



Building bridges, shaping tomorrow

# OECD Local Development Forum 2024

AGENDA

24 September | Malmö, Sweden  
25 September | Copenhagen, Denmark



GREATER  
CoPENHAGEN



## ■ What's the issue?

Profound shifts are underway, reshaping the ways that we work, live and interact. Labour shortages that emerged post-COVID will become more acute as populations age and shrink. New technologies, including generative AI, are creating new jobs as they render others obsolete. And as governments and firms respond to the climate emergency, ramping up green innovation and expanding local green talent pools will be essential. While these transitions will be felt unevenly across cities, towns and regions, local policymakers and practitioners everywhere will need to be armed with new ideas and solutions if they want to be able to deliver for their communities. On 24-25 September, local development policymakers and practitioners from around the world will convene in Greater Copenhagen to discuss how to respond.

## ■ About the Local Development Forum and its Annual Meeting

The OECD Local Development Forum is a community of thousands of stakeholders from all over the world, united by their shared commitment to making their communities more resilient, inclusive and sustainable. It counts members from over 60 countries, representing city, regional and national governments, employment and training agencies, economic and community development agencies, chambers of commerce, social innovators, businesses and social economy organisations. Through its events and online resources, the Forum serves as a venue for peer learning, disseminating local innovations at the global level, and bringing the OECD's work beyond ministries to local communities. The Forum is part of the OECD's Local Employment and Economic Development (LEED) Programme, overseen by the Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities.

The Forum's annual meeting is its flagship event. Through plenary sessions, workshops, site visits, as well as social and networking events, participants get a chance to discuss the "latest and greatest" in local development, sharing their own experiences and learning from the host community and global peers. Over the last 16 years, the annual meeting has been hosted in cities such as Berlin, Cork, Dublin, Manchester, Porto, Prague, Stockholm, Venice, and Vienna.

## ■ About the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

The OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE) helps national, regional and local governments unleash the potential of entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), promote inclusive and sustainable growth in regions and cities, boost local job creation and implement sound tourism policies.

Many thanks to our Forum partners:



## Pre-Forum activities – Monday, 23 September

8.30	Closed door	<b>85<sup>th</sup> Session of the OECD Local Employment and Economic Development (LEED) Directing Committee</b>
16.30		<i>Speaker reception</i>

## Day 1 – Tuesday, 24 September – Malmö Live (Malmö)

*Dag Hammarskjölds torg 4, 211 18 Malmö, Sweden*

8.15 *Registration opens*

### 9.00-10.00 **Opening plenary**

Moderator	<b>Jan Juul Christensen</b> , Managing Director, Greater Copenhagen
Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Yoshiki Takeuchi</b>, OECD Deputy Secretary-General</li> <li>• <b>Lars Gaardhøj</b>, Chairman of Greater Copenhagen and Chairman of the Regional Council, Capital Region of Denmark</li> </ul>
Opening remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Anders Ahnlid</b>, Director General, National Board of Trade, Sweden &amp; Chairman of the Freedom of Movement Council (Nordic Council of Ministers)</li> </ul>

### 10.00-11.45 **A form that functions: Working across borders**

Plenary	<p>Within the European Union alone, approximately 150 million people live in cross-border regions. Accordingly, how to work more effectively across borders to deliver economic and social returns for residents on both sides is not a niche issue. This session will take a deep dive into the unique story of Greater Copenhagen and extract valuable lessons from other cross-border regions across the OECD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What benefits can the public and private sector, as well as local residents, reap from enhanced cross-border collaboration, and what are the potential costs? What role have and should each of these actors play?</li> <li>• What are the main political, governance and regulatory barriers to working more effectively across borders, and how have some places overcome these?</li> <li>• How can stronger cross-border collaboration help address challenges such as labour and skills shortages or the need to accelerate the green transition?</li> </ul>
Moderator	<b>Karen Maguire</b> , Head of Division, Local Employment and Economic Development (LEED) programme, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD
Speakers	<p><b>Part I: Greater Copenhagen</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Katrin Stjernfeldt Jammeh</b>, Mayor of Malmö, Sweden and Board member of Greater Copenhagen</li> <li>• <b>Linus Eriksson</b>, CEO, Öresundsbron</li> <li>• <b>Anders Ahnlid</b>, Director General, National Board of Trade, Sweden &amp; Chairman of the Freedom of Movement Council (Nordic Council of Ministers)</li> <li>• <b>Helene Andersson</b>, Vice Chair of the Regional Council and Chair of the Regional Growth Committee, Region of Halland, Sweden</li> <li>• <b>Søren Rosenkilde Clausen</b>, Head of Public Affairs, Copenhagen Airports A/S</li> </ul>

