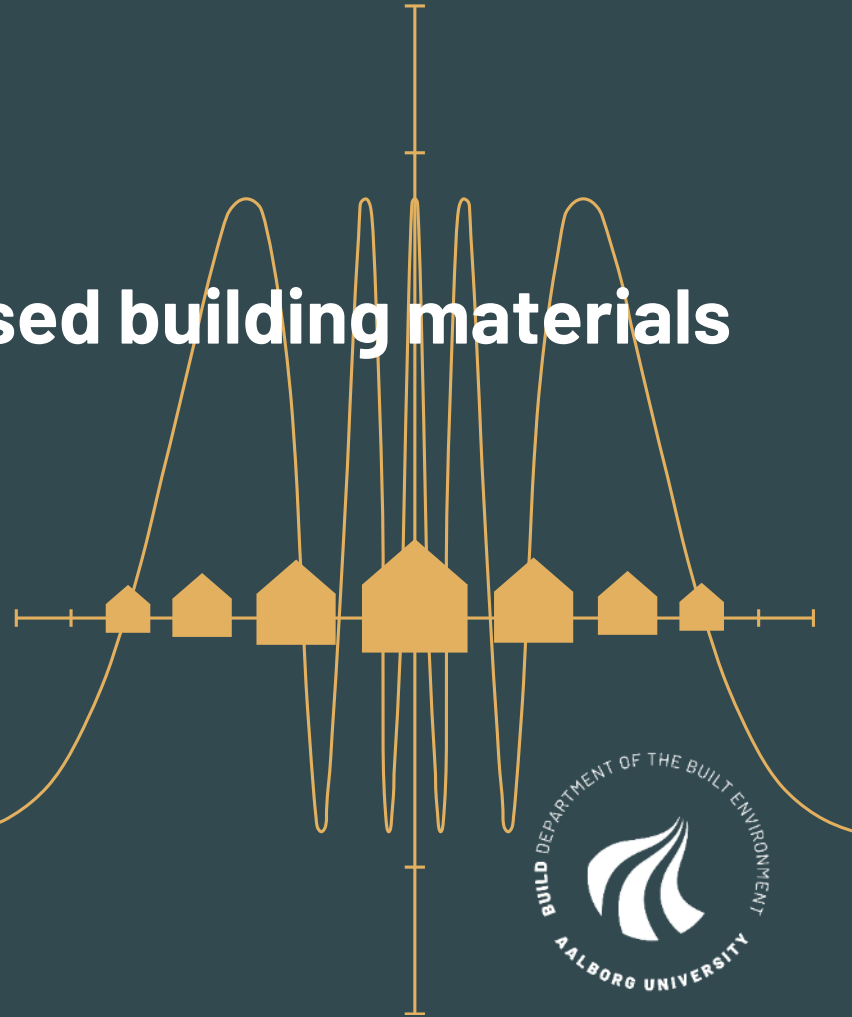


Environmental impact of reused building materials and examples in Denmark

Professor Harpa Birgisdóttir



29. November 2023





FOCUS ON DOCUMENTATION OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL POTENTIAL OF CIRCULAR
STRATEGIES



BUILD
AALBORG UNIVERSITY

SBI 2019:08

Livscyklusvurdering for cirkulære løsninger med fokus på klimapåvirkning

Forundersøgelse



Andersen, C. E., et al. (2020). Comparison of GHG emissions from circular and conventional building components. *Buildings and Cities*, 1(1), pp. 379-392. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5334/bc-55>

RESEARCH

Comparison of GHG emissions from circular and conventional building components

Camilla Ernst Andersen¹, Kai Kanafani², Regitze Kjær Zimmermann³, Freja Nygaard Rasmussen⁴ and Harpa Birgisdóttir⁵

Abstract

The concept of circular economy has been introduced as a strategy to reduce the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from buildings and mitigate climate change. Although many innovative circular solutions exist, the business model is challenged by a lack of environmental data on the circular solutions, and thus the potential benefits are not verifiable. The study assesses the embodied GHG emissions of five circular building elements/components. Circular solutions are compared with conventional solutions to ascertain whether the business model has the potential to reduce GHG emissions. The GHG emissions are quantified using life-cycle assessment (LCA) for five circular-economy and three conventional building elements/components. The environmental data show that circular building components have the potential to reduce GHG emissions. However, there is a risk of increasing the GHG emissions when compared with conventional solutions, emphasising the need for standardised environmental data. Lastly, the study identifies logistic, economic, technological and regulatory barriers that prevent complete implementation of circular economy.

Practice relevance

Standardised environmental data on building elements/components are needed to support decision-making at local and national levels. Uncertainties about waste from manufacture and transport in the production stage can affect the environmental potential to such an extent that the benefits from introducing circular economy are lost. One central barrier is identified that prevents complete implementation of the circular economy in buildings; the industry is not geared to support a steady supply of some circular building elements/components. In general, it is clear that the implementation of circular economy requires the identification of environmental, logistical, economic, technological and regulatory concerns.



Article

Development of a Life Cycle Assessment Allocation Approach for Circular Economy in the Built Environment

Leonora Charlotte Malabi Eberhardt^{1,*}, Anne van Stijn², Freja Nygaard Rasmussen¹, Morten Birkved³ and Harpa Birgisdóttir¹

- ¹ Department of the Built Environment, Aalborg University, A.C. Meyers Vænge 15, 2450 Copenhagen, Denmark; lne@buid.aau.dk (L.C.M.E.); hrb@buid.aau.dk (H.B.)
- ² Department of Management in the Built Environment, Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment, Delft University of Technology, Julianalaan 134, 2628 BL Delft, The Netherlands; a.vanstijn@tudelft.nl
- ³ SDU Life Cycle Engineering, Department of Chemical Engineering, Biotechnology and Environmental Technology University of Southern Denmark, Campusvej 55, 5230 Odense-M, Denmark; mor@bkm.sdu.dk
- * Correspondence: lcb@buid.aau.dk

Received: 19 October 2020; Accepted: 13 November 2020; Published: 17 November 2020



Abstract: Transitioning the built environment to a circular economy (CE) is vital to achieve sustainability goals but requires metrics. Life cycle assessment (LCA) can analyse the environmental performance of CE. However, conventional LCA methods assess individual products and single life cycles whereas circular assessment requires a systems perspective as buildings, components and materials potentially have multiple use and life cycles. How should benefits and burdens be allocated between life cycles? This study compares four different LCA allocation approaches: (a) the EN 15804/15978 cut-off approach, (b) the Circular Footprint Formula (CFF), (c) the 50:50 approach, and (d) the linearly degressive (LD) approach. The environmental impacts of four 'circular building components' is calculated: (1) a concrete column and (2) a timber column both designed for direct reuse, (3) a recyclable roof felt and (4) a window with a reusable frame. Notable differences in impact distributions between the allocation approaches were found, thus incentivising different CE principles. The LD approach was found to be promising for open and closed-loop systems within a closed loop supply chain (such as the ones assessed here). A CE LD approach was developed to enhance the LD approach's applicability, to closer align it with the CE concept, and to create an incentive for CE in the industry.

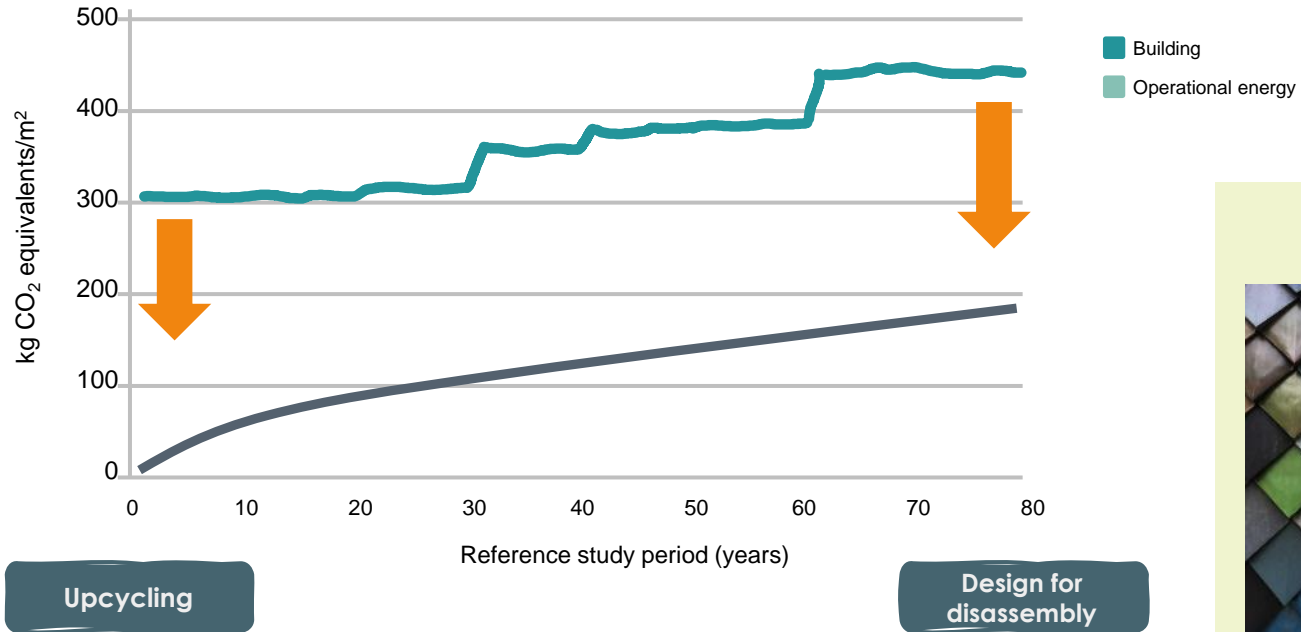


BUILD
AALBORG UNIVERSITY

MANY CIRCULAR STRATEGIES EXISTS WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?



MANY CIRCULAR STRATEGIES TARGETING DIFFERENT SOLUTIONS AND TIMESCALES



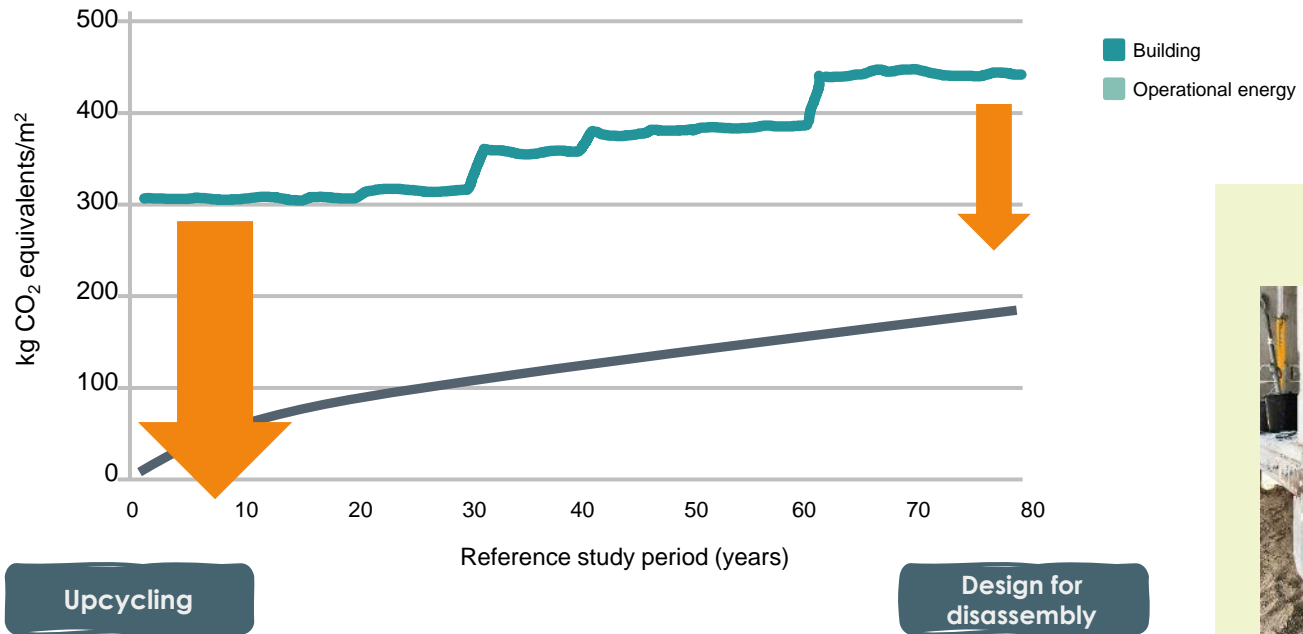
Upcycle house



Circle house



MANY CIRCULAR STRATEGIES TARGETING DIFFERENT SOLUTIONS AND TIMESCALES



Upcycle house



Circle house



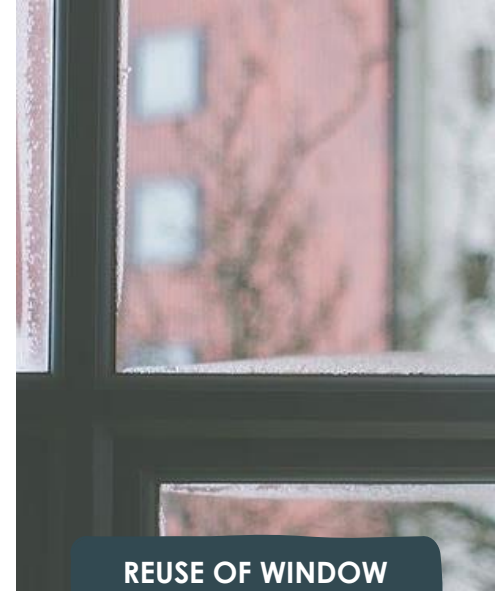
CICULAR STRATEGIES



REUSE OF BRICKS



**REUSE AND RECYCLING
OF CONCRETE**



**REUSE OF WINDOW
GLASS**

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

SBI 2019:08

Livscyklusvurdering for cirkulære løsninger med fokus på klimapåvirkning

Forundersøgelse



Andersen, C. C., et al. (2020). Comparison of GHG emissions from circular and conventional building components. *Buildings and Cities*, 1(1), pp. 374-392. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5334/bc.101>

