

Mayor included both the youth and job creation in the COP24 in Poland

Mayor Erik Lauritzen participated Monday and Tuesday in the UN's COP24 climate summit where he presented Sonderborg's ProjectZero-vision for representatives from cities around the world and it was a proud mayor that was interviewed by SønderborgNYT Tuesday night.



“The necessity of cities showing leadership in climate change as we have since 2007 with Sonderborg’s ProjectZero-vision has been confirmed to me” says Erik Lauritzen and stresses the importance of the cities, and thereby Sonderborg still leading the climate transition:

“It can be viewed as a final act due to the cities around the world being able to say that they are pursuing the goal locally to keep the temperature below 1.5 degrees or a maximum of 2 degrees, but they can also say that the global temperature increase already now is on 1.1 degrees”, says the mayor of Sonderborg.

The climate changes is an opportunity to be innovative, think about new solutions and create green jobs, which is something Erik Lauritzen and the mayor of Puttburgh, Bitt Peduto could talk about.

“The green jobs, the cooperation with the educational institutions and our local companies are a premise for Sonderborg continuing to develop, attract new citizens and last, but not least, make young students study and live in Sonderborg, so that the green growth agenda is moving forth in Sonderborg municipality”, says Erik Lauritzen, that included both young people and job creation in his presentation about challenges.

It is important to we listen to the voice of the youth as well as include them in the transition. Recently we, in Sonderborg, experienced young people striking due to climate change”. Says Erik Lauritzen that brought 21 letters to COP24 – written by young people Sonderborg who are worried about the climate.



CEO of ProjectZero, Peter Rathje, also participated in UN's COP 24 climate summit in Poland where he, among other things, talked about how ProjectZero is a catalyst for the local green climate transition:

"A lot of attention was given to how Sønderborg succeeded to get support from citizens, companies, housing associations, educational institutions and on the political level and secure local partnerships with the Bitten and Mads Clausen Foundation and SE", Says Peter Rathje to SønderborgNYT.

Monday night there was a special focus on Sønderborg municipality when the EU's climate and energy commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete praised Sønderborg, Barcelona and Monsano as the European role models in the local climate transition, which is the reason for why these cities received the prestigious "Covenant Cities in the Spotlight" award in October.

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