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UN GLOBAL COMPACT 2015

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# COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS

**AART** / architects



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## AART ARCHITECTS

We are a progressive community of architects, designers and construction managers working in the field of architecture, from designing buildings and public spaces to working on large-scale urban planning. Established in 2000, we are now a dedicated Nordic community, with offices in Aarhus, Copenhagen and Oslo, currently contributing to the development of over 500,000 m<sup>2</sup> in the Nordic countries. Since our establishment, we have gained international recognition for developing architecture that opens up opportunities for people and for businesses across the residential, educational, cultural, health and commercial sectors.





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## WE OPEN UP OPPORTUNITIES

We strongly believe that buildings and public spaces should open up opportunities for people and for businesses and provide people the opportunities to live better lives and give companies the best settings for sharing knowledge, or to help educational institutions engage children and cultural institutions by creating captivating experiences for young and elderly alike.

Therefore, we aim to move beyond just style to explore the ways in which the built environment can open up opportunities for better living, learning and working for everyone. For us architecture is not just a matter of a certain style, but more importantly it's a matter of seeing opportunities, shaping them and giving people and businesses the perfect setting for bringing the spaces to life. This is at the heart of everything we do. This is how we make a difference for people and for businesses.

We approach every task with curiosity and responsiveness, just as we work with ambitious partners to see and explore opportunities. Rather than using predefined styles or methods, we engage with and become involved in each project. We listen to people, analyse the context and put our creative talents to work as we explore the opportunities each project holds. Based on this exploration, we take a holistic approach to each project in our desire to balance interests: socially, functionally, environmentally and commercially.



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***“We keep challenging everything we know and shape this insight into architectural solutions that open up opportunities for people and for businesses. This is at the heart of everything we do. We are opportunity makers at heart.”***

Torben Skovbjerg Larsen  
Partner / CEO



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## WE SUPPORT THE GLOBAL COMPACT

In our desire to open up opportunities for better living, learning and working for everyone, regardless of age, gender, disability or the like, we have joined the United Nations Global Compact, which is the largest voluntary corporate social responsibility initiative in the world.

As a member, we are proud to commit our strategies and operations with the United Nations principles in the areas of human rights, labour rights, environment and anti-corruption. By doing this and promoting the principles within our sphere of influence, we take part in improving the quality of life and the health of the environment.

In this Communication on Progress, we express our continuing commitment to supporting advances in the building industry in ways that benefit everyday life, the economy and the environment. The purpose of this publication is thus to give our stakeholders and the wider community an insight into how we promote and have implemented corporate social responsibility in our core business.



*Torben Skovbjerg Larsen*  
*Partner / CEO*



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## WE BELIEVE IN TRANSPARENCY

We joined the United Nations Global Compact in 2008 to be part of the partnership between UN with the objective of promoting transparency and social commitment in the international business community. This report is our fifth Communication on Progress in which we commit ourselves to all four areas of the Global Compact: Human Rights, Labour Rights, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

Our Communication on Progress 2015 is uploaded to the website of the United Nations Global Compact. It will also be available on our own website, just like it will be a natural part of how we present our company internally and in the media. Thus, we attach great importance to communicate our sustainable visions and values to all our stakeholders – ranging from our clients and employees to the building industry in general.



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# WE COMBINE PEOPLE, PLANET AND PROFIT

We support all four areas of the Global Compact: Human Rights, Labour Rights, Environment and Anti-Corruption. However, we have interpreted these four areas and combined them into the triple bottom line: People, Planet and Profit.

The first (People) includes Human Rights and Labour Rights and focuses on our socially responsible approach to developing buildings and public spaces. The second (Planet) includes Environment and focuses on our environmentally approach, while the third (Profit) includes Anti-Corruption and focuses on our aim to lead the development of a more transparent and economically sustainable building industry.

## PEOPLE

We believe that buildings and public spaces should empower people to live safer, healthier and more meaningful lives. Therefore, we support the United Nations universal principles concerning human and labour rights.



In 2015, we completed the new and extended Musholm, which sets new standards for accessible architecture.

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### Principle 1

Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights.

### Principle 2

Businesses should make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

### Principle 3

Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining.

### Principle 4

Businesses should uphold the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour.

### Principle 5

Businesses should uphold the effective abolition of child labour.

### Principle 6

Businesses should uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.



## PLANET

We believe that buildings and public spaces should have a positive impact on the environment. Especially, because the environment is the field where we as architects can make the greatest difference, since the energy consumption of buildings taking into account the whole life cycle is responsible for 40% of total EU energy consumption. Therefore, we support the United Nations universal principles concerning the environment.



In 2015, we completed the new headquarters for Borregaard, which is one the world's most sustainable biorefineries.

