Tampere University
Tampere University of Applied Sciences

Tampere Universities: Roadmap to sustainable development 2020-2030

Steps to promoting sustainability and responsibility

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Sustainable Tampere Universities

Vision for 2030

Teaching and continuous learning

- Sustainable development is integrated into all degree programmes, and related learning outcomes are defined in our curricula.
- All students have an understanding of sustainable development and the ability to help build a carbon-neutral future.

Research and RDI

- When new projects are planned, actions for addressing and adjusting to climate change and promoting carbon neutrality are always considered.
- Research staff participates actively in promoting sustainability across the community.

Societal impact

- The results of research carried out at Tampere Universities are applied locally, nationally and globally to support climate action.
- We set an example to others. Our specialists and students promote sustainable development and carbon neutrality across society.

Organisation

- Tampere Universities are carbon neutral (net zero emissions). Our carbon footprint is automatically monitored.
- We have developed our activities, reduced our emissions and integrated carbon neutrality into all our activities.

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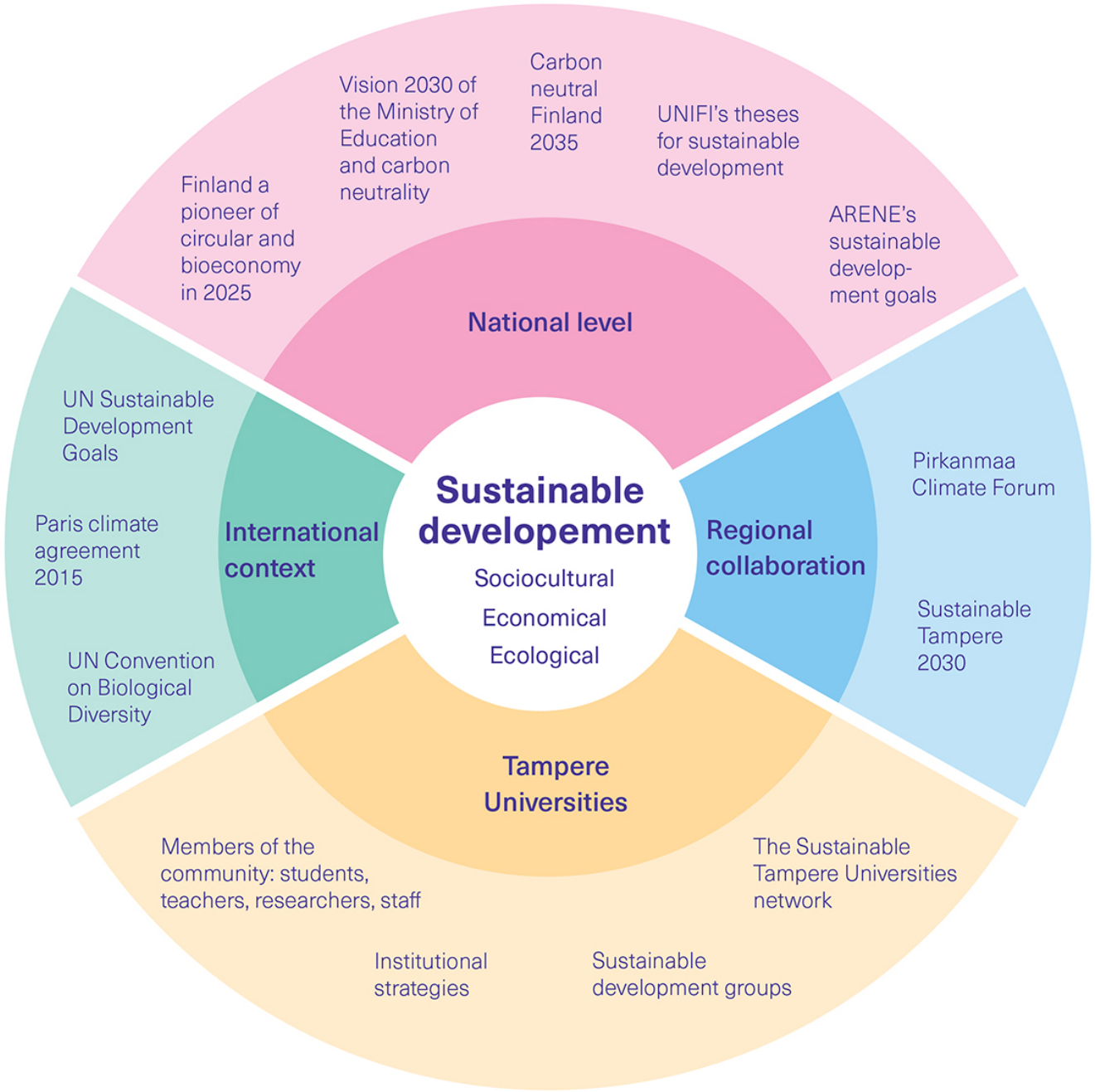
Framework for sustainable development activities at Tampere Universities

The sustainable development activities carried out across Tampere Universities are governed by a number of international, national and regional agreements. Within the community, the activities are steered by strategic plans.
All the members of the community promote sustainable development through their own activities, and there are groups and networks that support and facilitate these efforts.



