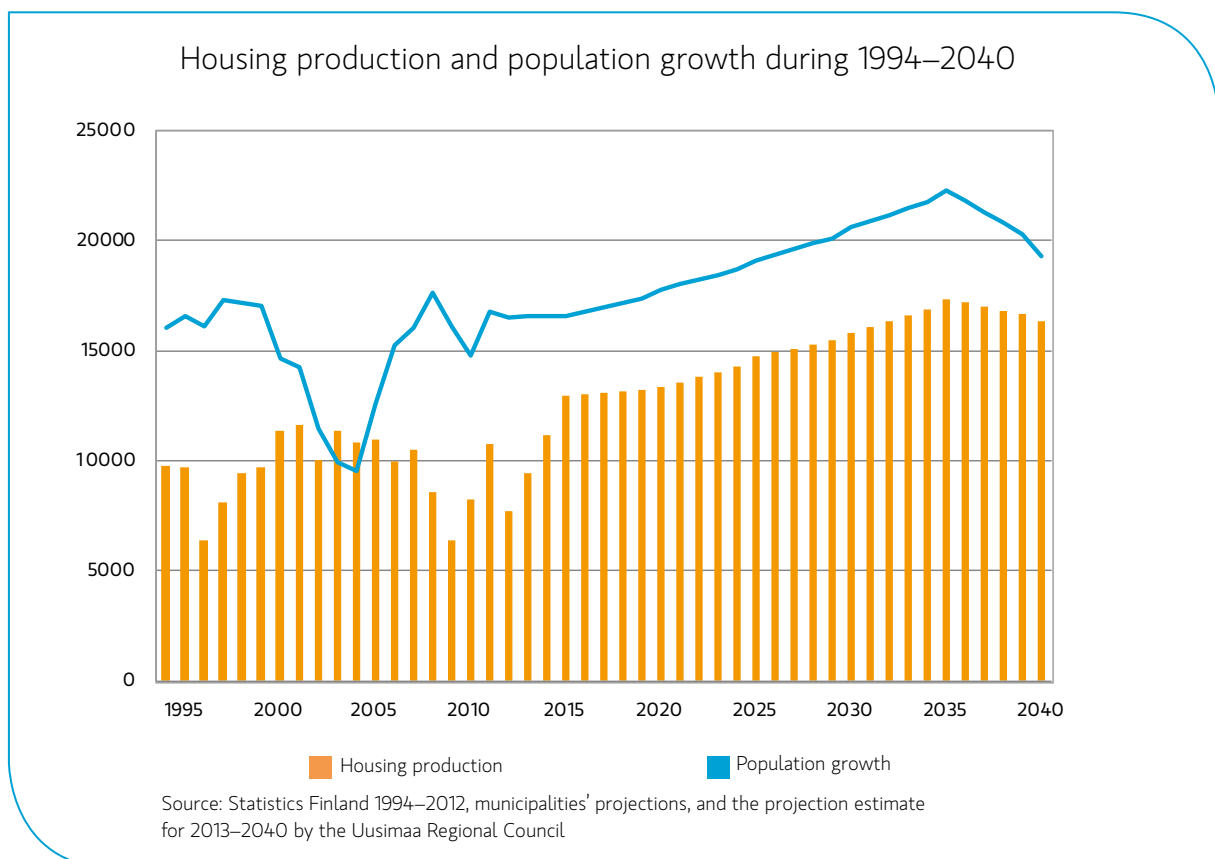
Housing production hit an all-time low in 2009. After that, the production has increased in Helsinki,

"PEOPLE IN THE METROPOLITAN REGION PAY TWICE AS MUCH FOR THEIR HOUSING AS PEOPLE IN OTHER PARTS OF FINLAND."

Espoo and Vantaa, but the development has been slower in other parts of the region. The price of housing is about twice as high in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region and about two and a half times as high in the capital region as in other parts of the country. Private rental prices in the capital region have risen more quickly than elsewhere in Finland, and the rent level is currently nearly 50% higher than in other parts of the country. However, the rents of publicly subsidized housing have risen less than in other parts of the country and only exceed the national rent level by about 15%.

