

DENMARK

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a white tank top and dark shorts, stands on a wooden pier extending into a large body of water. She is holding a bicycle with a basket on the front and a bag on the back. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright reflection on the water and casting long shadows of the woman and her bicycle onto the wooden planks of the pier. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. In the background, there are green hills or islands across the water.

THE STATE OF GREEN SOLUTIONS

DENMARK

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CREDITS

FOTO:
Daniel Villadsen
Daniel Overbeck
Dima Slastushevskiy
Ty Stange
Jesper Rai
Viggo Lundberg
Rasmus Hjortshøj
Claus Løgstrup
Daniel Rasmussen
Viggo Lundberg
Michael Tsegayet
Thomas Dambo
Colourbox
GettyImages

VIDEO:
Denmark.dk
State of Green
Cood Company Pictures and ARC
Gehl
Randersgades Skole
Facej & Embassy of Denmark in Mali
Little Sun
Jeppe Hein and Art 2030
Thomas Dambo

DESIGN & LAYOUT:
Polygraphic

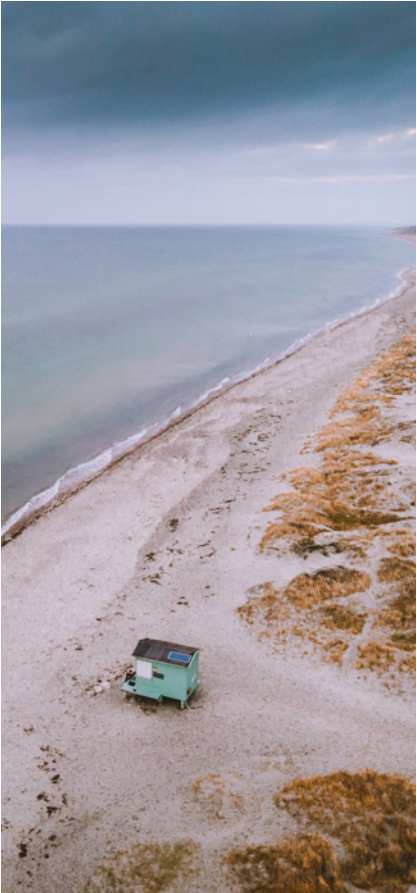
EDIT & CONTENT:
Embassy of Denmark, Washington DC



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK

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DENMARK – THE STATE OF GREEN SOLUTIONS

Denmark is a small country in terms of the size of our population. Around 5.8 million people live here. However, we see ourselves as a giant country on the GREEN scene. Over the past 50 years, we have ensured a smooth transition from black to green energy, and have shown that economic growth and green transition can go hand in hand. In October 2020, the Danish Government launched a new long-term strategy on global climate action 'A Green and Sustainable World', which sets the direction for Denmark's international climate efforts. We have the experience and the green solutions, and that is why we have a unique opportunity to contribute solutions to global climate challenges.

WE HAVE THE EXPERIENCE AND THE GREEN SOLUTIONS, AND THAT IS WHY WE HAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL CLIMATE CHALLENGES.

Increased global ambitions and actions are necessary to reach the Paris Agreement's 1.5 degrees Celsius objective. Denmark wishes to be a green frontrunner in global climate action that inspires and encourages the rest of the world. Our goal is 70 percent emission reductions by 2030 and climate neutrality by 2050. We will help lead the green transition by furthering global ambitions on climate, environment and nature. And we will actively promote and support the Paris Agreement in addition to sustainable

development aligned with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We will work for a socially just green transition that creates green skilled jobs, avoids increasing inequality around the world and ensures access to clean water and clean energy to create jobs and apprenticeships, particularly in developing countries.

The COVID-19 pandemic has only intensified the need for ambitious measures in support of sustainable development and green transition as a means of creating a real and lasting economic recovery. We believe we can use the Danish example to rebuild better and greener societies.

This little booklet leads you through a description of the Danish way of entering the GREEN scene in different areas - and concrete solutions to take global climate action. In many chapters of the booklet, you will find QR-codes containing videos and much more to explore.

ENJOY!

