



DAC | DANSK ARKITEKTUR CENTER

Global Compact COP

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Danish Architecture Centre in Brief

Danish Architecture Centre (DAC) is Denmark's national architecture centre. DAC works to develop and present architecture, urban and landscape development, and functions as a platform for initiatives which set new agendas and pave the way for sustainable development across the architecture and construction industries.

DAC offers a wide range of professional activities that foster debate, along with cultural activities such as exhibitions, professional conferences, partnership projects, seminars, web presentations, guided tours of the city, training courses, etc.

Our stakeholders and users embrace everyone from professional parties in the construction industry to politicians, planners and decision-makers, as well as members of the general public who have an interest in architecture and culture.

DAC is located in a beautifully renovated warehouse facing onto Copenhagen harbour, where we have exhibitions, a bookshop, cafe and a conference centre, and receives visitors every day from Denmark and abroad.

CEO's statement of support

From sustainability to Green Growth

Thinking in terms of sustainable development is no longer an option. It is an absolute necessity in all spheres of society if we are to protect and develop our natural environment, our towns and cities, our welfare and democratic rights - locally and globally. At the Danish Architecture Centre working with sustainability and the principles of Global Compacts is integral to the very purpose of our enterprise, in our core areas as well as in our organisation. We understand sustainable architecture to mean construction and construction design as well as urban and landscape planning which create the best possible framework for life the world over as well as creating social, economic and cultural values for

people, companies and society. This conception of architecture and its possibilities and consequences are crucial to DAC and our approach to our communication, the thematic and partners we work with.

Since the beginning of the 21st-century, the Danish Architecture Centre has focused with determination on how architecture can help to bring about global change by means of a sustainable approach to development, and in 2008 we joined the United Nations Global Compact.

It is only natural to us, as Denmark's national architecture centre, to continue supporting the principles of Global Compact and to exploit DAC's role as a platform for dialogue between the parties of the construction industry and our position as the Danish government's primary player in the field of architecture, to put green growth and social and ethical accountability in architecture and building on the agenda.

Networks and alliances

Danish architects and engineers are at the cutting edge when it comes to green solutions. But this does not mean that we cannot do things even better. The next move requires that the industry sets certain common goals and adopts a united approach. This requires a joint effort across professional boundaries as well as new alliances between developers, architects, engineers and contractors, landscape architects, materials manufacturers and other relevant professional groups.

If the construction industry genuinely wants to make a difference to the overall sustainability account, it is vital that the entire food chain joins in, from the developer, who already sets the standard in the tender documents, to the materials makers who ensure that the supply chain is in order, but which also have tremendous development potential when it comes to intelligent and sustainable materials.

In 2010/11, DAC has arranged a whole range of lectures and seminars which, among other things, have focused on sustainable materials, energy reduction in the construction industry and general sustainable development in the industry. A series of lectures, the "Arup Talks", were given by directors from one of the world's most sustainable and ethically responsible engineering firms.

DAC will continue to work to bring together the parties of the construction sphere in order to exchange knowledge and identify new tendencies, challenges and potentials in a global perspective.

The city as a framework for green growth

The city - with urban and landscape development - are another of DAC's strategic focus areas. More than half of the world's population live in urban areas, a number which is increasing. Cities account for a large proportion of overall CO2 emissions, but strategic planning of urban areas is not just decisive in relation to reducing CO2. The city still functions as the perfect framework for green growth as regards the environment, public health and quality of life, as well as for testing new intelligent technologies and solutions for the future where population density is greatest.

At DAC we have brought sustainable urban development into focus through a whole series of information activities. We will continue to bring into focus the city's potential as a framework for green growth in the years to come. We will do so in collaboration with companies, municipalities, industry associations and other relevant players in Denmark and abroad.

Internationalisation and global accountability

Danish architecture and urban development have tremendous potential as export commodities. Major Danish engineering companies and a number of Danish architectural firms are making their mark in the international market - in the Middle East among other places, where culture and working conditions are very different to those in Denmark.

However, although Danish companies have a reputation as some of the best employers in these markets, we need to look at how we can make even better use of Danish builders companies' ethical and moral codex, including our take on democracy, human and workers' rights, to make a distinct footprint on the world stage. It makes sense for companies in the Danish construction industry to make good use of their cultural advantages, and the current focus on companies' social responsibilities to create a common brand as a responsible Danish construction industry.

The affair involving the Danish consultancy firm Rambøll, accused by the media of having slavery-like conditions on a construction site in Dubai in early 2011 created a Burning Platform - not just for Rambøll, but for all the construction industry companies active in markets in the region. Rambøll has chosen to take the matter extremely seriously and has published a strategy for how to avoid those kinds of conditions on their construction sites or those of their business partners. It is obvious for the rest of the industry to follow suit - and to take lead and make a difference.

