

GLOBAL COMPACT COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

Executive Statement:

December 2015

Danish Architecture Centre's commitment to UN Global Compact

The Danish Architecture Centre orchestrates partnerships that promote innovative thinking and a broad engagement in the development of society's physical framework. When we build bridges across occupational sectors, we connect different professional backgrounds and create new insights, networks, and solutions to the challenges we face as a society.

The Danish Architectural Centre's enrolment to the UN Global Compact took place as part of a project where we, together with a broad section of the Danish construction industry, put a focus on architecture and construction as significant elements in the development of sustainable communities. It was a requirement to the project's parties that they should join the UN Global Compact and thus commit to a long term focus on the UN Global Compact's principles.

This approach to sustainable development is telling for the Danish Architecture Centre. We believe that the great challenges of the future must be solved in interaction with different professional perspectives and that we, by pooling our resources together, can achieve greater reach and effect. Therefore, we work as an open platform between citizens and professionals, culture and business, Denmark and the world. An open platform for co-creation, open innovation and democratic engagement that contributes to creating economic, social, and environmentally sustainable development - both in Denmark and internationally.

The Danish Architecture Centre works in accordance with Danish legislation that implements all issues regarding workers' rights, human rights and anti-corruption as described in the UN Global Compact. Therefore, we choose in this publication to highlight our own projects which aim to involve, engage, and enlighten citizens, professionals and political decision makers within the green transition, climate adaptation and sustainability which are also an important element in Global Compact.



Kent Martinussen

CEO, Dansk Arkitektur Center

Danish Architecture Centre's initiatives and projects

The Danish Architecture Centre works with a wide range of professional and culture activities for all - both professionals and citizens of all ages. The activities consist of exhibitions, family workshops, professional networks, education, guided tours, professional and cultural arrangements and also quick access to knowledge and news on the web.

Below, we have selected five projects which represent the Danish Architecture Centre's approach to creating positive change in society in addition to promoting and spreading awareness about the agendas which the UN Global Compact works with.



DK2050 - scenarios for a greener Denmark

How will Denmark look in the year 2050? What options do we have - and what measures are required today - if the goal is a carbon neutral Denmark in 2050? It is these questions which the project puts on the agenda in a meeting between politicians and citizens throughout the Danish municipalities and regions.

It is done in close cooperation with the participating municipalities and regions to ensure an on-going debate about the green transition as well as qualifying the strategic planning on the municipal and regional level. The purpose is furthermore to involve young people in the debate about future possibilities and to investigate how Generation2050 can be a part of promoting the green agenda.

During the course of 2015, there have been held a number of events around the country where the Danish Architecture Centre has the opportunity to widely disseminate the project's results and scenario methods to act as an inspiration for the relevant stakeholders and municipalities. In collaboration with some of the project's participants, including Odense, Sønderborg, and Aalborg municipalities, the Danish Architecture Centre holds DK2050 debate events throughout the year.

In March, there was a workshop for young people in Sønderborg municipality with EUC South, Project Zero, and Sønderborg municipality's planning department with the aim of getting input for their strategic planning work. 30 young people from different secondary schools participated together with representatives from the city council.

June: DK2050 debates at the Bornholm People's Meeting (Folkemødet) included a separate Generation2050 debate where 50 young people participated. The debate was set up in cooperation with 12Byer (12Cities) and the Network of Youth Councils.

September: The Danish Architectural Centre took part in Byplanlabs (Cityplanlabs) annual meeting with both a market stand and a sub-forum meeting. A cross section of 600 politicians and officials from the municipalities participated.

October: The Danish Architectural Centre held a DK2050-arrangement at the Utzon Centre in Aalborg in connection with an exhibition about the Denmark of the future and sustainability. The following municipalities took part: Jammerbugt, Frederikshavn, Mariager Fjord, and Brønderslev in addition to representatives from Business Region North.

November: The Danish Architecture Centre facilitated a day on the topic of the future's Byregion Fyn (City region Funen) where 9 municipalities from Funen, including politicians, participated.

Partners:

Realdania, the Ministry of Culture, the Environmental Ministry, the Ministry of Business and Growth, the Ministry of Energy, Utilities, and Climate, Rambøll, GI Bedre Boliger Bedre Liv (Landowner's Investment fund - Better homes, better life), Danish Arts Foundation

The rain is coming - exhibition

The exhibition 'The rain comes - how climate change adaptation can create better cities' ('Regnen kommer - hvordan klimatilpasning giver os bedre byer') went into detail about how we can use new ways to prepare our cities for the weather of the future. The exhibition reviewed both the historical background and the challenges we face now, in addition to showing a range of solutions which focus on the management of water in urban spaces in different ways.

