



# Turku UAS' procurement policy for reducing carbon emissions





Goal

# Finland

**Finland aims to be carbon neutral by 2035.**

In Finland, public procurements are made with approx. 47 billion euros every year. Thus, low-carbon procurements have a large impact on reaching the climate objectives.

The Ministry of Finance has imposed the medium-term plan titled ***Vaikuttavat julkiset hankinnat*** (Influential public procurements, Hankinta-Suomi) to formulate a national public procurement strategy.

One of the objectives of the strategy is that Finland is the trailblazer of ecological public procurements. The aim is to support Finland's target of becoming carbon neutral by 2035 and implementing circular economy with public procurements.



# Turku UAS

**Turku UAS aims to be carbon neutral by 2025.**

Turku UAS calculates its carbon footprint every year. The most significant factors which increase the carbon footprint are related to properties, travelling and procurements.

In 2021, the emissions from procurements made up 60% of Turku UAS' entire carbon footprint. The emissions include e.g. the following procurements:

- equipment, furniture and furnishing procurements
- expert service procurements
- catering procurements
- marketing-related procurements
- chemical procurements

Low-carbon and emission-free procurements can take Turku UAS towards the goal of being carbon neutral.





Goal

# Procurements

With procurements, we support Turku University of Applied Sciences' objective to be carbon neutral by 2025.

*Low-carbon public procurements refer to public service and goods procurements and building contracts which produce the lowest possible amount of greenhouse gas emissions during their life cycle. They can be implemented by directly procuring a low-emission solution from the market or by setting criteria which promote a low level of emissions in the competitive tendering process.*

Source:

Keino, Kestävien ja Innovatiivisten julkisten hankintojen verkostomainen osaamiskeskus



# Towards being low-carbon with procurements

- **Stage 1:** Objectives of the procurements
- **Stage 2:** Recognizing the low-carbon potential of procurements in different categories
- **Stage 3:** Competitive tendering of the procurement and the related low-carbon factors
- **Stage 4:** Prognosis on the results of the procurement contract
- **Stage 5:** Monitoring the contract and cooperation
- **Stage 6:** Confirmed impact

Source: [Vähähiilisten hankintojen pelikirja](#)  
Keino, Kestävien ja Innovatiivisten julkisten hankintojen verkostomainen osaamiskeskus

Measures to be  
implemented  
immediately

20

23

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# Procurements according to the principles of circular economy

- We favour the most low-carbon products and services.
- Whenever possible, we consider the costs and carbon emissions during the life cycle of the product or service.
- We aim to comply with the principles of circular economy.





# Utilization of used goods

- At the planning stage of the procurement, we establish the necessity of the procurement: we find out whether Turku UAS already has the needed goods or services or whether we can meet the need by repairing existing goods.
- In principle, we favour used and repaired goods whenever possible.
- We map opportunities and operations models to procure used goods. After having found the operations model, we record the procurement rules and principles and instructions for the staff.



# Prolonging the life cycle of purchased goods

- In procurements, we favour long guarantee periods and find out repair opportunities and the availability of spare parts if it is possible and economically sensible in terms of the procurement in question.
- In procurements, we find out whenever possible whether the procurement can be made according to the *Product as a Service* model. In this case, instead of goods, we procure the output itself (printer vs. printout) and the supplier takes care of that the products themselves are in good condition and will be reused. The carbon footprint of the Product as a Service model shall be as low as possible or completely carbon-free. ✨





# Considering and compensating emissions

- Whenever possible, we will consider in the market mapping and include in the invitations to tender existing sustainable development criteria which guide the procurement to a more low-carbon direction. For example, the [EU Green Public Procurements, GPP-criteria](#) are available for e.g. computers and furniture.
- In case all emissions cannot be avoided, we plan and create the framework (together with the work on sustainable development and responsibility) for how the emissions from procurements can be compensated creditably and profitably.



# Measures, the preparation of which will be started in 2023

(A more detailed schedule for the measures will be planned along with preparing the roadmap for procurements, as a part of the work of Turku UAS' carbon footprint team included in the work on sustainable development and responsibility)





2023



# Communications, development and monitoring

- We communicate regularly to the staff how procurements aim to decrease our carbon footprint and on the other hand how we also compensate the carbon emissions of our procurements.
- We link Turku UAS' RDI projects and theses to reducing emissions with procurements.
- We participate in the sustainability working group of Hankinta-Suomi and will immediately introduce the lessons learned in our procurement procedures.
- We create a monitoring model with indicators for the procurement policy.



