FINLAND FACTBOOK 2025

HOW TO DO BUSINESS IN THE HAPPIEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD

Photo: Visit Tampere / Marko Kallio

#INVESTINFINLAND

#STATEOFHAPPINESS

FINLAND – **SMART, CLEAN AND STABLE**

Are you looking to fuel investment with sustainable growth?

Welcome to the Invest in Finland Factbook 2025 – your gateway to a country where sustainability, innovation, and cutting-edge research create opportunities for business growth.

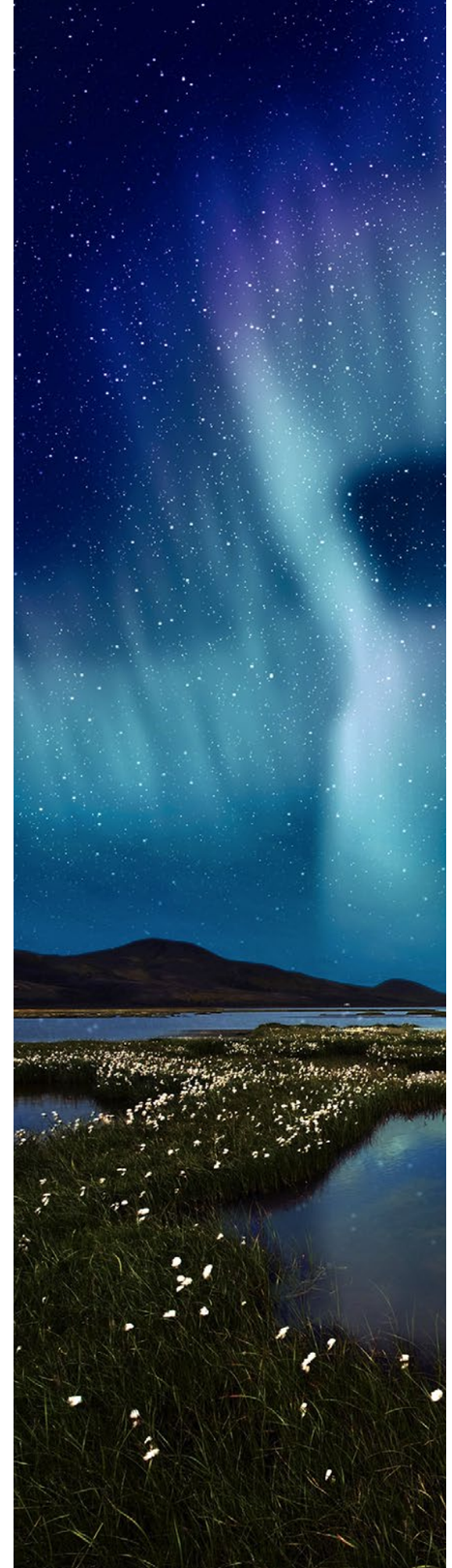
The information in this booklet is backed by facts and statistics from reliable third parties. We also highlight some comments from international business leaders with experience in doing business in Finland. They will tell you why Finland is the ideal base for forward-looking companies.

We know that each business is unique, and that every investment requires careful analysis and planning.

Tell us about your business needs – and let's discuss what Finland could offer you!

We look forward to hearing from you!

BUSINESSFINLAND.COM/INVESTINFINLAND



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FACTS ABOUT FINLAND

Population 5.6 Million
Independent country since 1917
Business languages
Finnish, English,Swedish
Neighboring countries
Sweden, Norway, Russia, Estonia
Multi-party democracy
Member of the European Union since 1995
Member of the Eurozone
Corporate tax rate 20%
Credit ratings Fitch (AA+), Moody's (AA), Standard & Poor's (AA+)
Timezone UTC+2:00 (EET)

BIGGEST CITIES

Helsinki Metropolitan Area	1,608,000

(Helsinki, Espoo, Vantaa, Kauniainen, Hyvinkää, Järvenpää, Kerava, Kirkkonummi, Nurmijärvi, Sipoo, Tuusula, Vihti, Mäntsälä and Pornainen)

Tampere	260,000
Oulu	216,000
Turku	205,000
Jyväskylä	149,000

AVERAGE FLIGHT TIMES TO HELSINKI

New York	8 h 45 min	**Berlin**	2 h
San Francisco	10 h 35 min	**Delhi**	6 h 30 min
London	3 h	**Seoul**	11 h 50 min
Brussels	2 h 40 min	**Tokyo**	12 h 50 min
Stockholm	55 min	**Bangkok**	11 h 25 min
Copenhagen	1 h 40 min	**Singapore**	13 h 00 min

WHY FINLAND?

- **STABLE** AND FUNCTIONING COUNTRY
- **TOP QUALITY** BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT
- **INNOVATIVE & SUSTAINABLE** SOLUTIONS
- **LOW** OPERATIONAL **COSTS** WITH HIGHLY RELIABLE INFRA
- VIBRANT **STARTUP** SCENE
- **FAST START** FOR BUSINESS OPERATIONS
- **WORLD-CLASS** GREEN LOGISTICS
- **COMPETENT PROFESSIONALS**
- **HIGH QUALITY** OF LIFE FOR EXPATS
- **LOW LEVEL** OF CORRUPTION

WELCOME TO **THE STATE OF HAPPINESS**

For almost a decade Finland has been named the happiest country in the world in the UN World Happiness Report. In Finland happiness is much more than just an emotion.

Finland's happiness stems from stability, equality, and freedom. These values foster trust in the society, innovation, and international cooperation, making Finland a strong platform for business. In Finland, happiness is a resource that makes things happen.

Finnish society is built on the idea of succeeding together. The education system promotes teamwork and problem-solving. Workplaces are characterized by flat hierarchies and open participation. The Finnish business culture values collaboration over individual competition, honesty and direct communication, while social security systems provide the safety to take risks and innovate.

Finnish happiness lowers obstacles by offering predictability, assurance and shared potential to grasp onto opportunities.

Finnish happiness is a superpower for businesses.

