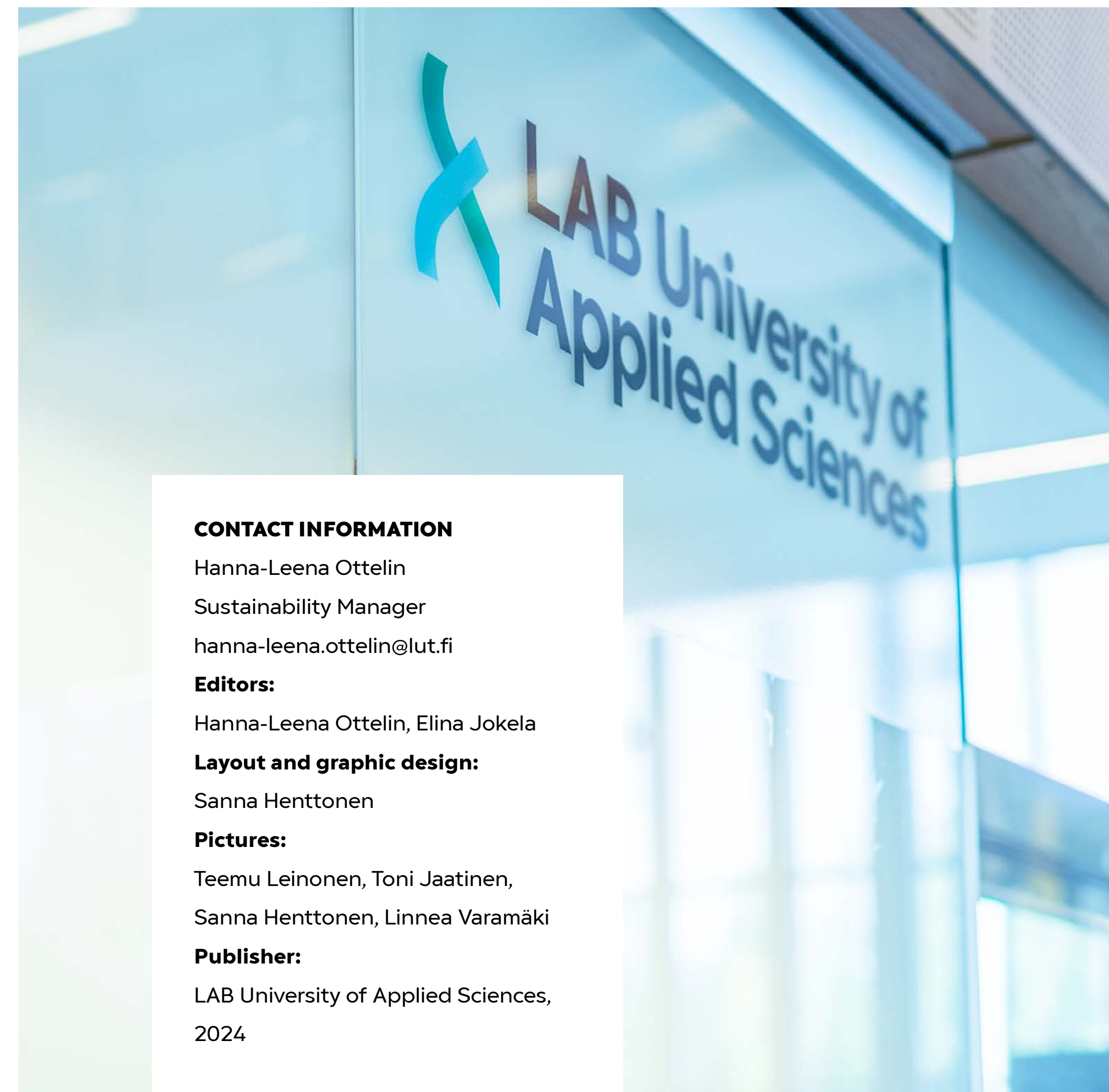


Report on Sustainability 2023



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LAB University of Applied Sciences,
2024

LAB in figures 2023

2020

established

9837

students

1691

publications

76.2

million euros
in funding:
Ministry of
Education
and Culture
€ 57.8 million,
supplementary
funding € 18.4
million

74.7%

of graduates
graduate on time

588

staff members

36

programmes that
award Bachelor's
degrees

1481

completed
Bachelor's
degrees

93%

of graduates
are employed
within 5 years of
graduating

88

nationalities
at 2 campuses

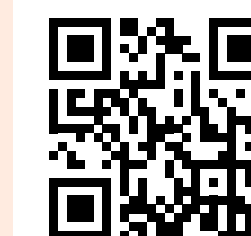
15

programmes that
award Master's
degrees

372

completed
Master's
degrees

**Read more
about studies
in LAB:**



Foreword by the Rector

Towards a sustainable future

The significance and role of sustainability and responsibility are constantly increasing in our society, as a large part of the world's challenges continue to be intertwined with the planet's carrying capacity. LAB University of Applied Sciences wants to be at the forefront of promoting a better future for all. We create solutions at both the national and global level, and all our activities are guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2023, we continued to integrate sustainable development into the daily work of our higher education institution. LAB aims to be carbon neutral in 2025, and we have already taken several measures to reduce our

carbon footprint. Together with our stakeholders and partners, we will continue this work, striving to make sustainability and responsibility an integral part of all our operations, especially as our higher education institution continues to grow.

In addition to reducing our carbon footprint, we want to focus on having a positive handprint. The joint goal of Finnish universities of applied sciences is to increase our handprint in the development of society and reduce the footprint of our activities. By handprint, we refer to the positive impact of our education and RDI activities to make society and working life more sustainable.

Sustainable development work means constant development. To know where we stand, we regularly measure and review our activities. This report describes how we promoted responsibility in 2023. It also details our annual progress in relation to the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact.

