

# Realization of “The Agreement of Green Denmark”

**Torben JUULSAGER, Denmark**

**Key words:** Planning, land consolidation, land use

## 1. SUMMARY

Denmark is one of the most cultivated countries in the world. 60 percent of the country's land area is used for agricultural purposes.

Like all other industries, the agricultural industry must also reduce wastewater discharges and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

In June 2024, an agreement on a green Denmark was signed between the Danish government and two prominent interest organizations, Agriculture and Food and the Danish Nature Conservation Association, on the transformation of the Danish landscape into a more sustainable landscape.

“The Agreement of Green Denmark” is to find broadly based and long-term solutions to the agricultural sector's climate and nature challenges and to make recommendations on how we in Denmark best manage our land, nature and drinking water resources.

Among the instruments is the introduction of a progressive CO<sub>2</sub> tax on agriculture, which is to increase the economic incentive to apply for voluntary conversion schemes.

The Danish Green Land Fund has been established with a capital of DKK 43 billion. DKK for:

- 1) Establishment of 250,000 ha. new forest
- 2) Removal of 140,000 ha. carbon-rich lowland soils
- 3) Other land conversion – wetlands and extensification
- 4) Purchase of agricultural land for the purpose of nitrogen reduction and land distribution

To support this historic transformation of Denmark's land, a new ministry, The Ministry of Green Transition, was established in August 2024 and will play a key role in implementing and bringing this agreement to life.

This presentation outlines "The agreement of Green Denmark" and how land surveyors contribute to the realization of the agreement. ....

## SUMMARY

Danmark er et af de mest opdyrkede lande globalt set. 60 procent af landets areal anvendes til landbrugsmæssige formål.

Som alle andre erhverv skal landbrugserhvervet også reducere udledning af spildevand samt reducere CO2 udledningen.

I juni 2024 blev der indgået en aftale om et grønt Danmark mellem den danske regering og to markante interesseorganisationer Landbrug og Fødevarer og Danmarks Naturfredningsforening om transformation af det danske landskab til et mere bæredygtigt landskab

Aftalen om et grønt Danmark skal finde bredt funderede og langsigtede løsninger på landbrugssektorens klima- og naturudfordringer og komme med anbefalinger til, hvordan vi i Danmark bedst forvalter vores areal, natur og drikkevandsressourcer.

Blandt virkemidlerne indføres der progressiv CO2-afgift på landbruget som skal øge den økonomiske tilskyndelse til at søge ind i frivillige omlægningsordninger.

Der er etableres Danmarks Grønne Arealfond med en kapital på 43 mia. kr. til:

- 1) Rejsning af 250.000 ha. ny skov
- 2) Udtagning af 140.000 ha. kulstofrige lavbundsjord
- 3) Øvrig arealomlægning – vådområder og ekstensivering
- 4) Opkøb af landbrugsjord med henblik på kvælstofreduktion og jordfordeling

For at understøtte denne historiske transformation af Danmarks arealer blev der i august 2024 etableret et nyt ressortministerium The Ministry of Green Transition som kommer til at spille en central rolle i implementeringen og virkeliggørelsen af denne aftale.