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark



THE DANES HAVE A SMALL COUNTRY, BUT MANY SUSTAINABLE AND INNOVATIVE IDEAS. SEE HOW DANES HAVE EMBRACED THE GREEN TRANSITION.



FACTS ABOUT DENMARK:

THE HIGHEST
POINT IN
DENMARK
REACHES
**172.5
METRES**
(566 FEET)
ABOVE SEA LEVEL

5,837,213
PEOPLE LIVE IN
DENMARK

NOT INCLUDING GREENLAND AND
THE FAROE ISLANDS, DENMARK IS THE
SMALLEST COUNTRY IN SCANDINAVIA.
THE SIZE OF DENMARK IS 42,944 KM²
(16,580 MI²)

NO POINT IN
DENMARK IS
FURTHER THAN
50 KM (31 MILES)
**FROM
THE SEA**

DENMARK IS A
BICYCLE
NATION

DENMARK
HAS APPOINTED
ITS FIRST
CLIMATE
AMBASSADOR

THE WORLD'S FIRST **MINISTRY
OF ENVIRONMENT** WAS DANISH

HANS
CHRISTIAN
ANDERSEN
WAS DANISH



GREEN FRONTLINE MISSIONS

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is a strong advocate for a more sustainable world and aims to become one of the world's five most sustainable foreign services within the next five years. In order to walk the talk and accelerate the Danish government's climate ambitions worldwide, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has appointed 20 Green Frontline Missions to promote green solutions globally. When it comes to taking action, the Green Frontline Missions work to enhance awareness of green solutions through climate diplomacy.

The Danish Government has also appointed Denmark's first climate ambassador. The climate ambassador plays a key part in the Danish effort to increase global climate ambition in the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

In the next chapters of this booklet we will introduce you to some of the green solutions that Denmark believes can contribute to the green transition, and you will learn about how we can show leadership in global climate action.

IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE, Denmark has set the ambitious goal to reduce its emissions by 70 percent by 2030 (compared to 1990 levels) and to reach climate neutrality by 2050. The Danish parliament passed the nation's first climate act in 2020, thereby making the aforementioned targets legally binding.

WHEN IT COMES TO TAKING ACTION, THE GREEN FRONTLINE MISSIONS WORK TO ENHANCE AWARENESS OF GREEN SOLUTIONS THROUGH CLIMATE DIPLOMACY.

MEET DENMARK'S CLIMATE AMBASSADOR. THE CLIMATE AMBASSADORS' WORK CUTS ACROSS GOVERNMENT TO COORDINATE GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION AND LEAD OUTREACH EFFORTS.



THE GREEN TRANSITION

The oil crisis in the 1970s kick-started our green transition. At that time, Denmark was 99 percent dependent on imported fossil fuels. We shifted the focus to green energy and to developing sustainable solutions.

After decades of research and development, Denmark has become a global frontrunner in renewable energy and it is clear that economic growth, job creation and green solutions can go hand in hand. In fact, from 1990 to 2019, Denmark's real GDP increased by 67 percent while greenhouse gas emissions declined by 37 percent. Between 2012 and 2017, employment in the green sector grew four times faster than in the private sector in general.

Denmark generates half of its electricity from wind and solar power while having one of the world's most secure and stable electricity networks. Bioenergy, which is energy stored in organic material or biomass, also plays an important role in the Danish energy system. District heating provides efficient heating or cooling through water pipes to populated areas: 64 percent of all Danish households are heated through district heating systems and the national goal is to increase that number to 75 percent.

Green energy is a top priority, which is why Denmark aims to reach 100 percent renewable electricity by 2027. A great example is the island of Samsø, where 11 onshore wind turbines generate 100 percent of Samsø's entire electricity needs.

GREEN ENERGY IS A TOP PRIORITY, WHICH IS WHY DENMARK AIMS TO REACH 100% RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY BY 2027.

IN 1997, Samsø was named the nation's Renewable Energy Island. A 10-year energy plan was established, and in 2007, Samsø was declared 100 percent self-sufficient with renewable energy, relying on wind, solar and biomass. In order to become sustainable, many of Samsø's inhabitants insulated their homes and replaced their oil-burners.





