



**LAB University of
Applied Sciences**

Sustainability and responsibility at LAB University of Applied Sciences



Sustainability at LAB

We promote sustainability and responsibility in

- education,
- research, development and innovation (RDI) activities,
- stakeholder cooperation,
- and on everyday life on the campuses.

We enact positive reforms in business and industry by educating experts who work to identify responsible actions and promote sustainable development.

Committed to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



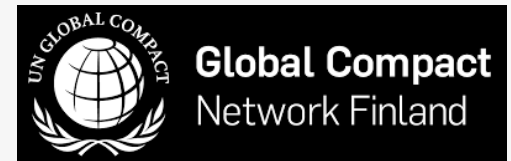
- We focus on influencing the following UN 's sustainable development goals in particular:



- SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

We are committed internationally, nationally and locally to promote sustainable development

- **UN Global Compact** -corporate sustainability initiative (2021)
 - ▶ the world's largest corporate responsibility initiative
 - ▶ 10 principles: Human rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption
- The Rector's Conference of Finnish Universities of Applied Sciences Arene's **Programme for the sustainable development and responsibility of universities of applied sciences** (2020)
- Commitment 2050 (Degree Programmes on nurses and paramedics)
- Our activities are also guided by the Ministry of Education and Culture's sustainable development policies



Promoting sustainability is a cross-cutting mission that belongs to all of us

- **Sustainability in education**

- ▶ Promoting positive reform in business and industry by educating experts who think in a responsible way and promote sustainable development.
 - ▶ All our graduates will have at least basic knowledge of sustainable development and responsibility, including climate issues, in addition to the expertise related to their respective fields.
 - ▶ We will ensure that sustainable development and responsibility are integrated in all our degree programmes.

- **Sustainability in RDI activities and stakeholder cooperation**

- ▶ Building a more sustainable future together with our partners by
 - ▶ creating new technological solutions
 - ▶ promoting the business of circular economy
 - ▶ developing the low-carbon economic structure of regions
 - ▶ promoting the well-being of people and the environment

- **Sustainability in Management and personnel skills**

- ▶ Economically, socially, culturally and ecologically responsible employer
 - ▶ We practice what we teach.
 - ▶ Our personnel will be familiar with and guided by the important sustainable development policies related to their work.

- **Sustainability in all Campus activities**

- ▶ **Carbon neutral LAB 2025**
 - ▶ We carry out a carbon footprint calculation annually.
 - ▶ Climate Action Plan (CAP) 2022-2030.

Sustainability in education

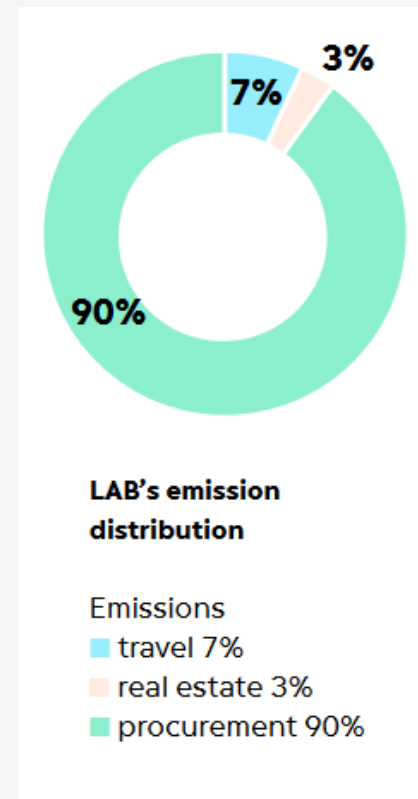
- Orientation to sustainability thinking –course for every 1st year student
- Study programme of nursing has made a [Societal commitment 2050](#)
- [The Climate Partnership](#) operating model for reducing carbon dioxide emissions of local companies in Lahti region (Energy and environmental engineering students)
- The [Sustainable solutions Engineering](#) degree prepares engineers for an international career in sustainability
- Sustainability and responsibility are at the heart of the [tourism and hospitality](#) sectors
- The [Climate University](#) - a network of Finnish universities offering the sustainability- and climate-themed courses of 18 universities on one website
- Online courses and studies, online materials, electronic exams

Sustainability in RDI activities and stakeholder cooperation

- Sustainability and responsibility are cross-cutting themes in all areas of key competencies in our RDI activities:
 - [Circular Economy](#) – We will enable a national transition towards a carbon-neutral circular economy.
 - [Design](#) – Our solutions will support new value creation for businesses.
 - [Innovations](#) – We will make new openings that are worth discussing.
 - [Health](#) – We will develop innovative and impressive solutions to promote overall well-being.
- Events organized by LAB
 - [Sustainable development of nature sites and routes](#)
 - [Wellness from nature experiences](#)
 - [Smart Cities in Smart Regions Conference](#)
 - ["Ecology Is Economy" –online event](#)
 - [Finnish-Japanese Symposium on Regional Development and Circular Economy](#)
 - [Sustainability week](#)
 - [Plastics in Carbon Neutral and Biocircular Economy](#)

Sustainability in Campus Activities

- Carbon footprint calculated annually with ARENE's carbon footprint calculator
- Helps us see the impact of our own choices and actions on the environment.
- LAB's total carbon footprint in 2022 was **7,144** tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (tCO₂eq).
 - Business travels – 535 t (7%)
 - Buildings / facilities – 191 t (3%, incl. electricity, heating, water, waste, maintenance, cleaning services)
 - Procurements (€) – 6,418 t (90%, incl. IT equipments and services, telecommunication, furnitures, food and coffee serving etc.)
- Targets:
 - **Carbon neutral LAB 2025**
- Climate Action Plan 2022-2030
 - Incl. Business travels, Buildings, Procurements, Meals on Campuses, Commuting



Examples of Sustainable actions at Campuses

- Electricity purchased by the LAB is guaranteed by origin and is 100% renewable
- We work continuously to reduce the energy and water consumption of the building we own on the Lappeenranta campus and to improve waste sorting
- Strong cooperation with property owners
 - Lahti Campus - Isku Center is at the forefront of smart energy
 - Electricity from solar panels
 - Geothermal heating system
 - Lightning controlled by motion sensors
- We share all the systems and facilities among the LUT Universities
- We reduce paper consumption by using an electronic ERP system and electronic archiving and signing
- Food left over from lunch is sold at cheap rates
- Lappeenranta Campus:
 - Bioscales to measure customer-specific food waste, encouraging people to reduce the amount of food going to waste

Sustainability in International Services

- Corporate travel instructions to travel in sustainable way
- Remote work possibility
- No handouts - information online
- Information displays on campus
- Extra grant on top of Erasmus+ grant for green travelling for students
- Electronic documents
 - Transcripts of records
 - Learning Agreements
 - Mobility Agreements

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