There is a great demand for affordable rental housing in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. Although there is clearly more publicly subsidized housing

Figure 11. Housing production and population growth in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region during 1994–2040.



in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region than in the rest of the country, there are also twice as many people in need of housing. The situation has only grown worse over the past five years. The situation is especially bad in Helsinki where there are almost five applicants for each flat. The situation is such despite the fact that there are clearly, i.e. nearly 60%, more rental flats per capita in Helsinki than in other parts of the country. In addition, the tenant turnover in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is only half of that of the rest of the country. The turnover rate is the smallest in Helsinki.

Productivity and Jobs in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region accounts for about 39% of the Finnish GDP, which is clearly more than could be expected of the population living in the region. In Helsinki-Uusimaa Region in the 21st century, the GDP per resident has been roughly 40% higher than in the rest of the country, and clearly higher than in any of the first fifteen member countries of the European Union (EU15). This higher-than-average GDP per capita translates to a high average income level compared to the rest of the country. There are, however, great variations in GDP between different municipalities in the region.

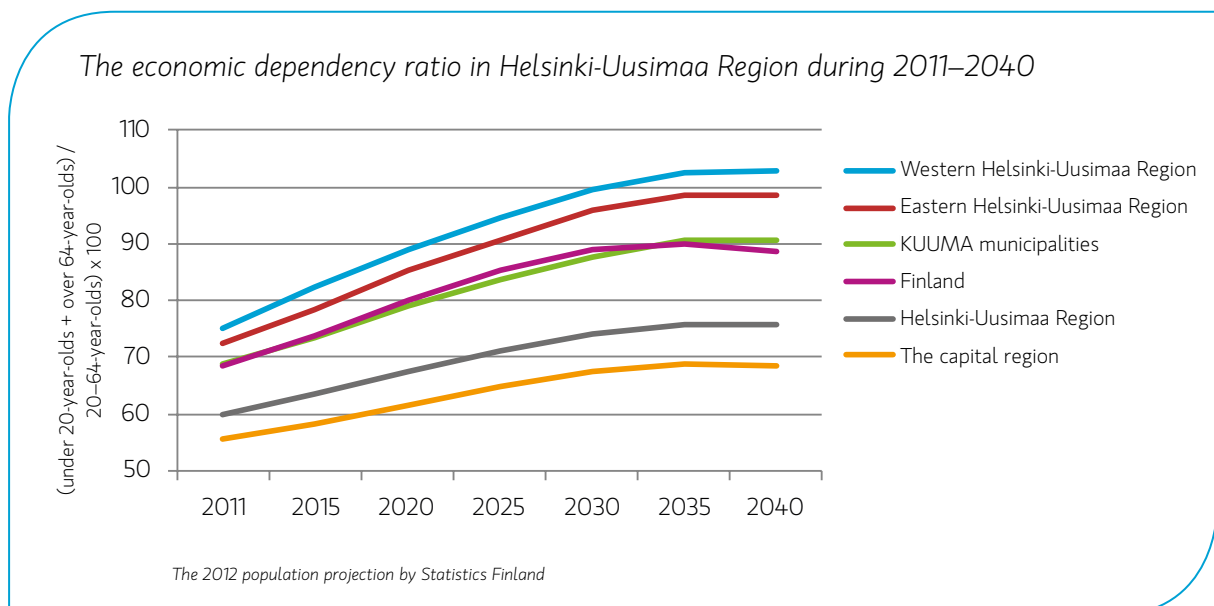
The economic dependency ratio (defined as the ratio of people outside the labour force to the people in the labour force) has for quite some time been better in all areas of Helsinki-Uusimaa

"THE HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGION IS CRUCIAL FOR THE FINNISH ECONOMY."

