



PROJECT ACTIVITIES

OF THE CITY OF OULU



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Foreword

The City of Oulu has a long tradition of organizing the development of municipal services and the attractiveness of the urban environment into various projects. The diversification of funding sources and the development of the information society are factors that have an increasing impact on development work in dozens of simultaneously ongoing projects.



CITY STRATEGY OULU 2030

– PROGRAMS – PROJECT PORTFOLIOS

The highest-level document guiding the development of the city is the city strategy, which is renewed every council term. The strategy is concretized with implementation and action programs derived from it, which are implemented not only in the basic tasks of the organization but also as development projects. The city's development projects are divided into cross-functional and cross-administrative development portfolios. The portfolios contain development projects implemented and managed by different departments and services, which are united by the common, larger goal. Projects carried out by the city's partners, which the city has decided to co-finance, have also been included in the portfolios, because the projects also promote the achievement of the city's goals.

PROCESSES AND PORTFOLIOS

Project model

Due to the size and multi-functionality of the organization, common rules are needed. The most important of them is the project model, which is divided into four levels, which are the institutional level, portfolio management and project management levels, as well as the implementation level of project work.

Based on the ABC model, the projects are defined according to the complexity of the project into demanding (A), standard (B) and light (C) class projects through a complexity review of the projects. The project's complexity is influenced by, among other things, the project's content, participants, stakeholders and its schedule, as well as the procurements made in the project. The funding sources of the projects also affect the complexity of the project.



Portfolios



The environmental project portfolio is a part of Environmental program of the City of Oulu. The goals of the projects are for example promoting environmental responsibility and sustainable development as well as increasing the use of renewable energy sources.



The well-being project portfolio is based on the well-being plan of the City of Oulu promoting well-being and health and the effective services organized in a customer-oriented manner in cooperation with different operators. The projects promote communal and safe living environment and enable an active lifestyle and meaningful activities.



The urban culture project portfolio implements with the Cultural Strategy 2030 and the Oulu2026 Bid Book and Programme, supporting work for the European Capital of Culture year 2026. Through Cultural Climate Change, culture, art and creativity build a better future for the city and the region.



The employment project portfolio's goals are e.g., finding and creating new jobs, strengthening the region's growth and vitality and matching jobs and jobseekers.



The business-friendly Oulu portfolio follows the Business-friendly Oulu – Industrial Policy Development Programme 2022–2027 to promote the development of businesses and business services. The activities of the Oulu Innovation Alliance together with the contract partners are a key part of the work.

Project services of the city of Oulu



Central administration steers and supports the city's project activities



Project guidelines and regulations of the City of Oulu



Digital portfolio and project management tool



Collaboration: Cross-sectoral coordination groups

>> ouka.fi/kehittamishankkeet

Project cases



THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT PORTFOLIO

■ **Making-City** (Horizon Europe)

In the project, a building complex based on an innovative energy solution is being piloted on a European scale, with the aim of producing and utilizing waste heat in such a way that the complex is almost energy self-sufficient when measured annually. The pilot site in Oulu is in the Kaukovainio center.

>> makingcity.eu/oulu

■ **TUPAS** (ERDF)

The restoration and sustainable further use of areas leaving peat production in Oulu, the TUPAS project, focuses on the restoration of four former peat production areas and the planning of sustainable further use.



THE WELL-BEING PROJECT PORTFOLIO

■ **Art Seeds and Tutors in Culture Education** (ESF+)

The project responds to the need for early childhood education staff to strengthen their skills in arts and culture education as part of their professional growth. Culture has long been one of the priority areas of early childhood education in the city of Oulu while children's culture has been selected as one of the key development areas for the European Capital of Culture Oulu 2026.

■ **NextGen YouthWork** (URBACT)

NextGen YouthWork aims to create a long-term vision and strategy for a hybrid and sustainable youth work that effectively meets the needs of young people. The consortium is led by Eindhoven (Netherlands).



THE URBAN CULTURE PROJECT PORTFOLIO

■ **Arctic Music Circles** (Interreg Europe) project aims to engender new forms of music collaboration, visibility and branding as well as lasting structures for the needs of Arctic music sector. The core of the project is in rotative working methods to establish genuine, in-depth collaboration between the project partners and stakeholders in the field of music in Interreg Aurora program area. Oulu is part of a consortium led by Norrbottensmusiken, Sweden (Lead Partner EU).

>> arcticpulse.eu

■ **Ulysses: A European Odyssey, UEO** (Creative Europe) is a network of 16 partners co-producing a single performative project of 18 scenes from 2022-24 across public spaces in 18 European cities. UEO is inspired by a European masterpiece, James Joyce's Ulysses, in turn inspired by Homer's Odyssey. The project is a multi-disciplinary response, each city engaging with one of the novel's chapters and with social themes identified in that chapter. The consortium is led by Brave New World Producties (Netherlands).

>> ulysseseurope.eu



THE EMPLOYMENT PROJECT PORTFOLIO

■ From Digipaja to work (ESF+)

Due to the digital revolution, companies are suffering from a skills shortage. On the other hand, job seekers' lack of special skills can be an obstacle to getting a job. The project develops a service model that helps companies get skilled workforce, and develops the specific skills of job seekers.

■ Prikka circulation 2023-2025 (ESF+)

The project develops the utilization of surplus food in the Oulu region. At the same time, the project promotes employment, volunteer work and develops new forms of participation.



THE BUSINESS-FRIENDLY OULU PORTFOLIO

■ Business Opportunities for International Market, BOIM (ERDF)

New markets for companies are sought, creating new operative models to reach the international market, and inviting companies initiating export to develop their international networks and processes with different stakeholders throughout the Oulu region.

■ Smart and Transformative Oulu Region, STORE (ERDF)

The goal of the project is to make the Oulu region one of the leading international destinations in Europe, led by expertise in sustainable tourism. The project involves the following regions: Oulu, Liminka, Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark, Raahe, Ii, and the joint marketing company Visit Oulu. Sustainable tourism covers current and future economic, social, and environmental impacts, as well as the needs of tourists, the industry, the environment, and nearby communities.



Funding sources

- › AMIF, Creative Europe, European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Fund Plus (ESF+), Erasmus+ programme, Horizon Europe, Interreg Aurora, The Interreg Northern Periphery and Arctic, Leader, URBACT.
- › Ministeries and other national fundings
- › Foundations
- › Nordic fundings

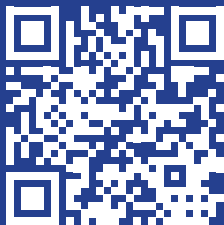


- › Projects are supporting **City Strategy Oulu 2030: Cultural Climate Change Now**
- › Outturn annually approx. **EUR 10 M**, varying from the situation during the programme period
- › **Dozens of the City's own projects and cooperation projects** that are currently being implemented at the same time, for which the City offers for example its own infrastructure as a piloting and testing platform



Project Services of the City of Oulu

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**Co-funded by
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