

UN GLOBAL COMPACT 2016

# COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS

AART/architects





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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

4	AART architects
4	Opportunity makers
7	Global Compact
7	Transparency
8	Sustainia Living
10	People, planet and profit
13	Projects with perspectives



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# AART ARCHITECTS

AART architects is an award-winning architectural firm with Danish roots and Nordic reach. From our offices in Aarhus, Copenhagen and Oslo we provide highly specialised advice on architecture of every conceivable scale, from buildings and public spaces to entire master plans – always based on close dialogue with developers, users and business associates.

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## OPPORTUNITY MAKERS

We strongly believe that architecture is all about exploring, challenging and developing the environment we all share, so it can provide us with the opportunity to live healthier, smarter and more connected lives. This is the essence of everything we do.

We, thus, make a virtue of exploring how contemporary life constantly evolves and changes – always with a view on combining the unexpected and spotting the unseen opportunities that deliver beyond people's expectations. So, rather than being architects, we work as opportunity makers across traditional disciplines.



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***We keep challenging everything we know and shape this insight into architectural solutions that provide people with the opportunities to live healthier, smarter and more connected lives.***

Torben Skovbjerg Larsen  
Partner / CEO









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# GLOBAL COMPACT

In our desire to provide people with the opportunities to live healthier, smarter and more connected lives, we have joined the UN 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 UN 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 report, 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 report 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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# TRANSPARENCY

We joined the UN Global Compact in 2008 to be part of the partnership between the UN with the objective of promoting transparency and social commitment in the global business community. This is our sixth Communication on Progress report 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 report 2016 is uploaded to the website of the UN 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. We attach great importance to communicate our sustainable ambitions to all our stakeholders – employees, developers, business associates and the wider building industry.



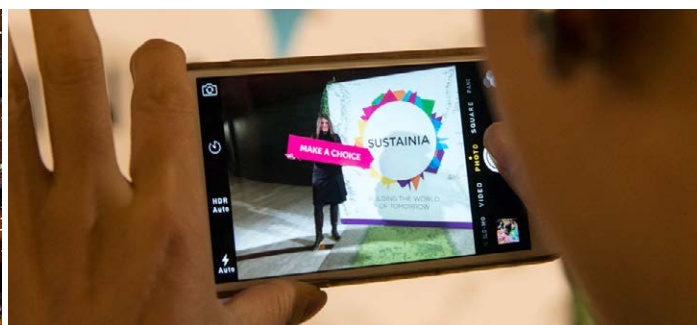
# SUSTAINIA LIVING

*We are proud to be one of the leading partners and lifestyle pioneers in Sustainia Living: a global movement whose mission is to turn Denmark into a global lab exploring how a nation can turn the 17 UN Global Sustainable Development Goals into a new model for the world of tomorrow and of how sustainability can reinvent what competitiveness is all about.*

*Sustainia Living was launched the 8th of February in the Royal Danish Opera House. At the launch, we and other lifestyle pioneers shared our stories of how sustainable innovations create new opportunities and business ventures. These stories all have one thing in common: they highlight how some of the biggest global risks can be turned into sustainable lifestyle opportunities.*



Royal Danish Opera House  
Sustainia Living / 8th of February







*Architecture can provide new perspectives on how to build better lives and make the UN Sustainable Development Goals relevant for the average consumer, according to Anders Tyrrestrup, partner and CIO.*

**— What does commitment to sustainability mean to AART architects, and how does it create value?**

Sustainability is more than just a commitment, it is an integral part of our business, as we strongly believe buildings and public spaces should provide people with the opportunities to live healthier and more sustainable lives. This is at the heart of everything we do. We work with architecture to provide new perspectives on how to build better lives – all with a focus on showing that buildings and public spaces can benefit the young and elderly alike, while at the same time reducing our environmental impact. Thus, we want to show that sustainability is not about making compromises; it's about enriching people's lives. This is how we create value for our stakeholders and society in general.

