

Helsinki, Finland

Helsinki has committed to challenging carbon reduction plans, aiming to be completely carbon neutral by 2050. Much of this reduction will stem from an investment in renewable energy, with municipally-owned supplier Helsinki Energy planning to replace coal with biofuels in its combined heat and power (CHP) plants and building two large off-shore wind parks with power production capacity of 500–1000 megawatts (MWs). Extensions to the rail network have connected Helsinki to nearby cities, allowing commuters to leave their cars at home and thus further reducing emissions levels. The city has expertise in constructing energy efficient buildings from the development of the ecological suburb of Eko-Viikki in the 1990s to low-energy and wooden constructed Honkasuo in the 2010s - producing significantly lower carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions than other neighbourhoods. Helsinki has extended ambitious energy standards to all new construction of apartment buildings.



- **Low carbon vision**

Reduction of 30% by 2020 (from 1990 base year) and carbon neutral by 2050

- **Area:** 214.61 km²
- **Population:** 614,074 (2014)
- **Population annual growth rate:** 1%
- **Final energy consumption in the community (GJ/year):**
25,530,126 GJ (7,091,940,626 kWh)
- **GHG emissions from the community (tCO_{2e}/year):** 4.9 tonnes CO_{2e}./capita in 2012 (2,969 Mt CO_{2e} total)
- **Main economic activity:** Services (88%)
- **Main priority sectors for Low Emission Urban Development:**
 - Low-carbon energy production
 - Energy efficient urban planning
 - Sustainable transport planning (railways, bicycles, walking, planning, hierarchy)
 - Partnerships and communication



“The aim of the City of Helsinki is to be carbon neutral by the year 2050.”

Jussi Pajunen, Mayor



- **Commitments**

- City area total GHGs to be reduced by 30% between 1990-2020 (Strategy Programme 2013-2016)
- 20% of energy production (heat and power) owned by the city will be renewable by 2020, energy production GHGs will be reduced by 20% between 1990-2020 (Environmental Policy 2012, HelsinginEnergia Development Programme), carbon neutral energy production by 2050 (Helsingin Energia Development Programme)
- City administration will reduce energy consumption annually by 2% between 2010-2020
- Environmental criteria are included in all public procurement, 50% by 2015 and 100% by 2020 (Environmental Policy 2012)

- **Actions:**

- 30% GHG reduction potential and cost estimate study
- Climate partners - www.ilmastokumppanit.fi/en
- Energy saving targets and eco-support activity in city organization
- High energy efficiency demand in city-owned plots

