Legacy Case
Green Transition

WindEurope 2025

Inspiring the next generation
to pursue a career in wind energy

copenhagen
legacy lab

Today, the European wind industry employs over 370,000 people and is expected to grow to 600,000 jobs by 2030, creating a significant skills gap

For the 7th time, WindEurope selected Copenhagen as the host city for its annual conference, emphasising the long-term partnership between the association and the Danish wind sector. With the tagline, “Scale up, Electrify, Deliver”, the conference attracted over 16,200 participants from across the global wind energy sector. During the three-day event, participants tuned in to a wide range of sessions featuring international speakers who addressed urgent challenges, presented new innovations, and highlighted wind energy’s role in enhancing Europe’s competitiveness.

A shortage of talent
Today, the European wind industry employs over 370,000 people and is expected to grow to 600,000 jobs by 2030, creating a significant skills gap over time (WindEurope, 2025). To help address this gap, Copenhagen Legacy Lab partnered with WindEurope, Green Power Denmark, and ENERGY & WATER - Greater Copenhagen Living Lab (a public-private partnership between HOFOR and the City of Copenhagen) ahead of the conference to promote green skills in education.

Through the partnership, two legacy initiatives were successfully completed in the days leading up to the conference:

- An Open House at ENERGY & WATER for local kids and parents
- A Delegation Visit to showcase Denmark’s educational model in wind and promote the Teacher’s Toolkit (a new educational material for teachers in Denmark and across the EU)

Engaging the local community
To kick off the WindEurope conference, ENERGY & WATER organised an Open House for local school children and their families to raise public awareness of wind energy and inspire children to consider a career in the wind sector. Nearly 550 children and parents participated in the many interactive, hands-on activities designed for all ages, including:

- Designing and testing mini wind turbine blades
- Planning renewable energy infrastructure by placing wind turbines strategically
- Experiencing how a model city is supplied with renewable energy
- … and much more

"Activities like today are extremely important and primordial to the industry as we have a shortage of skilled workers, so it is very important for us to be able to inspire younger generations."

Oliver Wykes
Chief Operating Officer at WindEurope

Activities from the Open House

“The Teacher’s Toolkit is a great resource that we will be integrating into an online course on sustainability in school education”

Teacher's Toolkit ↗

Sophia Queckenberg
Policy Assistant European Commission (DG EAC)

Developing and testing educational material
Before the conference, ENERGY & WATER developed new teaching material on “Designing, Constructing, and Testing Wind Turbine Blades Using Makerspace Technology” for lower secondary school classes. In the months leading up to the conference, local teachers piloted the Teacher’s Toolkit in seven school classes, using wind energy as a lens to teach subjects like mathematics, physics, and engineering. At the end of the pupils’ learning journey, three classes were invited to a one-day Wind Camp at ENERGY & WATER, held the day before the conference, where they applied the Teacher’s Toolkit.

Connecting wind and education
As part of the Wind Camp, WindEurope invited 32 Danish and European delegates from the conference e.g., representatives from the European Commission, OECD, the wind industry, politicians, and decision makers. During the visit, delegates had the opportunity to engage with the pupils and experience first-hand how the Teacher’s Toolkit is used in the classroom.

The visit showcased Denmark’s successful collaboration between the wind energy sector and the educational system, demonstrating how such partnerships can foster green skills and support the green transition. It also aimed to inspire decision-makers to adopt the Danish educational model and expand the application of the Teacher’s Toolkit across Europe.

Legacy process

Objective

Strategic alignment
The wind energy industry is one of the most important sectors in Denmark and Europe. To support the green transition and meet the industry's growing demand for skilled workers, it is essential to close the talent gap. This can be addressed, for example, by introducing green skills at an early age and inspiring future generations to pursue education and careers in this field. This agenda aligns closely with Denmark's national focus on STEM education and WindEurope's commitment to closing the skills gap.

Objective
- To address the skills gap in the wind industry by promoting STEM education and green careers.

Stakeholder involvement
- WindEurope hosted the delegation visit and created a press kit for Copenhagen Legacy Lab to promote the event. WindEurope also engaged international decision makers in the delegation visit
- Energy & Water – Copenhagen Living Lab developed the teacher's toolkit and hosted both the Open House and Wind Camp prior to the conference.
- Green Power Denmark engaged relevant Danish stakeholders in the project and will ensure a continued industrial and political focus on addressing the skills gap.
- Copenhagen Legacy Lab established the partnership and coordinated the legacy process. Additionally, the lab invited local stakeholders and journalists to promote the Open House and engaged local decision makers in the delegation visit.

Activity

The legacy process resulted in two initiatives:

- Open House: Two days before the WindEurope conference, local children and parents were invited to an open house at ENERGY & WATER in Valby, Copenhagen. Participants explored wind energy through fun and educational activities. The event also encouraged parents to support their children's interest in pursuing careers within the wind industry.
- Delegation Visit: Ahead of the conference, a new Teacher's Toolkit on wind energy was developed and tested by lower secondary school classes. The day before the conference, three classes participated in a one-day Wind Camp at the Living Lab, where they showcased their projects to Danish and European delegates from the conference. The purpose of the visit was to highlight the collaboration between the wind energy sector and Denmark's educational system, with the aim of inspiring other countries to adopt a similar model.

Legacy process

Evaluation

Outputs (immediately after the activity)
Open House: Nearly 550 local children and parents attended the event, which featured more than 10 stations with over 30 activities. The event was covered by the media in 10 articles. Additionally, WindEurope partnered with a local influencer to promote the event to the local community, sharing five posts before, during, and after the event. These posts generated a total of 208,138 views.

"It's a great place, and it sparks interest for kids and parents to understand where new energy sources come from and what the cheapest source of energy is that is also the most climate friendly."

Parent at the Open House

Delegation Visit: A total of 32 Danish and European delegates from the conference participated in the visit at the Wind Camp. Prior to the visit, seven lower secondary school classes tested the Teacher's Toolkit, and three classes took part in the Wind Camp.

Outcomes (after 6 to 12 months)
Open House: Qualitative feedback indicated that the event sparked conversations between parents and children about wind energy.

Delegation Visit: Since the conference, the Teacher's Toolkit has been distributed nationally and across Europe. Additionally, it has been translated into Danish for local use.

National Distribution:

- ENERGY & WATER's Science Center, offering free educational programs to public schools are distributing the toolkit within their Danish network.
- The Danish Centre for School and Learning (CFU) has made the Toolkit available to teachers through both its online platform and physical lending libraries.

European Distribution:

- The toolkit has been integrated into the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) Leading Sustainability in School Education and is now available to teachers and school leaders across Europe.
- The European Commission has included the toolkit in Learning for Sustainability in Europe's Schools and is highlighted as an example for EU Member States to follow.

In September 2025, a STEM Education Roundtable in Brussels, with Danish participation, brought together education and industry representatives to foster collaboration. Building on these discussions, WindEurope has published a white paper on the wind industry's commitment to STEM education, highlighting the legacy project in Copenhagen as a best-practice example of public–private collaboration.

Impact and legacy (after a year)
Open House: Building on the success of the Open House, WindEurope plans to organise similar events across Europe to actively engage local communities.

Delegation Visit: Copenhagen Legacy Lab will evaluate whether the Teacher's Toolkit continues to be distributed and applied Nationally and across Europe.

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Copenhagen Legacy Lab is an award-winning strategic initiative under Copenhagen Convention Bureau that drives positive long-term impact from congresses and events.

For more information and additional cases, visit www.wonderfulcopenhagen.com/cll