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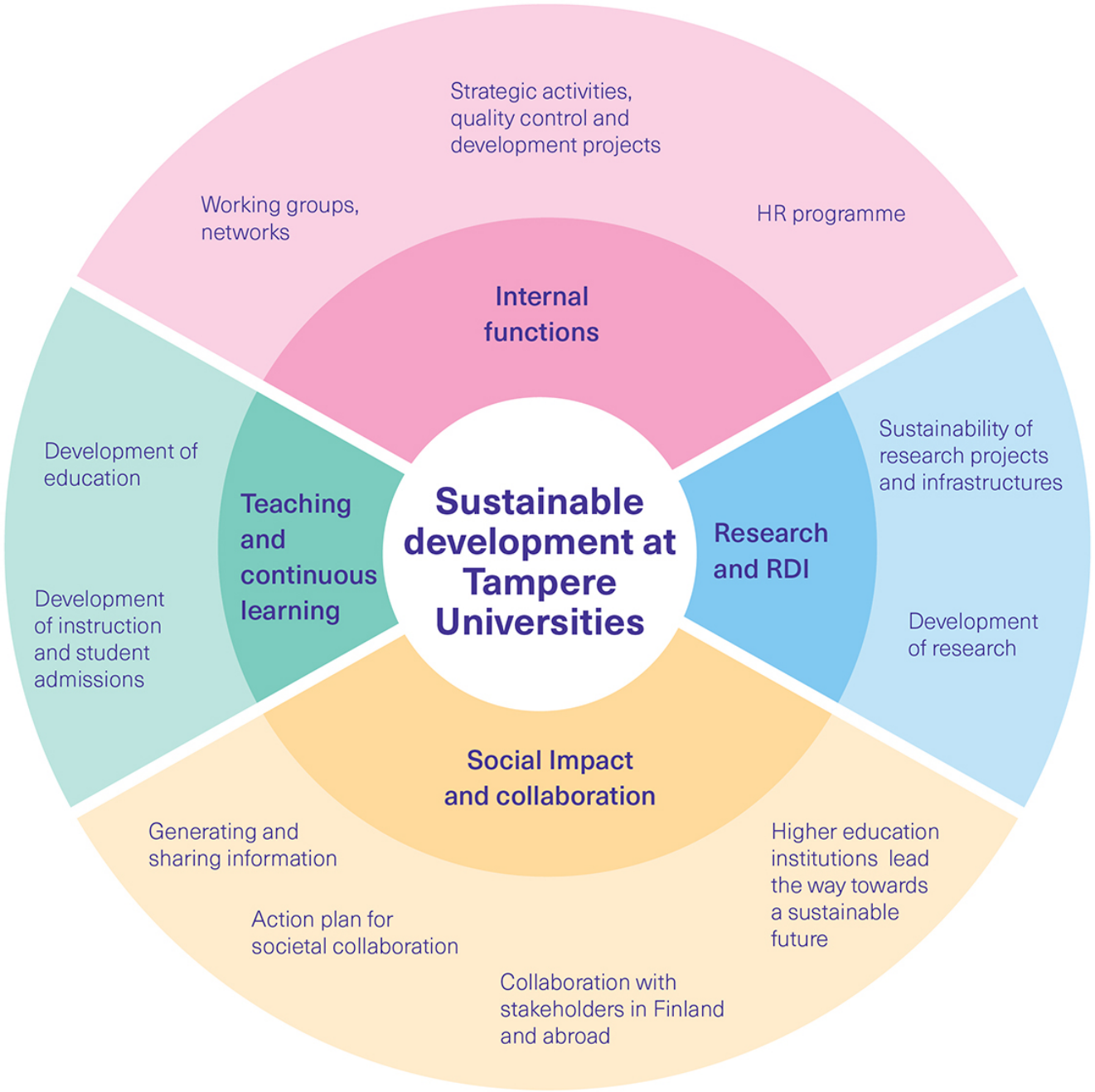
Promoting sustainable development across the community

We promote sustainable development in key outward-facing areas and by developing our internal practices.



