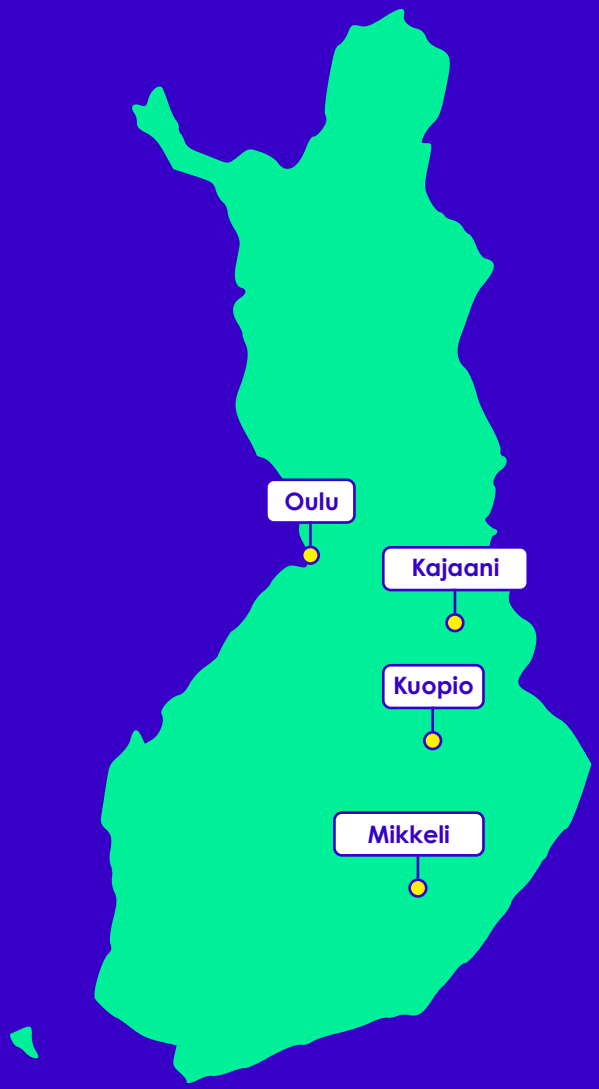


innocities | Water expertise

Responsible water expertise from the land of a thousand lakes

Finnish cities are turning water expertise into an export industry



Responsible water expertise from the land of a thousand lakes

Water keeps people alive, and for countries it is a strategic resource. Some have plenty, others very little. Demand for clean water and technology keeps growing. Four Finnish cities have built a platform where companies, research institutes and authorities take Finnish expertise into international waters.

Kuopio. Kuopio Water Cluster is Finland's broadest, most multidisciplinary hub for water research and innovation, focused on water security, digital water services and zero-emission industry.

Oulu. High-tech water science built on digitalisation, industrial water chemistry and northern climate know-how. The University of Oulu's Digital Waters project is building digital twins of Finland's water bodies.

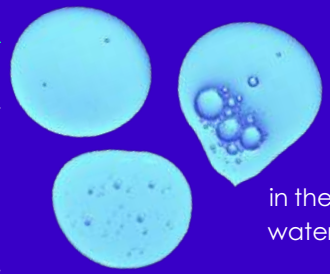
Kajaani. Data-driven water research combining smart measurement, automation and the computing power of LUMI, Europe's third most powerful supercomputer.

Mikkeli. The capital of clean water, with a world-class treatment plant where companies and researchers can test new technologies on a real, industrial-scale wastewater flow. Blue Economy Mikkeli belongs to the Water Europe Living Lab network.



2030

the year by which Finnish companies aim to be the most water-responsible in the world



#1

in the Water Poverty Index (WPI) for water quantity, quality, access and governance

100 %

of Finns have access to safe, clean drinking water



Why Finland?

Finland is one of the most water-rich and cleanest countries in the world. Water is stored as groundwater in the soil and bedrock, and as surface water in lakes, rivers and the sea.