**— How can AART architects help the 17 Sustainable Development Goals to become “a people's agenda”?**

Many take for granted the impact architecture has in our lives – but, in reality, nearly every moment of every day is influenced by it. We are constantly inside and surrounded by buildings. Alongside this, we should consider that buildings account for about 40% of the energy used globally. Thus, architecture offers a unique opportunity to help the Sustainable Development Goals become relevant for the average consumer. Architecture is all about setting the stage for our lives. It is about building the world we want to see for ourselves and for our children – socially, sustainably, and aesthetically.



Anders Tyrrestrup  
Partner / CIO

**— Towards 2030 what will be the biggest sustainability challenges for AART architects and the sector you operate in?**

Developing 360-degree sustainable solutions and documenting their impact is our main goal – and an ongoing key challenge. We continuously strive to make sustainability attractive and accessible for everyone, from our clients or the actual users of our buildings and public spaces, and to succeed with this we must constantly strive to develop projects that bring together the “hard” economic values with the “soft” social and environmental values.

**— How can Denmark become the global frontrunner in sustainable quality of life and lifestyle products?**

For many years, Denmark has been known as an innovation leader within several industries that have a significant sustainable impact. However, ongoing globalization and digitalization continue to disrupt many traditional industries. Thus, to stay in front, Denmark must promote new kinds of partnerships and new ways of sharing knowledge – and Sustainia Living is an excellent example of how to transcend traditional barriers and give like-minded partners a common setting for exploring the sustainable opportunities of tomorrow.



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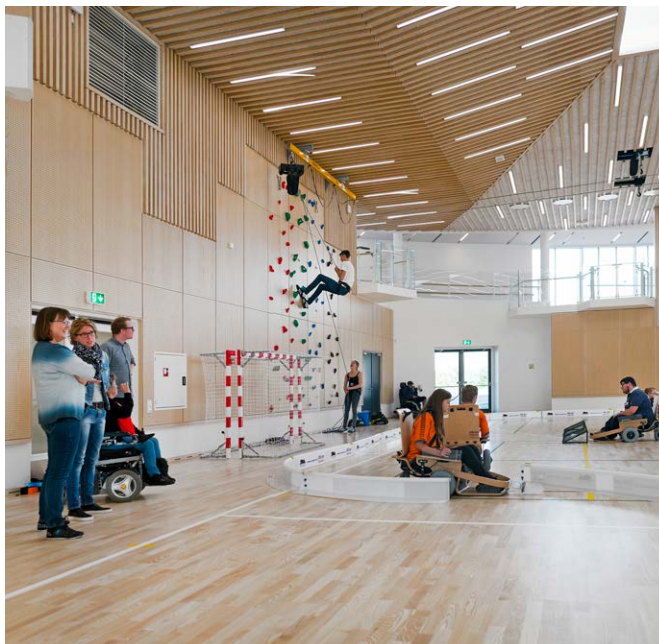
# PEOPLE, PLANET AND PROFIT

We support all four areas of the UN 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 healthier, smarter and more connected lives. Therefore, we support the UN universal principles concerning human and labour rights.



Our design for the holiday centre Musholm received the 2016 IAUD Award, acknowledging the world's most socially sustainable places.

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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. The environment is the field where we as architects can make the greatest difference, since the energy consumption of buildings is responsible for 40 percent of global energy consumption. Therefore, we support the UN universal principles concerning the environment.



Our winning proposal for the new Aarhus University Campus shows how adaptive reuse can reduce the material consumption in architecture.

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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.

## PROFIT

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



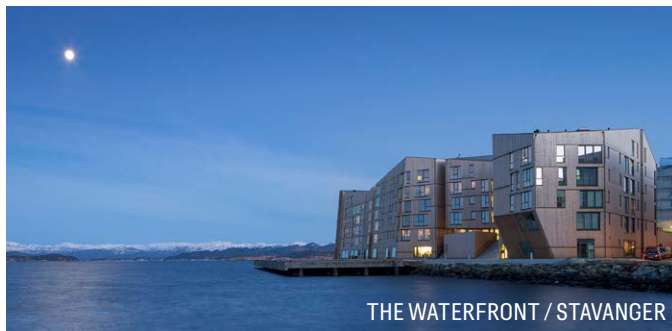
We provide architectural advice on how businesses can be financially successful while creating social impact.

