



DENMARK - GLOBAL LEADER ON CLIMATE AND ENERGY

Recognises the Ambitious Climate and Energy Policies of the Danish Government
as a **Gift to the Earth** for Denmark's Leadership

WWF, the global conservation organization, is applauding the Danish government for having set the most ambitious climate and renewable energy targets of any country in combination with a long track record of publically promoting and implementing clean and sustainable energies.

WWF recognises as a *Gift to the Earth* – WWF's most prestigious award for governments, companies and other organisations - Denmark's remarkable achievements in the past as well as its ambitious political targets towards 2050, committing to 100% renewable energy in the entire economy.

Denmark shows that it is possible to develop an equitable low/zero carbon economy and at the same time secure growth and welfare. This has been achieved through collective action across the Danish Parliament since the 1970s and through sound investment decisions. WWF hopes that all industrialized and developing countries will look towards Denmark and be inspired to move in the same direction.

THE CLIMATE CHALLENGE NEEDS ACTION

But despite compelling scientific evidence, the world is not reacting quickly enough.

At a time when it has become overwhelmingly evident that the world's current economic growth model is no longer sustainable, Denmark is setting an example of leadership, which demonstrates ways to realize the potential for long term sustainable growth through the development of renewable energy and energy efficient solutions. A just transition to renewable energy is imperative to action on climate change. In addition, a move away from fossil fuels and nuclear, the latter which Denmark never embarked upon, to a 100% renewable energy economy provides a multitude of non-climate social benefits. It addresses air pollution, freshwater use, volatile fuel import and price dependence and last not least guarantees many more sustainable jobs than in the conventional energy sector.

ON THE PATH TO A SUSTAINABLE 2050

Long-term Climate and Renewable Energy Targets

The following targets make Denmark a global leader on climate and energy policies:

- Long term target of 100% renewable energy (RES) by 2050.
- Power and heat supply to be based on 100% RES by 2035.
- Coal phased out by 2030.
- 40% GHG reduction by 2020 in relation to 1990 (about 34% will come from the energy sector, and 6% from agriculture and transport).

Expected Results for the Energy Sector by 2020

The Energy Agreement, which was agreed by all parties in the Danish Parliament in 2012 except for one, will give the following main results by 2020:

- 34% GHG reduction in relation to 1990.
- 35% renewable energy in final energy consumption.
- 50% of electricity consumption to be supplied by wind power.
- 7.6% reduction in gross energy consumption in relation to 2010.

Renewable Energy in Denmark

Denmark's focus on green growth started in the 1970s after the oil crisis. Public resistance to nuclear power contributed to nourish the interest for renewable energy solutions, and in 1985 the Danish Parliament formally decided that no nuclear power stations should be built in Denmark. Instead Denmark has become the absolute world champion on one key renewable technology – wind power.

- Renewable energy covered 22.9% of total energy consumption in 2012, and 41.7% of the Danish electricity consumption.
- Wind power supplied 30% of the Danish electricity consumption in 2012. This compares with 3% globally, 7% in the EU, and 8% in Germany.
- So far, Denmark did not face any power cuts or black-outs caused by this high share of a weather-dependent variable power source showing the high level of intelligent grid and load management in the country.
- In terms of deployment per capita, the wind power capacity corresponded to 750 W/cap by the end of 2012, compared to 400 W/cap in Germany, 190 W/cap in US, and 60 W/cap in China.

Energy Efficiency in Denmark

Since 1980, Denmark has managed to ensure growth in the Danish economy while maintaining a nearly stable energy consumption, proving that smart energy use and economic growth go hand in hand.

- From 1990 to 2011, adjusted gross energy consumption fell by nearly 1%. Over the same period GDP grew by more than 39%.
- The energy intensity in the Danish economy is falling. In 2011 each unit of GDP accounted for 29% less energy than in 1990.
- In the building sector, Denmark is a world leader in energy efficiency standards and requirements. Today, the heat demand of new buildings is only about 17% of what it was before 1961.
- Denmark has one of the highest shares of district heating in the world. This fact has given Denmark the opportunity to increase the efficiency of electricity and heat production by using combined heat and power (CHP) plants.
- Denmark has a long experience with an energy efficiency obligation scheme. In 2013 and 2014, energy companies have to ensure an annual 2.6% reduction in final energy consumption in industry and households (in relation to the 2010 level) – increasing to 2.9% annually from 2015-2020. In comparison, the EU Energy Efficiency Directive requires a 1.5% annual reduction in energy consumption.

International Leadership

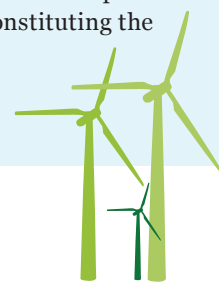
- In the EU, and not supported by most countries, Denmark advocates for a unilateral and unconditional greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target of at least 30% for 2020, and three binding targets for 2030 for advanced reduction of GHG, further growth of renewable energies and accelerated enhancement of energy efficiency.
- Denmark was one of the most progressive countries in establishing the EU Energy Efficiency Directive, which was agreed during the Danish EU-Presidency in 2012.

- Denmark is pushing for binding and credible biomass standards for the energy sector.
- Denmark is investing a high amount into helping developing countries and increasing the focus on energy access for the poor with its official development assistance (ODA) – one of the highest ODA contributions (in % of GDP) of any OECD country.
- Denmark has for many years played a very active role in the various international climate fora in the UNFCCC and the EU with principles of equity, fairness and ambition.
- As part of the commitment to accelerating the transition to low-carbon energy systems worldwide, the leaders of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and the United States will end public financing for new coal-fired power plants overseas, except in rare circumstances. The countries will work together to secure the support of other countries and multilateral development banks to adopt similar policies.

A Cleantech Sector with Substantial Impact on the Danish Economy

Denmark is one of the global clean technology development leaders, and the production and export of clean energy technology solutions have a very positive, substantial impact on the Danish economy.

- Denmark is the global cleantech champion in terms of sales as a proportion of the country's total economy. Clean energy technology sales amount to the equivalent of 3% of national GDP - the highest in the world.
- Though a comparatively small country, Denmark is home to large cleantech companies, such as Danfoss, Vestas, Grundfos, Novozymes, Rockwool, Siemens Wind Power, and Velux, as well as to a large range of suppliers and consulting firms with green energy technology.
- Energy technology represents 10% of total Danish exports of goods, with green energy technologies constituting the largest share.



WHEN AND WHERE

The *Gift to the Earth* certificate will be presented by Jim Leape, WWF International Director General, to the Prime Minister of Denmark, Ms. Helle Thorning-Schmidt, at the Global Green Growth Forum (3GF) on Monday, 21st of October 2013 in the presence of governments, international political leaders, and global corporate leaders.

What is 3GF

The Global Green Growth Forum (3GF) is an annual summit meeting of high level green growth leaders from governments, the corporate sector and international organisations willing to take leadership in the transition towards low carbon economies. 3GF's focus is on green solutions and sharing knowledge about these solutions.

Seize Your Power

WWF's global campaign, Seize Your Power, calls on investors and governments to stop investing in dirty energy and start an immediate and just transition by increasing investment in renewable energy. The level of CO2 emissions in the world requires drastic action to limit global warming.

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