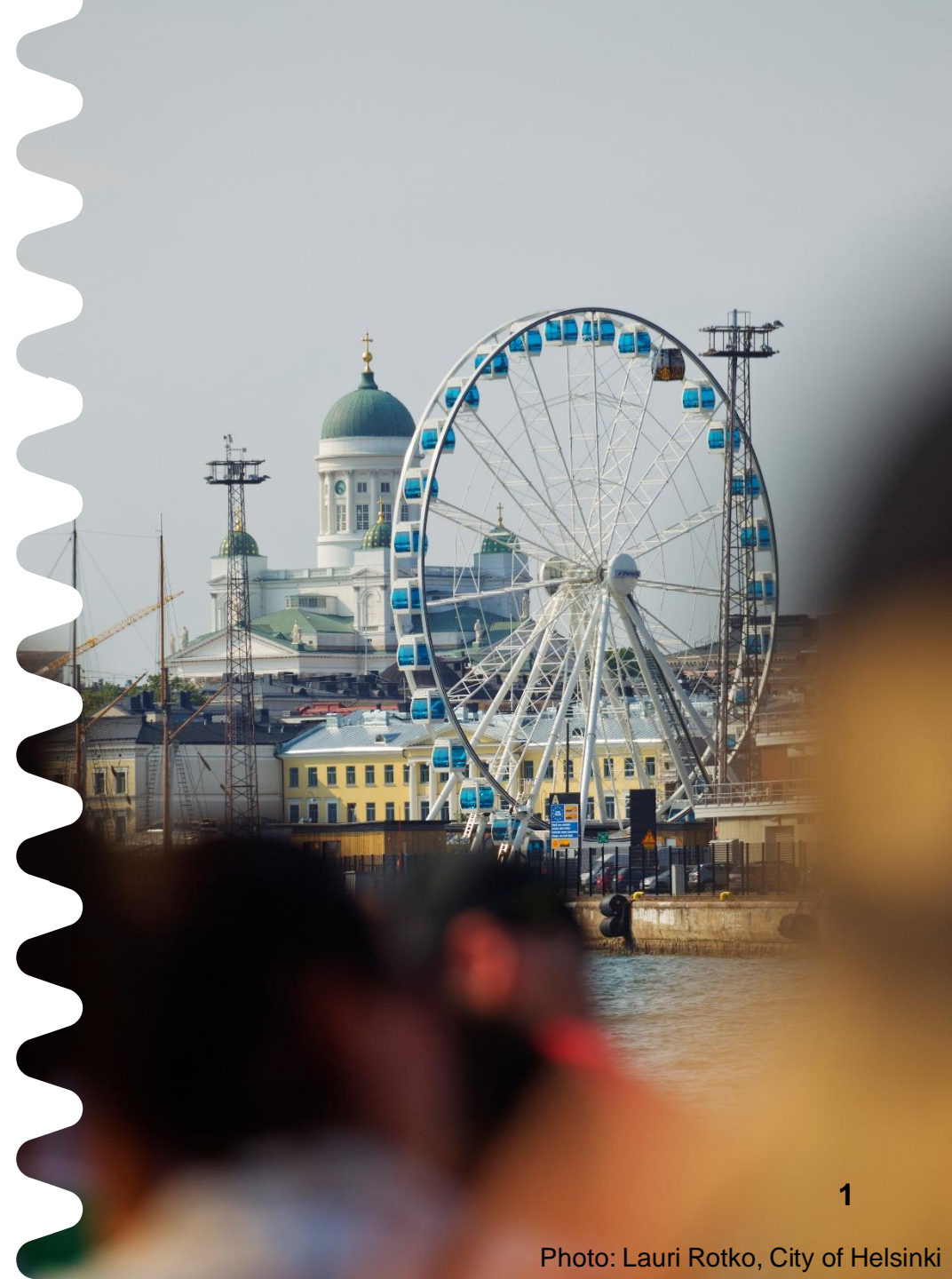


# International Cooperation in the Context of Climate Challenge

Esa Nikunen  
Director General  
Environmental Services  
City of Helsinki  
17.5.2018

Helsinki



# Contents of the Presentation

1. Carbon Neutral Helsinki 2035 Action Plan
2. Adaptation
3. International networks and initiatives
4. International projects
5. Lessons learned from international cooperation