Region than in the rest of the country on average. The dependency ratio is the best in the capital region. In the short term, the economic dependency ratio will go up or down according to the employment/unemployment figures, but in the long term, the trend is also affected by the changes that take place in the population structure.

Approximately 32% of all jobs in the country are in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, and about 78% of these jobs are in the capital region. In December 2012, the unemployment rate for the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region was 7.5%. The rate was the highest in Western Helsinki-Uusimaa Region and the lowest in the so-called KUUMA municipalities in Central Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. In addition to the unemployment rate, the employment rate, which measures the ratio of working age population with employment, is also a useful indicator. In Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, the employment rate is the highest in the so-called KUUMA municipalities in Central Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. The employment rates are more or less similar to each other in the capital region and in Eastern and Western Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.

Figure 12. The economic dependency ratio in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region during 2011–2040.





Entrepreneurial and Service-Oriented Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

One third (100,000) of all Finnish companies and nearly all large companies are located in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. Despite this, the percentage of companies that employ fewer than 10 people is as high as 90%. The number of entrepreneurs in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region outside the capital region is proportionally higher than the average in the country.

"HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGION LIVES FROM TRADE."

Businesses in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region are geographically located according to their industry. The service sector is the main employer in the whole Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, whereas secondary production is important outside the capital region. Eastern and Western Helsinki-Uusimaa Region are regions with strong industrial identities and they are clearly more industry-heavy than Finland on average. The KUUMA municipalities are as industrialized as the rest of the country on average. The building sector is a fairly large industry in the KUUMA region. The KUUMA municipalities and the capital region both rely on wholesale business as an important employer. The capital region is also strongly specialized in information and communication as well as financing and insurances, which is quite typical of metropolitan regions globally.

After the deep recession of the 1990s, companies in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region have employed more people than Finnish companies on average. The financial crisis of 2008, followed by a sharp drop

in the real economy, had a particularly disadvantageous impact on the Western Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, which is dominated by the metal industry. Other parts of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region survived with minor damages compared to the rest of the country. During the last few years, the employment rate in companies in the Helsinki-Uusimaa

Region has improved more slowly than in the rest of the country. The region's particular challenge is to increase the number of growth companies.

Helsinki-Uusimaa Region needs new business, which can be created by new industries such as gaming, health and wellness, intelligent service applications in the public sector, and economic industries with a corporate social responsibility.

Inquiring and Intelligent Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

Helsinki-Uusimaa Region boasts many research activities: the region accounts for almost half of all research conducted in Finland. In 2011, approximately 36,000 people were employed in R&D. Half of them worked for companies, almost a third at universities and a sixth in the public sector. The number of employees in the R&D sector is growing both in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region and in the country.

The University of Helsinki is the oldest, largest and most multidisciplinary university in Finland. Aalto University is an internationally renowned institution of higher education in the fields of technology, economy and the arts. There are altogether more than 60,000 university students in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, which amounts to more than one third of all university students in Finland. Nearly 25% of all students at universities of applied

"HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGION RELIES ON THE WORLD-CLASS KNOW-HOW OF ITS UNIVERSITIES."

sciences study at one of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's seven universities of applied sciences.

In 2040, more and more foreign experts and specialists will work in R&D, and the number of international students and exchange students will have multiplied. The centres of excellence housed by universities host the best Finnish and international scientists.

Well-Being in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

Measured by the most commonly used instruments, the population in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is, on average, doing well. The inhabitants are healthier than Finns on average: only two municipalities have a morbidity rate slightly higher than the Finnish average. For decades now, Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's unemployment rate has also been lower than average.

"THE GROWING INEQUALITY IS A GREAT CHALLENGE."

The taxable income of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's inhabitants is higher than the Finnish average in all the main areas of the region: the capital region, the KUUMA municipalities, Eastern Helsinki-Uusimaa Region and Western Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. There are, however, significant municipal differences in the average income level in the region.

