



TARTU
ÜLIKOOL

Green Vibes @unitartu: Your Sustainable Start

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27.08.2026



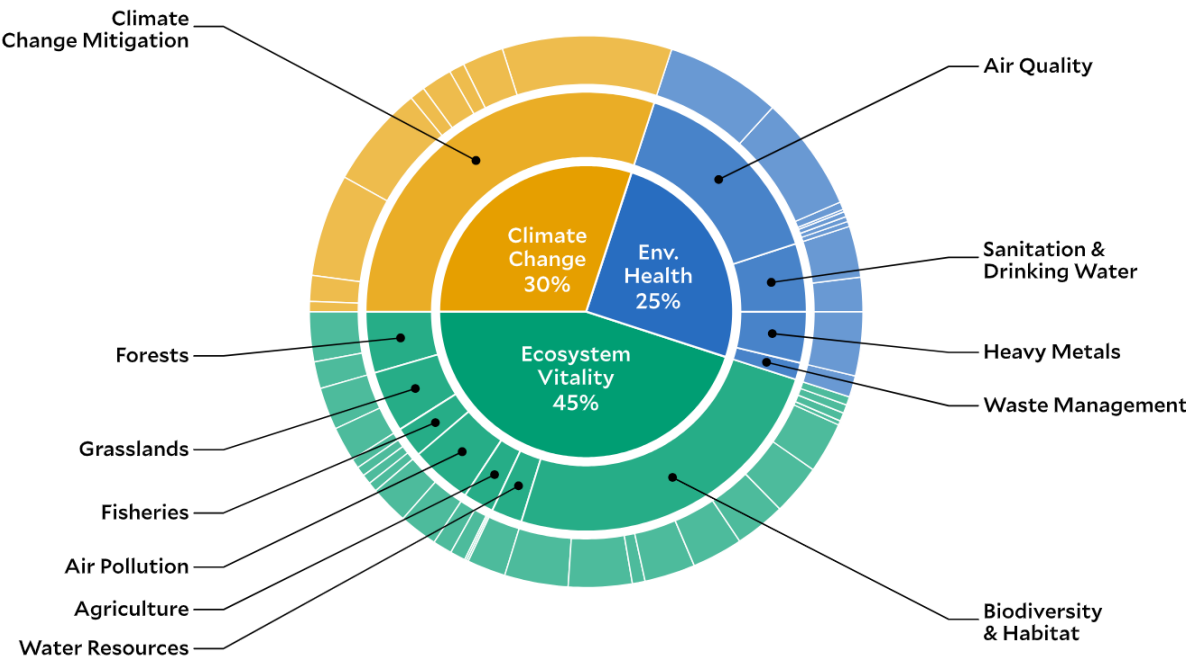
Environmental Performance Index

The 2026 EPI ranks 177 countries on 47 environmental indicators across 12 issue categories representing critical sustainability challenges in environmental public health, ecosystem vitality, and climate change.

Welcome to the most environmentally friendly country!

<https://epi.yale.edu/>

COUNTRY	RANK	EPI SCORE	10-YEAR CHANGE
Estonia	1	74.79	23.22
Luxembourg	2	74.24	10.2
United Kingdom	3	71.51	5.12
Finland	4	71.04	5.05
Netherlands	5	70.49	11.17
Germany	6	69.93	8.47
France	7	69.82	6.58
Norway	8	69.24	6.82
Sweden	9	69.2	3.49
Austria	10	66.8	3.87



Ecosystem Vitality		45%
7 issue categories - 27 indicators		
FORESTS		10%
Tree cover loss	65%	
Tree cover loss within KBAs	35%	
GRASSLANDS		10%
Grassland conversion	55%	
Grassland conversion within KBAs	45%	
FISHERIES		5%
Fish catch discarded	25%	
Bottom trawling in the global ocean	25%	
Bottom trawling in domestic waters	25%	
Regional Marine Trophic Index	25%	
AIR POLLUTION		10%
NO _x emission trend	50%	
SO ₂ emission trend	50%	
AGRICULTURE		5%
Sustainable Nitrogen Management Index	50%	
Phosphorus surplus	40%	
Relative crop yield	5%	
Pesticide pollution risk	5%	
WATER RESOURCES		5%
Wastewater treatment	100%	
BIODIVERSITY & HABITAT		55%
Marine habitat protection	15%	
Marine KBA protection	15%	
Marine protection stringency	3%	
Terrestrial biome protection	12%	

