# SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2022



UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ

**Towards planetary well-being** 



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# Sustainability and responsibility at JYU – organisation, principles, and commitments

At the University of Jyväskylä (JYU), sustainability is incorporated into research, teaching, societal interaction and campus management. We are committed to promoting the Finnish association of universities <u>UNIFI's theses on sustainable development and responsibility</u>. The UNIFI theses are based on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, the Finnish Society's Commitment to Sustainability (Sitoumus 2050), the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the Paris Climate Accords.

Universities guide change in society. Research provides new knowledge, solutions and innovations for sustainability challenges. Our experts participate and lead scientific panels that advise and dialogue with decision makers. We enhance sustainability in our curricula to provide the necessary skills for future specialists. The university is in the position to set an example of a sustainable organisation, of how to be a resource-smart, inclusive, and safe workspace for all. JYU has set a target to reach carbon neutrality and be a nature positive organisation by 2030.

JYU has held the <u>WWF Green Office</u> Certificate since 2013 and passed the audit again 2022. The next audit is set for 2025. The Green Office certificate indicates that JYU's environmental management system is implemented in compliance with external criteria, and that JYU is committed to continuously improving its activities.

During 2022, JYU joined the Nature Positive Universities network as a founding member. Among other member universities, JYU's pledge was featured at the network's launch at COP15 in Montreal (see the video on YouTube). Being a Nature Positive University means restoring species and ecosystems that have been harmed by the impacts of a university and its activities and enhancing the university's positive impacts on nature. JYU also gave an operational nature positive commitment to sustainable development together with JAMK Jyväskylä University of Applied Sciences, Jyväskylä Educational Consortium Gradia and the City of Jyväskylä.

JYU's development group Sustainable and Responsible JYU proposed an administrative model for evaluating, developing and reporting on the sustainability and responsibility of JYU, which encompasses economic, social, cultural and ecological responsibility. Based on the proposal, new internal development groups will start their work 2023.

Two multidisciplinary communities operate at JYU. <u>JYU.Wisdom</u>, whose special expertise addresses issues of planetary well-being, is a central sustainability agent at JYU. Wisdom organises regular lunch colloquiums and publishes the <u>Wisdom Letters</u> publication series, while Wisdom researchers supervise multidisciplinary graduate theses and projects. The <u>School of Well-being</u> – <u>JYU.Well</u> approaches human well-being comprehensively across individual lifespans, local communities, and societies. JYU.Well advances the current research agendas of multifaceted well-being research by ambitiously integrating diverse disciplinary insights into a holistic understanding of phenomena associated with well-being, thereby making a significant contribution to research, policy, and practice.

## 2. Planetary well-being

UNIFI's theses on sustainable development and responsibility:

- 6. Universities' management, administration and campus activities are in line with the sustainable development goals.
- 7. Universities follow the principles of a carbon neutral circular economy in their activities and take concrete measures to foster biodiversity.

#### 2.1. Roadmap to planetary well-being

The roadmap to planetary well-being has been approved by the University Board of the University of Jyväskylä on 10 June 2022 as an environmental programme that guides the operations of the University of Jyväskylä. A separate <u>action plan</u> approved by the Rector implements the roadmap. The roadmap sets the vision, objective, and goals for JYU.

The roadmap to planetary well-being guides the University of Jyväskylä in implementing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), 13 (Climate Action), 14 (Life Below Water) and 15 (Life on Land). The eight goals of the roadmap are selected so that their combined effect on the well-being of humans and non-human nature is as substantial as possible. The roadmap and its action plan have been prepared by experts from the University of Jyväskylä. The actions presented in the roadmap are largely based on the recommendations presented in JYU.Wisdom's report from the Sustainability for JYU project.

#### **VISION**

From 2030, the University of Jyväskylä is a carbon negative and nature positive higher education institution that works actively to promote planetary well-being on local, national, and international levels.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

The University of Jyväskylä invests in reducing its biodiversity and climate impacts and develops the impact calculation methods and an offsetting model. By 2030, the University has reduced measurable biodiversity and climate impacts by at least 60 % from the level of 2019 and offsets the impacts as part of its compensation responsibility.