Flooded basements have suddenly become something that a lot of people can relate to. Heavy rain is something that we have to get used to, and therefore adapt our cities to. How can this best be done? And can we also get a better city in the bargain when we adapt it to a changing climate? With the exhibition 'The rain comes - how climate change adaptation gives us better cities' visitors could learn about how in the future we avoid that our basements become swimming pools, and instead get some cities with recreational spaces that can handle the rain when it pours.

Partners:

Realdania, COWI, the Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management at the University of Copenhagen, the Danish Nature Agency, the Municipality of Copenhagen, Smith Innovation and Carlsberg Christensen.



The BYG Network - network

The BYG network aims to break down silos in the construction sector. In the network we believe that genuine development requires new perspectives and ideas. We find those by mixing profession and business types - builders, architects, engineers, manufacturers and contractors.

In the BYG network, professionals from all parts of the construction sector meet to come to grips with the challenges of the future. It happens both in open forums for all members, and in smaller groups where specific themes are worked on in detail. The objective is to challenge each other, create more innovation, and foster better cooperation across the sector.

Themes for events in 2015:

- *Network and green solutions, how can we together strengthen the green agenda?*
- *Growth and innovation in green solutions*
- *When green goes black*
- *Prefabrication and digital production*
- *Innovation in construction*

Partners:

COWI, Cementir Holding, the Technical University of Denmark, Årstidernes Arkitekter, the Environmental Protection Agency, Realdania.



SUSTAINABLE BUILD - innovation project

In 2015 the Danish Architecture Centre launched SUSTAINABLE BUILD, the purpose of which is to promote growth within the field of sustainable construction. Sustainable Build brings together the industry in an international innovation process where we identify challenges, develop solutions, and accelerate innovations. The project will also strengthen the Danish construction industry's competitiveness in a growing global market for sustainable construction and create fertile ground for the development of new products and business models.

Sustainable Build is a collaboration between the Danish Industry Foundation and the Danish Architecture Centre and is developed together with Leaderlab. The project stems from the Danish Industry Foundation's call for project ideas on the theme of sustainable production. Sustainable Build is realised in close cooperation with the construction sector's suppliers, builders, businesses and organisations.

Partners:

The project is a collaboration between the Danish Industry Foundation, the Danish Architecture Centre, and the Fund for Green Business Development and has been developed in cooperation with Leaderlab. Sustainable Build is realised through partnerships with NCC, the Central Denmark Region, PensionDanmark, Henning Larsen Arkitekter, DanSolar, Tarkett, Flügger, Kebony, Outrup Vinduer, Frøslev Træ, Rheinzink, Junckers, Eurotag, Wienerberger, Xella, The Architecture Project, Lendager Arkitekter, GenieBelt, KALK, Connovate, Green Building Council, abeo, AY Arcgency, bips, Vugge til Vugge (Cradle to Cradle), Advanced Nonwoven, DAKOFA, and the Export Council.

SBL - training of Danish city leaders

STRATEGIC URBAN MANAGEMENT is a comprehensive 3-year skills development programme with a focus on the strategic development and adaptation of cities. The focus is on city management in a time marked by green transition, globalisation, and the challenges of the welfare state in addition to building networks, both nationally and internationally.

STRATEGIC URBAN MANAGEMENT for directors is targeted at municipal managers, technical directors, development managers and the like. The 3-year course is a part of a long-term programme which also counts skill development courses for professional leaders and politicians. The latter two courses start at the beginning of 2016.

The intention is, through knowledge and network, to support and strengthen municipal managers with top level management responsibility for urban development in STRATEGIC URBAN MANAGEMENT and innovative urban development processes.

Partners:

Realdania, Kommunalteknisk Chefforening, Kommunaldirektørforeningen, the Danish Town Planning Institute.

Danish Architecture Centre's results

The Danish Architecture Centre works as an agenda-setting player involving, engaging, and informing citizens, professionals, and public policy makers. The topics which the Danish Architecture Centre deal with are current societal themes which have a long life and a broad impact. That is why the effects for the activities are aimed at the long term. The objectives and results of the activities are therefore a mix between a large dissemination of the messages, and to an even greater degree, the relevance of the activities' recipients, participants, and project partners.