Environmental Health		25%
4 issue categories - 11 indicators		
AIR QUALITY		60%
Ambient PM _{2.5}	45%	
Household solid fuels	45%	
Ozone exposure	3%	
NO ₂ exposure	1%	
CO exposure	2%	
SO ₂ exposure	2%	
Volatile Organic Compound exposure	2%	
SANITATION & DRINKING WATER		20%
Unsafe drinking water	60%	
Unsafe sanitation	40%	
HEAVY METALS		15%
Lead exposure	100%	
WASTE MANAGEMENT		5%
Sustainably managed solid waste	100%	
Climate Change		30%
1 issue category - 9 indicators		
CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION		100%
CO ₂ emission trend	33%	
CH ₄ emission trend	8%	
N ₂ O emission trend	3%	
F-gas emission trend	6%	
Black carbon emission trend	3%	
GHG emissions: trend vs. per capita	20%	
GHG emissions: trend vs. per GDP	20%	
Projected GHG emissions in 2050	5%	
Carbon flux from land use change	2%	



Explore universities leading the way in social and environmental sustainability.



#=367

QS World University Rankings

#151-200

QS WUR Ranking By Subject

#=377

QS Sustainability Ranking

#59

Europe University Northern Europe

Welcome to the most sustainable university in Estonia!

<https://www.topuniversities.com/universities/university-tartu#p2-rankings>

2023	2024	2025	2026
#501-550	#=563	#=420	#=377
Ranking criteria			
Overall	73.9		Impact of Education 92.9
Employability & Opportunities	77.5		Environmental Impact 58.7
Equality	76.6		Governance 82.9
Knowledge Exchange	94.2		Health and Wellbeing 96.8
Social Impact	85.7		Environmental Education 67.3
Environmental Sustainability	25.5		Environmental Research 85.2

Rank

=377

Overall Score:

73.9

University of Tartu
Tartu, Estonia

Environmental Impact

Social Impact

Governance

More Info NEW

Equality

76.6

Knowledge Exchange

94.2

Impact of Education

92.9

Employability & Opportunities

77.5

Health and Wellbeing

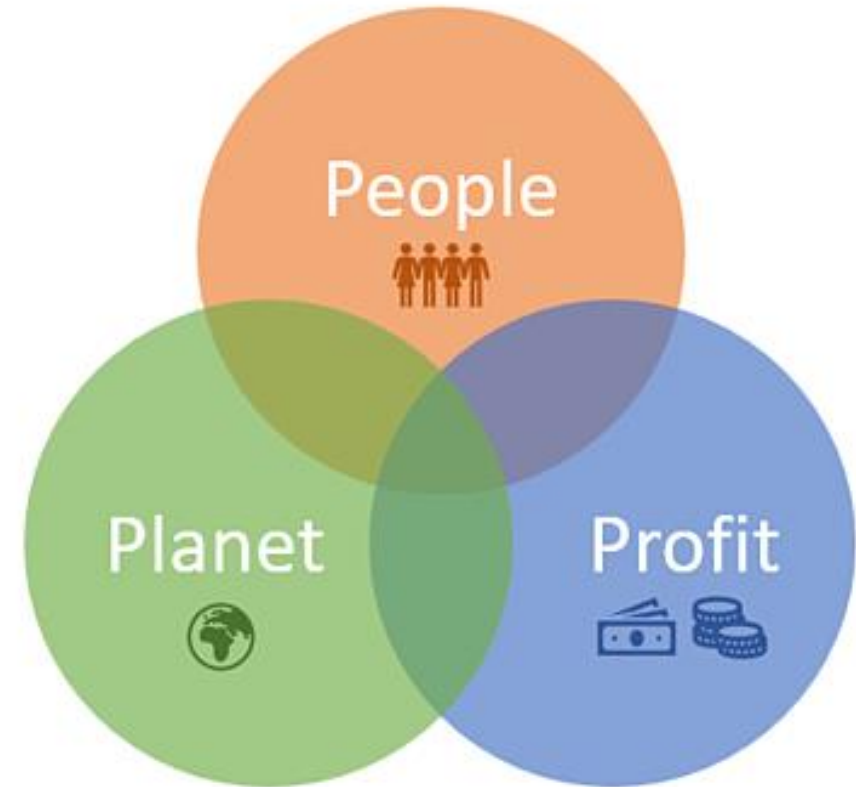
96.8

What is Sustainability?

„Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.“



United Nations

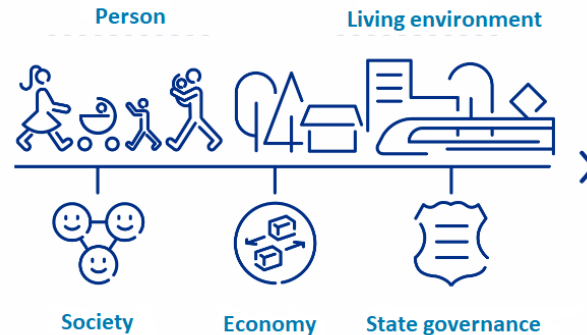


Sustainability at the Core of University of Tartu

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Strategy "Estonia 2035"



Sustainability at the Core of University of Tartu



Core values



Responsibility. We realise the impact of our acts and omissions in the society and within the university. Our words and actions are filled with responsibility for the past, present and future.



UNIVERSITY OF TARTU

Quick links ▾

AI

Admissions Studies Research Business International **About us** News and media Alumni

About us

Organisation >

Values and responsibility >

Equal treatment

Strategic plan 2035 >

Careers

Attractions

Services

Values and responsibility

Good practices at the university

Equal treatment

Awards and recognition >

Sustainable university >

Preventing corruption risks

Data protection

Language learning hub >

Sustainable university

Recommendations for sustainable living

Sustainable academic and research buildings

Sustainability Initiatives at University of Tartu: Pioneering Change



Centre for Sustainable Development



Natural History Museum and
Botanical Garden



University of Tartu Museum



Tartu Student Village



Sustainability Initiatives at University of Tartu: Pioneering Change

RESEARCH

- Top scientists and research in directions related to sustainable development
- Policy advice by researchers (state, local governments)
- Cooperation with companies (e.g., development of green technologies)
- International cooperation (e.g., ENLIGHT)
- communication of scientific achievements

STUDIES

- Outstanding lecturers in various fields who deal with the topic of sustainability in education
- Curricula related to sustainable development (eg. Environmental technology; Environmental Governance and Adaptation to Climate Change).
- Subjects related to sustainable development in various fields (e.g. Sustainable urban areas under conditions of global change; Concepts of Sustainable Development, etc.)

ORGANISATION

- Inclusivity Advancement: Equal treatment, mental health support, and best practices.
- Energy-Efficiency: University infrastructure and solar panels
- Urban Green Enhancement: Maarjamõisa, main building, and bike parking areas.
- Environmental Review
- GHG footprint assessment
- Renewable energy

A collage of 20 images illustrating various aspects of modern life and sustainability. The images include: a person cycling, an airplane in flight, a person walking, a person skiing, a laptop and tablet, cleaning products, a traffic jam, a train, a clock, a person on a scooter, a lighthouse, fresh vegetables, a plate of food, a fruit salad, a mannequin, solar panels, wind turbines, a smoothie, a light bulb, and a row of recycling bins labeled PAPER, GLASS, PLASTIC, and METAL.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

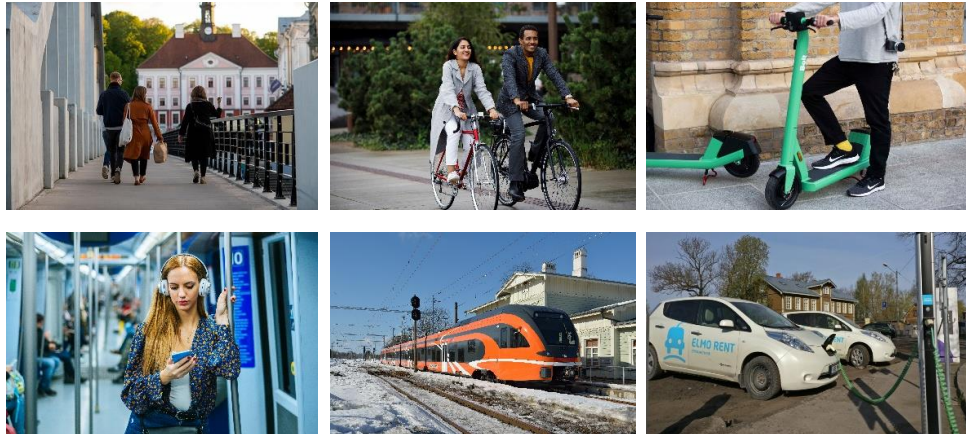
Travel by land and sea! Airplain – a last resort!