A RECORD was set on September 15, 2019. This was the first day ever when wind turbine production exceeded Denmark's electricity demand over a complete 24 hour period.

IN 2020, Denmark commissioned its largest onshore wind farm. With an installed capacity of 77 megawatts, the project generates electricity for 65,000 households. Today, we have more than 4,000 onshore, and 500 offshore, operating wind turbines nationwide and they produce 50 percent of our country's entire electricity needs.

THE GREEN TRANSITION

WIND ENERGY

After the oil crisis in 1973, a dynamic wind industry started to emerge in Denmark, and in 1979, the first commercial wind turbine was erected. Over the ensuing years, the onshore wind industry experienced great success, which inspired the development of offshore wind.

The world's first offshore wind project was built in 1991 off Vindeby, Denmark. In 2002, we installed the world's first large scale offshore wind farm, Horns Reef 1, in the North Sea off the coast of Jutland.

Today, we have 14 offshore wind farms with a combined capacity of 1,700 megawatts. In the years to come, offshore wind will play a key role in Denmark's plan to achieve a fully renewable electricity system.

IN THE YEARS TO COME OFFSHORE WIND WILL PLAY A KEY ROLE IN DENMARK'S PLAN TO ACHIEVE A FULLY RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY SYSTEM.

Our largest offshore wind farm is Horns Reef 3. The wind farm's 49 wind turbines have a total capacity of 407 megawatts and cover the annual electricity consumption of approximately 425,000 domestic households.

ENERGY ISLANDS

In 2020, the Danish Government took the initial step in development of the

world's first two energy islands. These will be in Danish waters in the North and the Baltic Seas. The concept envisages gathering electricity from surrounding offshore wind farms at one offshore location and from there exporting it to Denmark and neighboring countries. The energy islands will thus work as hubs for electricity generation. In the future, the green energy from the islands could also be used to produce climate friendly fuels for shipping and aviation as well as being a determining factor in reaching our goal of a CO2-neutral society.

These two energy islands represent a significant new era in offshore wind, as the islands in the North and Baltic Seas will more than double our current offshore wind capacity.

SOLAR POWER & BIOGAS ENERGY

About 55 percent of solar power in Denmark is used to make electricity with the remainder being used to make hot water. The contribution of solar to both is relatively small – 3 percent of our total electricity and 2 percent of hot water in district heating. However, as the cost of solar – particularly for making electricity – continues to fall, multiple new projects are being considered and the potential for significant growth is substantial. Solar power, together with other renewable energy sources, will play a key part in helping reach Denmark's goal of becoming independent of fossil fuels by 2050.

BIOGAS ENERGY

Denmark is a world leader in the production and use of biogas as an energy source. While many are familiar with renewable energy sources

such as wind and solar, biogas is lesser known but no less important. Biogas is produced when waste products such as animal manure or food waste from restaurants are treated in an anaerobic digester - where bacteria break down these wastes and produce methane (biogas). The biogas can then be used to produce biomethane (renewable natural gas), electricity or heat to help offset our reliance on fossil fuels. And the resulting liquid from the digesters is used as organic fertilizer on farms to grow crops. Biogas plants also help to reduce odor and help to protect Denmark's land and water resources from pollution.

IN 2020, Danish renewables firm European Energy announced that it would build a 300 megawatt solar cell facility in the south of the country. This will be the largest solar farm in northern Europe and is scheduled to begin operating before the end of 2021. It will deliver enough green electricity to supply more than 75,000 households and this single project will increase our nation's solar generation capacity by a third.

IN ORDER TO BECOME INDEPENDENT OF FOSSIL FUELS, WE NEED TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO STORE ENERGY. SEE HOW AN INNOVATIVE STORAGE SOLUTION HAS COME TO LIFE IN DENMARK.



A BIG QUESTION IS HOW DO WE REACH 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY AND HOW DO WE STORE ENERGY?

