



Local Governments  
for Sustainability



**Circulars**

# Following the circular development pathway towards a sustainable Turku

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## About Turku

Located in Southwest Finland, Turku is the regional capital of the third largest urban area in Finland.

Turku is the country's oldest city and a global frontrunner for climate action. The city is committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2029 already!

With its surrounding municipalities, Turku is an energetic centre of growth in the Baltic Sea area.

In 2019, the city launched the Circular Turku project in partnership with Sitra and ICLEI.

# Meet Circular Turku in 2029



In 2029, Turku has a **net positive impact on the environment**. It is a climate positive city where resources consumption and waste production is minimized and biodiversity is nurtured.

The **local economy is flourishing and works in synergy with nature**. Job opportunities that contribute to a more Circular Turku are well distributed among the population and contribute to a fairer and more inclusive city.

From sharing resources to consuming locally and taking on lifestyles shifts, engaging in Circular Turku is **accessible to all, easy and fun**.

This change is the result of **tight collaboration between actors from different sectors** around 25 interventions that were planned as part of the Circular Turku roadmap



## 4 pillars of Circular Turku

- **Ambition:** Achieving a systemic change by focusing on the circular transition of infrastructures, city operations and services, businesses innovations and lifestyles.

- **Integration:** Showcasing how circularity supports climate action, biodiversity and the localization of the SDGs in practice.

- **Inclusion:** Ensuring that the actions identified as part of the roadmap promote social equity, build on community initiatives and create opportunities for all residents.

- **Collaboration:** Prioritizing a bottom-up and multi-stakeholder approach to the circular economy.



# Achievements to date

**Reduction of emissions of 50%** compared to 1990 levels.

Identification of **700+ circular economy actors** in the Turku region, including **270+ businesses**.

**Co-creation of the Circular Turku roadmap:** Selection of 5 priority topics and mapping of concrete goals and action to achieve resource wisdom by 2040 with **200+** stakeholders.

Launch of the **1.5-Degree Life** campaign in partnership with Japanese cities to connect climate and circularity efforts to residents and support behavior change.

**Global advocacy on linking circularity and climate neutrality** (publications, policy briefs, global events, articles and podcast in different media)



# Circular Turku Roadmap



The roadmap is being developed in collaboration with 200+ local and regional stakeholders. Interventions are being mapped for five priority topics and six cross-cutting enablers.



Transport  
& logistics



Food  
systems



Buildings &  
construction



Water  
systems



Energy  
systems

# ICLEI Circulars



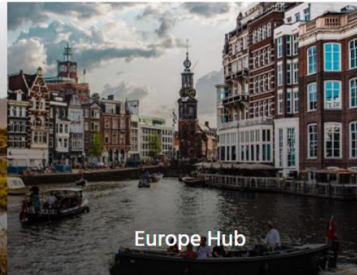
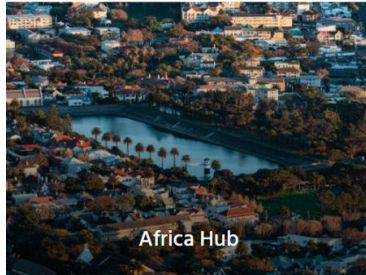
## How to use the Circular City Actions Framework?

The Circular City Actions Framework provides urban changemakers with five complementary strategies they can use to start working towards a more circular system. The framework is action-based to provide users with concrete strategic directions and showcase the desired outcomes of each strategy.

These five complementary strategies and their sub-strategies address the different roles that local and regional governments play, from public service delivery to cooperation with local stakeholders, asset management, urban planning and regulation. They can be applied to all production, consumption and waste management processes influenced by the city or its residents and are most effective when implemented in parallel. They can be used in stakeholder consultations to illustrate what the circular economy looks like at the local level and jointly identify relevant interventions.

## ICLEI Circulars Regional Hubs

ICLEI Circulars works with cities around the world to find circular solutions for locally specific challenges.



Access resources tailored to cities' needs on [circulars.iclei.org](https://circulars.iclei.org)



# European Circular Cities Declaration



The European Circular City Declaration allows local and regional governments across Europe to communicate their commitment to supporting the transition from a linear to a circular economy in Europe, and thereby creating a resource-efficient, low-carbon and socially responsible society.

