The Flow of Urban Life

The Flow of Urban Life (2020-2024) is a 50 M€ R&D program. Co-funded by Business Finland, the program is part of their ‘Veturi’ initiative where international companies are invited to solve some of society's most pressing challenges through increased research, development, and innovation investments in Finland. By working closely together with selected partners, the aim is to develop smooth and sustainable services and solutions for the next 1 billion people moving into cities by 2030, helping to ease some of the major challenges caused by urbanization and climate change.

The Flow of Urban Life

How can cities accommodate the next billion city dwellers over the next decade in smooth and sustainable way?

Research and development in The Flow of Urban Life program aims at producing new ground-breaking technologies and smart business concepts. We invite different stakeholders to join us in building a world-leading innovation ecosystem to eventually commercialize new services and solutions and build sustainable businesses.

The program is divided into **co-innovation** and **co-research**, each divided further into specific focus areas:

CO-INNOVATION

- Innovations for sustainability
- Smart construction
- Smart buildings & cities
- Smart and green field services

CO-RESEARCH

- Towards sustainable success
- Smart and sustainable lifecycle solutions
- Sustainable, resilient, and inclusive cities and communities

Co-innovation

Focus areas for research, development and innovation

Our partner ecosystem

- Innovate with KONE – co-innovation with ecosystem partners, developing future solutions based on customer challenges
- Developing ecosystem further with ecosystem partners
- Gaining value through research

INNOVATIONS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

We look for new innovative concepts and designs to enable more sustainable solutions, behaviors, and operations in people flow. Examples of areas of interest include energy efficiency, materials, health and wellbeing, and inclusive buildings.

SMART CONSTRUCTION

We want to find solutions for higher productivity, quality, and safety in construction processes together with lower environmental impact and increased sustainability, fitness-for-use, and resilience in the built environment.

SMART BUILDINGS AND CITIES

Our goal is to improve efficiency, sustainability, flexibility, and citizen experience. We look for solutions for smart buildings, such as offices and multiuse buildings, public spaces, and smart infra hubs such as metro stations. These utilize, for example, people-flow data, energy-management systems, the Internet of Things (IoT), and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

SMART AND GREEN FIELD SERVICES

Together we can create solutions to support lifecycle-based approach - rethinking the way we maintain and operate buildings. These solutions may be linked among others to the secure use of IoT and AI to support preventive maintenance and to reduce the need for maintenance visits.

Co-research

Focus areas for academia-led projects

Research in the program aims at producing ground-breaking multidisciplinary knowledge.

TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE SUCCESS

Creating research-based processes to guarantee sustainable success

- Discovering and defining radical innovation opportunities/areas for sustainable urban transformation
- Developing new R&D&I frameworks, methods, tools and approaches
- Evaluating, modelling and simulating the developed frameworks, methods, tools and approaches

SMART AND SUSTAINABLE LIFECYCLE SOLUTIONS

Producing insights to create sustainable, viable and feasible lifecycle solutions for urban environments

- Integrating, simulating and optimizing smooth people, material and data flows in all building lifecycle phases
- Modelling and assessing solution lifecycle impacts
- Prioritizing solutions and supporting strategic decision-making

SUSTAINABLE, RESILIENT, AND INCLUSIVE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Creating and sharing actionable research based state-of-the-art and foresight understanding of sustainable urban transformation

- Identifying the present and future local and global trends shaping urban development
- Co-creating approaches for transforming cities into sustainable, inclusive and resilient urban communities
- Forecasting and producing local and global visions of urbanization

Cross-cutting, emerging and enabling themes

Technologies (Including e.g. data, connectivity, IoT and AI)

Business models (Including e.g. platforms, ecosystems and digital servitization)

Co-creation for and with people (including e.g. stakeholder engagement, behaviour change, accessibility and wellbeing)

Sustainability is embedded in everything we do

SOCIAL IMPACT

Creating research-based processes to guarantee sustainable success

- Discovering and defining radical innovation opportunities/areas for sustainable urban transformation
- Developing new R&D&I frameworks, methods, tools and approaches
- Evaluating, modelling and simulating the developed frameworks, methods, tools and approaches

ECOLOGICAL IMPACT

Producing insights to create sustainable, viable and feasible lifecycle solutions for urban environments

- Integrating, simulating and optimizing smooth people, material and data flows in all building lifecycle phases
- Modelling and assessing solution lifecycle impacts
- Prioritizing solutions and supporting strategic decision-making

ECONOMICAL IMPACT

Creating and sharing actionable research based state-of-the-art and foresight understanding of sustainable urban transformation

- Identifying the present and future local and global trends shaping urban development
- Co-creating approaches for transforming cities into sustainable, inclusive and resilient urban communities
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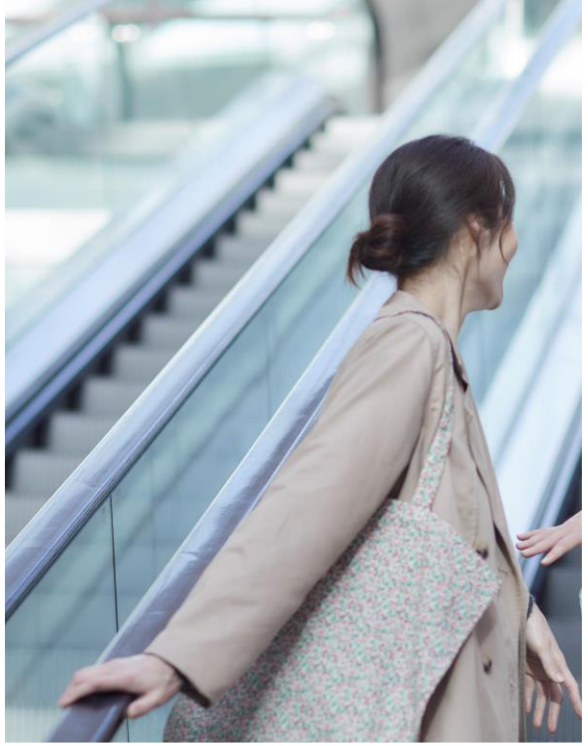
KONE

Find out more on kone.com



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