IN 2020, more than 20 percent of the gas in the natural gas grid in Denmark was renewable natural gas produced from biogas plants treating animal manure, food waste and agricultural byproducts. That number is expected reach 30 percent by 2023.





IN DENMARK,
9 out of 10 bottles and
cans are returned and
reused.

2/3 OF all waste is recy-
cled in Denmark.

AT THE END OF 2021, all
households in Copenha-
gen will be connected to
a district energy system.

THE GREEN TRANSITION

RECYCLING, WASTE AND DISTRICT ENERGY

RECYCLING

Recycling, and the concept of a circular economy, are deeply rooted in the public's psyche. In 1978, Denmark was the first country in the world to implement recycling laws. In most supermarkets, you will find a reverse vending machine; in other words a place where one can recycle bottles and cans in return for cash. In 2019, 1.4 billion bottles and cans – equating to a record 92 percent – were returned for recycling. This avoided more than 150,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions.

WASTE-TO-ENERGY

Turning waste into clean energy can help reduce CO2 emissions. Copenhill, also known as Amager Bakke and located in Copenhagen, is Denmark's newest renewable industrial size power plant. Copenhill is a 41,000m2 waste-to-energy plant with an arti-

cial ski slope built on the roof as well as a 85 metres (279 feet) high climbing wall and hiking trail. The waste-to-energy plant, designed by Danish Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG), converts 440,000 tonnes of municipal waste into clean energy annually, resulting in electricity and district heating for 150,000 households. While being an urban recreation center that supports Copenhagen's position as one of the world's most livable cities, the power plant also supports the capi-

tal's goal of becoming the first carbon neutral city in the world by 2025.

DISTRICT ENERGY

Waste-to-energy plants are most often connected with district energy (district heating and cooling) which is a critical component in cities' plans to become carbon neutral. District energy works as distribution of thermal energy (heating or cooling) generated from a central place like Copenhill to many surrounding buildings. The Danish district energy system is developed and designed so most types of renewable energy sources can be connected such as geothermal heating, solar energy, wind power, biomass boilers, waste heat recovery, heat pumps and thermal storage.

SEE HOW WE CAN
REGARD WASTE AS A
RESOURCE AND REDUCE
OUR CARBON FOOT-
PRINT BY RECYCLING.



SKIING ON THE
ROOF OF A WASTE-
TO-ENERGY POWER
PLANT IS A REALITY IN
COPENHAGEN. TAKE A
PEEK AT COPENHILL.



WATER MANAGEMENT

Water is an increasingly critical issue around the world. The world's water resources are under pressure from a growing global population, with rising demands for drinking water for human consumption as well as in agriculture, manufacturing and industry. At the same time, climate change means drought and flooding are, paradoxically, becoming increasingly common. Sustainable water management strategies therefore assume extreme importance both for mitigating the effects of, and adapting to, climate change. Denmark is at the forefront of sustainable solutions for water conservation, water supply and wastewater treatment. We have decreased our water use by 40 percent since 1980. We have average water losses of just 7-8 percent, and some of our wastewater treatment facilities have begun to generate more energy than they use.

DENMARK IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR WATER CONSERVATION, WATER SUPPLY AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT.

CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Every Danish municipality has a climate adaptation plan. In 2011, Copenhagen was hit by a 1000-year storm, which caused severe flooding. As a result, the city administration developed a comprehensive storm

water management plan that would not only help prevent future flooding, but would also create new green and blue urban spaces, viewing the water as a resource.

TURNING WASTEWATER INTO ENERGY

The Danish wastewater treatment facility Marselisborg is a strong example of how the water sector can contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by transforming from major energy consumers to energy producers. Marselisborg produces 150 percent of the energy it consumes by having implemented energy efficient solutions and generating biogas from wastewater.

OUR TAP WATER is today as pure as the finest spring water. More than 99 percent of it is sourced from groundwater, which is aired and filtered, but not treated with chemicals such as chlorine. Many of our finest restaurants serve only tap water because of its high quality. In order to ensure this quality is maintained, we do our best to protect our water and the land from pollution through regulations, education and innovation.



