

innocities

Get to know

InnoCities.fi

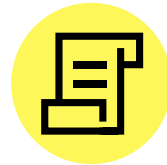


# Why were InnoCities created?



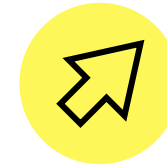
## EU's sustainable urban development

- 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

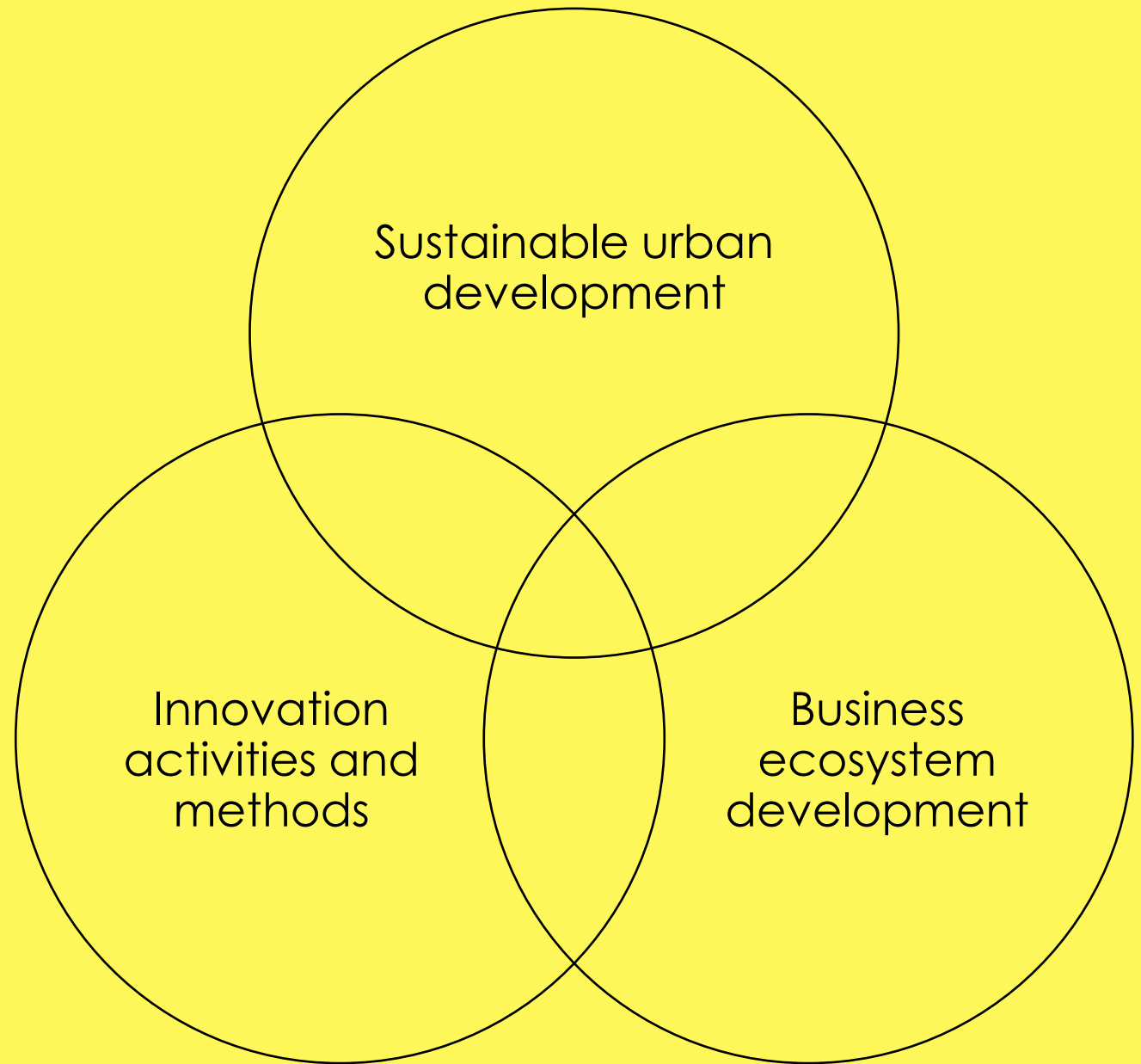
- The agreement of the city and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment on the development of the selected ecosystems.
- Includes 16 important development areas of Finnish RDI activities: university and university consortium cities.