Together towards a sustainable future,

Turo Kilpeläinen

Rector of LAB University of Applied Sciences

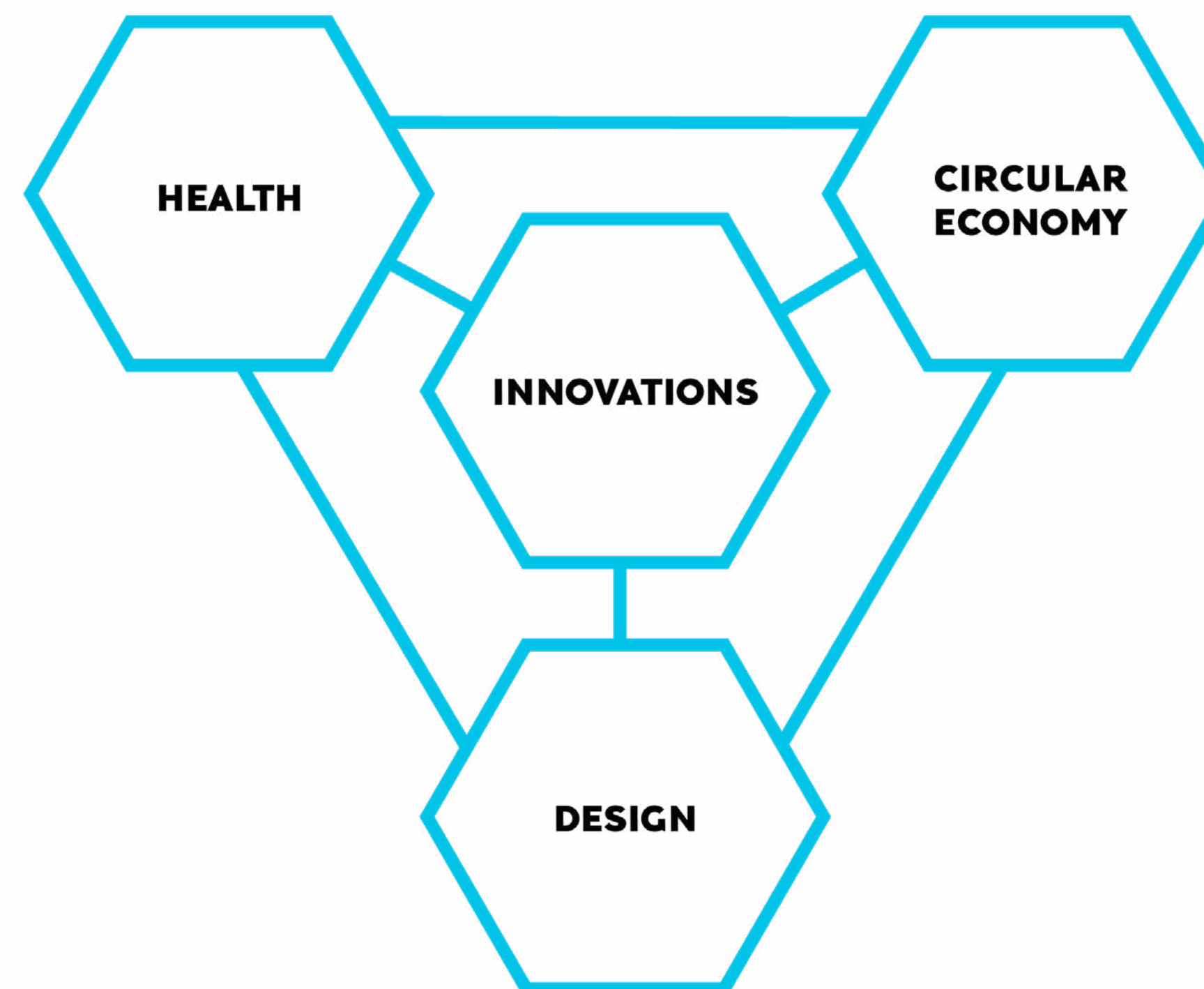


LAB Strategy 2030

The Best of Both Worlds

The best of both worlds: studies and work. LAB University of Applied Sciences is a higher education institution, specialising in innovation, business and industry. It operates in Lahti and Lappeenranta, Finland, and also online. We offer education in five fields: health care and social services, technology, business, hospitality and design, fine arts and visual communication.

Our strengths include the circular economy, design, innovations and health. We have 9800 students and 550 teachers and RDI experts.



Sustainability at LAB

LAB promotes sustainability and responsibility in education, research, development and innovation (RDI) activities, stakeholder cooperation and its operating methods in everyday life on the campuses. LAB enacts positive reforms in business and industry by educating experts who work to identify responsible actions and promote sustainable development.

The [Strategy 2030](#) aims to build a better working world through key competencies: circular economy, innovations, design and health.

The [Climate Action Plan 2022–2030](#) helps us reduce our emissions and get us closer to our goals of being carbon neutral in 2025.

LAB is committed to all 17 goals in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and has selected [seven SDGs](#) in particular to focus on. We also select key sustainable development goals to promote in all our RDI projects.

LAB makes use of Hansel Ltd.'s framework arrangements in a large part of its procurements. Notably, these take the exercise of labour rights and human rights, as well as the promotion of decent work, into consideration. We implement our procurements as economically and in the most organised manner possible, and a precondition for all procurements is that the item or service to be procured is necessary.

[The LAB Annual Report](#) includes all the events during the 2023 financial year that are most important from the perspective of the development of activities and performance. Also, the [investment activities](#) aim to take responsibility into consideration.



Key measures

- Sustainable development and responsibility are mandatory themes in the feedback discussions held between Class Reps and Degree Managers. The discussions help ensure that sustainable development and ethics are taken into account and implemented in education. The students also assess their competence in sustainable development and responsibility in the AVOP feedback questionnaires for graduands.
- LAB has renewed its equality plan and aims to make the community more equal and inclusive. Key areas in the [Equality and Non-discrimination Plan](#) include identification of and intervention in discrimination, assessment of the equality impacts of activities and practices, implementation of measures to promote equality and increase inclusion. In 2023, we started the equality training for our staff.
- LAB allows staff to try different sports, move about during breaks and participate in measurements both remotely and on campuses. Workplace wellbeing activities also include social welfare, e.g., a literature circle, a knitting circle, stress management and mindfulness. We also offer our personnel a bicycle benefit.
- LAB's organisational structure, board of directors and advisory board are transparent. LAB consults its student union in decision making.
- LAB's code of conduct instructs us to treat all employees equally and fairly and to accept no discrimination, bullying or harassment in our community. We value our employees and uphold their respectful and equal treatment.
- The joint accessibility plan for LAB University of Applied Sciences and LUT University compiles the accessibility work implemented in various activities, a report on the status of accessibility and the objectives and measures for promoting participation in accessibility and diversity. The implementation of measures is monitored by the quality and sustainability work steering group as part of LAB's annual monitoring and development.
- All students will take an orientation course on the goals of sustainable development, ethics and Earth's carrying capacity. Our goal is to train experts who are able to promote sustainable development in industry, business and society.
- LAB has a [Whistleblowing channel](#) in place for making initiatives and providing feedback on the activities and for reporting any abuse in accordance with the Whistleblower Act.