## PROFIT

We believe that investments and enterprises should be powerful forces for good. Therefore, we support the United Nations Convention Against Corruption and its universal principle concerning anti-corruption, just like an open and respectful relationship to our clients, collaborators, employees and the wider community is at the heart of everything we do.



We create architecture that shows how businesses can be financially successful while creating social impact.

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### Principle 7

Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges.

### Principle 8

Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility.

### Principle 9

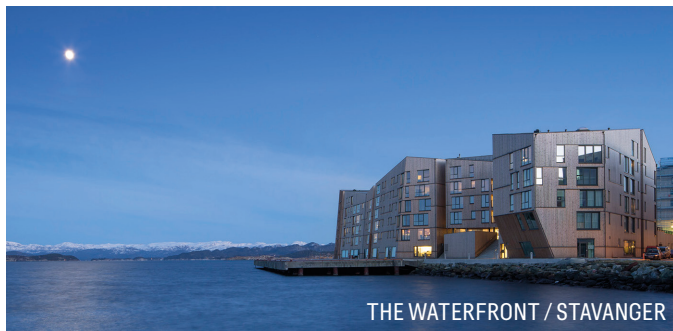
Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

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### Principle 10

Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.





THE WATERFRONT / STAVANGER



MULTICULTURAL CENTER / SØNDERBORG



THE CULTURE YARD / HELSINGØR



VUC SYD / HADERSLEV



HINDSGAVL NATURE CENTER / MIDDELFART



THE VICTORIA SCHOOL / SKARA



MUSHOLM / KORSØR



INSPIRIA SCIENCE CENTER / GRAALUM



HOME FOR LIFE / AARHUS



SLETTEN / RY



BKUBEN STUDENT RESIDENCE / COPENHAGEN



HEALTH CENTRE / COPENHAGEN



We believe that buildings and public spaces should open up opportunities for people and for businesses. On the following pages, we have gathered some of our latest and most exciting projects that encapsulate this approach in their very own ways – ranging from one of the world's most accessible sports resorts to a mixed-use development shaped by the shared economy and a hospital at the forefront of healing architecture.





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# MUSHOLM

– ONE OF THE WORLD’S MOST ACCESSIBLE SPORTS RESORTS



Located by the Danish coastline, just an hour drive from Copenhagen, Musholm challenges the traditional notion of accessible architecture with a view to becoming the preferred sports resort for people with any type of handicap – both in Denmark and abroad. Designed as one of the world's most innovative sports resorts for people with disabilities, Musholm has been designed to do wonders for people and the tourism in the region. It does so by combining design and architecture into a unique experience that engages the guests and shows how businesses can be financially successful while creating social impact.





## LOCATION

Korsør / Denmark

## STATUS

Completed in 2015

## SIZE

3,200 m<sup>2</sup>

## DEVELOPER

The Musholm Foundation

## ARCHITECT

AART architects

## COLLABORATORS

MOE / D & N  
BSAA UrbanLAB  
Keingart / Bexcom



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# THE WAREHOUSES

## – A NEW KIND OF DEVELOPMENT SHAPED BY THE SHARED ECONOMY



The Warehouses are being built as the first combined residential and commercial development on the new harbourfront of Aarhus, Denmark. The Warehouses stands out by exploiting the potential of the rapidly growing shared economy. By combining residential and commercial units in new ways, it has been designed as a distinctive and diverse development that oozes of life every day – from early morning to late in the evening. It rethinks the neighbourliness between businesses and residents and allow them to share a wide range of facilities, including fitness facilities, meeting facilities, a canteen and a public roof terrace; all with a focus on creating architecture that opens up opportunities for businesses, residents and the city in general.





## LOCATION

Aarhus / Denmark

## STATUS

Under construction

## SIZE

35,000 m<sup>2</sup>

## PROJECT OWNER

Havneinvest

## ARCHITECT

AART architects

## ENGINEER

MOE



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# STAVANGER UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

## – AT THE FOREFRONT OF HEALING ARCHITECTURE



In addition to serving 330,000 citizens and 7,300 employees, the new university hospital has been designed to provide space for research and treatment facilities and to be at the forefront of healing architecture. These objectives are carried out in scenic surroundings in Ullandhaug south of Stavanger, which enhances the patients' ability to recover. The interaction with nature is a recurring element in the design of the hospital. By merging urban and recreational qualities, patients and their families experience the hospital as a garden city that offers an abundance of daylight and fresh air. Thus, the hospital meets the patients' needs through everything from the choice of materials to the close interaction between indoors and outdoors.





## LOCATION

Stavanger / Norway

## STATUS

Under development

## SIZE

200,000 m<sup>2</sup>

## DEVELOPER

Helse Stavanger

## ARCHITECTS

AART architects / Nordic

## COLLABORATORS

SLA / Cowi / Aas-Jakobsen







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## PHOTO CREDITS

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