**Part II: Learning from other international experiences**

- **Elianne Demollin-Schneiders**, Regional Minister of the Province Limburg, the Netherlands
- **Ricardo Ferreira**, Coordinator, Border Focal Point, DG REGIO, European Commission
- **Rolf Elmér**, Director, Nordregio
- **Matt Morrison**, Executive Director, Pacific NorthWest Economic Region, United States and Canada

**11.45-13.15****Local Initiatives Marketplace and lunch**

*Meet and learn from local programmes and initiatives from across the OECD in this networking session*

**13.15-14.30****Deep dives**

*The parallel deep dive sessions offer an opportunity to engage directly with policymakers, thought leaders and peers to go more in-depth on specific topics*

**1) Working across borders:  
Coordinating employment  
and skills policies to support  
labour mobility**

*Room: Live 4+5*

**2) Local leadership  
for place  
transformation**

*Room: Live 1*

**3) Boosting local  
socio-economic  
impacts of  
game-changing  
infrastructure**

*Room: Live 2*

14.30-15.00

*Transition and fika (Swedish afternoon coffee)*

**15.00****Study Tours**

*Transportation provided*

**A) Øresund Bridge**

*Öresundsbro Konsortiet,  
Kalkbrottsgatan 141 (Limhamn)*

**B) MINC: Startup House  
of Malmö**

*Anckargripsgatan 3  
(Malmö)*

**C) Yalla Trappan**

*Bennets väg 29  
(Malmö)*

17.30

*Transfer from study tours to reception*

**18.00-20.30****Reception - Malmö City Hall**

*Stortorget 2, 211 34 Malmö*

- **Stefana Hoti**, Deputy Mayor, Malmö, Sweden
- **Denis Leamy**, Chief Executive, Cork Education and Training Board, Ireland and Chair of the OECD LEED Directing Committee

## Day 2 – Wednesday, 25 September - UN City (Copenhagen)

Marmorvej 51, 2100 København Ø

9.00

### Local Initiatives Marketplace and breakfast

*Meet and learn from local programmes and initiatives from across the OECD in this networking session.*

10.00

### Opening of Day 2

Welcome

**Henrik Fredborg Larsen**, Director, Nordic Representation Office, United Nations Development Program

#### Roundtable with young social entrepreneurs

Moderator

**Evelyne Ahipeaud**, Head of Unit Impact Investing Social and Solidarity Economy, French Treasury, Ministry of Economy and Finance

Speakers

- **Ahmed Hadi**, Co-Founder, MIMIR Fellows, Finland
- **Siavosh Derakthi**, Founder, UMAF, Sweden

10.30-11.45

### Green hubs: Connecting the dots between innovation and inclusion

Plenary

In an era when both accelerating the green transition and making our economies and societies more inclusive are paramount, are there win-win solutions? Join policymakers, thought leaders and changemakers to examine the strategies and partnerships that can help international hot spots of green innovation better deliver on environmental, economic and social returns.

- What local approaches have proven successful for unlocking green innovation? How are these similar or different to more general innovation strategies?
- What else is needed to ensure these green hubs deliver in terms of job creation, in particular in creating opportunities for all members of the community, including those from disadvantaged groups?
- What bottlenecks exist in local innovation, employment and skills systems that could impede further progress going forward? How can these be overcome?

