Finland's Growth Triangle – A Nordic Gateway for growth, connectivity and competitiveness

Finland's Growth Triangle brings together the cities of Helsinki, Tampere and Turku and the regions of Helsinki-Uusimaa, Tampere and Southwest Finland. The strategic partnership aims to strengthen the conditions for sustainable growth by improving connectivity, competitiveness and international links in Finland's most important growth area.

The Growth Triangle is where much of Finland's population, economic activity, expertise and innovation are concentrated. Strengthening the Growth Triangle strengthens Finland's capacity to grow, compete and connect with the rest of Europe.

Finland's engine for growth and innovation

2.8 million people | 57 % of Finland's GDP | 70 % of Finland's R&D expenditure

- Around half of Finland's population lives in the Growth Triangle regions (2025). Since the beginning of the 2000s, population of the area has increased by more than 550 000.
- The three regions generate more than half of Finland's gross domestic product. Research, development, and innovation activity are strongly concentrated in the Growth Triangle. The area is also home to 56% of Finland's people with higher education degrees.

From a Finnish growth triangle to a European gateway

The Growth Triangle does not end at Finland's national borders. Helsinki, Turku and Tampere form the Finnish core of connections towards Stockholm and Western Europe in the west and Tallinn and Central Europe in the south, both in air traffic and maritime traffic.

Together with the Stockholm and Tallinn regions, this wider network comprises around 6 million inhabitants and has grown by approximately 960 000 people since the beginning of the 2000s.

A shared vision for Northern European connectivity

The Growth Triangle sees Finland's major rail investments and cross-border connections as one strategic network, linking Finland more closely to the European Single Market. Its two key international directions are:

Helsinki – Turku – Stockholm – Oslo

- A stronger east-west connection across the Baltic Sea would link Finland more closely with Sweden, the wider Nordic transport network, and Western Europe. Finland is currently conducting a preliminary study on the Helsinki–Turku–Stockholm corridor. At EU level, the ambition is to include a fixed connection in the TEN-T network in future revisions.

Tampere – Helsinki – Tallinn – Warsaw – Berlin

- The north-south corridor connects Finland through Tallinn towards the Baltic States, Rail Baltica and Central Europe. The long-term ambition includes further planning of a fixed Helsinki–Tallinn rail connection and exploring its financing options.

Regional Council of Southwest Finland

Helsinki-Uusimaa Region

PIRKANMAA COUNCIL OF TAMPERE REGION

CITY OF TURKU

Helsinki

TAMPERE. FINLAND

Together, these corridors create a Nordic Gateway between the Nordic countries, the Baltic region, and continental Europe.

Our ambition

The Growth Triangle partners want Finland and the EU to take a long-term strategic view of Northern European connectivity. This means:

- developing Finland's main rail connections and cross-border corridors as one coherent European transport network
- strengthening cooperation with Nordic and Baltic partners
- making full use of EU Connecting Europe Facility funding
- connecting Finland more closely to the European transport core network and Single Market.

Better connections to and within the Growth Triangle are an investment in Finland's growth, but also in a more connected, competitive and resilient Northern Europe.