Four seasons place very different demands on systems, from warm conditions to extreme cold. But climate alone does not explain Finnish water expertise. Behind it lie decades of cooperation between researchers, companies and the public sector, which built deep skills in water services, wastewater treatment and groundwater protection. Finland has learned to do a great deal with very little, and the world is paying attention.

The Finnish water cluster spans hundreds of companies, from large technology firms to research-driven innovators. Measurement technology, analytics, water quality monitoring and recycling solutions are developed here at the highest international level, closely tied to the circular economy and energy efficiency.

For a small country, Finland is a major power in water diplomacy. We combine broad technical expertise with long-term cooperation across our borders. Trust has been central to that success, and Finland is now taking this expertise abroad to support peaceful, secure and impartial access to water.

What is already happening?

Arctic water expertise as an export category. Mine wastewater, sulphate removal, cold-climate treatment. Arctic Water Excellence brings research and companies into shared projects.

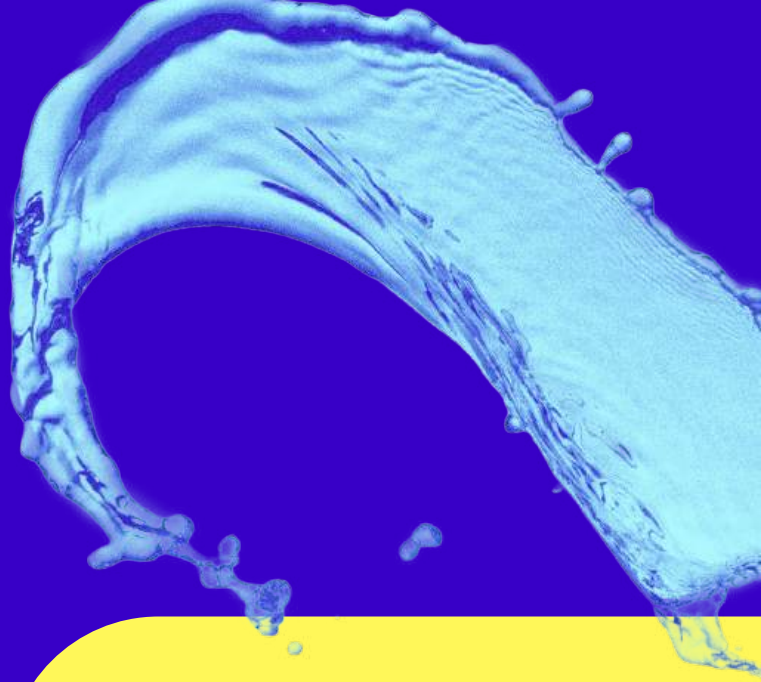
A map of Finnish water expertise. Who knows what, where, and who to talk to.

Value recovered from water. Mine water isn't just treated. Metals and nutrients are extracted for use as raw materials, and the work builds expertise in removing heavy metals from water.

Real-time measurement at small scale. Biosensors that test water quality from a handheld device. Tools for detecting microplastics and PFAS compounds in real time.

Water security and water diplomacy. Monitoring water quality, preparing for disruptions and contamination. Water diplomacy to negotiate water agreements across borders.

Finland as a Water Living Lab. The place where the world's water solutions are tested first. Finnish solutions are already being piloted and networks are forming at water industry events around the world.



Collaboration? That's what we do best.

If your country is wrestling with wastewater, water scarcity, ageing networks, or monitoring gaps, there's probability that Finnish companies has already solved your version of the problem. Let's connect and start a conversation.

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InnoCities create opportunities for urban developers, businesses and researchers to develop, come together and brainstorm.

The aim of InnoCities is to strengthen the expertise and collaboration of urban areas, to create international-level innovation and experimentation environments and to create new business ecosystems.

Together, 18 cities are making Finland the most innovative country in the world.

Learn more about what they do at:

innocities.fi

innocities

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