Timeline for sustainable development

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024-2026	2027-2030

Teaching and continuous learning

- Degree programmes focused on sustainable development, elective courses, support for teachers (TLC)
- TAU: Piloting the SDG analysis of curricula
- TAU: broader SDG analysis; TAMK: pilot project
- The results of the analysis are utilised to offer an introduction to sustainable development to all students
- Sustainable development principles are integrated into all teaching
- All graduates have extensive knowledge of sustainable development

Research and RDI

- Sustainable development principles are integrated into recruitment activities
- Guidelines for the sustainable and responsible use of research environments
- Research platforms support sustainable development
- Identifying and communicating the sustainability dimension of research projects
- Sustainable development principles are integrated into research projects
- Research environments are managed in accordance with sustainable development principles

Internal activities to promote sustainable development

- Carbon footprint calculation begins
- Roadmap for sustainable development
- THE Impact Ranking
- Developing the environmental performance of campus buildings
- Sustainable Tampere Universities network
- Facilities Programme
- Sustainable development reporting
- Sustainable investment principles
- Emission reductions are integrated into all activities
- Sustainable development training is integrated into the HR programme and the strategy
- Automated calculation of the carbon footprint
- Sustainable development training is integrated into the HR programme and the strategy

Societal impact and collaboration

- Increasing communications and setting an example to others
- Building partnerships that promote sustainable development
- Strategy for promoting sustainable development in the context of societal interaction
- Stakeholders are encouraged to contribute to sustainable development

*The timeline mainly shows when continuous activities were or will be started.

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Tampere Universities: Plan for achieving carbon neutrality by 2030

As part of the roadmap for

- AIMING FOR NET ZERO EMISSIONS

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Cornerstones of developing carbon neutrality

Energy- and resource-efficient campus buildings; monitoring, repairs and maintenance activities support carbon neutrality

Sustainable travel by staff, students and partners

Sustainable, climate friendly procurement and product lifecycle management

Community-wide commitment to promoting sustainable development

Community-wide participation in developing new solutions and models

Sustainable, responsible and virtual-assisted teaching and events

Sustainable and climate neutral food services

Timeline for achieving carbon neutrality

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024-2026	2027-2030
Carbon neutrality					
The carbon neutral Tampere Universities group begins its work	Preparing the roadmap for carbon neutrality	Looking into carbon compensation	Publishing the roadmap for carbon neutrality	Evaluating the possibility to achieve carbon negativity	Carbon neutrality will be achieved by 2030
Community-wide activities					
	The sustainable development network provides support for the faculties, schools and support services	The University management issues guidelines to support efforts towards carbon neutrality	The internal funding model supports carbon neutrality	Examining the need for carbon offsets in relation to emission reductions	
Calculating the carbon footprint					
The carbon footprint was calculated for the first time in 2019	Publishing and reporting on the results of carbon footprint calculation	Developing and automating the calculation Developing a shared model for carbon footprint calculation for HEIs (UNIFI, ARENE)	Examining the carbon footprint of the investment portfolio	Integrating carbon footprint considerations into the community's processes	Real-time carbon footprint calculation
Emission reductions					
	Identifying potential for emission reductions; integrating reductions into annual planning	Integrating emission reductions in daily activities	Indicators, interim goals and follow-up		

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Consepts

Carbon footprint:

A carbon footprint is the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphe-re as a result of the activities of a particular entity. The carbon footprint of an organisation can be calculated for a given period of time (such as one year) by including all the direct and indirect emissions generated by the organisation.

Carbon neutral:

As defined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), “net zero carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions are achieved when anthropogenic CO2 emissions are balanced globally by anthropogenic CO2 removals over a specified period. Net zero CO2 emissions are also referred to as carbon neutrality”. To achieve net zero emissions, organisations must first reduce their emissions as much as possible and then compensate the remaining unavoidable emissions in ways that meet the defined criteria.

Compensation:

Compensating for emissions by funding an equivalent carbon dioxide saving elsewhere, such as funding projects that reduce emissions or remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. Net zero emissions are achieved when all the unavoidable emissions are offset through compensation.

Carbon sink:

An activity or process that removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere (such as forest, ocean, wetland).

Carbon storage:

A reservoir or process that stores carbon (such as trees, wood products, soil). In forests, carbon is stored in trees and soil. When a forest stores more carbon dioxide than it releases into the atmosphere, it acts as a carbon sink.

Carbon negative:

Being carbon negative means that an entity removes more greenhouse gases from the atmosphere than it emits. Besides natural processes that remove carbon dioxide, climate action is taken to store carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, for example, in underground geologic formations, soils and biomass or oceans.