FINLAND EXCELS IN **GLOBAL RANKINGS**

10 REASONS TO EXPAND TO FINLAND

#3
THE THIRD BEST INVESTMENT DESTINATION IN THE WORLD[1]

#1
THE BEST UTILIZATION OF DIGITALIZATION IN THE EU[2]

#1
THE BEST SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT[3]

#1
THE BEST BUSINESS & LABOUR LANDSCAPE[4]

#2
THE SECOND BEST INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE WORLD[5]

#1
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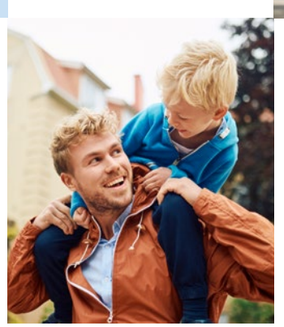
#1
THE BEST GOVERNANCE IN THE WORLD[7]

#2
THE SECOND BEST EDUCATION IN THE WORLD[8]

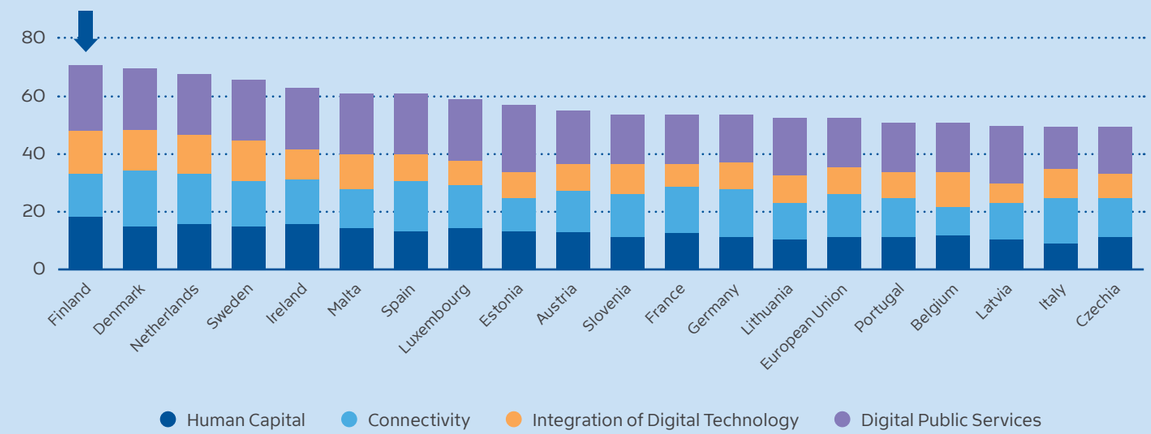


#2
THE SECOND MOST STABLE COUNTRY IN THE WORLD[9]

#2
THE SECOND BEST LOGISTICS PERFORMANCE[10]

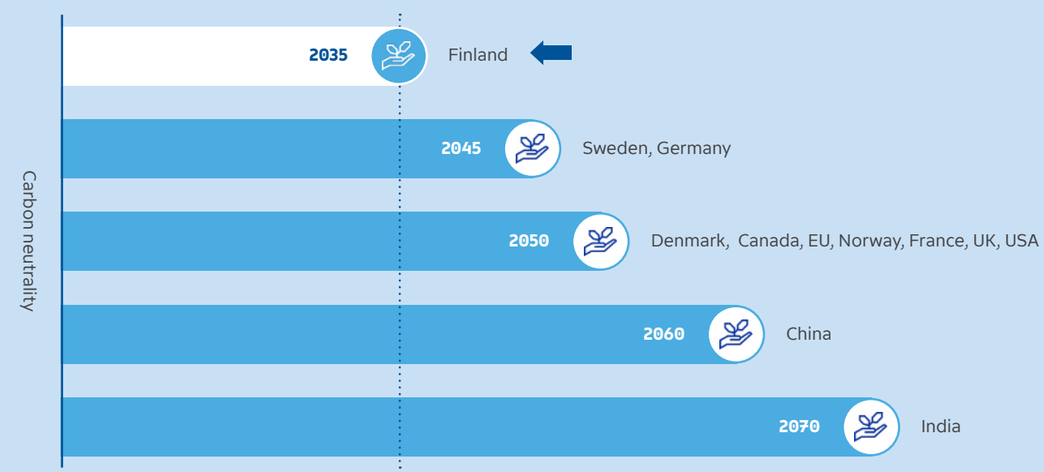
[1] Milken Global Opportunity Index 2024 [2] EU State of the Digital Decade 2024 [3] Sustainable Development Report 2024
[4] The Global Talent Competitiveness Index 2023 [5] Global Innovation Index 2024 [6] Oxford University World Happiness Report 2025
[7] Legatum Prosperity Index 2023 [8] Legatum Prosperity Index 2023 [9] Fragile States Index 2024 [10] Logistics Performance Index 2023

FINLAND IS A EUROPEAN LEADER IN DIGITALIZATION



Source: European Commission, The Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) 2023, TOP 20 countries

FINLAND IS AIMING FOR CARBON NEUTRALITY BY 2035 – 15 YEARS BEFORE THE REST OF THE EU



Sources: Ministry of the Environment 2022
Statista 2021

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

RELIABLE AND FUNCTIONING BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Finland offers a business environment with uniquely high levels of stability, continuity and predictability.

Finland's peaceful and well-functioning society is built on transparent governance, effective institutions, an independent judiciary, and strong respect for the rule of law. The country has firmly established civil liberties, personal freedoms, and progressive gender equality legislation.

Finland's transformation into a highly industrialized, knowledge-driven and innovative economy is rooted in free trade and openness to global investment. This has created a globally connected business environment that strongly appeals to international companies and investors. Businesses benefit from Finland's reliable infrastructure, a highly educated workforce, and the overall ease of doing business.

International companies have found Finland an excellent location for demanding, highly automated manufacturing and R&D. Finland's active industry ecosystems support co-creation, innovation, fast piloting and testing for future factories.

SOLID INFRASTRUCTURE FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Everything works in Finland. From energy supply to transport and ICT networks, Finland offers an outstanding infrastructure for businesses.

Finland's energy sector is characterized by a diverse mix of sources, including nuclear, hydro, and renewable energy, ensuring a stable and sustainable power supply. The country's power generation, transmission and grid systems are extremely efficient and the price of electricity is among the lowest in Europe – we can proudly say that the Finnish electricity grid is the best in Europe.

In the realm of information and communication technology, Finland stands out as a leader in digitalization. The country ranks first in the 2023 EU Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI), reflecting its advanced digital infrastructure and strong uptake of digital services.

Finland's mobile networks offer near-complete population coverage, with over 90% of the country already covered by 5G. Looking ahead, Finland is also playing a key role in shaping the future of connectivity as one of the global frontrunners in 6G research and development.

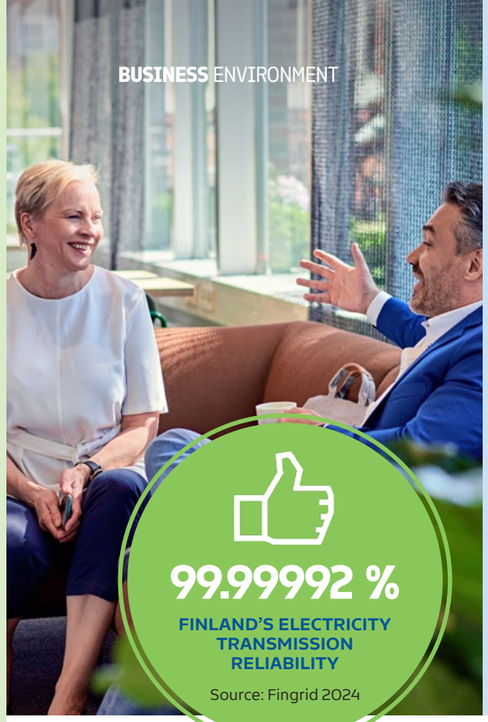
Finland's air, sea, rail and road networks are comprehensive and well-organized. Helsinki Airport is a strategic flight hub between Europe and Asia. Its has been selected multiple times as the best airport in Europe in its size category.

