

innocities

# Introducing InnoCities

6/2025



Co-funded by  
the European Union



# Why are InnoCities created?



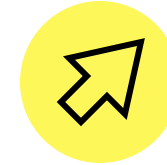
## EU's sustainable urban development

- Cities are the platforms of European innovation operations. Simultaneously, different sustainability challenges are identified and need to be solved in cities.
- InnoCities are the Finnish way of implementing the EU's sustainable urban development, with green and digital transitions at its core.



## Ecosystem agreement

- The agreement of the city and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment on the development of the selected ecosystems.
- Includes 16 important development areas of Finnish RDI activities: university and university consortium cities.



## RDI investments and cooperation

- The target of 4% of GDP invested in RDI requires us to improve the conditions for growth, including the development environments and the innovation capacity of the regions.
- By investing in innovation, cities support higher education institutions and businesses and create the conditions for their regions' growth of productivity and vitality.

# Case studies and success stories



Rovaniemi wants to level out tourism peaks



Jyväskylä helps companies break into the international sports business market'

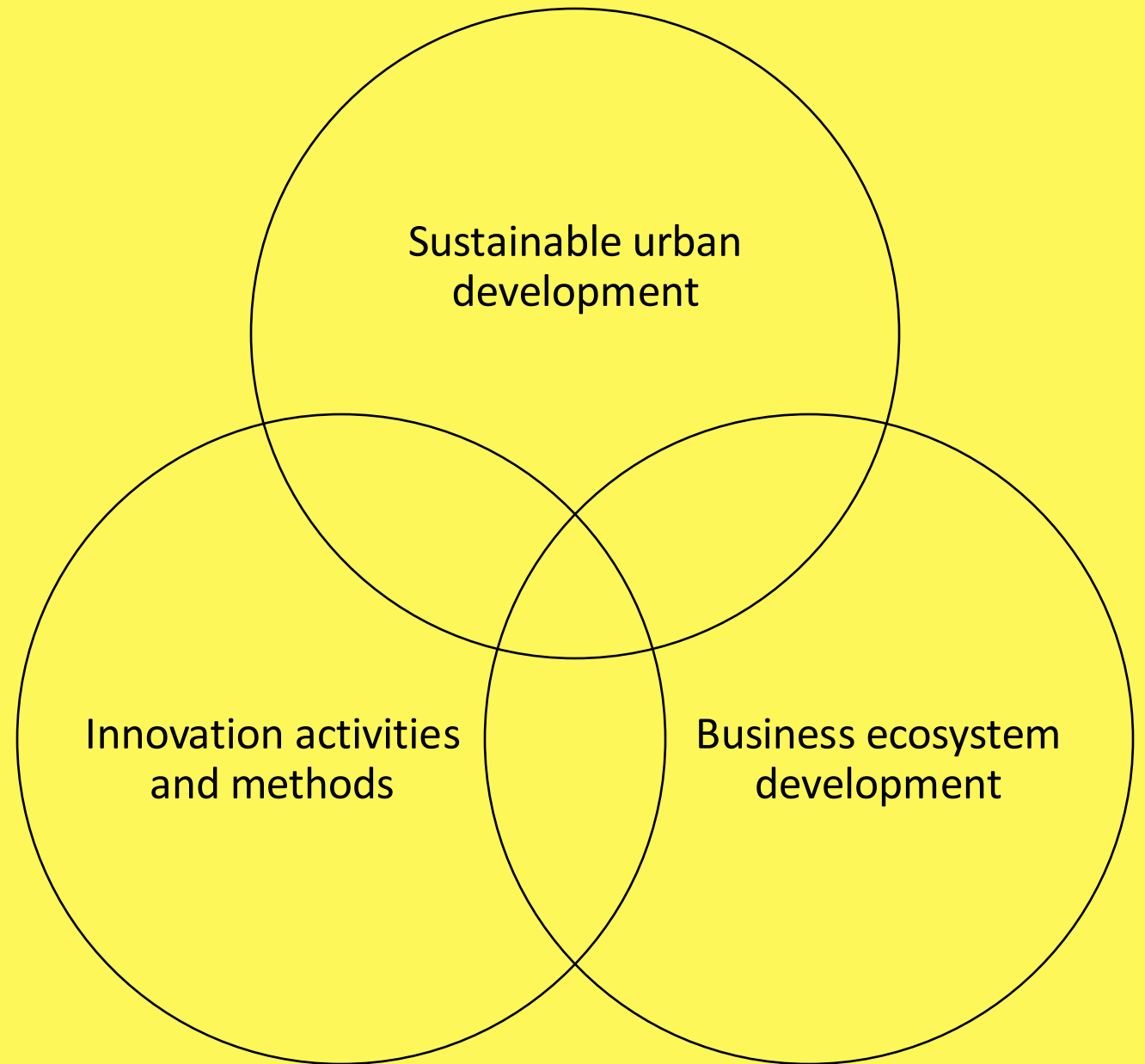


Artificial intelligence agents have the knowledge of a thousand master's degrees – Seinäjoki wants to bring 100,000 AI agents to businesses in the region



