

# The most accessible office building in the world

'The most accessible and inclusive office building in the whole world' - a showcase from Denmark of the fact that it is possible to build a 100% accessible office building at a price that does not exceed the cost of an average building built by public authorities.

«This shows how the involvement of experts with disabilities from the very start leads to a significant improvement in accessibility for all kinds of impairments.» (Stig LANGVAD)

## Most accessible office building of the world

Organisation:	DPOD
Country/region of origin:	Denmark
Beneficiaries targeted:	Persons with disabilities
Approach/model/solution:	Barrier-free office building

## FACTS & FIGURES

- Opened on 12 December 2012 by Her Majesty the Queen of Denmark
- 12,600 m<sup>2</sup> of accessible office building
- Cost approx. 40 million USD: to be rented by DPOs
- Cost is approx. 10% lower than for conventional buildings
- On 12 December 2013 the building was chosen as the best commercial building of 2013 in Denmark

## PROBLEMS TARGETED

Constructing buildings in an accessible way often focuses on only one group of persons with disabilities. Including sustainable materials at the same time is not a natural step and their use is often sacrificed in order to make the building accessible.

## PROJECT

The office building takes the accessibility needs of all groups with all kinds of impairments into consideration and represents the inclusion of accessibility as both concept and ideology. The future users were involved in the process from the beginning; therefore, many elements included in the building are user-driven innovations. A key output was the creation of comparative advantages and role-models for the building sector in the future on a broad scope.

## CURRENT SITUATION & OUTLOOK

It is possible to create an accessible office building where all the needs of all kinds of impairments are not in conflict with each other. It is also possible to build accessible office buildings which live up to the highest standards of inclusive design, reduce energy consumption, respect the climate challenges and, at the same time, provide a very high standard when it comes to the work environment.



*The most accessible office building in the world also meets the highest standards of inclusive design, reduction in energy consumption, and respect for the climate challenges.*

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**EXPERT VOTING** Top marks from:

- all voters,
- NGO voters

Top marks for:

- targeting all p. with disabilities

Nominated by: DPOD