# 1. Carbon Neutral Helsinki 2035 Action Plan



# Helsinki's climate targets

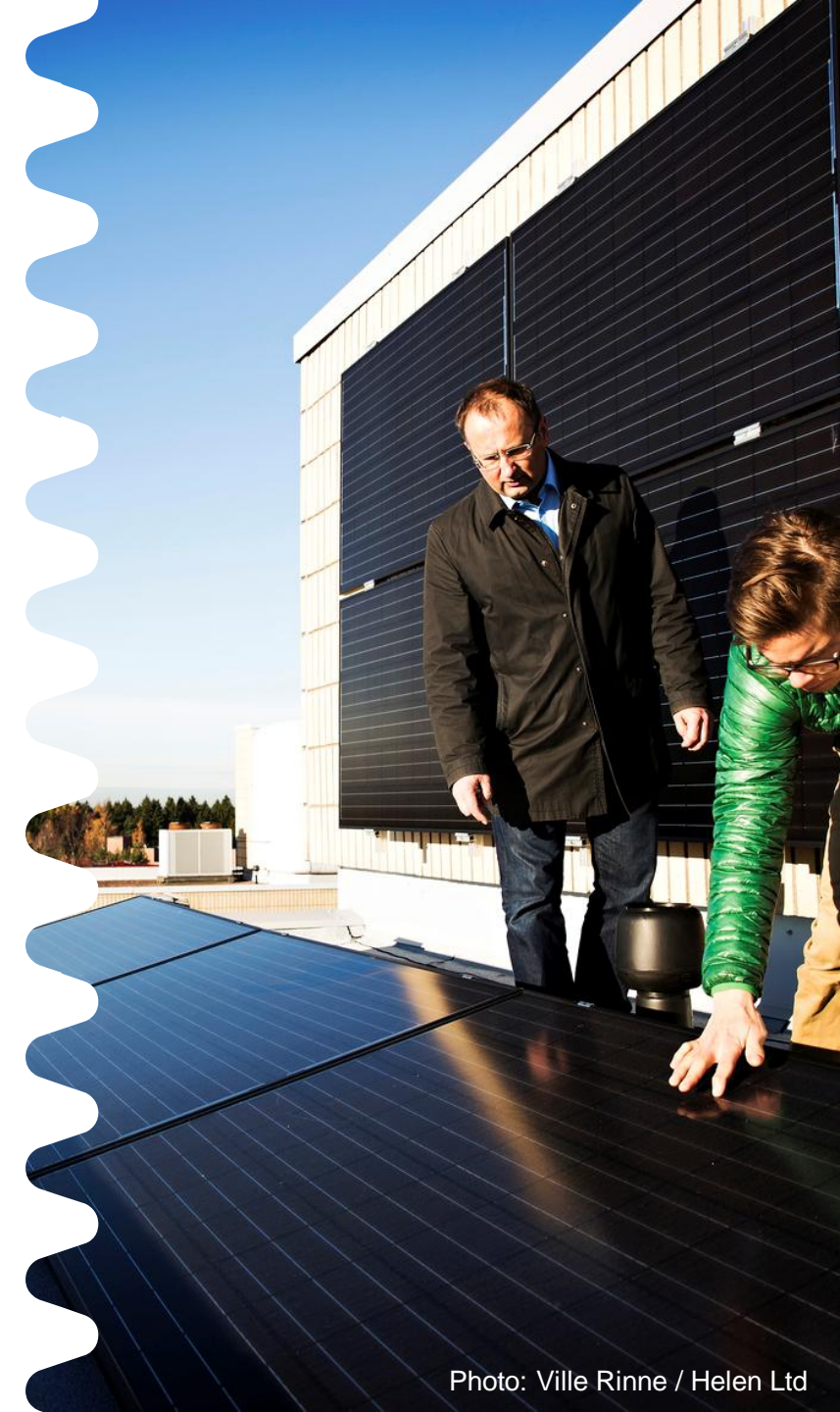
- Helsinki takes its responsibility for the mitigation of climate change seriously
- Helsinki will strengthen its international activities with a special focus on combating climate change
- New climate goals in the city strategy
  - Carbon neutrality
    - 80 % emission reduction in 1990-2035
    - The remaining 20 % will be offset
  - Interim goal: 60 % emission reduction 1990-2030
- Current emission reduction: 26 % since 1990

# Carbon Neutral Helsinki 2035 Action Plan

- 143 measures to set Helsinki on the right track to reach carbon neutrality
- Focus on the emissions that are produced within the Helsinki City borders
- Innovative co-creation of the plan: all documents were available to anyone interested for studying and commenting online
- 9 large open workshops and dozens of expert meetings to agree on the measures

