

Circular, non-toxic and climate friendly ICT device – mission impossible?

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We already want to procure more sustainable



Circular economy goals

2020–2025	2025–2030	2030–2035
The city's understanding and expertise in implementing procurements in accordance with the circular economy has increased.	The principles of the circular economy are promoted in all city procurements where these aspects can be influenced.	The city's procurements are based on the carbon-neutral circular economy, which means limited use of virgin resources and preventing waste generation.

Cities want to improve responsibility of smartphones

her Nordic Cities, The City of Helsinki challenges the market to aim for fair and circular economy-compliant smartphones by the year 2025. The joint statement was issued by the Cities of Helsinki, Malmö, Oslo and Copenhagen.

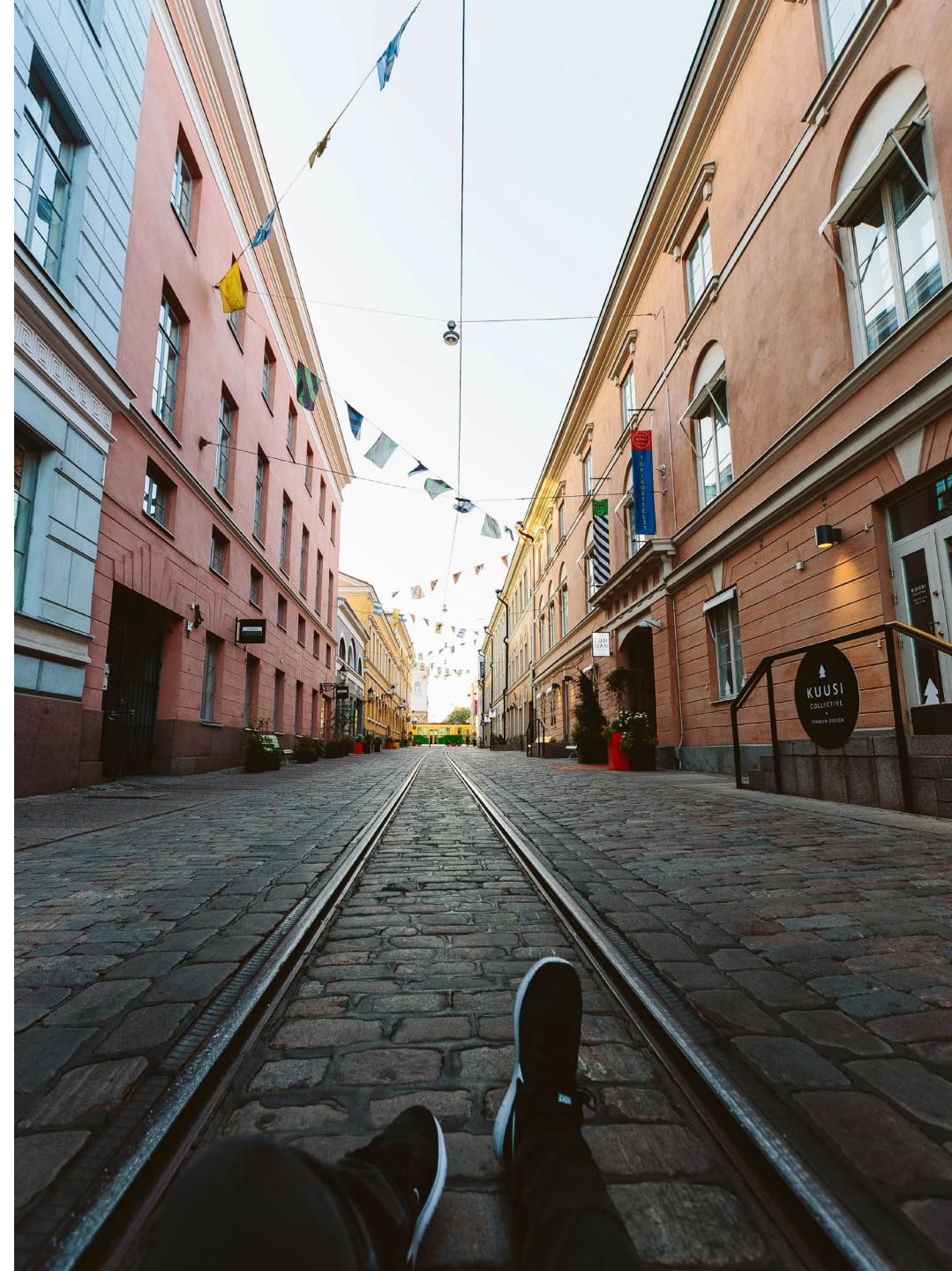
Lifecycle service for IT devices

- DIGI Helsinki Oy procured the lifecycle services for the City of Helsinki's IT devices in 2023.
- Contract duration: six years
- Contract value: EUR 100 000 000
- One service provider who provides all the lifecycle services and different brands.
- Users: city employees (around 37 000 people) and pupils in city of Helsinki schools.



We wanted to improve in the following things:

1. Extend the life cycle of the devices
2. Implement a supplier code of conduct and invest in the sustainability of the supply chain.
3. Organize the reuse and recycling as responsibly as possible
4. Add requirement for the management of harmful substances



The sustainability criteria used

- Requirements were defined to support high-quality, durable device. Almost all device is water and dustproof.
- Buffer stock of device and circular device 
- Minimum battery life requirements for workstations and laptops
- Possibility to do a short-term rental
- Screens were TCO certified. For workstations, additional points were awarded for TCO and/or EPEAT certified devices. 
- Warranty and out-of-warranty maintenance service for the equipment 
- Ensuring the responsible reuse of device outside of Helsinki
- Compliance with national waste legislation
- Offering carbon compensated workstations during the contract period.
- Certified recycling process (ISO 14001 or equivalent)
- A Code of Conduct was annexed to the contract

Environmental plan

1. **Actions to extend the life cycle of devices** (battery life, interchangeability and availability of spare parts, upgrading of device operating systems).
2. **Actions to promote responsible re-use of devices** (where device is shipped to and what happens to it when it is decommissioned), e.g. ISO 14001 standard for recycling of technology equipment.
3. **Actions to reduce the amount of harmful substances in devices and in the production chain, and actions to collect and manage data on the presence of harmful substances.**



Mission impossible?

Yes, unfortunately for now!



But! Next we will consider these:

- Piloting the procurement of refurbished or used device
- A common device policy for the city, extending the life cycle of device as much as possible
- Active use of monitoring and reporting data
- Launching sustainability audits
- Introducing criteria for reducing harmful substances
- Starting market dialogue discussions on replacing strategic raw materials

Thank you for listening!

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