P6.2-1 Copenhagen Climate Plan

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Copenhagen Climate Plan

The City of Copenhagen has reduced CO2 emissions by more than 20 % over the last 10 years. It is decided in the new Climate Plan to reduce by an additional 20 % between 2005 and 2015, brining emissions down from 2.500.000 tonnes to 2.000.000 tonnes . The vision is to make Copenhagen the first carbon neutral capital in the world by 2025.

In the Climate Plan you find 50 specific initiatives to meet the goal for 2015. Six of them are exceptional initiatives, intended to set new heights for Copenhagen's climate efforts. All initiatives complement each other synergistically, and must be seen in a broad perspective. It is not just about reducing CO2, It's also about improving air quality, setting better standards for homes, work places and cultural life.

Entering partnerships with business and inspiring and engaging Copenhageners is important elements implementing the plan. At the same time it is important to realise that the plan has to be dynamic. Some initiatives will not be implemented exactly as they are described in the plan. The changing world will influence the plan.

To ensure results matching the targets, the City undertakes annual accounting, both on reduction and on initiatives. The plan is political decided with support from all parties.

An Integrated plan

To reach the goal, requires that climate consciousness is integrated to everything the city undertakes, and all sectors are included. You could say that The Climate Plans goals are an extension of the city's other goals in transport, housing and construction, health, education, social activities and culture. It is also a goal to increase the city's influence on the national and international agenda. There are challenges and barriers which the city can't solve on its own. Strong partnership with other cities is important.

Initiatives

The initiatives are inter-related, but have been grouped into six action areas:

- Integrating climate into energy supply (75 % of the reduction);
- Greener transport (10 % of the reduction);
- Energy efficient buildings (10 % of the reduction);
- Copenhageners and climate (4 % of the reduction); and
- Climate in urban development (1 % of the reduction).

And finally but very importantly: Adapting to the future climate.

Greener transport

To give an idea about the content of each initiative, Greener transport is presented here.

Transport counts for about 20 % of the total emissions, and the city will meet 10 % of its total reductions via the transport sector. 15 different initiatives will be implemented. Amongs them, these is a one called 'lighthouse project': cars must run on wind energy.

One step is that by 2015 85 % of the municipality's cars will be electrical or hydrogen-powered that emit significantly less than fossil fuel powered cars. This amounts to nearly 1,000 cars. In addition the cars will cut the fuel expenses in half. Some other initiatives include new improved brick paths, these establishing environment zones, and climate friendly taxies.