FINNISH INDUSTRIAL POLICY

The Finnish industrial strategy is a strategic agenda for the renewal and growth of industry in Finland and provides an overview of the Government's industrial policy priorities and the means to implement them. The strategy also examines the initiatives related to EU industrial policy that are of primary importance to Finland and links them with the context of national industrial policy.

Seven objectives of Finland's industrial strategy:

1. **DEVELOP THE COMPETITIVENESS OF THE OPERATING ENVIRONMENT** TO ATTRACT INVESTMENTS
2. **ENHANCE PUBLIC FUNDING** TO LEVERAGE PRIVATE FUNDING
3. **INCREASE THE VALUE ADDED AND PRODUCTIVITY** BY INVESTING IN INTANGIBLE CAPITAL
4. **GENERATE GROWTH** FROM RESEARCH, INNOVATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS
5. EXPLOIT OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY **THE CLEAN TRANSITION, THE BIOECONOMY AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY**
6. **INVEST IN** LOGISTICS, INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRIAL HUBS
7. ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF **SKILLED LABOUR**



99.99992 %

FINLAND'S ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION RELIABILITY

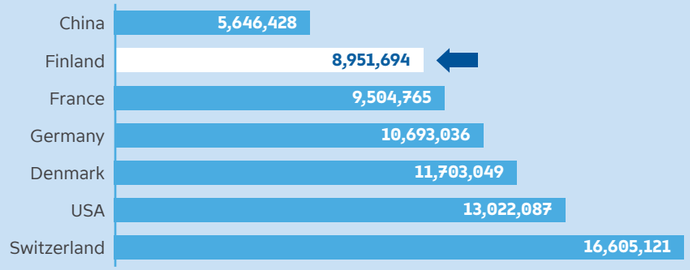
Source: Fingrid 2024

DID YOU KNOW?

International companies benefit from Finland's reliable infrastructure, highly educated workforce and ease of doing business.

TALENT AT REASONABLE COST

Labor costs (salary + additional costs) of a 100-employee software development center



All costs shown in EUR
Source: fDi Benchmark, Financial Times Ltd 2025

COMPETENT TALENT TO DRIVE YOUR BUSINESS

Finnish people are known for strong ICT and language skills—over 90% of those under 30 speak English—and for their reliability and work ethic. Finland's top-ranking education system produces a highly skilled and adaptable workforce: 91% of adults have completed upper secondary education, and about one-third hold a degree or higher qualification. According to the OECD, Finnish adults lead globally in literacy, numeracy, and problem-solving skills, scoring 296 points across 31 countries—well above the average of 260.

Whether you're talking about IT, engineering or healthtech, Finland's talent pool has significant resources across all three key technical skills areas. Regionally despite the leading role of biggest city areas, there are significant, growing resources across the country, thanks to superb connectivity and the rising popularity of remote and hybrid working.

ONE OF THE LOWEST CORPORATE TAX RATES IN THE EU

For businesses operating in Finland, taxes comprise a corporation tax (profit tax) and a real estate tax. Businesses in Finland pay corporate tax (20%) on annual taxable income, as well as real estate tax. Starting in 2027, Finland is reducing the corporate tax rate to 18%, making it even more attractive for investments and entrepreneurship. Additionally, the loss carryforward period is being extended to 25 years.

Other taxes include asset transfer tax and withholding tax. Employers must also make social security contributions. VAT is a consumption tax paid by the end user. VAT registered businesses can deduct VAT on purchases.

THRIVING INNOVATION

Finland's flexible business environment, strategic government support, and buzzing startup culture allow the growth of innovations.

The strong collaboration between the public and private sectors forms the backbone of our innovation economy. Industries, research institutes, universities, and the government together have a unique ability to deliver disruptive technologies and innovative design.

Finland consistently ranks among the world's leading countries in education, innovation, digitalization, sustainability, and good governance, making it one of the world's hotspots for R&D. To give it a further boost, Finland aims to increase research and development expenditure to 4% of GDP by 2030.

A GROWING HUB FOR STARTUPS

Finland boasts a thriving startup scene with around 3,800 startups. The ecosystem is built on collaboration, shared resources, and mutual support—when one startup succeeds, the entire network benefits. Finland has already produced over 10 unicorns, many with roots in academia.

LEADER IN INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY RIGHTS INDEX

The International Property Rights Index (IPRI) is a measure created to offer a comprehensive insight into the status of property rights in the world's nations. Established in 2007 by the Property Rights Alliance (PRA), the index is built on three core components: the Legal and Political Environment (LP), Physical Property Rights (PPR), and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).

Finland leads in the IPRI (8.1), LP (8.7), and PPR (8.5) scores.

FINLAND'S LOCAL ECOSYSTEMS ARE TRANSFORMING GLOBAL INDUSTRIES

One of the ways Business Finland nurtures local innovation is through our Leading Company funding mechanism. The initiative is designed to encourage large Finnish companies, or international companies with a subsidiary in Finland, to take the lead in developing an ecosystem for their specific area of industry.

These lead companies receive up to EUR 20 million in funding, which they use to support startups and R&D activities within their field. In addition, Business Finland provides funding to other participants in the ecosystem.

By enabling local subsidiaries to be ecosystem leaders, we aim to foster international collaboration and generate new opportunities to support Finland's growth.

DID YOU KNOW?

Finnish innovations include the first wearable fitness tracker, the first messaging app, xylitol sweetener for healthy teeth, the Linux operating system, the SSH internet security protocol, the Clash of Clans and Angry Birds mobile games, Carbon-Negative Concrete and Sustainable Biofoam as a replacement for plastic packaging.

DID YOU KNOW?

#3
FINLAND IS RANKED 3RD AMONG EU INNOVATION LEADERS
European Innovation Scoreboard 2024

#1
FINLAND RANKS 1ST IN PCT PATENTS BY ORIGIN RELATIVE TO THE SIZE OF ECONOMY
WIPO Global Innovation Index 2023

3%
R&D EXPENDITURE IN FINLAND TOTALED 3% OF GDP – A GOAL OF 4% BY 2030. THIS SHARE IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST IN EUROPE
Eurostat 2023

#7
FINLAND IS RANKED 7TH IN GLOBAL INNOVATION INDEX
Global Innovation Index (GII) 2024

SMART MANUFACTURING

DRIVEN BY INNOVATION AND EXPERIENCE

Finland's strengths in the manufacturing sector are sustainability, innovation and digitalization. Known for its highly energy-efficient process industries and machinery production, Finland is home to world-class process engineering, automotive, pharma, maritime and intelligent vehicle production.

