Global Compact 2021





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We aspire to the highest standard in everything we do. Driven by the vocation that great architecture generates lasting and positive change, we combine intelligent solutions with exceptional experiences that appeal to the senses and mind.

About Us

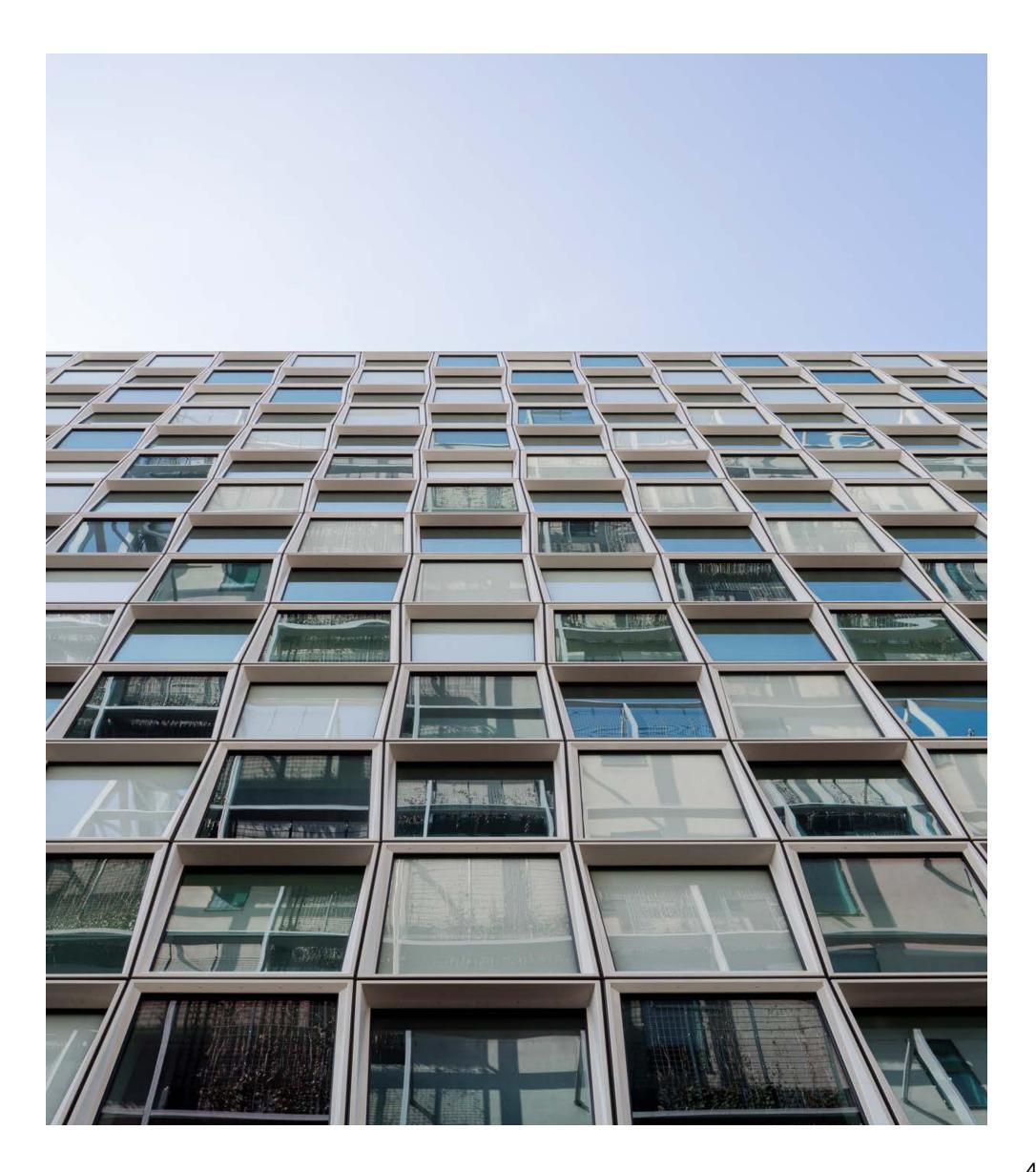
Schmidt Hammer Lassen is a Danish architecture firm with offices in Copenhagen, Aarhus, and Shanghai. SHL's design approach is rooted in the studio's DNA as a multicultural collective that works globally but has an inherent Scandinavian legacy. The tradition of human-centric architecture with social and environmental sustainability is ingrained in the work. It shapes architecture that values democracy, welfare, openness, equality, and influence beyond Scandinavian borders.

The studio provides skilled architectural services globally, with a distinguished track record as a designer of international, highprofile architecture. Cultural and educational buildings, offices, commercial, retail, and residential buildings are cornerstones of the firm's output. Our projects are often set within mixed-use developments and complex urban contexts.

The firm's innovative, sustainable, and democratic approach to architecture has attracted global attention, winning more than 100 national and international awards.

Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects has supported the UN Global Compact initiative since 2008 and is a member of the Global Compact Network Denmark.

We submit COP #11 in November 2021. The COP will be available on the UN Global Compact website and on our website www.shl.dk.



Statement of Support



For more than 30 years, Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects has provided excellent architectural services globally. Today, we work on four continents with the overall goal to optimize and improve existing standards for building design and construction.

Now, more than ever, the environmental and social impact of construction demands our attention.

We believe that social, environmental, and economic sustainability are underpinnings of good design and perceive sustainability as a creative challenge. Rather than satisfying benchmarks, we work holistically with goal setting at the core of our practice.

In acknowledgement of the substantial influence and responsibility of the building industry, Schmidt Hammer Lassen signed the Nordic Built Charter and The Charter of the Danish Association for Responsible Construction. We also incorporate elements of the RIBA Sustainable Outcomes Guide into our architectural design process.

Since 2008, we have supported the Global Compact initiative. The principles constitute an essential policy

frame for our CSR approach. We are members of the Global Compact Network Denmark and part of the important agenda of working together on "making global goals local business."

In our COP 2021, we report on initiatives taken and achievements attained. We also present selected architectural projects that add documented value and positive change to people, places, and communities.

The Partner Group Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects November 2021

The UN Global Compact

Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects joined the UN Global Compactinitiative in 2008. Global Compact is the world's largest voluntary CSR initiative; it initiates and supports corporate operational and strategic focus on social responsibility. This important initiative was started in 2000 under the leadership of then Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

The overall goal is to actively commit companies to tackle significant social, economic, and

environmental challenges that follow globalization. Global Compact has grown into an extensive international network of more than 12,000 signatories from over 170 countries.

The Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact constitute the core of the stated objectives and cover four key areas: human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption.





Human Rights

Principle 1

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

Principle 2

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

Labour Standards

Principle 3

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

Principle 4

the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5

the effective abolition of child labour; and

Principle 6

the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Environment

Principle 7

Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8

undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and

Principle 9

encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

Anti-Corruption

Principle 10

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

We Support

The UN Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, leaders from 193 countries came together to commit to ending poverty, combating climate change, and fighting injustice by adopting a new global set of measurable Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The UN Global Compact is committed to be a leading catalyst of this agenda – based on the sound values and principles that the UN Global Compact is built upon. Schmidt Hammer Lassen are member of the recently established Global Compact Network Denmark devoted to "making global goals local business."

The RIBA Sustainable Outcomes Guide

The RIBA Sustainable Outcomes Guide defines a concise, measurable set of core sustainable outcomes and associated metrics corresponding to key UN SDGs. RIBA identified eight sustainable outcomes that all buildings contribute to.

The RIBA sustainable outcomes include:

- Net-zero operational carbon
- Net-zero embodied carbon
- · Sustainable water cycle
- Sustainable connectivity and transport
- Sustainable land use and biodiversity
- Good health and wellbeing
- Sustainable communities and social value
- Sustainable life cycle cost

We map the RIBA sustainability goals against our architectural projects to reflect upon our approach. We

explore sustainability goals before commencing design projects and instate focused reviews that reflect on our implementation of UN SDGs within our design workflow.

Debate about the future of housing and urban development

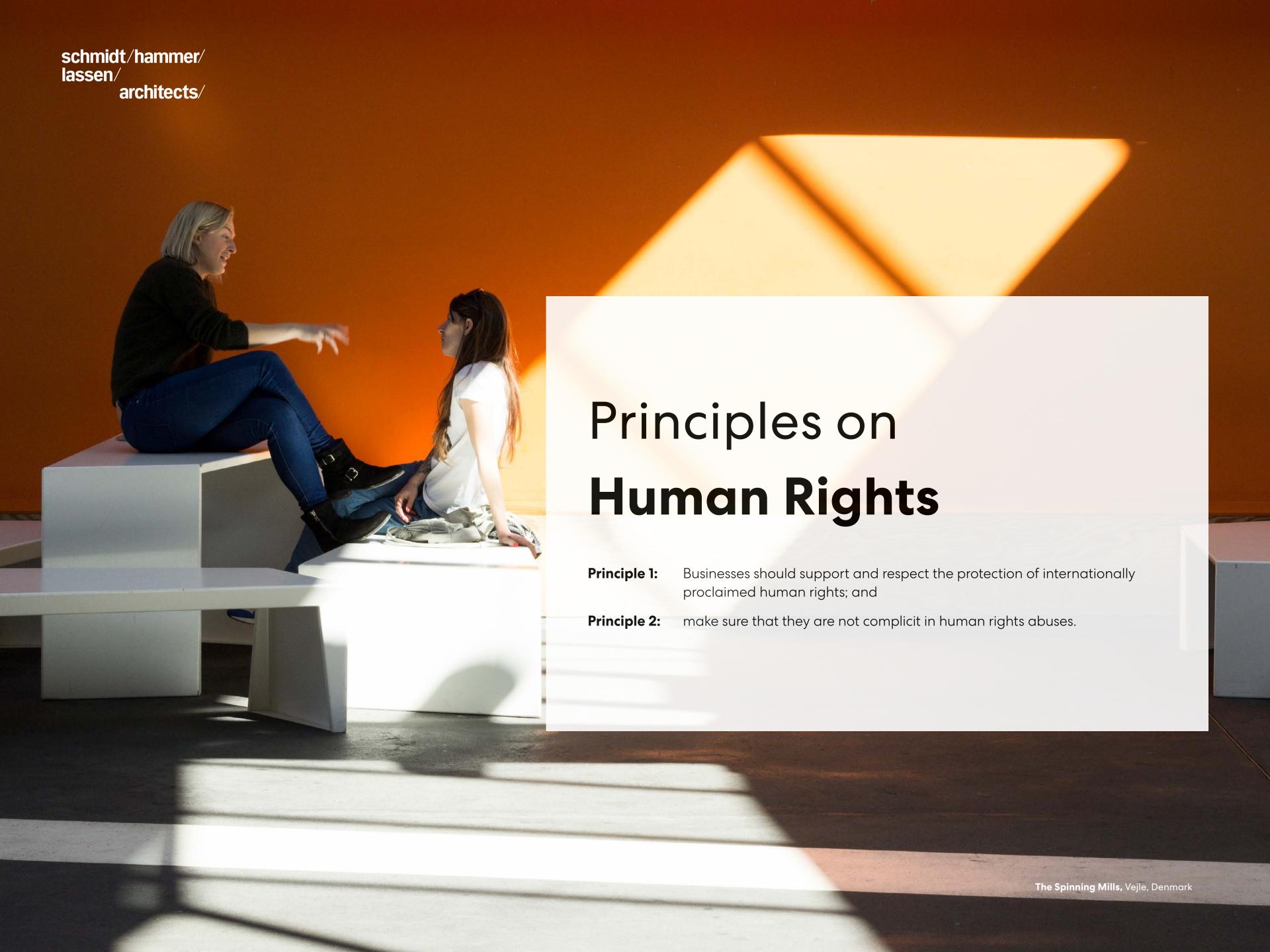
In 2019, our Copenhagen studio hosted "Fremtidens boligpolitik og byudvikling," a debate about the future of housing policies and urban development in Denmark with Denmark's Building and Housing Minister, Kaare Dybvad; Marius Møller, Director of Pension Danmark; Camilla Van Deurs, the new City Architect for the City of Copenhagen and previous Masterplan and Landscape Architecture Leader at Gehl; Anders Bo Bach, Director of Bach Gruppen København and Kristian Ahlmark, Partner and Design Director at Schmidt Hammer Lassen.

Some of the larger Danish cities have evolved from being welfare cities to prosperous urban areas, where fewer people have the opportunity to live. It is a global phenomenon that has hit Denmark and calls into questioning our understanding of the city as a common space. Prosperous cities and the increasing spatial disparities between living standards and welfare have created a heated debate involving citizens, politicians, planners, and architects. There is a broad consensus that a diverse city is best for the cohesion of society, but how do we achieve the creation of diverse cities when prices have skyrocketed in the recent decades? Who is responsible for the urban development and what role do architects play in creating inclusive cities for everyone?

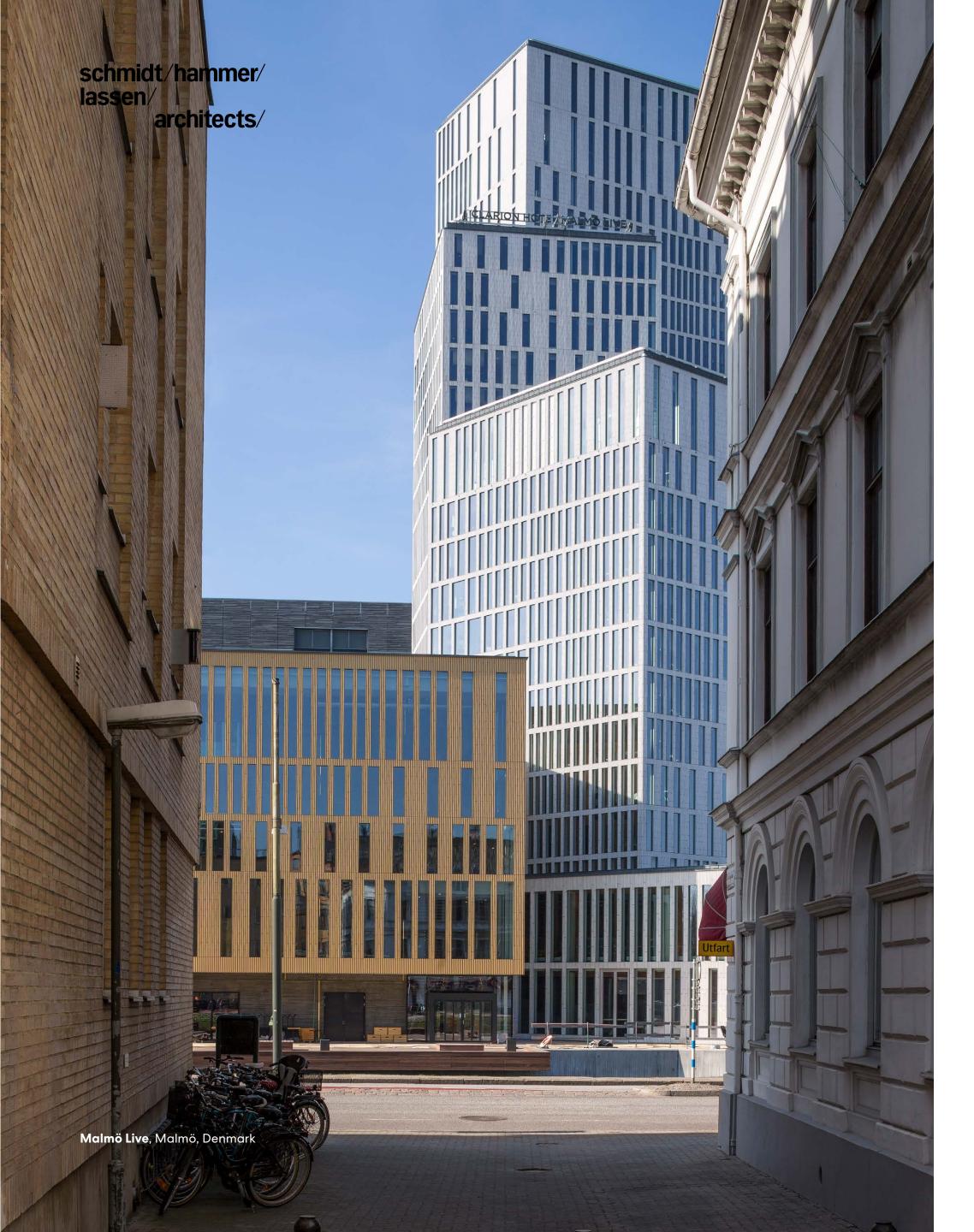
Schmidt Hammer Lassen added to the conversation around the responsibility of every player in the industry to create a brighter housing policy for future generations, as well as the government's agenda to promote good and affordable housing for everyone.