Commitments

- The Rectors' Conference of Finnish Universities of Applied Sciences Arene, [Programme for sustainable development and responsibility of universities of applied sciences](#)
- The UN Global Compact and [the 10 Principles](#), human rights, labour, environment, anti-corruption
- [The Commitment 2050](#) in the education of registered nurses, public health nurses and paramedics
- Our activities are also guided by the Ministry of Education and Culture's sustainable development policies that encourage strengthening sustainability targets in all education and stakeholder activities

Arene's Programme for the sustainable development and responsibility of UASes

We are committed to Arene ry's programme for the sustainable development and responsibility of universities of applied sciences. With our measures, we will reduce our harmful carbon footprint and increase our positive carbon handprint as a united front of universities of applied sciences.

Aspects of increasing the handprint:

- We will educate experts who promote sustainable development and combat the negative impacts of climate change in society.
- We will produce solutions to the challenges of sustainability, promote sustainable development, and reduce the impacts of climate change.
- We will act as economically, ecologically, culturally and socially responsible employers.

Measures to reduce the carbon footprint:

- We will carry out a carbon footprint calculation annually with a jointly developed calculation model and monitor the development of our carbon footprint.
- We will work together to find other ways, in addition to emission reduction measures, for universities of applied sciences to achieve carbon neutrality in their target timetables.

LAB and the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles

LAB is involved in the UN Global Compact, which is the world's largest corporate responsibility initiative. In this initiative, organisations commit to promoting human rights, environmental protection and a global economy that advocate sustainability and engagement through the Ten Principles.

Information on our progress in achieving the Global Compact's Ten Principles is published yearly on the Communication on Progress reporting platform.

Examples of LAB's actions in 2023:

- We are planting a tree for each graduate instead of sharing roses at the graduation ceremonies. In 2023, we also started paperless graduation, and the graduate will receive only an electronic degree certificate. The electronic certificate is also reliable because it is much more difficult to forge than a paper certificate.
- In 2023, we launched the [Future Talents](#) programme in cooperation with LUT University and 30 organisations from Päijät-Häme. The aim of the programme is to arrange opportunities for students and businesses to meet in the early stages of studies and thus alleviate the shortage of labour in Päijät-Häme. As a result of the programme, twice the current number of graduates are expected to stay in Lahti by 2025.
- We took part in the celebrations of the theme week for sexual and gender minorities by flying rainbow flags on our campuses in Lahti and Lappeenranta. The Rector of LAB, [Turo Kilpeläinen, was the patron of the Lahti Pride event in 2023.](#)
- Together, LAB and LUT donated a total of EUR 10,000 to charity in December 2023. The money was used to support children and families with children in Finland as well as to help those affected by crises around the world through the disaster relief fund.



“
**We want to be at the
forefront of promoting
a better future for all.**
”

LAB's Sustainable Development Goals

In line with our strategy, we focus on influencing the following UN's sustainable development goals in particular:

SDG 3: Good health and well-being

SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth

SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure

SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities

SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production

SDG 13: Climate action

SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

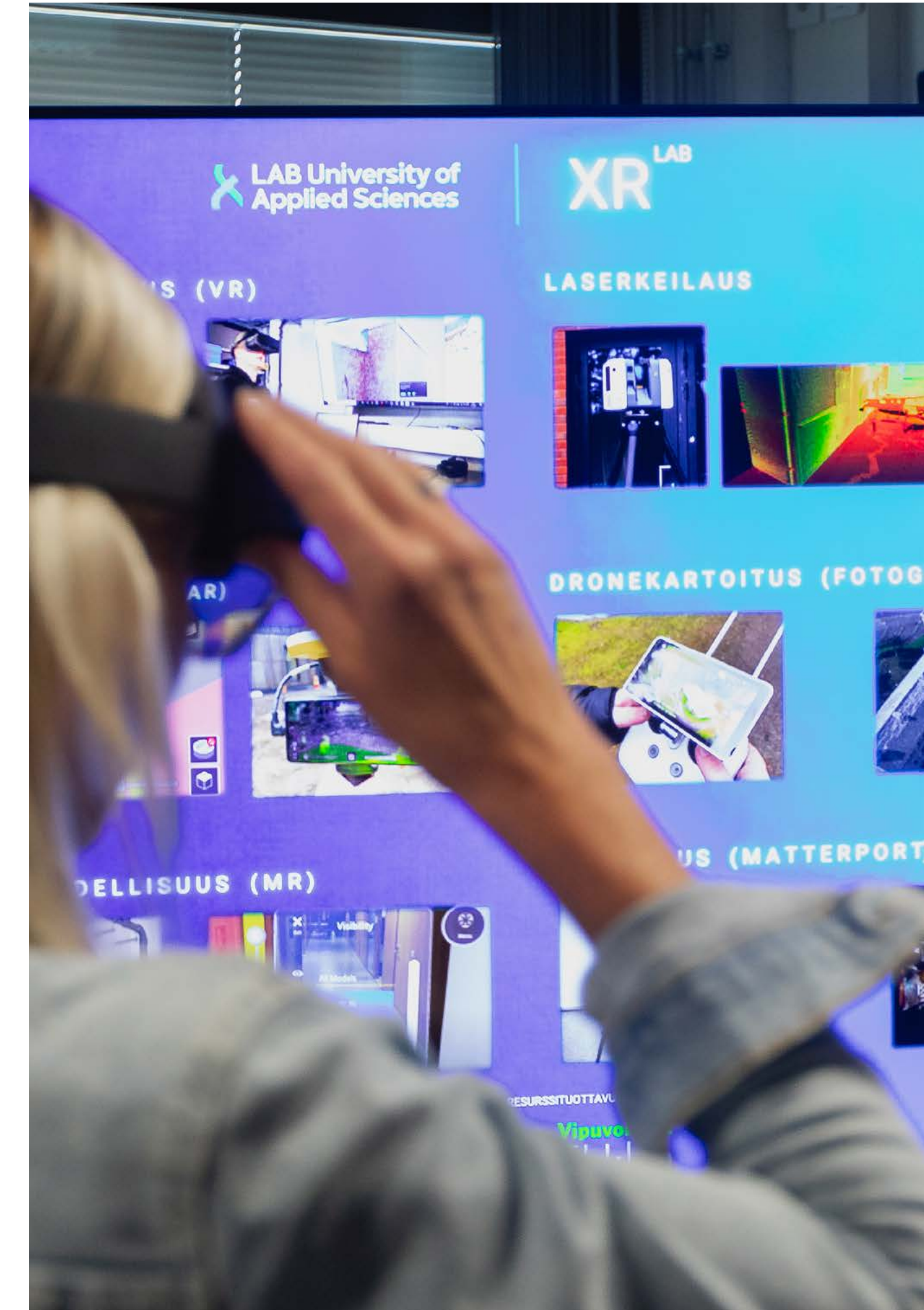


Strategic SDGs promoting sustainability

LAB University of Applied Sciences is building a more sustainable future together with its partners. We create new technological solutions, promote the business of circular economy, develop the low-carbon economic structure of regions and promote the wellbeing of people and the environment.