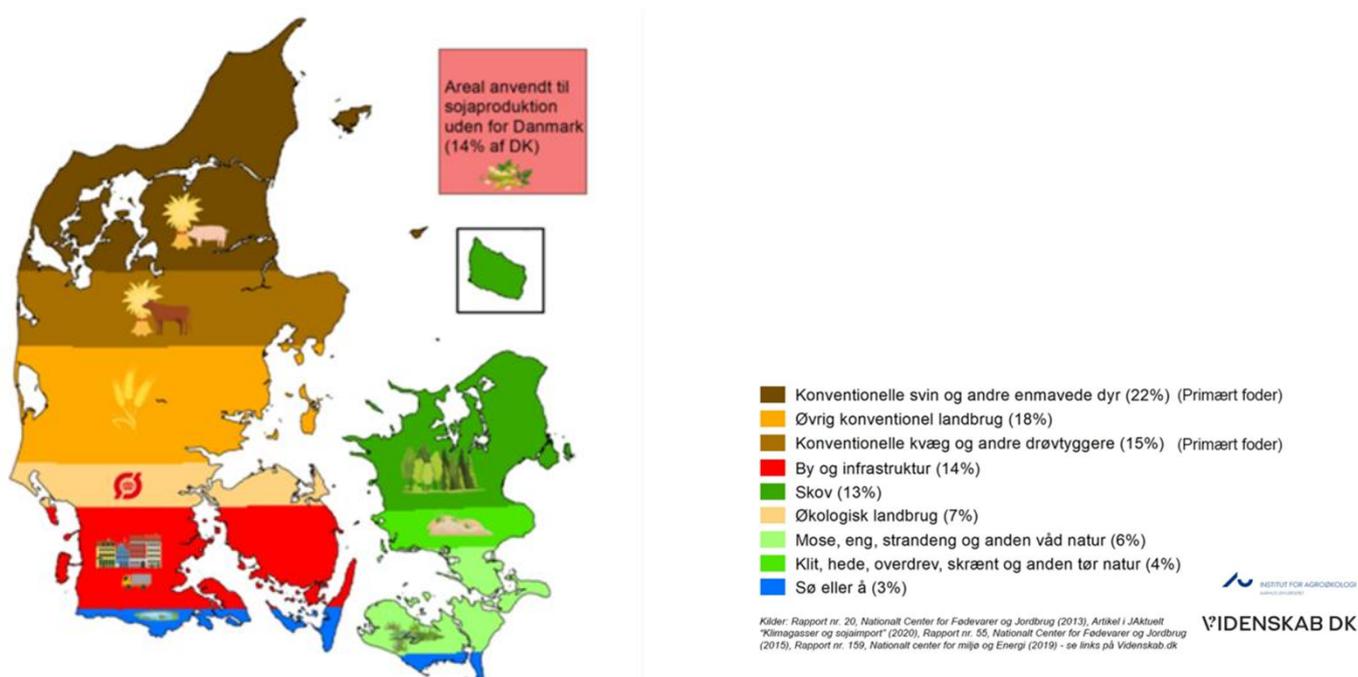
Denne præsentation outlines "The agreement of Green Denmark" og hvordan landinspektører bidrager til realiseringen af aftalen. ...

# Realization of “The Agreement of Green Denmark”

Torben JUULSAGER, Denmark

## 2. LAND USE IN DENMARK

Denmark's area is 43090 km<sup>2</sup>, of which approximately 25.854 km<sup>2</sup> or 60% is used for agricultural purposes. Denmark is one of the most cultivated countries in the world.



## 3. THE GREEN TREPARTITE

The Green Trepartite was established in December 2023, as a visionary partnership between the Government, Agriculture & Food, the Danish Nature Conservation Association, the Danish Food Association NNF, Danish Metal, Danish Industry and the Association of Local Authorities on a comprehensive solution for the future of agriculture in Denmark.

### **3.1 Overall policy objectives**

- 1) Meet CO2 targets for the agricultural and forestry sectors
- 2) Ensure that our natural and drinking water resources are protected and developed
- 3) Ensure a continued competitive agricultural and food industry ...

### **3.2 Terms of Reference**

The tripartite group must find broadly based and long-term solutions to the agricultural sector's climate and nature challenges and make recommendations on how we in Denmark best manage our land, nature and drinking water resources.

### **3.3 Objectives / aims**

- 1) Climate tax on agriculture - solutions
- 2) Nature and Biodiversity - landmarks
- 3) Drinking water - landmarks
- 4) Forests - landmarks

### **3.4 Visionary Agreement**

The work in The Green Tripartite resulted in a visionary agreement of a green Denmark 24. June 2024, which included a number of initiatives:

- 1) CO2 tax on agriculture: Progressive tax to increase the financial incentive to apply for voluntary conversion schemes from agriculture to non-agriculture
- 2) Establishment of the Danish Green Land Fund of DKK 43 billion for
  - a) Establishment of 250,000 ha. new forest
  - b) Removal of 140,000 ha. carbon-rich lowland soils
  - c) Other land conversion – including wetlands and extensification
  - d) Purchase of agricultural land for the purpose of nitrogen reduction and land distribution
- 3) Establishment of the Ministry for Green Tripartite 29. August 2024

## **4. AGREEMENT OF A GREEN DENMARK**

A political agreement from 18. November 2024 between the Danish Government (Social Democracy, Liberal Party, Moderates), Socialist People's Party, Liberal Alliance, Conservative People's Party and Radical Left.

Adoption of / consensus on the visionary "Agreement of Green Denmark".