Consider ways of transport:

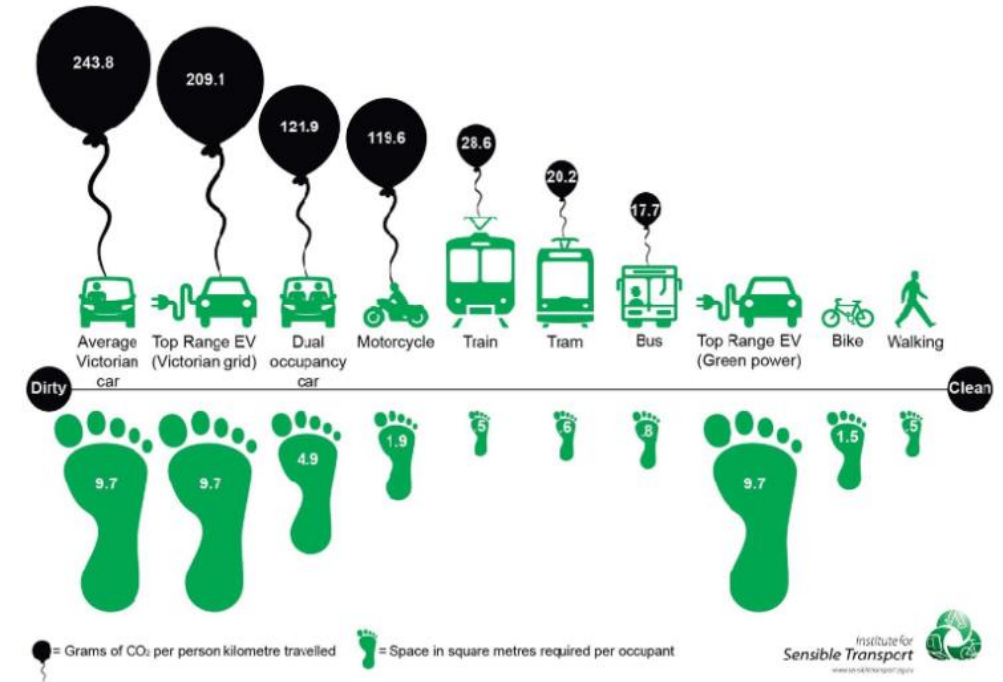
- ▶ When in Tartu (walk, run, bike,)
- ▶ When in Estonia (bus, train - we have them)
- ▶ When travelling the World ...

Calculate your travel footprint:

<https://the-shift.org/carbon-footprint-calculator>



The hierarchy of sustainable transport



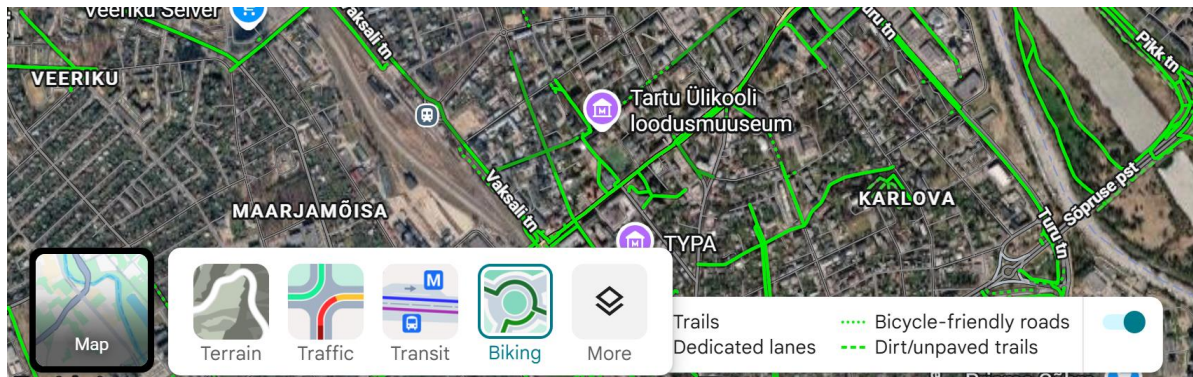
TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

For bikes and scooters

General information about, parking (as virtual tour and pictures), roads, renting, buying and fixing on our UT web:

Sustainable mobility and transport, Biscycels and scooters

Bicycle roads and directing for Tartu is also available on Google Maps by switching on Biking in map layer.



