

## Inspiring the next generation to pursue a career in wind energy

- WINDEUROPE 2025
- COPENHAGEN, 8-10 APRIL 2025

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 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 your own mini wind turbine blades
- Planning renewable energy infrastructure by placing wind turbines strategically
- Experiencing how a model city is supplied with renewable energy
- And many other activities

These activities illustrated the vital role of wind power in building a greener future. In addition to raising awareness, the event encouraged parents to start a dialogue with their children about the green agenda and to support their potential career path in the wind sector.

***"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



## LEGACY CASE STUDY

### 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.

*"The Teacher's Toolkit is a great resource that we will be integrating into a massive open online course on Leading Sustainability in School Education"*

Sophia Queckenberg, Policy Assistant at the European Commission (DG EAC)



Photo: Wonderful Copenhagen

### CONNECTING THE WIND SECTOR AND THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

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.



Photo: Wonderful Copenhagen

*"It was an interesting challenge for us to roll out two very different events – first with a community outreach perspective, and then with an industry and educational sector coupling perspective."*

Stine Eiersholt, Project Manager at ENERGY & WATER - Greater Copenhagen Living Lab

A collaboration between:



## TEACHER'S TOOLKIT

Design, construct, and test wind turbine blades using Makerspace technology for lower secondary schools

# LEGACY PROCESS



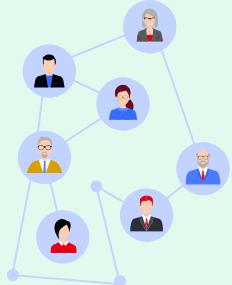
## Strategic goals and societal needs

Wind energy 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 crucial to introduce green skills early on and inspire future generations to pursue careers in this field. This aligns closely with Denmark's 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, created a press kit for Copenhagen Legacy Lab, and engaged international decision makers in the delegation visit.

**Energy & Water – Copenhagen Living Lab** developed the teacher's toolkit and hosted the Open House and Wind Camp.

**Green Power Denmark** engaged relevant Danish stakeholders and will ensure a continued industrial and political focus on the skills gap.

**Copenhagen Legacy Lab** established the partnership, facilitated the legacy process, invited local stakeholders and journalists to 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 Copenhagen. Through fun and educational activities, the event promoted wind energy and encouraged parents to support their children's interest in wind careers.
- **Delegation Visit:** Ahead of the conference, a new [Teacher's Toolkit](#) on wind energy was developed and tested by seven lower secondary classes.

The day before the conference, three classes attended a one-day Wind Camp at ENERGY & WATER, showcasing their projects to Danish and European conference delegates. The visit aimed to highlight Denmark's collaboration between wind energy and education, inspiring other countries to adopt a similar model.



## Outputs (immediately after the activity)

**Open House:** Nearly 550 local children and parents attended the event, which had over 10 stations and 30 activities. Media coverage included 10 articles. WindEurope also partnered with a local influencer, whose five posts of the event generated over 200,000 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 visited the Wind Camp to network and gain insights into the Danish educational model.



## Outcomes (+6-12 months - changed behaviour)

**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 (+1 year – societal value)

**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.



## Potential legacy (+1-3 years and beyond)

To be evaluated.