schmidt/hammer/ lassen/ architects/ **Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects** supports the United Nations' Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the UN Global Development Goals. We work in compliance with Danish legislation, which meets international conventions on human rights. The International Criminal Court, The Hauge, The Netherlands

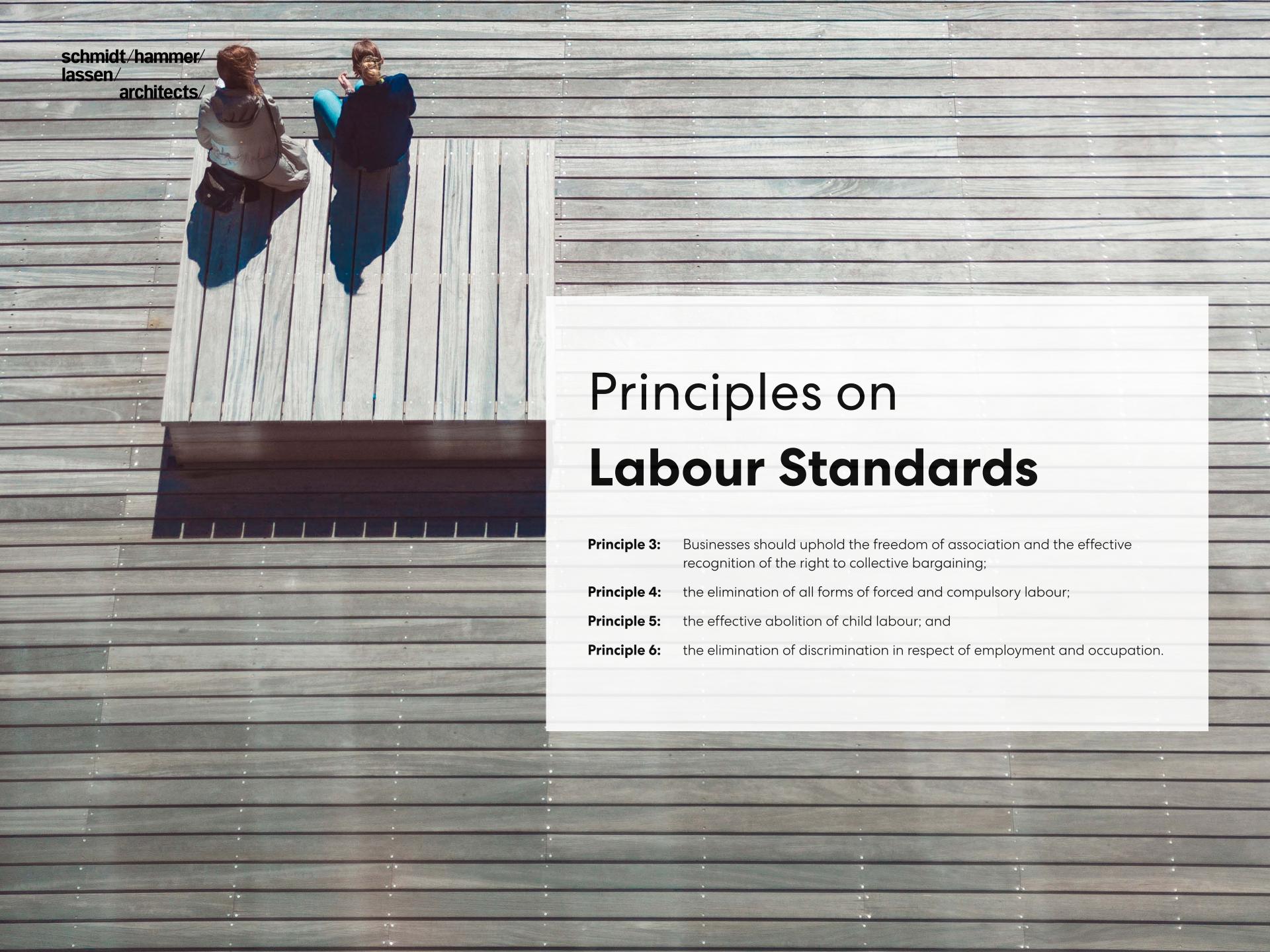


Danish Charter supports CSR in the construction sector

Schmidt Hammer Lassen joined the Danish Association for Responsible Construction in 2014. The association's objective is to develop and promote social responsibility in the Danish property and construction sector based on a charter of six principles.

- 1. We systematically assess whether we are observing the principles of the Charter in the projects in which we are involved
- 2. We assess how collaboration partners and suppliers manage social responsibility
- 3. We establish dialogue with collaboration partners and stakeholders
- 4. We work for sustainable solutions
- 5. We have sound employment and working conditions
- b. We demonstrate independence and anti-corruption practices

By signing the Charter, Schmidt Hammer Lassen declare our support to the six principles. We believe that cross-disciplinary collaboration will only help strengthen social responsibility within the building sector and support and inspire good practice.



People & Organization



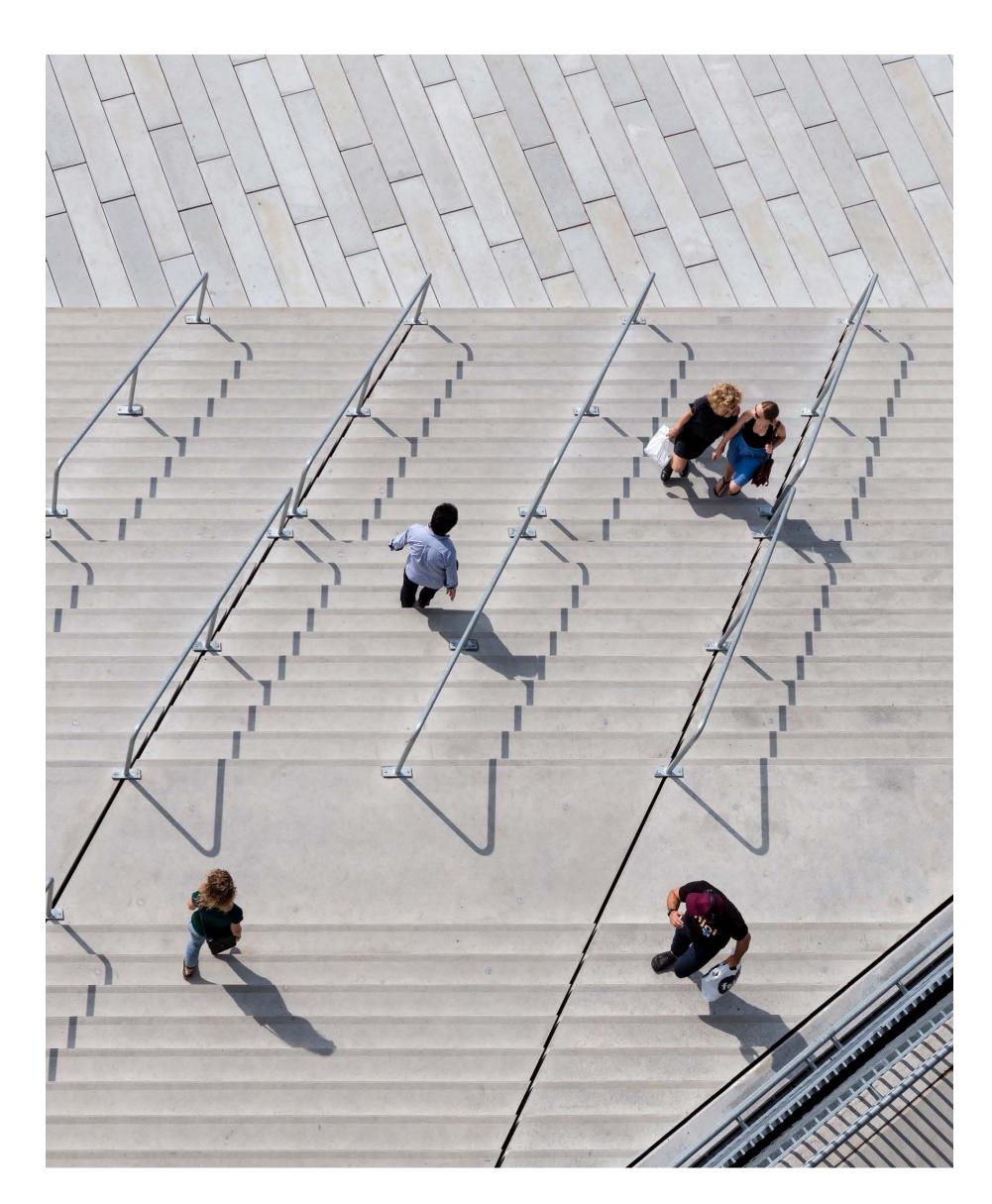
Labour Standards

At Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects, we depend on staff members' performance to successfully create and deliver modern, holistic, and sustainable architectural solutions for a diverse and international group of private and public clients. Attracting, retaining, developing, and ensuring the health and safety of our staff is crucial to organisational development and a top priority in the strategic management teams' ongoing efforts to realise the visions of our practice.

The Scandinavian countries are by definition attending to secure labour rights and conditions of any staff members through collective agreements and state-imposed

regulations concerning employee safeguarding. Additionally, Schmidt Hammer Lassen engages in several specifically selected and designed activities to uphold and extend these rights and continuously improve conditions for all staff members.

In Denmark, a collective agreement is in place and applicable to the majority of the organisation's staff members. The Danish collective agreement does not cover minor project offices, but the organisation has made significant efforts to create comparable conditions. National rules and regulations in force on the non-Danish office sites are followed with rigour.



A Democratic Workplace

Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects highly values the wellbeing of staff members. Three dedicated committees are in place to ensure that we comply with defined goals and follow procedures. The strategic management participates actively and cooperatively in this work alongside staff elected representatives.

The Health & Safety Committee takes precautionary measures against any form of counterproductive physical and non-physical working conditions, including preventing any labour-related accidents.

The Collaboration Committee ensures a positive working environment and engages in dialogue with union representatives about organisational development and adjustment to foster employee commitment and retention.

The Continuing Education Committee organises and administers the organisation's strategic engagements concerning staff member training and professional development.

We communicate general work conditions, benefits, rules, and regulations in the SHL Staff Handbook, which we hand out when welcoming a new colleague – alongside a well-planned onboarding program.

Work Environment Individual Development

A mandatory and well-planned Employee Development Dialogue/ EDD is held annually for all staff members and their managers. This valuable session focuses on motivation, job satisfaction, continuing professional development, and career development.

The outcome of the EDD and goals for future development are implemented in our system for professional development in collaboration with the manager. Additionally, an annual salary negation is held with every employee together with a status EDD and check-ins when needed.

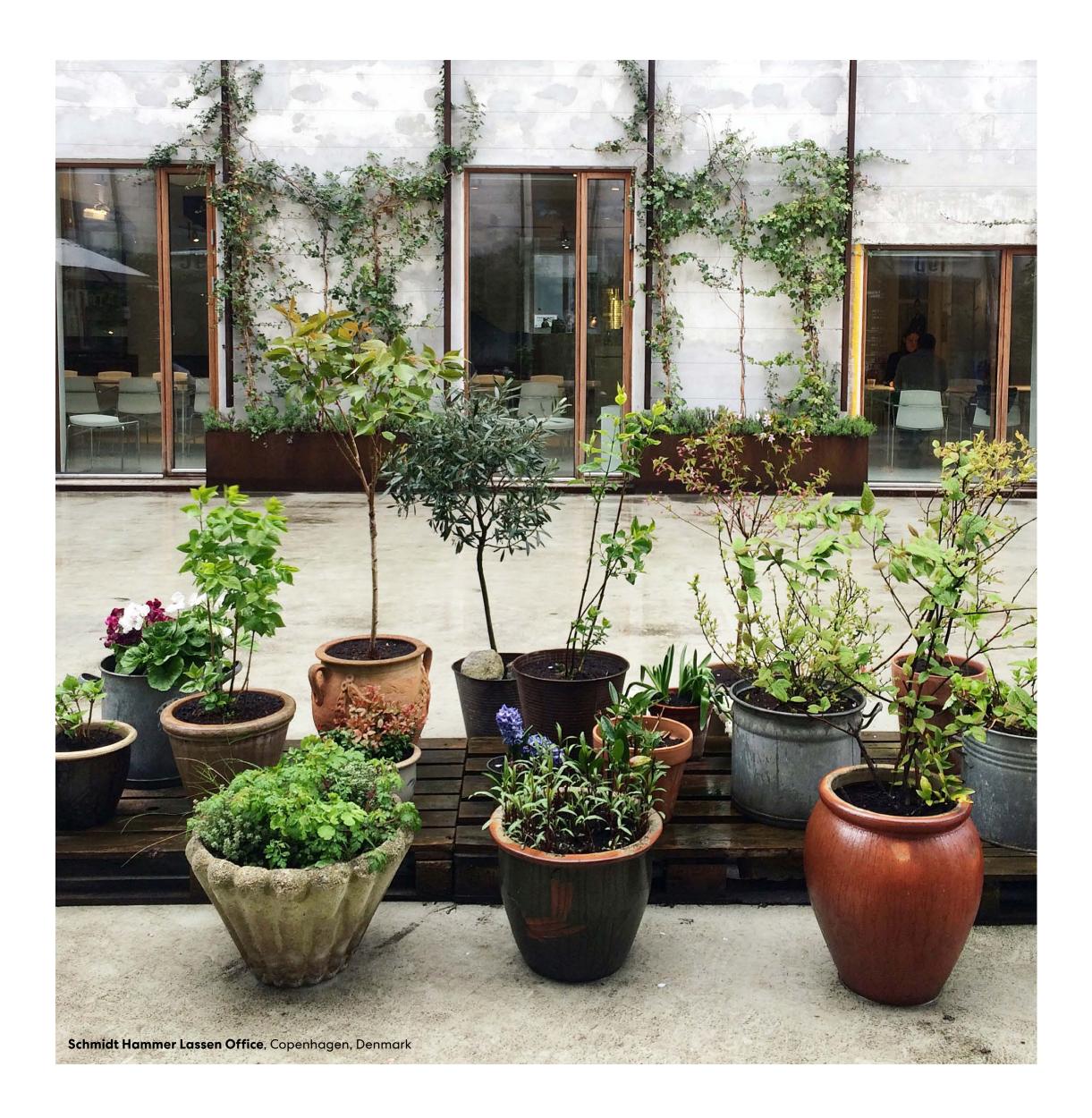
At all locations, Schmidt Hammer Lassen encourages employees to participate in various social and professional development activities. We love to celebrate won competitions, birthdays and anniversaries by hosting informal gatherings. The SHL Intranet monthly presents a variety of activities to ensure a spirited culture, including knowledge-sharing sessions, lectures, courses, site visits, and inspiring study trips.