For renting a bike

Tartu Smart Bike (by City of Tartu): <https://ratas.tartu.ee/>

Make a smart move!
An environmentally friendly way to experience all that Tartu has to offer!

MEMBERSHIP INFO
Choose the option that best suits your needs

Membership Type	Price
Joint Membership	
1 Year Membership	70€
90 Day Membership	35€
30 Day Membership	14€

You can also see reCycle.ee,

<https://kauplusjalgratas.ee/#jalgrataste-rent> ,

Bolt <https://bolt.eu/en-ee/cities/tartu/>

ENERGY

Turn off appliances and lights at the plug when not in use.

Ensure proper use of your boiler and heating controls. Program the system according to your needs. – be careful with water boiler, temperature too low may cause bacteria to grow!

Coordinate heating times with housemates and avoid unnecessary warmth.

Seal drafts to retain warmth;

Combat dampness for better heating efficiency and your well-being.

Keep your place well-ventilated to release moisture.

Keep yourself warm with proper clothing.

Consider fire-safety rules, when burning candles or making fire!



FOOD AND WATER

DRINK TAP WATER

BRING YOUR OWN CUPS/MUGS/DISHWARE

AVOID DISPOSABLE ONES

Prefer seasonal, local, and organic plant-based foods.

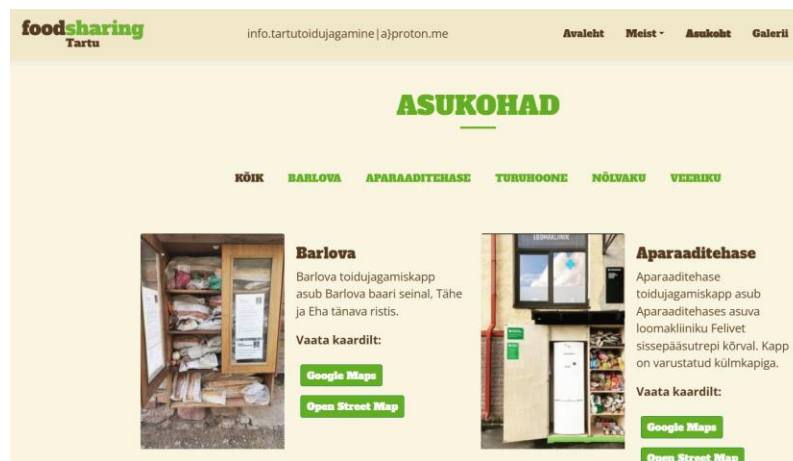
Explore local fruit and veg market, no-packaging stores shops, or start a bulk-buying group with friends.

Minimize surplus food by freezing, sharing with others, or using sharing apps.

Grow your own food in gardens or windowsill pots.

Support independent shops, bakeries, butchers, and local producers instead of supermarkets.

Steer clear of highly processed, single-use packaged snacks with low nutritional value.



PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

BE A CONSCIOUS CONSUMER!

LESS IS MORE AND BETTER

Clothing – choose natural materials and sustainable brands

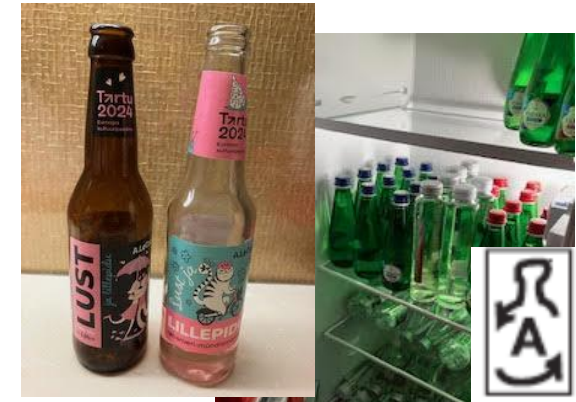
The 5 Rs of fashion: Reduce, rewear, recycle, repair, resell

