

**Aalto
Sustainability**



Aalto University

Taking it into action!

Case Aalto Sustainability

Meri Löyttyniemi

Team leader, Sustainability Hub
Aalto University, Research Services

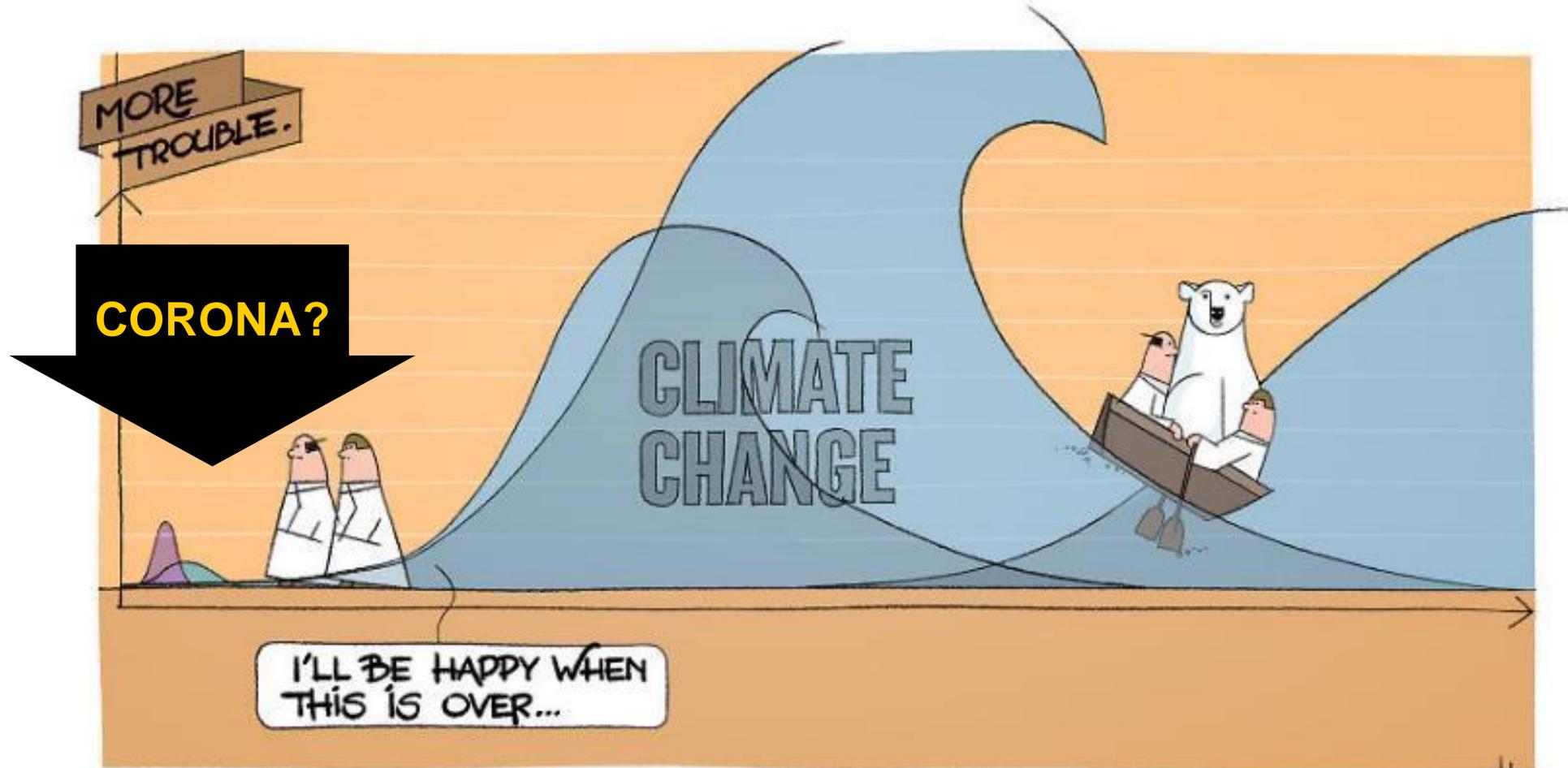
Aalto ARTS

Course “*Design Approaches to Sustainable Consumption*”

Lecture 2 Feb 2021

Wicked problems...

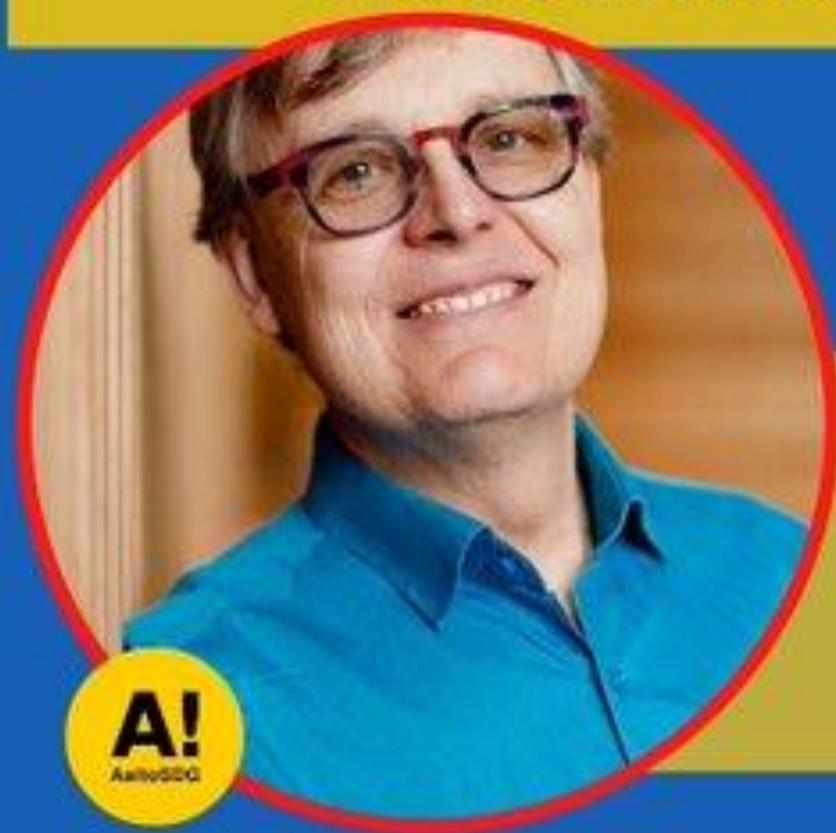
Urgency and magnitude of ecological and climate crisis is undisputable