CPD Plan

To ensure assisted learning activities and ongoing professional and personal development for all employees, the Continuing Professional Development Committee annually compile a CPD Plan covering the majority of the assisted learning activities open for everyone. Our knowledge groups GREEN/BIM/BUILD arrange a variety of educational activities. Additionally, we support educational activities within leadership and management.

In addition to the CPD plan, many different individual learning activities are also funded by company means.





Workplace Assessment

The organisation administers a detailed employee survey, the Workplace Assessment/ WPA. The WPA is conducted once every third year and supports us in monitoring organisational development on physical working conditions as well as psychological working environment.

Some important questions in the WPA related to jobsatisfaction has recurred in the last three surveys, showing a positive steady increase in the categories covering reputation and general well-being.

The Management Board in collaboration with Health & Safety/ Collaboration Committee / Managers / HR identify the key focus areas to be handled and prioritized in continuation of the employee feedback. Hereafter, action is taken on different organizational levels.

Non-Discrimination

People are the most valuable resource at Schmidt Hammer Lassen. We believe that diversity supports an innovative work environment with excellent architecture as a result. The staff of employees today counts around 30 different nationalities with an almost equal gender distribution. We focus on competencies and skills at any recruitment and internal promotion within the organisation.

Collective Agreement

In the section below, we outline the basic rules and regulations of the collective agreement pertinent to safeguarding labour rights. We include additional activities designed by the organisation to stimulate a positive working environment, where work life and family life is well balanced.

The Danish Labour Law and Collective Agreement for architects in Denmark provides the following benefits to safeguard employee interests.

- Fixed salary tiers regulated according to seniority + individually salary negotiations
- Pension scheme
- · Working hours regulation and overtime compensation
- Favourable maternity and paternity leave
- Holiday regulations (31 days per annum)
- Continuing Professional Development (CPD) funding and shared learning activities
- Employee representation on several organisational boards (Health & Safety Committee, Collaboration Committee and Continuing Professional Development Committee)
- Free union representative elections without management intervention

Additionally, the organisation offers extra healthcare insurances for a majority of staff members.

Responsible Behaviour

At Schmidt Hammer Lassen, responsible behaviour is integrated both in our professional work and in our everyday work life. Standards covering responsible behaviour are thoroughly described in the SHL Staff Handbook.

A lunch scheme is in place at the Danish offices, allowing staff members to enjoy healthy, fresh and well-prepared lunch meals. We avoid food waste by offering a take-away solution. The supplier is certified with the Organic Trademark verified by the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration.



In line with government guidelines to keep our colleagues and the public safe, we are working differently but remain fully committed to our clients and our projects' success.

What the COVID-19 Crisis Means for the Future of Workplaces and Well-Being

There have been unprecedented shifts in how work is defined and organised, how talent expectations are changing, and how companies deal with overhead and space.

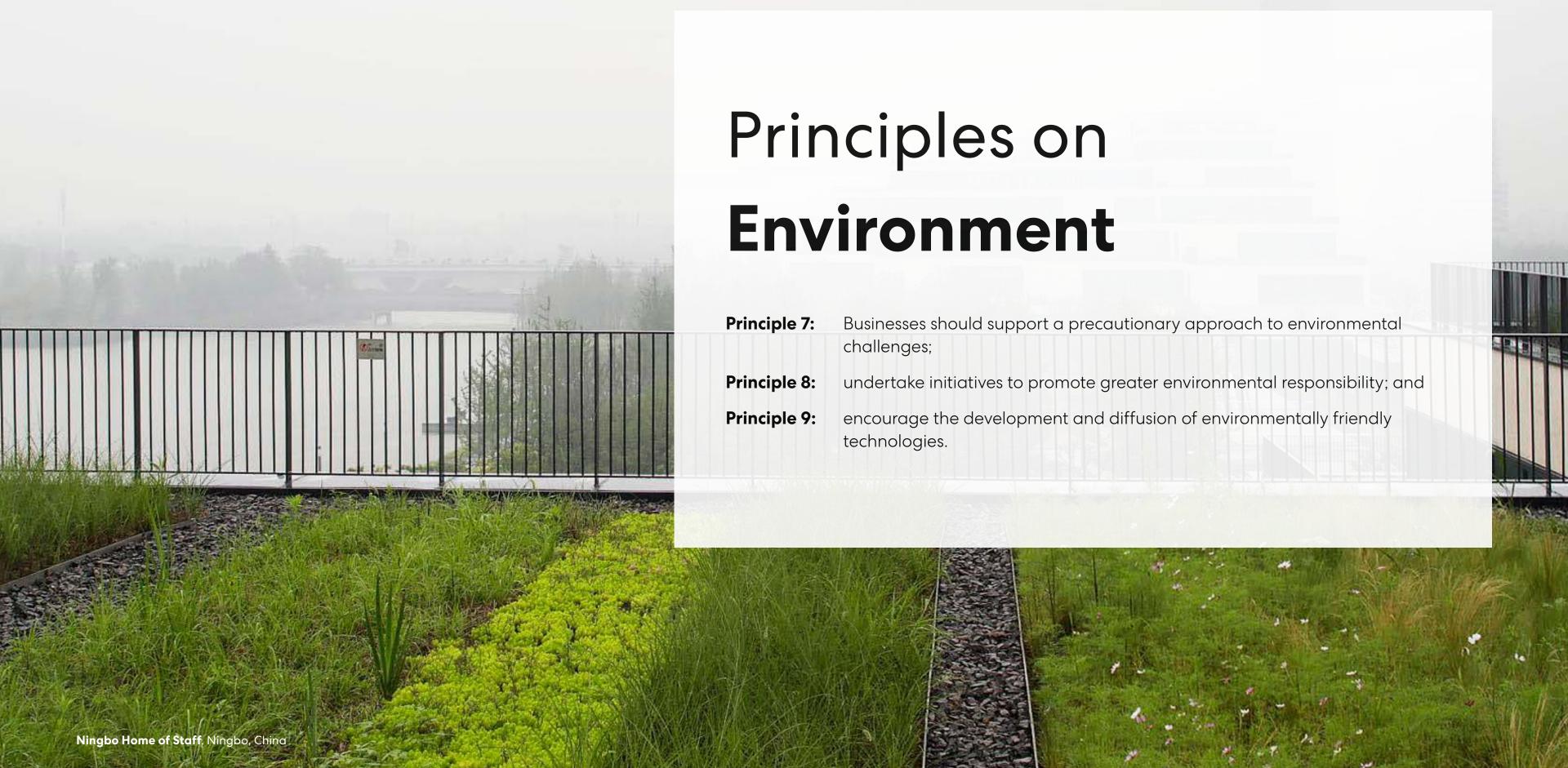
COVID-19 accelerated this change due to a rapid uptake in communications technology, a divestment of risk on property leases, and a change in acceptable work practices.

Our client solutions encompass economic strategy, talent attraction and retention, company culture and identity, spatial design, asset management, health and well-being.

Our practice and research are centred around helping companies answer these questions and prepare for an uncertain future - spatially and culturally.

Though the future of the workplace is unclear, it will certainly be different.

Read more about our predictions here.



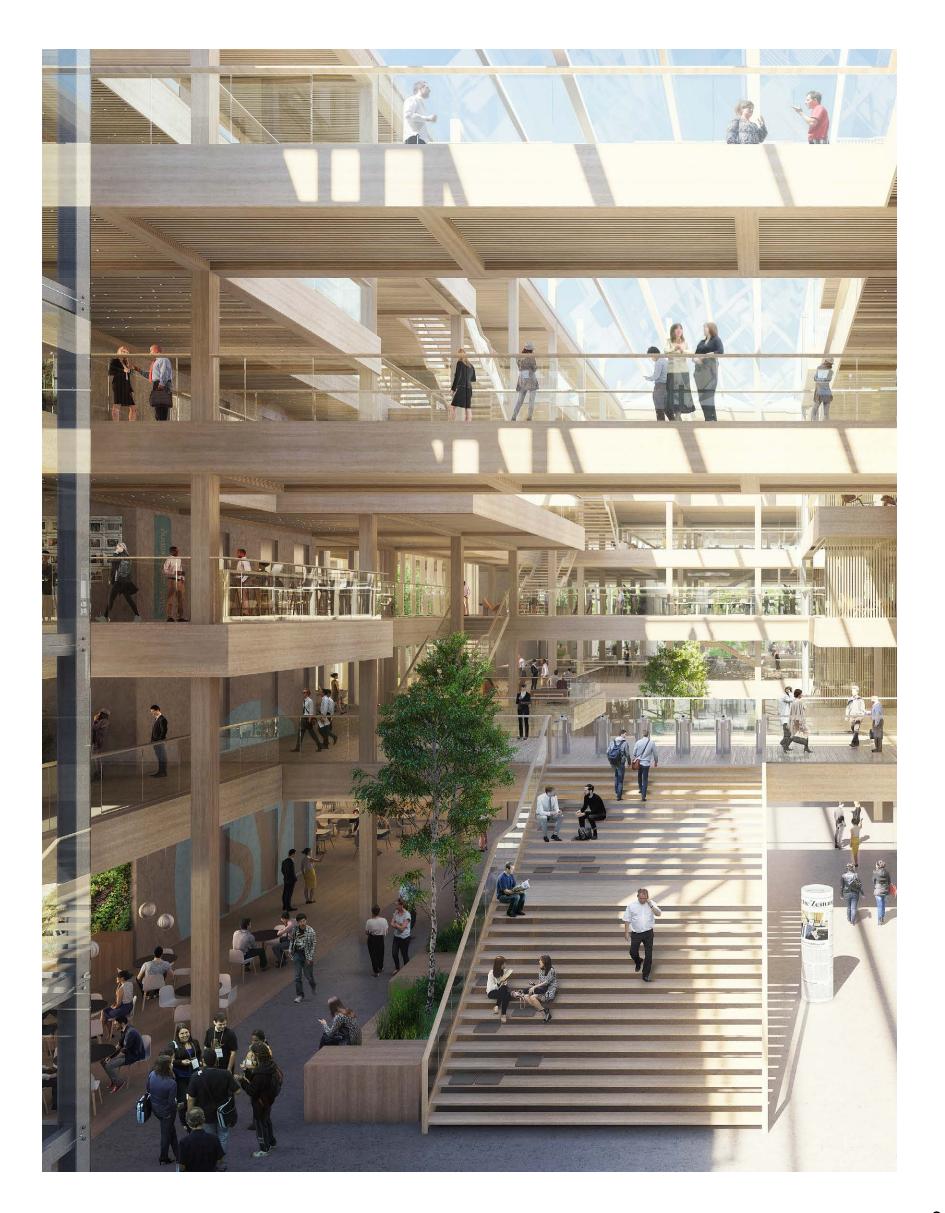
Living Design

We recognise the current ecological crisis and have committed to working in the interests of our collective future. We understand the impact that architecture has on natural ecosystems, the carbon cycle and our environment.

We believe that sustainability is a creative challenge, explored with curiosity and focus. It measures our skill and ability to improve the social and environmental ecosystems that our work touches. Rather than simply satisfying benchmarks, we seek to form an early vision for positive outcomes with stakeholders and specialists and preserve these goals through design and delivery.

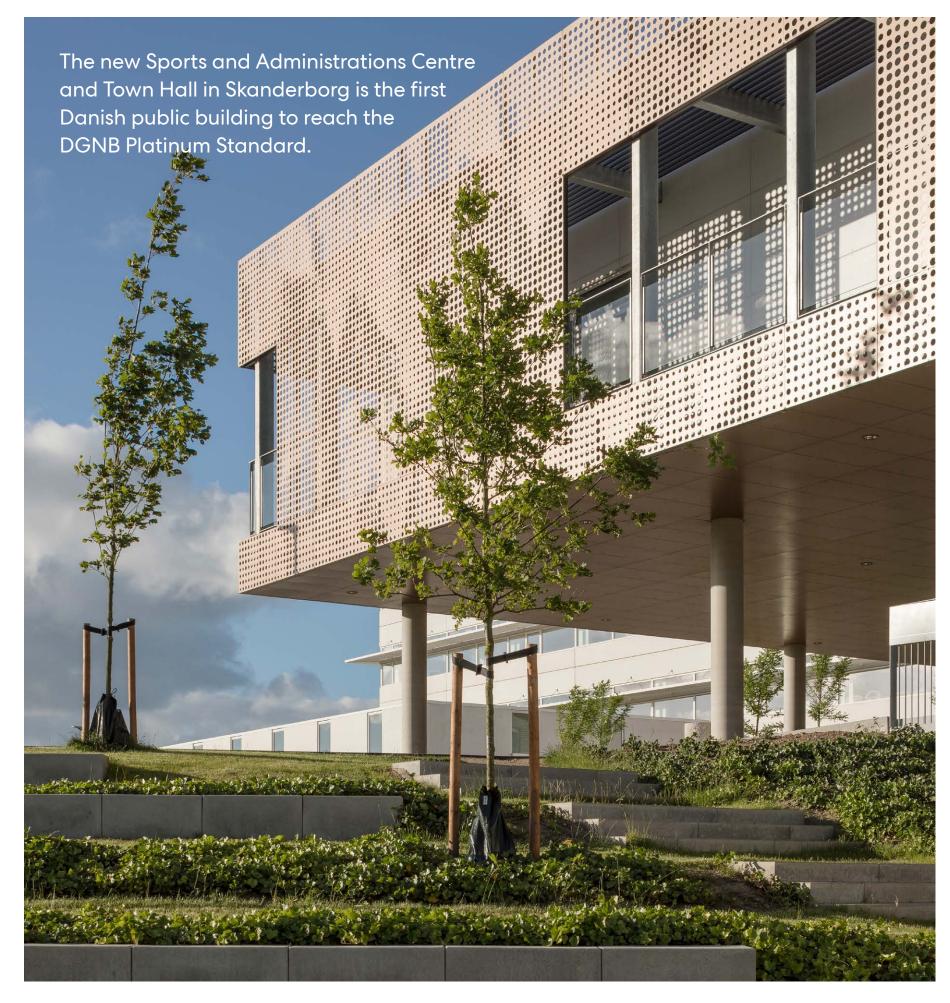
From pre-design to the post-occupancy phases, we have realigned our work practice to focus on well-being, ecology and resilience. We call this Living Design.

