# From Best to Next Practice symposium

The following pages document the symposium held at Samsoe 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> September 2013





# Watch the movies from the symposium

About the symposium Interview with the speakers FROM BEST TO NEXT PRACTICE SYMPOSIUM 18-20 SEPTEMBER 2013 Local reduce & the commo ACADEMY

#### How we think and act locally

Local development demands a sense of community, loyalty and empathy between the thinkers and doers. Reworking local democracy and desicion making, and strenthening the engagement in and ownership of future solutions in the local community is inevitably one of the most important parts of moving forward. This is not easy, and we need to be patient and co-creative. We therefore invite you to spend two days with like-minded people and organizations and contribute your knowledge, insights, barrieres and experience regarding local development. Do join us for this symposium at Samsoe to discuss how we can go from best to next practice on a local level to create a better future for our planet and communities now and in the long run.

#### The Next Practice symposium is a platform for:

- Learning about local development in a holistic way
- Sharing new models for organization and innovation plus initial findings of next practice
- Choice awareness, personal and organizational roles and responsibilities
- Communicating concrete stories and positive thinking

#### Program

- 18 September, 20:00-22:00: Welcome Drinks & Snacks.
- 19 September, 9:00-17:00: The day will be a mixture of short Lectures & Talks at Speakers' Corner and Exercises & Discussions, followed by a "hand made" Party Dinner.
- 20 September, 9:00-13:00: Søren Hermansen & Malene Lundén on the next steps for the Energy Academy, Futures Walk & Talk, Wrap up & Lunch.



#### Speakers' Corner

A number of invited contributers to the energy agenda around the world will be announced in the program, and the Speakers' Corner will be open for everyone present to speak their mind and heart.

The Energy Academy will document and publish knowledge and dialogues from the 2013 symposium online. The 2011 symposium was documented in the paper "Next Practice".

#### REGISTRATION

Date: 18-20 September 2013 / Venue: The Energy Academy, Strandengen 1, DK - 8350 Samsoe / Registration: Register at http://energiakademiet. dk/itimelding/ or by sending an e-mail to Malene Lundén at ml@energiakademiet.dk, including name, organization and address no later than 1 July 2013. Max 40 participants / Price: The participation fee is DKK 1000 ex VAT, and it covers material, party dinner, 2 Lunces, Irvit, coffee/tea and cake. Other meals and beverages must be paid for seperately / Info: For more information contact the Energy Academy, +45 20964458, ml@energiakademiet.dk, www.energiakademiet.dk

The invitation to this years' From Best to Nexct Practice symposium. The next will be held in 2015.

#### Next Practice Symposium 2011: Insights

The symposium "From Best to Next Practice" was held for the first time in Spring 2011 and it will be a returning event. The Energy Academy will continuously take part in blueprinting a sustainable future, amongst others through the Next Practice Symposium. The Next Practice symposium is documented in order to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, insight, inspiration, experiences, and connections with our global and local networks.

#### Selected reflections from the participants in 2011:

- Envisioning our roles and responsibilities
- We are in a position where we know enough to start acting
- Local ownership, including the administration of the commons
- Choice awareness, values and mindset
- The power of art and artist
- Generate initial findings around next practice, give next practice strength and foundation, and support and supply a roadmap for the next step(s)
- What drives and inspires us to keep adding to the energy/sustainability agenda around the world
- Understanding the change process it affects and effects the world we live in
- Getting new experiences from different countries
- Create a platform for learning/education a campfire around a common idea and the commons
- An arena for new ways to cooperate, innovate and share knowledge
- How to engage my fellow citizens, including ownership models
- New models for organization (energy democracy)
- Planning for renewable energy
- Find ways to communicate constructive stories/positive thinking, and we need a new language for where we have to go
- Decisions are often taken on the basis of known existing solutions and technologies, and the investors interest
- Doing the right thing
- Samsoe should focus on the local movement. This place should be a hot spot in the world, where the world can be invited to watch implementation and ways of developing projects. Also be a place to try out ideas from all over the world.