KEY REASONS TO INVEST IN MANUFACTURING IN FINLAND

Finland offers an ideal environment for smart manufacturing, combining efficiency, innovation, and sustainability. Unlike low-cost countries, Finnish manufacturing has achieved high productivity through smart solutions, advanced processes, and widespread use of digitalization.

Finland's commitment to clean, low-cost energy supports sustainable industrial operations, making it a global leader in eco-friendly production. As much as 95% of Finland's electricity was carbon-free in 2024.

Low-carbon future

IIndustry is moving toward a low-carbon future. The task is not easy. Industry juggles between regulation, ESG goals and, the growing demand to produce more commodities more affectively. Decarbonizing industry requires more efficient production processes and redesigning existing locations with costly renovations or retrofits. Luckily, Finland is a forerunner in providing solutions and innovations to decarbonize industries, and create more sustainable value chains – embrace change with us.

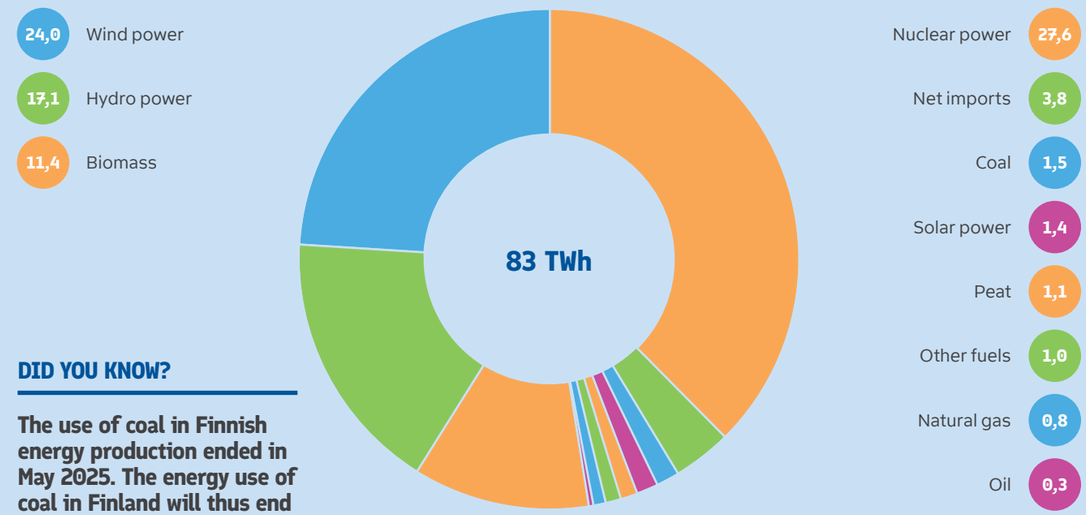
World-class talent

Finland is known for its world-class talent and expertise, especially in digital technologies. The workforce is highly educated, tech-savvy, and experienced in adapting to rapidly changing production needs. Finnish industry excels in high-mix, low-volume production, ideal for developing specialized, high-end products. Companies like Valmet Automotive, Ponsse, Sandvik, John Deere, Konecranes, SSAB, and SampoRosenlew exemplify this strength.

Government support for innovation is strong, with generous R&D funding, tax incentives, and top-tier education systems driving continuous renewal. Additionally, Finland's location ensures easy access to the EU market, offering manufacturers a strategic base for growth and expansion in Europe.

95% OF ELECTRICITY CO2 FREE IN 2024

%

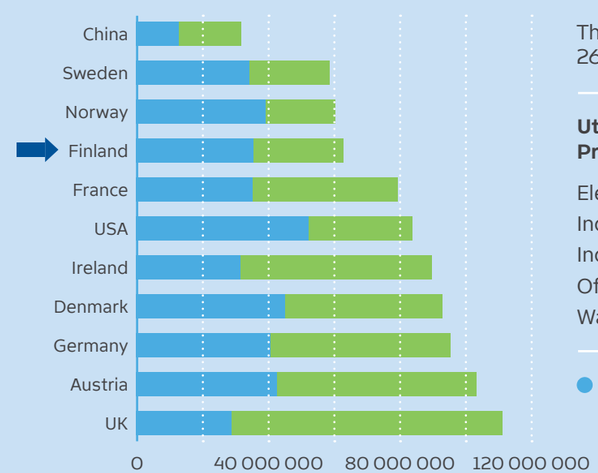


DID YOU KNOW?

The use of coal in Finnish energy production ended in May 2025. The energy use of coal in Finland will thus end four years before the target deadline of 2029.

COST-EFFICIENT AND HIGH QUALITY PRODUCTION IN FINLAND

Total operating costs of a 800-employee semiconductors manufacturing plant



The costs are based on a head count of 800 across 26 different job functions.

Utilities / Property		Usage
Electricity	Utilities	186,841,000 kWh
Industrial gas	Utilities	9,265,000 cubic metres
Industrial space	Property	64,000 metres squared
Office space	Property	2,000 metres squared
Water	Utilities	1,251,000 cubic metres

Labour costs Utility costs

All costs shown in EUR.
Source: fDi Benchmark from Financial Times Ltd 2025

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

INCENTIVES FOR FOREIGN-OWNED COMPANIES

Foreign-owned companies in Finland are eligible for a wide range of government and EU incentives on an equal footing with Finnish-owned companies.

DID YOU KNOW?

Starting in 2027, Finland is reducing the corporate tax rate to 18%, making it even more attractive for investments and entrepreneurship.

R&D INCENTIVES

Business Finland's innovation funding provides low-interest loans and grants to challenging and innovative projects with potential for global success stories. We offer funding for research and development work carried out by companies, research organizations, and public sector service providers in Finland.

In addition to funding technological breakthroughs, Business Finland also emphasizes service-related, design, business, and social innovations.Companies of all sizes, including startups, can benefit from these incentives.

INVESTMENT, LAND & INFRASTRUCTURE INCENTIVES

Tesi investment services

Tesi (Finnish Industry Investment Ltd) offers a variety of services aimed at supporting startups and growth companies in Finland. Tesi prioritises the themes according to their strategy, like deep tech, the clean economy, health & life sciences and defence technology. They provide key investment services including venture capital, growth equity, and funding for industrial-scale projects and investments.

Regional Aid provided by ELY Centers

Investment aid can be granted especially for small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Large companies may also qualify if they have a major employment impact in the region.

Aid to business development can be granted to improve or facilitate the company's establishment and operation, know-how, internationalisation, product development or process enhancement.

Loans and Guarantees from Finnvera

Finnvera is a specialized state-owned financing company and Finland's official Export Credit Agency (ECA). Finnvera strengthens the operating potential and competitiveness of enterprises in Finland by offering loans, domestic guarantees, export credit guarantees, and other services related to export financing.