TIPS TO REDUCE YOUR FOOD WASTE AT HOME:

PLAN AHEAD

Create a meal plan based on items you already have at home.

SHOP SMART

Make a list when grocery shopping and never shop on an empty stomach - you will buy more food than you actually need.

USE SMALLER PLATES

Over the past 20 years, plate sizes have grown – but our stomachs have not. By using smaller plates, there is a higher chance that you will eat all the food on your plate without wasting any.

ASK FOR A DOGGY BAG

IF YOU are unable to finish your meal at a restaurant. Ask for a doggy bag to bring the leftovers home and enjoy it the next day.

STORE CORRECTLY AND MAKE THE FREEZER YOUR FRIEND

Make sure to put older items up front, so they get used first. Also, store your leftovers in a central place in your fridge so you remember to use them. Remember a lot of food can be stored in the freezer when you are not sure when you will eat it.

THE GREEN TRANSITION

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

The global population is expected to grow to nearly 10 billion people by 2050, and this means the demand for food will increase. To meet this demand, it is estimated that global food production must increase by 60 percent. To meet the twin challenge of population growth and climate change; new, sustainable technologies will have to be developed.

For decades, we have striven for sustainable and innovative food production, that produces more food with less resources and a reduced environmental footprint. Thirteen percent of the Danish population eats organic food on a regular basis: the highest level in the world.

Our farmers and food companies have to adhere to strict regulations when it comes to the environment

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT GLOBAL FOOD PRODUCTION MUST INCREASE BY 60% BEFORE 2050.

and animal welfare, and they constantly seek to reduce the use of antibiotics and fertilizers. Because of this, our food products have a high level of food safety and quality.

NEW NORDIC CUISINE

The concept of New Nordic Cuisine was born in Denmark and made our culinary scene famous worldwide. In New Nordic Cuisine, most ingredients are local and picked according to what is seasonally available. This results in meals that are simple, fresh and much sought after.

FOOD WASTE

With a growing demand for food globally, the amount of food that goes to waste every day is on the rise. Today, more than one third of the food produced worldwide is lost or wasted in food production and consumption systems.

The Danish non-profit movement and organisation founded by Selina Juul to fight food waste: 'Stop Wasting Food' has brought food waste on Denmark's agenda. Selina talks about the challenges of food waste in the video in the QR-code.

FOUNDER OF STOP WASTING FOOD, SELINA JUUL, HIGHLIGHTS THE GLOBAL CHALLENGES OF FOOD WASTE.



ARCHITECTURE & URBAN PLANNING

Danish architecture is popular around the world: for instance, many people are familiar with Jørn Utzon's Sydney Opera House in Australia. In the twenty-first century Danish architects are also entering the GREEN scene and are in demand globally for their sustainable solutions in architecture and urban planning.

One example of a Danish architectural company that has a holistic approach is Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG). Ingels' buildings aim to be great places to be for the people using them and they seek to rely on sustainable energy. As outlined earlier, BIGs project Copenhill - that combines a waste-to-energy plant topped with a ski slope, hiking trail and climbing wall - emphasizes Ingels' holistic approach to architecture and sustainability.

CITIES FOR CITIZENS

Danish architecture is known for its focus on people and public spaces. As a result, cities provide safe and enjoyable settings for both pedestrians and cyclists around cities. The human aspect of Danish architecture is closely associated with the Danish international design consultancy Gehl. Gehl has an approach to urban development, which focuses on citizens and the spaces and life between buildings, such as public squares and bike lanes. Gehl has committed themselves to deliver master planning frameworks that bring equitable, healthy and sustainable cities for all aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Working with food systems is a great example of Gehl's approach to 'people-first sustainability' where people's everyday behavior contributes to climate ac-

tion. The idea is that citizens' well-being and life-quality must be the starting point for all actions made in the transition towards a greener and more sustainable urban future.

THE IDEA IS THAT CITIZENS' WELL-BEING AND LIFE-QUALITY MUST BE THE STARTING POINT FOR ALL ACTIONS MADE IN THE TRANSITION TOWARDS A GREENER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE URBAN FUTURE.