- 1. We have invested in specific fields of expertise, but seek to communicate this in a less technocratic and more common-sense way to preserve the sustainability goals across disciplines.
- 2. We integrate sustainability goals prior to the commencement of each project and have instated reviews into our design workflow: go-in, go-wide, go-green, go-deep, go-high.
- 3. We are forming strategic alliances with Perkins & Will and external collaborators to peer review our project work and collaborate on sustainable solutions.
- 4. We are creating a new public profile for SHL, foregrounding sustainability and investing in thought-leadership in order to attract clients with higher ambitions, and more easily establish teams for pursuits with similar goals.
- 5. We are digitalising qualitative and quantitative models that influence the design process from the earliest stages, such as the LCA assessment of preexisting structures or feedback in design massing according to site conditions.



"In our work, we don't just seek to sustain our current way of life but to instigate a more positive future."

— Enlai Hooi, Head of Innovation, 2021

















A GREEN Agenda Certified Knowledge

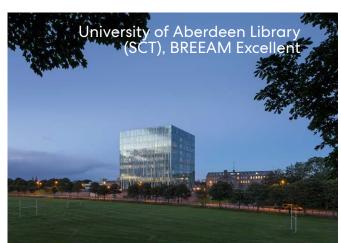
At Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects, we commit to developing projects and realising buildings based on sustainability's holistic concept. We work in multidisciplinary teams with innovative solutions in integrated design processes. We do this in frameworks of various certification systems and project-specific goal setting, working closely with our clients.

Our architectural staff includes in-house experts in the most important building certification systems: BREEAM International Assessors, LEED Accredited Professionals, DGNB International and DGNB Denmark Consultants, and Cradle to Cradle trained professionals. We offer certification processes and benchmarking for our client's projects. This enables us to evaluate the "green performance" of a building and give a profound understanding of the interaction of different sustainable parameters. The evaluations seek optimised green solutions during the design process and better building performances without compromising the ambition for high-quality architecture.

Knowledge-sharing is fundamental in our practice and the CPD strategy. The CPD strategy aids to raise the common level and understanding of holistic sustainability throughout the organisation. An important knowledge-sharing platform is our GREENgroup, where passionate employees exchange cutting-edge knowledge of highly sustainable projects and green ideas. In close collaboration with the architecture schools and university colleges, we engage with students in different ways as mentors and external examiners in mutual inspiration.

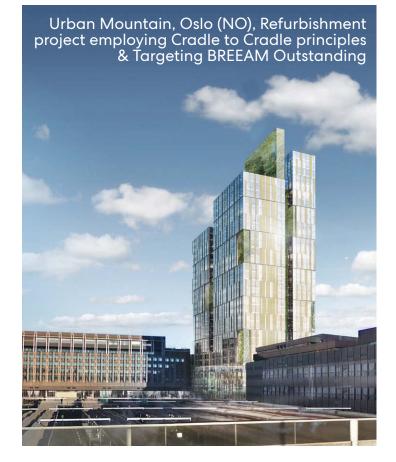
We participate in network initiatives focusing on implementing green value management, sustainable reuse of existing building mass, and sustainable city development. The specialised staff members of our studio provide public lectures and communicate our work experience. We engage in strategic partnerships in pursuit of working with the UN Sustainable Development Goals – like the Active House Alliance, where we are a supporting member and represented in the Advisory Board.

Selected Certified Projects



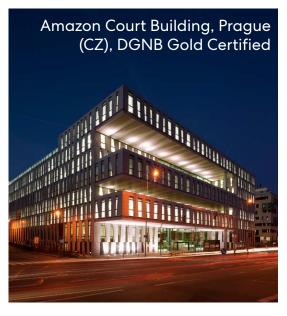


Halifax Central Library, Halifax (CA), LEED Gold





















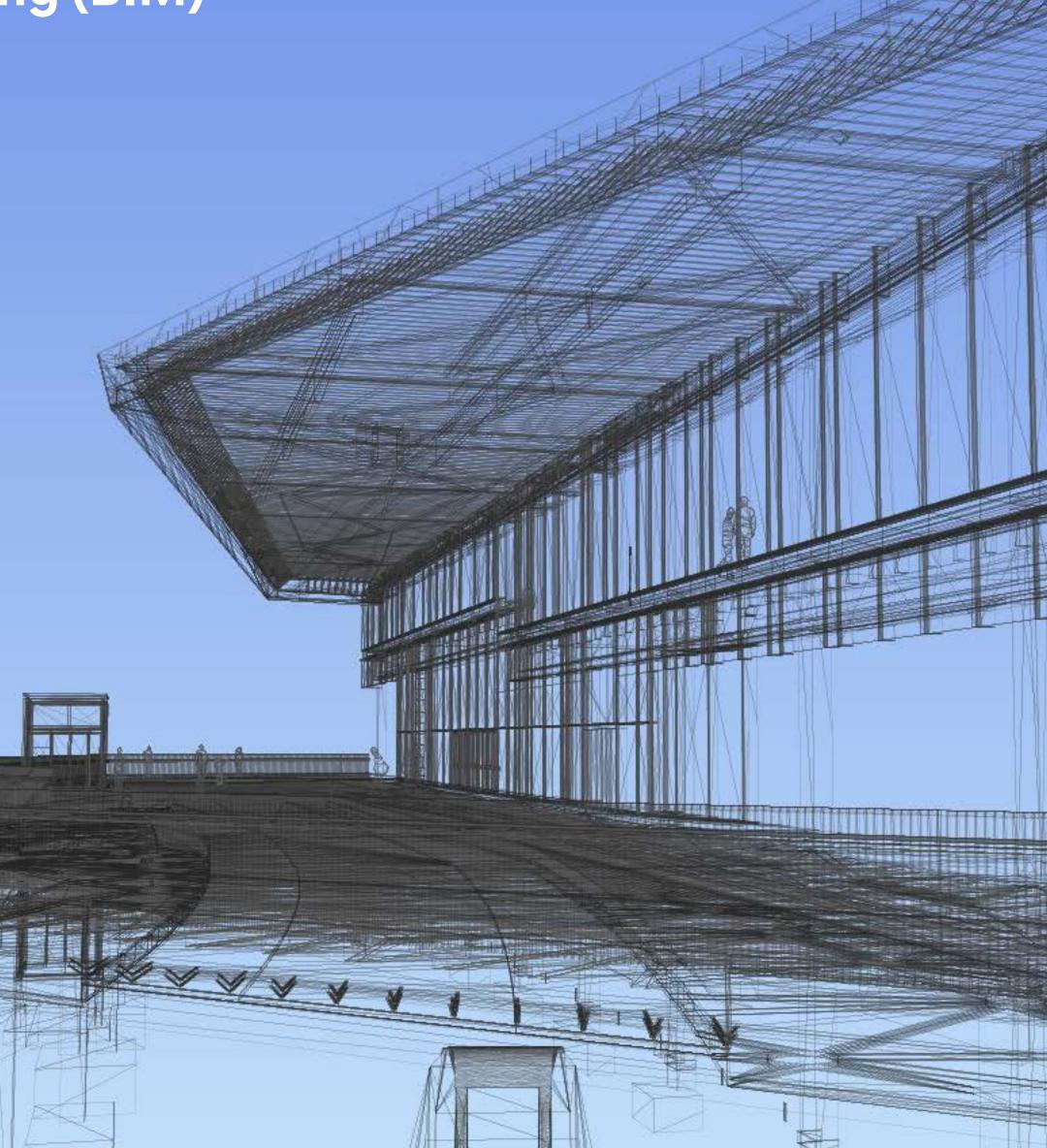
Building Information Modelling (BIM)

Sustainability and Building Information Modelling/ BIM go hand in hand. At Schmidt Hammer Lassen, we have been working with BIM for many years, and today we execute all major projects using BIM.

Internally, we us BIM to develop and validate the designs of our buildings with the use of sustainable analysis and simulations, which allows us to optimise documentation of the project for construction. Externally, BIM is used on all project organisation levels to communicate the design – enabling a smoother decision-making process.

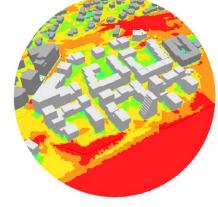
The result is an optimally coordinated process and collaboration and minimisation of errors. We facilitate the dialogue with clients and stakeholders to clarify and define the scope of information and data, which need to be successfully handed over on delivery of the project, for better and lower cost facility management.

When environmental analysis and simulation tools are used from the earliest stages of a design process, projects can be designed to benefit from local environmental conditions such as site orientation, solar access and seasonal winds as well as support material selection. For the client, future user and the community, this means a more sustainable, enduring and energy-efficient building.





Wind



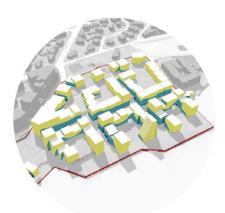
Wind comfort



Solar density



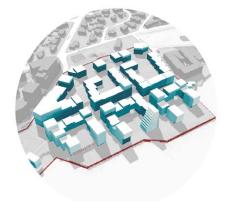
Overshadowing



Daylight



Noise



View



Outdoor space

Building New Knowledge

Successful integration of new methods and technologies requires an extensive level of knowledge-sharing. Therefore, the BIM management group engages in BIM Networks, BIM standard organisations and conferences, and also lectures at conferences and educational institutions. These activities are essential to build and share new knowledge – internally and externally.

Schmidt Hammer Lassen is co-founder and member of the BIM7AA, a voluntary collaboration between seven Danish architectural practices and the Aarhus School of Architecture. The purpose of BIM7AA is to develop and continuously optimise commonly developed BIM tools, methods and processes focusing on interdisciplinary cooperation.

We uncover hidden opportunities before investing in design

Through analysis, simulation, scanning, and visualization we examine the site and building premises to uncover the hidden opportunities and possibilities that add extra value to the project. We assess the building's impact on the local environment and explore opportunities for positive change.

We create design concepts that create value for society, maximize space and lower resource consumption.

Knowledge Centre Molio

Schmidt Hammer Lassen is also a member of Molio, a construction knowledge centre focusing on digital solutions and new technology. Molio is taking over the role as the buildingSMART network in Denmark and will also be the new buildingSMART Nordic Chapter partner and coordinator of activities in Denmark.

BIM is also one of the key cornerstones in the internal strategic continuing education plan. Additionally, the internal BIM task force researches and develops professional networks and education. Running evaluations of the BIM projects is part of the knowledge sharing initiatives.

More info: www.molio.dk



Quality Assurance

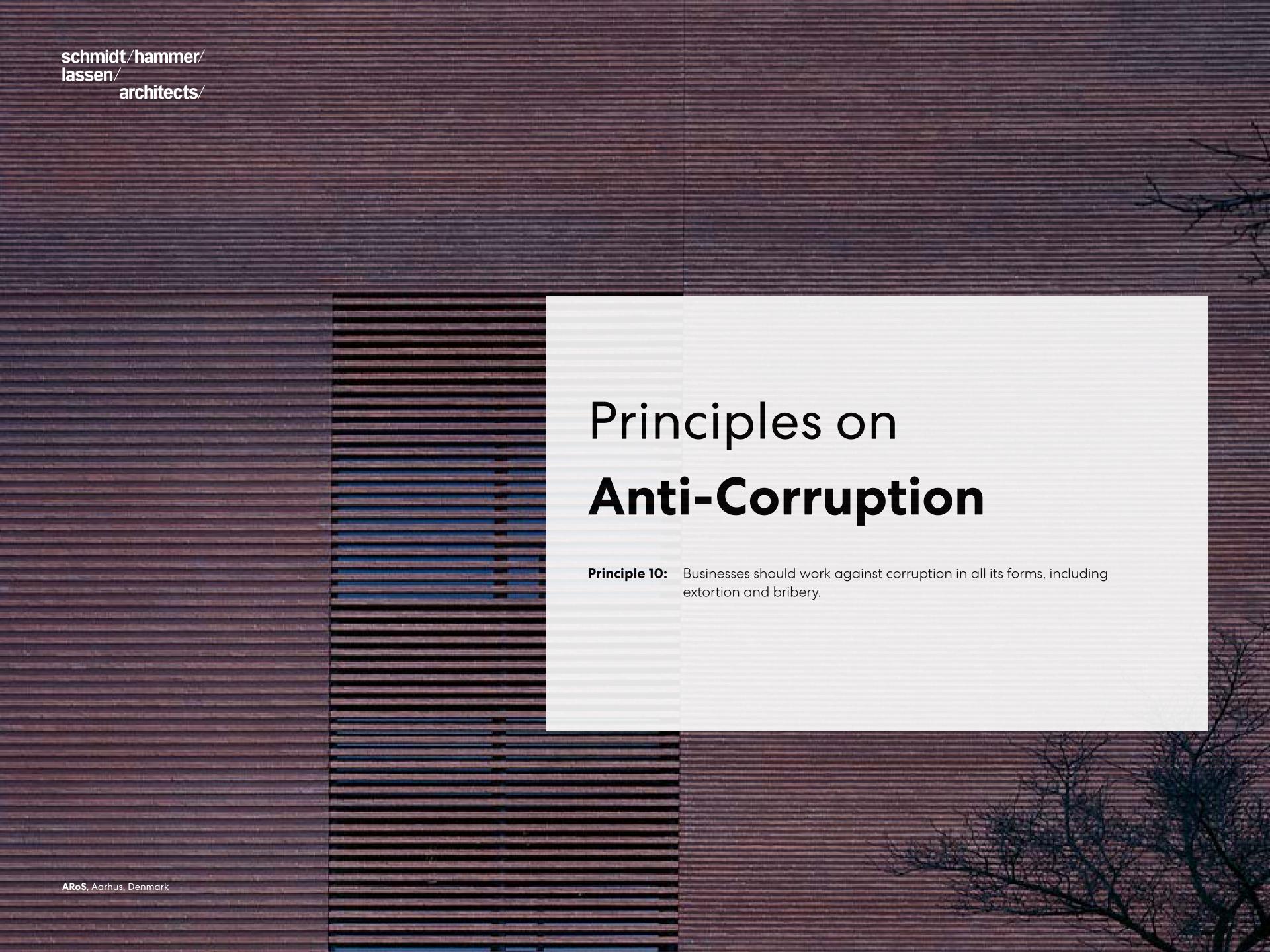
Schmidt Hammer Lassen has wide-ranging experience in high-level quality management to meet client demands and regulatory requirements throughout the entire project life cycle, from the beginning until final handover.

The applied Quality Assurance standards apply to the multitude of projects that we work on worldwide and support the development of architectural quality internationally.

The quality assurance policy of the practice is described in detail in the SHL Quality Assurance Manual, and it has been prepared in accordance with the following guidelines and standards:

- Quality Control in Architectural Practices published by The Danish Association of Architectural Firms
- The DS ISO 9001 standard

The SHL Quality Assurance Manual is a process tool that includes guidelines and standards for planning, implementation and quality control. The Handbook is verified and updated on an ongoing basis.