At DAC we will capitalise our commitment to Global Compact and DAC's role as a platform for the parties of the construction industry to keep focusing on sustainable development of buildings, cities and landscape. At the same time we see an obvious opportunity to foster, together with the industry, greater awareness of the Global Compact principles on human rights, labour and anti-corruption in the industry and create initiatives which bring into focus how the Danish construction industry can take the lead as responsible players in the global market.

Kent Martinussen



CEO, Danish Architecture Centre

Presentation & Debate activities

Communication as a tool for change

We believe that through DAC's role as a platform for information, dissemination, networking and debate we can make a difference when it comes to creating shared understanding across architecture and the construction industry and achieve national political goals which harmonise with the goals and principles of the Global Compact.

DAC has in recent years arranged a number of international exhibitions and initiatives with global perspectives. However, most of DAC's projects, local as well as global, put architecture into a societal context and relate to how architecture, construction and urban and landscape development can help to resolve current local and global challenges.

Sustainable Cities

Urban planning in the modern world is a complex task which requires an interdisciplinary and sustainable approach. Infrastructure, water treatment, energy-reducing building, waste handling, health, involvement of the public, research and education and much more are all relevant themes in the development of a city. For this reason, cities have become interesting as a frame story of green growth and in particular for the branding of municipalities and nations.

DAC's strategic focus on sustainable cities in recent years has proven to be of interest to players far from the traditional disciplines of urban planning. Via the Sustainable Cities™ project, DAC has disseminated knowledge of sustainable urban planning through web presentations and lectures. Most of the presentation relating to sustainable cities is collected on www.sustainablecities.dk. However, Sustainable Cities™ exploits to a high degree the social media and other web sites of different organizations and firms, who are dealing with the same themes and questions, to reach as many interested parties as possible.

DAC at EXPO 2010 in Shanghai: Sustainable Cities Talk

At EXPO 2010 in Shanghai, Sustainable Cities held two talks in collaboration with the City of Copenhagen in the Danish pavilion under the headings: "Sustainability - the Copenhagen way" and "Metropolis for people - mobility and urban life", where director and head of centre Ulrik Winge of the City of Copenhagen Urban Design Centre spoke on sustainability strategy and sustainability tools. The talks took place in the Danish Pavillon designed by BIG – Bjarke Ingels Group.

Q&A: Urban Questions _ Copenhagen Answers

The official Danish contribution to the 12th International Architecture Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia which was held from September to November 2010 featured the city of Copenhagen with the exhibition "Q&A: Urban Questions _ Copenhagen Answers." For the last twenty years, Copenhagen has been a living lab of sustainable urban development. Danish and international architects, urban planners, investors, politicians, and the general public have explored the city's potential with determination, courage and curiosity to experiment with different strategies.



As a result Copenhagen has changed radically – not only in its architecture but also in the way we use and live in the city. New connections with the Metro and cycle routes have been implemented, new urban spaces and new public buildings created and new ways of living, working, going to school and spending leisure time have emerged. Each of these provides new suggestions as to how the urban

challenges of cities can be met with architectural answers.

What makes a liveable city – a Copenhagen X exhibition

In June 2011, an edited version of the biennial exhibition opened at the Danish Architecture Centre, enabling Danes and tourists in Copenhagen to get a deeper insight into the development of the Danish capital, in particular two projects – Nordhavnen (the north harbour), which will be Copenhagen's biggest sustainable neighbourhood, and the Carlsberg site in the city's Vesterbro district, which over time will develop into a CO2-neutral community.

The exhibition at DAC gives visitors an insight into the massive physical changes Copenhagen has undergone over the last 10 years - from large scale development in Ørestad to new cultural institutions and green urban spaces in the Nørrebro, Østerbro and Vesterbro districts. The exhibition also looks towards future developments, asking the question: how can we build on the experiences of the last 10 years and continue to create a sustainable framework for future growth and welfare? Read more about the exhibition at www.dac.dk

The city for life - A campaign in five Danish towns and cities

Urban development has many aspects to it and in recent years, researchers, architects, urban planners and municipalities have focused on finding out how development of urban spaces can create the basis for greater social cohesion and in particular, equality of access to a healthy and active lifestyle. One efficient tool to this end is the development of urban spaces which encourage people to take exercise, for example by making it easy to get around by bike or on foot in the town or to play ball games, etc.