SEE HOW GEHL IS
APPROACHING THE
URBAN SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT AND LIFE
BETWEEN BUILDINGS.



ONE OF BJARKE INGELS' first projects that opened in 2003 was the Harbour Bath in Copenhagen. It marked the start of a new era of architectural innovation and experimentation, pulling people out of their homes and transforming life in the city. Copenhagen has spent 10 years cleaning up the water in the harbour - following its use for decades as an industrial outfall - and those waters are now ready for people to swim in. Since its inauguration, the Harbour Bath has caused a ripple effect, inspiring more harbour pools in Copenhagen and in our second largest city Aarhus.



IN 2025, the City of Copenhagen expects to be the world's first CO2 neutral city.

MAYORS WORLDWIDE are increasing their focus on actions needed to realise the ambitious goals of the Paris Agreement. Through global city networks such as C40, they are collaborating to tackle climate change and exchange best practices to ensure cities are healthier, greener and more prosperous.

A LARGE PROPORTION of local emissions originate from bus and car traffic. Part of the solution can be electric mobility.

THE C40 NETWORK has produced a sustainable transportation guidebook: 'We have the Power to Move the World'.

SMART AND LIVEABLE CITIES

By 2030, 60 percent of the world's population is expected to live in urban areas. This rapid expansion will put cities under significant pressure with increased CO2 emissions and extreme weather events being some of the most urgent challenges. Today, cities account for 70 percent of global CO2 emissions.

We have a long tradition of being at the forefront of implementing green solutions and technologies. In the preceding chapters, we have outlined solutions related to waste handling, water management, renewable energy and heating. In addition to these items, efficient public transportation, and mobility in general, are some of the ways in which smart city technologies are being applied to enhance urban environments, from both a sustainability and a liv-

ability perspective. New smart city solutions make it possible to create a more resilient, equitable and healthy society for the future.

Another important part of a liveable city is creating urban spaces and recreational areas for citizens to enjoy: green and peaceful parts of the city that, at the same time, have adapted to climate change. It is important to adopt a holistic approach that makes it attractive to live in a city.

In the next chapter you can read more about one concrete way that Danes deal with CO2 emissions in our cities.

TODAY, CITIES ACCOUNT FOR 70% OF GLOBAL CO2 EMISSIONS.

SEE WHAT IS THE KEY TO A SMART AND LIVEABLE CITY.



URBAN MOBILITY

Part of the solution to reduce emissions in larger cities can be e-mobility and public transport. We also believe that bicycling should be one of the primary forms of transportation in our bigger cities. As noted in previous chapters, Copenhagen – our capital city – plans to be CO2-neutral by 2025, and bicycling will materially assist in achieving this ambition.

Our generally flat terrain, and the way our large cities such as Copenhagen are structured, contributes to the perfect setting for cyclists. We bike in all types of weather and at all times of the day. In order to serve the large number of cyclists, contemporary urban planners are working to develop the necessary cycling infrastructure all over the country. Special cycle superhighways nationwide are structured to create the safest and

fastest opportunities for cyclists to make their way from point A to point B through green areas and without having to interact with cars. Cyclists travelling over longer distances have the opportunity to swap between bike and public transport.

WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT BICYCLING SHOULD BE ONE OF THE PRIMARY FORMS OF TRANSPORTATION IN OUR BIGGER CITIES.

SEE HOW COPENHAGEN HAS TURNED THE CITY INTO A BIKE-FRIENDLY CAPITAL.



NINE OUT OF TEN
Danes own a bike.

BICYCLING ACCOUNTS for a quarter of all personal transportation for distances of less than five kilometres (3.1 miles).

THERE ARE MORE BICYCLES than cars in Copenhagen traffic.

THERE ARE GREEN WAVES for bicycles in city traffic during rush hours.

BICYCLING has a positive impact on general public health.

CYCLING 2.5 KILOMETRES (1.6 miles), every day to work or school, instead of taking the car, can avoid 150 kg (330 lb) of CO2 emissions every year.

IT IS ESTIMATED that a quarter of all Copenhagen families with two or more children own a cargo bike for transporting kids, groceries, and other necessities. For most, a cargo bike is a real alternative to owning a car.