RESEARCH

Comparison of GHG emissions from circular and conventional building components

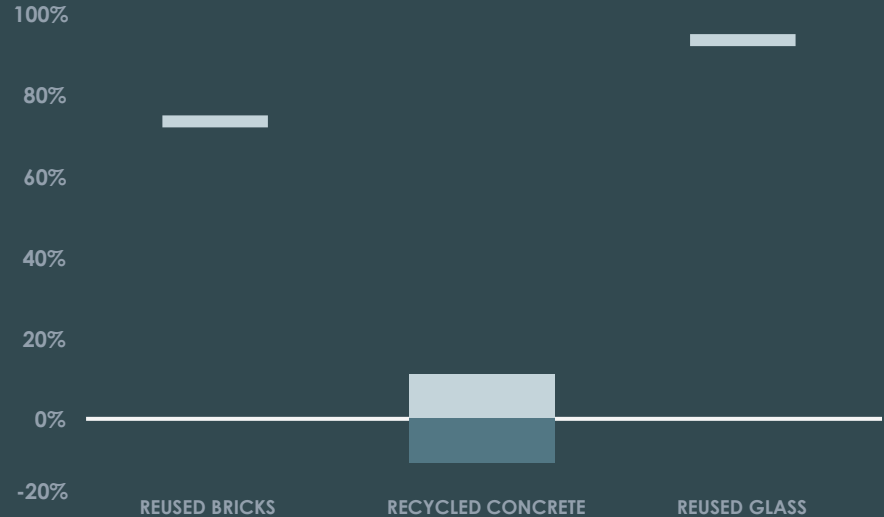
Camilla Ernst Andersen¹, Kai Kanafani², Regitze Kjær Zimmermann¹, Freja Nygaard Rasmussen² and Harpa Birgisdóttir³

Abstract

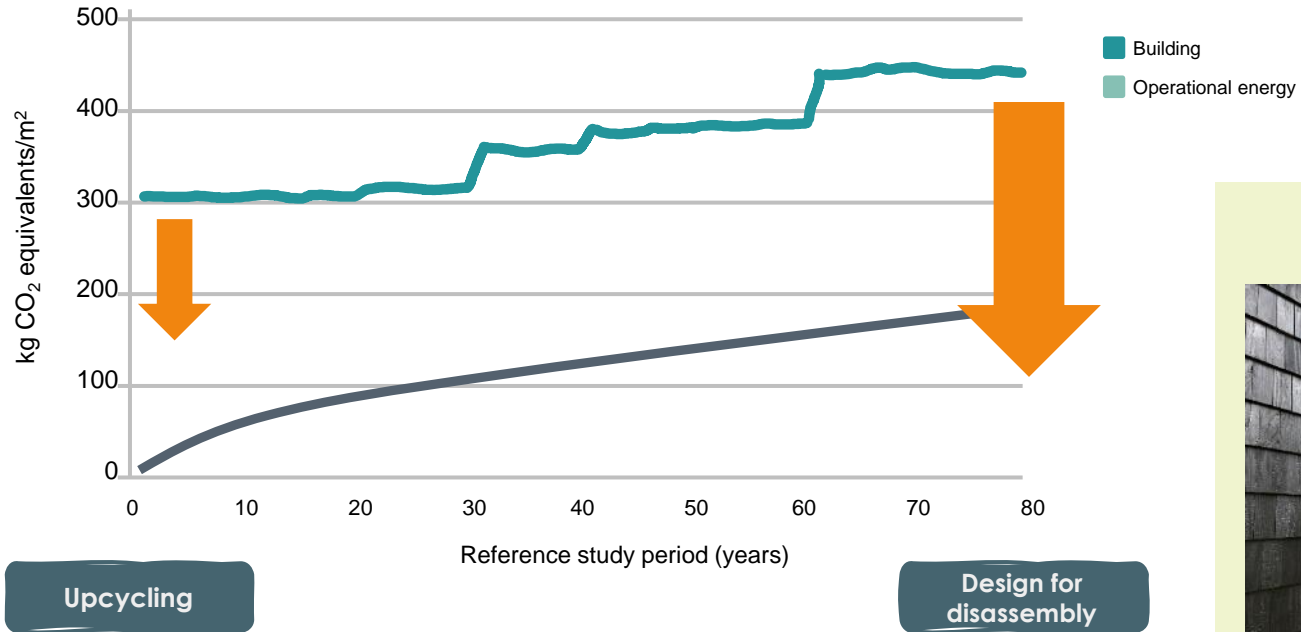
The concept of circular economy has been introduced as a strategy to reduce the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from buildings and mitigate climate change. Although many innovative circular solutions exist, the business model is challenged by a lack of environmental data on the circular solutions, and thus the potential benefits are not verifiable. The study assesses the embodied GHG emissions of five circular building elements/components. Circular solutions are compared with conventional solutions to ascertain whether the business model has the potential to reduce GHG emissions. The GHG emissions are quantified using life-cycle assessment (LCA) for five circular-economy and three conventional building elements/components. The environmental data show that circular building components have the potential to reduce GHG emissions. However, there is a risk of increasing the GHG emissions when compared with conventional solutions, emphasising the need for standardised environmental data. Lastly, the study identifies logistic, economic, technological and regulatory barriers that prevent complete implementation of circular economy.

Practice relevance

OF REUSE AND RECYCLING



MANY CIRCULAR STRATEGIES TARGETING DIFFERENT SOLUTIONS AND TIMESCALES



Upcycle house



Circle house



ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

OF DESIGN FOR DISASSEMBLY



Article

Development of a Life Cycle Assessment Allocation Approach for Circular Economy in the Built Environment

Leonora Charlotte Malabi Eberhardt^{1,*}, Anne van Stijn², Freja Nygaard Rasmussen¹, Morten Birkved³ and Harpa Birgisdottir^{1,4}

¹ Department of the Built Environment, Aalborg University, A.C. Meyers Vænge 15, 2450 Copenhagen, Denmark; fnr@build.aau.dk (F.N.R.); hb@build.aau.dk (H.B.)

² Department of Management in the Built Environment, Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment, Delft University of Technology, Julianalaan 134, 2628 BL Delft, The Netherlands; a.vanstijn@tudelft.nl

³ SDU Life Cycle Engineering, Department of Chemical Engineering, Biotechnology and Environmental Technology University of Southern Denmark, Campusvej 55, 5230 Odense-M, Denmark; morb@kbnm.sdu.dk

* Correspondence: lc@build.aau.dk

Received: 19 October 2020; Accepted: 13 November 2020; Published: 17 November 2020



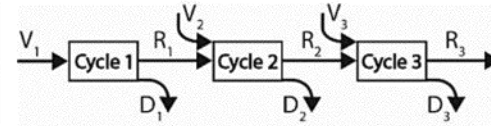
Abstract: Transitioning the built environment to a circular economy (CE) is vital to achieve sustainability goals but requires metrics. Life cycle assessment (LCA) can analyse the environmental performance of CE. However, conventional LCA methods assess individual products and single life cycles whereas circular assessment requires a systems perspective as buildings, components and materials potentially have multiple use and life cycles. How should benefits and burdens be allocated between life cycles? This study compares four different LCA allocation approaches: (a) the EN 15804/15978 cut-off approach, (b) the Circular Footprint Formula (CFF), (c) the 50:50 approach, and (d) the linearly degressive (LD) approach. The environmental impacts of four 'circular building components' is calculated: (1) a concrete column and (2) a timber column both designed for direct reuse, (3) a recyclable roof felt and (4) a window with a reusable frame. Notable differences in impact distributions between the allocation approaches were found, thus incentivising different CE principles. The LD approach was found to be promising for open and closed-loop systems within a closed loop supply chain (such as the ones assessed here). A CE LD approach was developed to enhance the LD approach's applicability, to closer align it with the CE concept, and to create an incentive for CE in the industry.

Reuse



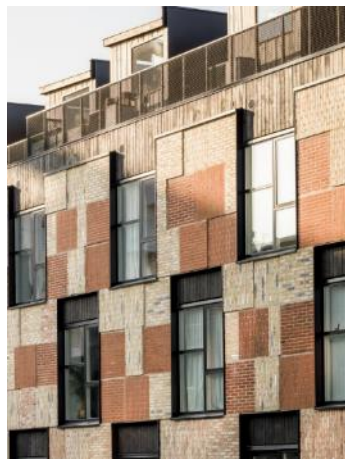
3x80 years

Recycling



3x20 years

V = Production
R = Reuse/recycling
D = Disposal



SAMPLES FROM DENMARK

LENDAGER GROUP

Architectural rendering of a modern building with a prominent white, slatted facade and a flat roof. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

Upcycle House


Nyborg, Denmark

Architectural rendering of a building with a dark, vertically-grained wood facade and large windows. The sky is a pale blue.

Upcycle Studios

Ørestad, Copenhagen

LENDAGER

Architectural rendering of a multi-story residential building with a mix of brick and wood cladding. Green trees are visible in the foreground and background.