Business Ethics

We hold a reputation as a responsible and conscientious business partner and dissociate from corruption, extortion, and bribery in any form. The studio has never been involved in corruption or bribery, and formulated policy guidelines are in place and carefully described in the SHL Staff Handbook that is handed out to all employees on their first day at work. In this, we state:

"Our business ethics are grounded on trustworthiness, honesty and transparency. Accordingly, employees at all levels must avoid letting financial and/or personal interests influence – or arouse suspicion of influencing – their work-related decisions or conflicting with the interests and ethics of the organisation. Moreover, we expect all employees to act in accordance with applicable legislation."



In 2015, Nordic Innovation published the book "30 Sustainable Nordic Buildings," featuring best practice examples based on the Nordic Built Charter principles.

Schmidt Hammer Lassen's winning highrise project in central Oslo, Urban Mountain, will become another icon of the Norwegian capital and set new sustainability standards.



The Nordic Built Charter

Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects signed the Nordic Built Charter; committed to accelerating the development of sustainable building concepts initiated by the Nordic ministers for trade and industry. The Nordic Built Charter is a public declaration of the values, intentions and ambitions of a united Nordic building sector. It describes a holistic approach to the built environment – taking energy, climate, economy and people into account.

The intention is that relevant actors from across Nordic borders and the entire value chain of the building sector will commit to its ten principles. In short, The Nordic Built Charter gives the building sector a platform for cooperation and provides a common set of fundamentally Nordic and sustainable values, promoting a balanced and integrated societal development based on environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

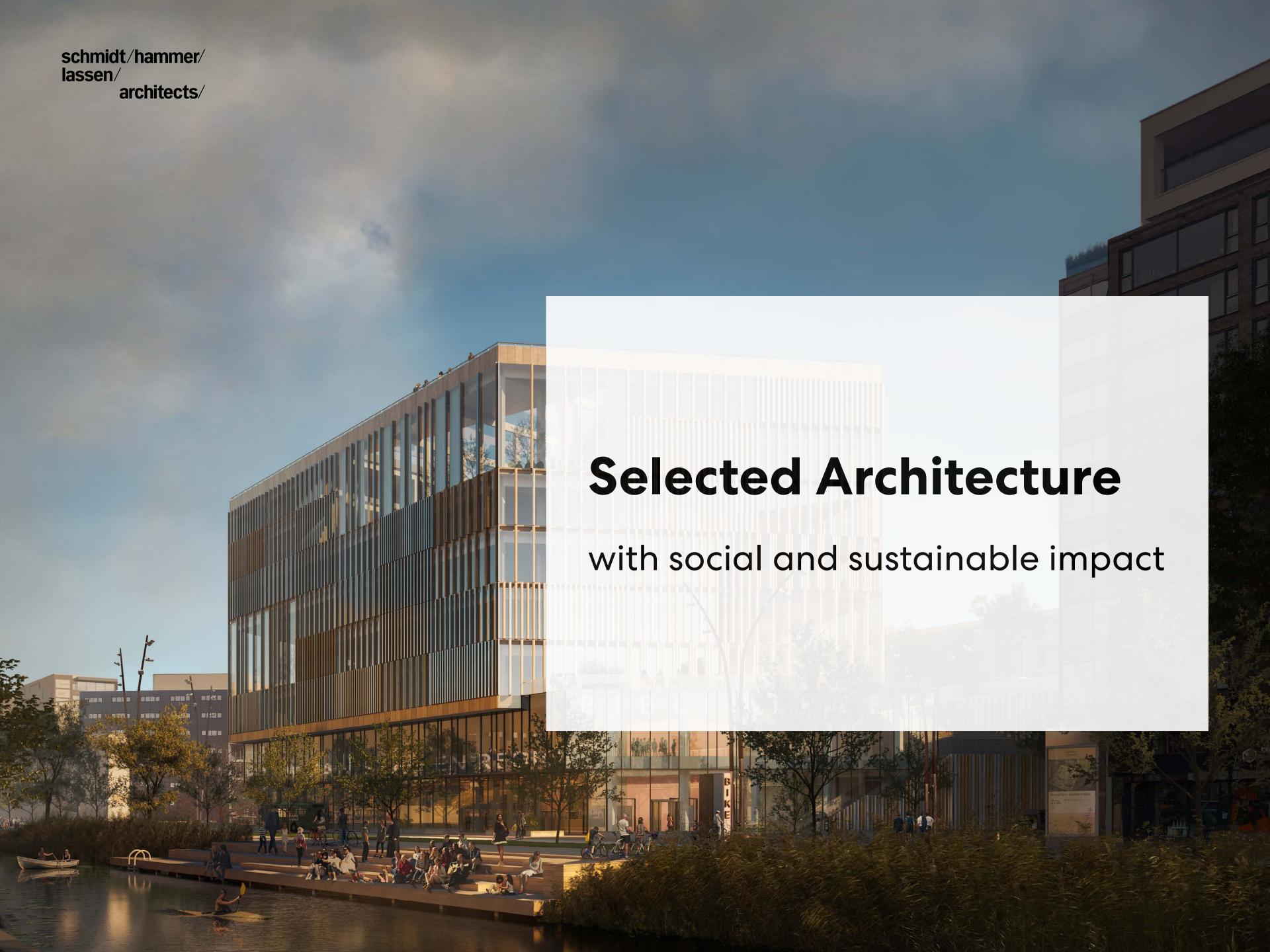
The Nordic Built programme combines key Nordic strengths, provides attractive and effective arenas for collaboration, and realizes concrete projects that demonstrate world-class scalable solutions.

In 2012, the Nordic Built Challenge – a high-profile international architectural competition – was organized by Nordic Innovation. The ambition was to create five lighthouse projects for the Nordic region, one in each country, demonstrating the solutions for sustainable refurbishment of the existing building stock, which the Nordic building industry can deliver.

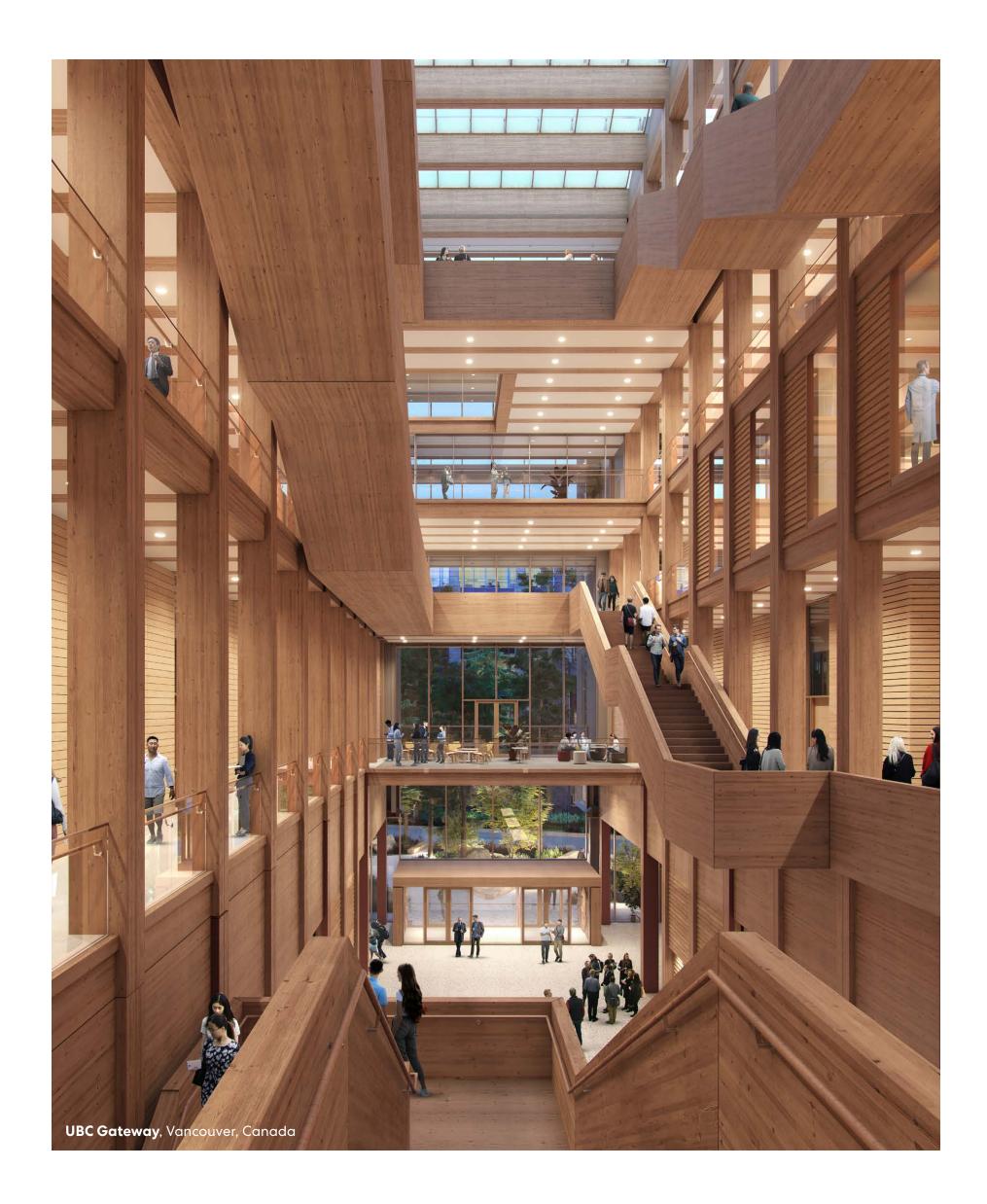
With the Urban Mountain refurbishment project, Schmidt Hammer Lassen's team won 1st prize for the innovative and sustainable new landmark for Oslo.

More information:

www.nordicinnovation.org/nordicbuilt/the-challenge/







The new Gateway building at the University of British Columbia's Point Grey campus will reflect UBC's reputation as a world-class university. The sustainable 25,000-square-metre health science academic and research building will transform the campus arrival experience for students, staff, and visitors.

Targeting completion in 2024, the building will co-locate the School of Nursing, School of Kinesiology, Integrated Student Health Services, and Health and Language Sciences components. The facility will host a mix of spaces, including wet and dry labs, clinical areas, lecture theatres and classrooms, gym and fitness facilities, and office and administrative functions.

UBC Gateway integrates the university's promise to support inclusivity, sustainability, and well-being.

As part of the university's commitment to Indigenous reconciliation, engagements with the Musqueam population helped establish a conceptual foundation for the design process. Designed with a holistic approach to people and nature, the landscape was developed to enhance the local ecology. This extended nature landscape will be lined by significant trees and lush ground to offer respite and spiritual nourishment to users. The gateway's structure, made of exposed mass timber, will lower the project's embodied carbon and provide biophilic benefits to users.

Timber represents a traditional building material and brings warmth to the campus, sensed in the central six-storey atrium. The atrium's sculptural timber staircase cultivates socialisation and knowledge-sharing, creating an open and welcoming atmosphere. The local flora and the warm, light-filled design express commonalities between Musqueam values and culture and UBC's environmental and wellness goals.

The Gateway building aims to be the university's first building to meet the Canada Green Building Council's (CaGBC) Zero Carbon Building Standard. The building integrates passive design strategies such as a high-performance envelope, high-efficiency mechanical systems, and reduced embodied carbon. UBC Gateway was designed in collaboration with Perkins&Will's Vancouver practice.

Christchurch Central Library, Christchurch (NZ)

Hope, unity, and rebirth – redevelopment of an earthquake-damaged city



"Turanga is the kind of multi-faceted project that layers architectural interest with significant cultural relevance. It has been a privilege to design a project that not only fulfils the need for a new central library, but also one whose mission of restoring the soul of the city includes the deep cultural heritage of Ngai Tuahuriri, the local Maori people."

Morten Schmidt, Founding Partner

Over the course of 15 months in 2010 and 2011, Christchurch, the largest city of New Zealand's South Island, was devastated by four major earthquakes that toppled a city known for its arts, culture, and surrounding natural beauty. Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects designed Turanga, a new central library project that is one of nine anchor projects identified as vital to the city's redevelopment.

The new central library is a visually stunning symbol of hope, unity, and rebirth that will fundamentally change the way residents and visitors experience Christchurch's city centre. The design of Christchurch New Central Library is a graceful amalgamation of resilience, functionality and cultural awareness at the centre of the earthquake-damaged city's redevelopment.

Lewis Bradford Consulting Engineers, the structural engineering firm on the project, was instrumental in developing a structure that could withstand future potential earthquakes of the magnitude that destroyed so many of Christchurch's buildings in 2011. Turanga was constructed to very stringent performance criteria. The design can sustain minimal structural damage during a large earthquake thanks to an integrated, self-centring mechanism that allows the building to sway and return to its original position.

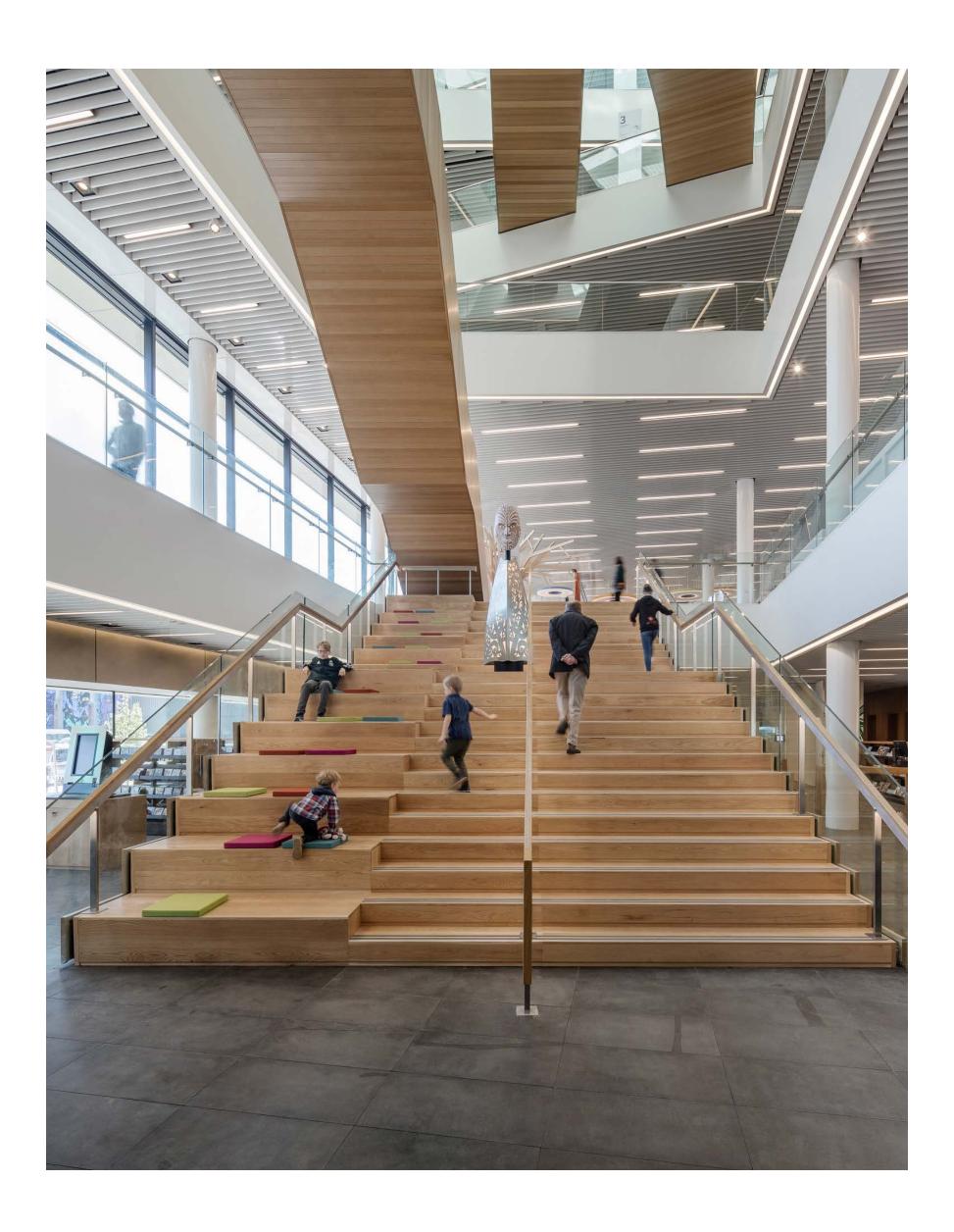
Part of the innovative set up is a seismic force-resisting system consisting of a series of large-scale concrete walls that can rock and shift to isolate the building from peak earthquake accelerations during a significant seismic event. Each wall has high tensile, pre-tensioned steel cables that clamp the wall to the foundations with approximately 1,000 tonnes of force per wall.