Finance guarantee is available for large corporate investments that support exports from Finland. Public sector investments and refinancing are excluded. The guarantee follows state aid rules and OECD guidelines.

The risks involved in financing are shared between Finnvera and other financiers.

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT INCENTIVES

Municipalities in Finland have the responsibility for organizing employment and integration services. Municipalities and their employment areas will provide services tailored to local needs, enhancing regional vitality in 45 employment areas.

The JobMarket electronic service system serves both employers and job seekers, providing a platform for job search and related services.

International recruitment advice for employers is provided by Work in Finland. This service is available for all employers free of charge.

INDUSTRIES

FINLAND HAS IT ALL

COMPETITIVE ELECTRICITY PRICE

CO2 FREE electricity available

RELIABLE WORLD CLASS GRID

WIND POWER IS GROWING FAST: Finland number 4 in onshore wind new installations 2024 in Europe (Wind Europe 2024)

LARGE SCALE SOLAR AND STORAGE MARKET BOOMING

GOOD LOCATION FOR HYDROGEN AND ITS DERIVATIVES PRODUCTION: goal to produce 14% of all clean hydrogen in EU

STRONG BATTERY VALUE CHAIN, from critical minerals to recycling

Strong pipeline of **CLEAN INDUSTRY PROJECTS**

BIOGENIC CO2 available

CLEAN TRANSITION

Finland is committed to the clean transition and carbon neutrality by 2035. A rapid shift to renewable energy creates a strong foundation for clean tech investments.

COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE WITH SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

Electricity production is rapidly shifting to low-emission sources, especially renewables, creating a stable foundation for long-term investments in clean technologies. Competitive industrial electricity prices, supported by a favorable tax regime, further strengthen Finland's position.

Finland offers business opportunities for energy-intensive industries through clean, cost-competitive energy, a reliable grid, biogenic CO_2 sources, and efficient industrial parks. Emerging value chains include hydrogen, battery production and recycling, and the chemical, steel, and metal sectors.

Smart energy know-how, flexibility, and digitalization support the shift to decentralized systems. Electrification, hydrogen, sector integration, and new fuels require systemic change in energy generation and use. Finland offers companies long-term grid stability with innovation and a strong energy startup scene. Its smart grid market is world-class, with 99.9995% transmission reliability and some of the cleanest electricity in Europe.

95 %
OF FINNISH ELECTRICITY IS CO_2 FREE, 56% RENEWABLE

Finland's carbon-neutral strategy supports the EU's Clean Industrial Deal, promoting competitiveness through decarbonization, lower energy costs, clean product demand, and resource access. The Deal focuses on energy-intensive industries and clean tech—Finland's strongholds—and enables transformation through policy, financing, and international cooperation.

UNIQUE BATTERY VALUE CHAIN

Finland covers the entire battery value chain: raw materials, battery chemicals, advanced materials, battery cells, modules and packs, applications, reuse and recycling. Finnish companies, research institutes, universities and the public sector work together and actively participate in creating a European battery ecosystem.

Finland is the only European country that has all the key minerals used in the production of lithium-ion batteries: cobalt, nickel, lithium and graphite. In addition to these, Finland also has a lot of clean electricity.

The Finnish approach to building a circular battery ecosystem is based on sustainability, transparency and a low total CO_2 footprint. Finland offers open innovation in a stable and competitive business environment. All this is increasingly attracting international companies that are interested in becoming part of the growing battery ecosystem.

INDUSTRIES

EFFICIENT HYDROGEN ECONOMY

Finland is positioning as a leader in clean hydrogen, aiming to contribute 10% of the EU's capacity by 2030.

As industries race to decarbonize, hydrogen's unique properties offer a pathway to replacing fossil fuels in hard-to-electrify sectors like heavy industry, chemical production, shipping and aviation.

Finland's hydrogen ambitions are grounded in a combination of national competitive advantages.

The main advantage is abundant supply of clean and cost competitive electricity. More than 95% of Finland's electricity production is CO_2 free, while electricity prices are among the lowest in Europe. This creates an attractive operating environment for hydrogen production plants, where electricity accounts for up to 70% of operational costs. In Finland, hydrogen projects can be built on solid business cases.

ECOSYSTEM FOR BIOFUELS AND E-FUELS

Finland combines clean and cost-efficient energy, advanced infrastructure, and strong public support, making it an ideal location for companies advancing e-fuel production. Finland offers excellent conditions for biofuel production and related investments, thanks to its strong industrial base, reliable energy supply and expertise in processing forest-based raw materials.

EU regulations are increasing demand for e-fuels through stricter emission targets and renewable fuel mandates, particularly in shipping and aviation. Finland is responding with ambitious plans for large-scale production of both e-fuels and renewable aviation fuels, backed by national commitment to clean tech development.

The country also offers access to biogenic carbon dioxide from its forest-based industries, providing sustainable feedstock for e-fuel synthesis. Government policy supports the sector through clear targets, financial incentives, and investment support for green transition projects.

DID YOU KNOW?

Finland has Europe's second-largest reserves of biogenic CO2, released from organic materials in forestry and pulp production. As CO2 is essential for producing eFuels, this industrial byproduct can be sustainably reused — enabling viable hydrogen-based business models.

ADVANCED BIOPRODUCTS

Finland is at the epicenter of the global growth of the bioeconomy due to world-class competence, numerous growth opportunities and favorable policies. Finland's success is based on a deep understanding of the entire bioproduct value chain, world-class experimental research, integration of cross-disciplinary sciences, and "open access" pilots and demonstration platforms.

We are experiencing a biofuel and pulp boom. New refineries and mills are coming, while platforms and resources are ready now for further refinement, product formulation, and the production of value-added products, such as biochemicals and advanced biomaterials.

#1

IN THE WORLD FOR WOOD CELLULOSE-BASED FIBER RESEARCH

Source: The Forest-based Sector Technology Platform (FTP)

Innovative new biomaterials are already being produced by large companies. To accelerate the transition from basic research to commercialization, research-based start-ups and growth companies are a core part of the business ecosystem.

The industrial use of wood-based biomass offers compelling new business opportunities and possibilities. In addition to traditional forest products like mechanical wood products and pulp and paper, wood is now increasingly used for new added-value products like textile fibers and packaging materials.

Finland is a global leader in wood cellulose-based fiber research. Industrial-scale pilot plants are already producing textile fiber from wood, and new technologies enable the creation of sustainable fibers without harmful chemicals, as well as the recycling of textile waste into high-quality textile fibers. With continued innovation in fiber-based textiles, Finland has the potential to replace up to one-third of global cotton production.

"We are very proud that the AMADA Group decided to start centralize European manufacturing in Finland. This is a true acknowledgement on decades of hard work. It is vitally important that we share the same values; focusing on quality, precision, reliability and longevity."