Oulu's new H2School prepares experts for a new industry

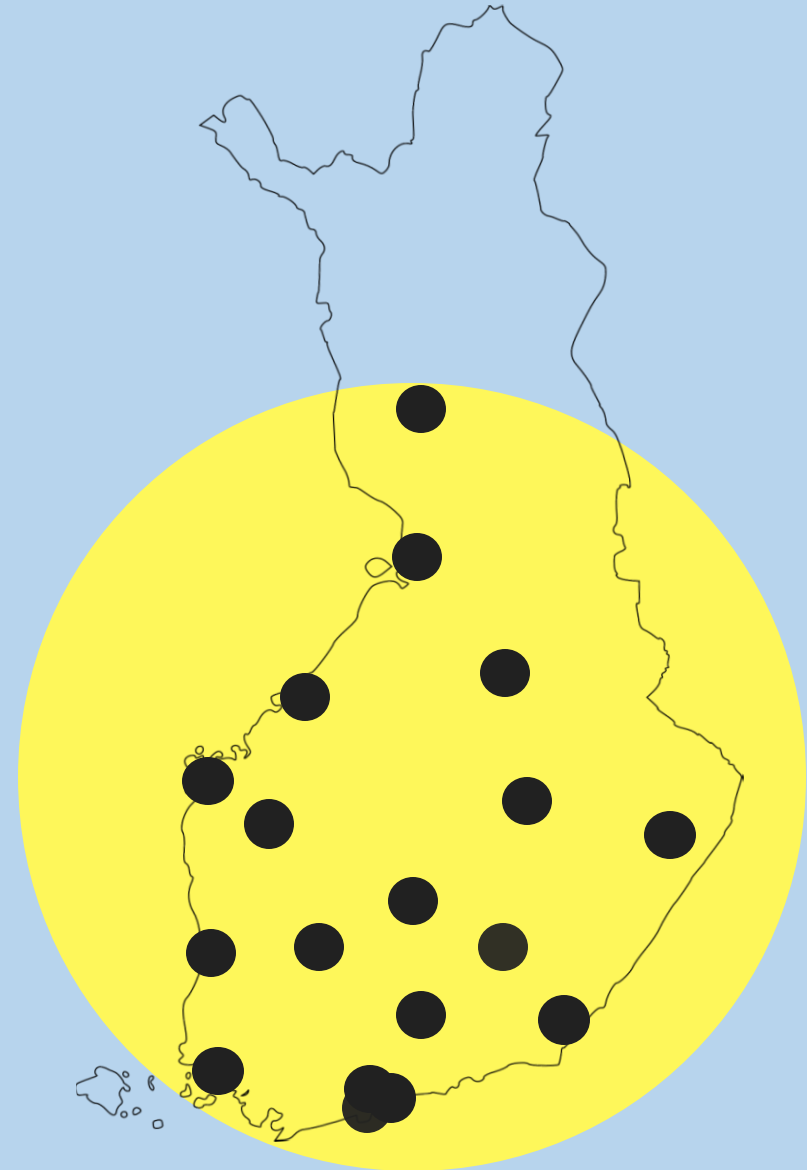
University cities in Finland invest in and support pilot projects, innovative initiatives and environments to foster local business development and advance sustainable urban living.



# Each city has made an ecosystem agreement with the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment

Espoo, Helsinki and Vantaa  
Joensuu  
Jyväskylä  
Kokkola  
Kuopio  
Lahti  
Lappeenranta (+Imatra)  
Mikkeli

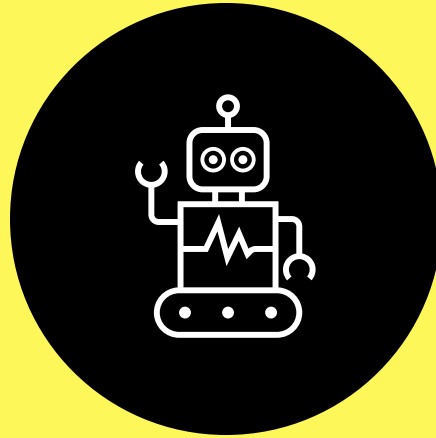
Oulu  
Pori  
Kajaani (+Sotkamo)  
Rovaniemi  
Seinäjoki  
Tampere  
Turku  
Vaasa



# Themes



Sustainable  
transition



Digitalisation and  
new technologies



Wellbeing

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## Actions



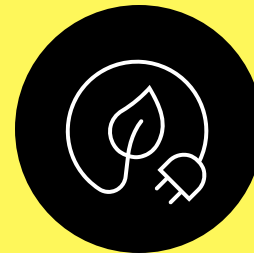
Cities as platforms for  
development  
and experiments