Read the whole newspaper that documents the first "From Best to Next Practice" symposium **here** 

#### AMOS LEE, "FLOWERS": MY HEART IS A FLOWER THAT BLOOMS EVERY HOUR, I BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF LOVE

LISTEN!



#### **EXCHANGING ENERGIES**

As an intro to the symposium the participants were asked to practice "ayni" (reciprocity, ed.) through an energy exchange with the Earth – as a guided tour.

You may want to try this Andeen tradition out yourself:

- 1. Stand on the ground and feel the soil beneath your feet 2. Breathe
- 3. Imagine a bubble around you this is your private space
- 4. Open up in the top and let energy from above into the bubble
- Let the energy flow through your body all the way down and into the center of the Earth. Let go of all heavy energy which you don't need.
  The Earth likes it it is food!
- 7. Now that you have been giving energy, you may also receive energy
- 8. Feel the Earth under your feet and let the light energy from the Earth come up through your body
- 9. Imagine that it springs above your head and falls down again as if it comes from a huge shower.
- 10. Enjoy the energy!

# A perfect group

The "From Best to Next Practice" symposium was held for the second time at the Energy Academy the 18th to 20th of September 2013. Forty people participated this year, and it was a perfect group!

BY GITTE LARSEN, EDITOR, HOUSE OF FUTURES

Malene Lundén from the Energy Academy welcomed everyone by asking us to present ourselves in a different way from what we're used to in a conference setting. She wanted us to "feel the rythm" and briefly tell about ourselves, not one by one clockwise, but when we felt like it. It was an exercise in changing behaviour and making new structures for a meeting like this. The participants got better and better through the exercise. But it is difficult to change behaviour and most of the symposium was about changing beliefs, as Malene writes in her article "Start with belief".

The people at the Energy Academy invite their global network to the "Next Practice" symposia regularly, and this year many of the Academy's national collaborators were present as well as partners from Japan and the US.

The "Next Practice" symposium is a platform for sharing and learning. Experiences and knowledge cross borders and new connections are made. We could compare this platform to a marketplace full of opportunities. You can explore local, democratic processes and contribute to the task of reinventing the commons. Faceto-face meetings are different and indeed nescessary if we truly want to be open to other perspectives and to living the future as it emerges. Faceto-face meetings as joyful as the "Next practice" meetings are rare. Read on p. 100 what people said in the circle while checking out.

#### **Exchanging ideas**

The exchange of ideas at the symposium happens in a cross-disciplinary enviroment. You can meet public and private sector organisations, NGOs, practitioners, researchers, scientists and facilitators.

continued on p. 48

## Malaika Thomsen, psycologist, Artful Punch, about the atmosphere at the symposium:

Our collective journey was framed with a beginning and an end. Along the way our assembly learnt a lesson about empathetic listening.

First, all the participants were invited to participate in an "energy exercise" by Gitte Larsen. The energy exercise facilitated each participant's awareness of themselves which led to grounding and room for everyone's individuality and spirituality. The exercise finished by making a huge collective imaginary energy bubble. This created a trusting atmosphere with room for being foolish, and curious, and open enough to become flexible.

After listening to the first three presenters we were gathered in plenum. Søren Hermansen invited us to explore new possibilities. There was an intense "onthe-move" atmosphere. Many Alice wanted to join the conversation, there wasn't room enough, and some participants had difficulty listening with their full presence. Mary Alice Arthur read the situation well and understood the need for materializing all the burning questions. She fetched at box of papers and pens. Then she invited everyone to participate in a parallel process while the dialogue continued in a new, airy atmosphere: the burning questions were written and placed in the center of the circle. This created space for empathetic listening and dialogue. This lesson learnt was used in different aspects through the entire symposium.

The closing circle showed that the initial energy exercise and lesson learnt about empathic listening had facilitated individual movement and development whilst also creating many new connecting links that made the collective stronger than the sum of each participant.