January 2021

AaltoSDG
AMBASSADOR

Michael Lettenmeier



Michael Lettenmeier works as a Postdoctoral Researcher for the ORSI Research Project in the Department of Design at Aalto University, and as CEO and consultant on sustainable resource use and low-carbon lifestyles at D-mat Ltd.

"Despite of the pandemic, we still are in a climate crisis. We need an urgent change towards low-carbon lifestyles.

Aalto University has been active on this. In the 1.5-degree lifestyles research we found how much we should reduce our lifestyle carbon footprints: In Finland, it's by more than 75% during this decade. And we found out that there are many options for starting this even immediately.

This month, each of us can try out how to promote Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 13, climate action. The AaltoSDG app suggests us options to measure and reduce our carbon footprints. Now is the time to act.

Join us!

- 1. About Aalto University**
2. Our sustainability journey
3. Aalto Green Nudges
4. Materials, partners

Aalto is committed to SDG Accord

also carbon neutrality by 2030 target



Align all our sectors with the Sustainable Development Goals



Aim to involve all key **stakeholder groups**



Collaborate across cities, countries and continents with other signatory institutions

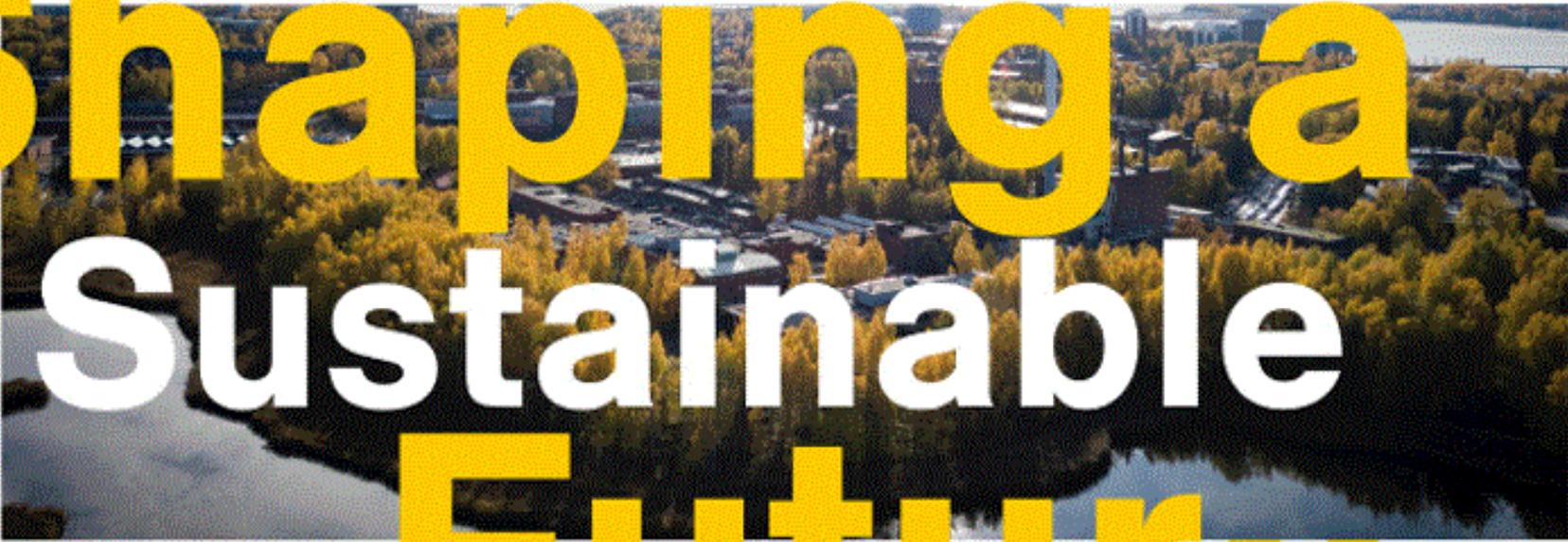


Share our learning with local and global communities



Report annually on our contribution to the SDGs

New strategy launched in Jan´20



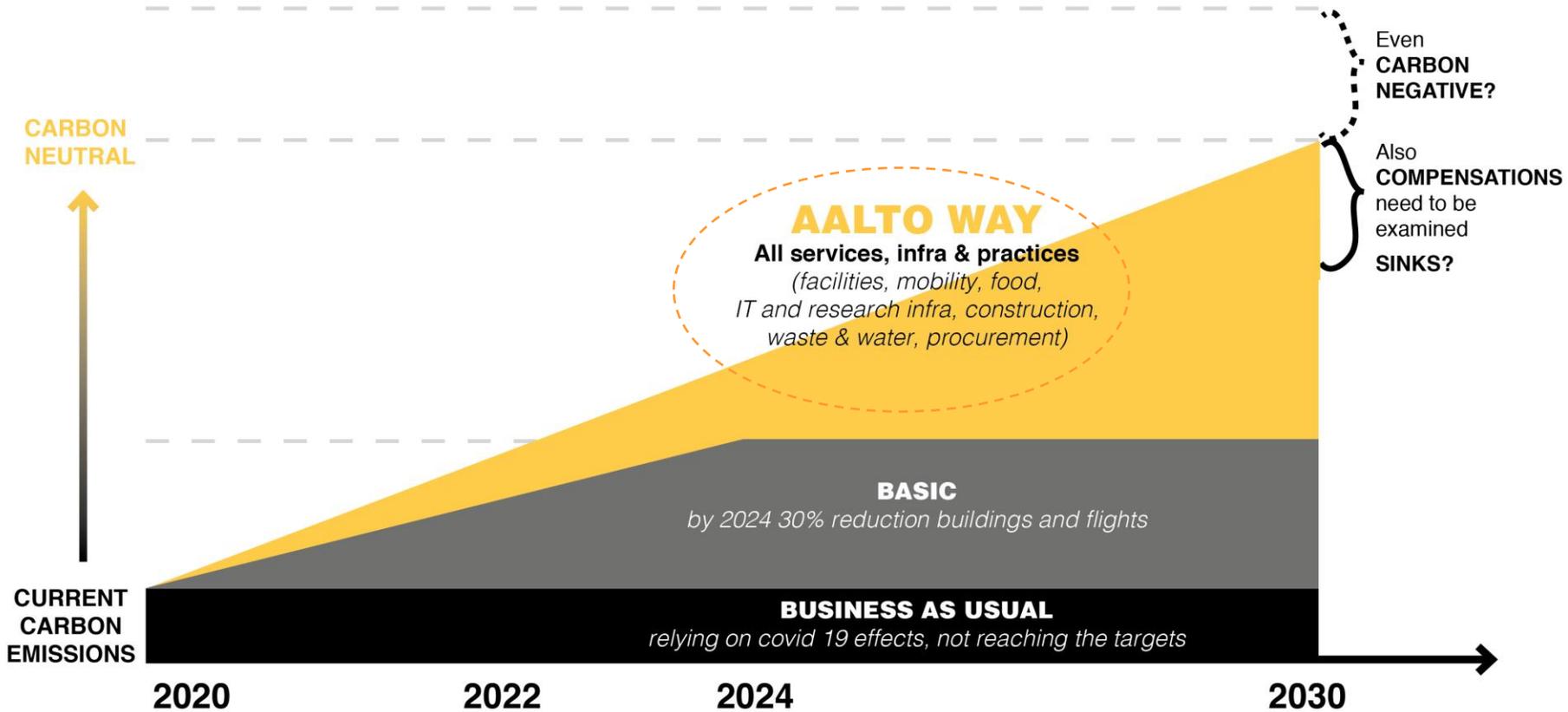
Shaping a Sustainable Future.



A?

Actions & targets 2021-2024 to be confirmed during 2021
aalto.fi/en/strategy

Carbon neutral Aalto 2030 launches

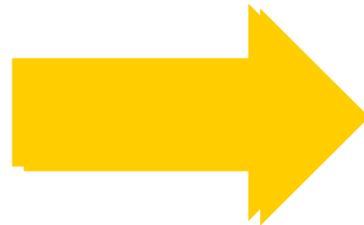


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Aalto Sustainability 2010-2015