Development of the  
start-up ecosystem



Investments,  
planning and  
public procurement



Demonstrations  
promoting energy  
efficiency and  
circular economy



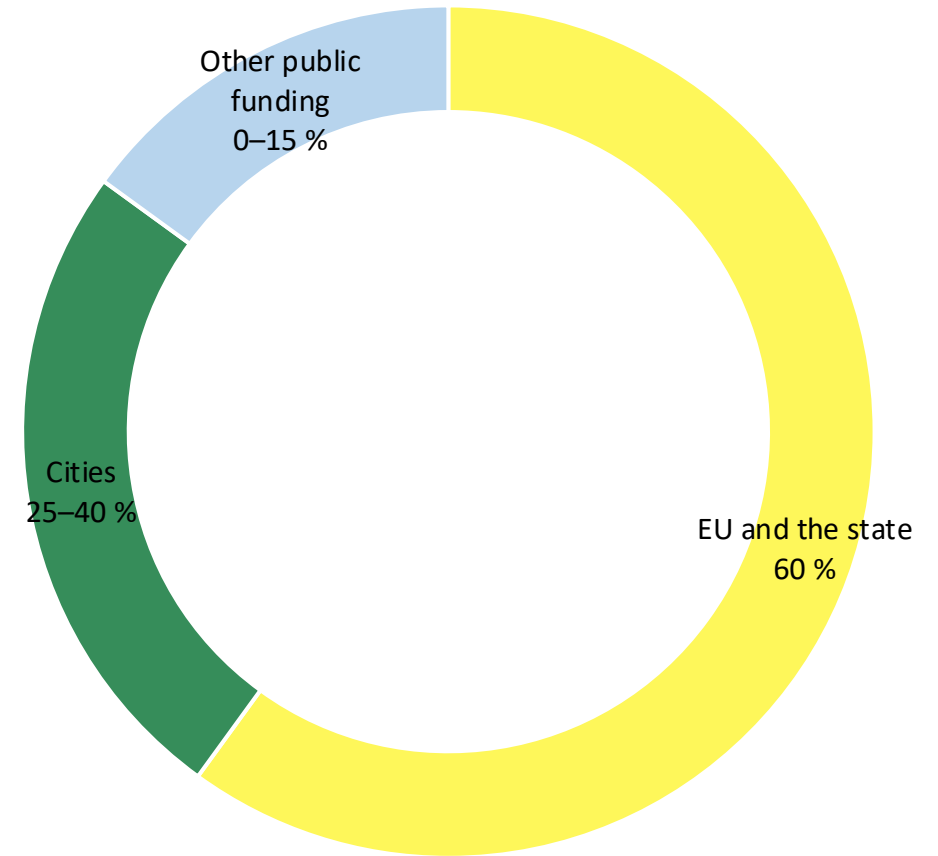
Attracting  
the international  
experts and their  
availability



Accelerating the digital  
investments  
of businesses

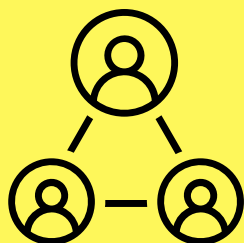
# Co-funding for greater investment

- Between 2021 and 2027, the EU, the state, cities and other public actors are investing nearly EUR 140 million in the development of innovation ecosystems.
- Cities participate in this with a share of 25–40%.
- As of June 2025, there are ongoing projects worth EUR 83 million, with cities investing EUR 23 million. Each city's direct funding share varies from EUR 0.5 million to EUR 4.8 million.

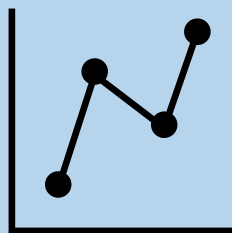


More than 80 organisations in  
16 city regions,  
in 175 projects that 14 regional councils  
fund are  
working to build a better environment  
for companies and promote a  
sustainable lifestyle.

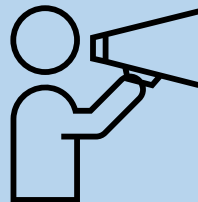




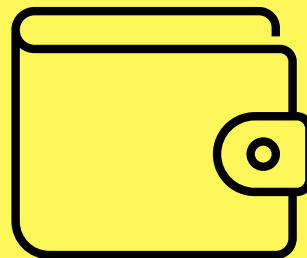
Capabilities through networking and sharing best practices.



Staying up-to-date and being impactful through implementation and impact monitoring.



Visibility and information sharing through communication.



Obtain additional resources and joint projects through funding.

InnoCities national coordination team supports and develops the ecosystem work of Innocities. We support the capabilities of cities by bringing them together, sharing best practices, and providing cities data and knowledge.

[Contact us](#)

# innocities

Want to know more? Go to [Innocities.fi](https://innocities.fi).



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