Ressourcerækkerne

Ejler Billes Allé 11, Copenhagen

LENDAGER GROUP

Upcycle House

Nyborg, Denmark

Upcycle House | Location: Nyborg, Denmark | 140 m2 house | Built: 2011-2013

Upcycle Studios

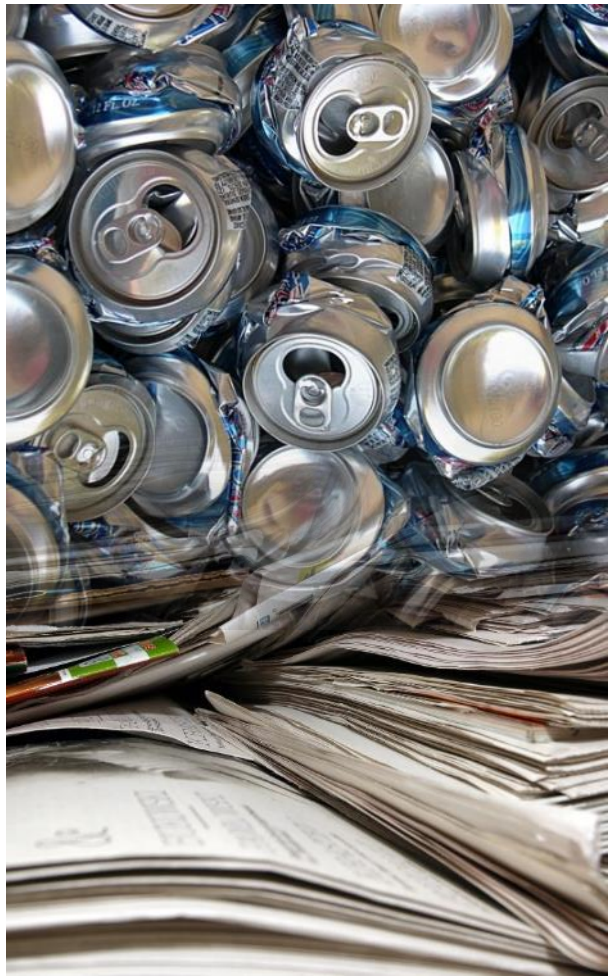
Ørestad, Copenhagen

LENDAGER

Ressourcerækkerne

Ejler Billes Allé 11, Copenhagen





Facadebeklædning



Plast



UPM Profi-facade

Gulve



Korkpropper

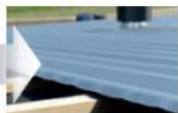


Korkgulv

Tagbeklædning



Genbrugsaluminium



Aluminiumplader

Lofter og vægge



Brugt gips



Gipsplader

Isolering



Avispapir



Papirisolering

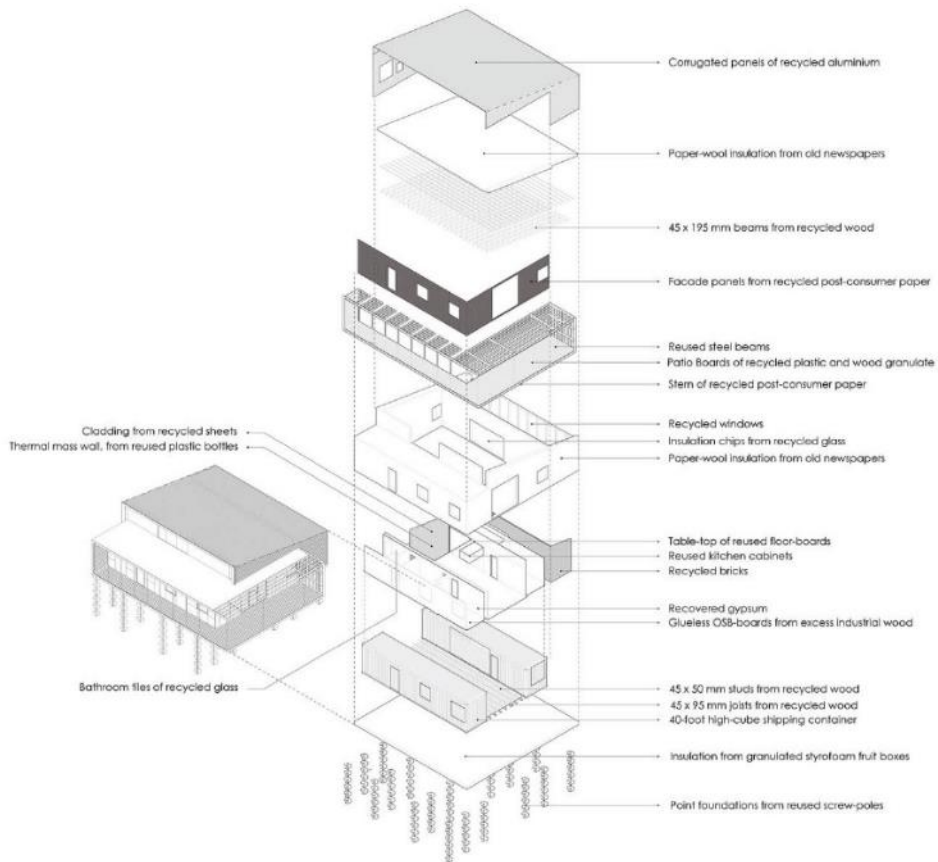
Indervægge, gulve



Genbrugstræ



OSB-plader

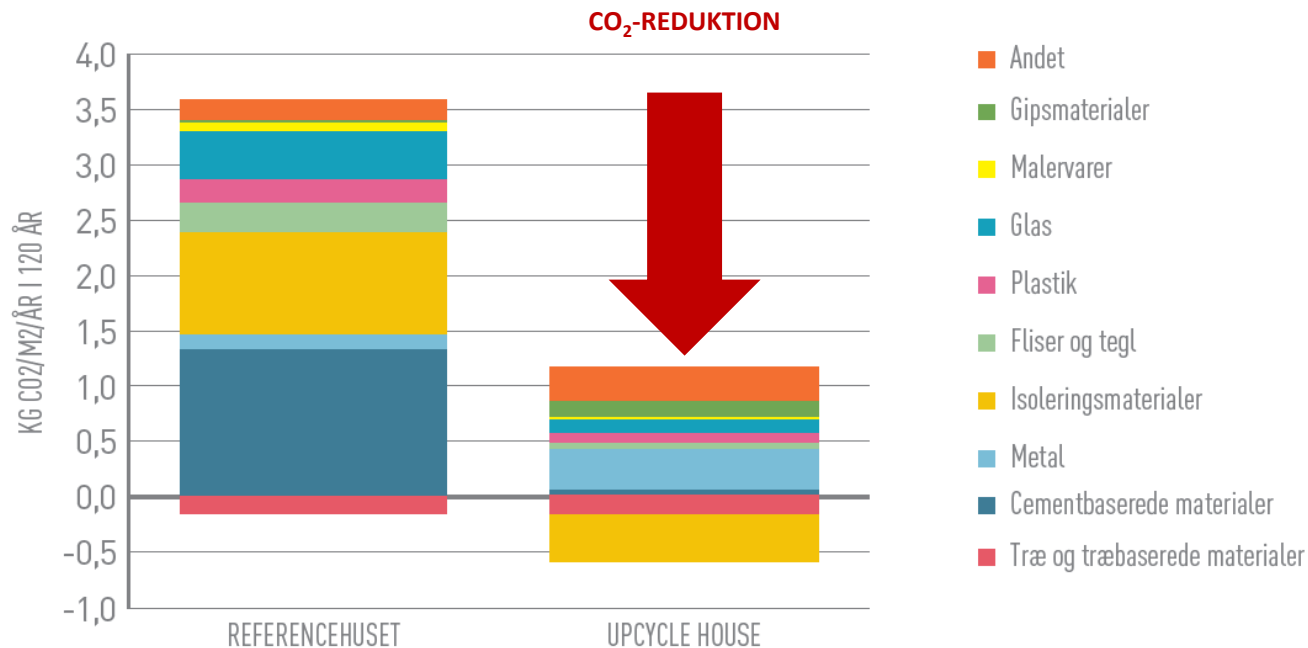


CO2-udledningen fra Upcycle House's materialeforbrug til konstruktionen er **86 pct. mindre** end Referencehusets.



HUSETS CO2-PROFIL

CO2-udledning for hhv. referencehuset og
Upcycle House fordelt på materialer



LENDAGER GROUP

Architectural rendering of a modern building with a prominent white, slatted facade and a flat roof. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

Upcycle House


Nyborg, Denmark

Architectural rendering of a building with a dark, vertically-grained wood facade and large windows. The sky is blue with light clouds.

Upcycle Studios

Ørestad, Copenhagen

LENDAGER

Architectural rendering of a multi-story residential building with a mix of brick and wood cladding. Green trees are visible in the foreground and background.

Ressourcerækkerne

Ejler Billes Allé 11, Copenhagen

LENDAGER GROUP



Upcycle House

Nyborg, Denmark




Upcycle Studios

Ørestad, Copenhagen

LENDAGER

Upcycle Studios | Location: Ørestad, København | 3,909 m² housing | Built: 2015-2018



Ressourcerækkerne

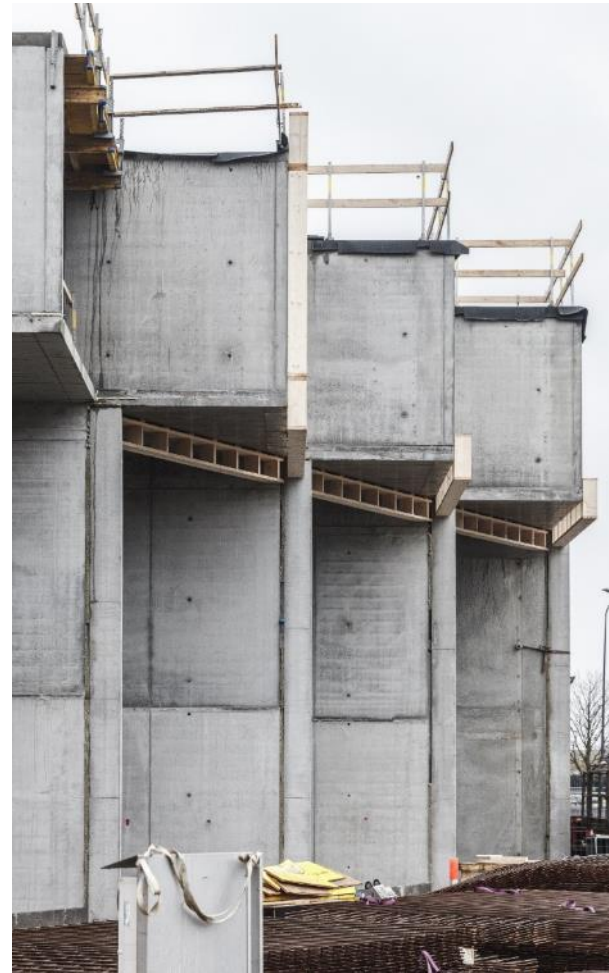
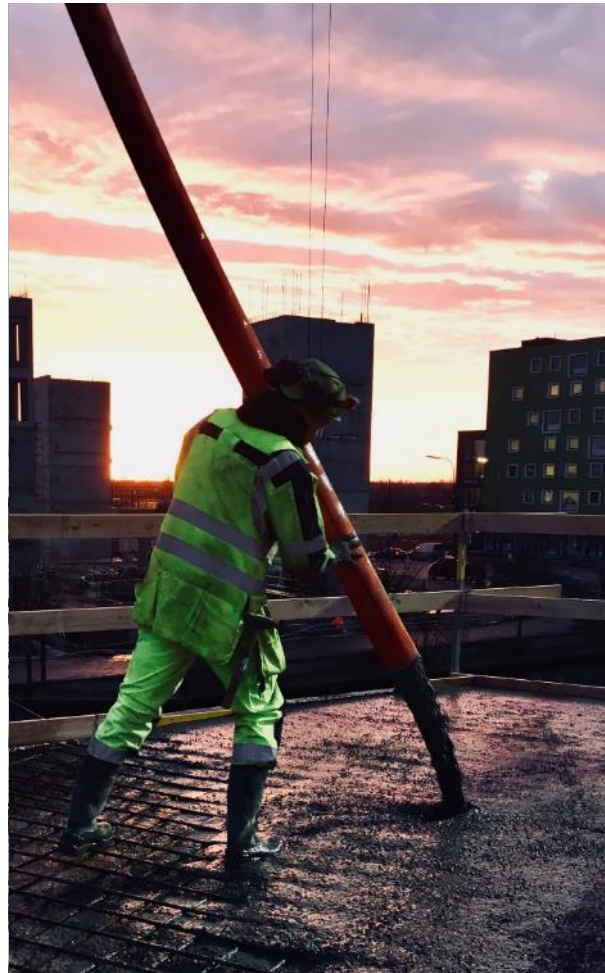
Ejler Billes Allé 11, Copenhagen