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### Principle 10

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





THE WATERFRONT / STAVANGER



CAMPUS FOR AARHUS UNIVERSITY / AARHUS



THE CULTURE YARD / HELSINGØR



VUC SYD / HADERSLEV



HINDSGAVL NATURE CENTER / MIDDELFART



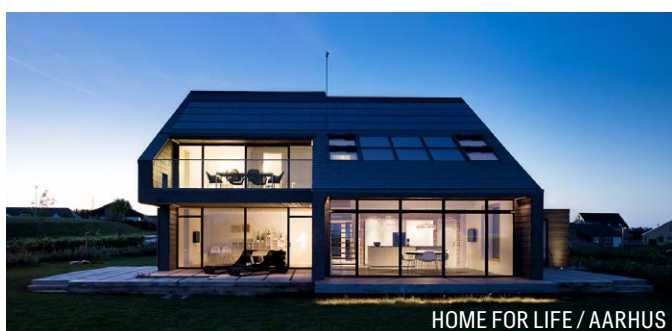
OLD BERGEN MUSEUM / BERGEN



MUSHOLM / KORSØR



INSPIRIA SCIENCE CENTER / GRAALUM



HOME FOR LIFE / AARHUS



THE WAREHOUSES / AARHUS



VIKING AGE MUSEUM / OSLO



NICOLINEHUS / AARHUS



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## PROJECTS WITH PERSPECTIVES

On the following pages, we have gathered some of our latest and most exciting projects that encapsulate our sustainable ambitions in their very own ways – ranging from a terraced building landscape in a new Danish port district to a Norwegian learning venue acknowledged as one of the world's most sustainable projects.





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# ON THE DRAWING BOARD









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## CAMPUS FOR AARHUS UNIVERSITY

*The whole objective is to enrich the story of Aarhus – on both the national and international level – as a vibrant, attractive university city for the benefit of students, researchers, citizens and companies.*



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### FACTS

LOCATION	Aarhus / Denmark
SIZE	110,000 m <sup>2</sup>
STATUS	2017 / Winning proposal
DEVELOPER	FEAS
ARCHITECT	AART architects
LANDSCAPE	Møller & Grønberg

The development plan paves the way for new prospects, which will transform Aarhus Municipal Hospital into a new campus for Aarhus University.

The campus will be one of the most characterful adaptive reuse built environments in Denmark with a unique homogeneity in terms of geometry and materials.



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## NICOLINEHUS

*Nicolinehus has drawn inspiration from the old residential blocks of the city centre, rethinking the concept of a courtyard framed by flats and adapting it to suit the life and weather conditions of the waterfront.*



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### FACTS

LOCATION	Aarhus / Denmark
SIZE	37,000 m <sup>2</sup>
STATUS	2016 / Winning proposal
DEVELOPER	Bricks
ARCHITECT	AART architects
LANDSCAPE	Schønher

Nicolinehus is a new mixed-use development in the heart of the new port district of Aarhus – shaped by the pulse of the city centre and merging with life on the waterfront.

The development features a staggered design created to adapt to the changing light and weather conditions of its waterfront location.



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# AWARD-WINNING PROJECTS









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## MUSHOLM

*The new and extended Musholm challenges the traditional notion of accessible architecture with a view to becoming the preferred sports and holiday resort for people with any type of handicap – both in Denmark and abroad.*



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### FACTS

LOCATION	Korsør / Denmark
SIZE	3,200 m <sup>2</sup>
STATUS	2015 / Completed
DEVELOPER	The Musholm Foundation
ARCHITECTS	AART architects
AWARD	IUAD Award

The new and extended Musholm recieved the Grand Award at the 2016 IUAD Awards in Nagoya, Japan.