WHAT IS THE PARIS AGREEMENT?

The Paris Agreement brings all nations into a common cause for the climate – the first binding contract between 189 countries. The goal of the agreement is to fight climate change, to minimize CO2 emissions globally and to pursue efforts to keep the global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees Celsius. The agreement entered into effect in November 2016.

WHAT ARE THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS?

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are ambitious global goals agreed upon in 2015 by all 193 UN member states. They demonstrate global unity concerning a better and more sustainable world for future generations. The SDGs consists of 17 goals that address issues such as extreme poverty, gender equality and education. They also look to major new challenges that the world is facing such as climate change and the conservation of forest and nature. The world is committed to achieving the SDGs by the year 2030.

IN DENMARK, we are taking action to help the world achieve The Sustainable Development Goals before 2030. Both the Government, the private sector and Danish organisations are working and striving towards implementing the SDGs in Danish society and daily life. One of those organisations is CHORA 2030, which works to translate the SDGs into concrete action. CHORA 2030 works with a wide range of organisations such as the UN-CITY in Copenhagen and municipalities across the country. CHORA 2030 has also created the 2030 Schools: something that both primary and high schools have joined. The 2030 Schools have made the SDGs an integrated part of the curriculum, and it gives the students resources to create a sustainable future. See more about the project in the QR-code.

GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTIONS

Danes genuinely believe in cooperation and working together to achieve our goals and dreams. We also understand that Denmark is a small country accounting for only 0.1 percent of global emissions. Maybe this is why we believe solutions to global challenges are best found through negotiation and international agreements. This belief is evidenced by the many international organisations in which Denmark is an active member: This includes entities such as the Nordic Council, the European Union (EU), NATO, United Nations, World Bank Group, International Monetary Fund (IMF), OECD, World Trade Organization (WTO), and Global Environment Facility (GEF) to mention some.

The EU, on behalf of Denmark and the rest of its member states, has presented a single common plan to

reduce CO2 – a European Green Deal. The overarching aim of this ambitious plan is to make Europe “climate neutral” by 2050. In the interim, it seeks, by 2030, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 55 percent relative to 1990 levels. It is nonetheless essential that the rest of the world moves in the same direction to avoid a major rise in global temperatures and the irreparable damage such an increase would cause.

In 2015, the world adopted the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), – a strong global consensus on the need for change. Now we need to take action. Denmark has a historic, and moral, responsibility to lead. We have the experience and the green solutions from our own transition. We have shown that economic growth and green transition go hand in hand.

WE HAVE THE EXPERIENCE AND THE GREEN SOLUTIONS FROM OUR OWN TRANSITION. WE HAVE SHOWN THAT ECONOMIC GROWTH AND GREEN TRANSITION GO HAND IN HAND.

SEE HOW STUDENTS FROM A DANISH SCHOOL INTEGRATE THE SDGS IN THEIR CURRICULUM.



A FAIR TRANSITION FOR ALL

The COVID-19 pandemic has intensified the need for strong measures in support of sustainable development and green transition as a means of creating a real and lasting economic recovery. We believe the global community can benefit from the Danish example to rebuild our societies. We will work to inspire globally with all of the green solutions that are outlined in the pages of this book.

Through stronger collaboration, dialogue and alliances with countries, the private sector and organisations, we will inspire and influence others to raise their ambitions in order to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement and ensure sustainable development in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We can use the green transition to ensure access to clean water and energy, and to create

jobs globally. This is especially relevant for developing countries, where job creation is particularly important. Denmark will strive for a socially just green transition that creates growth and opportunities for all, and which fights inequality.

WE CAN USE THE GREEN TRANSITION TO ENSURE ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER AND ENERGY, AND TO CREATE JOBS GLOBALLY.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE YOUNG PROJECT MANAGER EMMANUEL BAMBA AND HIS START-UP BUSINESS.