2023



# Hansel's Hankintapulssi and procurement categories

- We examine the introduction of Hansel's Hankintapulssi (or other equivalent tool) to support the direction of Turku UAS' procurements. We promote the automatization of calculating the carbon footprint in terms of procurements.
- We identify procurement categories with which we can have a significant impact on reducing Turku UAS' carbon footprint.
- The categorization is based on Turku UAS' carbon footprint calculation, which is calculated with ARENE's model.



2023

# Procurement guidelines and cooperation

- We create procurement guidelines and instructions for the most important procurement categories. We examine the low-carbon alternatives and solutions on the market.
- We examine Hansel's contracts from the low-carbon perspective and cooperate with Hansel to be able to minimize emissions in upcoming joint procurement contracts.
- We use procurement criteria which promote low-carbon procurements when carrying out mini-competitions within Hansel's framework arrangements for Turku UAS' customer-specific agreements.



# Responsible parties



**Creating instructions for Messi:** Procurement Services

**Categorizing procurements:** Procurement Services and the carbon footprint calculation team in cooperation with Hansel.

**Procurement policies and instructions specific to procurement categories:** The function responsible for the procurement at Turku UAS (e.g. IT Services, Facilities Management...) together with Procurement Services.

**Hansel cooperation in considering sustainability criteria in Hansel's competitive tendering:** Turku UAS' responsible function together with Procurement Services.

**RDI projects and theses:** Turku UAS' responsible function together with Procurement Services.

**Hankinta-Suomi cooperation:** Procurement Services

**Monitoring model with indicators:** Turku UAS' executive management, operational quality, Procurement Services and the carbon footprint calculation team

*Procurement Services are a part of Legal and Contract Services.*



# Example of the work in practice

**A procurement policy and instructions can be drafted to reduce emissions for an identified procurement category e.g. as follows:**

- Based on the carbon footprint of Turku UAS, calculated with ARENE's model, it can be stated that the emission reduction potential of IT equipment is large. The procurement of IT equipment is outlined as follows:

When procuring IT equipment, the actual need for the procurement is examined along with whether the need can be met with existing equipment. If we conclude that equipment needs to be procured, the procurement possibility of repaired equipment must be inspected. If we decide on procuring new equipment, it must be ensured that usable devices, when taken out of use at Turku UAS, will be repaired and retaken into use through the supplier. Unusable equipment is appropriately disposed of.



# Example of the work in practice

**When procuring new devices, the provided sustainable procurement criteria, eco-labels or certificates shall be used in principle:**

- EU GPP (Computers, monitors, tablets and smartphones)
- The environmental criteria for IT and office equipment by Motiva
- Eco-labels for IT equipment
- Blue Angel
- The Nordic Swan Ecolabel

**In the future, when Hansel's agreements are used, cooperation must be done with Hansel thus that the agreements consider the sustainability and carbon emissions of the equipment.**

# Sustainable public procurements strongly involved in RDI projects

## Circular economy, carbon neutrality and responsibility

- Involved in the support service for public procurements of the [LIFE IP Circwaste](#) project, which offers help for sustainable public procurements by utilizing the experts of the project and e.g. the KEINO network.
- Involved in the [MitViDi - Green Metrics for Public Digitalization Acquisitions](#) project.
- [Askeleet innovatiivisiin hankintoihin](#) guide as a part of the Innovatiiviset ja vastuulliset julkiset hankinnat project





## Harmful substances

- Chemical training and support for procurement criteria [Reducing harmful substances in the procurements of early childhood education for the procurement units in the green deal agreement](#) as RDI business done for Motiva
- Kemikaaliviisaat hankinnat [training materials for municipalities eco support activities](#)
- [Kemikaaliviisaan hankkijan opas](#) created for the City of Turku

## BSR funded projects:

- **ChemClimCircl** (Integrating criteria for chemicals, climate and circularity in procurement processes) and
- **NonHazCity 3** (Reducing hazardous substances in construction to safeguard the aquatic environment, protect human health and achieve more sustainable buildings)