GREG SEYMOUR, CEO, AMADA Automation Europe

LEADING **HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES**

Finland's success in research and innovation thrives on solid data, expertise, trust and collaboration. This combination positions Finland as the perfect hub for health sector innovation.

PHARMA AND DIAGNOSTICS BASED ON DATA

One of the key advantages of the Finnish pharma sector is access to high-quality, population-wide digital health data collected consistently over time. A unique Biobank Act ensures that hospital and research institute collections are accessible to all researchers. Combined with comprehensive health registers, electronic medical records, and a research-friendly population, this creates outstanding opportunities for scientific and commercial innovation.

Finns also share a distinct genetic heritage, enabling faster and more effective genomic analysis compared to more diverse populations – significantly increasing the likelihood of breakthrough discoveries. This genetic data also supports the development of more precise and personalized diagnostics, improving early detection and targeted treatment.

The Fingenious portal provides centralized access to Finnish biobank samples and data, with over 11 million samples and nearly 500,000 genotyped cases. The Finnish Biobank Cooperative (FINBB) connects all major biobanks and facilitates access for both public and commercial R&D, pending ethical approval.

FAVORABLE FRAMEWORK FOR RESEARCH

Collaboration is a cornerstone of Finland's health innovation landscape, with regional health hubs and thematic ecosystems fostering multidisciplinary programs which are open to new partners. Private-public collaboration is seamless, with a flat societal structure contributing to a long-established culture of collaboration.

Finland's publicly funded, universal, high-quality healthcare system offers an ideal setting for real-world evidence research. The wellbeing services counties cover primary care through health centers, secondary care through hospitals, and tertiary care through university hospitals. The public healthcare system is complemented by the private sector that accounts for approximately 22% of the whole health and social services sector, providing additional capacity and choice for patients.

TRUST FUELS HEALTH INNOVATION

The Finnish people are educated and research-friendly. They show exceptionally high trust in public institutions and a strong willingness to participate in medical research, with a vast majority of biobank donors consenting to the use of their samples and data.

The citizens have great confidence in science and the healthcare system – and this trust is crucial for the development of data-based healthcare innovations, now and in the future.

FORERUNNER IN DIGITAL HEALTH

Health tech is the largest and one of the fastest-growing export segments of the hi-tech industry in Finland. International comparisons show that health tech companies engage in extensive research and development in Finland and manufacture most of their products here, too.

The health industry as a whole uses the latest technologies, including the industrial internet or the Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence (AI), and robotics, as well as expert services associated with clinical research and regulations.

As it stands, Finland has the best availability in the world of the latest technologies, scientists, and engineers. Finnish life-saving innovations utilize exponential technologies like AI, XR, and 3D more creatively than ever before.

Modern hospital data lakes further enhance the use of data for medical research. Advanced tools, such as natural language processing text mining methods and artificial intelligence image analytics, also allow efficient use of unstructured EHR data. In addition, there are currently major ongoing efforts to harmonize the EHR data according to the common OMOP (Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership) data model.

Findata and several university hospitals, some other institutions and vendors provide modern, secure, audited, certified and registered analysis environments for researchers, which comply with the highest security standards. Academic and industry researchers can access and use the data via remote connection.

SUPERCOMPUTING AND QUANTUM POWER

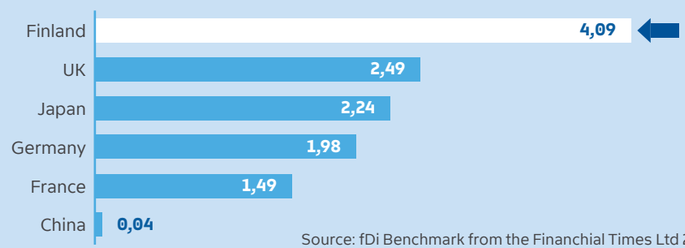
Finland also hosts one of the world's most powerful supercomputers, the completely renewable-energy-powered LUMI (550 petaflops), as well as a 50-qubit quantum computer by VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland.

Through the Finnish Quantum Computing Infrastructure, Finland has made quantum computing resources accessible for research purposes. VTT plays a critical role as a major player in the Finnish health ecosystems, and it actively participates in exploring transformative technologies such as AI, supercomputing, and quantum computing.

The 50-qubit quantum computer further strengthens Finland's position among the countries capable of developing and investing in quantum computing. The combination of technical depth and practical application gives Finland a unique edge in quantum.

PATENT SPECIALIZATION IN HEALTCARE

Number of patents granted per 100,000 population



Source: fDi Benchmark from the Financial Times Ltd 2024
Latest data from 2022

FINLAND IS BUILT ON TECHNOLOGY

Finland is known to be a technology powerhouse. Our innovation-friendly environment across multiple tech sectors makes Finland an excellent location for international companies.

EUROPE'S AI HOTSPOT

Finland is able to fully utilize all the possibilities of AI throughout the society. In 2017, Finland initiated one of the world's first national AI strategies and action plans to boost AI application. The public sector is already integrating AI into its operations to increase efficiency and improve services.

By successfully applying AI, Finland has the potential to double its economic growth rate by 2035.[1] Finland offers top-level AI education at its universities and is raising the awareness of its citizens through public online courses, such as Elements of AI.

The Finns form a tech-savvy society that is not afraid of new technologies and innovations. This makes the country an excellent place for developing and applying novel AI technologies. Finland has a long tradition in AI research, which has led to cutting-edge expertise. Large Finnish companies have built their own AI development units, but the driving force is the hundreds of innovative startups with their roots in universities and research.

These innovators are successfully applying AI in various business verticals, most commonly in healthcare, manufacturing, business tools and services. The startup scene has attracted many international companies to establish their AI development units in Finland. These companies include global giants such as Amazon and NVIDIA. Finland ranked second in AI use by enterprises in the EU in 2023.[2]

The Finnish Center for Artificial Intelligence (FCAI) and regional AI hubs drive AI commercialization by effectively transferring knowledge and findings to startups and established businesses.

Finland's wide offering of data pools is available for businesses, for instance, in healthcare, to speed up AI development and adoption.

COST EFFICIENT LOCATION FOR DATA CENTERS

Finland is an excellent location for international data centers. Strategically positioned between Europe, Asia, and North America, Finland offers ultra-fast connections, such as the submarine cable to Germany with latency below 20 ms, making it part of the digital heart of Europe and a gateway to Asia.

Operational costs are low and stable. Electricity is among the most affordable in Europe, with excellent availability of renewable energy and a highly reliable power grid (99.99995% reliability by Fingrid). Waste heat can be recovered and sold, and land is widely available at low cost.

Finland also provides a stable and transparent legal environment with strong emphasis on privacy and data security. GDPR compliance and a strong cybersecurity cluster support trusted operations. Speed to market is enhanced by prequalified sites, skilled experts, global colocation providers, and support from networks like the Finnish Data Center Association.