The symposium was facilitated by Søren Hermansen, director of the Energy Academy, and Malene Lundén, project manager in the areas of education and communication. Forty people participated, among them a Japanese collaborator, lida Tetsunari, director of the Institute for Sustainable Energy Policies in Japan. "Tetso can learn many things from us, and we are interested in how we can help him even more. Not least, he can actually translate and apply the processual. democratic and social software needed to create community power back in Japan. It's very important that he is here, and perhaps this is even why we are here," said Søren Hermansen to welcome Tetsunari. Read the executive summary of his and the rest of the speaches on p. 56.

The "Next Practice" symposium is an event to be held regularly. The first was held in the Spring of 2011 (see box on p. 41), and the next (in 2015) will among other issues be about education for sustainable development. Who needs to be educated? By whom? How? And why?

#### The local place – a common

"A common is not a stable thing", as Soeren Hermansen puts it. Today, lots of our communities are virtual. We do not need to share a local place in order to take part in them. This is important and challenging when talking about reinventing the commons, which do not only include societal aspects and concrete local areas but also that we have access to clean water and air in specific places. Our starting point, then, is not virtual. How can we all, in our local communities, contribute to a sustainable development by starting where we are and using what we have?

Samsoe has come a long way, innovating their way through how to do this in an island community of 3700 citizens. Togetherness, leadership and ownership have been vital parts of the process. This takes shared activities and a shared mentality - a vision and a plan of how to become an international example of a renewable energy community. Agreeing about what to do in a local community and how and why to do it – these are the software parts of sustainable development. It's a matter of making the paths by walking them. Another important aspect of the success behind the island transition is the pragmatic, non-idealistic approach that the Energy Academy together with the population of Samsoe have put forward. "What's in it for me" has and will be a central aspect when taking the next steps forward.



### Else Marie Kaasboel, cand.mag., Lysbrocenteret, about the spiritual dimension of the symposium:

"The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." – John 3:8

We met on the island in the middle, in a space inspired by the knowledge and shapes of the past, filled with inspiration from the present and the future. Inspiration for our surroundings, for our conditions and meanings of life, and for human beings in movement - in transformation and creation. We met because we all - each in his or her own way - feel that something is happening, that something is possible and important and fantastic to take part in. Perhaps a vision, a hope or a dream? Or a prayer for help... We met in confidence, openness and expectation about this 'something' that can happen. For a few hours we became one, a one made up manifold of people.

We are being carried by the wind or the spirit, and we listen to its sound while the light flows in and around us in the open aspiration, which might or might not be perfect, but which is so wonderfully spiritual. A sensation which was so precisely expressed when Malene ended the symposium with the Leonard Cohen song, "Anthem" (see quote on p. 10).

#### Lessons learnt

What did the Energy Academy learn from this second "Next Practice" symposium? "My sensing is that although many of the participants didn't know of our principles before this meeting, they were able to put themselves and their own principles into play and contribute. New connections were made, and I believe that everybody learned something during our days together", says Malene Lundén.

She explains that the Academy's principles are a compass of purposes and intentions. They work as a foundation for the process facilitation and they make it possible to combine all relevant parts, including the unforseen. When things are moving there are always many unknown factors at play. That goes for the symposium as well as for the local development at Samsoe.

An important parameter when organizing such meeting places as the symposium is that people are invited as individuals. You'll never know how they function as a group and which culture they willl create, practically and psycologically. What are their intentions and are they willing to leave their comfort zones. These are questions you as an organizer can't know the answers to in advance. "We are not sure about the group as a common", Malene explains. She continues: "This group was able to do a lot, and many new things were learned that naturally transform into our work life."

