



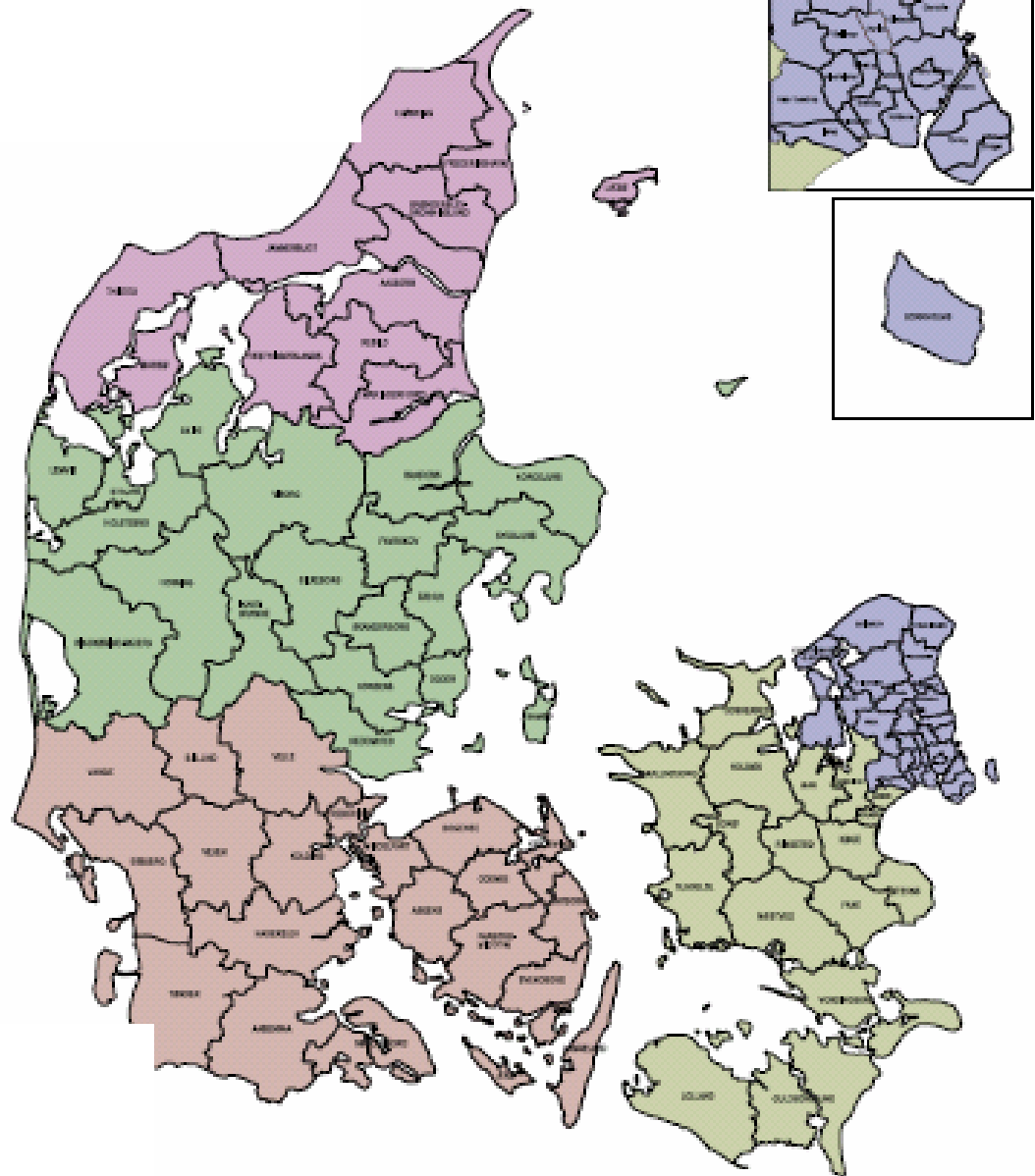
Cultural heritage a valuable resource

European Heritage Heads Forum, Prague 10. may 2007

Steen Hvass, Chief Executive, The Heritage Agency of Denmark



A new reform of the Danish public sector was introduced on 1 Jan. 2007.



Reform of the Danish public sector :

- 271 local authority districts (pop. approx. 19,000) were reduced to 98 (pop. approx. 55,000).
- 13 county authorities were abolished. They are replaced by 5 regions, whose only job is to manage the hospitals.
- Major changes in the distribution of tasks between central government, regions and local authorities.



The most important changes in terms of cultural heritage:

- The local authorities are responsible for the physical planning of both cities and landscapes.
- The local authorities are responsible for the local museums (main contributors of funds) under the Museum Act.
- In connection with local planning, the local authorities must assess the impact on the cultural heritage.



The Heritage Agency of Denmark has launched two special initiatives:

- An analysis of the attitude of the Danish public to cultural heritage.
- A project on local cultural heritage districts.