## 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.

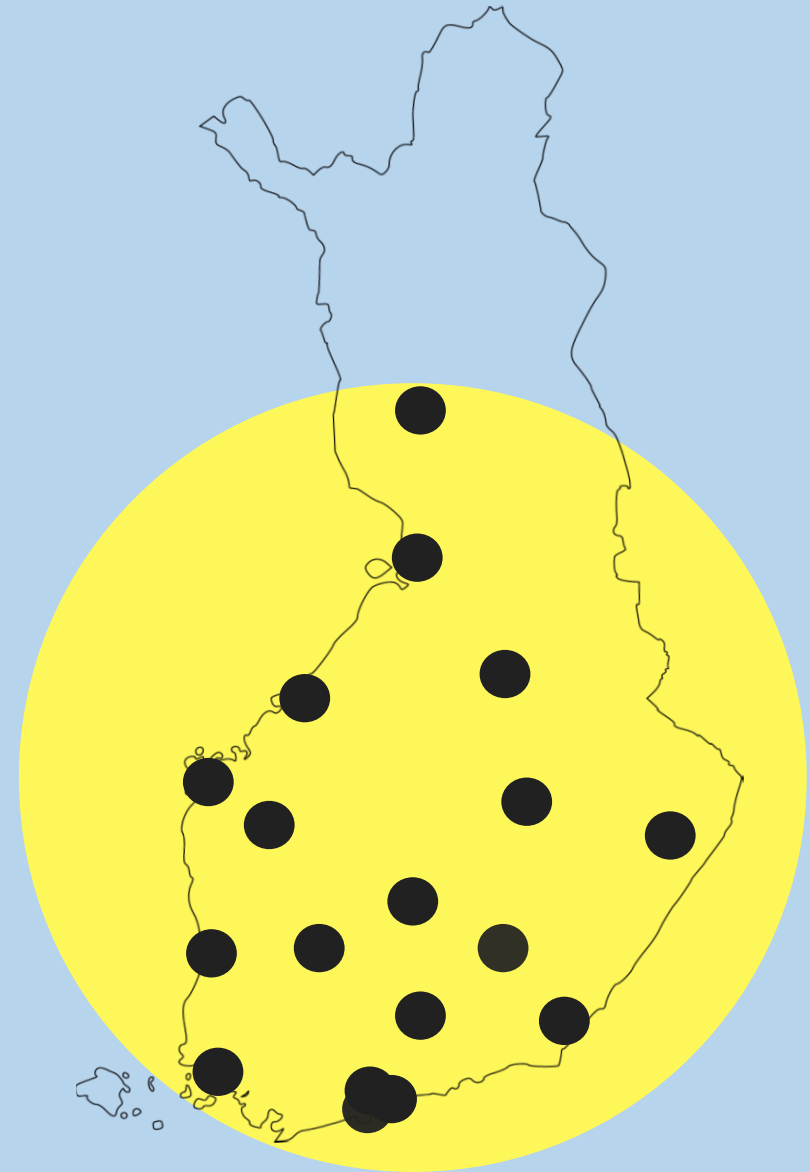
University cities in Finland invest in and support pilot projects, innovative initiatives and environments to foster local business development and advance sustainable urban living.



# 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

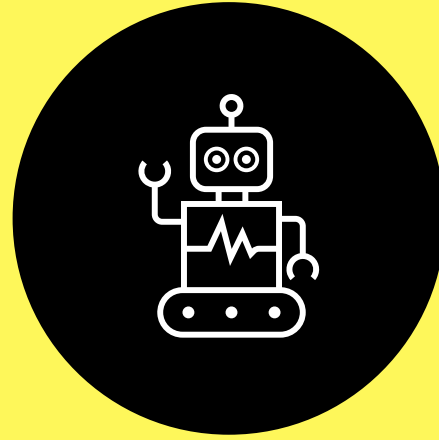


More than 80 organisations in 16 city regions have launched 403 projects funded by 14 regional councils to build a better environment for companies and promote a sustainable lifestyle.