Even though people in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region are doing well in general, there are some sore points to address. Housing costs in the capital region are high: rents are a third higher and owner-occupied housing prices as much as 70% higher than the Finnish average. Homelessness is most common in Helsinki, and deprivation and social disadvantages are also focused in the capital region. The number of people receiving income support is greater than the average in the capital region, but lower than the average in other parts of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.

Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, National Hub for Transport

Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is the main hub for Finnish freight and passenger transport, and the Helsinki-Vantaa airport is an important gateway between Europe and Asia. In addition, there are a number of car ferry connections from the ports of

"BY CAR, BOAT, TRAIN OR PLANE – COMMUTING AND TRAVELLING INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE METROPOLIS."

Helsinki to several cities around the Baltic Sea area.

The main freight flows in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region travel through the ports in Sköldvik, Helsinki and Hanko. In the freight traffic of the ports of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, the amount of general cargo is emphasised. These ports cater to the entire country as well as to the Saint Petersburg area. The importance of air cargo is rather insignificant volume-wise, but value-wise the Helsinki-Vantaa airport amounts to roughly one fifth of all freight traffic.

When it comes to internal passenger traffic, Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is well-equipped to make use of all elements of its transport system. The most important means of transport is the car (45 %), but a sufficiently dense urban structure also enables people to use other means of transport, for example to move about on foot (24 %), by bike (8 %) or by public transport (20 %), whose share of all transport is the highest in the country.

Vehicle traffic has increased significantly in the region during the past few decades. The traffic volumes have grown by approximately 42% (1995–2008) on the main roads in the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. On weekdays, traffic jams are an everyday phenomenon on the main roads in Helsinki. What's more, traffic jams seem to grow larger and last longer each year. On densely trafficked lanes, there will most likely be more disruptions to traffic in future, which leads to an increasing occurrence of traffic congestions.

During the past couple of decades, the average speed has gone down in the Helsinki area main roads. Consequently, the accessibility in road traffic has decreased. Although road safety has improved on our main roads, the number of traffic accidents causing physical injuries has increased on connecting roads. Within the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region, for example, the transport performance (vehicles per kilometre) is estimated to increase by more than 30% by 2035.

The Environmental State of Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

Nature in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is diverse; it is characterised by the proximity to the coastline and

by varied soil. The Helsinki-Uusimaa Region has the highest population density in the country, but urban sprawl generates higher levels of traffic and an ever-growing network of roads and highways, thus leaving less room for plants and animals and altering their living conditions.

The state of waters in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region is much weaker than in the rest of the country. The ecological state of especially rivers and coastal waters in the Gulf of Finland is very poor. Large nutrient loads are the main reason for the poor state of surface waters in the region. The majority of nutrient loads are caused by agricultural discharges from fields and by waste water loads from residential areas, sparsely populated areas and industry. Coastal waters are especially sensitive to acidification as archipelagos are well-sheltered and water exchange is poor.

