Summary

samk

KATSE TULEVAISUUTEEN.
THINK FUTURE.

Sustainability Report 2025

Impact on the Future

In 2025, SAMK strengthened sustainable development as part of education, research, development, and innovation (RDI) activities, as well as the everyday life of the higher education community.



From Strategy to Impact

Sustainability at SAMK

Social, ecological, economic, and cultural responsibility are intertwined with our daily work: how we encounter each other, how we develop teaching and research, how we use resources, and how we act for the benefit of our region.

This summary contains key highlights from SAMK's sustainability report.

Read the full report on our website →



From Strategy to Impact

Sustainability is part of SAMK's basic mission

In all our operations, we consider direct and indirect impacts on the surrounding society.

We educate professionals who advance sustainable development

Graduating students take their sustainability expertise to working life and society.

Our RDI activities produce solutions to sustainability challenges

Solutions are developed in cooperation with companies, communities, and the public sector.

A carbon-neutral higher education institution by 2030

We work to reduce our carbon footprint and emissions.

Our higher education community acts responsibly and promotes sustainable development

We operate in an economically, ecologically, socially, and culturally responsible way.

From Strategy to Impact

Sustainability is visible in SAMK’s everyday life



Sustainability is reflected in everyday actions on campuses, in teaching, and in community activities.

The perspectives of sustainability and responsibility have been integrated into teaching, research and development activities, services, and everyday choices.

In 2025, SAMK strengthened its reporting and data collection and developed a shared understanding of how sustainability impacts can be made visible through both the footprint of its own operations and the handprint of its education and RDI activities.

2025 in Figures

Towards a greater handprint

In 2025, SAMK strengthened the handprint generated through education and RDI cooperation, increasing its positive impact on society.

Almost

800

companies and organisations
involved in building solutions that address the needs of working life and society.

Graduates' rating:

5.58 / 7

The studies increased the motivation to promote sustainable development in working life.

Regional Impact

SAMK promotes the development and vitality of Satakunta

SAMK's impact can be seen across the Satakunta region in its vitality, competence, and development.



Skilled workforce for the region

SAMK educates professionals for the needs of working life and supports the availability of skilled labour in Satakunta.

Solutions to society's challenges

Research and development activities produce solutions for companies, the public sector, and the wellbeing services county.

Builder of the region's vitality

SAMK supports the region's competitiveness, positive population development, and sustainable regional development together with municipalities, companies, the wellbeing services county, and other stakeholders.

Sustainability in Education

We educate professionals who build a sustainable future

Our goal is for graduating students to bring their sustainability expertise to working life and society.



The handprint of education

New professionals are building a sustainable future.

Sustainability is integrated into teaching across all fields of study. Sustainable development and sustainability are cross-cutting themes across all SAMK degree programmes.

The effect can be seen in graduating students.

5.44 / 7: Competence in sustainable development increased during studies

5.58 / 7: The studies increased motivation to promote sustainable development in working life

Sustainability in education is systematically strengthened

The curriculum renewal process began in 2025. One of the objectives of the renewal is to strengthen the integration of sustainability and responsibility into learning outcomes, course content, and assessment.

Since the beginning of 2025, all course deliveries have also been assessed against sustainability criteria.

In the future, sustainability and responsibility will receive greater emphasis in the development of the thesis process.

58 theses

included themes related to sustainability, responsibility, or ethics.

Research produces solutions to sustainability challenges

RDI activities develop solutions in cooperation with companies, communities, and the public sector.



The handprint of research

RDI activities have produced solutions in areas such as:

- energy efficiency
- carbon footprint reduction
- water protection
- health security
- welfare technology
- tourism development
- educational development

SAMK's quality objective is to ensure that research projects are initiated in response to the needs of working life and that their results are quickly put into practice.

Our work already has an impact

The next stage of development is to make the handprint of RDI activities even more visible and measurable.

Sustainability as an integral part of RDI projects

The classification of RDI projects according to sustainability and responsibility criteria will be developed as part of a more consistent approach to impact monitoring.

Arene's RDI criteria will be introduced as part of the preparation, implementation, and evaluation of projects.

Impact measurement is being developed

In the next phase, impact reporting and sustainability monitoring will be further developed.