- Through our [recruitment services](#), businesses can reach 9800 LAB students.
- Through close cooperation with business and industry, LAB links the needs of society to educational content and to research, development and innovations activities.
- The objective of the [Food Campus Finland](#) cooperation platform is to significantly increase the added value and RDI activities of the Finnish food industry, thus creating new international growth in the sector. One of the most important initiatives stemming from the cooperation is the product development environment for plant-based foods implemented on LAB's Lahti campus.

- 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.



Good health and well-being

Examples of SDG 3 in RDI and education:

- [LABlanssi](#) develops the paramedic education combining working life and pedagogy, and improves the uniform quality of student guidance with a coherent student guidance model for paramedics.
- [LAB WellTech](#) produces new ideas, develops and tests product templates and innovations for health and social services, using technology and machine vision. In 2023, a wellbeing technology exposition was also organised on the Lahti campus.
- LAB students' startup company, [Ailune](#), wants to help solve period poverty with a sanitary product vending machine. The young innovators are currently planning the prototype of the machine at the [StartHub](#) business accelerator on the Lahti campus.
- The international degree and programmes intended for immigrants help import effective procedures in health care into immigrant communities in Finland and globally.
- The [Physical Activity and Functional Capacity Research Group](#) assesses and studies human physical activity and capacity in different environments. The research group develops and produces solutions that promote the wellbeing and mobility of individuals and groups in different environments, such as companies, organisations or communities.
- Last year, the [GoGreenRoutes](#) project studied the impacts of environmental quality on physical activity and health.



Decent work and economic growth

Examples of SDG 8 in RDI and education:

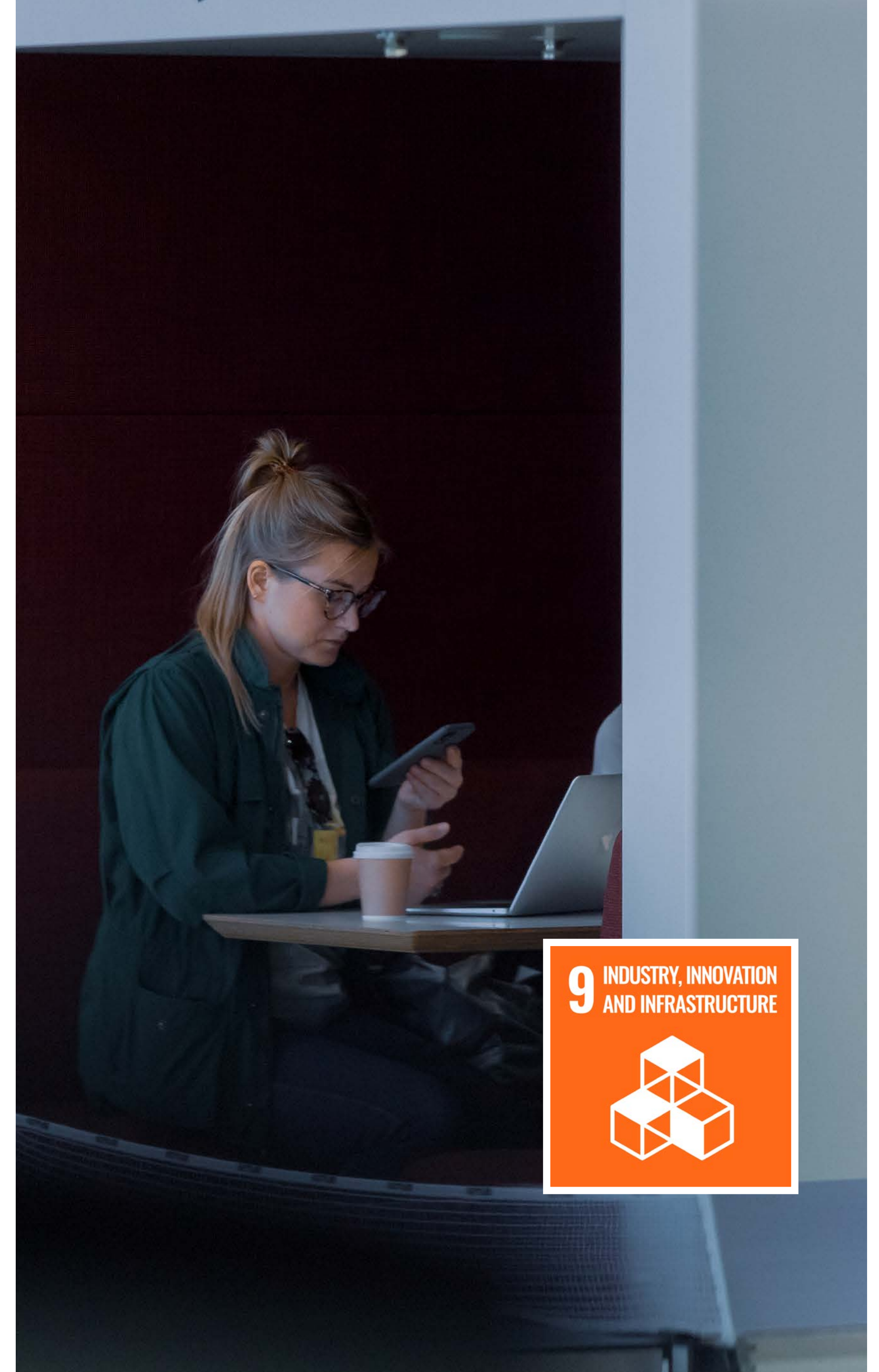
- The transformation of the textile and fashion industry requires new expertise from all those working in the field. To respond to the competence needs created by the changing operating environment, the [Kesto project](#) provides free training for operators in the textile and fashion industry.
- Last year, the faculty of technology offered 60 credits' worth of open online courses on sustainability.
- The [TyöMAA – Mathematics in Working Life](#) course highlights the various possibilities and different fields where maths is needed, especially for young people.
- The [OSKE LAB](#) project aims to raise the employment rate of immigrants in the Päijät-Häme region. Project services are beneficial for highly educated immigrants, current students with an immigrant background and those interested in a higher education.
- In the [STEPS](#) project, solutions were developed to enable young people who are partially capable to work to find employment. Also, a different kind of training pathway was sought for those for whom full-time employment is not possible without long-term and comprehensive support for work and functional capacity.
- LAB offers free-of-charge [study opportunities](#) for those fleeing the war in Ukraine.