The focus has often been on young urban dwellers and families. However, with the prospect of an ageing society, it is also relevant to examine how older people can get out and about and use open spaces to exercise and keep active, supporting a

healthy lifestyle. For this reason, DAC started a campaign in the summer of 2011, in collaboration with five Danish municipalities, which brings into focus towns and cities the life, targeted at older members of society.

The campaign was based on research and expert interviews, together with cases from all over the world to be found at www.bæredygtigerbyer.dk



Manmade Environment – An exhibition about new Nordic landscape architecture

In the light of global climate change and growing pressures on towns, cities and landscapes there is a need for alternative, interdisciplinary planning methods and strategies with the emphasis on using natural resources and combining new expertise and technologies with an awareness of local conditions, culture and identity. The exhibition, MANMADE ENVIRONMENT, a collaborative effort between DAC and Norsk Form, zooms in on the role of landscape architecture in large-scale sustainable urban development and planning. The exhibition was first shown at the Architecture Triennial in Oslo in 2010 and since then, at DAC and in Stockholm in 2011.

The exhibition comprises examples which illustrate important progress and new tendencies in the current landscape discourse and practice exemplified by a multifarious selection of projects. These address common and location-specific Nordic challenges such as urban renewal, public involvement processes, rehabilitation of areas which have lost their original functions, the extension of

new infrastructure and the restoration or conservation of natural landscapes.
Read more about the exhibition at www.dac.dk

Architecture TV

DAC has set up its own Web TV channel, which shows Danish and international talks and lectures, taken place at DAC for a broader audience. In 2010/11 DAC has scheduled a number of lectures on sustainability in architecture, urban planning and construction recorded for the TV Channel. The lectures are free of charge and available to all. Some of them are available in English, including the Arup Talks.

Business & Network Activities

Connecting people

DAC and Copenhagen X have organised a number of events and debates during 2010/2011 which have brought into focus sustainability and CSR in the industry and in particular on the architect's role in a social and environmentally sustainable perspective.

DAC's Business & Networks programme has focused specifically on the construction industry's development agendas and on encouraging dialogue and partnerships across the companies of the construction industry, organisations and decision-makers with a view to creating a common language and common goals when it comes to creating a sustainable society.

The Arup Talks

Arup is one of the world's leading engineering firms in the field of sustainable building, infrastructure and urban development. In June 2011, the Danish Architecture Centre invited Arup to hold three talks focusing on Arup's work, projects and visions of the future - to provide inspiration, learning and debate for the Danish consultancy industry.

The talks were held by Mark Watts, director of Arup's Energy & Climate Change Consulting Team,

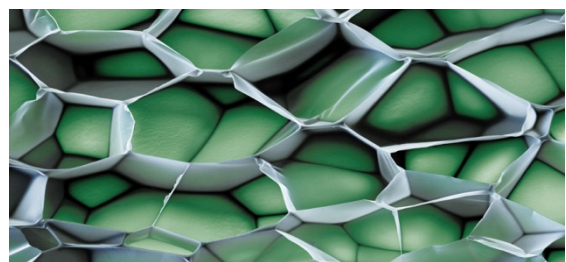
whose focus was on the sustainable cities of the future. Dr. Jan Wurm, partner in Arup Materials in Berlin, provided insight into some of Arup's current research projects. Rory McGowan, Arup's director the China and Ireland, spoke, among other things, about the history of Arup's.

The Talks are available on Architecture TV.

Green Building Materials

As part of DAC's focus on the significance of the materials used in buildings in recent years and in the future, DAC organised a number of events and lectures for Architecture TV in collaboration with several external business partners and companies.

In June 2011, DAC organised a theme event about 'Green Building Materials' in collaboration with the Danish Material Technology Society. The event brought developments into focus in a Cradle to Cradle building demonstration in collaboration with 3XN and Cradle to Cradle Denmark. The concept relates to creating buildings in such a way that at the end of their useful lives they can become nutrition for new creations. The event provided a discussion of specific case studies, as well as ideas for green building materials for use today and tomorrow.



Energy Efficient Building Design

By 2020, the energy consumption of all new buildings must be reduced by a total of 75 % in relation to 2006 consumption - and in the long-term, all buildings must be plus-energy buildings, meaning that they will generate more energy than they consume. The goals for 2020 are so ambitious that players in the construction industry still do not have at their disposal the technologies and solutions necessary to achieve these goals. Economy and Commerce Minister Brian Mikkelsen therefore

decided to announce the 2020 goals already in 2011.