IN EUROPE, 1,5 MIO. TONNES OF GLASS WASTE ANNUALLY IS PROVIDED FROM DEMOLITION OR RENOVATION OF BUILDINGS







100%

Recycled wood
Dinesen Offcuts
by Lendager



45%

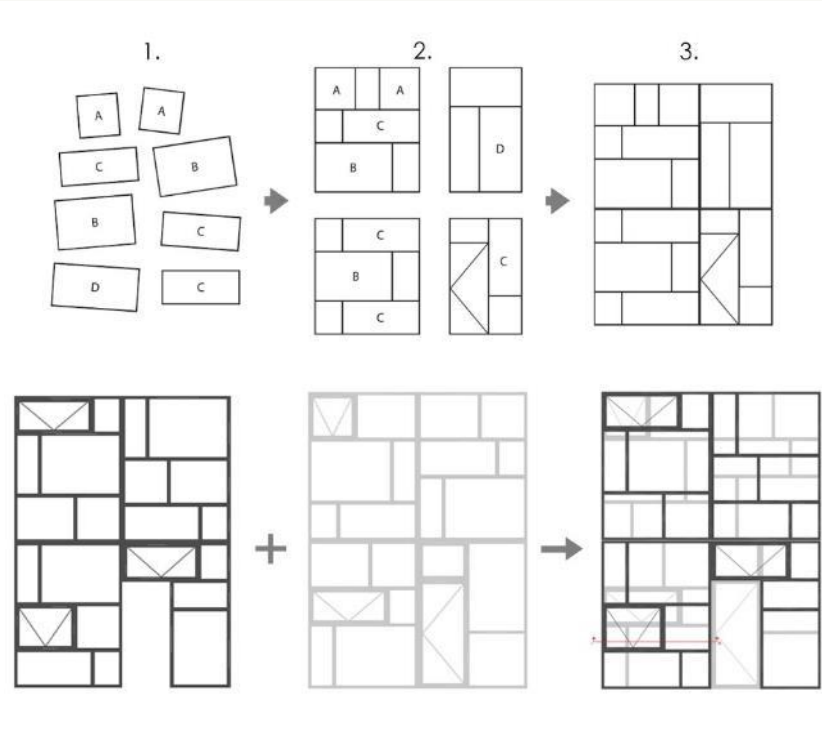
Reuse
UP concrete

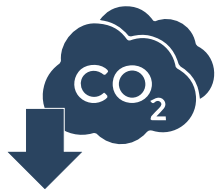


50-85%

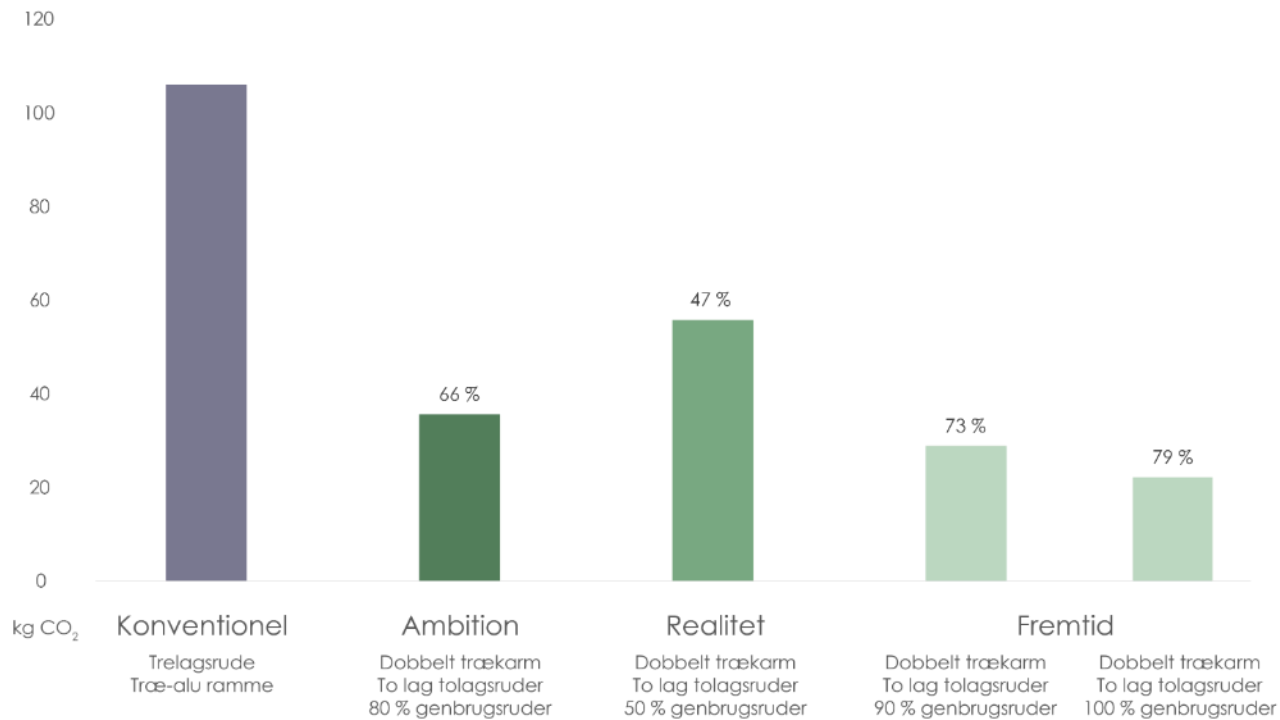
Reuse
Krone UP Windows
by Lendager

UP Product development | Krone UP Windows by Lendager





POTENTIAL ET ER EN CO2-BESPARELSE PÅ 79%



LENDAGER GROUP



Upcycle House

Nyborg, Denmark



Upcycle Studios

Ørestad, Copenhagen

LENDAGER



Resource Rows

Ejler Billes Allé 11, Copenhagen

LENDAGER GROUP

Upcycle House

Nyborg, Denmark

Upcycle Studios

Ørestad, Copenhagen

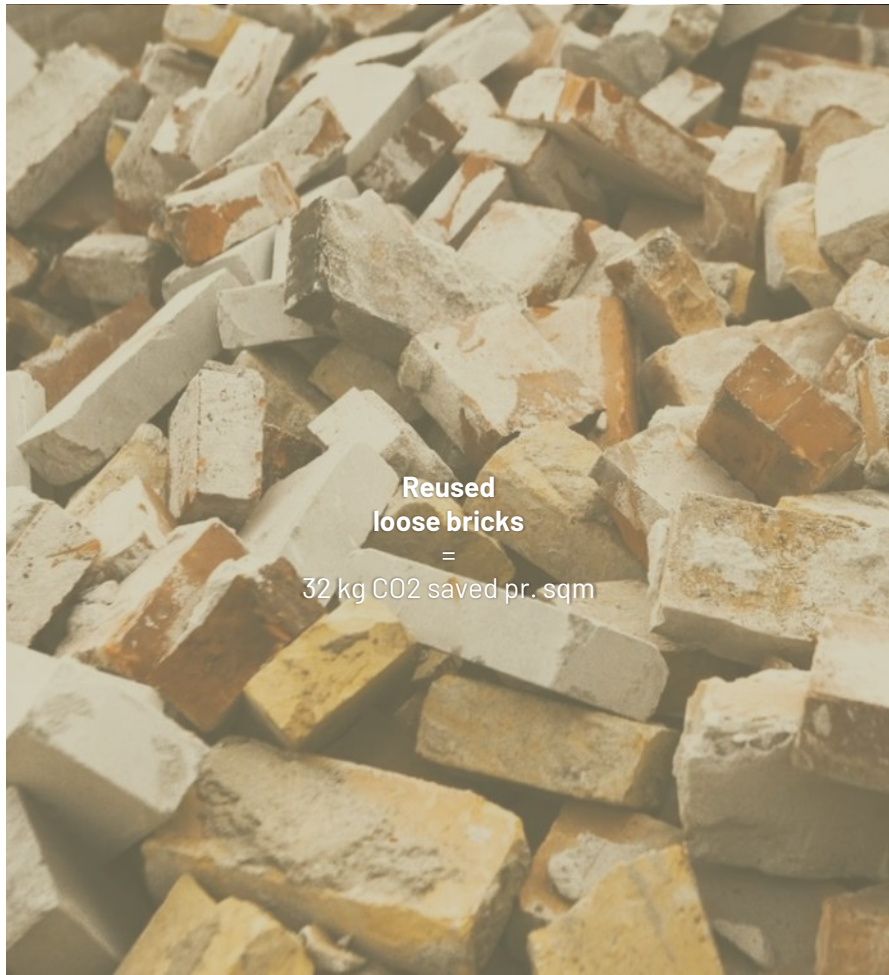
LENDAGER

Resource Rows

Ejler Billés Allé 11, Copenhagen

Resource Rows | Location: Ørestad, Copenhagen | 9,148 m² housing | built: 2015-2019