"One thing we planned was the checkout." This session (read what people said on p. 100) was aligned to the principles of the meeting place, which are:

- Symmetry through sympathy or empathy
- Beauty
- Mind the Gap, The Inbetween
- Whatever we pay attention to will grow

#### The campfire

"I think many of us participate in many conferences during a year. How many did you go to in 2013? I've been to five very different ones in Europe and in Denmark this past year," Malene says, and she states that at least two factors are relevant when choosing which ones to go to: (1) The network and the keynote

- speakers. Is it relevant for what you're doing right now?
- (2) Do you have personal relations there? Half of the partipants here also participated two years ago when we started out while half of them were new.

The symposium headline was "local reduce and the commons". Local reduce was Gunnar Bøje Olesen's contribution because of his years of working with the EU. The EU is an opportunity for the island's future energy reduction projects, and the Academy is already participating in various EU projects. When writing this, new projects and collaborations have already come out of the symposium. The symposium became a common in its own right. A marketplace, and a lightening campfire.



PHOTO: OLE HANSEN

## Ole Hansen, human ecologist, Lysbrocenteret, about the magic of the symposium:

The magic came into existence in the force field between the serious transmission of the grave messages about the world around us and the permanent sparkling humour which was constantly bubbling underneath. The magic was also to be found in the energy which made the 'meeting of meanings and opinions' unpredictable, opening and open.

And then - that magical moment in the early morning light when a three-master from a bygone era floating on the dead calm sea turned Ballen into a time warp - a quiet momentum in a runaway world.



#### From the first Circle Dialogue: About a postive vision, the local, fear, and skills

Soeren Hermansen, who facilitated the day, got the energy for the first circle dialogue going by summing up: Tetso, you said that nuclear power is declining, renewable energy is growing, and that we have to take community power, get on with it and work for it. Gunnar, you said that the EU is good and here to stay (and pay), there are network opportunities that we should use. And we should create and participate in the right networks. You also said that community ideas are in competition with other and more centralized ideas. Arne, you said that we shall qualify the local, and you asked whether society is ready to use all the local opportunities. The things we need are in place, but we still need to organize it, not least in practice – we have the technology, but we need to organize it.

Now we open for plenum discussions. Please put something on the floor we can use. And don't argue – this is not the place for argument but for dialogue. We don't meet out of greed but out of need.

#### 25 statements from the first dialogue:

**#1:** We should be thinking more holistically. It's not only about green growth but also about cultural, social and economic perspectives, we need to include it all.

**#2:** How do societies change? What we are lacking is the positive vision. The sustainability discouse is about what we shouldn't do. We need positive futures on a global scale. Where do we, where do people, get inspired?

**#3:** Our stories are about best practices and about communicating in real time. We can't just do it on Facebook, we need ambassadors for these communities, real time interactions. I will take this back to Pensylvania. What's happening in Tokyo is being communicated in a personal and a physical way here, not just through a social technology. I like that.

**#4:** I'm working with children and students, and we talk about best and next practice. I tell them the bad story, that the world might get six degrees warmer, and then I tell them the good story about Samsoe. Which story is the most inspiring? The next generation is worried about the climate, an issue we need to take care of is fear. They choose the bad story as the most powerful. This is a challenge for me. It is hard work to change their mindsets, but they are the next generation and should be frontrunners.

**#5:** It is a challenge that "sustainability" is one word but so many things. What is it actually we are discussing? It's hard to take action if we don't agree about the economy, the social sphere, business, civil society, politics etc. It is so easy to get lost. How can we ensure a systematic approach?

**#6:** I live on an island, and I think there is a geographical point here: we can make local and delimited solutions. We should focus on and keep it local, skip some of the larger problems, and keep our awareness on what we can do locally.

**#7:** I read Tim Jackson's book "Posperity Without Growth" and I was scared shitless, but there is a way, and it goes through responsibility and creativity. Nothing happens out of fear, it drags us in the wrong direction. We all share this responsibility – each one of us is responsible – and we need the capability to create an attractive tomorrow.

**#8:** During the oil crisis we started to react out of fear, and I think fear can be important if it's a constructive fear. Positive visions of the problems combined with good ideas. Lots of people have joined in positive visions but it still hasn't created the big transition. Maybe we need to combine the positive approach with fear?

