



**KESTÄVÄT**  
TEHDÄÄN YHDESSÄ ILMASTOTYÖTÄ

# Sustainable Municipalities

in South Ostrobothnia, Finland

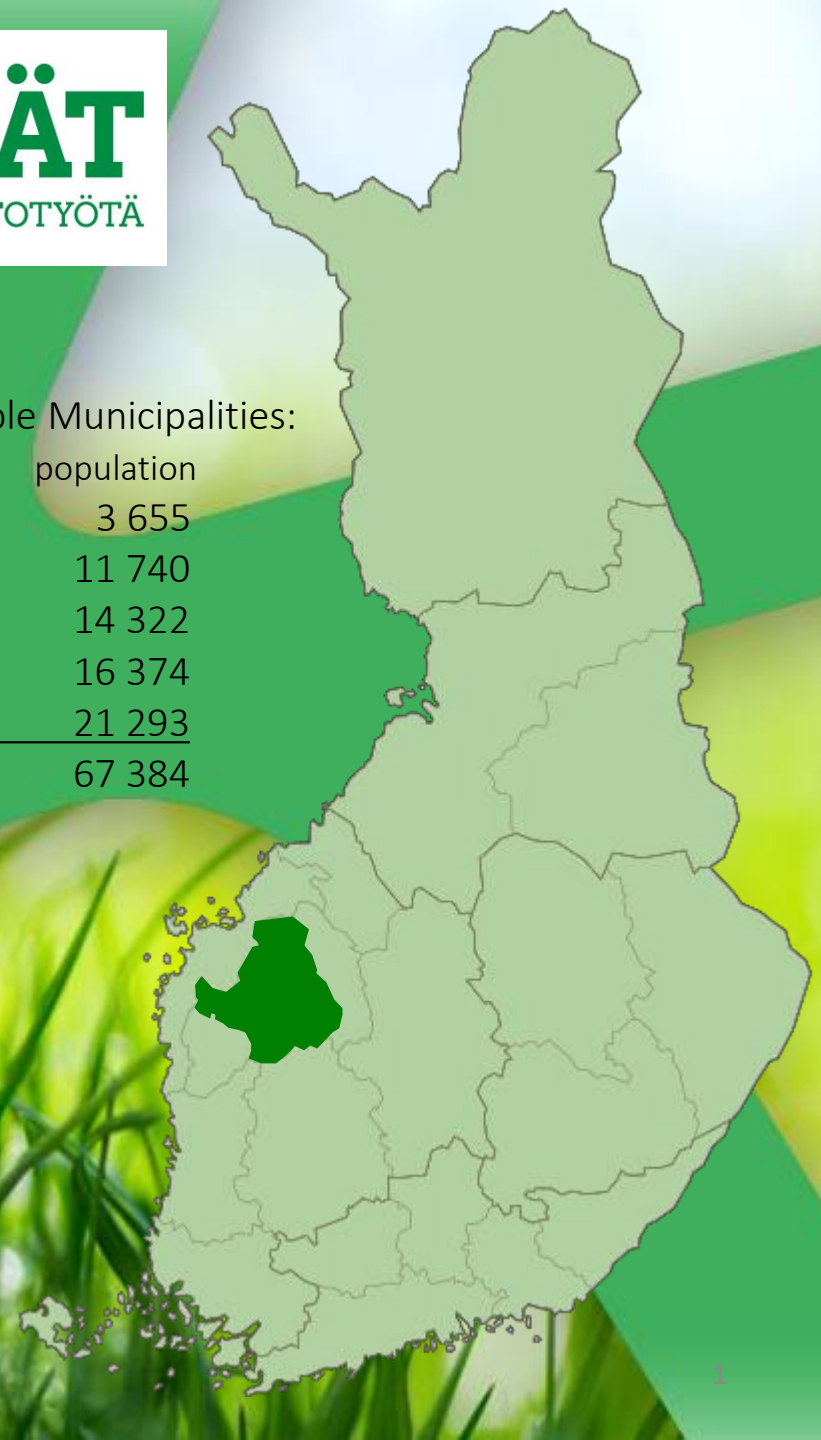
## Presentation

1. The Climate Strategy
2. Results of the Climate Strategy
3. Energy Efficiency Teams
4. Results
5. Difficulties

Mervi Pienimäki  
Sustainable Municipalities  
Thermopolis Ltd, Lapua, Finland

## Sustainable Municipalities: population

Kuortane	3 655
Alavus	11 740
Lapua	14 322
Kauhava	16 374
<u>Kurikka</u>	<u>21 293</u>
Total	67 384



# The Climate Strategy

- 2010 The Finnish Government released a report on the future of climate and energy politics
  - climate strategies required
- 8 municipalities
- 2009 preliminary study
- 9 thematic work groups
- 2011-2012 the writing funded by the ERDF

1. steering group
2. project group
3. land use and transportation
4. agriculture, forestry and business
5. public procurements
6. real estates and construction
7. Energy production
8. Technical managers
9. Voluntary energy efficiency working committee

# Results

- Sustainable Municipalities funded by ERDF in years 13-14
- Energy Efficiency Teams in each municipality
- Shared resources
  - the coordinator **fees** (100 % by municipalities)
  - **training materials** for their staff (Kitchen, cleaning, building maintenance, teachers etc.,)
  - materials for **school campaigns**
  - **newsletters** for municipalities
  - common **excursions** (climate trips around Finland, energy effective buildings, corporations and municipalities)
- 2012 Municipalities joined the Finnish National system of Voluntary Energy Efficiency Agreements (Energy Efficiency Directive)
  - Reducing energy consumption by 7,5 - 10,5% between years 2017-2025
  - Higher financial support for energy investments



**ENERGY EFFICIENCY  
AGREEMENTS**



# Energy Efficiency Teams

- Representatives from all departments
  - Part of their job description
  - 10-20 members
- 2-3 meetings / year
- Recommendations and possible actions
  - energy teams cannot make the final investment decisions
  - Starting points for investments, trainings, campaigns etc.
- Collaboration with the waste management company
  - Optimizing bins and routes (€)
  - Materials for schools
  - A Representative in each energy team



# Results

- Sharing experiences
- No need to figure out everything alone
- Sustainable Development Actions Plans for years 2017-2025
  - (3 ratified at municipal councils)
- huge investments for improving energy efficiency (old and new buildings)
  - 440 000€ yearly savings
- Gathering energy consumption data more regularly (investments in software and hardware)
- lots of small things that have bigger impact when there are hundreds of workers
- investments to solar energy
- efficient ventilations → heat recovery from air conditioning
- replacing oil heating by sustainable energy (geothermal, solar, district heating)

# Difficulties

- To make achievements known
- Politics
  - Quick chances
  - Difficult to involve politicians (making final decisions)
- Resistance from employees, politicians and some loud inhabitants
  - ~~Energy Saving Teams~~ Energy Efficiency Teams
- A lot has been done but there is still a lot to do. Attitudes toward the project are getting more positive and the local politicians see the benefits of the energy efficiency.

Thank you!

Mervi Pienimäki  
Sustainable Municipalities  
Thermopolis Oy  
+358 44 738 0022  
62100 Lapua  
[mervi.pienimaki@thermopolis.fi](mailto:mervi.pienimaki@thermopolis.fi)