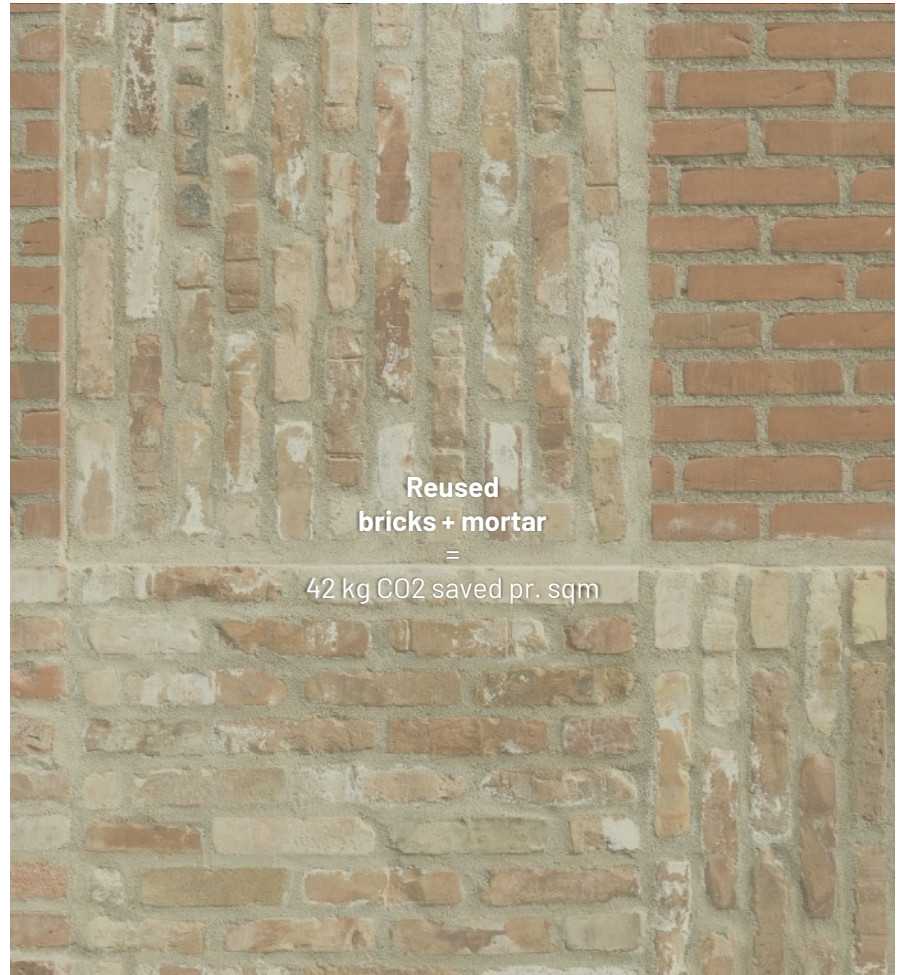




**Reused
loose bricks**

=

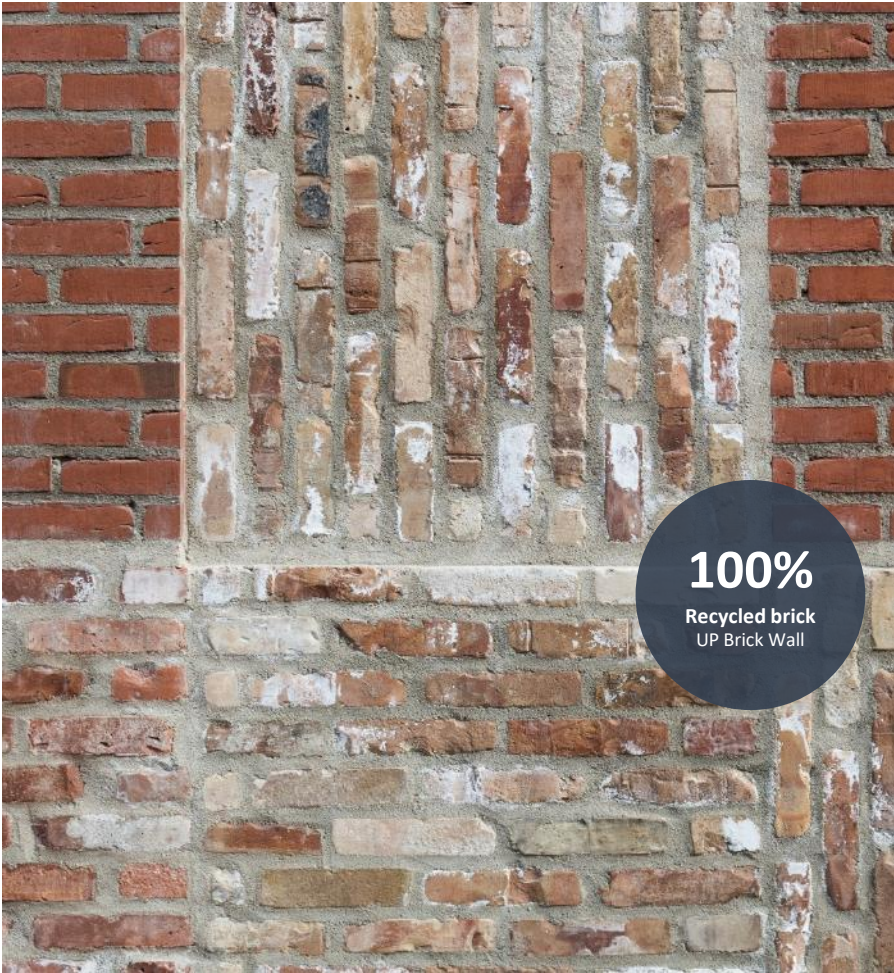
32 kg CO2 saved pr. sqm



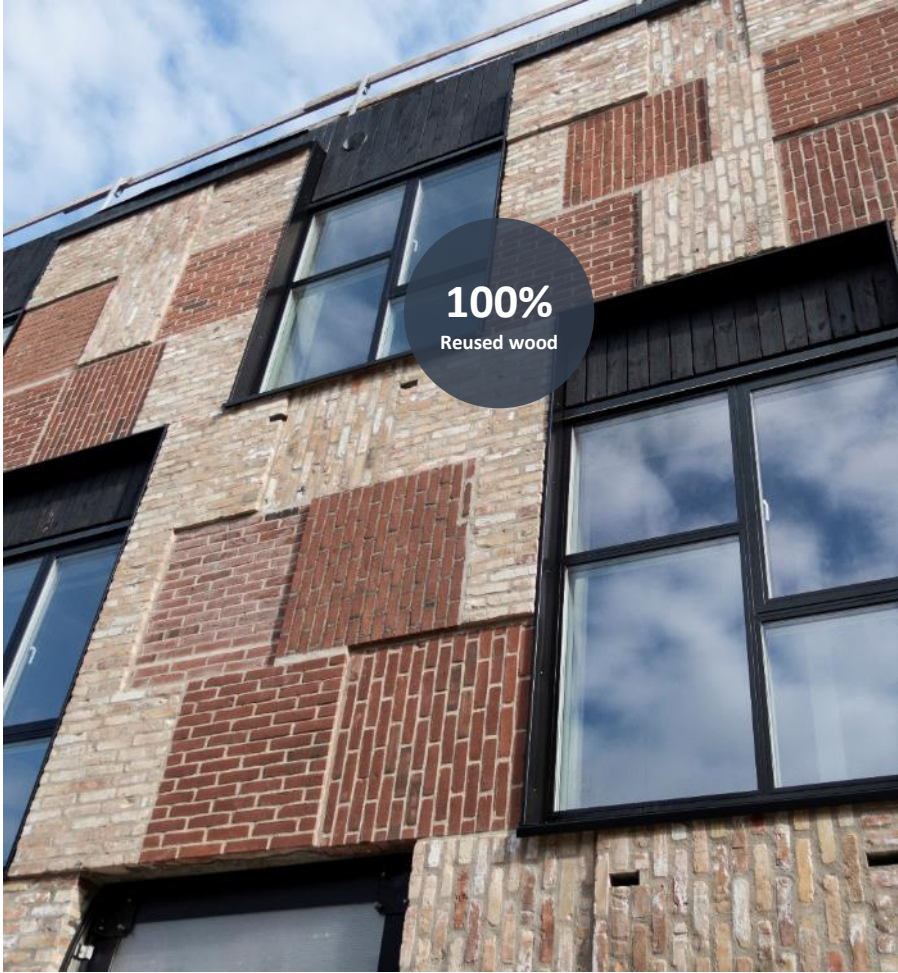
**Reused
bricks + mortar**

=

42 kg CO2 saved pr. sqm



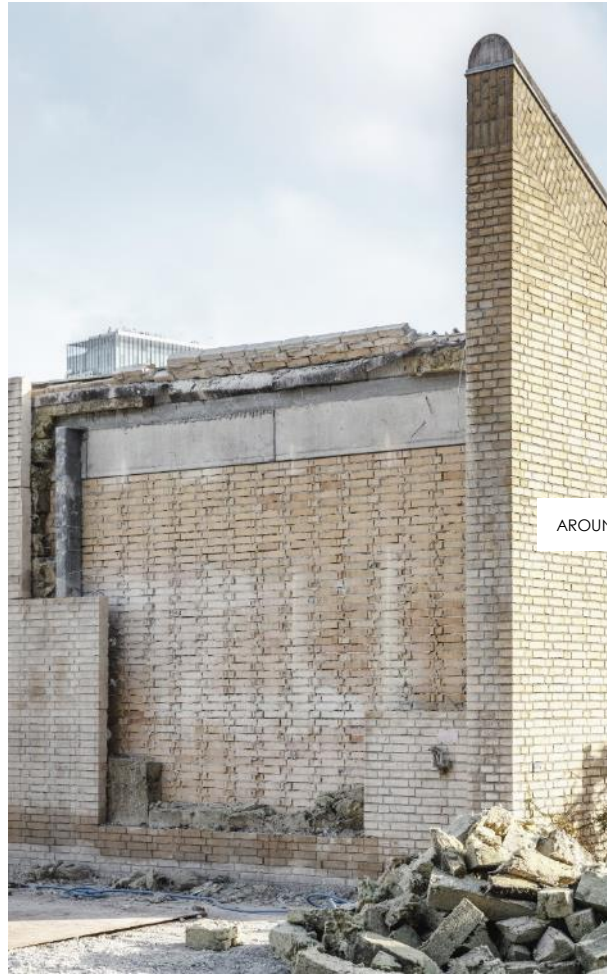
100%
Recycled brick
UP Brick Wall



100%
Reused wood

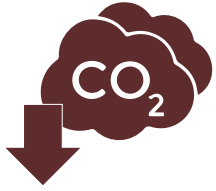
The process



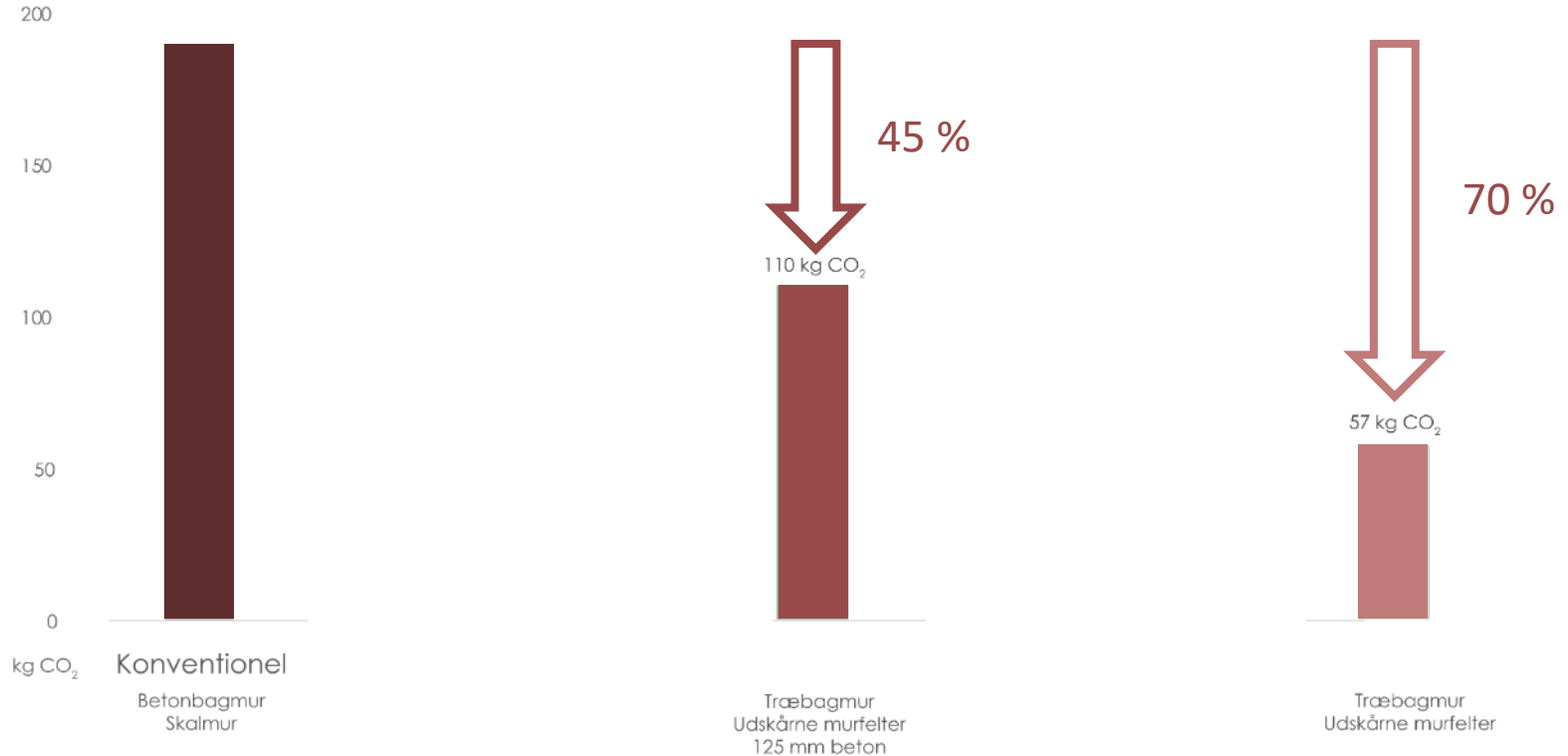


AROUND **1.5 TRILLION** NEW BRICKS ARE PRODUCED WORLDWIDE EACH YEAR



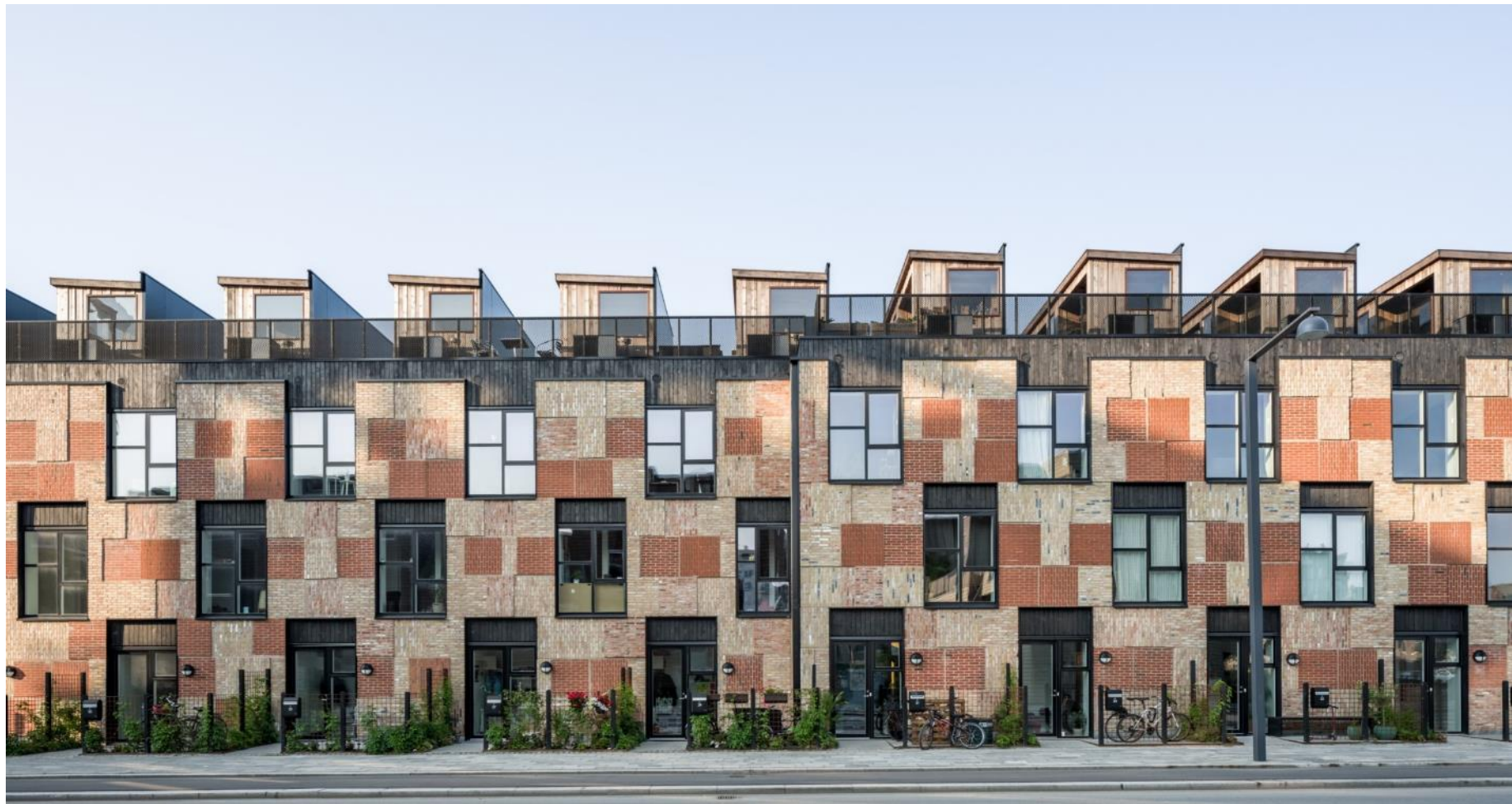


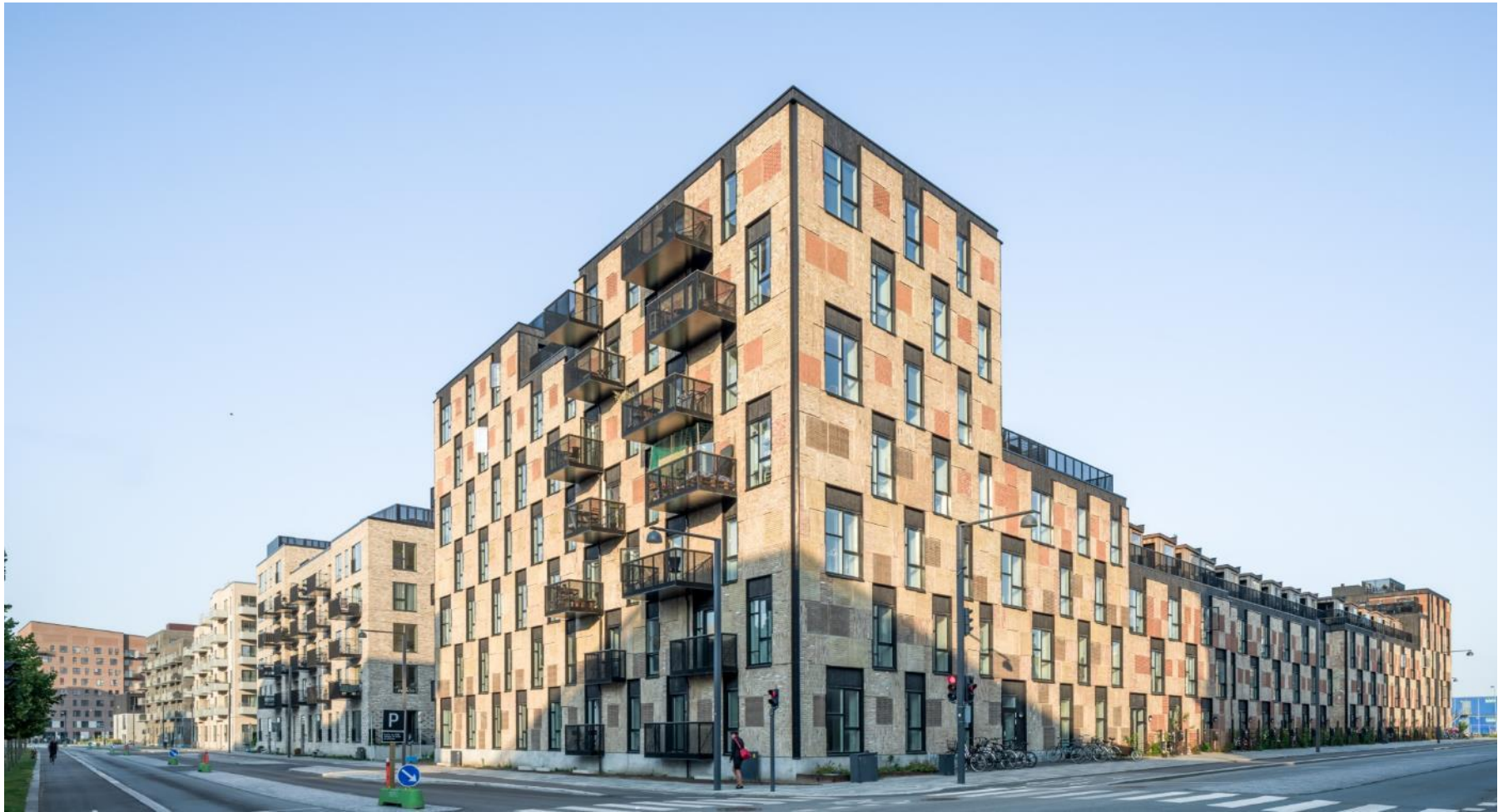
EN TRADITIONAL SKALMUR UDLEDER CA. 200 KG CO₂ PER KVADRATMETER





100%
Genbrugstrøe







TEKNOLOGISK
INSTITUT

REGNESTUEN
HAUKOHL & KØPPEN



UNGDOMSBO
BOLIGER FOR ALLE

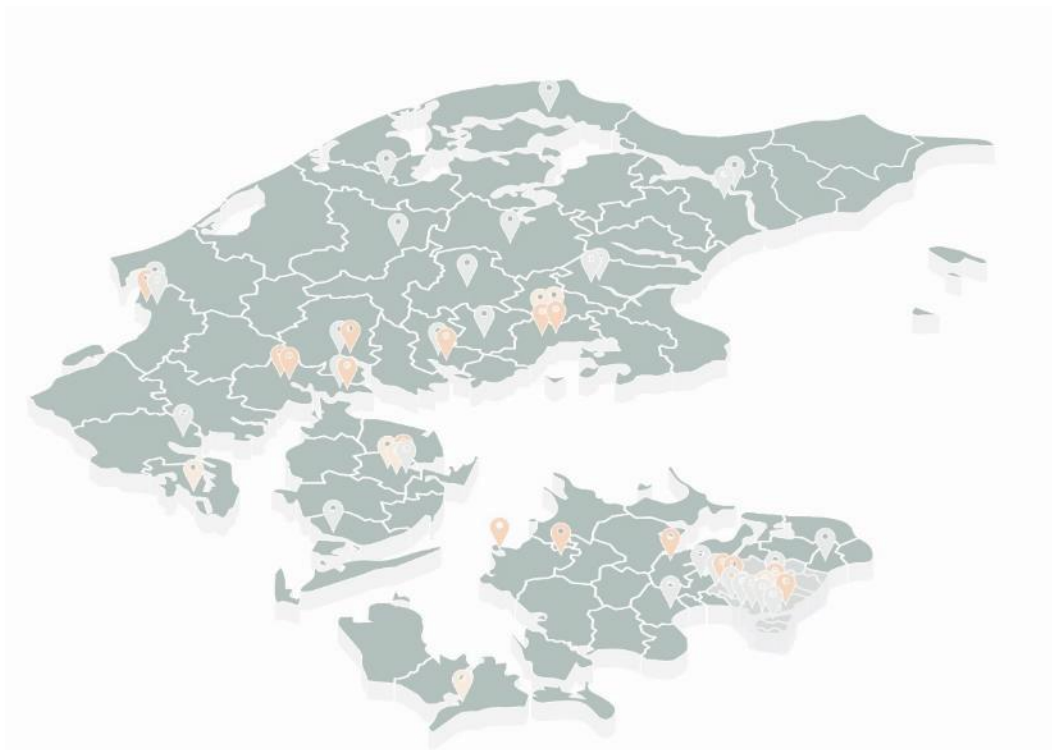


Enemærke &
Petersen a/s

SØNDERGAARD

Project Ressourceblokken