In connection to the announcement, DAC held a conference in March 2011 with discussion papers and debate on energy-efficient building design using concrete examples and identification of the topics crucial to the design of energy-efficient building. In cooperation with AT Architects, DAC made an inspiration paper to the discussion on how architecture and choice of design best can contribute to fulfilment of the 2020 goals. Download the paper from www.dac.dk



Good indoor climate in buildings of the future – light, sound and air

Indoor climate design is a challenge the building sector cannot afford to ignore. Indoor climate is one of the fundamental elements of architecture and the way we sense light, sound and air our indispensable aspects of the architectural experience.

In December 2010 DAC held a seminar in collaboration with the Danish Enterprise and Construction Authority on the challenges and possibilities that apply in the development of healthy buildings in the future and good indoor climate. On the basis of discussion papers, several speakers from architecture firms and engineering companies, as well as research institutions, presented their ideas of best practice in indoor climate design relating to light, sound and air.

In connection to the event, DAC edited and published the publication "Light, Sound, Air -

Healthy building for the future" where a number of experts presented their views on which challenges and possibilities applied to the development of healthy buildings in the future, together with examples of best practice in indoor climate design with the focus on light, sound and air. Read more about Good Indoor Climate and see the three talks from the conference on Architecture TV

Caring for Climate – companies CSR from vision to reality

34 Danish architecture firms and engineers have joined the Global Compact since 2008, but what does membership mean and how do they maintain their commitment? In January 2011 the Danish Architecture Centre, the Copenhagen Urban Network (Byens Netværk) and the UNDP Denmark arranged a breakfast meeting about Global Compact and the Caring for Climate initiative - and a debate on global company accountability from vision to reality.

COWI, Site Architects and Henning Larsen Architects told the gathering how they work with global accountability with the focus on the climate. Their presentation was followed up by Helle Johansen, Head of Business Outreach and the UNDP Nordic Office, CSR and Global Compact, presented the Global Compact Caring for Climate initiative, with the presenters in the "hot seat" and asked questions about their company practice and the future challenges faced by the industry. Read about the event [here](#).

Building materials of the future

In December 2010, DAC highlighted digitisation and the development of new building materials, which must carry architecture and building into the future. DAC invited to an evening with three talks on the future of building materials and developments in the world of research and company development departments.

On Architecture TV you can hear Mette Ramsgaard Thomsen from the Royal Academy School of Architecture, Information Technology and

Architecture, Anne-Mette Manelius from the Centre for Industrial Architecture and Kasper Guldager Jørgensen, head of 3XN's development department, talk about their research into, and work with, building materials of the future.

Selected visits to construction projects and companies at the cutting edge

The Copenhagen Urban Network arrange visits to construction sites and visits to the firms, who are members of the network.

One of the companies which the Copenhagen Urban Network visited this year was Logik & Co, a fast-growing Copenhagen based construction company which distinguishes itself quite markedly from its counterparts in the industry. The company's general manager spoke about the unusual approach of this special construction firm to quality, sustainability and social accountability, and how Logik & Co creates value by means of networking. Although its structure is a departure from the norm, the firm competes on an equal footing with other contractors, implements complex projects and is adding an increasing number of building projects to its list of references.

In November last year, Logik & Co was awarded the National Network for Senior Executives' special prize. Logik & Co was selected "holistic efforts and modern approach to work involving social accountability," and social commitment which "permeates the entire company as a core value", as the committee put it in the grounds for its decision.

Networks

In 2008 DAC joined the Global Compact Nordic Network. DAC is still a member of the Global Compact Nordic Network, although we have concentrated our resources on bolstering our network and relations with players in the construction market with focus on future collaboration projects relating to SCR and sustainability.

Danish Resources - clusters of green skills in the Danish construction industry

The market for sustainable services is growing and the Danish construction industry has the potential to be there up front. But this position is by no means the reserve of the Danes, and competition from bigger nations is considerable - especially considering our high labour costs.

In the period June 2009 to September 2010, the Danish Architecture Centre completed the project Danish Resources - clusters of green skills in the Danish construction industry. The purpose of the project was to underpin the development of Danish skills clusters in the delivery of sustainable solutions in constructed environments and to strengthen the domestic and international competitiveness of Danish companies.

Through the communication and exchange of the knowledge and building competition-strengthening clusters among various parties in the construction process, the project contributed to Danish architecture firms' and engineers', along with building contractors' understanding of the strengthening potential of clusters for their competitiveness in the global market.

Read more about the project and experiences from the clusters [here](#).

DAC's areas of business becoming greener



DAC has a bookshop, a conference centre, a café and a conference restaurant. All accessories now on sale at DAC bookshop are fair trade products.

In 2011, DAC uses 35 % organic produce in its kitchen, compared to 30 % in 2010.