The analysis entitled “Cultural heritage – a valuable resource for local development”

- Cultural heritage promotes local development (72%)
- Cultural heritage attracts citizens (46% in connection with home purchases)
- Cultural heritage supports business development (55% of enterprises)
- Cultural heritage attracts tourists (83%, trips, holidays, excursions)
- Cultural heritage creates identity (92% of citizens and 76% of enterprises).



Project on local cultural heritage districts.



- Project on local cultural heritage districts
- 54 of Denmark's future 98 local authorities expressed an interest.
- Four local authorities were selected.
- Applications: Cultural heritage: Identity and cohesion.



Five challenges:

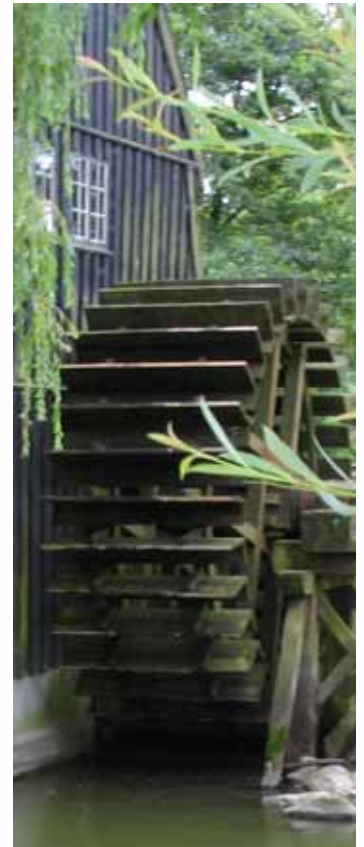
Challenge 1: The time dilemma.

Challenge 2: Innovation – preconditions of perceiving cultural heritage as an asset.

Challenge 3: Redefining the concept of cultural heritage in terms of both preservation and development.

Challenge 4: Involving citizens – targeted communication.

Challenge 5: Converting cultural heritage – from vision to practice.



Today.

Future strategies of local councils (decisions)

Local authority of Hvidovre:

Business

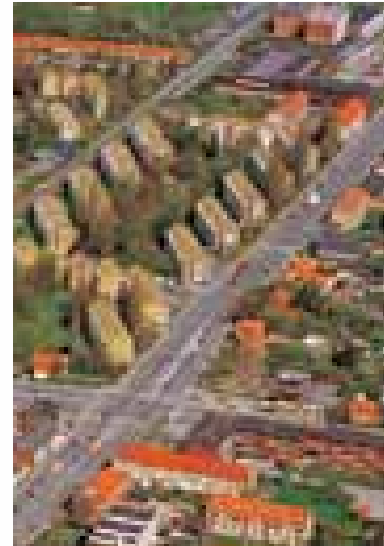
Cultural heritage

Haderslev:

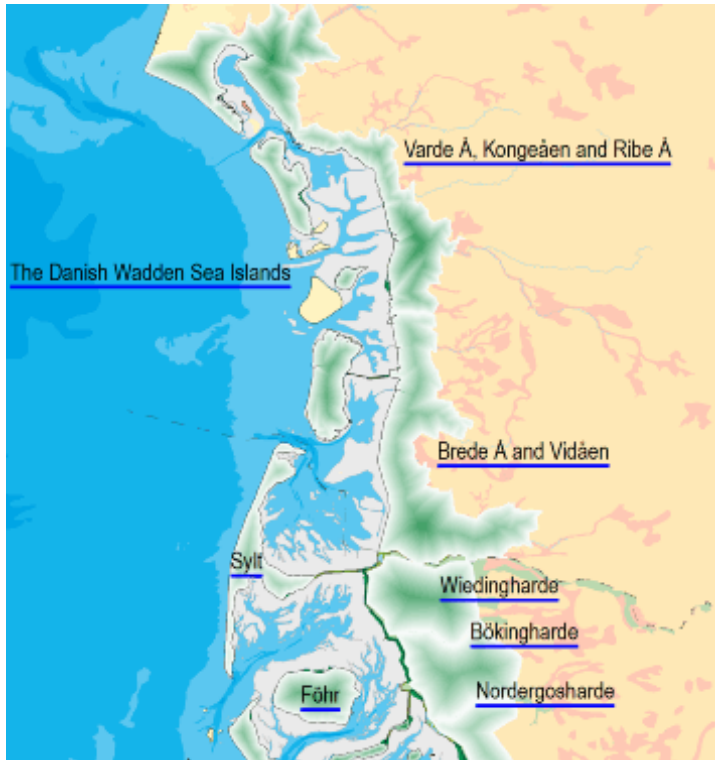
Health

Agenda 21 – environment

Cultural heritage



Jutland Wadden Sea



Fredericia



Trekroner



The fortifications of Copenhagen