**#9:** Perhaps there are only local perspectives? We should stop worrying so much about whether solutions and problems are global, national, EU-level, or whatever. Even in the UN, the EU etc. individuals are talking together, and these conversations and the decisions made are inherently local. So let's focus and act locally.

**#10:** We are driven by problems, visions and solutions, and the thing is to get all on board. Where are we, where do we want to go and how do we get there? The last thing motivates me, and we must redefine the journey as we go, it's not fixed, and we must enjoy the journey.

**#11:** Smart communities takes smart people, and I am wondering about the concrete experience with re-skilling people. I'm thinking of education and capacity building. If you are to be a smart citizen, do you need different skills from the ones we value and possess today?

ee SERVICES LIKE What is the GOODGYM ABILITY In sustainability

**#12:** The younger generation can't fix simple things in the household, like use a hammer or sow etc. We used to learn that in school but we have lost these skills over the past twenty years. Today we just throw things away.

**#13:** Skills and competences are important, and so is global versus local. As human beings we must consider our own roles and instead of passively using stuff we must take responsibility. We must take leadership in our own life and acknowledge that we are the designers.

**#14:** I've been part of telling the story about the Danish state bankruptcy in 1813. Back then they said: we might be poor but we don't have to be stupid. What I got out of this story were the foundational values, which is that citizens need to be educated. Right now there is a movement around the planet asking for citizenship to come back. It is an essential value in society, and how can we bring it back? How do we find the shoes to walk? I think it's about being equal in our own brilliance.

**#15:** We are not so proud of that period. Niels Christian Nielsen challenged the Danish school system and created an army of Trojan horses that started a process of change, and after that we had a prosperous period.

**#16:** The teachers were the Trojan horses. Who are they now?

**#17:** Too many young people go to high school where they don't learn any practical skills. In the past, the idea, e.g. with the folk high schools, was to educate manually working people. Now this idea is turned upside down. Maybe here on Samsoe you can teach the educated people manual skills?

**#18:** Niels Hausgaard (Danish musician, comedian and former member of the Danish Parliament, ed.) said when he lived on Samsoe that if you live in the rural areas, you have to have craft skills, otherwise you should move to the city.

**#19:** Commonness and individuality. As a culture we have forgotten the calling of the individual and the calling of the personal. We need to be more personal, but not egoistic – it is a new discourse.

**#20:** What kind of future do we want? This should also be about what the next generation wants and not only what we think they need.

**#21:** What about getting some exercise for the common good? If someone, maybe someone old and weak, wants to rebuild his or her house or dig up the garden, other people could help. Like the concept GoodGym where you sign up to do weekly chores while getting fit. You get the exercise and people get things done.

**#22:** I have a question: why are we trying to save the world in our spare time? Why not do it every single day in our fields of expertise, where we live etc. We must do it where we are and when we are fresh in the morning, when we are at our best. Who is keeping us?

**#23:** (Halfdan): Every day I read the newsletter the Daily Climate's chapter on solutions. I skip straight to the solutions, I don't want to read about the problems. Germany jumped into saying NO to nuclear power, and now the nuclear energy companies don't make money in Germany anymore. The question is whether Germany will succeed in becoming a hundred percent renewable? We could all make small Samsoes, but it is easier if society makes the solutions on a higher level like in Germany, for instance when it comes to renewable energy.

**#24:** (Soeren): Germany is a big industrial leader, but where do we start? I did a talk in Boston at MIT and I was wondering where they get their own energy from. The ventilation in their buildings is from the last century, and they are teaching the brightest engineers in the world. They should be a best case example. They should be showing the students that they are part of the solution. We need to do what we teach, to walk the walk.

**#25:** If all you have is a hammer, everything looks like a nail. It is important to discuss what we have in the toolbox to solve our different problems. Maybe we can go into business communities and talk about open innovation as a kind of new commons.