# Carbon Neutral Helsinki 2035 Action Plan themes

- Transport
- Construction and the use of buildings
- Consumption, procurement, and the sharing and circular economies
- Smart & Clean growth
- Helen's Development Programme
- Carbon sinks and carbon offsets
- Communication and public participation
- Coordination, monitoring and evaluation of climate action





# Helsinki's climate action plan, transport

- Present work:
  - Sustainable modes prioritized in planning
  - Compact city structure connected with rail
  - Fast bike network
  - Carbon neutral public transport 2020
- Action plan, proposals:
  - Traffic pricing
  - Fastening the technology change in heavy transport (environmental zones)
  - Support for electric cars
- Results
  - Emissions can be reduced 67 % 2005-2035, but all measures are needed
  - Many measures are cost-efficient (congestion charging, parking price)

# Helsinki's climate action plan, buildings

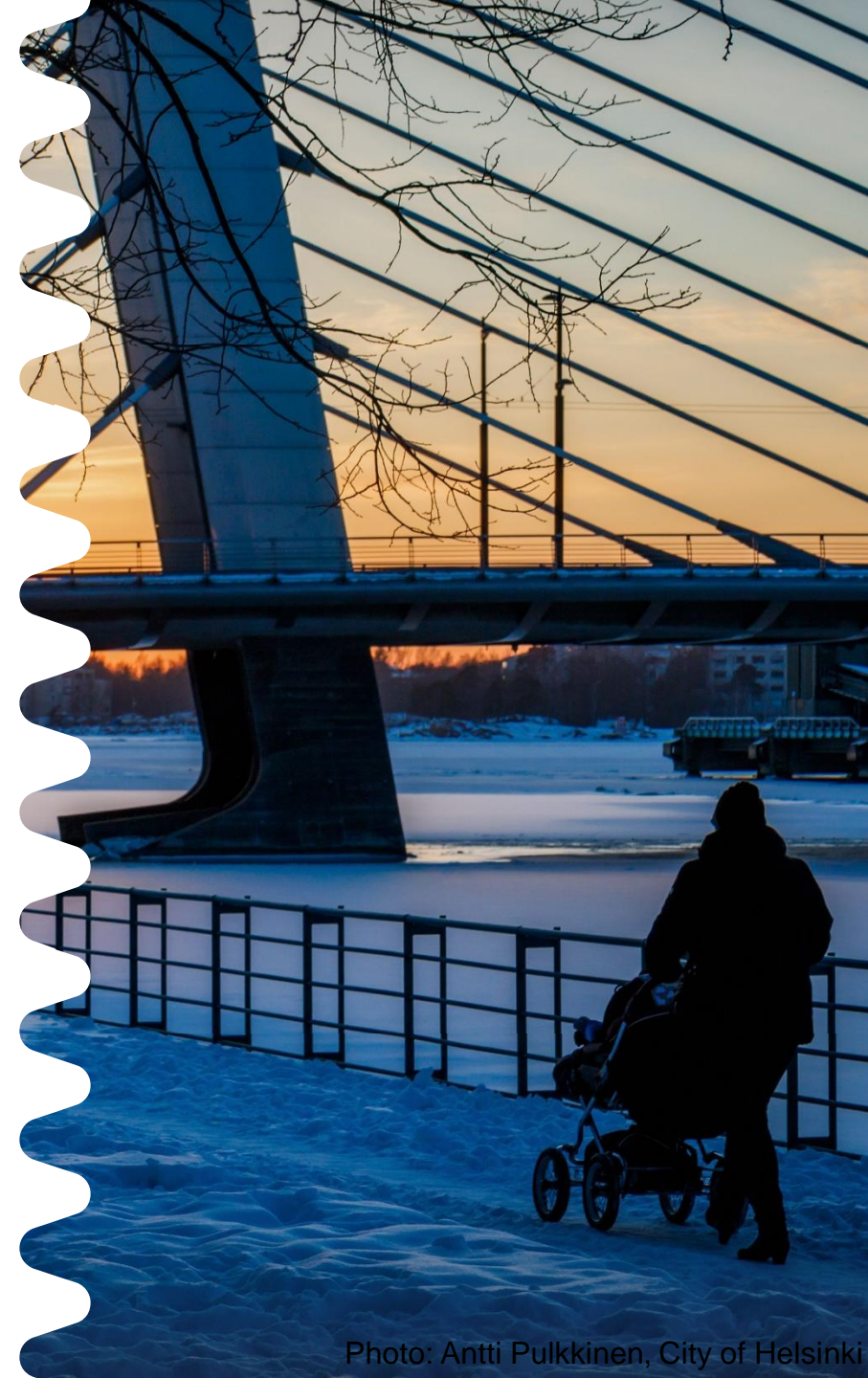
- Present work:
  - Helsinki's building code stricter than national
  - Eco-friendly neighbourhoods (Eco-Viikki, Honkasuo)
  - Long term energy-saving work in city organization
- Action plan, proposals:
  - "Energy-renaissance" retrofitting program
  - Local geothermal heating 10% and solar power 15%
  - Life-cycle costs as a principle in city construction
  - Carbon neutrality pilots in neighbourhoods
  - Financing negotiations with state to support building owners
- Results
  - Total heat consumption can be reduced by 20 %,
  - Emissions can be reduced with energy production by over 80 % 1990-2035
  - Most measures are cost-efficient in the long run