Moderator

**Yasemin Arhan Modéer**, CEO, Altitude Meetings

Speakers

- **Sofia Hedén**, Municipal Councillor for Environment and Services, City of Malmö, Sweden
- **Anni Sinnemäki**, Deputy Mayor of Helsinki, Finland
- **Thomas Bustrup**, Deputy Managing Director, Danish Industry, Denmark
- **Jan Hendeliowitz**, Member of the Regional Council of Region Zealand, Denmark and Board Member of Greater Copenhagen
- **Andrew Wear**, City Economist and Director, Economic Development and International, City of Melbourne, Australia

11.45-13.00

### Local Initiatives Marketplace and lunch

*Meet and learn from local programmes and initiatives from across the OECD in this networking session*

13.00-14.15

### Deep dives

The parallel deep dive sessions offer an opportunity to engage directly with policymakers, thought leaders and peers to go more in-depth on specific topics.

<p><b>4) A place for the youth in the just transition</b> <i>Auditorium 1</i></p>	<p><b>5) Navigating the talent tides: Addressing labour and skills shortages</b> <i>Auditorium 2+3</i></p>	<p><i>Closed door meeting starting at 14.15: Powering up social innovation</i></p>
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*Transfer back to plenary room*

**14.20-15.45**

**Embracing change: Communities, companies and careers in transition**

Closing plenary	<p>As the pace of change accelerates, how can policymakers and practitioners equip our communities and workers and communities for what lies ahead? Hear from policymakers, practitioners and thought leaders on what we already know about how to manage transitions at different levels -- communities, companies, and careers -- and how these lessons may, or may not, apply in the future and how to be more resilient to shocks going forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What lessons can be learned from past transitions, both successful and unsuccessful, that can inform our approach to managing future changes?</li> <li>• What role does training and lifelong learning play in preparing individuals and communities for transition?</li> <li>• What type of local leadership is needed to successfully anticipate and respond to change? What are the different roles that leaders from the public, private and third sector can play?</li> </ul>
Moderator	<p><b>John Buck</b>, President and Chief Executive Officer, CEDEC, Canada and OECD Local Development Forum Board Member</p>
Opening keynote	<p><b>Morten Dahlin</b>, Minister for Cities and Rural Districts, Minister for Ecclesiastical Affairs and Minister for Nordic Cooperation, Denmark</p>
Speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Marie Stærke</b>, Mayor of Køge, Denmark</li> <li>• <b>Rui Monteiro</b>, Director of the Department of Economics, Porto City Council, Portugal</li> <li>• <b>Mary Ellen Wiederwohl</b>, President &amp; CEO, Accelerator for America, United States</li> <li>• <b>Nanna Højlund</b>, Vice Chair of Danish Trade Union Confederation (FH), Denmark</li> </ul>
Closing	<p><b>Karen Ellemann</b>, Secretary General of the Nordic Council of Ministers <b>Looking ahead to 2025</b></p>

**15.45**

**Optional study tour**

**D) Havhøst (Ocean harvest)**  
*Kalvebod Bølge*

**E) Railway district-Spor 10**  
*Jernbanebyn, Vasbygade 10*

# Deep dives

Tuesday, 24 September

## 1) Working across borders: Coordinating employment and skills policies to support labour mobility

Room: Live 4+5

This deep dive will engage experts from various EU cross-border regions to discuss and share best practices on how information-sharing and coordination of employment and skills policies can enhance labour mobility in cross-border regions. The deep dive will include presentations on existing initiatives to coordinate employment services in the Meuse-Rhine Region, the Greater Region and the Austria/Germany cross-border regions and participants will discuss potential learnings for the Greater Copenhagen region and beyond. The workshop is organised as part of the project “Mobility and integrated labour market for third-country nationals (TCNs) in Greater Copenhagen” which is financed by the European Commission’s Directorate for Structural Reform Support and is delivered by the OECD.