Environmental responsibility and carbon footprint

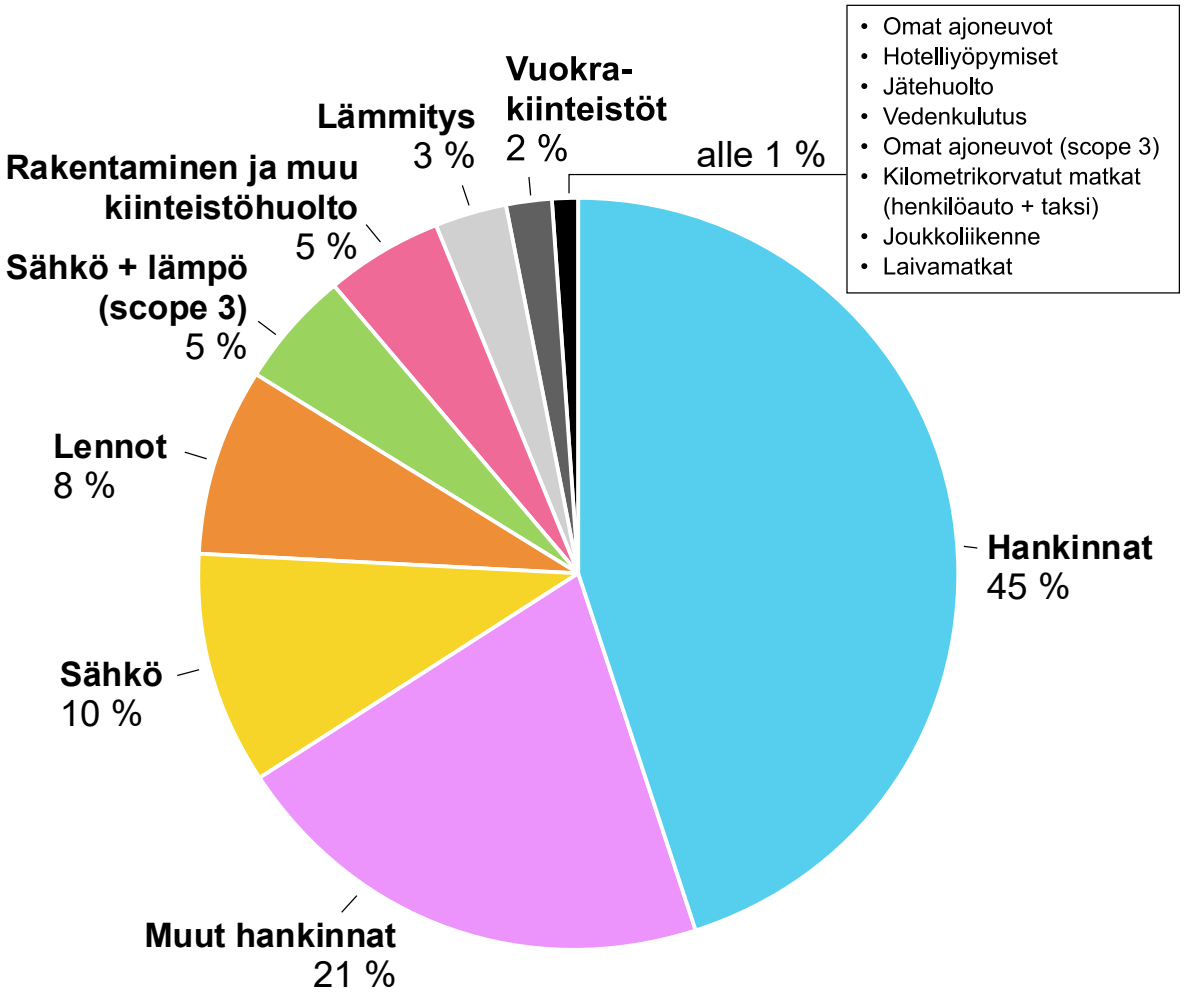
We implement jointly planned measures to reduce our carbon footprint and emissions.

Total carbon footprint 1,726 tCO_2e

SAMK's total carbon footprint increased **by 7.6%** (1,604 tCO_2e in 2024).

This was mainly due to increased emissions from procurement and energy consumption, as well as more accurate source data in some categories and updated emission factors.

Distribution of the carbon footprint by emission category in 2025



2025 in Figures

Towards a smaller footprint

Our aim is to reduce SAMK's carbon footprint and environmental impact, and to promote climate awareness within the higher education community.

8,129 MWh

Total energy consumption **12.1% lower** than in 2024 (9,249 MWh).

3,487 MWh

Electricity consumption **5.2% lower** than in 2024 (3,680 MWh).

7,329 m³

Water consumption **10.3% lower** than in 2024 (8,167 m³).

Environmental Responsibility

Work to reduce the environmental impact

SAMK calculates its carbon footprint according to the Arene calculation model jointly developed by Finnish universities of applied sciences and monitors the development of the carbon footprint.

SAMK works to reduce the environmental impact of its operations:
SAMK promotes the energy efficiency of its campuses and develops the use of facilities and natural resources, as well as procurement practices.

Campus development: Waste sorting and recycling guidelines were revised on all campuses. Upgrading the electrical distribution system also enabled the use of renewable electricity for charging electric cars.

Circular economy: SAMK increased procurement that supports the circular economy. Procurement practices were developed to support lower-carbon choices.