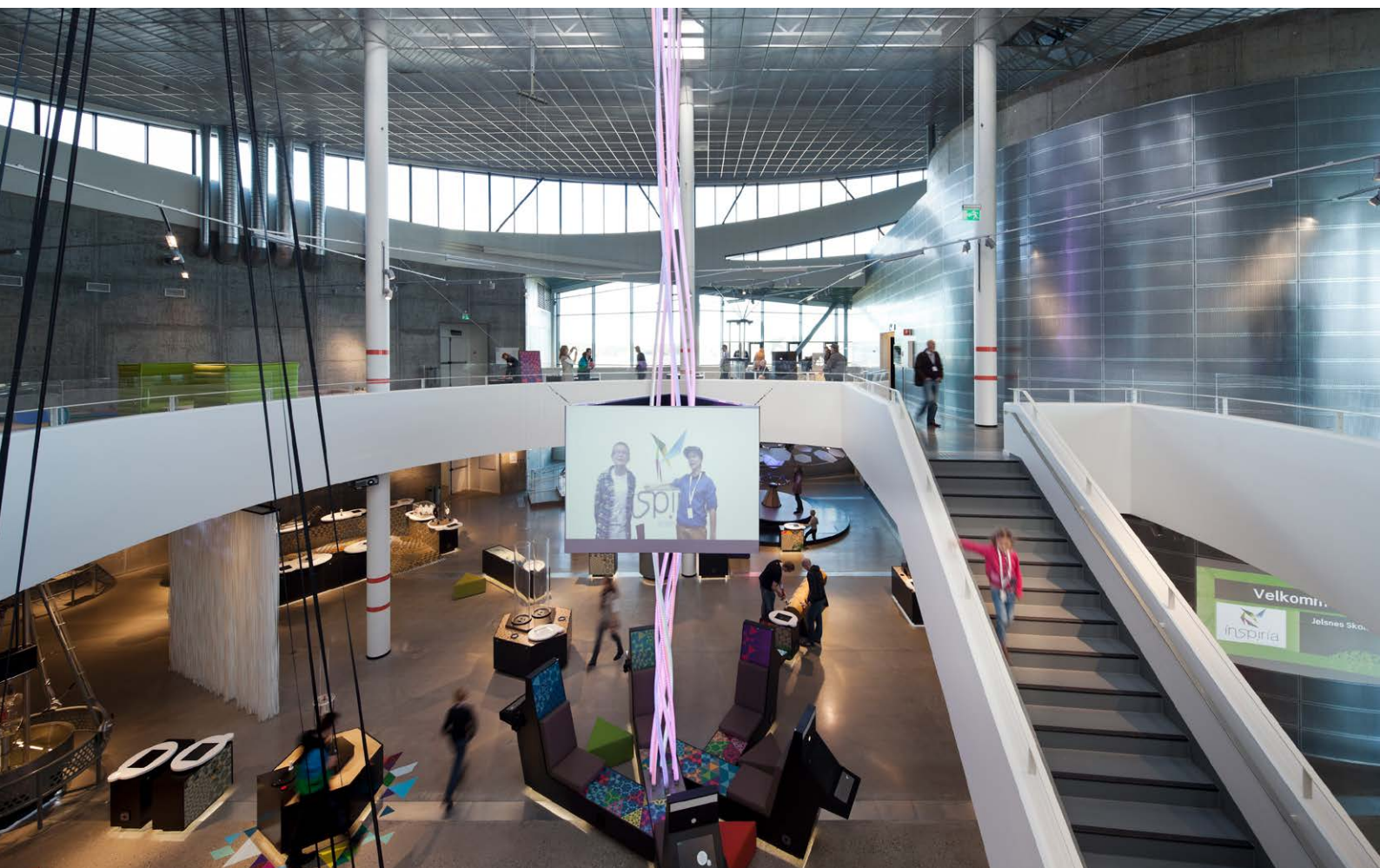
With the award the International Association of Universal Design honours the world's most inspiring places that help build a better life for everyone regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, or disability.



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## INSPIRIA SCIENCE CENTER

*Inspiria Science Center combines learning and architecture into an eventful venue with a high educative value. Designed with school children in mind, the venue inspires and educates through 70 interactive exhibitions.*



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### FACTS

LOCATION	Graalum / Norway
SIZE	7,000 m <sup>2</sup>
STATUS	2011 / Completed
DEVELOPER	Inspiria Eiendom
ARCHITECTS	AART architects
AWARDS	Iconic Award / Prime Property Award / Arnstein Arneberg Award / Østfold Universal Design Award

Inspiria Science Center was one of three finalists when the 2016 Energy Globe World Award was awarded in connection with the UN Climate Change Conference in Marrakesh, Morocco.

The Energy Globe World Award is the world's largest environmental prize, honouring sustainable best practice projects across various industries.













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