# 2. Adaptation

# Helsinki's adaptation plan

- Vision: Making Helsinki the most functional city in the world – despite weather and climate change
- Assessment of climate risks completed in spring 2018
- Integrating adaptation into city's all actions
- Development of planning tools to support the actions (e.g. [Green Factor Tool](#))
- Collaboration with companies and R&D to develop business opportunities (e.g. [Smart & Clean Storm Water project](#))



# Main climate risks in Helsinki by 2050



**Urban and sea flooding**



**Biodiversity**



**Traffic and slipping injuries**



**The cross-border impacts**



**Heat-related health problems**



**Storm impacts**



**Tick-borne diseases**

# 3. International climate networks and initiatives





COMPACT  
*of* MAYORS

**2015: Helsinki joins**

**2016: A new global network!  
NB. Covenant of Mayors for Climate  
and Energy still in action in the EU**



GLOBAL COVENANT  
*of* MAYORS *for*  
CLIMATE & ENERGY



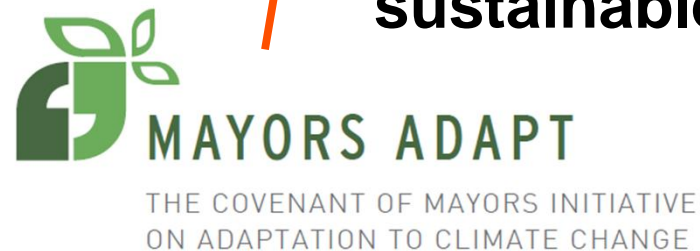
Covenant of Mayors  
for Climate & Energy