The stretch of these cables returns the building to its original position after an earthquake, ensuring the library





Picture of the site after the 2010 and 2011 earthquakes struck a community with deep ties to the land, the environment and each other.



The design of the five-storey, 9,500 m² library in Christchurch's historic Cathedral Square supports the city's desire for a public space that strengthens the community, advances literacy and lifetime learning, celebrates diversity of culture and heritage, draws people back to the city centre, and fosters innovation.

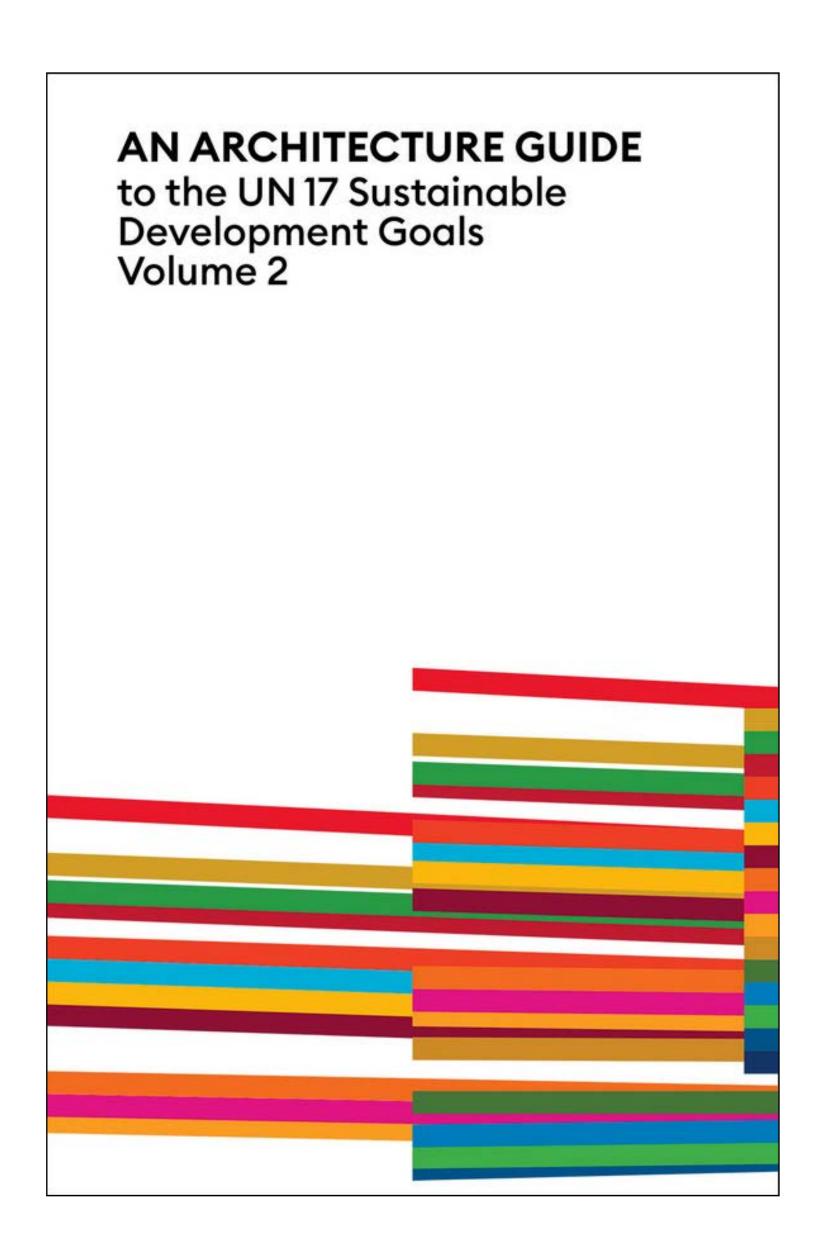
A tapestry of ancestry, tradition and culture

Early in the design process, the architects collaborated with Matapopore Charitable Trust. This organisation's objective was to ensure the local Ngui Tuahuriri people's values, aspirations, and narratives were realised throughout the recovery of Christchurch. Their influence on the building's design is substantial—from building materials to physical orientation, there is a rich tapestry of ancestry, traditional knowledge, and culture woven throughout Turanga.

As library-goers approach the building, they are drawn into the informal, welcoming entrance that connects the library with Cathedral Square and surrounding buildings. The ground floor is a continuation of the public realm of the square, which is one of Christchurch's key urban spaces for public gatherings, events, markets and performances.

To enhance the civic activities of Cathedral Square, the second level houses a Community Arena—a space for the people of Christchurch to discuss, debate, share, and celebrate. The Community Arena is expressed as a distinct volume within the library, and is positioned to maximise its visual connection to the square. The second level of the library is also home to Ngu Purapura, a children's area named for Ngui Tahu ancestral traditions. Ngu Purapura includes a children's reading cave and an activity room.

The building's five levels are connected by a grand, staggered atrium featuring a social staircase for gathering, reading, and resting. Several points in the Canterbury landscape, including the Southern Alps and the Banks Peninsula, are visible from the upper levels of the library and drove the placement and orientation of the roof terraces.



How can the design of a library support the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals?

The Royal Danish Academy – Architecture, Design and Conservation and the UIA World Congress of Architects in Copenhagen 2023 have launched 'An Architecture Guide to the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals Volume 2', a book including Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects' symbol of hope, unity, and rebirth, the Christchurch Central Library, a project representing UN's Goal #16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

Civic institutions such as public libraries are cornerstones in a just and peaceful society and represent a commitment to an inclusive and compassionate community.

To read more about how architecture can contribute to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, visit Royal Danish Academy. The book can be also downloaded for free at uia2023cph.org.



Studio Malmö, Malmö (SE)

A unifying element in the harbour area



Studio Malmö is a 22,000 m² mixed-use harbour development located in central Malmö, a vibrant city in southern Sweden. The 14-storey building is LEED Platinum and energy-efficient. Studio Malmö accommodates an eclectic mix of offices, conference and event spaces, restaurants, cafés and retail outlets, in addition to a hotel and sky bar.

Studio Malmö represents the completion of the island of Universitetsholmen. Located at the entrance to Malmö's inner harbour, it acts as a unifying element for the area. As a catalyst for the ongoing regeneration of the Malmö harbour, the building is a dynamic focal point and a landmark buzzing with activity day and night, enriching the life of Sweden's third-largest city.

The architectural expression is a clear geometric building designed to fit in alongside its contemporary and historic neighbours, and includes a new public square facing the harbour and city centre. The café, retail shops and event and exhibition spaces on the ground floor are accessible from both the shore side and street side of the building, and open up to the public square atrium in the building's heart.



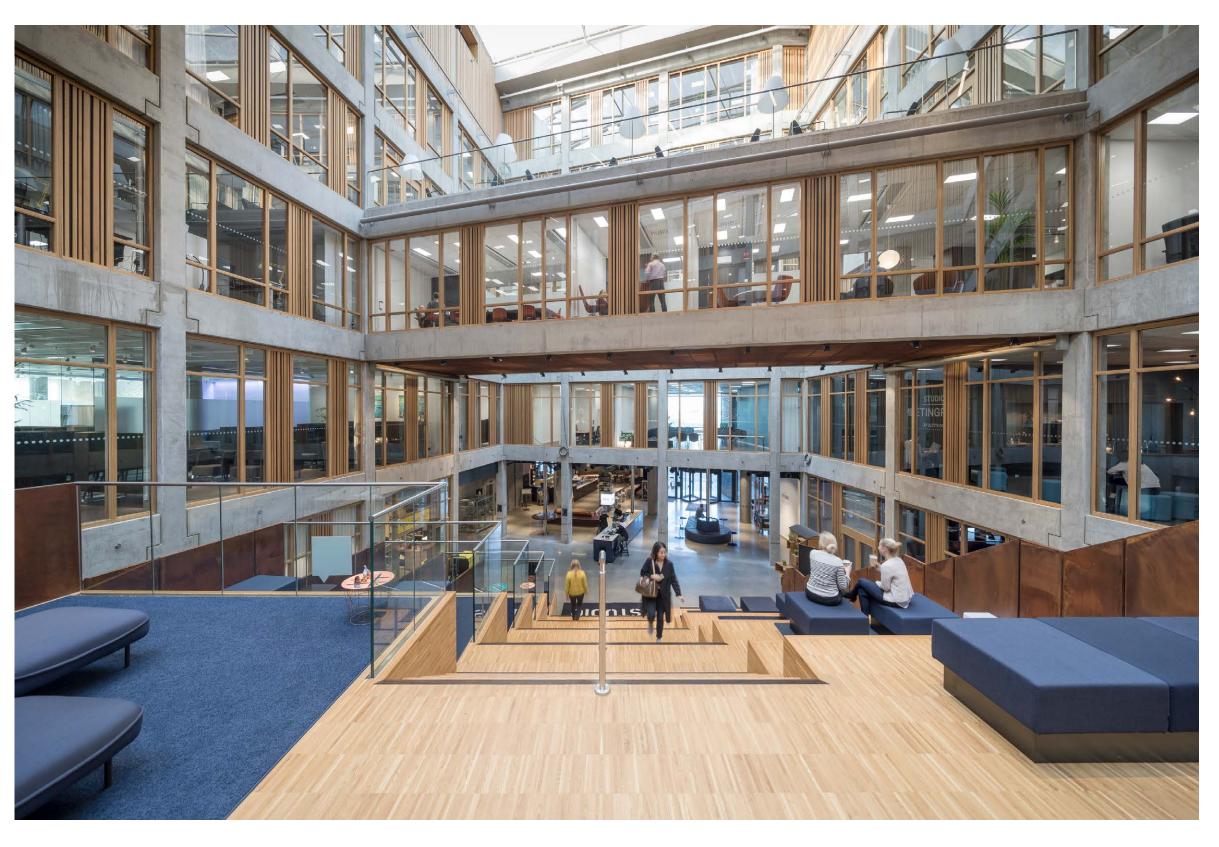
Studio Malmö wins LEED Building of the Year Award

Studio Malmö was named the 2018 LEED Building of the Year by the Swedish Green Building Council (SGBC) at the Building Sustainability Conference.

The SGBC selected Studio Malmö for its high design standards, elaborate design, and a pleasant indoor environment that contributes positively to the urban environment. SGBC also cited Studio Malmö as an excellent example of collaborative sustainability work.

The Swedish Green Building Awards recognize, celebrate, and promote positive contributions to sustainable building and property development. They have become one of Scandinavia's leading sustainability design awards, awarding and promoting entrepreneurs, developers, and architectural projects each year.

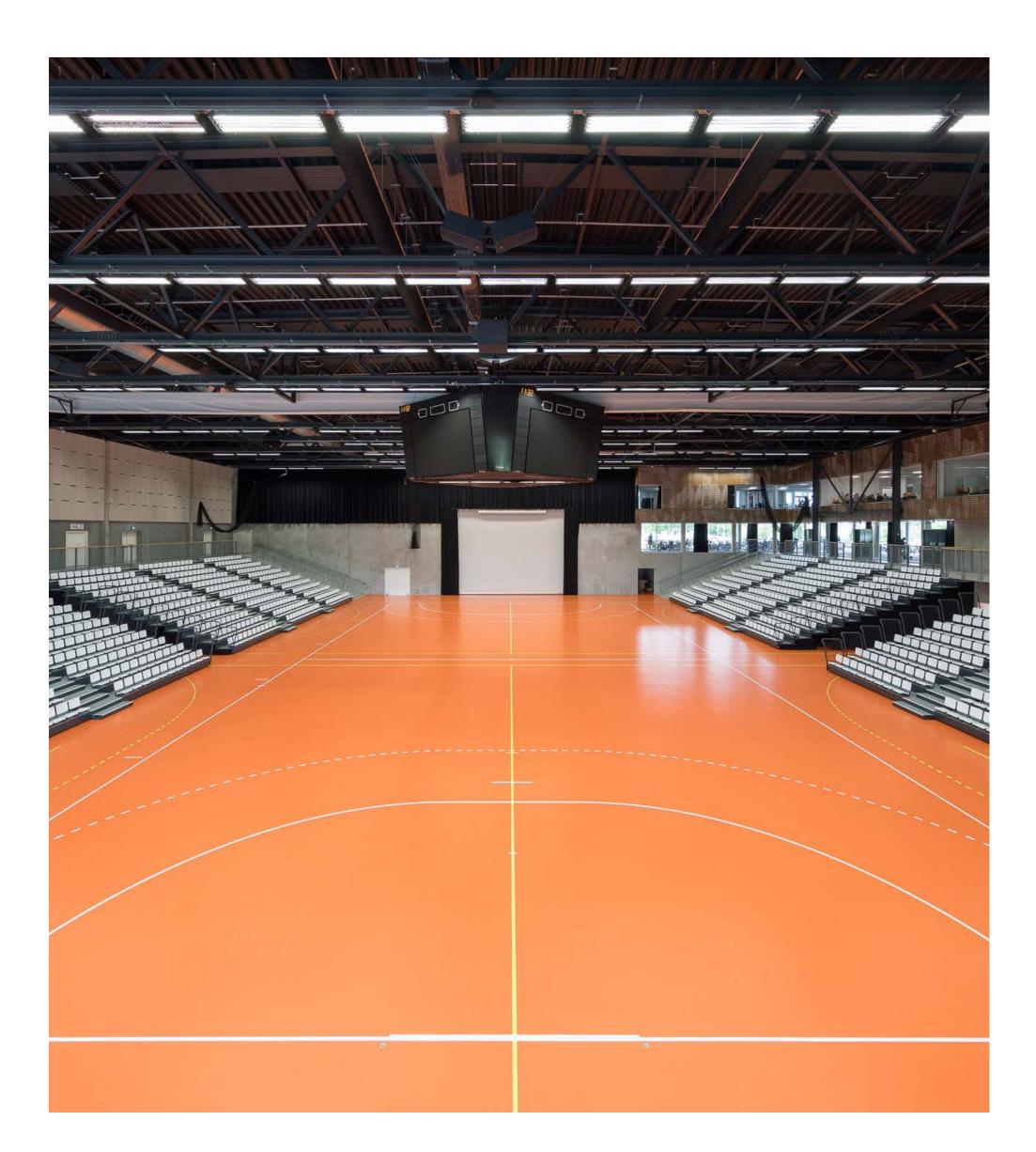
More information: www.kungsleden.se



Skanderborg Town Hall, Skanderborg (DK)

First DGNB Platinum certification for a Danish public building





The Sports and Administrations Centre and Town Hall in Skanderborg is the first Danish public building to reach the DGNB Platinum Standard, the highest certification under the Danish DGNB sustainability standard.