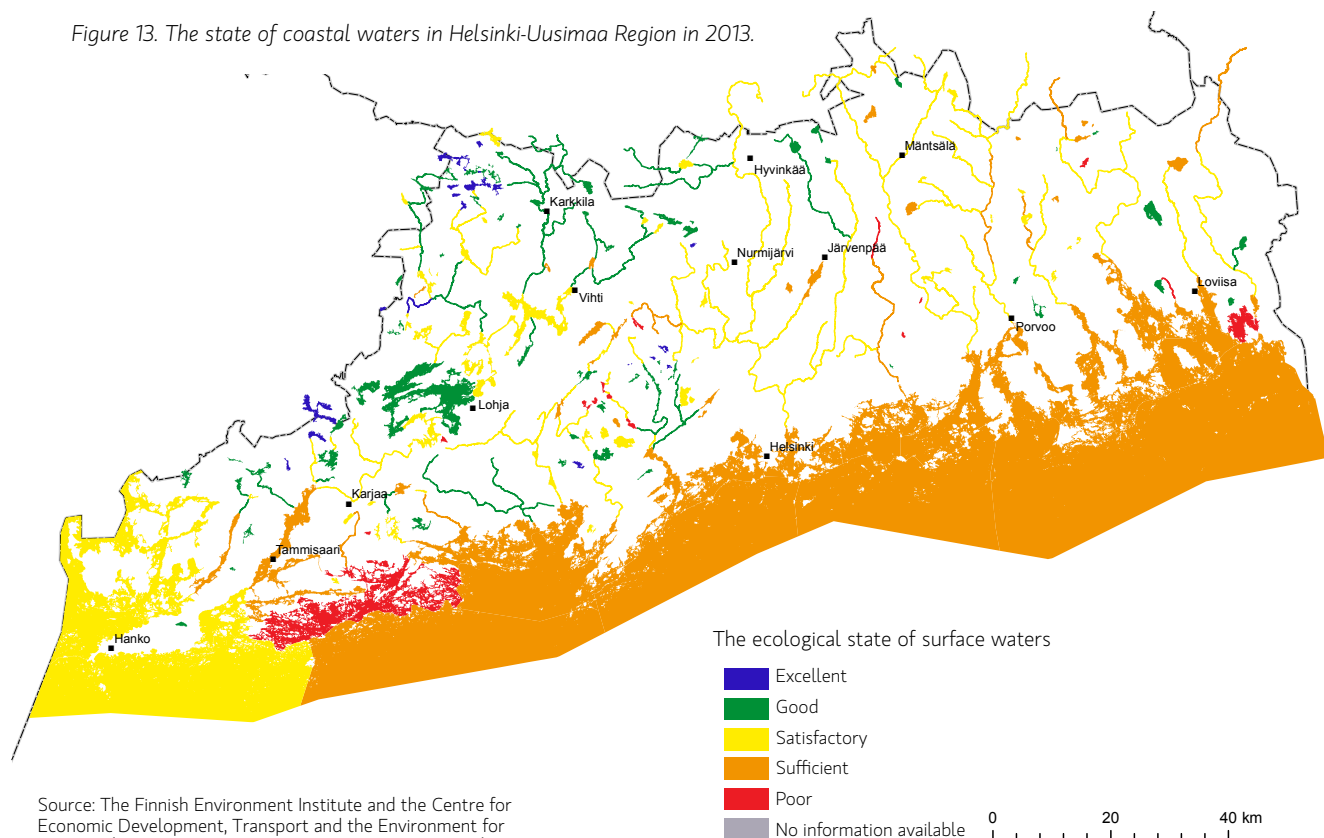
The state of groundwater areas is poorer in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region than in the rest of the country on average. There are altogether 66 groundwater areas at risk of being affected by pollution; in 22 of these, the chemical state of water is poor. The number of areas has also increased over time.

Ridges and moraine formations in Central and Eastern Helsinki-Uusimaa Region are frequent targets of both landscape and nature protection projects. The demand for soil and rock material is very high in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region: approximately 5 million cubic metres in the capital region alone. The transport distances for gravel have grown in the past years, and the extraction of rock material has increased.

Industrial sulphur and nitrogen emissions have gradually decreased in the last decade. The lichen surveys conducted in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region have demonstrated that airborne emissions have decreased in areas previously heavily impacted, but the land area infected by harmful or toxic emissions has grown in size. A similar decrease has not been noted in carbon dioxide emissions. In terms of climate change, Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's main problem is the high share of coal in energy production.

Traffic noise accounts for more than 90% of environmental noise exposure in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region. People are exposed to traffic noise in the vicinity of all access roads, main streets, most actively used railways, and the airport.

Figure 13. The state of coastal waters in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region in 2013.