Industry, innovation and infrastructure

Examples of SDG 9 in RDI and education:

- The [Circular Economy – UAS](#) joint project focused on developing and harmonising the circular economy service paths that Finnish universities of applied sciences offer for businesses.
- Students of the LAB Institute of Design and Fine Arts often have the opportunity to work together with businesses in solving sustainability-related development challenges. For example, in 2023, the design students designed products [from renewable materials from the forest industry company UPM](#). An English-language Bachelor's degree programme, Sustainable Design Business, was also launched in 2023. In addition to design, the programme focuses on responsibility and business development.
- The [laboratory of circular economy](#) helps develop processes of material cycles.
- The [Material Circulations of Textiles and Plastics](#) research team studies and develops sustainable technologies and processes that will keep raw materials circulating and reduce their carbon footprint.
- LAB is one of the leading actors in Finland in the fields of environmental technology and circular economy. The different viewpoints of a circular economy are considered in all teaching.
- LAB organises [online courses](#) to respond to the shortage of labour in the construction and demolition industry and the need to develop circular economy skills.



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Sustainable cities and communities

Examples of SDG 11 in RDI and education:

- In autumn 2023, a [housing laboratory](#), designed for studying future housing solutions, was introduced on the Lahti campus. The new facilities can be used for user testing of ergonomics, accessibility or furniture assembly.
- The [CITISYSTEM](#) project supports cities in developing the cycle of bio-based materials.
- The [Luontokohteiden kulttuuriperintö eläväksi](#) project collects cultural heritage related to natural sites and develops marketable products around these.
- At LAB, teaching draws attention to responsible solutions in urban planning. Design based on data models decreases the amount of waste materials; we make an effort to consider recycling and reuse when it comes to materials.
- The [Steps to prepare for climate change project](#) improves climate change preparedness and adaptation in the municipalities of Päijät-Häme and supports the implementation of practical preparedness measures in the municipalities.
- LAB events are organised in accordance with the principles of sustainable event production. The environmental impact is minimised, for example, by favouring public transport and serving climate-friendly foods and drinks.



Responsible consumption and production

Examples of SDG 12 in RDI and education:

- The [CECI – Citizen Involvement in Circular Economy Implementation](#) project promotes the inclusion of citizens in circular economy, with a special focus on solutions for the sharing economy.
- The [Textiles into Circulation 2.0](#) project aims to develop a circular economy business model through material recycling in the Päijät-Häme region. The project pilots the operating model for separate collection of end-of-life textiles and studies the quality and composition of the collected textiles.
- As a member of the FINIX consortium, LAB is accelerating societal change towards a resource-wise textile system by means of interdisciplinary co-creation, new technologies and circular business models.
- The [Digital & Sustainable Fashion Showroom](#) project focus was on mapping and developing digital and virtual opportunities for clothing companies under the pressures of change brought about by the pandemic and climate change. The project contributed to the development of the [Voglia Clothing Impact Scale](#) published in 2023.
- The vision of [Telavalue](#) is to solve sustainability and waste problems related to the current textile system through circular economy.
- The [Coaching for Responsible and Effective Products](#) project aims to develop the resilience and skills of companies and entrepreneurs in finding new environmentally responsible business opportunities.



Climate action

Examples of SDG 13 in RDI and education:

- The hair fibre mats developed in LAB's [HIUKKA 2.0](#) project were used for [oil spill control in Joutseno in spring 2023](#).
- The [HITU project](#) maps risks related to global warming in the countryside of Kanta-Häme and in the Päijät-Häme area. It also prepares programmes of measures in preparation for climate risks.
- The [Sycla](#) is a city pilot, which aims to find innovative solutions to promote sustainable commuting in the Lahti region and reduce emissions from road transport through a change in commuting patterns and reorganisation of urban transport.
- Students of energy and environmental engineering help companies in their work related to the environment and climate responsibility in the Päijät-Häme climate partnership operating model.
- The main areas of the Erasmus Mundus joint degree programme, [Master in Urban Climate and Sustainability](#), include climate change in cities and its effects, as well as mitigating climate change and adapting to it.
- LAB promotes sustainable mobility, e.g., in the Erasmus exchange programme. Students opting for green modes of travel are entitled to additional grants and, in longer Erasmus exchanges, additional grant days.



Partnerships for the goals

Examples of SDG 17 in RDI and education:

International:

- As part of the [Global Citizenship and Diversity Management Skills in Higher Education](#) project, LAB produced a course and study materials on the following topics: global citizenship education, managing diversity, equity and inclusion at workplaces and responsible consumption. In addition, LAB contributed to a toolkit for teachers on teaching multicultural student groups.
- LAB University of Applied Sciences aims to respond to the shortage of experts in Finland and is [currently looking into the possibility](#) of operating in the Indian education market.
- The aim of the [AIR4Safety project](#) is to utilise smart technology and augmented reality in solving a global health problem related to patient safety.

National:

- LAB is involved in the extensive [PlastLIFE cooperation project](#), where the aim is to create a sustainable circular economy of plastics by 2035.
- As part of the [Climate University](#) we are offering learning materials and cooperation with business and industry for solving sustainability challenges.

Regional:

- The goal of the Future Talents Lahti program is to attract more workforce and students to the Päijät-Häme region.
- The aim of the [Closed Plastic Circle](#) project is to increase the material utilisation and recycling rate of plastic waste and strengthen the market for recycled plastics, especially in the Päijät-Häme and Uusimaa regions.



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Sustainability in stakeholder cooperation

We promote sustainable development in cooperation with the wider higher education community, the business world and the public sector. We develop our activities in a manner that will make us an attractive partner and employer also through ecologically, socially, culturally and economically sustainable and responsible RDI activities.

- Together with the campus cities of Lappeenranta and Lahti, we promote a clean environment and sustainable society.
- The [Food Pilot Plant](#) product development environment, introduced on the Lahti campus in 2023, provides businesses in the food industry with product development and testing services that promote the development and

innovation of plant-based foods in particular.

- LAB participates in the activities of the [JunnuYliopisto](#) youth university in Lahti. Their activities include water research, circular economy solutions, robotics and carbon footprints.
- LAB and LUT's [Junior University](#) activities include cooperation with schools during school hours, club activities during leisure time, science camps and different science and technology events.
- In cooperation with the environmental sector in Lahti, and higher education institutions focusing on sustainable development, we have built a range of studies with an environmental theme.
- The student union of LAB University of Applied Sciences, KOE, takes

responsibility into account in its operations and promotes sustainable development as part of the LAB community. KOE is involved in LAB's quality and sustainability work steering group and organises annual sustainability days on campuses.