THE YOUTH BUSINESS CREATION SUPPORT FUND (FACEJ) supported by Denmark in Mali, West Africa, enables young people between 18 and 35 years old to get a business education and start a business. The young project manager and co-founder of Express Ticket, Emmanuel Bamba, has developed a digital platform bringing together the various ticket offices of intercity, transnational and international transport companies, thus allowing travelers to book or buy their tickets online. Express Ticket has created a partnership with the company Smartcard and together they are developing new solutions in the field of a digital transformation of road transportation in West Africa.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





THE ARTS

In this booklet, you have read about some of the green, innovative and sustainable solutions Denmark has developed over the last 50 years. Solutions that Denmark is continuing to refine and wishes to export in the fight against global climate change. We strive for a better and more sustainable world, where we all have the ambition to take action and where we will all be able to rebuild better and greener societies. It is not only our Government making a big effort but also the private sector, uni-

versities, think tanks, architects, urban planners, designers, artists and more. Art often has a special ability to make us understand difficult subjects physically and emotionally, and it can therefore be a motivating factor in promoting action. Artists can also enhance innovation by assisting schoolchildren around the world. This is illustrated in the following experience from Africa, where project 'Little Sun' by Danish/Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson, has met with great success.

WE STRIVE FOR A BETTER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE WORLD, WHERE WE ALL HAVE THE AMBITION TO TAKE ACTION AND WHERE WE WILL ALL BE ABLE TO REBUILD BETTER AND GREENER SOCIETIES.

'LITTLE SUN' BY OLAFUR ELIASSON

'Little Sun' brings renewable energy to those without access to power while at the same time mobilizing climate action globally. Founded by the Danish/Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson and engineer Frederik Ottesen at London's Tate Modern, 'Little Sun' combines the world of art and design with pragmatic clean energy solutions. The 'Little Sun' brings light to the most vulnerable, off-grid, communities in Sub-Saharan Africa and worldwide. This initiative focuses on school children, refugees and people afflicted by natural disaster. Since its launch in 2012, more than one million Little Sun lamps have been distributed worldwide, with more than half going to remote areas without electricity. There, they provide a clean alternative to fossil fuel-based lighting.

SEE HOW SCHOOL CHILDREN IN RWANDA IMPROVED THEIR STUDIES AFTER RECEIVING THE LITTLE SUN LAMP VIA THE SOLAR SCHOOLS PROGRAM.



**'BREATHE WITH ME'
AN ART PROJECT BY JEPPE HEIN
AND ART 2030**

'Breathe with Me' is an ongoing, multifaceted global art project by the artist Jeppe Hein and ART 2030, which is a non-profit organisation uniting art with the United Nations 2030-agenda for the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The project aims to bring the entire world together with one universal action: breathing. And with that breath, have strength to fight for a better world. 'Breathe with Me' was launched in 2019 during the 74th UN General Assembly and Climate Action Summit. It has invited communities from around the world to take part in various events including: a public and participatory installation in New York's Central Park, educational activities in schools and museums, and through virtual workshops.

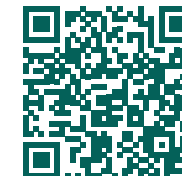
BREATHE WITH ME
BY JEPPE HEIN AND
ART 2030 AT THE
74TH UN GENERAL
ASSEMBLY, CLIMATE
ACTION SUMMIT AND
CENTRAL PARK, NEW
YORK CITY, 2019.



**THE 'RECYCLE ART ACTIVIST'
THOMAS DAMBO**

The Danish artist Thomas Dambo calls himself a 'Recycle Art Activist'. Together with his crew, he makes projects out of trash/recycled materials all around the world. His mission is to enlighten people about the importance of recycling. He started out making birdhouses of scrapwood, and he produced a plastic forest in Mexico City - called Future Forest - consisting of tonnes of wasted plastic. One of his most famous pieces is his gigantic trolls made of recycled wood. In his 1000 square metres art studio in Copenhagen, he collects trash/recycled materials like wood, plastic and metal. He also collects used materials he finds discarded around the city and that are donated by local factories.

SEE THE FAIRY TALE
ABOUT THE 7 TROLLS
AND THE MAGICAL
TOWER BY THOMAS
DAMBO.





**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK**