



# WEXNER SUMMITS

## **Climate Summit 2024 PREWORK FOR COPENHAGEN**

### **1. SCHED (DUE AUGUST 29)**

Use web based version and keep refreshing.

login: <https://wexsummitclimatechange23.sched.com/>

password: WexSummit2024

Add your headshot/ update your bio if needed, peruse your schedule, and also the other participants. **Mark your profile public so others can see who is in their session.**

### **2. GIVE AND GET NETWORKING ASSIGNMENT (DUE SEPTEMBER 4, BUT DON'T WAIT!)**

Please review the [biobook](#) and reach out to at least 2 people in advance of the Summit who you don't know well and either have a conversation with them before Copenhagen and/or set a breakfast date with them for during the Summit. One person should be someone whose work you feel you can contribute to (give) and one person should be someone you want to gain insight from (get). We encourage you to also make sure at least one person you speak to is of a different nationality. As you make your appointments, please update this form (and note we kept the appointments from last year so change them if they are no longer valid):

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1vnNKLQuF9QZcpRYn8ABjRpUOAThoY967gAwilMYcC9k/edit?usp=sharing>

NOTE: this assignment is mandatory and in case you don't make dates and enter them in the spreadsheet then we may assign you.

### 3. LEARNING ASSIGNMENTS (DUE SEPTEMBER 9)

Video #1 (3 minute watch): This video gives a quick overview of the strides Denmark has made toward a green economy since 1973: on track for fossil fuel independence by 2050 through innovations like wind turbines, or even converting waste into power, all contributing to economic growth and global job opportunities. We will meet the former Lord Mayor, Jens Kramer Mikkelsen (bio in sched), who stewarded much of this remarkable transition.

Video #2 required (8 minute watch): + OPTION to read the Related Article. This video and article discuss how Copenhagen has implemented an integrated approach to climate change adaptation, urban development, and urban water management, showcasing innovative projects that have made the city more resilient and environmentally friendly following significant flooding in 2011. The way Danes create multiple value adds such as playgrounds, a harbor clean enough to swim in, clean water storage, and gorgeous parks as they solve for cloudbursts is astonishing.

Reading(10 minute read) Like all other living organisms, we survive by using Earth's resources. We once believed these resources were unlimited. But we now know there are hard limits. Katherine Richardsen, who we will meet on our first morning in Copenhagen (bio in sched), describes these planetary limits and how we must change our mindsets and behaviors -- systemically and personally – in order to survive.

Video #3 (4 minute watch): This video further elaborates on the myriad ways Copenhagen has innovated their way to becoming carbon neutral by 2030, not only in energy production, consumption habits and clean water, but with transportation and construction/architecture systems and mindset manifested by their transition to a circular economy. There are cameos of Helene Hjortlund, founder of Green Bike Tours, who has helped us with much of our programming and the former Lord Mayor, Jens Kramer Mikkelsen. We will meet both!

#### ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL LEARNING

OPTIONAL Podcast transitioning from fossil fuels to heat pumps, promoting a circular society and forcing people to change their habits, this podcast explores the green transition and how Denmark is implementing the changes necessary to become carbon neutral. The experts interviewed also speak about their small personal choices in addition to their massive

systemic (and more intimidating) work, which is relatable. And as much as they humble brag on Denmark's massive accomplishments, such as Samsø, an island that is actually carbon negative, they also admit that even they have much farther to go.

OPTIONAL Video #4 If you are particularly interested in the circular economy approach in Denmark where "even waste is a resource" and brings down the cost of construction (which now uses 85% recycled materials in Denmark), this is quite a remarkable short video. We will visit Amager Bakke Power Plant and hear a lot more about how, in the process of incinerating whatever cannot be recycled, the Danes actually produce energy.

OPTIONAL Article #2 (15-20 minute read): This page provides historical information about the Holocaust in Denmark, highlighting the relatively benign approach of the German occupation regime, the rescue efforts to save Danish Jews, and the actions taken by Danish citizens and authorities during World War II.

OPTIONAL Video #5 (4 minute watch): The story of Denmark's green transition in graphics.

NOTE: If you have current (from the last few weeks) resources you'd like us to add, please send.

#### **4. YOUR VISION: AYEKA**

With full transparency, we are going to ask you to fill out a reflection/evaluation form during our last session in Copenhagen. Take a look at it now and be sure to read Question 1. You will be asked to complete it during our final session, but if you would like to get a head start on it now, go right ahead. You may want to jot down initial thoughts in whatever kind of journal or note catcher you use. You could also complete Question 1 now, before we go, and a second time, at the end of our trip, to compare any changes in your outlook and commitments that result from our time together in Copenhagen. <https://forms.gle/d9kkvjyBDyWM9FTC9>

#### **5. CARBON OFFSETS**

- a. Calculate your carbon footprint for this trip using this calculator.
- b. Please offset your carbon footprint. Angie has done some research and recommends <https://reseed.farm> but there are many others, which we have been tracking with your help here.