Project grants supporting societal learning for the green transition 2025

Bridging home and professional kitchens: Transforming food habits in later life for a healthy and sustainable future (SustainLife)
Anne Dahl Lassen, Danmarks Tekniske Universitet, 3 år, DKK 2,737,656
SustainLife is a partnership project aiming to promote sustainable, plant-rich diets among older adults. By combining research, co-creation, and practical testing, the project aims to develop meal solutions that support health, well-being, and the green transition, while shaping norms through inspirational cooking workshop.

CARE+: Climate Action, Responsibility and Ethics of Care – A High-Tech Path to Climate-Positive Change
Enza Lissandrello, Aalborg Universitet, 3 år, DKK 5,999,451
CARE+ empowers Danish school communities to reduce CO_2 emissions from daily school runs through playful technology, citizen science and participatory activities. Piloted in 4–7 schools, it engages children, families and municipalities to co-create safer, healthier routes, delivering measurable climate impact, increased climate literacy and scalable tools for lasting change.

Cultivating Ecological Literacy for the Green Transition with Bees, Flowers and People in Copenhagen
Oliver Maxwell, Bybi ApS, 3 år, DKK 1,240,000
Uniting art, ecology and community, this project empowers Copenhagen residents to co-create pollinator habitats inspired by historic Nordic beehives. Through workshops, rituals, and honey gifting, participants learn ecological literacy and embed sustainable practices in daily life, fostering new traditions and stronger bonds between people, nature, and the green transition.

DOF Grøn Hverdag - sustainable everyday choices for Denmarks' green transition
Torben Stenstrup, Dansk Oplysnings Forbund, 3 år, DKK 4,959,494
The project engages over 10,000 adults across Denmark in local courses, events, and debates, empowering them to make sustainable everyday choices. Through 20 member schools, DOF fosters knowledge-sharing, dialogue, and community action, supporting Denmark's green transition and strengthening democratic debate on climate, biodiversity, and sustainable living

Everyday Climate Summits
Pernille Vej Hagen, Ringkøbing-Skjern Kommune, 2 år, 3,033,650 kr.
Local summits unite citizens to take climate action. Through collective learning and digital support, participants achieve measurable CO_2 reductions. The project will scale a well-tested method to eight new municipalities, creating strong local networks, lasting behavioural change, and a foundation of best practices to inspire climate action across Denmark.

From Possibility to Participation – A Practical Approach to Local food waste Solutions (PALS)
Rasmus Erichsen, Stop Spild Lokalt, 3 år, DKK 3,130,000
By accelerating Denmark's green transition through reducing avoidable food waste, this project unites retailers, municipalities, and housing associations to co-design and embed practical routines for rescuing and redistributing surplus food. Supported by simple digital tools, these efforts will deliver measurable CO_2 reductions, strengthen communities, and create a scalable model for national impact.

Green Food Pedagogy: Creative and Social Activities for a Plant-based Food Practice in Afterschool Institutions
Margit Dall Aaslyng, University College Absalon, 3 år, DKK 3,980,894
Green Food Pedagogy develops and implements a creative framework to promote plant-based, sustainable food practices in Danish afterschool institutions for children aged 6–14. Through co-created activities in kitchens, outdoors, and at feasts, the project fosters food literacy and agency, engaging both children and staff, and sharing resources nationally via a public website.

Green light in Social Housing Estates – a living lab for societal transition – pilot phase
Bjarke Rambøll, VedvarendeEnergi, 1 år, DKK 478,700
Residents in social housing often face barriers to joining green initiatives. This pilot project in Finlandsparken, Vejle, will test hands-on activities - such as energy saving, kitchen gardens, and upcycling, to make sustainable living accessible and social, and to develop a model for use in other neighbourhoods.

Local Implementation of agri-Food system Transition (LIFT)
Gitte Vestergaard Christensen, Vesthimmerlands Kommune, 2 år, DKK 4,522,000
LIFT drives the transition to plant-based, resilient and sustainable food systems in Vesthimmerlands and Copenhagen Municipalities through stakeholder engagement, Living Labs, public procurement pilots, and co-creation workshops. The project connects local production and consumption, develops best practices, and inspires other municipalities to implement similar actions.

Local Sports Clubs Supporting the Local Green Transition: A Pre-project to Identify Potentials, Structures, and Dynamics in Community and Sports
Trine Keinicke Sørensen, Danmarks Idrætsforbund, 1 år, DKK 500,000
This pre-project explores how local sports clubs can drive the green transition by running “green mini-experiments” in selected clubs on Zealand, Denmark. Focusing on social and cultural dynamics, the project supports clubs in launching sustainable initiatives, while researchers study what motivates or hinders adoption - laying the groundwork for a future national scale-up.

RELATE – Responsible Learning for Green Transition in Higher Education and Society
Stine Broen Christensen, Station Fonden ERF, 3 år, DKK 4,418,155
RELATE is a two-year pilot project empowering students across Danish universities to drive the green transition. Through co-created, interdisciplinary learning, student-led projects, public events, and an educator network, RELATE builds green literacy and agency, embedding sustainability in higher education and society, with potential for national scaling.

