

Attracting health tech investments and
companies to Copenhagen



"Attracting large conferences is an extremely good opportunity to showcase the Danish life science ecosystem and what we can do, both within innovation, research, in the healthcare industry, and in our amazing startups. "

Lea Milling Korsholm
Special Advisor, Invest in Denmark,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark

From 18–22 May 2026, Copenhagen hosted two international life science congresses:

- **HIMSS European Health Conference & Exhibition:** A leading event for health technology innovation.
- **LSX Nordic Congress:** A key gathering for life science investors and companies.

Together, the two events attracted more than 2,400 delegates from across the global life science and health innovation ecosystem, including investors, healthcare providers, startups, researchers, academics, policymakers, and industry leaders.

A leading hub for life science

The life science industry is one of Denmark's most important economic sectors, accounting

for approximately 20% of total exports ([Erhvervsministeriet, 2025](#)). Its strategic importance is also reflected in the [national life science strategy](#) towards 2030, which aims to strengthen framework conditions for companies, enhance research and innovation capacity, and secure Denmark's position as a leading life science nation.

A key initiative in this strategy is the establishment of Innovation District Copenhagen (IDC), a public–private life science cluster uniting leading universities, hospitals, startups, and companies in a closely connected ecosystem. This structure enables direct access to research environments, clinical settings, and commercialization pathways within the same area, positioning IDC as a key location for life science innovation and investment.

Innovation District Copenhagen

Innovation District Copenhagen was established in 2025 with the ambition of becoming a global hub for innovation in life science and quantum technology. Today, the district brings together 40,000 researchers, students and staff, alongside 500 innovative companies and five startup communities.

More information ➔



VIP reception at Danish Industry

In an increasingly competitive global landscape, attracting foreign companies and investment to IDC is essential to strengthening Denmark's position as a global life science hub and translating research and innovation into scalable healthcare solutions.

A week dedicated to health innovation

To leverage the simultaneous presence of the two congresses in Copenhagen, Copenhagen Legacy Lab partnered with HIMSS, LSX Nordic Congress, and six additional partners to create Copenhagen Health Innovation Week (CHIW) – a week with a series of side events and networking activities. The aim was to showcase Copenhagen's life science ecosystem to international delegates visiting the city, with the goal of attracting foreign companies, investment projects, and capital for Danish life science companies.

Key events during CHIW included:

- A VIP reception at Danish Industry
- A delegation visit to Innovation District Copenhagen

Kicking off Copenhagen Health Innovation Week

To mark the launch of CHIW, a VIP reception was hosted at Danish Industry with the aim of facilitating new partnerships and investment opportunities between selected international delegates and key stakeholders from Denmark's life science ecosystem.

The event brought together around 250 participants, representing the full spectrum of the ecosystem, from early-stage startups and scale-ups to hospital leaders, international investors, and public institutions.

"When we are attending a congress, being in these side-events is so important because you have the chance to meet people in a more informal way and create great connections, great business, great developments, and great investments."

Claudio Costa-Neto, PhD
Chief Scientific Officer, Jeito Capital (Investor)



VIP reception at Danish Industry

HIMSS HEALTH TECH HUB LSX Congress by association Nordic Microsoft BETA HEALTH®

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK Invest in Denmark wonderful copenhagen

INNOVATIONSTILVÆRDTILGANG COPENHAGEN

DI Life Science

Copenhagen Health Innovation Week

18-22 MAY 2026

WHERE REAL
MAGIC HAPPENS.

"Copenhagen Health Innovation Week has the potential to become an annual platform for strengthening the visibility of Copenhagen's life science sector"

Line Knoop-Henriksen
Partner Manager, Health Tech Hub Copenhagen

To foster meaningful connections, international investors and Danish start-ups were matched through facilitated introductions and a colour-coded lanyard system to explore potential partnerships.