Focus on short-term goals: Achievement of

- 1) Denmark's climate goals 2030 - CO2 reduction
- 2) EU's Water Framework Directive (2027) ecological balance - nitrogen reduction

Local anchoring: "Local Tripartites" with municipalities at the head of the table

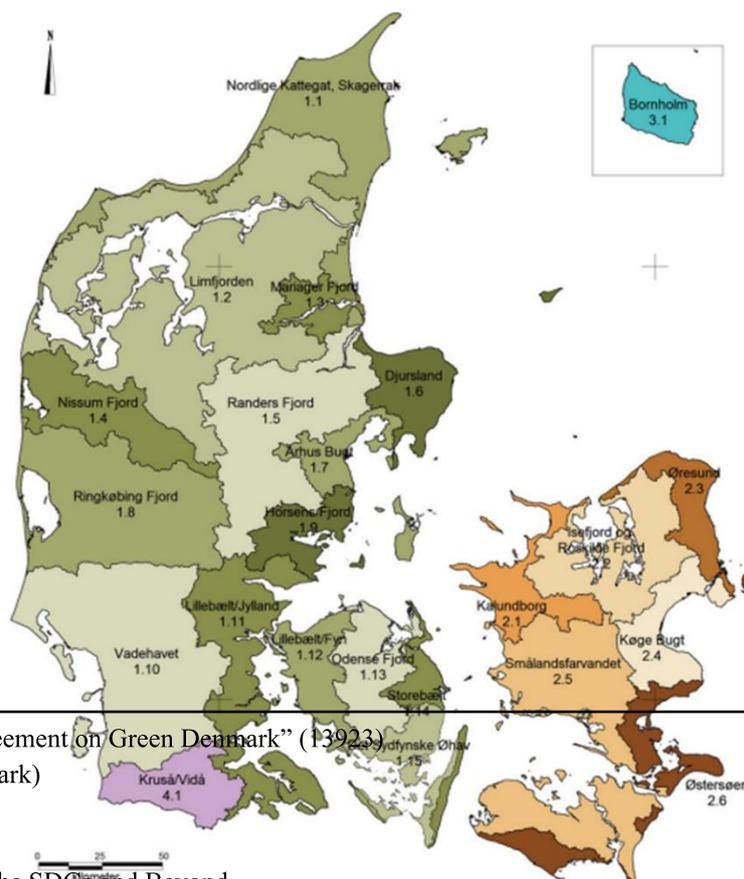
#### 4.1 Local Tripartites

23 local tripartite groups with links to existing watershed management groups.

Participation of municipalities (98), agricultural organizations, local nature organizations and the Danish Nature Agency.

The chairmanship and secretariat function is handled by a participating municipality  
Each of the 23 local tripartite groups plans and implements a restructuring plan within the individual tripartite group's geographical area

Close cooperation with local agricultural consultants, who must ensure the support and participation of the landowners



Realization of "The Agreement on Green Denmark" (13923)  
Torben Juulsager (Denmark)

## **4.2 Restructuring plans**

Fully comprehensive dynamic plans for meeting the nitrogen input requirement via land conversion – designation of areas.

The municipalities are the authority, responsible for the conversion plans within their own municipal boundaries – must work for continuous progress in land conversion.

The restructuring plans must be adopted in principle by the municipal councils by the end of 2025.

There is no suspension in or connection with the Planning Act.

The conversions are based on voluntariness.

Methods/instruments for implementation are progressive CO2 tax, government support schemes and land distribution.

Possible interventions that can be included in the conversion plans:

- 1) Nitrogen wetlands
- 2) Afforestation
- 3) Lowland projects
- 4) Climate lowland projects
- 5) Extensification
- 6) Mini-wetlands
- 7) Restoration of river valleys
- 8) Other permanent removal, e.g. natural areas

## **5. LAND SURVEYORS KOMPETENCIES**

Danish Land surveyors have a strong competence profile in relation to realizing The Agreement of Green Denmark:

- 1) Knowledge – property rights, planning, surveying and mapping as well as geoinformatics focused on real estate
- 2) Skills – mapping, development, consultancy and management regarding real estate
- 3) Competencies – working method – thinking across the potential of the site, rights, obligations and interests to uncover opportunities and create change

The Danish Association of Surveyors works to place the profession centrally in the green tripartite / the green transition.

TO BE CONTINUED AND UPDATAED

## REFERENCES

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

## CONTACTS

Torben JUULSAGER  
The Danish Association of Land Surveyors  
Kalvebod Brygge 31  
1780 Copenhagen  
Denmark  
Tel. +45 61 62 83 21  
Email: [tgj@geopartner.dk](mailto:tgj@geopartner.dk)  
Web site: <https://xn--landinspektrforeningen-gjc.dk/>