Upcycling af 60'erne og 70'ernes
almene byggeri



Project Ressourceblokken

Upcycling af 60'erne og 70'ernes
almene byggeri



**95% of the homes in the area are
social housing**

1.300.000 m²
To be Demolished

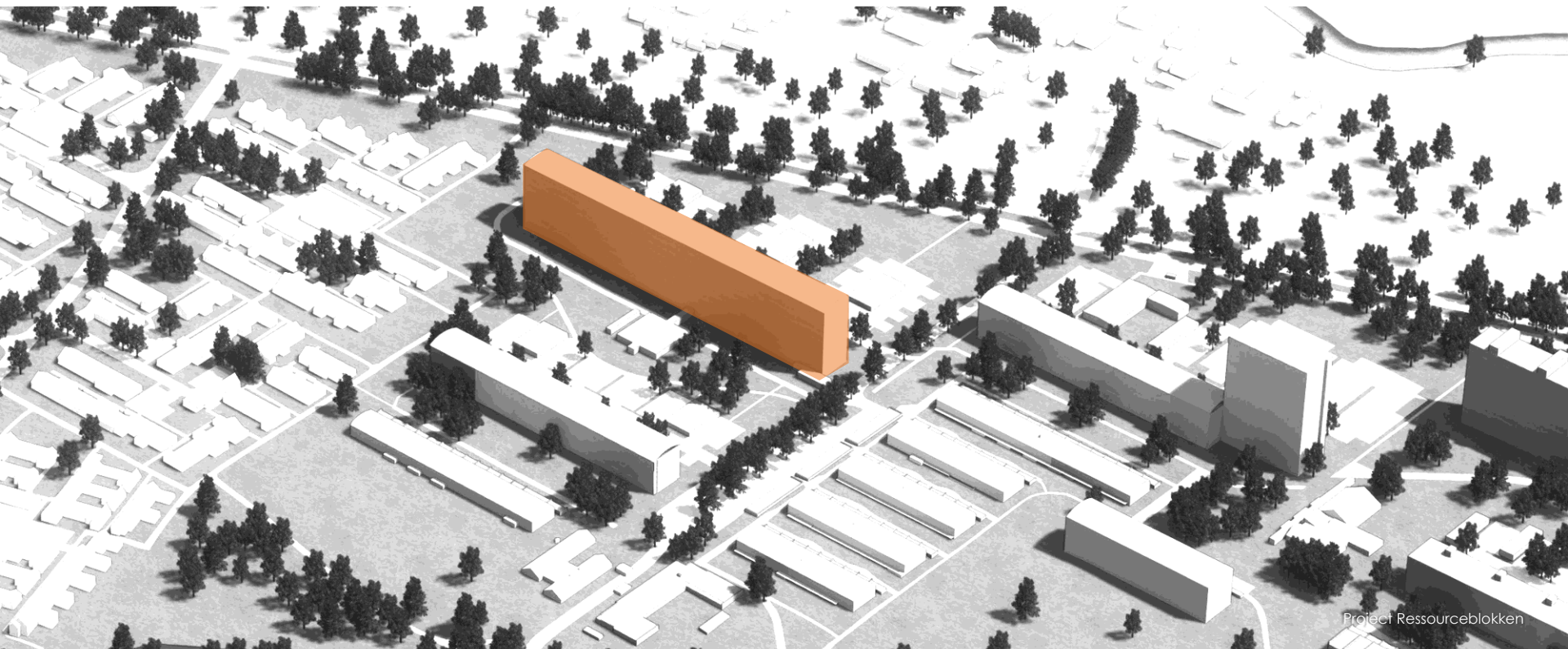


**40% rule.
Housing mass maximum 40%
general construction in the areas.**

700.000 m²
To be build

Vollsmose – Birkeparken

Birkeparken 68-80, Blok 45





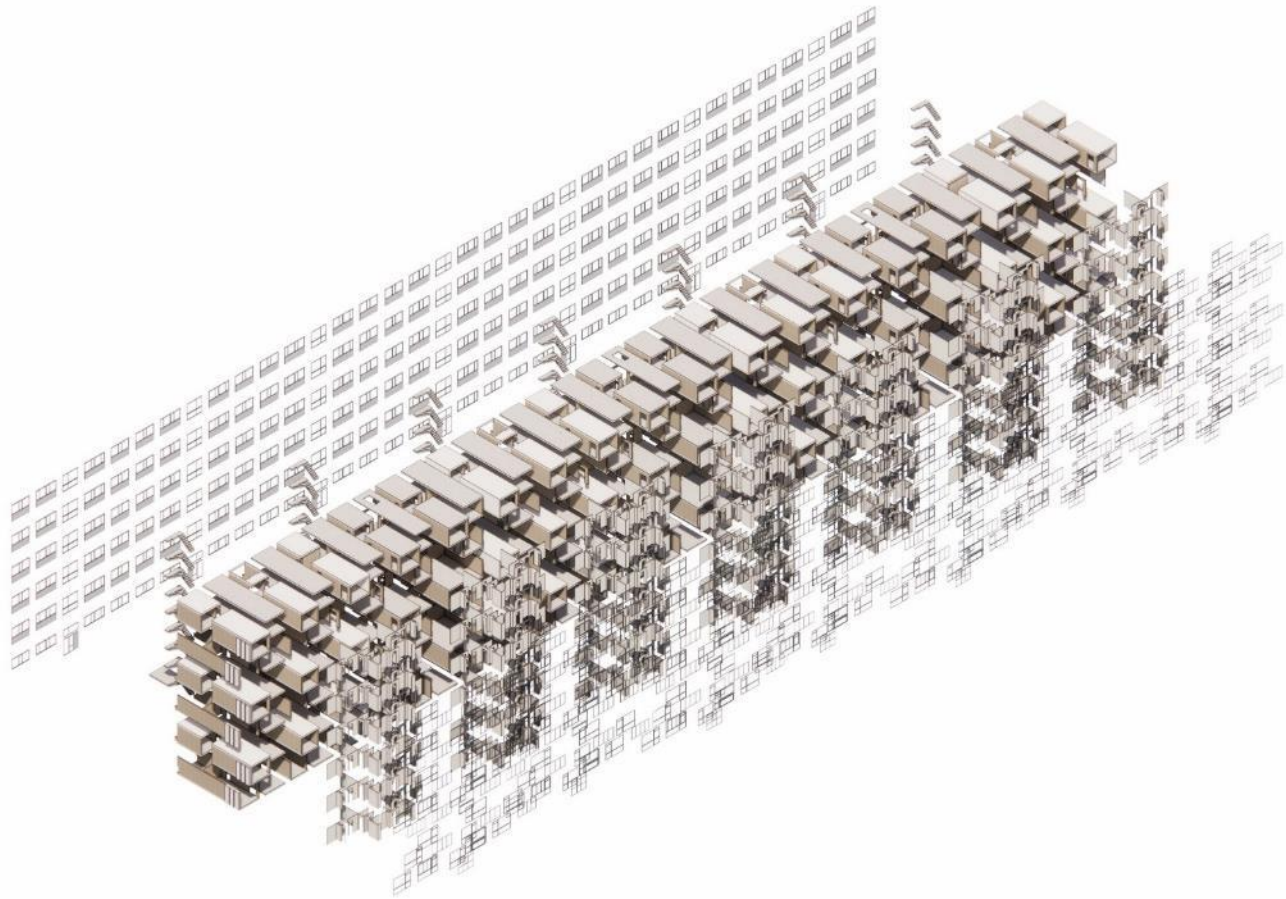
Existing stage



Material bank
mapping



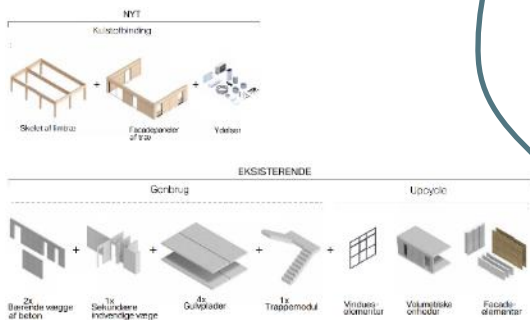
Material bank mapping



Material bank mapping

Designsprint

6 tegnestue



1. Råhus i beton
 Direkte genbrug



Betonelementer

+

2. Præfabrikeret klimaskærm
 Tilføjede elementer



Tilføjelementer

+

3. Bebyggelsens kantzone
 Upcycling



Levingsglas



A | Stanglindvej 10-14
 fra 1976 i tegl og beton.