Successes: academic performance and support, continuity in SD work, steady progress, broader focus from internal development to external outreach, sustainable campus implementation

Challenges: only high-level commitment, changes too often in governance, human resources very limited, declining project resources



Aalto Sustainability has engaged students and staff

...and will continue doing so

Thesis work, Aalto delegations to events and courses, competitions, projects at campus...

MAYDAY MAYDAY!
Aalto Sustainability Day

Friday 18 May 2018,
8:30 – 17 in Dipoli

Tackling complex sustainability
challenges by co-creating
disruptive innovations

Register by 2 May 2018:
aalto.fi/sustainability



Dividing part

In order to recycle the waste, some staff separating the bins is a key point.



Used bins

No need to purchase new trash box



Information
color icons comments

Color for Recycling	
orange	Energy
Green	Paper
Gray	General/waste
Brown	Bio-waste



Aalto Sustainability Hub 2017-2020

Aalto Sustainability Hub seized as a platform by 2020.

Sustainability staff and budget will be confirmed at earliest 2021.

The same goes for target-setting, organizational structure, budget costs and event arrangements for spring 2021. Undecided as of today:

- A transformative budget
- Carbon Neutral Aalto 2030



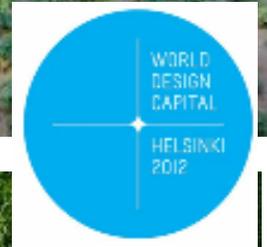
Campus as a living lab

Ossinlampi in Otaniemi – campus gardening for staff and students since 2013

Test-Site, by the students, for the students. Circularity experiments

[fb.com/OtaniemiUrbanGarden/](https://www.facebook.com/OtaniemiUrbanGarden/)

[fb.com/AaltoTestSite/](https://www.facebook.com/AaltoTestSite/)



A!

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Green Nudge Team Programme

WHAT?

