

Summary of the First Workshop on Green Growth, Køge

The workshop in Køge focused on three thematic areas: strategic energy planning, waste to resource and sustainable urban planning. Below is a summary of what was discussed in these three different areas.

The discussion around strategic energy planning identified mobility, strategic planning, societal impact, and public opinions and awareness as four sub-areas required to improve strategic energy planning as a whole. The participants agreed that mobility requires creative solutions, studies, methods, and a promotion of green mobility such as Park and Ride, carpools and intermodal harbours. In the discussion on strategic energy planning screening, identifying weak points, developing roadmaps, developing best practices, tools and assessment were identified as requirements. Regarding societal impact of green growth, it was concluded that it requires an added value, a balance between ecological vs economical, esthetics education employment, growth advantages and disadvantages, a value for different stakeholders, and non-commercial values. To conclude strategic energy planning, it was agreed that public opinions and awareness requires empowering people to act and change, conveying a sense of emergency and reality, and encouraging engagement and ownership.

The discussion around waste to resource identified several needs. The participants agreed that there needs to be an increased awareness among politicians and the public and that it should be tackled through education on the issues, information campaigns and study visits. There also needs to be an analysis of the issue, creation of a broad network for increased cooperation, laboratories to create new solutions and implementation of them, learning and dissemination of new solutions, sharing of knowledge, and good examples. Lastly, there needs to be technological developments in paper recycling, plastic recycling, logistics, district heating, incineration, new waste resources, laboratory technology and biogas production.

The discussion around sustainable urban planning identified citizen participation, green areas, bike friendly infrastructure and temporary use of spaces as four sub-areas that would increase the sustainability of urban planning. Citizen participation is important democratically and to provide knowledge to the planners as the “owners” of the urban area. In the discussion, the participants agreed that it is important to cooperate in order to make use of experience, tackle shared problems and create best practices. They also agreed that green areas are problematic because the people who need them the most are the ones with the least access to them and the proximity to nature is, for example, very important for children’s learning. The participants also discussed the need for a multifunctional infrastructure through the combination of green



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infrastructure and recreational infrastructure, and the need for cooperation and test beds to create it. Regarding bike friendly infrastructure, the participants agreed that it reduces the amount of accidents, creates more space for bikers and pedestrians, connects infrastructure with green areas, is economically beneficial for municipalities, is beneficial to public health, creates less pollution, and frees up more space in cities. However, the mind-set of people not willing to bike will have to be changed in order to create a more bike friendly infrastructure. Lastly, temporary use of spaces was shown in Køge with pop up urban planning, space branding, and a vibrant and living town. These things help in making cities more inclusive and it is important to learn from each other and exchange ideas and positive examples such as the temporary use of spaces in Køge.



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