To measure if JYU has reached its objective we calculate annually our carbon footprint (CO2ekv) and the biodiversity footprint of the university's procurement. The unit used in biodiversity footprint calculations is *potentially disappeared fraction of species* (PDF), which accounts for the fraction of species richness that may be potentially lost due to an environmental impact. We only report the impact on terrestrial ecosystems but expect the methodology to expand to aquatic ecosystems in the coming years.

We also measure the consumer habits of our staff and students using the WWF consumer habits questionnaire and follow our ranking in the Time Higher Education Impact Ranking (SDGs 12–15).

#### 2.2. JYU's carbon and biodiversity footprint 2022

JYU has assessed its total carbon footprint and biodiversity footprint of heating and procurement since 2019. The methodology has been developed by <u>Wisdom</u>. The methodology has been refined and the results from previous years have also been updated. The methodology has been described in reports from 2019 and 2020 (in Finnish).

Methodology and results 2019

Refined methodology and results 2020

The biggest sources of CO2 emissions in 2022 were investments (11.208 tCO2), procurement (8.244 tCO2) and properties and energy (4.150 tCO2). The total carbon footprint 2022 was 25.057 tonnes of CO2. Compared to 2019, JYU's total carbon footprint decreased by -28 %. The only category that increased was procurement (Table 1).

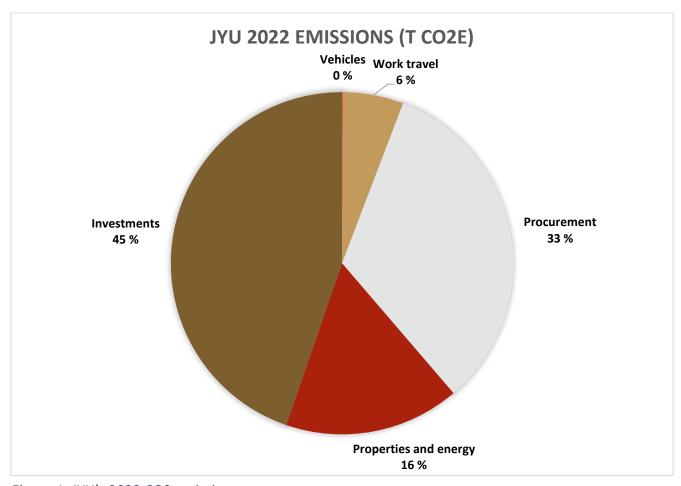


Figure 1. JYU's 2022 CO2 emissions

Table 1. JYU 2022 carbon footprint by category and comparison to 2019

Category	Emissions (t CO2e)	Comparison to 2019 (%)		
Vehicles	26	-36 %		
Work travel	1.430	-29 %		
Procurement	8.244	13 %		
Properties and energy	4.150	-28 %		
Investments	11.208	-37 %		
Total	25.057	-28 %		

#### 2.2.1. Carbon and biodiversity footprint of procurement

The carbon and biodiversity footprints of JYU's procurement have risen consecutive years (Figures 2 and 3). The rise is partly due to the procurement of new technology to allow online meetings, studies, and conferences. However, a change in consumption behaviour is still needed to meet JYU's goal to reduce its procurement footprint by at least 20 % from 2019 by 2025.

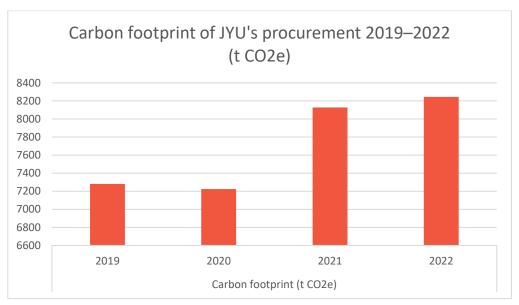


Figure 2. Carbon footprint of JYU's procurement 2019–2022

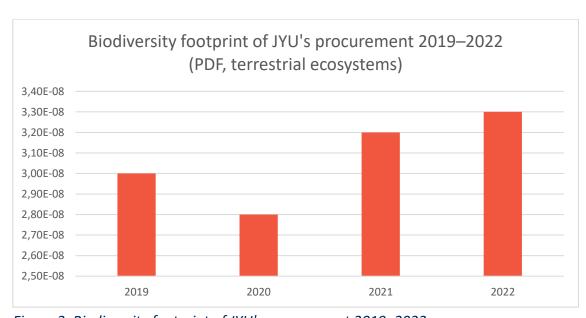


Figure 3. Biodiversity footprint of JYU's procurement 2019–2022

Table 2. Carbon and biodiversity footprints of procurement 2022 by category

Category	Carbon footprint (t CO2e)	Biodiversity footprint (PDF E-09)
IT supplies, licences and services	2.232	8,3
Machines and other supplies	1.591	6
Innovation, education, and development services	821	3,8
Other services	722	2,9
Foods and services	672	4,3
Fuel and chemicals	511	1,9
Laboratory equipment and services	474	1,7
Building and maintenance	435	1,5
Unknown products and services	278	1
Paper and marketing	264	0,81
Health, insurance, and banking	179	0,76
Travel and transport services	67	0,23
TOTAL	8.244	33

Table 3. 10 units with the highest carbon and biodiversity footprint of procurement 2022

	Unit	Carbon footprint (t CO2e)	Biodiversity footprint (PDF E-09)
1	Digital Services	755	3,06
2	Leadership and joint procurement	743	2,97
3	Department of Physics	693	2,65
4	Department of Biological and Environmental Science	676	2,61
5	Teacher Training School	669	3,28
6	Open Science Centre	635	1,98
7	Properties (tot.)	625	2,36
8	Sport and Health Sciences	406	1,62
9	Department of Chemistry	375	1,43
10	Department of Psychology	267	1,08

#### 2.2.2. Carbon footprint of work-related travel

When work-related travel is observed by unit or faculty, the Faculty of Mathematics and Science has the largest footprint. However, if the emissions are calculated by person, the Jyväskylä University School of Business and Economics has the largest footprint.

Table 4. Carbon footprint of work-related travel by unit/faculty 2022

Unit/Faculty	Emissions	Number of	Emissions per
	(kg CO2e)	staff	person
			(kg CO2e)
School of Business and Economics	124.860	112	1.120
Humanities and Social Sciences	254.363	395	640
Mathematics and Science	373.233	580	640
Information Technology	101.882	174	580
Education and Psychology	176.519	316	560
Sport and Health Sciences	101.795	215	470
Independent institutes	135.871	376	360
Teacher Training School	35.033	109	320
University Services	126.849	529	240

#### 2.3. Consumer habits

JYU uses the WWF Green Office consumer habits questionnaire to monitor the change in the consumer culture of the JYU community. Previously the questionnaire has been directed to staff only and the response rate has been low. In 2022, JYU students were also included to the questionnaire. Now the results serve better as a university-wide indicator of consumer habits. The results (308 responses) show that we still have a lot of work ahead of us to improve the motivation of staff and students. We should encourage our staff and students to make environmentally friendly choices. Our score average was 79,6/100.



Figure 4. JYU's results by theme compared with the peer group average alongside the average of the Green Office network (100 % would be the maximum score).

## 2.4. Times Higher Education Impact Ranking

JYU ranked higher in <u>Times Higher Education Impact Ranking</u> than in the previous years even though the number of participating universities rose. In previous years JYU ranked 401–600, but this year our rank was 301–400 out of 1.591 participating universities.

JYU received its best scores in the environmental SDGs, improving on last year's scores significantly.

Table 5. JYU's ranking in Times Higher Educations SDGs 12–15

SDG	JYU RANK	JYU RANK PREVIOUS YEAR
12: Responsible Consumption and Production	84	101-200
13: Climate Action	54	101-200
14: Life below Water	82	101-200
15: Life on Land	72	101-200

## 2.5. Monitoring the goals

The roadmap to planetary well-being includes eight goals. Each goal has its own indicators and set of actions identified in the action plan. The following table summarises the situation at the end of 2022 and gives suggestions for the coming years. It should be noted that the action plan was approved by the rector on 24 August 2022, so the implementation period for 2022 was only four months.

Goal	Situation	Actions 2022	Observations and
	2022		suggestions
GOAL 1: Changing consumption habits: 1.1. Procurement: The biodiversity and climate impacts of goods and services procured by the University of Jyväskylä are reduced by at least 20 % by 2025 in comparison to the baseline of 2019. By 2030, the impacts continue to be reduced at least by 10 % more.	CO2ekv +13 % Biodiversity PDF +10 % (2019→ 2022)	The preparation of the procurement sustainability criteria was started but not completed.	The footprint calculations show that JYU is not moving towards its goal but further away from it. The direction needs to be changed fast using regulation, motivation, and communication. Procurement should be one of the top priorities of the Planetary Well-being for JYU development group.
GOAL 1: Changing consumption habits: 1.2 Energy – electricity and heat By 2030, electricity used by the University is carbon dioxide free and the biodiversity impacts of heating have been reduced by half.	CO2ekv energy + properties -28 % 2019 -> 2022	A plan was made and implemented together with University Properties of Finland Ltd (SYK) to reduce energy consumption. SYK decided to purchase wood-based heating from ALVA.	Lowering room temperatures and correcting ventilation along with other minor measures have resulted in reduced energy consumption.  SYK's decision to use woodbased heating will decrease the carbon but increase the biodiversity footprint (land use). Indicators of goal 1.2. and the heating calculation methods are being revised and further developed.
GOAL 1: Changing consumption habits: 1.3 Other consumption and recycling The amount of mixed waste at the University of Jyväskylä is reduced by at least 25 % by 2025 in comparison to the level of 2019. By 2030, the amount of mixed waste will be at the most 50 % of the level of 2019.	Amount of mixed waste was reduced - 17.85 % compared to 2019 and energy waste - 27,20 %	Staff and students have been encouraged to recycle more to reduce the energy consumption. Recycling facilities are evaluated on a yearly basis.	The amount of mixed waste is decreasing at a good pace. Goal 1.3. should be revised to include all non-recycled waste (mixed and energy waste). JYU needs to continue motivating staff and students to consume less and recycle more. Some more consumption is probably done at home and less at the university after the pandemic.
GOAL 1: Changing consumption habits: 1.4 Water The University of Jyväskylä reduces its water consumption by 25 % from the level of 2019 by 2030.	Water consumptio n was reduced - 26.65 %	JYU facility services has made some technical modifications to lower water consumption.	The water consumption reduction goal was reached already in 2022 and should be revised. Some more consumption is probably done at

The university operates actively with its partners to improve the condition of water ecosystems and drainage basins	compared to 2019		home and less at the university after the pandemic. Actions to improve the condition of water ecosystems and drainage basins should be added to the action plan. Future focus should be on laboratory water consumption as well as other use.
GOAL 1: Changing consumption habits: 1.5 Food The University of Jyväskylä promotes the planetary health diet through research and communication and by example. By increasing the share of plantbased food, the greenhouse gas emissions will decrease by at least 50 % from the level of 2019 by 2030.	-	University campus restaurants have taken several measures to increase the use of climate friendly foods and reduce food waste. For example, all climate friendly options (carbon footprint min 30 % below average) are marked "ILM". The food system studies research group has published research articles.	The CO2 emissions of food were not calculated for 2022 and not included in the university's carbon footprint. The carbon footprint of food should be calculated by 2025 at the latest. Biodiversity footprint of the campus restaurants should be calculated and monitored. Indicators for this goal should be set together with campus restaurants. Some more consumption is probably done at home and less at the university after the pandemic.
GOAL 2: Sustainability of ownership and investments The CO2 emissions of the University of Jyväskylä's investments have been reduced by 70 % from the level of 2019 by 2030. By the end of 2023, indicators have been selected and goals have been set for mitigating biodiversity impacts	CO2ekv of investment s was reduced by 37 % 2019→ 2022	JYU researchers, specialists and asset managers have cooperated throughout the year to improve the methods and to direct JYU's portfolio to the correct path.	Methods of calculating the CO2-footprint change and become more accurate, so the comparison to 2019 may not indicate the real change in emissions.  A set of biodiversity indicators is needed.
GOAL 3: Change in travelling behaviour Greenhouse gas emissions resulting from travelling are reduced by 50 % from the level of 2019 by 2030.	CO2ekv of work travel reduced by -29 % 2019 → 2022  CO2ekv of Commute (home-university) +2 % 2019 → 2022	JYU's indirect emissions related to commuting were calculated. Recommendations were given how to motivate staff to commute environmentally friendly. Facilities for online meetings were improved.	The 2 % increase of CO2ekv from commuting was due to increased number of staff and students. If calculated per person, the CO2ekv from student commuting decreased by -1 % and of staff by -21 %.
GOAL 4: Sustainable construction The university's renovation and construction projects aim to improve energy efficiency and general resource wisdom.	The renovation of the JYU library received the BREEAM Excellent-	Conversations on Ylistö renovation and biodiversity impacts have been active.	Action 4.2. should be revised (ecological compensation might not be the right term to use).

	level certificate.		
GOAL 5: Compensating the remaining environmental impacts By 2030, the University of Jyväskylä has a functional model for offsetting biodiversity and climate impacts. The offsetting responsibilities have been agreed so that they are compatible with other Finnish universities. From 2030, the University of Jyväskylä compensates all biodiversity and climate impacts that belong to its offsetting responsibility.	-	Cooperation and discussions about offsetting responsibility with other HEIs is active within FinnARMA and other networks. Research on offsetting models is ongoing and JYU serves as a living lab.	Discussions about offsetting should be started with other members of the Nature Positive Universities network.
GOAL 6: Campus development Actions that improve biodiversity are made on the campus every year. Research related to planetary well-being is visible on the campus.	See the botanical garden website	Lawns were turned into meadows at two sites, a new deadwood fence was built. Invasive species were removed. Tours and environmental education were organised.	Planning of many further activities was started. We will see the results in the coming years.
GOAL 7: Connecting planetary well-being to policy planning at JYU By 2025, planetary well-being is an integral part of the university's current operating model and development activities. From 2025 onwards, the university's climate and biodiversity impacts are included in the annual report and financial statement.	See the annual report.	JYU's biodiversity and CO2 targets as well as the sustainability targets of investments were included in the 2022 annual financial report (toimintakertomus). The annual report (vuosikertomus) includes a wider sustainability chapter and JYU's CO2 + biodiversity footprints.	The annual (financial) report supports the annual report and should not include the same information. JYU is planning to incorporate climate and biodiversity impacts and compensations into its bookkeeping in the future.
GOAL 8: JYU as a pioneer By 2030, JYU is known at the national and international level as a solver of global environmental challenges and an implementer of resource wisdom and sustainability transformation. All who graduate from JYU have an understanding of planetary well- being.	JYU placed 301–400 in the latest THE Impact Ranking (in the previous year JYU was ranked between 401 and 600.)	JYU started the preparations for the new curricula and developed a manual to integrate sustainability in all studies of the university.  New planetary wellbeing and other sustainability MOOC courses were launched, and sustainability education networks developed.	JYU.Wisdom has strengthened the coordination of sustainability education with a permanent staff member. The action plan should be revised accordingly.

## 3. JYU.WISDOM

<u>Wisdom</u> is a JYUnique cross-faculty and inter- and transdisciplinary community of JYU researchers, teachers, students, and specialists promoting <u>planetary well-being</u>. In 2022, Wisdom published a <u>Wisdom Letter</u> directed to municipalities giving recommendations how municipalities can slow down biodiversity loss. Overall in 2022, Wisdom community researchers produced 422 publications, of which 293 were peer-reviewed scientific articles.

During 2022, Wisdom continued to develop sustainability courses for the university and for the open university (continuous learning). Planetary well-being MOOCs: PW MOOC II: Systems and planetary well-being, PW MOOC III: Good life and planetary well-being, and PW MOOC IV: Pathways to planetary well-being, were opened for students. Wisdom also coordinates JYU's participation in sustainability education networks.

Wisdom had several ongoing projects in 2022 such as <u>Päijänne Biosfääriksi</u> and <u>POLKU 2.0 - koulutushanke (Path 2.0)</u>. <u>Sustainability for JYU</u>, <u>Aluekehittämisen kestävyyden kivijalka</u> and <u>Suomen donitsitaloushanke</u> ended during the year. Wisdom also cooperates with projects such as <u>ECF4CLIM</u>, a project that aims to study and develop sustainability competences.

Together with JYU.Well, Wisdom organised an <u>academic speaking programme for Jyväskylän Kesä</u> festival reaching over 700 listeners. In total, Wisdom organised 38 open events during 2022, reaching over 2.000 participants.

# 4. An inclusive and accessible university

UNIFI's theses on sustainable development and responsibility:

5. Universities promote the accessibility of higher education and a safe research and teaching environment.

8. Universities work actively to promote equality, equity and well-being.

The JYU <u>code of conduct</u> states: "Our university is a socially and culturally safe environment in which harassment, inappropriate treatment, discrimination, bullying, hate speech or other inappropriate conduct is not tolerated in any encounter. As a community, we dismantle discriminating and restricting structures and standards."

JYU promotes equality and non-discrimination in our university community in accordance with the strategy and legislation as well as the aims set jointly with the university community. The aims and development measures are described in strategy development programmes and the Equality Plan for 2022–2023 developed by the Equality Committee.

In 2022, the Equality Committee reviewed the results of the wage gap evaluation performed the same year. The next evaluation will be conducted 2024. The committee also followed the improvement of grant researchers' position at the university.

JYU has already had a non-smoking policy in place, but since October 2022 JYU has also been declared a scent-free working and studying environment. This is also taken into consideration at JYU events, thereby improving accessibility. Accessibility self-evaluation was performed and the results were used to prepare an accessibility plan for the university (approved 2023).

## 5. A Fair Trade University

JYU, the Student Union JYY, and the student restaurants on campus are committed to promoting Fair Trade practices and using Fair Trade products. JYU was awarded the Fair Trade University label for the first time in 2014 and has retained it through the most recent checkpoint in 2022.

JYU promoted Fair Trade in its social media channels, with a focus on practical Fair Trade actions that all university community members can perform in their daily lives. Campus restaurants, faculties and student organisations use Fair Trade products (fruit, juice, sugar, honey, coffee, tea and chocolate). The JYU SOPPI shops and outlets sell fair trade cotton clothes.

In autumn 2022, JYU started to pilot a new way to promote Fair Trade at the university. The topic was integrated into an annual project course in the Master's Degree Programme in Corporate Environmental Management (CEM). In this course, CEM students are assigned a project, one of which will be promoting Fair Trade at JYU.

# SDG highlights of JYU 2022



#### SDG 1 (No poverty)

"Working poor in a post-industrial welfare state" is a research project is funded by the Finnish Cultural Foundation (2022–2024). The project's aim is to create an up-to-date, extensive, and critical view of the circumstances of the working poor in a post-industrial welfare state, and offer policy recommendations to support decision-making. The group has published several articles in 2022, such as "Just transition principles and criteria for food systems and beyond" by Tribaldos and Kortetmäki.

#### SDG 2 (Zero hunger)

The food system studies research group of JYU explores and assesses the sustainability and resilience of food system activities. The research group utilises a post-disciplinary approach which connects social policy, economics and business management, environmental social science and philosophy. The interests of the research group embrace a diverse range of problems related to food security, food system vulnerabilities, climate change adaptation, food poverty, food ethics, food policy, and food supply chain management.

#### SDG 3 (Good health and well-being)

The MEANWELL project is being carried out by the University of Jyväskylä and funded by The Finnish Work Environment Fund. The project will run from October 2021 to September 2023. It will develop the research-based MEANWELL action model for work communities and occupational healthcare professionals in order to promote meaningfulness of work, work well-being and organisational functionality. The basis of developmental work is a work well-being survey which includes the Vocational Meaning Survey, a new tool for assessing the factors related to meaningfulness of work.

#### SDG 4 (Quality education)

The Open University of the University of Jyväskylä coordinates multidisciplinary studies <u>in</u> <u>responsibility and sustainability in working life</u>. The study module was developed by the Jyväskylä University School of Business and Economics together with other university faculties.

In 2022, the <u>SDG4-JYU international seminar</u> at the Faculty of Education and Psychology focused on the topic "From Education for Emergencies to the Emergence of Education".

JYU started the preparations for the new curricula and developed a <u>curriculum handbook</u> to integrate sustainability to all studies of the university.