- Solutions.now is a co-organised course, where students can put their expertise in sustainability and climate change into action by offering solutions for real-life challenges presented by companies.
- Lahti Science Day was organised in November 2023.
- LAB's business accelerator StartHub, which operates on the Lahti campus participates in Kasvu Open's programme, Carbon Neutral Industry. It offers free sparring for industrial companies in Häme that aims for more responsible business.

- Together with other Finnish universities of applied sciences, LAB is preparing measures to support the circular economy transition of companies through a well-organised offer of services and coordinated network cooperation.
- The aim of the [Communal Entrepreneurship Education for Zambia](#) project is to clarify the operational environment of the local entrepreneurial and technical competences education, as well as research on impacts of electrification and digitalisation of rural communities and the impact on the livelihood of those communities.
- In 2023, LAB hosted the [Nordplus network's intensive week in Lahti](#). The theme of the week was norm-consciousness in health and social services.

Networks

- Climate partnership with Lahti and Lappeenranta cities
- [Sustainability Studies Network](#) is a collaborative teaching network of eight Finnish higher education institutions
- Ellen MacArthur Foundation's profiled universities in circular economy
- In the [Circular Economy Finland hub](#), we create a shared image of the current situation of circular economy, the direction for the future
- [Greenreality Network Lappeenranta](#) – together we create sustainable growth and new business opportunities in South Karelia
- In the Netfas network, we are speeding up the transition of the textile and fashion industry towards a circular economy
- As part of the LIMOWA cooperation network, we are contributing to making Finnish logistics more competitive
- The Service Design Network promotes cooperation and competence in service design extensively across all sectors
- The Telaketju network promotes sustainable manufacturing, use and recycling of textiles
- Through the [UArctic Thematic Network of Circular Economy](#) we enhance networking and exchange knowledge among the experts of various disciplines on the national and international levels



Sustainable campuses

LAB is committed to making its campuses carbon neutral in 2025. The Climate Action Plan outlines our actions to reduce our emissions. The CAP will be updated in 2024.

- LAB is committed to carrying out a carbon footprint calculation annually with the jointly developed Arene calculation model and to monitoring the development of LAB's carbon footprint. The footprint calculation follows the GHG protocol for the selected categories.
- The Lahti campus at ISKU Center is partially heated with geothermal power, and part of its electricity is produced with solar panels that have been placed on the building.

Examples of sustainable practices on our campuses:

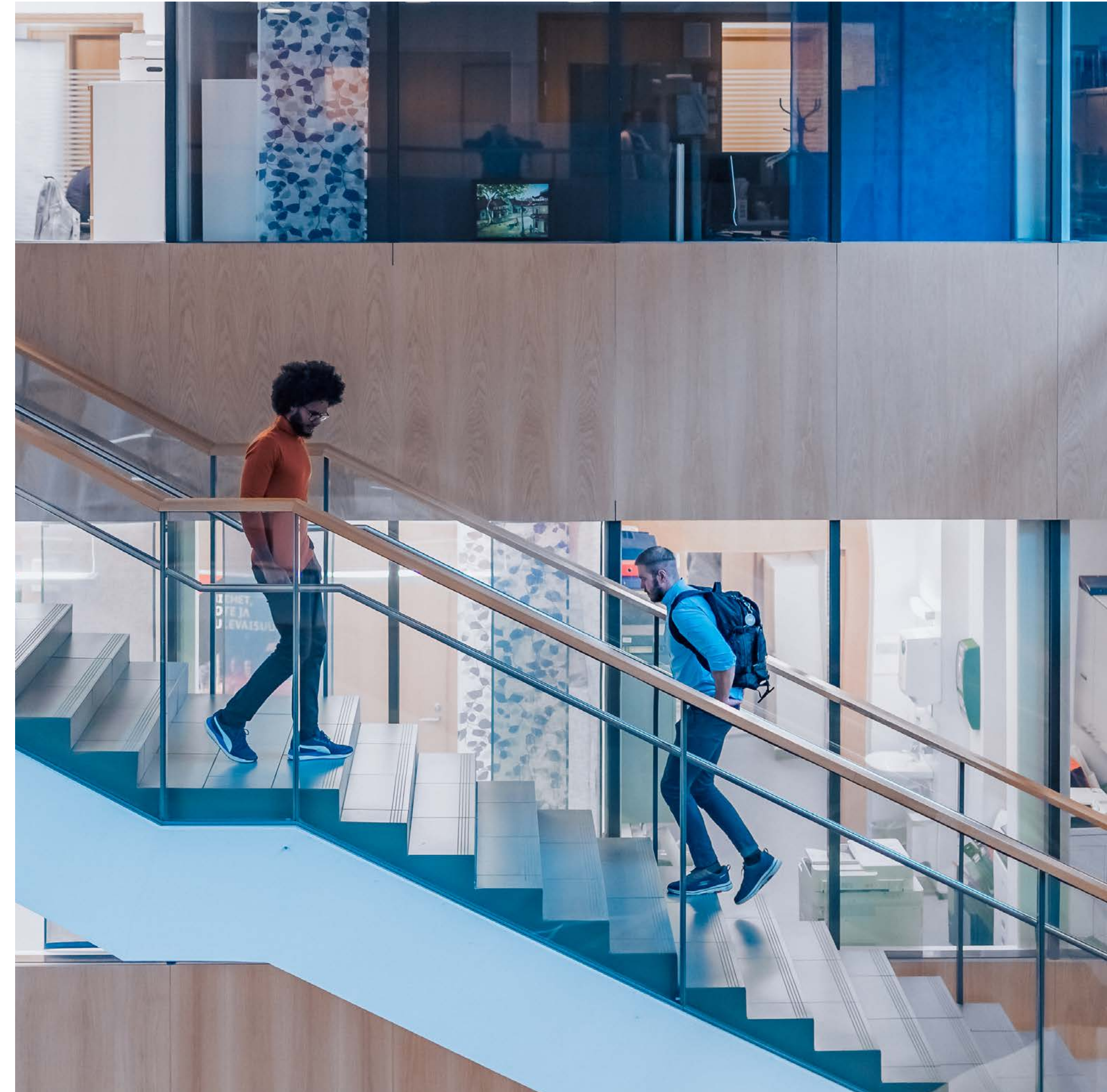
- In 2023, LAB's Lappeenranta campus began to use green district heating. Also, all electricity purchased for the Lappeenranta campus is carbon neutral.
- In Lappeenranta, LAB and LUT cover some of the annual costs of city bikes, in order to make the bikes available for students and staff on the campus. The Lahti campus also has a city bike stop.
- We utilise the working and learning spaces on our campuses efficiently in cooperation with LUT University. We also share a common facilities reservation system.
- The food service providers on our campuses aim for sustainability. The

Compass Group, operating on the Lahti campus, aims to be carbon neutral in 2030.