Find second-hand/thrift stores for clothes/furniture/items:

- ▶ <https://taaskasutuskeskus.ee/>
- ▶ <https://sobraltsobrale.ee/>
- ▶ Humana <https://humanae.ee/kauplused/>
- ▶ Lõunakeskus <https://astri.ee/lounakeskus/taaskasutus/>

Sell unnecessary stuff on:

- ▶ FB Marketplace
- ▶ Soov.ee
- ▶ Osta.ee
- Eating out/ordering or at venues
 - ▶ Ringo.eco
 - ▶ <https://eestipandipakend.ee/>



WASTES

In our University we sort:

- ▶ Biodegrading materials
- ▶ Packaging
- ▶ Paper
- ▶ General waste
- ▶ Batteries
- ▶ Electronics/devices
- ▶ Hazardous chemicals/materials
- ▶ Department specific wastes
- ▶ Pharmaceuticals – return to pharmacy



ENJOY WHAT LOCAL NATURE HAS TO OFFER

1. Stress Reduction: Nature has a calming effect that can reduce stress levels and promote relaxation. Natural environments provide a break from the fast-paced demands of daily life.

2. Mental Clarity: Time in nature can clear your mind and enhance focus. It offers a chance to step away from technology and constant stimulation, allowing for improved cognitive function.

3. Physical Health: Outdoor activities encourage physical movement, promoting cardiovascular health, stronger muscles, and improved overall fitness.

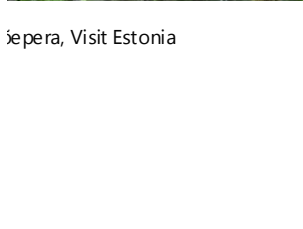
4. Vitamin D Exposure: Sunlight is a natural source of vitamin D, which is essential for bone health, a strong immune system, and mood regulation.

5. Enhanced Mood: Exposure to nature is linked to increased levels of serotonin, a neurotransmitter associated with happiness and well-being.

6. Creative Inspiration: Natural settings can spark creativity and innovation by providing a peaceful backdrop for generating ideas.

7. Improved Sleep: Regular time in nature can help regulate sleep patterns and improve the quality of sleep.

8. Strengthened Immune System: Immune function can benefit from exposure to diverse outdoor environments, helping the body build resistance to various allergens and pathogens.

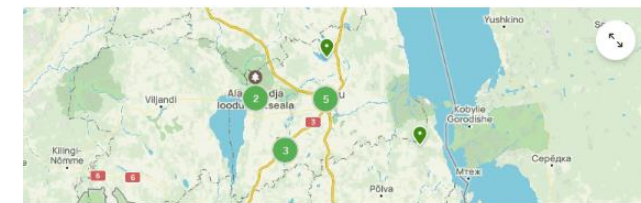


Best Trails in Tartu

★★★★ 79 Reviews

Ready to check out the best trails in Tartu for hiking, mountain biking, climbing or other outdoor activities? AllTrails has 12 hiking trails, mountain biking routes, backpacking trips and more. Discover hand-curated trail maps, along with reviews and photos from nature lovers like you....

[Show more](#)



[Directions](#)

[Share](#)

Activity ▾ Difficulty ▾ Length ▾ Suitability ▾ More filters ▾

Top trails (12)



Moderate • ★ 4.6 (22)
#1 - Elva Ürgoru matkarada
Uderna, Tartu, Estonia
Length: 15.1 km • Est. 4h 33m

Elva-Vitpalu Landscape Protection Area



Moderate • ★ 4.3 (13)
#2 - Tartu Riverside Walk
Tartu, Tartu, Estonia
Length: 5.5 km • Est. 1h 17m

iepera, Visit Estonia

REMEMBER, EVEN SMALL
SUSTAINABLE ACTIONS ADD
UP – JUST LIKE THE SLIDES
IN THIS PRESENTATION.

WELCOME! ENJOY YOUR JOURNEY
AND MAKE IT SUSTAINABLE!

TANK YOU! AITÄH!