"Setting up a Makers Lab in Finland was a very natural choice for us due to all the innovation happening there right now, especially in quantum computing, augmented reality, and generative AI. The work there is top notch and being in Finland makes a lot of sense for us also in terms of our European customers and partners – Finland is a good access point especially to the Nordic countries."

NIKHIL MALHOTRA, Chief Innovation Officer, Tech Mahindra

"Our parent company recognized the lean and agile development culture we have in Finland. They came to see the country as a place to nurture technical competence. We have a lot of experienced engineers in Finland who are very passionate about their work. The cost to quality ratio of engineering here is also very good compared to many other countries."

JANI MÄHÖNEN, VP Offering Development, Mitsubishi Logisnext Europe

COMPANIES WITH DATA CENTERS IN FINLAND

Google, HETZNER, Telia, CSC, EQUINIX, Microsoft, CGI, ERICSSON, FUJITSU, IBM, Capgemini, hp

STRATEGIC APPROACH TO SPACE

Finnish space expertise includes advanced space and atmospheric research, along with strong capabilities in electronics and software for space components. Finnish organizations have contributed to the design of numerous satellites in ESA and international projects. The Finnish Space Committee, under the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, supports the goal of making Finland the world's most attractive and agile space business environment.

Finland's innovation-driven space sector excels in small satellites, subsystems, satellite data services, software, and secure connectivity. A robust research and education ecosystem ensures ongoing development and skilled talent. Finnish companies have designed and launched satellites and provide subsystems ranging from electronics and propulsion to optical systems. Finland also offers strong expertise and facilities for radio technology, reliability, and radiation testing.

Sources: [1] Accenture and Frontier Economics 2017 [2] Eurostat 2023

LEADING THE WAY IN MICROELECTRONICS AND PHOTONICS

Finland has a strong microelectronics and photonics ecosystem, with global success stories, innovative companies, and active university spin-offs. The country aims to build one of Europe's leading clusters in specialized microelectronics and quantum technologies, supported by initiatives like the Chips from Finland Initiative and the EU Chips Act.

Finland excels in high-quality R&D and production, offering a competitive environment for both research-driven and manufacturing operations. A key strength is specialization, particularly in System-on-Chip (SoC) design, rooted in Nokia's legacy. This foundation has helped Finland become an attractive R&D hub for global players.

DID YOU KNOW?

Finland was the first country in the EU to develop an official artificial intelligence strategy, and the government is committed to turning Finland into the leading country in the application of AI.

PIONEERING 6G DEVELOPMENT

Finland and Nokia are leading EU efforts in 6G development. The University of Oulu coordinates the internationally recognized 6G Flagship program, which is the world's first large-scale 6G research initiative. Finnish research focuses on intelligent networks, energy efficiency, AI integration, and next-generation wireless solutions. Finland also plays an active role in European 6G collaboration and standardization efforts.

METAVERSE ECOSYSTEM BASED ON GAMING KNOWHOW

Finland has a strong AR/VR metaverse ecosystem, built on gaming industry excellence and photonics know-how. Finland is actually the first European nation to make a Metaverse Strategy, and one of the first ones globally.

In total the Finnish metaverse ecosystem is estimated to have over 250 companies. We aim to be a global leader in the Metaverse by 2035, serving as both architect and enabler. We envision becoming a benchmark society in fully adopting Metaverse technologies, supported by a thriving cluster of companies and attracting significant foreign investment.

Finland also champions open standards to ensure independence, freedom, and a fair ecosystem, free from domination by any single company or country. The industry is projected to generate over €30 billion annually.

INDUSTRY 4.0 SOLUTIONS AND SMART LOGISTICS

Finland plays a central role in Industry 4.0, offering advanced solutions such as predictive maintenance and intelligent automation.

We also support smart logistics, autonomous vehicles, and drone development, with a growing number of innovative companies and test environments. Mobility as a service has originated from Finland. Maritime logistics are being made more sustainable and intelligent by companies such as Awake.AI and Unikie, who are applying AI and machine learning in their systems.

PREMIER LOCATION FOR QUANTUM COMPUTING

With a rich legacy in understanding quantum phenomena and developing advanced materials and devices, Finland is at the forefront of quantum hardware innovation. The country offers state-of-the-art infrastructure that attracts both researchers and developers eager to push the boundaries of quantum technology.

Finland's quantum ecosystem is dedicated to building a full quantum computing stack, combining world-class research with strong industrial expertise. This collaborative environment also fuels the rapid growth of startups in the sector.

A recent highlight is the 50-qubit quantum computer developed by VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland – a major milestone that further cements Finland's position among the prominent nations in quantum computing.

To support the growing industry, a newly launched doctoral program aims to expand the talent pipeline by increasing the number of PhD graduates entering the private sector with quantum technology expertise.

A TRUSTED PARTNER IN DEFENSE TECH AND DIGITAL RESILIENCE

Finland offers a high-trust, high-tech environment for companies developing advanced defense technologies and dual-use solutions. The ecosystem combines strong public-private collaboration, agile SMEs, and innovation across sectors. Companies are known for reliability, customer focus, and strong R&D. Key strengths include secure communications, situational awareness, and systems that integrate civilian and defense technologies.

Finland also excels in digital resilience, with leading expertise in cybersecurity, AI, quantum computing, and next-gen communications. Supported by a transparent regulatory framework and national cybersecurity strategy, Finland provides a stable, collaborative platform for building future-proof digital and infrastructure solutions.

OTHER INDUSTRIES

Finland offers unique opportunities across diverse industries from sustainable tourism to smart logistics and autonomous shipping.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM: EXCITING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Finland is a tourism destination defined by authenticity, tranquility and contact with nature.

Finland offers unique opportunities for developing new products and services in nature, health, food, cultural, and sustainable tourism. Ranked among the most stable and cleanest countries in the world, Finland attracts visitors with its beautiful nature, four distinct seasons, and strong sustainability standards.

The market is open for international travel brands to introduce new concepts and services.

HELSINKI METROPOLITAN AREA: Lively coastal city with culture, shopping, parks, and history
LAPLAND: Snow, reindeer, Northern Lights, Midnight Sun, and top ski resorts
FINNISH LAKELAND: Europe's largest lake district with forests, islands, and cottages
FINNISH ARCHIPELAGO: World's largest archipelago with coastal charm and unique landscapes

Travel to Finland is easy via award-winning Helsinki Airport, a major hub between East and West. The country also boasts excellent domestic air, rail, road, and water networks.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN GREEN LOGISTICS

Finland is pursuing ambitious sustainability goals by greening its logistics. This includes carbon-neutral airports, electrified ports and rapidly electrifying road transport. Finland aims to halve domestic traffic emissions by 2030 and eliminate them by 2045. Electric vehicle infrastructure is growing, and electric aviation is under development for regional use.