Showcasing Copenhagen's Innovation District

On day 3 of the week, an international delegation visited Innovation District Copenhagen. The visit welcomed 30 representatives from startups, investment firms, and healthcare consultancies, who took part in a guided tour of the district's universities, hospitals, and innovation hubs. Throughout the visit, the district's highly connected and collaborative ecosystem was showcased to inspire delegates to establish, scale, and advance their businesses within the district.

Looking ahead

Throughout the week, CHIW demonstrated its value as a platform for bringing together the global life science ecosystem and fostering new relationships between international delegates and Danish companies and start-ups.

Going forward, the CHIW partners will follow up on the investment opportunities initiated during the week, with the ambition of translating them into scalable healthcare solutions that benefit patients in Denmark and globally. In parallel, the potential of establishing CHIW as an annual platform for exploring partnerships, investment opportunities, and exchanging knowledge within the life science sector will be explored.



Legacy process

Objective

Strategic alignment

The life science industry is one of Denmark's most important economic sectors and is internationally recognized as a leading life science hub. Maintaining this position requires attracting foreign companies and investment that can help translate research and innovation into scalable healthcare solutions that benefit citizens and society worldwide.

This ambition is reflected in [Denmark's life science strategy](#) through 2030 and in Innovation District Copenhagen's [vision plan](#). These national initiatives align well with HIMSS Europe and LSX Nordic Congress objectives of advancing healthcare innovation and strengthening the translation of research into real-world solutions globally.

Objective:

- To leverage HIMSS Europe 2026 and the LSX Nordic Congress as platforms to attract investment to Danish life science startups and scaleups, and to attract international companies to Copenhagen.

Stakeholder Involvement

- HIMSS Europe and LSX Nordic Congress set the stage for CHIW and played a key role in engaging congress delegates
- Copenhagen Legacy Lab provided strategic guidance on planning and evaluation.
- Health Tech Hub Copenhagen played a key role in facilitating the collaboration around CHIW and organised the VIP reception.
- Invest in Denmark took part in organising CHIW, invited key international investors, and will tally and evaluate the outcomes, e.g. number of investments made.
- Danish Industry hosted the VIP reception.
- Innovation District Copenhagen hosted the delegation visit.
- BETA.HEALTH is a strong collaboration between hospitals, regions and municipalities and a testament of why Denmark is a great country and landing pad for health innovation.
- Microsoft joined as a co-hosting partner, representing the technology dimension of health innovation.

Activities

Two main activities took place during Copenhagen Health Innovation Week:

- **VIP reception:** To kick off the week, a VIP reception at Danish Industry brought together Danish start-ups/scale-ups and international investors to explore new partnerships and investment opportunities through facilitated networking.
- **Delegation Visit:** On day three, an international delegation visited Innovation District Copenhagen, gaining insights into the connected ecosystem and exploring opportunities for establishing and scaling life science companies in Denmark. The visit included a tour of the district, featuring the new Mary Elizabeth's Hospital, the University of Copenhagen's Innovation Centre Lighthouse, and the BioInnovation Institute (BII).

Legacy process

Evaluation

Outputs (immediately after the activity)

- **VIP Reception:** 246 participants attended, including startups, scale-ups, hospital leaders, international investors, and public institutions. Survey results indicated an NPS score of 87, which is well above industry benchmark. Furthermore, 93% made at least one new connection, while 53% made 3-5 new connections and 20% made more than 5 new connections.
- **Delegation Visit:** 30 delegates from startups, investment firms, and healthcare consultancies participated.
- **CHIW LinkedIn page:** Since its launch, the CHIW LinkedIn page has gained more than 1,000 followers, creating a digital health innovation network that can be leveraged for future editions of the event.

[CHIW LinkedIn ↗](#)

Outcomes (after 6 to 12 months)

Since Copenhagen Health Innovation Week, new investments in Danish life science startups have been made. Over the next two years, Health Tech Hub Copenhagen and Invest in Denmark will continue to monitor capital raised for Danish life science companies and new investment partnerships such as clinical studies.

Impact and legacy (after a year)

To be evaluated.



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copenhagen**

**copenhagen
legacy lab**

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