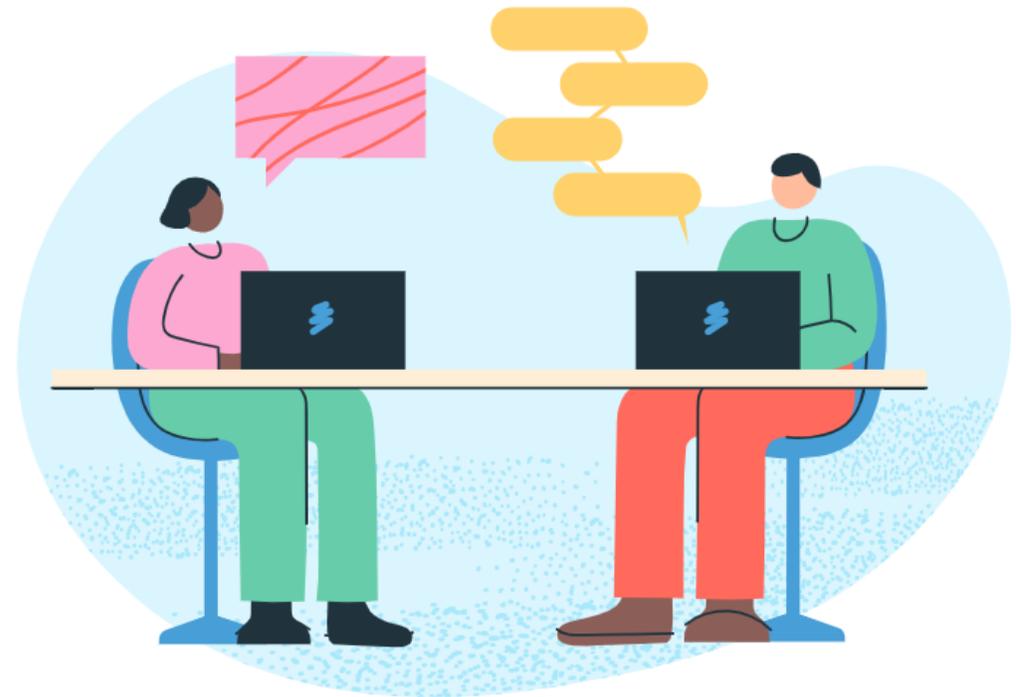
- An online programme for students to engage students in developing sustainability at Aalto
- Based on the UN Environment Programme's recent publication *the Little Book of Green Nudges*

WHEN & WHERE?

- Sept-Dec 2020, online at Aalto University

WHO?

- Aalto Sustainability team together with partners AYY and ACRE



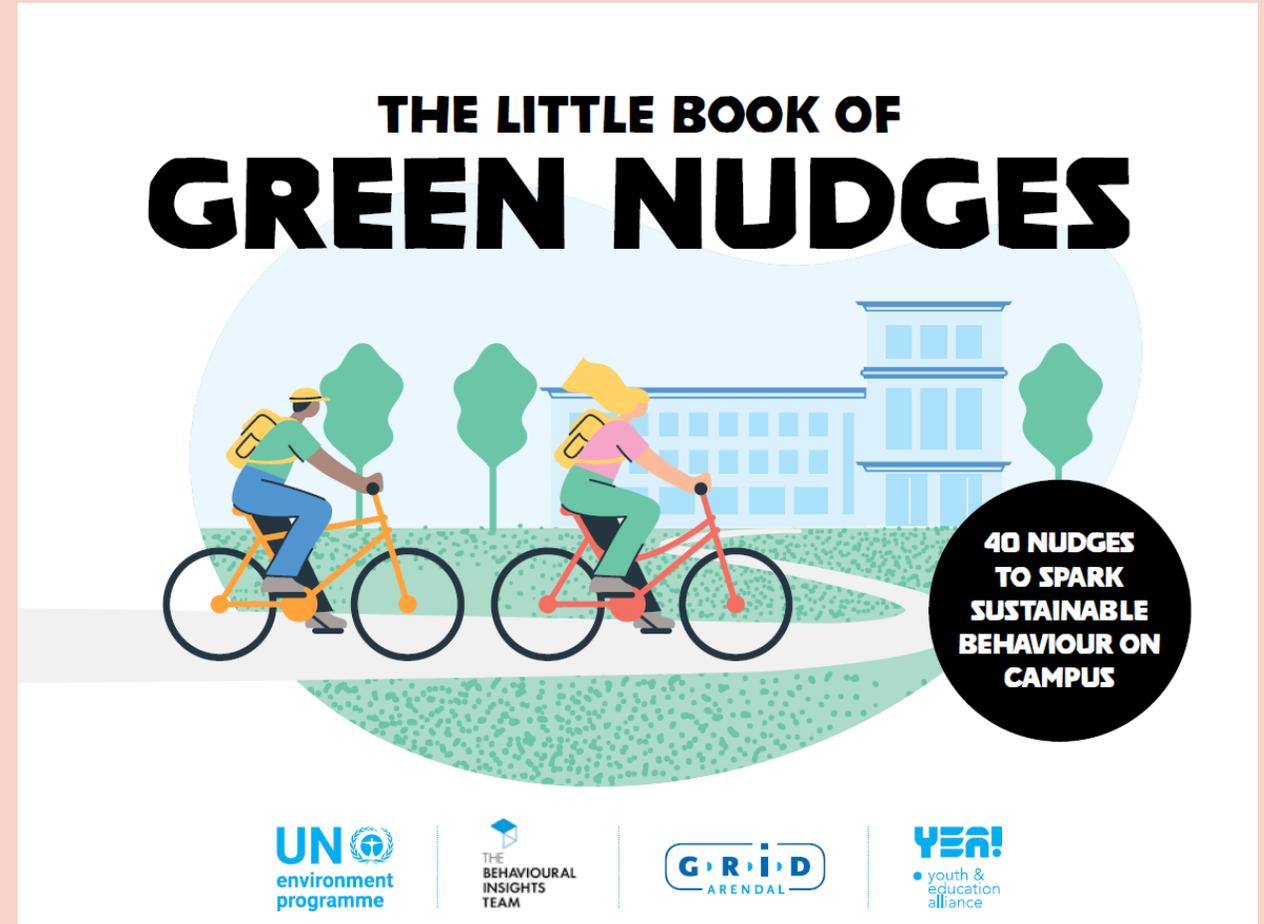
What are Green Nudges?

Positive & gentle persuasion(s) to encourage sustainable behaviour



About the publication

- **Concrete ideas** on how to reduce your campus' environmental impact through behavioural change
- **Guidance** on how to implement and evaluate behavioural interventions in a variety of contexts.
- **Featuring 40 nudges** from around the world, including two from Aalto University.
- Encourages universities all around the globe to implement green nudges to instill **environmental values that can last a lifetime.**



GREEN NUDGES AT A GLANCE

Here's a simple summary of the EAST subcategories and sample nudges in each one.

MAKE SUSTAINABILITY EASY

- *Use defaults.*
Example: Give guests at catered events the most sustainable food option unless they request otherwise.
- *Remove or add frictions.*
Example: Offer smaller plates and no trays in campus canteens.
- *Change the choice environment.*
Example: Provide fewer car-parking spaces and more bike-parking spaces.

MAKE SUSTAINABILITY ATTRACTIVE

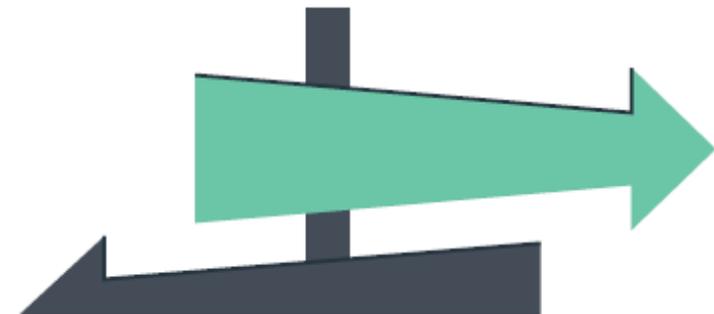
- *Draw attention.*
Example: Design recycling bins to be eye-catching.
- *Frame messages positively and highlight co-benefits.*
Example: Promote sustainable food as tasty and indulgent.
- *Use smart incentives.*
Example: Introduce lottery-based deposit return schemes for recyclable items.

MAKE SUSTAINABILITY SOCIAL

- *Highlight others' sustainable behaviour.*
Example: Compare university departments' energy use to each other.
- *Harness identity and the right messengers.*
Example: Spread messages via people with whom students identify.
- *Use social connections and peer pressure.*
Example: Set up a food-sharing group to distribute leftovers on campus.

MAKE SUSTAINABILITY TIMELY

- *Encourage pre-commitments and emphasize present benefits.*
Example: Provide interest-free loans to help students buy public transport passes.
- *Harness or create timely moments.*
Example: Give first-year students tips for sustainable food shopping.
- *Help people plan and follow through.*
Example: Provide a checklist for reducing water use in student halls.



The Aalto program 2020 aroused a lot of interest

- **66** registered students
- **9** teams
- **11** mentors



Samuel Cross
Manager of Aalto Energy Platform,
Academic Coordinator of Advanced
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Department of Mechanical
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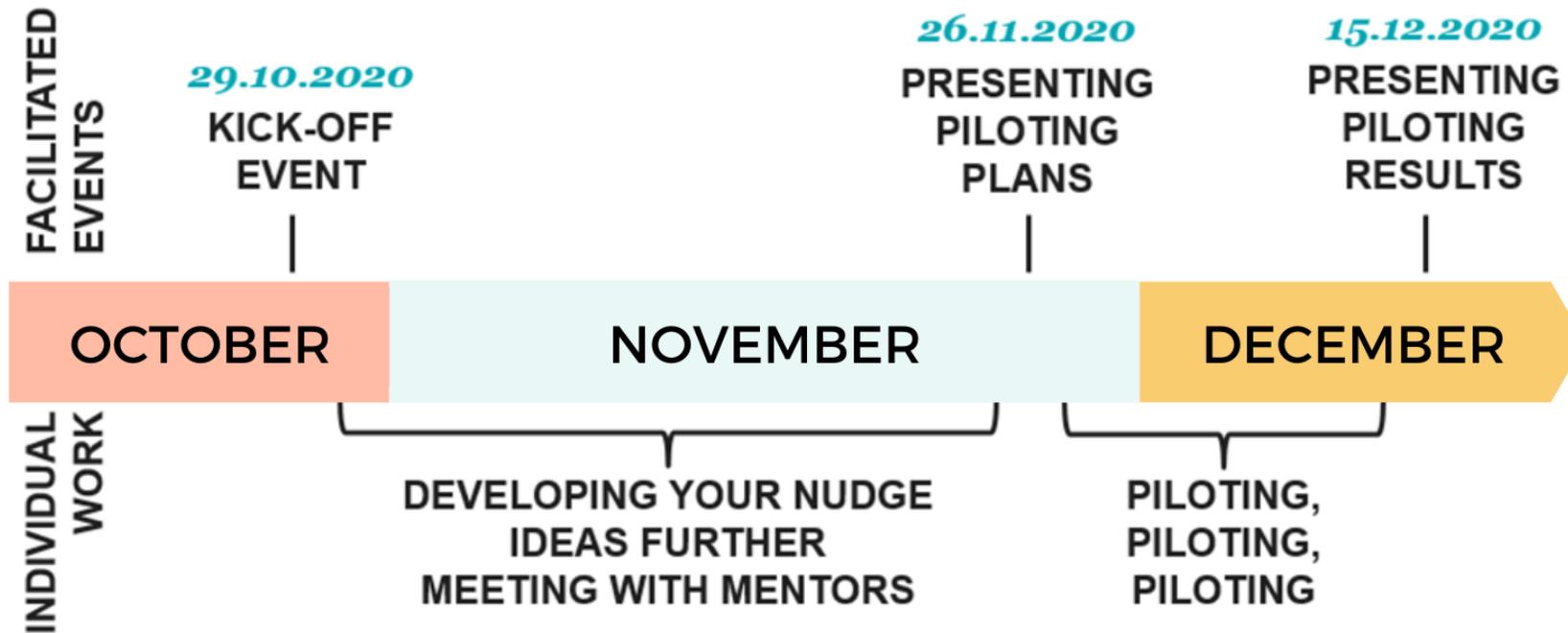


Meeri Karvinen
University Teacher
Department of Built Environment,
ENG



Antti Säynäjoki
Development Manager,
Campus Services,
ACRE

Programme timeline for students



Green nudge examples from Aalto University, Otaniemi Campus

BFIX: The maintenance points contain the equipment necessary for servicing a bicycle – pump station, maintenance stand and toolkit, and a QR code to a mobile guide. (Free to anyone using a bike!)



Green nudge examples from Aalto University, Otaniemi Campus

FOODL
(and Yuki)

LET'S REDUCE FOOD WASTE TOGETHER!

YUKI: A non-profit, community-driven digital application to help minimize food waste in Finnish universities.

Hacks
Join community channels to learn and share how to best use, reuse and store food.

Discover
Access summarized information on your ingredients' seasonality, origin, carbon impact etc.

Share
Share and collect leftover food on campus from both students and events.

Let's collaborate to turn this vision into reality.

Reach out on:
noah.peysson@aalto.fi

A? Luke

FOODL Food Giveaway - Otaniemi

1 352 members, 339 online

Here's how it works:

- Announcements in English in the chat
- Mention the location to pick the food (e.g JMT1) and other relevant info such and the expiry date, condition, etc....

VIEW IN TELEGRAM

1. About Aalto University
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Open online course materials

Joint initiative of 11 Finnish HE institutions, licence CC-BY-SA
Courses available at www.climateuniversity.fi

and aalto.fi/en/sustainability/education-for-sustainability

Bachelor's level



Jan 2021

Master's level



Additional



Decarbonize course by Yale & Aalto

Developed as a joint collaboration between Aalto University (Finland) and Yale University (USA), this collection of lecture series, reference guides, and teaching materials offers tools and guides to help designers, makers, and builders understand and track the flows of carbon.

DECARBONIZE DESIGN



This is a story about carbon. About its role in forming the built environment and in determining the future of the planet.

Student(s) union as key partner

#FridaysForFuture, Otaniemi 1,5degrees petition & sustainable catering



Welcome to *sustainable* Aalto

Aalto University is committed to sustainability. We provide annually a brochure for new students highlighting how to learn and implement sustainability at the university. The materials are available also in *Finnish* and *Swedish*.



aalto.fi/en/sustainability/sustainable-aalto

Welcome to *sustainable* Aalto!

Aalto University is committed to UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Download AaltoSDG mobile application to stay informed about the sustainability work at Aalto and to take action in your own life.



Education and research

The most effective way to improve sustainability is through your studies. Sustainability activities are coordinated by **Aalto Sustainability Hub**.

- Degree programs and online courses: aalto.fi/en/sustainability/education
- Research: aalto.fi/en/sustainability/research
- Climate University online courses on climate change and circular economy: blogs.helsinki.fi/climateuniversity/



Purchases

We consider responsibility in all procurement. It's easy to consume sustainably:

- Useful sites and groups for exchanging goods and services on campus: aalto.sharetribe.com/ and fb.com/groups/teekkarikylamarkkinat/
- Check also kierratyskeskus.fi/en
- Otaniemi recycling center is the perfect place to rent your homeware. You can also donate, buy and get free useful stuff in the heart of the campus, fb.com/reuseandrescue

Recycling

The best waste is no waste. Sort waste according to provided instructions, both on campus and in your spare time.

Read more: hsy.fi/en and aalto.fi/recycle

Electronics, IT

Use computers and other devices eco-efficiently. The Aalto IT Service Desk can help you.

- Check the power save settings on your computer, even the sleep mode uses power.
- Turn off the screen, lights and devices, when not in use.
- Minimise your paper consumption, print on both sides of a paper and in smaller font.

Housing and university buildings

Aalto aims for a carbon neutral and pleasant campus. You have an impact too:

- Book and find rooms on campus with Aalto Space App, aalto.fi/en/palvelut/aalto-space-mobilisovellus
- Switch to green electricity, e.g. ekosahko.fi
- "No adds please" sticker in your door cuts down the paper waste.
- Save water and energy.

Transport

Aalto strives for sustainable mobility together with HSL and cities.

- Whenever possible walk, cycle or use public transportation, favoring rail traffic, reittiopas.fi/en
- Journey planner for cyclists: pk.reittiopas.fi/en
- Yellow Alepa citybikes: kaupunkipyorat.hsl.fi/en
- Borrow a carrier bike from Dipoli or Väre.
- Fix your bike in Otaniemi at BFIX bike repair points or bikepoli.ayy.fi
- Carsharing e.g. citycarclub.fi
- Compensate your emissions e.g. compensate.com

Food

After housing and mobility, food is the most significant factor affecting climate change.