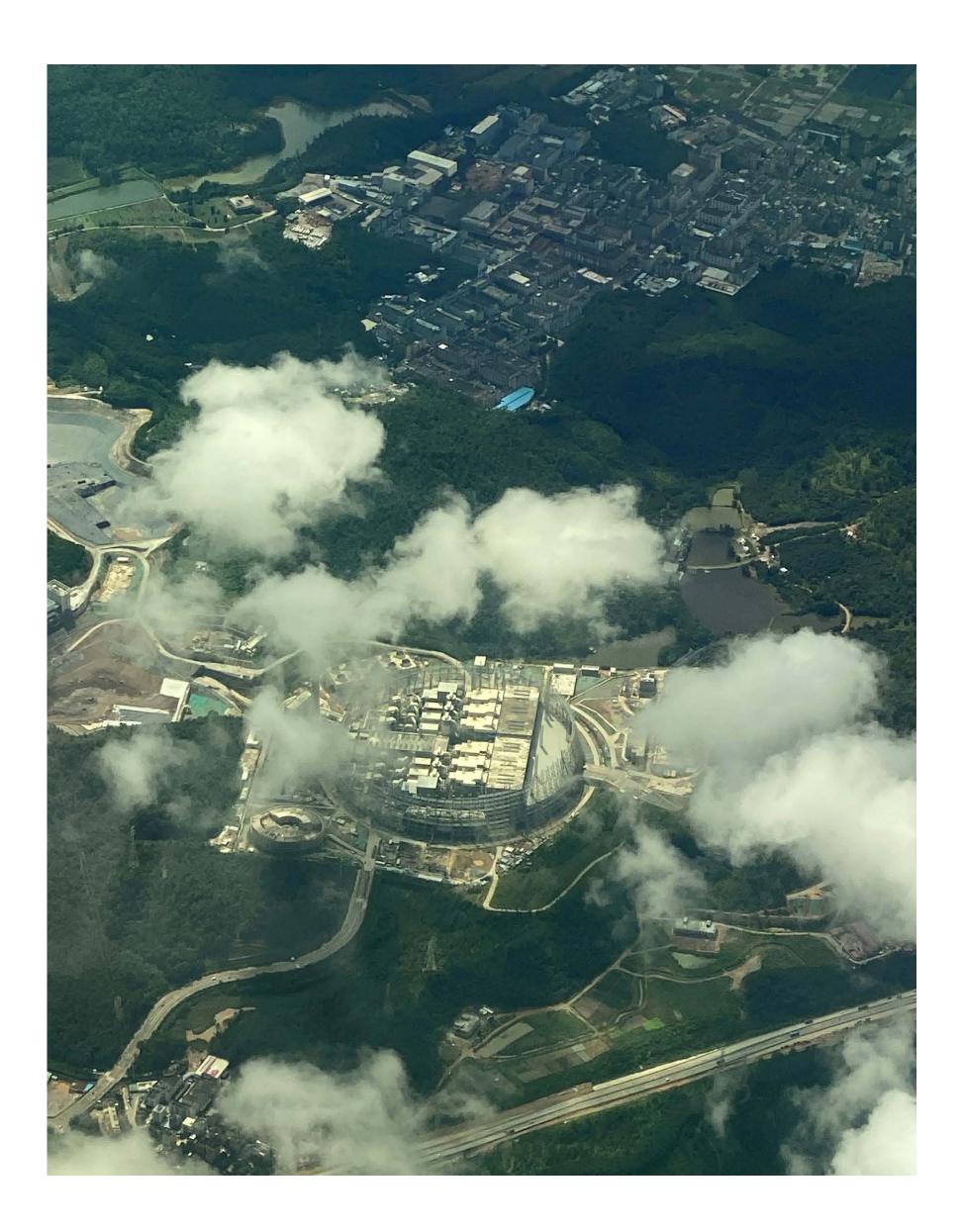
In 2017, the Green Building Council Denmark completed a thorough certification process of the completed project, which included 182 different environmental, financial and technical quality parameters. The project scored high on all parameters, and especially the building's overall economic performance as an energy-efficient building of high quality for a low overall economy was emphasised.

The 18,000 m² Sports and Administration Centre offers multiple administrative facilities for the municipality of Skanderborg in combination with new sports facilities for the entire community's use. The aim was to design a complex that sets new standards, supports an innovative and multi-disciplinary work culture and is a vibrant gathering point for citizens of Skanderborg. The project appears informal, open, and accessible and in close contact with the unique surroundings of the recently established natural resort, Anebjergskov.

Several sustainable measures are integrated in the design of the building, such as optimized use of daylight, natural ventilation and an efficient building envelope. Green plants grow on selected facades as solar screening whilst increasing local biodiversity, and indoor green walls contribute to a healthy indoor climate.

More infomation: www.skanderborgfælled.dk





In 2016, Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects, in collaboration with Gottlieb Paludan Architects, won the international competition to design the world's largest waste-to-energy power plant in Shenzhen, China.

Located on the outskirts of Shenzhen, Energy Ring will incinerate 5,000 tonnes of waste per day, generating 550 million kWh every year. With a population of 20 million, Shenzhen produces 15,000 tonnes of waste per day, a number that is increasing approximately 7% per year. To counteract this, Shenzhen Energy wishes to build a new plant that uses the most advanced technological processes in waste incineration and acts as a source of education for Shenzhen's citizens.

The proposal organizes the entire plant, including auxiliary buildings, into one circular building breaking the traditional rectangular layout of an industrial power plant. By proposing a clean circular form, the footprint of the plant reduces the amount of excavation required to build on the site.

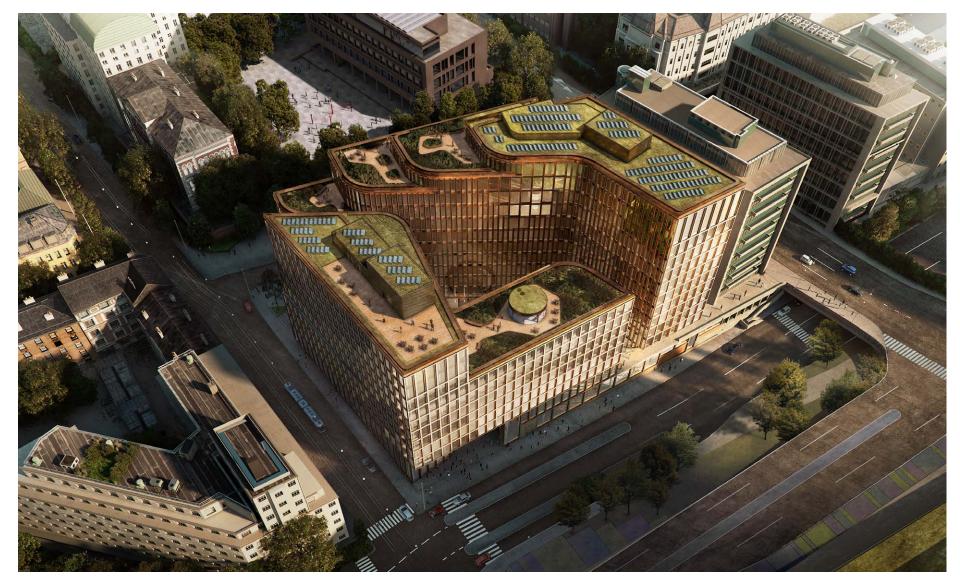
Public visitors are invited into the plant through a landscaped park, via an entrance bridge that rises between the stacks to an entrance lobby and visitor centre overlooking the plant machinery. An internal circular path circles the plant, explaining each process, before leading up to a 1.5 km panoramic public walkway on the roof overlooking the surrounding landscape and back towards the city.

The roof is designed to be covered by up to 44,000 m2 of photovoltaic panels, enabling the plant to provide a cleaner way to deal with Shenzhen's waste and contribute to its renewable energy provision.

The plant is intended to showcase the waste-to-energy production as an important technical process that is geared to deal with both the issues of growing waste, but also the issue of finding new, more environmentally friendly ways of generating electricity. At the same time, visitors can become informed on the challenges of the growing waste produced daily and be educated on initiatives on how to reduce their daily waste.

Schmidt Hammer Lassen has built a reputation for bringing a strong Scandinavian design approach to large complex public projects in China. Detailed design work began in 2016, and the plant is be completed in 2022.







A lively urban environment

VIA is a central cross-section and a symbolic focal point for modern Oslo. The architecture interprets the surrounding volumes' characteristics and heights, adding a new and unique architectural expression. The 58,500 m² complex is a combination of exclusive shops, high-end offices, and parking facilities available to the city centre, ensuring a lively urban environment.

VIA's innovative design enhances the existing qualities and creates new connections between the building and city life. The complex alleviates the city centre's high footfall, forming passageways that respect the urban experience and liveability. A natural stone façade laced with titanium and stainless steel mirrors the surrounding architecture.

Well-being and sustainability woven into the design

The design is BREEAM excellent certified; this required a continual review and integration of sustainability features embedded within the design.

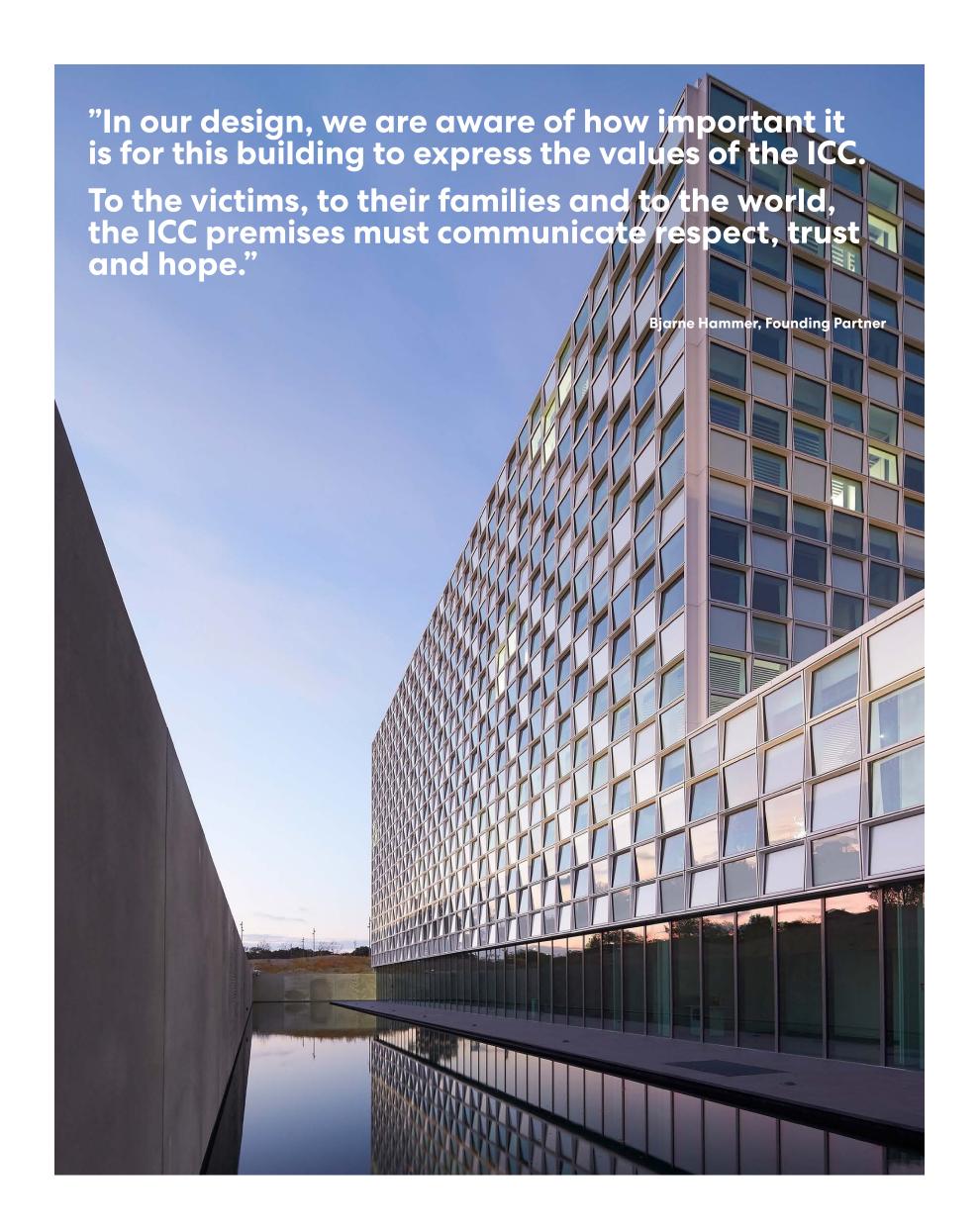
In a built-up urban environment, rainwater collection and sustainable drainage responses were particularly relevant. Green roofs provide increased biodiversity and moderation of rainwater drainage/run-off. In combination with large underground containers, this reduces the loading of public egress systems and subsequent drainage sizes whilst providing a water source for grey-water functions within the building.

The closed cavity façade system was a multi-faceted approach to environmental needs - reducing the thermal conductivity of the façade while maximising daylight. Further reductions to energy requirements were addressed by implementing Solar PVs alongside a Ground Source Heat Pump which is particularly effective in Norway due to the proximity of geothermal sources to the ground surface.

The International Criminal Court, The Hague (NL)

A landmark for peace and justice





In 2010, Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects won the prestigious architectural design competition for the new permanent premises of the International Criminal Court (ICC) with an experienced interdisciplinary team of consultants. The design was selected for its understanding of the concept of transparency. The design also shows how democratic values upon which the Danish tradition for architecture rests, reflected in an international institution subject to some of the world's strictest security requirements.

Safety and openness

In the design approach, it was paramount that the security measures, as much as possible, were an integrated part of the design. The public has easy and open access to the main entrance and the landscape design surrounding the building achieves a highly secure environment without the appearance of barbwire and high fences.