More renewable energy than before

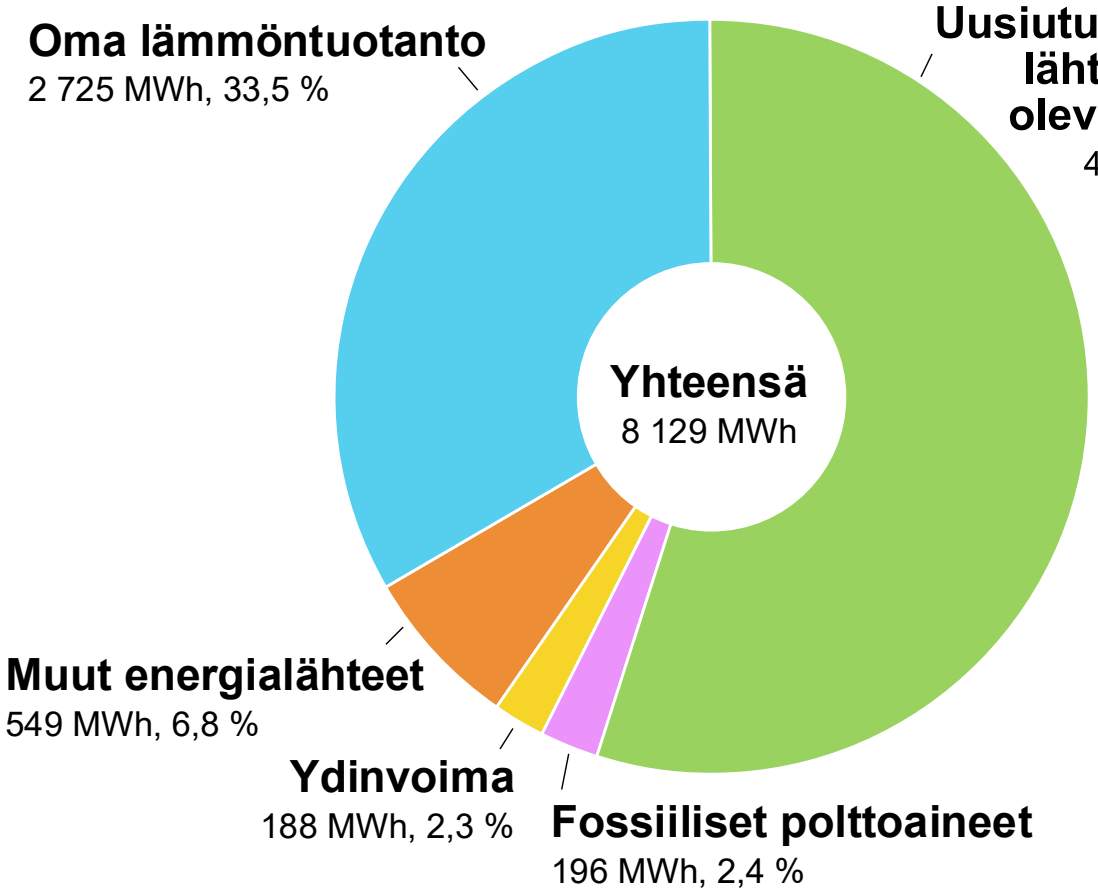
Renewable energy as a share of purchased energy

92%

The share of renewable energy in purchased energy increased by about 4 percentage points from 2024, when the share was 88%.

Energianlähteiden jakauma vuonna 2025

Kokonaisenergiankulutus 8 129 MWh



Social responsibility

Social responsibility at SAMK extends to both staff and students. The principles of social responsibility are based on SAMK's strategy and values.

Social Responsibility

Well-being, inclusion, and equality

We continuously work to promote equality, well-being, and accessibility within the higher education community.



Opportunity to make a difference

Students and staff participate in the development of SAMK through development groups, feedback, surveys, and initiatives.

In 2025:
73 development initiatives, of which **34** were made by students and **39** by staff.

Support for well-being

The holistic guidance model brings together teacher tutors, guidance counsellors, peer tutors, and well-being services to provide students with comprehensive support.

Staff well-being is monitored annually through a comprehensive staff survey.

Accessibility

Accessibility is developed in eight areas, covering the physical environment, teaching and guidance, and digital accessibility.



Making sustainability visible

Community spirit

The SAMK Goes Good charity event brought the higher education community together for a shared good cause.

Interaction

Kupillinen vastuullisuutta (A Cup of Responsibility) podcast encouraged open discussion and communication about sustainability themes.

Think Future



Future Development Steps

Towards goals and measurable sustainability

Growing the handprint

We will strengthen sustainability and responsibility in curricula, learning outcomes, content, and assessment.

We will adopt Arene's RDI criteria in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of projects.

We will develop a more systematic approach to measuring the impact of RDI activities.

Reducing the footprint

We will draw up a carbon roadmap and promote the energy efficiency of our campuses.

We will develop the calculation of Scope 3 emissions and make greater use of information provided by suppliers and partners.

We will improve the monitoring of natural resource use, recycling, and waste.



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