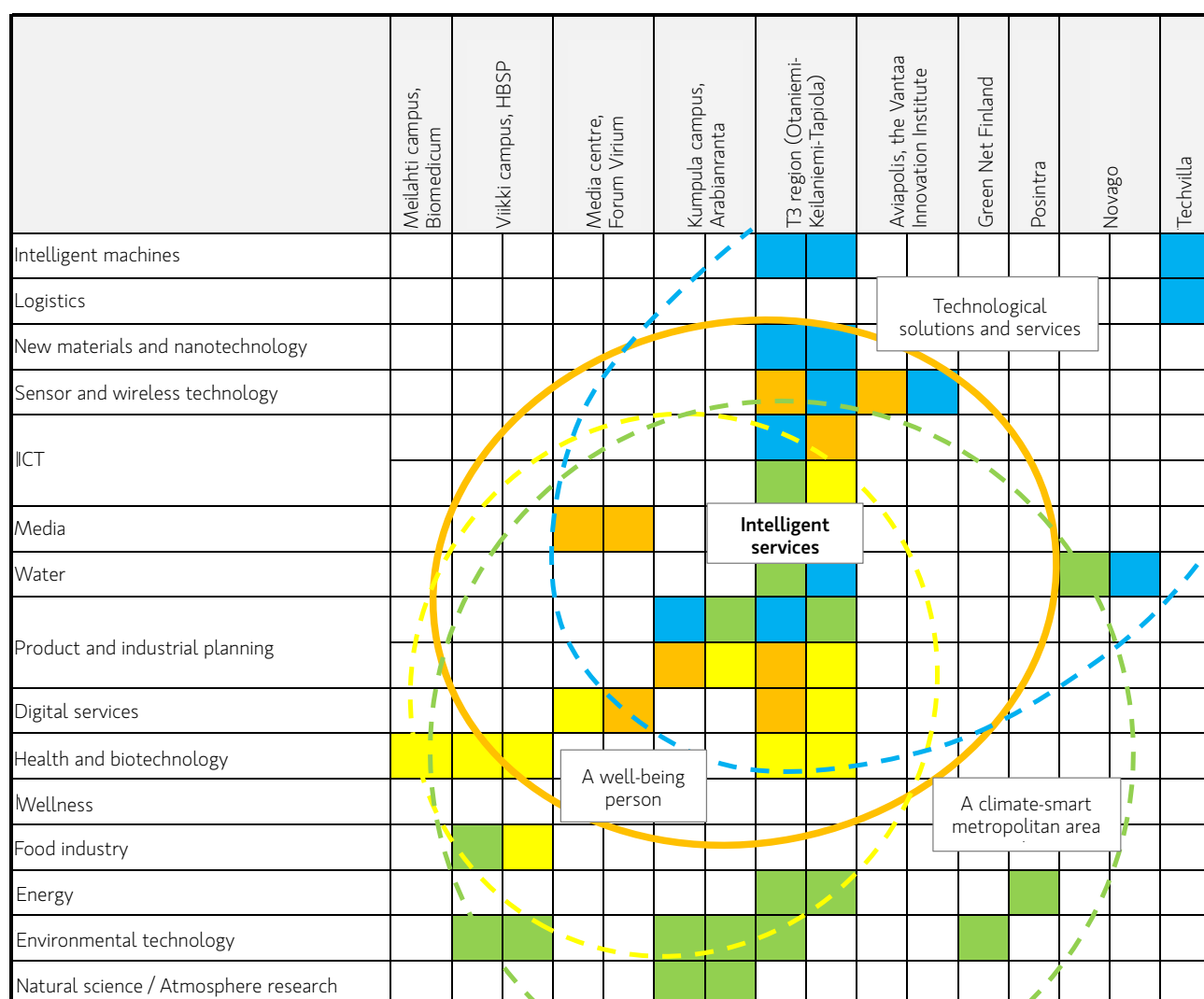
Source: The Finnish Environment Institute and the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Uusimaa (partly also the National Land Survey of Finland)

APPENDIX 2.

SMART SPECIALIZATION OF HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGION

Among the top priorities in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region's innovation clusters are cleantech, wellness technology and services, technological solutions and services, and, cutting across all three, intelligent services.