Project grants supporting societal learning for the green transition 2024

Sustainable Futures for New Generations of Farmers
Vincent Charles Keating, Syddansk Universitet, 3 years, DKK 3.765.300
The project aims to accelerate Denmark's transition to a carbon-neutral economy by 2050, focusing on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the agricultural sector. The project addresses resistance to green policies among farmers by shifting the focus from technological solutions to sociological acceptance of the need for sustainable transition. By engaging young farmers' associations, it seeks to foster a pro-environmental identity, thereby reducing opposition to necessary reforms and promoting the value of the green transition.

Local Food Communities – Engaging seniors in the green transition using social gastronomy
Pernille Dyg, Københavns Professionshøjskole, 3 years, DKK 5.994.700
The project aims to strengthen seniors' (60+) engagement and competencies in the green transition through local food communities and social gastronomy. It will develop and test methods to engage seniors and volunteers in sustainable food practices. By collaborating with nutrition professionals, foodservice providers, and local producers, the project seeks to create sustainable meal solutions, promote health, and normalize sustainable diets within the broader community. The initiative involves workshops and the training of voluntary food ambassadors in Hillerød, Tårnby, and Guldborgsund municipalities.

Spearheading a Green Food Transition through Community Engagement and Societal Learning
Rasmus Mikkelsen, Democracy X, 2 years, DKK 5.999.898
In this project, Democracy X partners with Claus Meyer and the Global Systems Institute to drive a transformative shift towards plant-rich diets. The project is conducted in Brøndby, where it will engage 10% of the municipality's residents and motivate them to normalize sustainable eating habits through food joy and engagement of pre-existing communities. Experiences from the project on how citizens and key actors can be equipped with knowledge and skills for transformative action will be disseminated to inspire other Danish municipalities to pursue similar transformations.

Living well below 3 tons
Andreas Lind, CONCITO, 2 years, DKK 4.082.213
To meet the Paris Agreement, countries must cut greenhouse gas emissions to under 3 tons of CO2e per person by 2030. This project engages Danish young adults from different socio-economic backgrounds in 4-6 different locations in envisioning sustainable futures and low-emission living. It includes vision workshops to explore ideal futures, establishes current emissions baselines in collaboration with DTU, and develops scenarios to achieve the 3 tons target that combine with perceptions of living well. The project offers a framework to align visions of a good life with planetary boundaries and identify the gaps in the visions of a sustainable future between young citizens and decision-makers.

Eat, Grow, Create: Libraries as Generators for the Green Transition
Thomas Sture Rasmussen, Danmarks Biblioteksforening, 3 years, DKK 4.679.300
The project aims to leverage Denmark's public libraries to engage citizens in the green transition. By using action-based learning in meetings between the cultural products conventionally represented in libraries and green artifacts, such as e.g. seeds and solar cells, it aims to make sustainable actions appealing and accessible to library users. Two main tracks will be implemented: developing practical formats for citizen involvement in 10 libraries around the country and establishing a first 'Green Generator' as a site for hands-on explorations in Aarhus. The goal is to establish public libraries as key players in the green transition and to inspire widespread change.

From Opposition to Ownership: Democratic Solutions for a Sustainable Future
Troels Mandøe Glæsner, Tænketanken Demokratisk Erhverv, 3 years, DKK 5.478.589
The project aims to accelerate Denmark's green energy transition by empowering citizens and local communities to initiate renewable energy projects. Addressing local opposition due to lack of involvement and benefits, it fosters green co-ownership to transform opposition into participation and support. Through a Democratic Process Lab organized in collaboration with CBS, the project will develop organizational models, launch a knowledge-sharing web portal, facilitate a nationwide network, provide guidance, and offer training to support citizen-led renewable energy initiatives across Denmark.

Projects and initiatives that have been awarded stand-alone grants in 2024

PlantTip: Modelling societal transitions and tipping points for the green transition of food consumption
MAPP Centre, Aarhus University (coordinator), 3 years, DKK 9.8 million
PlantTip is a research project that will identify tipping points in consumer food behaviour in Denmark towards more sustainable food consumption. The research is coordinated by the MAPP Centre at Aarhus University and conducted in collaboration with Copenhagen Business School and Democracy X, with international collaborators from ETH Zürich and Stockholm Stockholm Resilience Centre.

Using existing consumer behaviour insights, the project will build a realistic model of how individuals act within the current food environment and then test what happens when this environment changes.

PlantTip uses a pioneering approach called participatory agent-based modelling (ABM), whereby a model is 'fed' with realistic data on consumer behaviour developed in collaboration between experts and stakeholders. This will be complemented by consumer experiments to gain insight into how changes in the food environment affect behaviour.

The PlantTip project will result in recommendations on how to combine policy instruments, marketing strategies, consumer-oriented innovations and social dynamics to promote societal food tipping points. The project will contribute to accelerating and targeting the transition to more sustainable food habits.

Read more here.