- The Lappeenranta campus' restaurants operator [Kampusravintola](#) actively promotes the sorting and reduction of biowaste. Food is cooked in batches according to the demand. There are scales to monitor biowaste volumes, and people returning dishes get immediate feedback. Food left over from lunch is sold on campuses at cheap rates.
- Vegetarian food is served on the buffet daily in both campuses.
- The lights in learning and meeting facilities on the Lahti campus are controlled by motion sensors, which ensure that our electricity consumption is minimised.



- Energy consumption and areas in which energy could be saved were discussed, and practical tips were actively developed at an information and question event for the staff.
- The [Sustainable Horizons project](#) contributes to sustainability actions at campuses. For example, Sustainable Campus Walks were started on the Lahti campus in 2023. The walks form a gamified and functional one-credit course that introduces students to the Lahti campus and everyday responsibility. The Sustainable Campus Walks course can be taken in either Finnish or English.
- In May 2023, a new kind of [pop-up hostel made of cardboard and plywood](#) was piloted on the Lahti campus. The hostel served as short-term accommodation to 27 international students who participated in an exchange study programme.
- Carbon footprint and food waste are taken into account during the planning stage of the campus teaching restaurants' pop-up events. Areas of focus when purchasing raw materials include low logistics costs, minimal packaging waste and giving priority to local producers.
- Partial remote work and distance learning reduce mobility-related costs and emissions.



Carbon footprint

Carbon footprint calculation includes emission from the following:

- Travelling, including flights, car traffic, journeys in the university's own cars, public transport, rental buses, maritime travel, hotel nights.
- Buildings, including heating, electricity consumption, cooling, water, waste management, new construction, renovation and space alteration projects, maintenance repairs, use and maintenance, upkeep of outdoor areas, cleaning.
- Procurements, including IT equipment, IT expert services, telecommunications services, laboratory equipment and supplies, laboratory chemicals, furniture, food and coffee catering and all other procurements.
- The calculations do not include any categories based on individual choices, such as meals on campus and commuting.

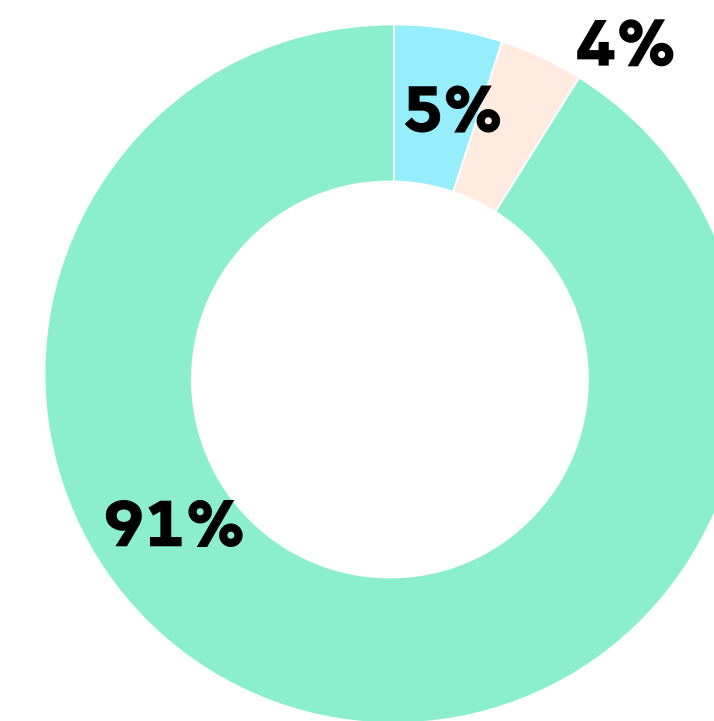


Carbon footprint 2023

- LAB's total carbon footprint in 2023 was 7,553 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents (tCO₂eq). Emissions from procurements account for 6,875 tCO₂eq (91%), emissions from buildings account for 321 tCO₂eq (4%) and emissions from travel account for 357 tCO₂eq (5%).
- In 2022, the total carbon footprint was 7,144 tCO₂eq. Emissions from procurements accounted for 6,418 tCO₂eq (90%), emissions from buildings accounted for 191 tCO₂eq (3%) and emissions from travel accounted for 535 tCO₂eq (7%).
- In 2023, greenhouse gas emissions from LAB increased by 5% from the previous year. The results of the 2022 and 2023 carbon footprint calculations are, however, not

fully comparable, as updates have been made to the Arene footprint calculator regarding travel and real estate categories. The 2023 LAB footprint is calculated with the Arene calculator dated to 21.3.2024, and the 2022 LAB footprint was calculated with the Arene calculator dated to 6.6.2022.

- The majority of LAB's carbon footprint consists of indirect emissions (Scope 3). Direct emissions (Scope 1) account for less than 1% and consist mainly of the fuel used in its vehicles.



LAB's emission distribution

Emissions:

- travel 5%
- real estate 4%
- procurement 91%

Travel (Scope 1 & 3):

Total 357 tCO₂eq

- Travel is defined as work-related business travel and excludes travel between home and work/university.
- In 2022, emissions from travel were reported to be 535 tCO₂eq. However, the figures are not comparable, as changes were made in the calculation model regarding emission factors. By calculating the total travel emissions with the current calculator, the correspondent figure for 2022 would be 317 tCO₂eq. Emissions from travel, therefore, increased slightly instead of decreasing significantly.
- LAB's strategic target is building higher education institution partnerships that support international growth. Travel for the purpose of promoting this target has somewhat stabilised after the significant growth following the COVID-19 pandemic years. In 2023, air travel in total increased 3%. However, long-haul flight kilometres decreased by 27%. The amount of paid kilometre adjustments continued to grow significantly in 2023 by around 43%.
- LAB was able to reduce the kilometres driven with its own cars by 30%. The replacement of existing vehicles with more fuel-efficient alternatives, which is a measure included in our Climate Action Plan, continues in 2024, and this will allow emissions to be reduced further.