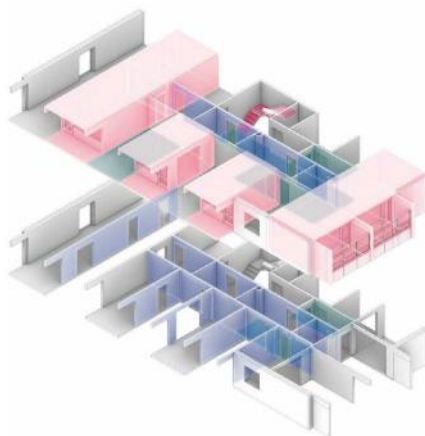
B | Læsning af linjer i eksisterende struktur.



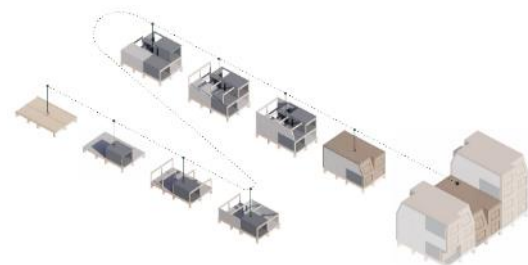
C | Ny struktur skaber rum imellem volumer.



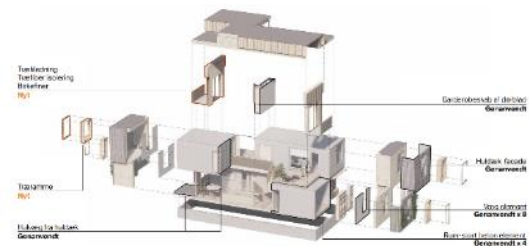
D | Tyngde og skiver fremhæves i ny struktur.



Genanvendte byggekomponenter



1. Ny bærende konstruktion 2. Genbrugte betonmoduler 3. Genbrugte betovægge 4. Facade moduler & tagløsninger



Grundlaget for designsprints

Der er udført byggetekniske analyser af bygningerne på Stengårdsvej i Esbjerg og Birkeparken i Vollsmose for at finde frem til den bedste strategi for nedtagningen af bygningerne med henblik på genbrug af bygningernes betonelementer. På baggrund heraf er bygningerne blevet digitalt dissekeret, hvilket har dannet udgangspunktet for designforslagene på de følgende sider.

Erfaring med nedtagning af betonelementer som forberedelse til genbrug er meget begrænset verden over. Det er der en række årsager til som er belyst her i rapporten. En af udfordringerne er, at bygningerne er praktisk talt smeltede at skille ad som de er bygget, eftersom alle samlinger er støbt sammen. Dette betyder, at bygningerne i praksis skal skæres fra hinanden. Illustrationen nedenfor viser en mulig demontage af blok 65 (A) i Vollsmose som et elementbygger. Bygningen skal støttes ned til rihuset



60



1. Helt uafskårne blokke / 2. Væg- og delelementer friskåret - uafhængige "overskud" fra nedtagning af betonelementer / 3. Væg- og delelementer friskåret - oven- og underliggende "overskud" fra nedtagning af betonelementer / 4. Lette overflade vægge / 5. Råbetonkern

61

Designsprint

6 tegnestue – Panum & Kappel

Ressource Blokken | Panum & Kappel

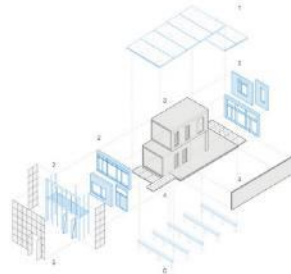
Montagerækkerne

Montagerækkerne er et bud på en ny boligbebyggelse, skabt med udgangspunkt i direkte genbrugte elementer og materialer. Ideen kommet ved nedrivning af Blok 45 i Birkeparken, Vestsjælland. Montagebyggeriets grundprincipper, der kendetegner området, anvendes som en gennemgående metode til opførelse af den nye bebyggelse.



Montagebyggeri 01

Ressource Blokken | Design



1. Placering af væggen i forhold til vindet. 2. Placering af vinduet i forhold til vindet. 3. Placering af vinduet i forhold til vindet. 4. Placering af vinduet i forhold til vindet. 5. Placering af vinduet i forhold til vindet. 6. Placering af vinduet i forhold til vindet.

Udfordringer

Montagerækkerne er et bud på en ny boligbebyggelse, skabt med udgangspunkt i direkte genbrugte elementer og materialer. Ideen kommet ved nedrivning af Blok 45 i Birkeparken, Vestsjælland. Montagebyggeriets grundprincipper, der kendetegner området, anvendes som en gennemgående metode til opførelse af den nye bebyggelse.

Montagerækkerne er et bud på en ny boligbebyggelse, skabt med udgangspunkt i direkte genbrugte elementer og materialer. Ideen kommet ved nedrivning af Blok 45 i Birkeparken, Vestsjælland. Montagebyggeriets grundprincipper, der kendetegner området, anvendes som en gennemgående metode til opførelse af den nye bebyggelse.

Ressource Blokken | Panum & Kappel



Panum & Kappel

Revisor
 Advokat
 Arkitekt
 Ingeniør

(P)RECAST

Reuse of Precast Concrete Elements

Fond: MUDP under the Danish
Environmental Agency

Photo: DTI

Project period: 2022-2024

Partners: Danish Technological
Institute (DTI), GXN, Aarhus
University, COWI, Tschering,
Søndergaard, Aarsleff, Peikko, Hi-
Con, Dansk Beton, Brabrand
Boligforening, AP Ejendomme,
Danish Standard



(P)RECAST

Reuse of Precast Concrete Elements

Partners: Danish Technological Institute (DTI), GXN, Aarhus University, COWI, Tschering, Søndergaard, Aarsleff, Peikko, Hi-Con, Dansk Beton, Brabrand Boligforening, AP Ejendomme, Danish Standard



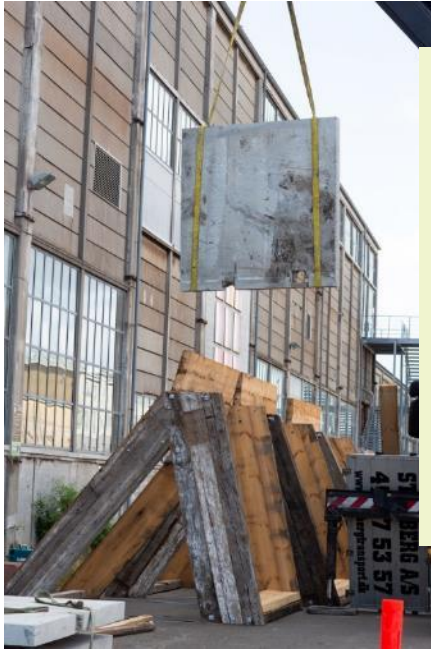
Fond: MUDP under the Danish Environmental Agency

Photo: DTI

Project period: 2022-2024

(P)RECAST

Reuse of Precast Concrete Elements



- Reuse of precast concrete elements as load bearing structures in new buildings
- Aims to develop methods that are generic and can be repeated
- Works throughout the entire value chain and focuses on challenges related specific to reuse of precast concrete elements
- Focuses on hollow core slabs, walls and TT-elements

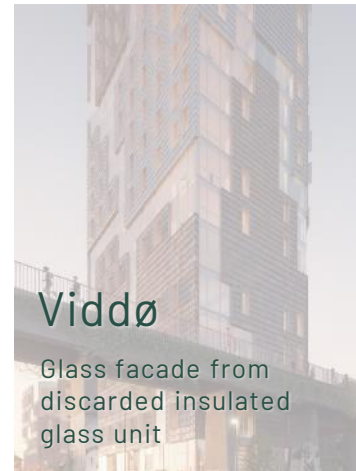
a:gain



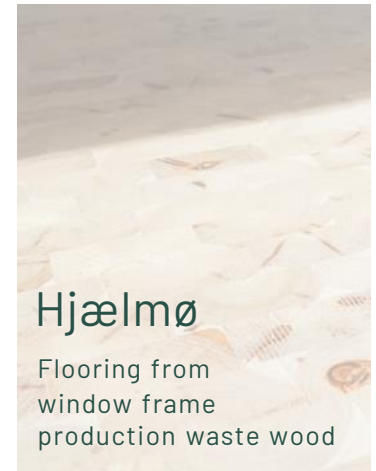
Fusø
Tabletop



Tystø
Glass partition wall
from used thermo
glass units



Viddø
Glass facade from
discarded insulated
glass unit



Hjælmø
Flooring from
window frame
production waste wood

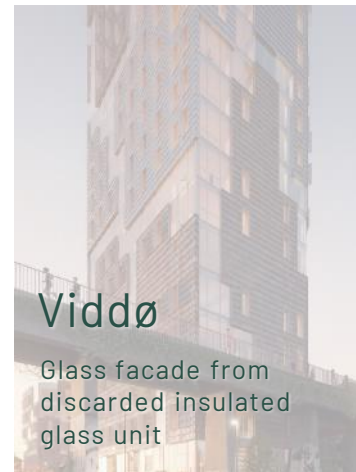
a:gain



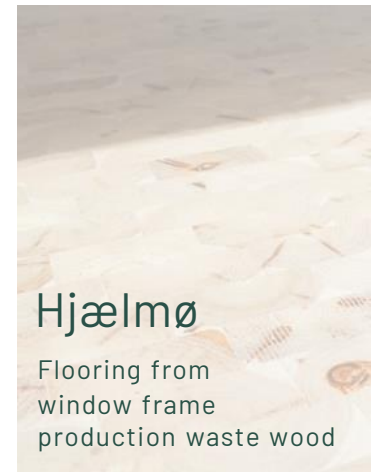
Fusø
Tabletop



Tystø
Glass partition wall
from used thermo
glass units



Viddø
Glass facade from
discarded insulated
glass unit



Hjælmø
Flooring from
window frame
production waste wood

a:gain

Tystø

Glass partition wall
from used thermo
glass units



a:gain

Tystø

Glass partition wall
from used thermo
glass units

Our Tystø Design Tool

a:gain



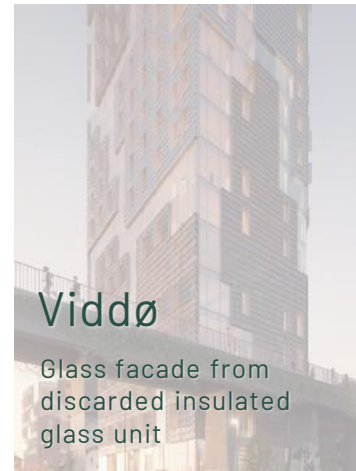
a:gain



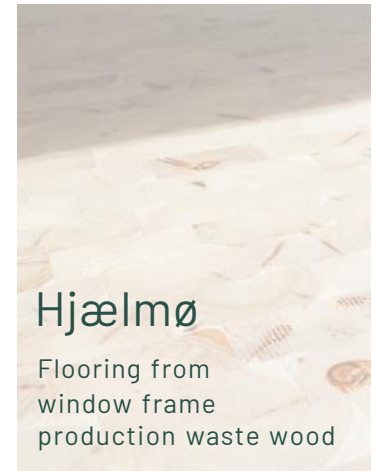
Fusø
Tabletop



Tystø
Glass partition wall
from used thermo
glass units



Viddø
Glass facade from
discarded insulated
glass unit



Hjælmø
Flooring from
window frame
production waste wood

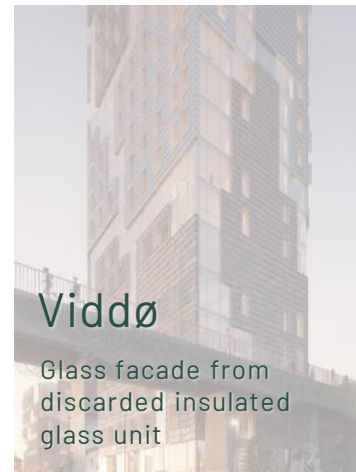
a:gain



Fusø
Tabletop



Tystø
Glass partition wall
from used thermo
glass units



Viddø
Glass facade from
discarded insulated
glass unit

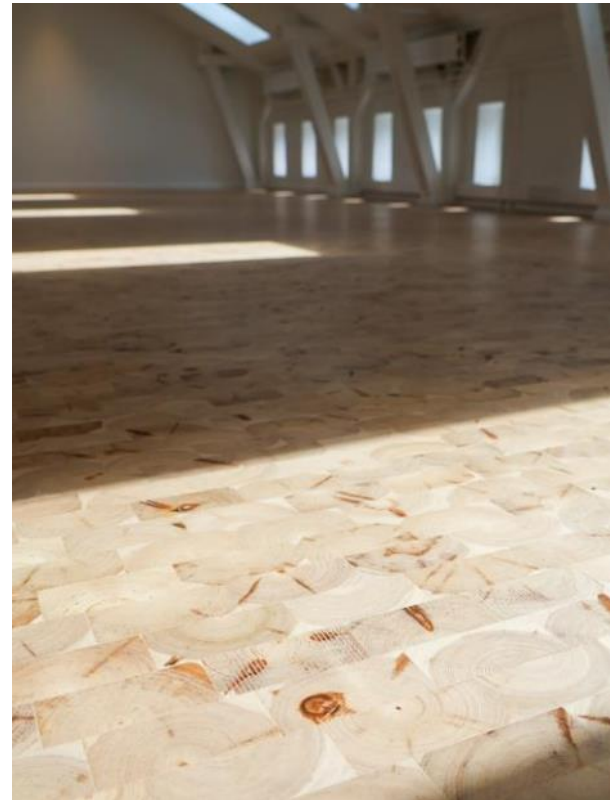


Hjælmø
Flooring from
window frame
production waste wood

a:gain

Hjælmø

Flooring from
window frame
production waste wood



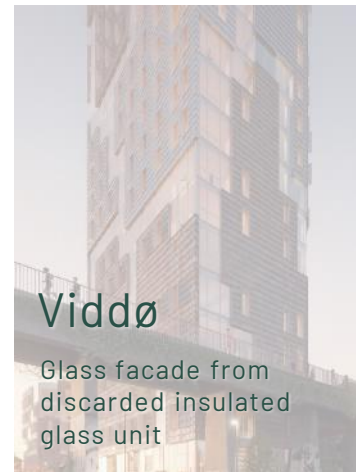
a:gain



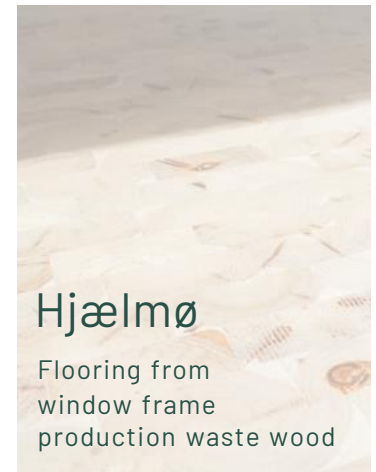
Fusø
Tabletop



Tystø
Glass partition wall
from used thermo
glass units



Viddø
Glass facade from
discarded insulated
glass unit



Hjælmø
Flooring from
window frame
production waste wood

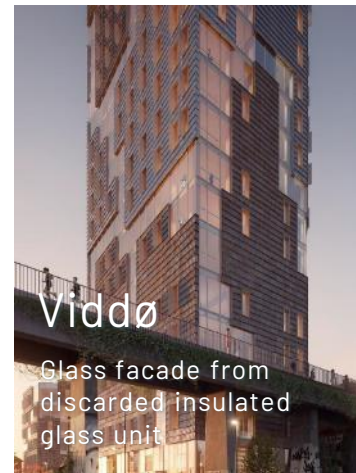
a:gain



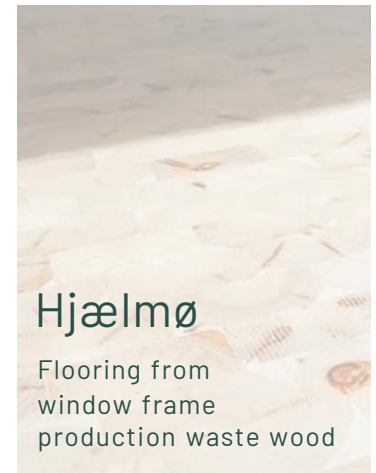
Fusø
Tabletop



Tystø
Glass partition wall
from used thermo
glass units



Viddø
Glass facade from
discarded insulated
glass unit

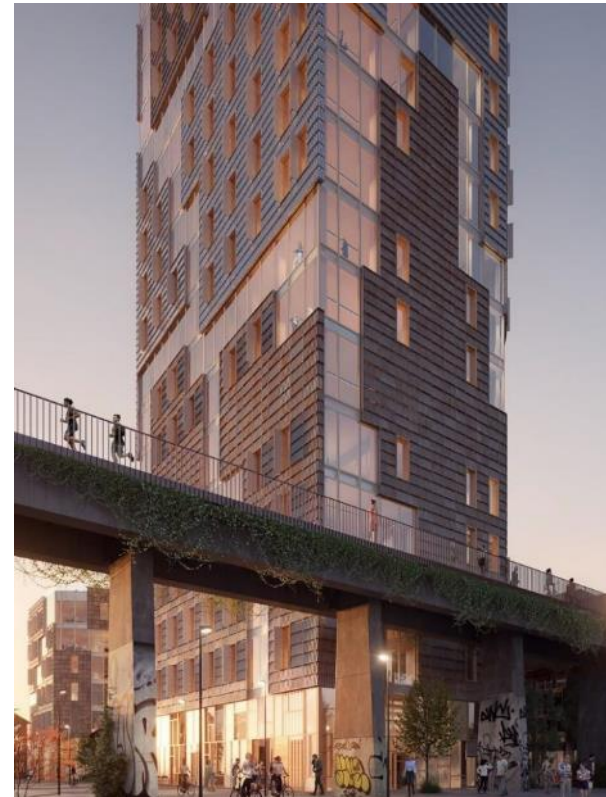
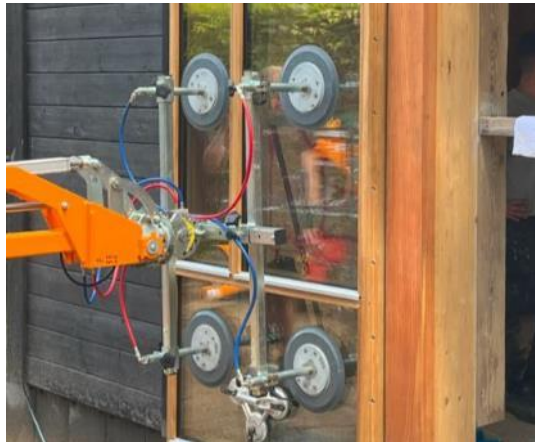


Hjælmø
Flooring from
window frame
production waste wood

a:gain

Viddø

Glass facade from
discarded insulated
glass unit



a:gain



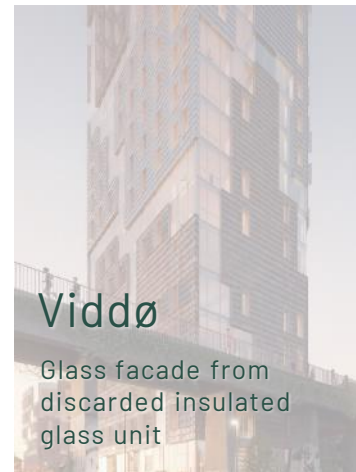
Fusø

Tabletop
from worn out
DM kegs



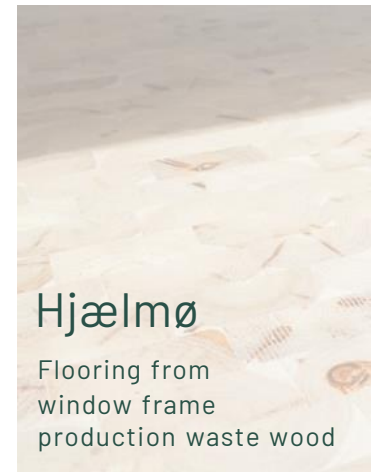
Tystø

Glass partition wall
from used thermo
glass units



Viddø

Glass facade from
discarded insulated
glass unit



Hjælmø

Flooring from
window frame
production waste wood

a:gain



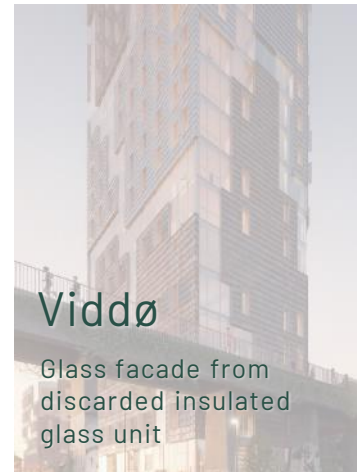
Fusø

Tabletop
from worn out
DM kegs



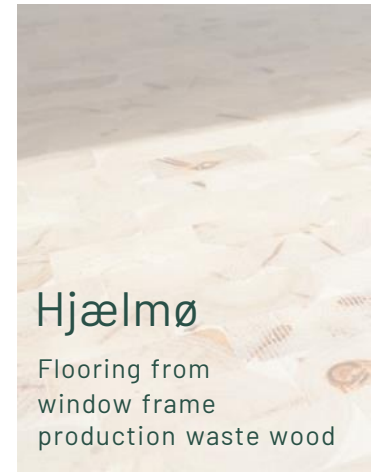
Tystø

Glass partition wall
from used thermo
glass units



Viddø

Glass facade from
discarded insulated
glass unit



Hjælmø

Flooring from
window frame
production waste wood

a:gain

Fusø

Tabletop
from worn out DM kegs





Fusø

Tabletop
from worn
out DM kegs



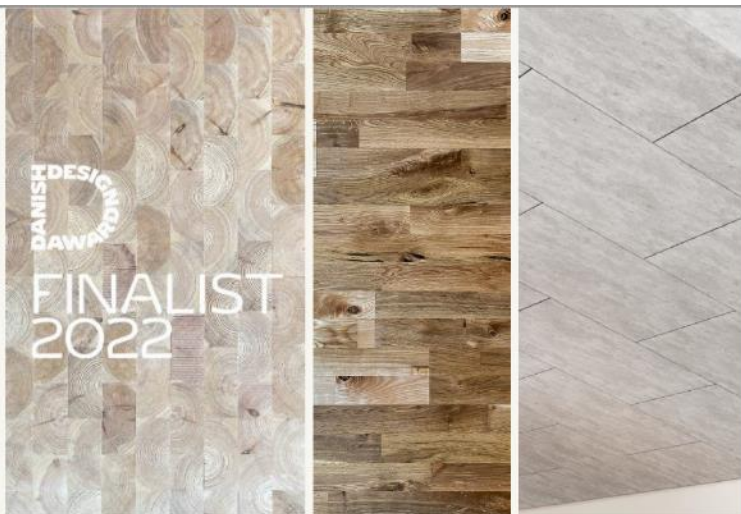
Fusø + RUM + Flarø + Funderø

Bella Group, The Brewery meeting room

Building Owner: Bella Group
Architect: Bella Group
Contractor: Flemming Schröder A/S and
Tømrerfirmaet Thomas Harboe

a:gain

a:gain



DANISH DESIGN AWARDS
FINALIST
2022

**Funderø + Hjælmø +
Dybø + Viddø**

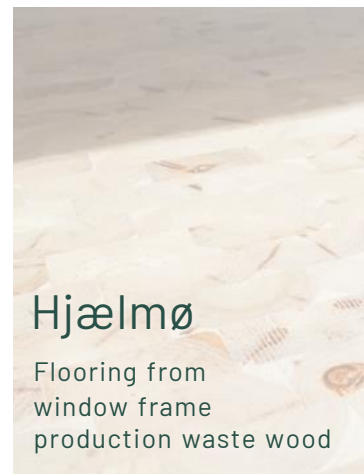
TRÆ
Building Owner: Kilden & Hindby / PFA
Architect: Lendager
Contractor: Kaj Ove Madsen

a:gain



Viddø

Glass facade from
discarded, insulated
glass units



Hjælmø

Flooring from
window frame
production waste wood

a:gain



Bronsø + Tystø + Funderø

CF Møllers Have, Copenhagen S, 2.500 m2 Bronsø

Building Owner: Skanska

Architect: SWECO

Contractor: Nordstern with sub-contractors a) NCP Tømmerfirma on façade and b) Wenge Gulve on flooring (*installation is ongoing*)

a:gain

Tystø

Glass partition wall
for insulated thermal and
glass units

Hjælmø

Flooring from
window frame
production waste wood



Harpa Birgisdóttir

Professor, Forskningsgruppen for Bygningers Bæredygtighed

Sektionen for Energi og Bæredygtighed i Byggeriet

BUILD – Institut for Byggeri, By og Miljø

hbi@build.aau.dk