Finland is served by an excellent network of roads, railways, waterways, canals, and sea lanes. In 2023, Finland was ranked second among 139 countries in the global Logistics Performance Index. The index studies key areas of logistics performance, such as quality of trade and transport infrastructure, customs operations, as well as timeliness of shipments.

THRIVING BUSINESS SERVICES

Finland's thriving business services sector includes IT and digital services, architectural and engineering activities, employment activities, management and consultancy services, advertising, accounting and auditing, legal activities, technical testing and analysis, and market research.

SMART MARITIME AND AUTONOMOUS SHIPPING

Finland has a long tradition in shipbuilding and is globally recognized for its maritime expertise. Most of the world's largest luxury cruise ships are built or designed in Finland, along with 60% of all ice breakers. The country also produced the world's first LNG-powered ice breaker. With over 1,000 suppliers, Finland has the world's largest shipbuilding sub-contractor network.

Finland is a pioneer in autonomous shipping technologies, leveraging strengths in sensors, wireless communication, AI, and industrial internet. Finland also offers excellent testing environments open to companies and research institutions developing autonomous maritime technologies.

"Right at the outset, we felt very welcome to Finland. Our concept with strong sustainability focus, carbon -neutral trucks is spot-on and we got a head start. The Finns themselves have been indispensable in our success, Finnish "sisu" is a very real thing: Finns are a hard-working people that keep their promises. Finland is a market-oriented country with a fair playing field - might seem trivial but actually sets Finland apart. Of course, the explicitness and lack of ambiguity in Finnish relations takes a little getting used to as always when accommodating cultures, but is a true strength of the Finns."

Dan Nilsson, responsible for market entry Finland, Litra Gas AB

TAKE THE FAST TRACK TO BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN FINLAND

Invest in Finland's free services.

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

When you consider Finland as a business location, we help you collect data answering your market specific questions. We provide you with fast access to specific data and market analysis relevant for you, all free of charge.

OPPORTUNITY ANALYSIS

We provide up-to-date, qualified information and expertise on national, and regional business opportunities. Our professional advisors support your business development team by providing valuable in-depth market know-how.

LOCATION MANAGEMENT

We provide comprehensive and expert information for location selection, relevant to your business needs. We organize regional visits with introductions to local key stakeholders.

NETWORKING

We identify the right partners for your business needs and facilitate introductions and meetings. We open doors to companies and other relevant stakeholders to help you decide to invest or expand in Finland.

ADVISE FOR SETTING UP A BUSINESS

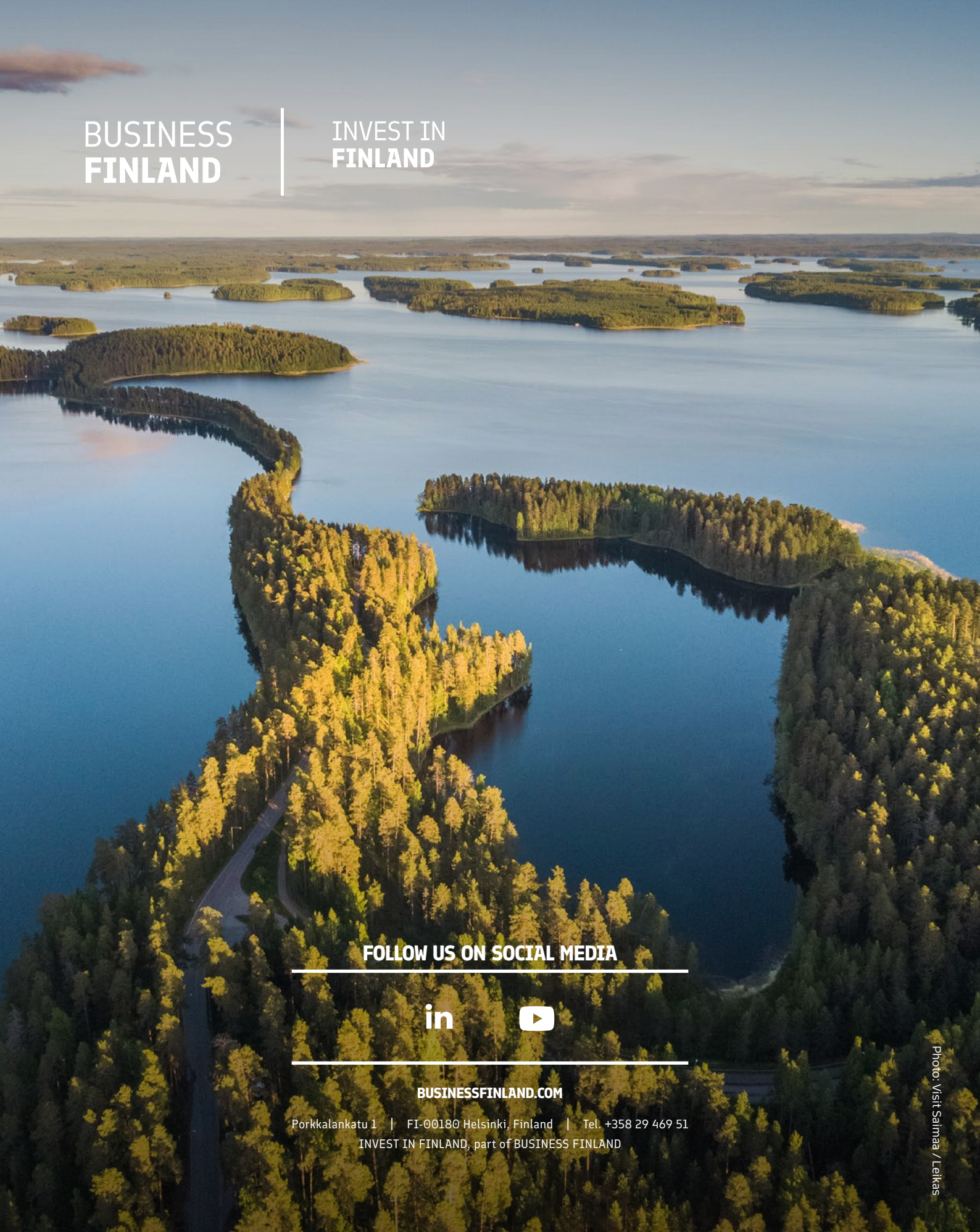
We provide you with advice about the process for establishing a business in Finland and different entry alternatives. We help you save time and effort in setting up your business in Finland, all free of charge.

AFTERCARE SERVICES

Once you have established a business in Finland, we help you to find new business opportunities and further expand your local business operations. We also help you find the right Business Finland services for your expansion needs. We help you develop your local business. We proactively identify expansion opportunities.

"Coming to Finland was inspired by our talks with Business Finland. The collaboration with their team has helped us seamlessly connect to universities and important partners. Business Finland gave us access to the Espoo region as well as timely information and guidance on how to go about in Finland."

NIKHIL MALHOTRA,
Chief Innovation Officer of Tech Mahindra



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