Real estate (Scope 2 & 3):

Total 321 tCO₂eq

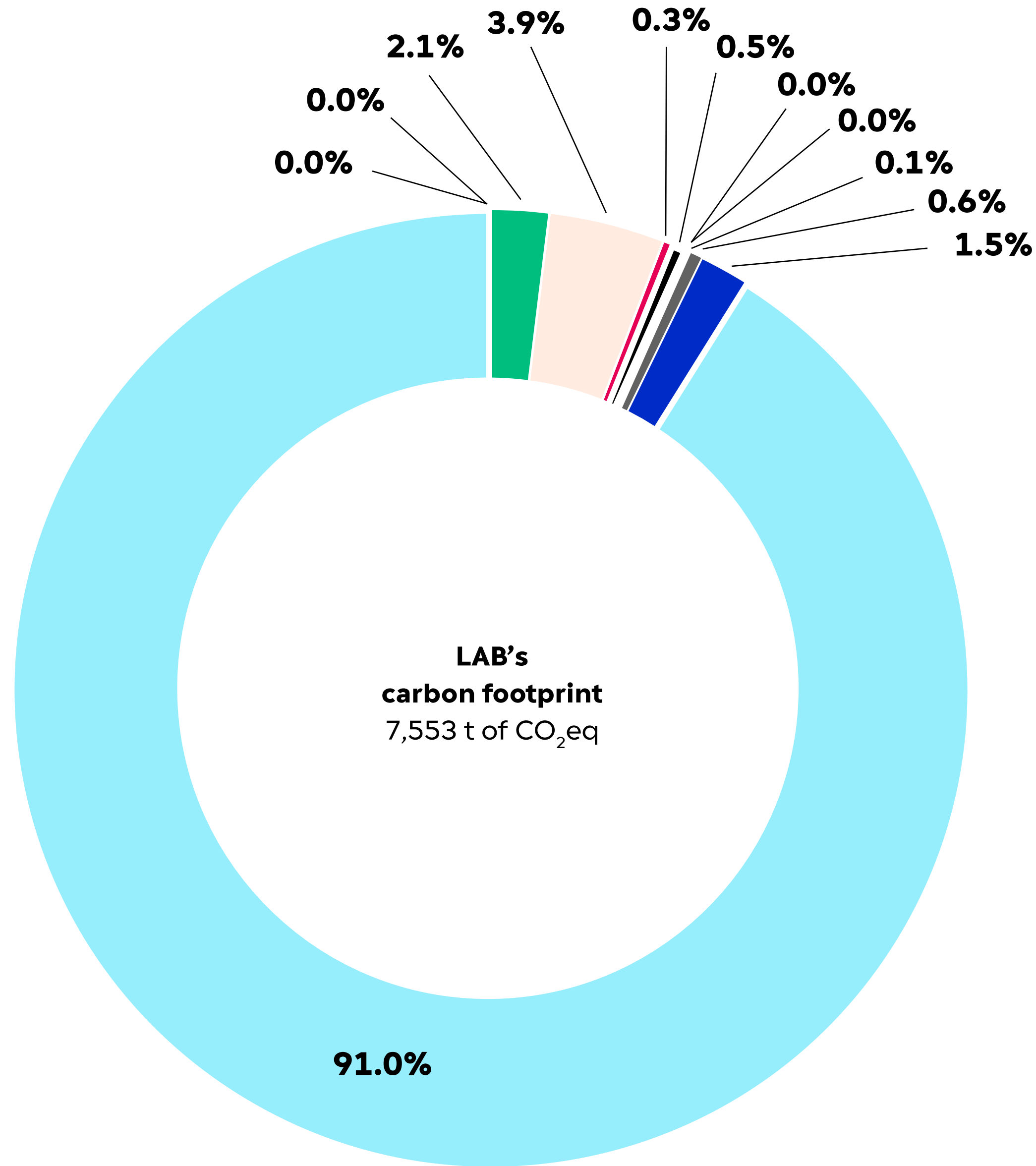
- This calculation includes the Lappeenranta campus (9,000 m², independently owned), the Lahti campus, Mukkulankatu 19 (26,500 m², rented) and Niemenkatu 73 (3,348 m², rented). In 2023, the rented areas in Lahti grew by 2,848 m².
- In 2022, emissions from real estate amounted to 191 tCO₂eq. The increase in emissions is mainly due to the increase in rented surface areas. For instance, heat consumption on campuses was lower in 2023 than in 2022, except on the Lahti campus (M19), where the rented surface area increased by 2,500 m².
- The emission factors for district heating are those reported by local energy companies (Lappeenrannan Energia and Lahti Energia). In Lappeenranta, the district heating contract was changed to green district heating (emission factor 0 gCO₂/kWh) in November 2023.
- The electricity purchased by LAB for the Lappeenranta campus is fossil free, granted a certificate of origin according to the government's electricity security portfolio, which in 2023 included nuclear (85.6%), wind (9.4%), bioenergy (3.8%), solar (0.9%) and hydro (0.3%). This significantly reduces LAB's annual emissions. Electricity is included in the Lahti campus' rent, and the ISKU Center used 100% renewable green energy in all its locations.
- The still continuing return to campuses has increased water consumption (21%). Increase in general costs is also apparent in waste management costs, which rose by 27%. More attention must be focused on consumption behaviours and reducing waste, as well as the successful sorting of waste.

Procurements (Scope 3):

Total 6,875 tCO₂eq

- The calculation of the carbon footprint associated with purchases is based on euros spent.
- The 2022 carbon footprint for procurements was 6,418 tCO₂eq. The 2022 calculation is comparable to the figure of 2023, as they include the same cost groups. Procurement-related emissions have, therefore, grown slightly.
- In 2023, 61,574 euros more were used for food and coffee than in 2022, as the number of events has still grown after the COVID-19 pandemic years.
- Procurement of laboratory equipment, supplies, chemicals, written materials and documentation, occupational healthcare and other uncategorised procurements are included in the category 'Other procurements'.
- Procurements form the majority of LAB's carbon footprint. Attention must be focused on how environmentally friendly the procurements are, on the emissions of suppliers and on ensuring that procurements are only made for actual needs.





LAB's carbon footprint in 2023:

7,553 t of CO₂eq

A more detailed breakdown of emissions:

Emission distribution of CO₂eq

SCOPE 1

Fleet vehicles 3.1 0.0%

SCOPE 2

Electricity 0.0 0.0%

Heating 158.5 2.1%

SCOPE 3

Flights 292.4 3.9%

Hotel accommodation 22.1 0.3%

Passenger cars (mileage/kilometre-adjusted business trips) 38.5 0.5%

Fleet vehicles 1.1 0.0%

Water use 1.6 0.0%

Waste management 4.2 0.1%

Energy 44.8 0.6%

Construction and other buildings maintenance 111.8 1.5%

Procurements 6875 91.0%

Total 7,553

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