Figure 14. Intelligent specialisation in Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.



APPENDIX 3: TERMS USED IN THE HELSINKI-UUSIMAA REGIONAL PROGRAMME

BRIICS countries	Brazil, Russia, India, Indonesia, China and South Africa.
Carbon neutral	A carbon neutral society produces no more greenhouse gases than it can offset.
Cleantech	Cleantech covers a range of processes, closed systems, products and services that seek to promote the sustainable use of the world's natural resources and their efficient production.
Southern Finland collaboration area	An area consisting of several regions and defined by the Regional Development Act. The Southern Finland collaboration area entails three regions: Kanta-Häme, Päijät-Häme and Helsinki-Uusimaa Region.
COSME	The European Union Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs 2014–2020.
Crowdsourcing	Crowdsourcing is the practice of involving inhabitants and organisations in the development of society and projects. In crowdsourcing, an issue can be solved or a task dealt with by non-predefined participants through an open invitation.
Ecosystem services	Ecosystem services are material and immaterial benefits and services derived from nature and essential for humans.
Ecosystem	<p>An ecosystem is a community in which living organisms (plants, animals and microbes) and inorganic components interact as a system.</p> <p>A business ecosystem is made up of businesses that come together around one main player's products or services with the aim of the business ecosystem offering customers more than a single player could.</p>
ENI	European Neighbourhood Instrument, an EU funding programme that aims at promoting collaboration and integration between EU member countries and countries south and east of the EU.
EU 2020	Europe 2020 is the EU's 10-year growth strategy which supports economic growth that is more intelligent, sustainable and inclusive than before.
EU programmes	The EU finances various projects and programmes based on political goals set by the member states together. The themes of the programmes touch on, for example, youth, culture, R&D, social and health issues, the environment, energy, and education.
EU Structural Fund Programmes	The EU's regional and structural policy is funded by three different funds: the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Social Fund (ESF) and the Cohesion Fund. The aim of the EU's regional and structural policy is to reduce regional disparities in terms of income, wealth and opportunities, to promote economic balance, competitiveness and sustainable development, and to reform economic and social structures.
GDP	The gross domestic product is the value of all officially recognised final goods and services produced in a country in a year.
GPI	Genuine Progress Indicator, which aims to measure a nation's economic well-being and readiness to maintain the current level of welfare in the future.
Growth entrepreneurship	A growth company is a company whose earnings or personnel increase at a rate that is faster than in the economy in general, for example by more than 20% each year during a period of three years.