Project

DK2050 - Scenarios for a greener Denmark



Result

The DK2050 project was realised in the form of

- The Architecture Biennale exhibition in Venice.
- Four reports containing scenarios for Denmark's urban regions' green transition towards 2050 as well as debate and active dissemination of these on a very broad scale.
- A study tour with a focus on adaptation towards climate change with participation of 19 representatives from 10 municipalities.
- Three camps have been completed with project participants and local theme days in eight municipalities where local challenges in relation to the green transition have been discussed.
- A large program with - among other things - eight debates and workshops with children and young people has been completed at the People's Meeting on Bornholm (Folkemødet).
- The biennial has been completed and an international debate about the scenarios in this context has been completed with the participation of a number of the project members.
- The final conference cobbled together the project's various elements and presented the results in a debate-generating forum where both politicians, experts, NGO's, project partners, and the private sector were present (in total 170 people attended). The conference contributed to creating debate about the dilemmas, barriers, and possibilities associated with the Danish city-regional geography and the development of the Danish cities going forward, in addition to which incentives (from the political side) are necessary if the government's goal of an environmentally sustainable society in 2050 is to be realised. The conference has also had the effect of raising awareness of the DK2050 project and the themes and scenarios the project is built on both in local, regional, and national media. All in all, the conference has been mentioned in various media 50 times. Additionally, the conference has contributed to creating a lively debate around growth potentials, challenges, and opportunities in the municipalities involved.
- Twitter activity on the Twitter account @DK2050 has 1,945 followers and a hashtag (#DK2050) which has been used almost 1000 times.

Project

The rain is coming - exhibition

Result

- Total visitors: 6,936
 - Five events for a professional audience: Two debate events with participation of, among others, Morten Kabell (KK) and Mette Mogensen (COWI), a bus ride with project lead Jan Rasmussen (KK), as well as two events for Sprout, 17 family workshops and an inspiration-evening for educators.
 - 13 public city tours with sustainability and climate change adaptation as the theme.
 - A building workshop for children with the characteristic white LEGO Architecture blocks. The theme for the workshop was 'Play LEGO Architect - Build a city under water' and was therefore tied to the exhibit 'The rain comes'. In total there were nine days with building workshops with on average 72 participants per day. Participants: In total 650.
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Project

BYG Network - Network



Result

The BYG/BUILD network started up in 2015 and has already seen a massive participation from across the construction industry. This year there have been held four events while network representatives also attended a conference and the 2015 People's Meeting (Folkemødet) on Bornholm.

Members from the industry:

KUBEN BYG, CPHInvest, Danish Association of Construction Clients (DACC), Danish Building & Property Agency, Realdania, Grundejernes Investeringsfond (Landowner's Investment Fund), DTU campus service, Frederiksberg Municipality/Construction and Architecture, COWI, Esbensen, Hansen Carlsen og Frølund, LE34, Aarhus University School of Engineering, Orbicon, Gottlieb Paludan, REFORM, Arcgency, ZESO, Lendager Arkitekter, PLH Arkitekter, Dall & Lindhardttsen, Elkiær + Ebbeskov arkitekter, EEN TIL ÉN, Friis & Moltke, Årstiderne Arkitekter, schmidt/hammer/lassen architects, UNICON, GreenPipe, Dow Corning, BIM EQUITY, Frederiksberg Vinduet, Troldekt, RadiatorDesign, VELFAC, RHEINZINK Danmark, Taasinge Elementer, Kvadrat Soft Cells, Best-AV A/S, BIPS, BARBA, BYG ERFA, LØB, the Advisory Committee for Sustainable and Eco-friendly Construction, Ib Johansen, InnoBYG, MiljøforumFyn (Funen Environmental Forum), The Ecological Council, Foreningen for Bæredygtige Byer (Association for Sustainable Cities), Green Building Council Denmark, Sustainovation, The Danish Construction Association, The Danish Federation of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, DI BYG, Gate21

Project**Result****SUSTAINABLE BUILD**

SUSTAINABLE BUILD ends in 2017 and in November 2015 the first major event, Build UP, was held with a focus on the challenges for sustainable construction. The event had 40 participants from across the industry.

Project**Result****SBL - Training of Danish city leaders**

Throughout 2015, Strategic Urban Management has held eight seminars and two study trips, totalling 143 participants. In total, 54 different municipalities have participated in a competence development programme overseen by Strategic Urban Management.

The Danish Architecture Centre (DAC) is Denmark's national centre for the development and dissemination of knowledge about architecture, building and urban development. The DAC's core funding is provided by a public-private partnership between Realdania and the Danish government. The government is represented by: the Danish Ministry for Business and Growth, the Danish Ministry of Culture and the Danish Ministry of Transport and Building.