**2015: The two EU initiatives merge  
-> mitigation, adaptation and  
sustainable energy**



Covenant  
of Mayors  
Committed to local  
sustainable energy

**2008: Helsinki joins**

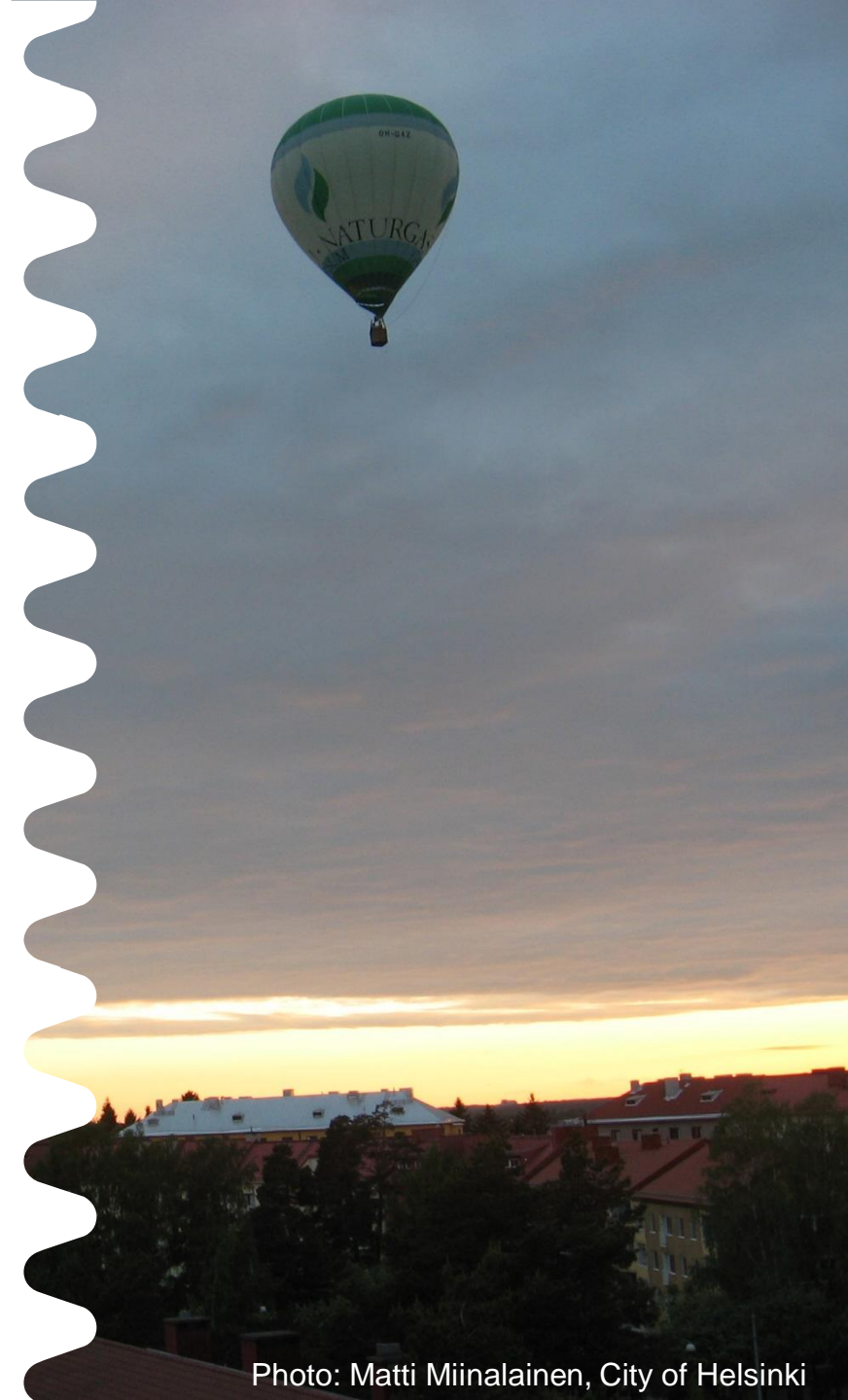


MAYORS ADAPT

THE COVENANT OF MAYORS INITIATIVE  
ON ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

# Climate-KIC collaboration

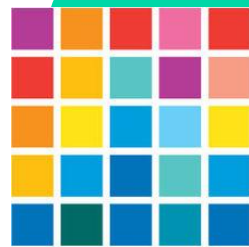
- Climate-KIC is the EU's largest public-private partnership addressing climate change
- Knowledge and innovation community
- Helsinki's main activities
  - Transition Cities project: mapping relevant climate actors and projects in Helsinki
  - Pioneers into Practice: international work exchange programme for climate experts
  - Kalasatama Smart Sustainable District: development of indicators for a smart and sustainable area



# Other activities



- Helsinki is actively working on to join C40, the most important climate network of big (or mega)cities
- Helsinki reports to Carbonn Climate Registry and CDP
- EUROCITIES
  - Environment Forum
  - Air quality, climate change & energy efficiency working group
- ICLEI
  - Helsinki has a long history of being a significant actor in ICLEI
  - Deputy Mayor Anni Sinnemäki is the vice chair of Procura+ (a network for sustainable and innovation procurement)
- Energy Cities
  - The European association of local authorities in energy transition
  - leads the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy office



# 4. Helsinki's international climate projects



# mySMARTLife

- Helsinki's largest EU project
- 5 million euros 2017-2021
- Three Lighthouse Cities: Helsinki, Hamburg, Nantes
- Four follower cities: Varna, Bydgoszcz, Rijeka and Palencia
- Smart and energy efficient solutions in living, mobility and energy production
- Partners in Helsinki: Helen, Forum Virium, Salusfin, Fourdeg, HSY, VTT