# Themes



Sustainable transition



Digitalisation and new technologies



Wellbeing

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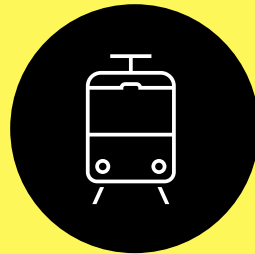
# Actions



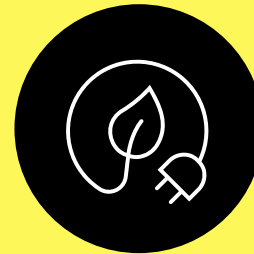
Cities as platforms for development and experiments



Development of the start-up ecosystem



Investments, planning and public procurement



Demonstrations promoting energy efficiency and circular economy



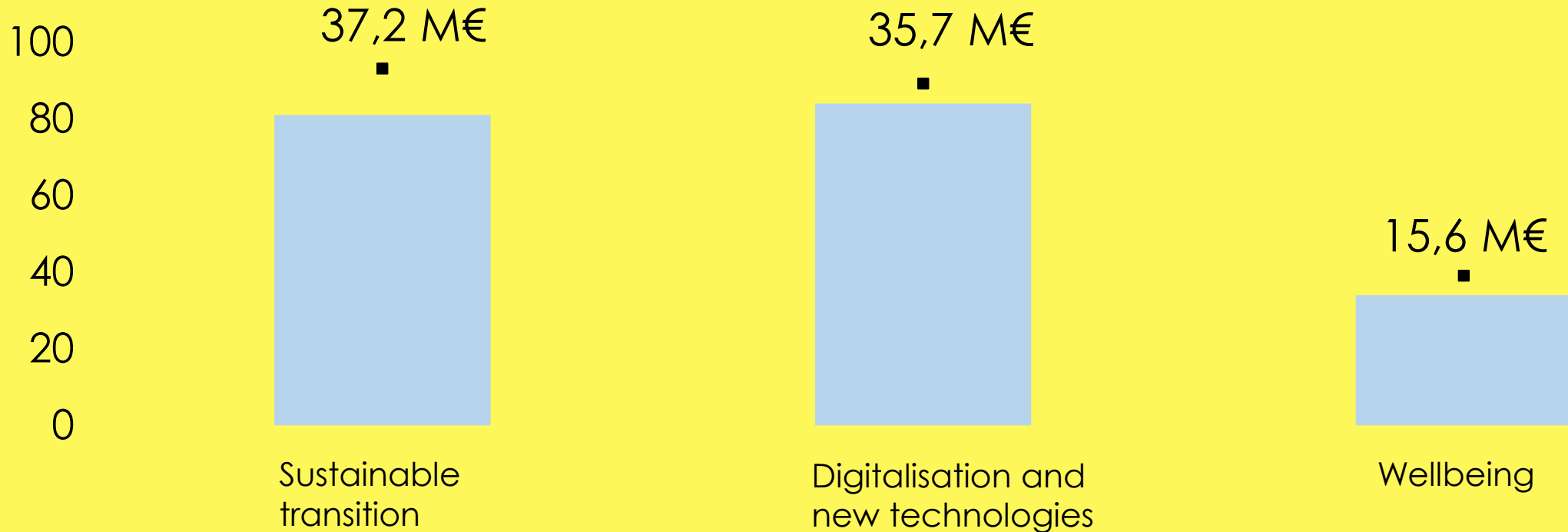
Attracting the international experts and their availability



Accelerating the digital investments of businesses

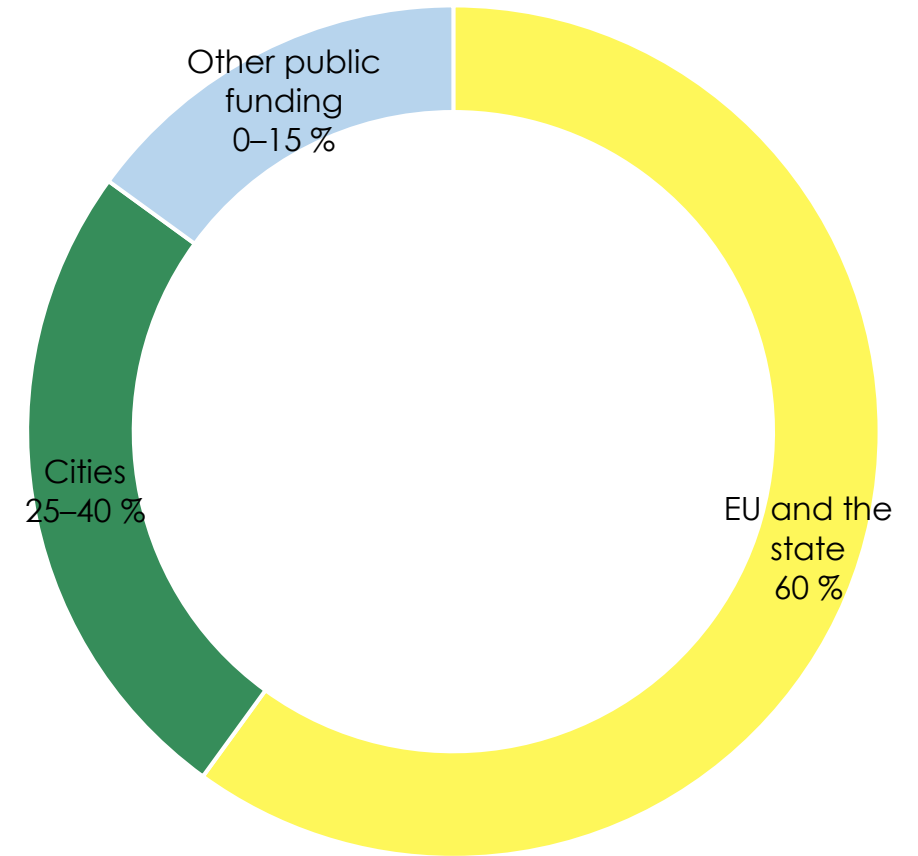
March 3 2026 Total number of projects: 214  
Individual projects or subprojects: 403  
Total funding: 103,5 M€, EU and state funding 61,6M€