**Moderator: Tilde Ussing**, Coordinator, Local Employment and Skills Reforms, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

- **Martin Unfried**, Senior Researcher, Maastricht University - ITEM
- **Ramona Corsius-Corvers**, Programme Manager International Labour Market Approach, Municipality of Maastricht, the Netherlands
- **Achim Dürschmid**, EURES Advisor and Teamleader of the international division, Agentur für Arbeit / German public employment service / EURES T, Germany
- **Pim Mertens**, Scientific Coordinator, ITEM/Maastricht University

## 2) Local leadership for place transformation

Room: Live 1

Given that local development operates over longer time frames, broader geographies, and with wider institutional collaboration than typical for local government services or political cycles, a wide range of local leaders are needed, how can the leadership dividend for place transformation best be seized? What happens when the “targets” of development policies become a proactive agent of local development? This workshop will bring together practical experiences and the latest international research to explore how to make the most of local leadership to support economic and social transformation in places.

**Moderator: John Austin**, Director of the Michigan Economic Center and Non-resident Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

- **Bo-Josef Eriksson**, Director of Regional Development, Region Halland, Sweden
- **Ellen Dahl**, Area Manager Policy, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Southern Sweden, Sweden
- **José Antonio Torre Medina**, Director of the Centre for the Future of Cities, Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico
- **Des McNulty**, Chair, Local Policy Innovation Partnerships (LPIPs) Hub Advisory Board, United Kingdom
- **Camille Viros**, Head of Unit, Inclusive Growth in Cities, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions & Cities

### 3) Boosting local socio-economic impacts of game-changing infrastructure

*Room: Live 2*

Large scale infrastructure and investment projects can be important sparks for local development, as the experience of the Greater Copenhagen region and the Øresund Bridge exemplifies. Scheduled for completion in 2029, the Fehmarnbelt fixed link will significantly reduce travel time between Scandinavia and mainland Europe. From upskilling local workforces to fostering cross-border cooperation, this deep dive examines strategies to enhance socio-economic value and drive local development.

**Moderator: Courtenay Wheeler**, Policy Analyst and Coordinator Subnational Infrastructure Programme, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions & Cities

- **Christian Orsing**, Mayor, Helsingborg, Sweden
- **Thomas Becker**, Managing Director, STRING
- **Camilla Khokhar**, Deputy Director, Confederation of Danish Industry
- **Mary Ellen Wiederwohl**, President & CEO, Accelerator for America
- **Thomas Schmidt**, Senior Banker, European Investment Bank



#### 4) A place for youth in the just transition

Room: Auditorium 1

Through their professional and personal choices, youth are at the forefront of driving the just transition towards a more equitable and sustainable future. Yet, they are also the ones who are most directly facing the uncertainty that the future may bring, from the impacts of climate change to how AI will change the jobs of the future. This workshop will explore how young people can help drive forward the just transition, from unleashing their full potential in the green job market to supporting their inclusive participation in the socio-ecological transformation of the future.

**Moderator: Xavier Mestres**, Coordinator, World Forum on Local Economic Development

- **Hjalte Drejer Jørgensen**, Chairman of the Capital Region of Denmark's Youth Climate Council, Denmark
- **Gunnar Anderzon**, Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions, Sweden
- **Valdemar Satoshi Rojle Christensen**, Green growth and jobs accelerator programme, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- **Amal Chevreau**, Acting Head of Unit, Social Economy and Innovation, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

#### 5) Navigating the talent tides: Addressing labour and skills shortages

Room: Auditorium 2+3

As unemployment rates in the OECD reach lows not seen in decades, employers are facing increasing challenges in recruitment. These challenges are especially acute in some sectors and places. At the same time, the accelerating green transition, and rapid technological innovation, such as generative AI, are creating new challenges and opportunities. Join policymakers, businesses, and community stakeholders to explore this evolving landscape and local strategies for managing these shortages over the long-term.