- Favour plant-based and seasonal foods, as well as local, organic and Fairtrade.
- Only take as much as you can eat.
- Use proper cutlery, instead of paper or plastic.
- Tapwater is an ecological drink.
- Rent a plot at the Otaniemi Urban garden: fb.com/OtaniemiUrbanGarden
- You can share and pick up leftover foods through the student's telegram group t.me/food123

Wellbeing and socializing

- Student mental health is supported by nyyti.fi/en
- Aalto psychologists offer help for example with stress and climate anxiety.
- The Student Union AYY is a good platform for promoting sustainable and ethical activities, e.g. Sustainable Business Club. Read more: ayy.fi/en/associations/
- Organise your events sustainably: greeningevents.fi

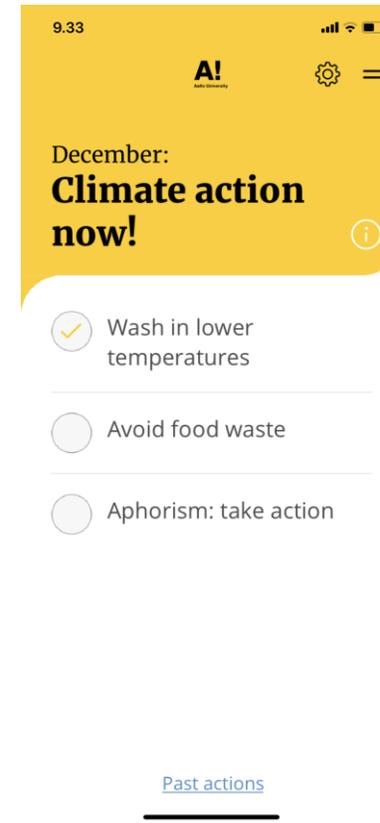
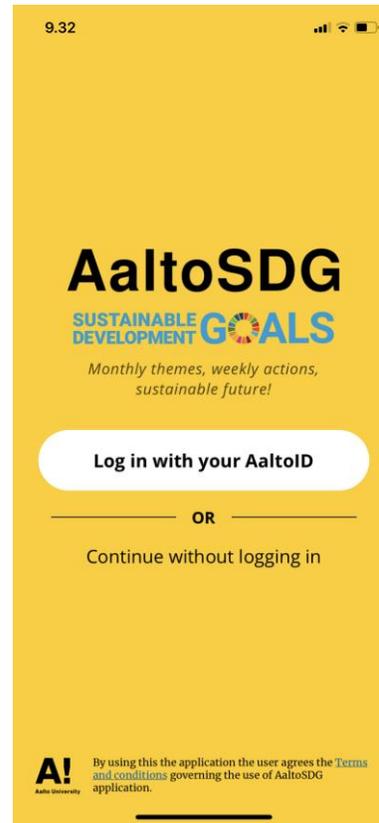
More information

aalto.fi/sustainability
aalto.fi/SDG



AaltoSDG mobile app

The application supports *you to make everyday sustainable actions and learn more on Aalto University's work on SDGs & education, research, art and everyday life.*



Coming up in Aalto sustainability

- **Aalto Sustainability Talks**, 2-3 events during spring
- **Climate and hope** –dialogue 20.4. with bishop of Espoo
- **Sustainability Science Days conference** 18.-19.5.21 online, incl. mentoring for doctoral students, also other student engagement

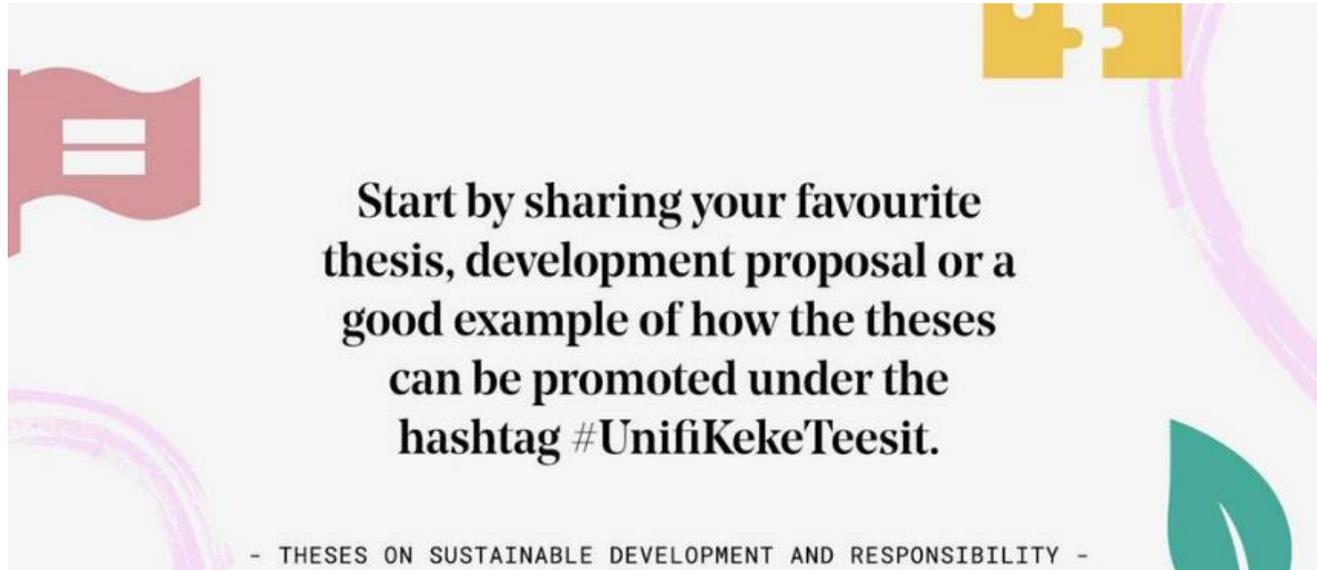
- **Sustainability reporting 2020** is a work in progress
- **Earth Hour** celebrated 24.3.2021 jointly by AYY-Aalto-ACRE
- **Initiatives & student projects mentored by Aalto Sustainability**, stemming from the (student) community & Aalto Green Nudges

- **Sustainability in teaching** – pedagogical training for teachers, IV period
- **Jan 14 Aalto received 15,4 M€ from Academy of Finland** – profiling plans contribute to SDGs through, e.g. circular economy approach