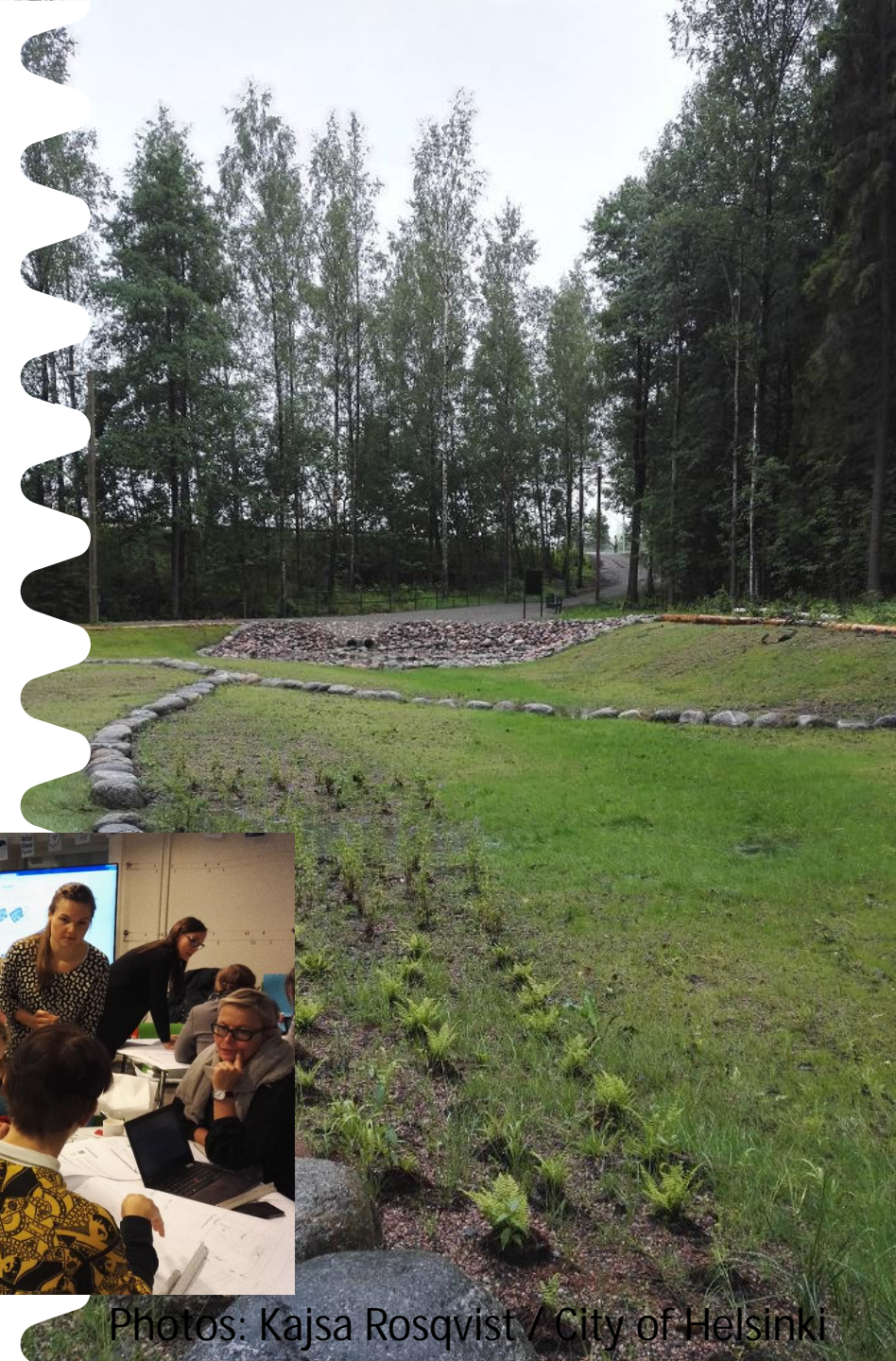




# iWater



- Integrated storm water management
- Designing storm water management tools for sustainable urban planning in the Baltic Sea Region
- Knowledge exchange and education of planners
- Partners: Helsinki, Turku, Tartu, Gävle, Jelgava, Söderhamn





# Smart Kalasatama

**Smart Energy**

**One more hour a day**

**Citizen engagement**

**Sharing economy**

**Smart Living**

**3D Model Data**

**@VeeralMustonen  
#FiksuKalasatama**

**Helsinki**

14.5.2018

Esa Nikunen

Photo: Riku Pihlanto, City of Helsinki

# 5. Lessons learned from international cooperation



# Lessons learned from international cooperation

- Frontrunner cities boost each others' climate work (positive competition)
- Benchmarking and learning from other cities
- Helsinki's climate solutions, precise data and knowhow internationally attractive (e.g. [Climate and Energy Atlas](#))



# Lessons learned from international cooperation

- International cooperation important for climate risk management: cross-border impacts
- Applying for project funding with international partners
- Possibility to boost Helsinki's smart & clean businesses
- Learning the importance of a positive feedback loop: climate smartness as an identity!





# Towards a carbon neutral and climate resilient Helsinki!

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