**Moderator: Lukas Klein-Rueschmap**, Acting Head of Unit, Local Employment and Skills, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions & Cities

- **Jens-Kristian Lütken**, Mayor of Employment and Integration, Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Johan Kreicbergs**, Head of Public Affairs, Engineers of Sweden, Sweden
- **Sedat Arif**, Municipal counsellor, City of Malmö, Sweden
- **Makoto Fujimoto**, Vice Research Director, Career Development, Japanese Institute for Labour Policy and Training (JILPT), Japan
- **Maria Schischkin**, Project Manager, Wachstumsregion Ems-Achse, Germany
- **Jette Jørgensen**, Managing Director, INGKA Group, Sweden

# Study tours

Tuesday, 24 September

## A) Øresund Bridge

The Øresund Bridge invites you to participate in distinguished study visit to Peberholm, with a focused exploration of environmental sustainability and ecology. Situated in Oresund strait, Peberholm is an artificial island that stands as a testament to innovative infrastructure, ecological enhancement, and bold political resolutions. Created as a part of the Øresund Bridge establishment, the island has a unique biodiversity protected from public visits or human intervention. Hence the opportunity to visit Peberholm is truly exceptional.

Throughout the visit, our experts will offer a deep dive into the intricate dynamics between human development and environmental preservation. From examining the island's rich biodiversity to unraveling the sustainable methodologies underpinning its creation and conservation, the visit promises invaluable insights for decision-makers and practitioners alike.

## B) MINC: Startup House of Malmö

Established by the City of Malmö in 2002, Minc stands as one of Scandinavia's pioneering startup incubator programs. Amidst the aftermath of the dot-com bubble and ahead of the emergence of new internet giants, Minc provided a platform for countless entrepreneurs over two decades, fostering innovation with a positive global impact. From pioneering AI-based mental illness diagnostics to fostering the largest Arabic-speaking community specializing in national affairs, MINC's entrepreneurs have left an indelible mark.

Their innovations contributed to uncovering the Panama Papers and even included the development of facial recognition technology for Apple. Discover MINC's story through This is Minc - featuring Daniel Persson, CEO at MINC. Then, delve into their programs with Dennis Åström, Program Lead at MINC. Explore their investment funds with Ida Herbertsson, Portfolio Manager at MINC. Finally, meet their startups and alumni.

## C) Yalla Trappan

Yalla Trappan stands out as a distinctive social enterprise and women's cooperative established in Malmö in 2010. With a focus on integrating immigrant women into the workforce, their mission revolves around creating employment opportunities and fostering economic independence. Their diverse range of services includes catering, lunch restaurants, cleaning service, tailoring, mentorships and development projects.

Yalla Trappan focuses on fostering social sustainability, gender equality, and empowerment for women. During this study tour, get to know Yalla Trappan, learn about the Rosengård area's background, discover their activities, collaboration efforts, and methods for workforce integration. Additionally, you can meet some of the staff members who will share their own stories.

Wednesday, 25 September

## D) Havhøst (Ocean harvest)

Havhøst means "Ocean harvest" and that is exactly what we do. All over Denmark communities have come together to create small scale, non-commercial ocean farms where they grow mussels, seaweed and oysters

and promote their love for the ocean and the importance of taking care of it. Havhøst supports and promotes these initiatives and paves the way for new ones to form.

Since 2013 we have operated a small demonstration farm in the harbour of Copenhagen - "Bølgemarken" (the wave field), creating a platform for the public to experience the potential of this way of producing sustainable food. This is also where we invite local schools to learn about the marine environment and sustainable food production.

Visit our harbour farm in the middle of Copenhagen and get the full story of how we grow mussels and seaweed, and how a crazy idea turned into a national movement. Witness when we harvest the crops and demonstrate what a day in the life of an ocean farmer looks like.

## **E) Railway District and Spor 10**

Spor10 is a new meeting place in Jernbanebyen, unfolding the visions of a green and thriving neighborhood and helping to kickstart the development of Copenhagens old railway district. In an old customs building, we have created a 6000 m<sup>2</sup> community hub for people of all ages, backgrounds, and interests. Spor10 opened in April 2023 and has since become a community house, hosting the daily activities of more than 30 actors focused on movement, health, play, creativity, workshop activities, and urban development.

At the same time, Spor10 functions as a showroom for Jernbanebyen, hosting tours and events, communal dining, lectures, small conferences, and much more.

With a mix of popular and professional activities, Spor10 has become a special meeting place that puts Jernbanebyen on the map and raises awareness about the district. Guests come from both the local area and the whole of Copenhagen.