## Number of projects and total funding by theme



# Co-funding for greater investment

- Between 2021 and 2027, the EU, the state, cities and other public actors are investing nearly EUR 200 million in the development of innovation ecosystems.
- Cities participate in this with a share of 25–40%.
- As of March 2026, projects have been launched worth EUR 103 million in total, with cities investing EUR 30 million. Each city's direct funding share varies from EUR 0.5 million to EUR 6 million.



A few examples of the goals of the projects currently in progress:

611

platforms and networks participating in supporting joint development

2712

companies participating in joint development

987

innovations, products or services

# Case studies and success stories



[Kajaani became the Arctic capital of data centres and supercomputers - Innokaupungit](#)



[Tampere can save Europe's future with its chip expertise - Innokaupungit](#)



[Finland is number one in forest artificial intelligence and Joensuu is its lodestar - Innokaupungit](#)



[Mikkeli is the capital of clean water, where sludge is used to solve water-related problems across the globe - Innokaupungit](#)



[In Kokkola, seaweed from the Caribbean is transformed into raw materials for the wellness industry - Innokaupungit](#)



["We're conquering the world one variable frequency drive at a time" – Vaasa is the Nordic Energy Capital - Innokaupungit](#)

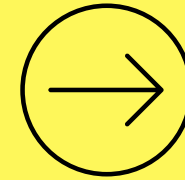
# Benefits for the cities



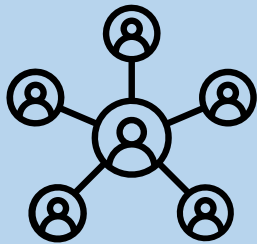
Commitment of the operators in the area to common goals.



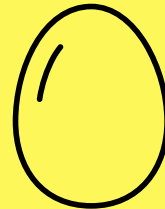
State funding for own development projects of the cities.



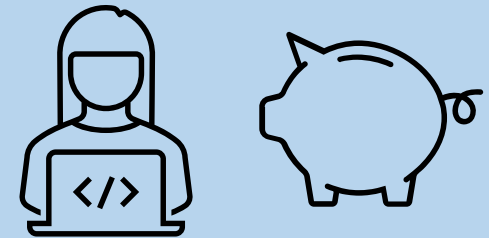
Long-term investment in RDI and green and digital transitions



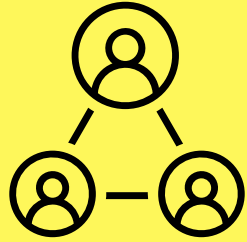
National and international cooperation in lead projects



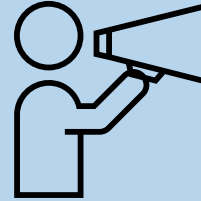
Instrument for new openings



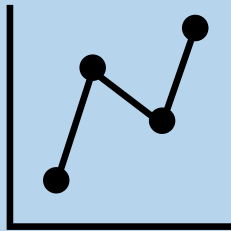
Viable companies, strengthened skills and new solutions



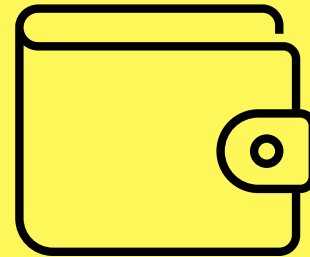
Capabilities through networking and sharing best practices.



Visibility and information sharing through communication.



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



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).