All kitchen waste is sorted and collected by different suppliers for recycling and all paper and cardboard boxes used in the kitchen come from SCA, the most sustainable supplier in the market when it comes to certified paper and board.

Partnerships in DAC

One of DAC's main roles is to provide fertile soil for dialogue and development in - and among the parties of the construction industry. We do this through partnerships.

DAC receives basic funding from a partnership consisting of Realdania, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Economic and Business Affairs. DAC's projects are funded from income and subsidies from ministries, foundations and sponsorships and are developed in partnership with the companies, organisations and other central players in the industry.

On the basis of numerous initiatives on the part of DAC, focusing on the influence of architecture - including the cities and landscape - on the environment and climate change, the Ministry of the Environment became the fourth partner in DAC partnership agreement in 2011.

At each of the ministries, DAC makes its knowledge available as well as fulfilling its obligations pertaining to the framework agreements with each of the ministries, which e.g. includes hosting events, producing publications, etc. which spotlight strategically important political focus areas such as energy reduction targets and 2020 goals.

DAC as an Enterprise

Human rights / Employee rights

The UN Global Compacts principles on human

rights, Labour, anti-corruption and environment is integral part of DACs organization. All staff at DAC enjoys the protection of the Danish Employers' and Salaried Employees' Act, which complies with all employee rights under Danish legislation and international human rights conventions. In addition to this, DAC has chosen to provide its staff with the following:

- All staff have the right to be a member of the trade union of their choice
- All staff are under the supervision of DAC's health and safety committee
- All permanent staff have pension schemes and health insurance, as well as a group insurance which covers in the event of illness or death.
- All staff enjoy a free fruit scheme and can buy inexpensive food in DAC's conference restaurant.

At DAC we also have a co-operation forum for dialogue between staff, management and the board. This consists of 3 staff representatives, 1 management representative and a director. The co-operation forum holds four regular meetings a year as well as a number of ad hoc meetings.

Co-operation with international players All staff and business partners at DAC, including those from other countries and cultures with entirely different gender-related and authoritarian work structures, are treated as equals at DAC. Business partners from abroad are entitled to food and housing conditions on a par with our own, and in the world outside Denmark we meet people at eye level and take exception to any form of discrimination on the basis of sex, race or religion.

Against corruption

In DAC's day-to-day role as an information centre, primarily on the Danish soil, we are not involved in any corrupt activities and strongly object to any form of corruption.

Production

DAC's production of material is relatively limited and financed by project funds from foundations,

ministries and sponsors. We endeavour in all our dealings to maintain a sensible balance between sustainability of products and economy.

Most of DAC's production and products used are made in Scandinavia or Europe and are certified as sustainable. As regards products from the Far East, we try to enquire about work conditions whenever possible to ensure that DAC is not complicit in violations of international human rights.

All DAC's printed material, including posters in the exhibition, constituting more than 80 % of a production, carries the Swan label and is made on FSC-certified paper.

Climate and energy

In the course of 2011, DAC, together with the Palaces and Properties Agency (Slots- og Ejendomsstyrelsen), which manages the Gl. Dok building on Christianshavn in Copenhagen, carried out a number of replacements and renovations.

Building renovation

In 2010, DAC has got renovated all the windows in the old warehouse and a 25 year-old ventilation system has been replaced by a new one that enables us to recycle our own heat.

According to the Palaces and Properties Agency calculations, replacement of the ventilation system throughout the Gl. Dok building is expected to reduce heat consumption by approximately 93,500 kW/h and electricity consumption by some 10,000 kW/h a year in the whole building, of which DAC occupies about 50% of the floor space.

LED bulbs in all standard light fittings

In DAC's administration, the restaurant and conference centre, 400 bulbs are on from 8- 17 360 days of the year and on some days long into the evening. In 2011, DAC replaced all 400 bulbs with LED bulbs, which will not require replacement until 2018.

DAC expects this initiative to reduce its electricity consumption by 1/6 of previous consumption in

kW/h. In addition, all the 300 W halogen exhibition lamps at DAC were replaced by ones that use only 75 watts in 2010.

Cellar lights turn off automatically and copiers go on standby

The entire cellar at DAC has been equipped with movement sensors which switch off the lights if no-one has been in a room for a number of minutes. All photocopiers go onto standby when not in use.

Danish Architecture Centre

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Danish Architecture Centre (DAC) is a project organization that develops and communicates knowledge about architecture and urban- and landscape development. DAC is base funded by a partnership consisting of Realdania, the Danish Ministry of Culture, the Danish Ministry of Environment and the Danish Ministry of Economic and Business Affairs.