#### SDG 5 (Gender equality)

As part of JYU's <u>Equality Plan</u>, a salary survey was carried out. The survey examined the differences in salaries and assignments of women and men.

Studies on gender equality were published, such as a <u>40-country study on gender equality and</u> maternal burnout.

#### SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation)

JYU has had a goal to reduce its water consumption by 25 % from the level of 2019 by 2030. The goal was reached already in 2022 as water consumption was reduced by -26,65 % compared to 2019.

#### SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy)

The renovation of the JYU library received a BREEAM Excellent-level certificate. Environmental and ecological issues have been considered already during the project's design phase. The finished building was rewarded for its energy efficiency, among other merits.

#### SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth)

Wisdom's <u>PATH 2.0</u> project strengthens sustainability expertise in Central Finland through continuous learning. The project designs and pilots new sustainability studies for entrepreneurs, employees, job seekers and students in Central Finland. During 2022 the project trained <u>sustainability agents</u> for companies and organised several trainings on, for example, carbon and nature footprints.

#### SDG 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure)

2022 <u>JYU.Wisdom assessed</u> the University's carbon and biodiversity footprint for the second time and provided a method for open use for companies and organisations. Wisdom also started to assess the carbon and biodiversity footprints of the <u>Student Union</u> and the <u>S-group</u>.

#### SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities)

The INTEGRA project continued during 2022. The project integrates university language and content studies for immigrants who have completed or are qualified for higher education and aim to finish their interrupted degree studies or complement a prior degree in compliance with Finnish qualification requirements. Preparations for a new Pre.INTEGRA training for Ukrainian immigrants with temporary protective status started. The JYU Centre for Multilingual Academic Communication also offers Finnish as a foreign language studies for people outside academia.

#### SDG 11 (Sustainable cities and communities)

In its April 2022 meeting, the European Commission awarded the European Heritage Label to the JYU Seminaarinmäki campus. The campus highlights the significance of the Finnish and European education system as a basis for an equal and democratic society. Europe starts here!

JYU received the European Heritage Label in Brussels — University of Jyväskylä

#### SDG 12 (Responsible consumption and production)

The roadmap to planetary well-being was approved by the University Board of the University of Jyväskylä on 10 June 2022 as an environmental programme that guides the operations of the University of Jyväskylä. A separate action plan approved by the Rector implements the roadmap.

#### SDG 13 (Climate action)

JYU considers all scopes in its commitment to becoming a carbon neutral university. The University Board of the University of Jyväskylä has approved the goal to achieve a carbon neutral investment portfolio by 2035. Intermediate goals are to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 30 % by 2025 and 70 % by 2030.

#### SDG 14 (Life below water)

JYU's <u>Konnevesi Research Station</u> is an active field centre of multidisciplinary research that includes a large aquatic research hall. Konnevesi also serves as a temporary home for endangered freshwater pearl mussel, a species researched actively at JYU. In 2022, researchers

<u>published their findings</u> on how low dissolved oxygen affects the viability of juvenile pearl mussel.

#### SDG 15 (Life on land)

During 2022 lawns were transformed into meadows at two sites and a new deadwood fence was built. Invasive species were also removed to improve biodiversity on campus.

The <u>Katoava luonto</u> (Fading nature) project, which focuses on ecological compensation through citizen actions, organised several <u>research and art events</u> in 2022.

#### SDG 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions)

The University of Jyväskylä coordinates KEHO - Central Finland Health and Wellbeing Ecosystem which brings together diverse operators and experts on social welfare, healthcare and sports. With the help of interdisciplinary cooperation, the aim is to improve and promote health and wellbeing.

#### SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals)

The University of Jyväskylä's researchers participate actively in scientific panels such as <u>the Finnish Expert Panel For Sustainable Development</u>, <u>the Finnish Nature Panel</u>, and <u>the Finnish Forest Bioeconomy Science Panel</u>. The panels offer independent and interdisciplinary research information to the public and decision makers.

In 2022, JYU joined the <u>Nature Positive Universities</u> network as a founding member and gave an <u>operational nature positive commitment to sustainable development</u> together with JAMK, Gradia and city of Jyväskylä.

More information: www.jyu.fi/sustainability Support, comments and feedback: ulla.t.helimo(a)jyu.fi