Materials, mental support and guidelines... *it 's about implementing!*

- **#UnifiKekeTeesit**; Finnish universities published 12 ambitious theses in Nov'20: "There is no more time for ceremonial speeches – it's time to act"
- **Theses in English** (available also in Swedish & Finnish)
unifi.fi/viestit/theses-on-sustainable-development-and-responsibility/



AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND & PACIFIC EDITION

GETTING STARTED WITH THE SDGS IN UNIVERSITIES

A GUIDE FOR UNIVERSITIES, HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, AND THE ACADEMIC SECTOR

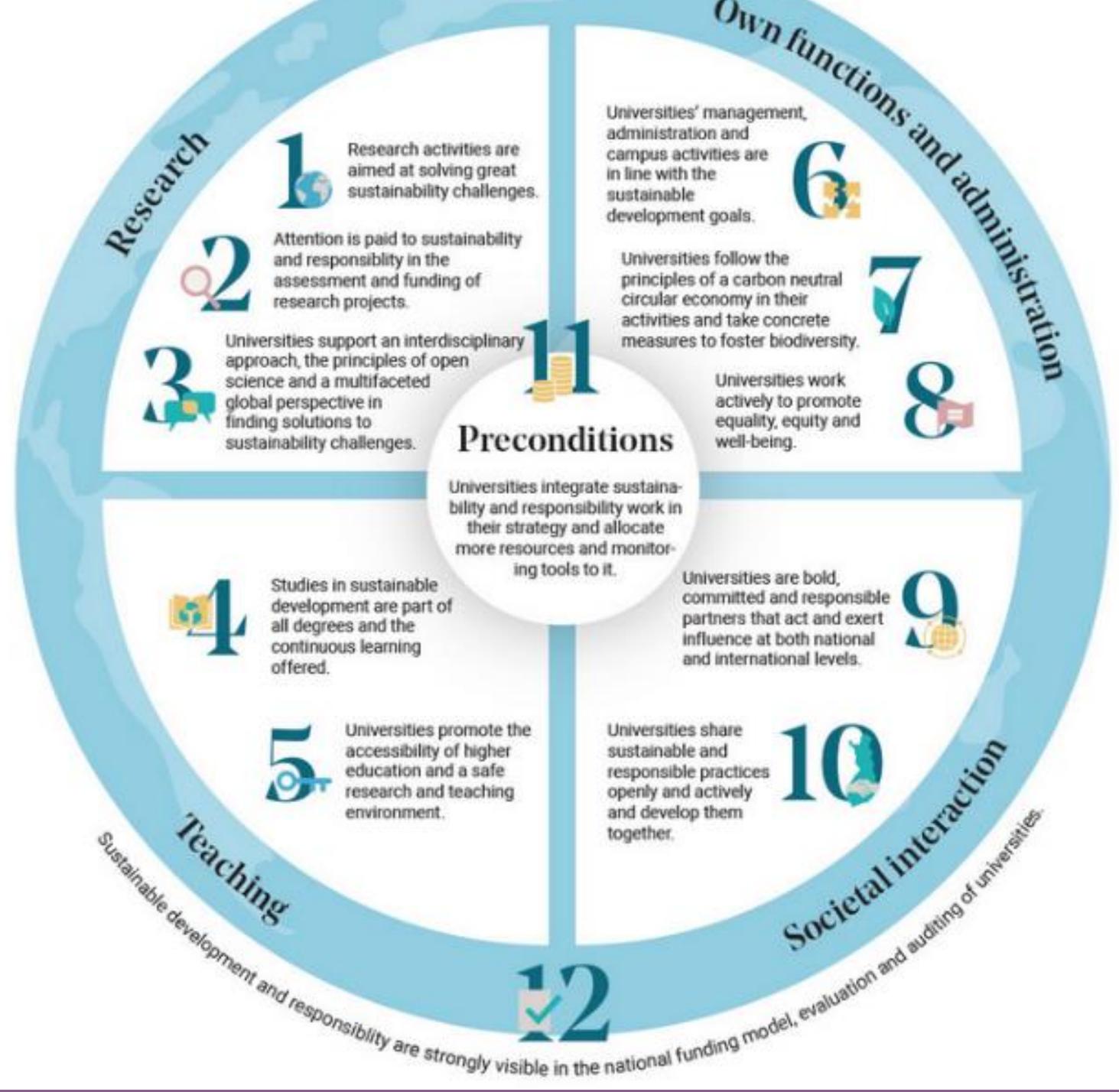


Twelve UNIFI theses on SD & responsibility

In parallel with ARENE.fi, Finnish universities of applied sciences

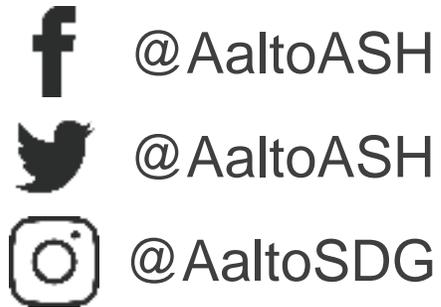
Share in social media:
#UnifiKekeTeesit

unifi.fi/uutiset/yliopistot-julkaisevat-12-kunnianhimoista-teesia-ja-aikovat-nousta-kestavan-kehityksen-karkeen/



Get in touch with Aalto Sustainability

Social media



Newsletter

Internal mailing list

- For aalto faculty & students
- 1-10 times a week

External newsletter (once a month)

subscriptions: jasmin.jarvinen@aalto.fi

Researcher(s)?

research.aalto.fi
people.aalto.fi

AaltoSDG

Download the mobile application on App Store or Google Play

Thank you - Let´s do it together!

aalto.fi/sustainability
aalto.fi/SDG



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