Helsinki City Rail Loop	The Helsinki City Rail Loop is the planned new railway line which runs in a tunnel under the city centre in Helsinki. It starts from Pasila, continues to Töölö, the city centre and Hakaniemi, and terminates in its starting point in Pasila.
HLJ KUHA 2013–2016	HJL KUHA stands for the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region Transport System Plan's (HLJ) small cost-effective transport infrastructure projects in the metropolitan area (KUHA). The KUHA project represents a new way of thinking whereby the existing infrastructure is being improved by small but efficient measures with wide-scale effects.
Horizon 2020	The EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. Horizon 2020 aims at ensuring Europe's global competitiveness.
INKA programme	The Innovative Cities (INKA) programme. Launched in the beginning of 2014, the programme's aim is to strengthen and create internationally attractive innovation clusters in Finland. The programme replaces the Centre of Expertise Programme (OSKE) that ended in 2013.
Innovation	A new or remodelled service or product that is available to markets.
Innovation platform	An environment in which new services, business models and technology are being developed in collaboration with enterprises, public authorities, research institutes and inhabitants. Originally called "LivingLab".
Intelligent/smart	Intelligent solutions make use of IT; in EU jargon, "smart" is used instead of "intelligent".
Invasive species	An invasive species is a plant or animal that is non-native to an ecosystem. It arrives to the ecosystem and establishes itself with human help – be that conscious or unconscious.
KUUMA municipalities	As agreed by the municipalities themselves, the KUUMA municipalities are Hyvinkää, Järvenpää, Kirkkonummi, Kerava, Mäntsälä, Nurmijärvi, Pornainen, Sipoo, Tuusula and Vihti.
Letter of intent	The letter of intent on land use, housing and transport (MAL). Urban development policy is moving more and more towards mutual agreements between the government and major cities or city regions. The aim of this practice is to write down the joint pre-agreement and planned future measures that are needed to reach an actual agreement.
Life+	LIFE is an EU financial instrument that supports projects related to the environment and nature in the member states.
LivingLab	LivingLab is an environment in which new services, products, business models and high-tech solutions are being developed in collaboration with companies, public authorities, research institutes and inhabitants.
LNG terminal	LNG stands for liquefied natural gas. LNG can be transported to Finland via the LNG terminal. LNG is procured from the global market and imported to the Finnish terminal by custom-built vessels.
Local energy	Local energy refers to energy which is produced locally in a small scale using renewable forms of energy. Local energy can be produced from renewable energy sources such as wind, sun, biomass or thermal energy stored in the ground or water.
Northern Growth Corridor	The Stockholm–Turku–Vantaa–Helsinki–Kotka–Saint Petersburg connection is the most important traffic and business corridor between the EU and Russia. The E18 motorway, ports, railway connections and international flight connections serve as the backbone for traffic and business in this corridor. One of the aims of the growth corridor project is to examine what the corridor stretching from Stockholm to Saint Petersburg can offer for the development of the urban regions and the adjoining municipalities and cities in the corridor area.
Rail Baltica	The aim of Rail Baltica is to connect Finland, the Baltic countries and Poland, and to improve connections to Central and Northern Europe and Germany. In the project, a new railway connection from Tallinn to Warsaw and further to Berlin will be built. Rail Baltica is one of the main projects in the EU's Trans-European Transport Networks (TEN-T).
Resilience	Change management, flexibility and the ability to adapt to changing situations.

Risk financing	Risk financing or venture capital refers to fixed-term financing offered to companies that possess the potential for fast and substantial growth and that employ new technology and/or a new business model, usually in the fields of biotech, ICT or cleantech.
Segregation	Segregation refers to social groups being separated in an urban environment. The term is often used when poverty and social problems are accumulated in certain areas. The word originally referred to racial segregation.
Smart growth	Smart growth refers to improving the educational level in the EU: people are encouraged to study, and research and innovation activities are increased. Smart growth is also about developing products and services in order to create growth and jobs and about developing the digital society by using IT and communication technologies more efficiently.
Smart specialisation	Smart specialisation refers to identifying a country's or a region's specific characteristics and assets, enhancing that region's competitive advantages and bringing regional stakeholders and assets together to promote future excellence.
Start-up entrepreneurship	The term is usually used of companies that have been up and running for no more than a couple of years. These companies are characterised by rapid growth expectations.
Sustainable	Sustainable = ecologically, economically and socially sustainable.
T3 in Espoo	A concentration of economy, science and the arts located in Otaniemi. The most important players in the T3 area include Aalto university, the VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, and various high-tech companies.
Tekes	Tekes stands for the Finnish Funding Agency for Innovation. Tekes's funding and services promote the R&D and innovation projects of companies, universities and research institutes.
Urban food solutions	Urban food solutions aim at generating new business in the food chain, improving food security and curbing losses and wastage in the food chain.
Value network-based development	A value network is web of relationships that generates added value through exchanges between different parties.
Via Baltica	Via Baltica (E67) is the most important highway running between the Baltic states. It stretches from Tallinn to Warsaw via Riga.

Uudenmaan liitto // Nylands förbund
Uusimaa Regional Council // Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

Esterinportti 2 B • 00240 Helsinki • Finland
+358 9 4767 411 • toimisto@uudenmaanliitto.fi • uudenmaanliitto.fi