The landscape

The ICC headquarters is located between the edge of the Hague city and the Meijendel Dune Landscape, which is a protected Natura 2000 area. One of the primary and most important aims of landscape architects SLA's concept is to 'reunite' the site with this dune landscape. The primary idea was to locate the complex as a cut in the landscape, establishing an interior that relates to the international collectivity of the ICC, and an exterior that entrenches the ICC to the local Dutch landscape and opens it to the public.

Sustainability

The ICC headquarters was designed to meet BREEAM Excellent certification. The complex is part of the local water-win area. Therefore strict local regulations are applied for materials, their possible leaching, and work during the construction period. Several environmental sustainability measures were implemented into the design, such as heat and cold storage, the largest of its kind in the Netherlands; green roofs; water-saving taps and toilets; automatic daylight control of luminaires for all lighting in offices; and biological cleaning of the mirror pond.

Dokkl, Aarhus (DK)

Space for change





Dokk1 opened its doors to the public in 2015. Situated on the historic harbour front of Aarhus, Dokk1 is Scandinavia's largest public library and represents a new generation of modern, hybrid libraries.

Democratic, open and diverse

The 30,000 m² building is part of the Urban Mediaspace project, and houses a library, a citizen service centre, automatic parking for 1,000 cars, and harbour-side public squares. Cycling paths run through the scheme that includes over 450 bicycle parking spaces, and a light railway station.

The library has already become a new vibrant hub and a connecting "hinge" that opens up to new experiences in the city of Aarhus.

The two open levels of the library are connected by the media ramp, which consists of five platforms dedicated to numerous activities: exhibitions, gaming, interactive workshops, readings, and events. Combined with the literature and media sections, the media ramp offers a meandering path of activity through the building leading up to the children's area on the top floor.

A covered urban space

The principal idea behind Dokkl is a transparent covered urban space, designed as a polygonal slice that hovers above a glazed building resting on a podium with large sculptural stairs. The stairs fan out to street level and the new harbour promenade surrounding the building. The glass building is designed as an open urban space with 360-degree views of the water, harbour, forest and city.

The building has no clear front or back, emphasised by the multi-edged top slice that creates the impression of rotation and movement. The facade is made of expanded metal, the scale of the city and harbour is reflected in the design, which twists, breaks and turns. The concept of the façade design is an interaction with the height of the surrounding buildings and the scale of the port with reference to large elements, such as cranes and ships.

Sustainability

From the earliest stage, sustainability was an integrated part of developing the project, and the building meets the requirements of the Danish 2015 energy classification. Elements such as seawater cooling, effective shielding effects and the 3,000 m² integrated roof solar cells reduce energy consumption considerably. Also, light fittings, LED lamps, motion and daylight sensors, and solar panel arrays reduce dependency on conventional energy sources.



In 2016, the visionary hybrid library project, Dokkl in Aarhus, Denmark, won the Public Library of the Year Award at a prestigious ceremony during the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) congress in Columbus, Ohio. The international panel of judges recognised Dokkl as a true library of the future, that embraces new digital developments, user demands, local culture, and a desire to accommodate diverse population groups within an open and functional architectural expression.

The Dokk1 project also scooped an A+ Popular Choice Award in 2016 in the Library category. The event organised by Architizer brought together an eclectic mix of architects and designers from around the globe.



Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects has extensive experience with library design. The most renowned of these being the extension to the Royal Library in Copenhagen, Denmark, the RIBA award-winning University of Aberdeen New Library in Scotland and Dokk1 in Aarhus, Denmark. In 2018, the new central library in Christchurch, New Zealand, opened. In 2021 the new Shanghai Library East in Shanghai, China will open.



The Libary - A driver of social cohesion

In social sciences, public spaces such as libraries, city halls, and cultural centres are defined as cornerstones of democratic societies. These places enable encounters and active citizenship. This makes the public building an essential facilitator for the social cohesion of society, and architecture is a driving part of this.

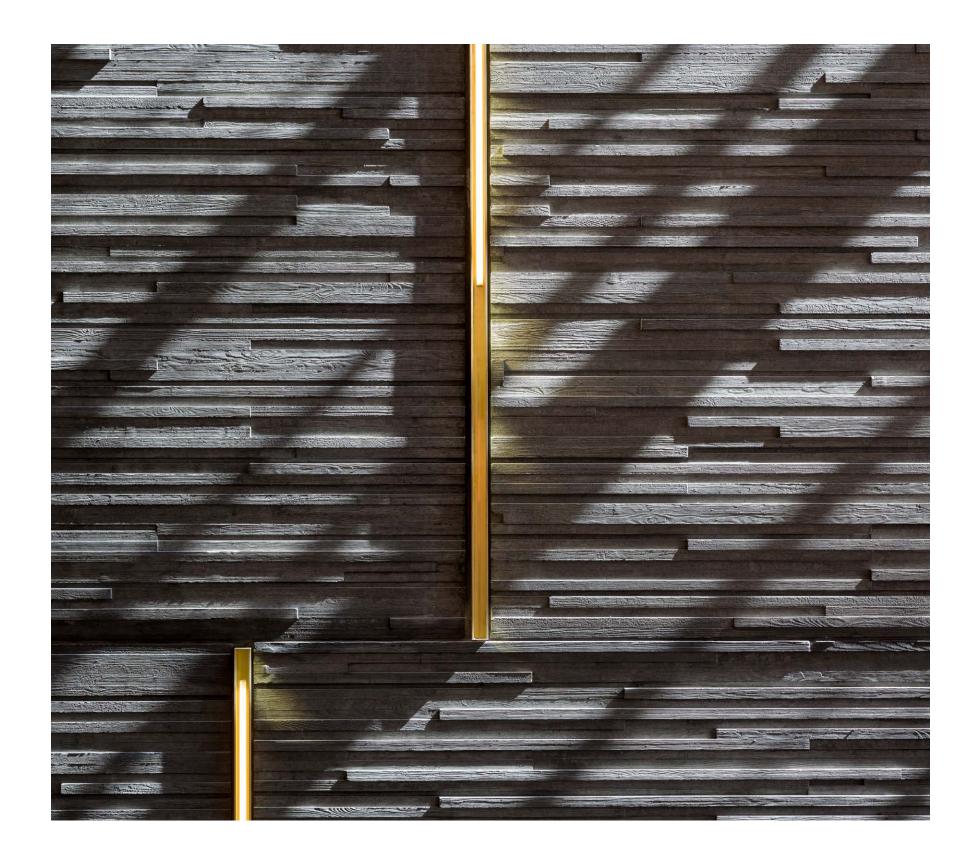
User involvement

Schmidt Hammer Lassen and the City of Aarhus received a "Best Collaboration Award" in 2012 for their extensive cooperation in creating the largest public library in Scandinavia, Dokk1.

The "Best Collaboration Award" awards the best examples of collaboration between partners from the creative industries sector and local governments in the North Sea Region of the European Union. The jury selected the Dokk1 project team due to the broad and intensive collaboration process between the municipality, the architects, the citizens, and future users.

The philosophy behind user involvement is that an active library will only come to life by involving the people who will use it. Therefore, citizens of Aarhus and the future library staff were engaged throughout the design process.





The Malmö Live complex in Southern Sweden, was awarded a prestigious 1st prize in the Mixed-use Completed Buildings category at a ceremony during the World Architectural Festival 2016 in Berlin.

The Jury praised the project as a public building in the best sense of the word: open to everyone, inclusive and very democratic: "It's a real piece of the city and an important catalyst of urban regeneration."



A city in the city

In 2015 the new 54,000 square metres large concert, congress and hotel complex situated on Universitetsholmen in Malmö was completed. The building consists of a composition of cubic volumes that are mutually twisted and given different sizes to meet the directions and building heights of the surrounding city. The facades are designed with a homogeneous expression to make the composition appear as one architectonic sculpture.

The ground floor is open to the public. The main entrance is found at the northern part of the building, with a classic loggia-motif facing the plaza in front. The different functions

in the building are organised like separate elements – like a small town. Here, the lobby becomes the street that runs through the whole ground floor plan and ties everything together. Like the medieval cities, with curved and narrow streets organised around plazas and ares, the lobby is designed to form small gathering places and recesses where it is possible to stop, sit and enjoy the view to the canal and the park.

"The main idea of Malmö Live has been to create 'a city in the city'. An example is the part of the building that faces the park and the canal that is shaped more openly and organic, and gives the people from the city the possibility to stroll through the building if they are going to a concert, a conference, to the café or just want to make a shortcut. We wanted the place to be vibrant, accessible, and inviting – no doubt this approach will have great impact on the future life to be unfolded around and inside the buildings." Kristian Ahlmark, Senior Partner

Open and accessible

The new cultural centre becomes an open, expressive and dynamic building that is manifold in both its activities and its architecture. The point of departure for the building design is the modern Scandinavian architectural tradition with the clear functional organisation and the accessible and open ground floor lay-out. The building becomes the focal point and a landmark for Malmö – a place where the spirit of the city, the diversity and the intimacy is given an architectonic expression.

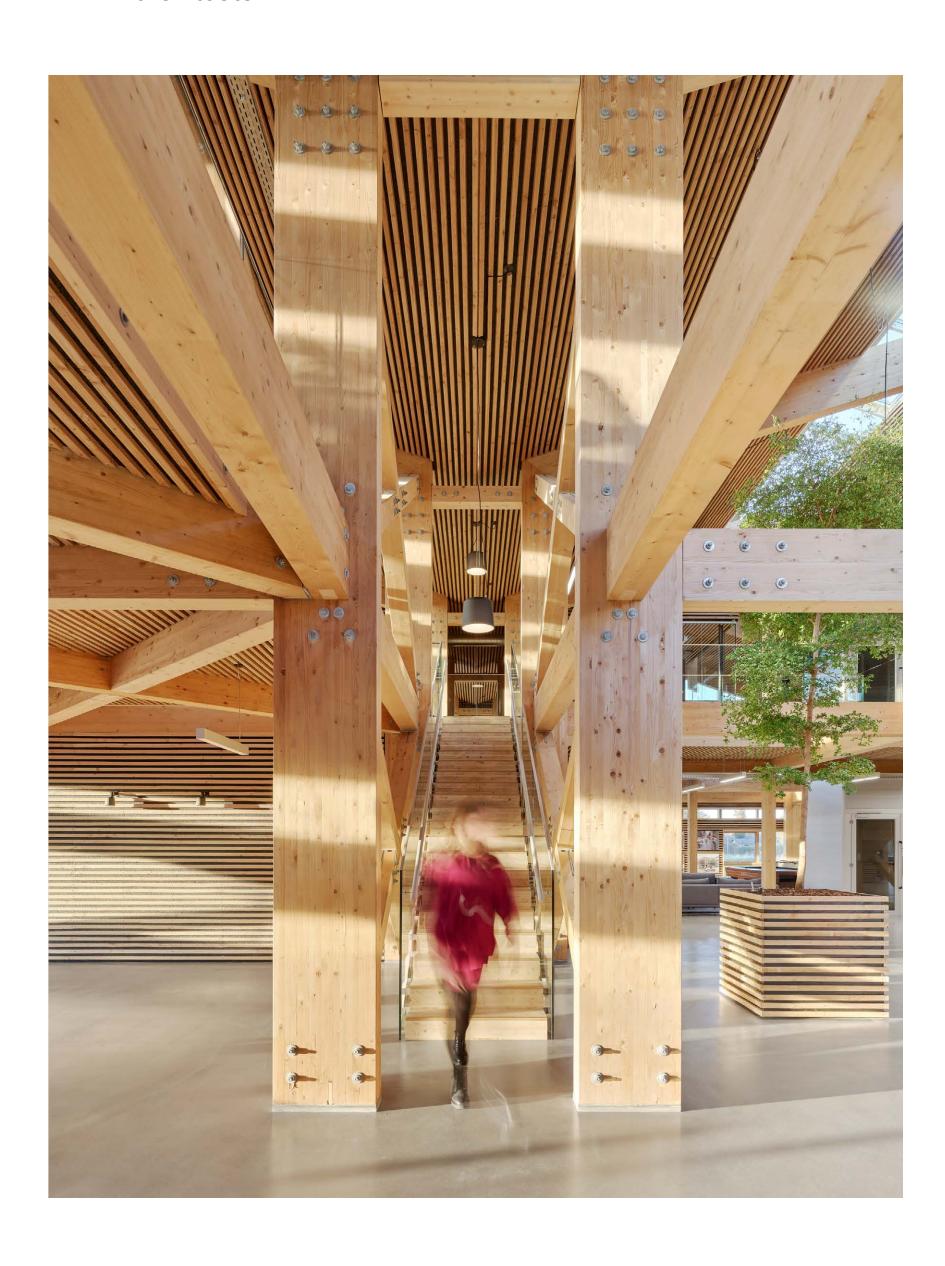
Sustainability profile

Malmö Live is a sustainable, green project. The intention is to develop the area with as little environmental impact as possible, for example by reducing energy consumption and using local energy sources such as geothermal heating, solar energy and wind power.

Close proximity to City Tunnel and Central Station makes taking public transport easy. Green roofs absorb water, slow up runoff and promote biodiversity. Solar cells meet some of the building's energy requirements. Food waste is collected and turned into biogas, and there are nesting boxes for kestrels on the roofs to help this bird of prey to live in a city environment.

Malmö Live will be certified according to the international Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standard – aiming for the highest level, platinum, in the assessment, which looks at factors like materials, indoor environment, design, and water use. The building also meets the category A standard of the Miljöbyggprogram Syd Green Construction Programme.





A sustainable workplace

Framehouse, a 1,810-square-metre flexible office building in Dragør, Denmark, is a highly sustainable workspace wrapped in warm, natural materials. The industrial business area 12 kilometres south of central Copenhagen is dotted with repurposed aircraft hangars, and new construction influenced by their form. While the simple building volumes of Framehouse are a nod to the local context, the building is a rare gem in Denmark -- a sustainable and innovative exposed timber structure.

Openness, co-creation and interaction

Utilizing wood as a primary building material, Framehouse achieves its lowembodied energy and low-carbon impact goals while becoming the first exposed timber structure in greater Copenhagen, Denmark.

Framehouse is a modern interpretation of traditional wooden barns and their exposed frames. This idea of openness led the design into a collaborative office space encouraging co-creation and interaction where sustainable innovation meets the needs of the office tenants while supporting Denmark's ambitious green goals. Framehouse is aiming for DNGB Gold certification.

Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

We performed a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) to study the climate impact of Framehouse's primary structure. We investigated the CO2 savings through the different building phases by comparing the timber structure with a conventional building method (concrete/steel).

The results showed that most CO2 savings are made in the production phase, where a primary structure made of timber has about half of the climate footprint/CO2 emissions compared to a structure in concrete/steel. We will use the findings from Framehouse's LCA as a case study and inspiration to assess the long-term impacts of projects' material choices.



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We support

Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects hereby states that we operate in accordance with The UN Global Compact's ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption. We state that our actions comply with Danish national legislation and related international conventions

This COP reports on the continued commitment and describes actions taken within all four areas.