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The Development and Sustainability Agenda for Åland
Council of the Baltic Sea States

The Åland Islands

- Autonomous and demilitarized part of Finland
- Regional government
- Parliament
- 16 municipalities
- 30 000 inhabitants



Grassroot driven democratic process

- Hundreds of people gather for the Forum for Societal Development
- The bärkraft.ax network is an initiative of actors in all sectors
- The development and sustainability council is established
- The vision, narrative, and goals are developed
 - Resulting in the Development and Sustainability Agenda for Åland
- The regional government endorses the agenda



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Four principles of sustainability

In a sustainable society, nature is not subject to systematically increasing...

1. ...concentrations of substances extracted from the Earth's crust
(fossil fuels, metals and minerals)
2. ...concentrations of substances produced by society
(synthetic substances, chemicals that contain persistent substances)
3. ...degradation by physical means (over-exploitation of natural resources, including water, forests, fish-stocks or farmland)
4. And, in that society, people are not subject to structures that systematically undermine their capacity to meet their needs, including health, influence, skills development, impartiality and creation of meaning.



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**EVERYONE CAN FLOURISH
IN A VIABLE SOCIETY
ON THE ISLANDS OF PEACE**



The seven strategic development goals



1. Wellbeing



2. Trust and participation



3. Good water quality



4. Biodiversity



5. Attraction



6. Heavily reduced climate impact



7. Sustainable consumption and production

Success factors

- Authentic Vision and Story
 - Created by grassroots - Bottom-up and Top-down
- Supporting Structures for Implementation
 - Non Governmental Network Platform for multi-stakeholder collaboration and guidance
 - Parliamentary long term decision
 - Legislation and governmental budgeting
- Will and Persistence
- Science Based Understanding and Definition of Sustainability
 - The Four Sustainability Principles



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