#### From the second Circle Dialogue: About tv programs, the dragon, having fun, and education

After the speakers Halfdan Muurholm and Karen Blincoe the participants again had the opportunity to engage in a Circle Dialogue:

#### 21 statements from the second dialogue:

**#1:** We might have a problem selling the word "climate", but "green" is much easier. Halfdan, can you sell the same programs under the name of "green"?

**#2:** (Halfdan): I've tried to sell green projects as well. There is one program now, "Bonderøven" (The Farmer, ed.) that everybody loves, but it's not really about sustainability, it's more about him and his old-fashioned way of living. We have huge problems with selling solar panels and other green climate stuff to the viewers.

**#3:** You said it's not about money but about character – character-driven storytelling is a powerful tool. I can relate to a character, not to a solar panel.

**#4:** (Halfdan): There's not a big urge to really put this on the agenda, and people are not afraid of climate change. I don't see cultural or educated people caring about the climate either.

**#5:** Do we have a global issue here? Perhaps we should forget Denmark and make a difference in China instead?

**#6:** (Halfdan): In my next programs we will start out in Denmark – we have to start at home, go out and then return home.



**#7:** Could we approach this in another way: when people have seen the programs, they should think "this is smart!"

**#8**: (Tetso): COP15 was a turning point in going from "climate" to "green", and we have the "Lomborg Syndrome". It was a top-down meeting, and it was depressing for the industry. We are talking about the green revolution while we are still occupied with growth, but we need a win-win economy and a lot more bottom-up thinking and acting. Communities have to accept that they are local entities. Amazing things are happening in society, developments which are more than energy.

**#9:** (Soeren): I wrote this book about the commons together with Tor Noerretranders, who was more radical when he was younger. He was against nuclear power in Denmark, and when Denmark said no, I would have expected them to be celebrating, but they were depressed. When they didn't have the dragon to fight, the air went out of the balloon. So how can we move on from here? We've had "climate sickness" but we still have to face what's up and what's down.

**#10:** We should make it sexy and we should make it easy to check at home whether something is true or not. We could turn the perspective upside down and make new starting points for discussions.

**#11:** What's the prevailing story and what makes the paradigm shift? When the book "The Inconvient Truth" came out, Al Gore had been around for many years, climate change, too. What is the pressure point where something shifts? The challenge in going up against the machine is that you become part of it. How could we have more fun?



**#12:** I observed my grandchild and he's got two words for truth. He says: Grandmother, is it true or real true? I remember the stories about right and wrong from my childhood, and everybody loves them, so we shouldn't be afraid of the yes or the no, the right or the wrong, let's be open about that.

**#13:** Let's not only focus on solutions and what you can change if you have five minutes. Let's raise the bar and talk about social experiments in human evolution, there are many exciting experiments on this planet. There are many wonderful things you could make TV about.

**#14:** Why don't we keep on working in the direction we like? Grundtvig talked about the good meeting which should be 50 percent science and 50 percent storytelling. Is this a necessity of educational places?

**#15:** [Karen]: We spent a lot of time trying to understand what the unique thing about Schumacher College was. You come in and you go out changed. No luxury, everybody had the same conditions. You were there together, and everybody was interested in the same thing from different perspectives: how do we make this world a more sustainable place to live? People came in soaking up what everybody has to say, and no matter if you were doing the dishes, the discussions were relevant to the people there. We had amazing conversations. The morning sessions were also really important and we had meditation, breakfast, poem reading and exercise, and you were allowed to share your innermost feelings.

**#16:** So people were aiming for exploration and not for specific results.

**#17:** Sounds like the program at the Danish folk high schools, and perhaps it



is a bit outdated today, so how can we refresh the concept and do it in a different manner?

**#18:** Form new social contexts. We must have an idea of the drivers because there's no interaction without drivers, and I think this is a dilemma.

**#19:** We must be transforming all things, mental and social processes, and we must also look to the physical world. The challenge is that today's built environment is not sustainable, and we need new buildings and new environments.

**#20:** What would Google do? How can we scale it up? Not just one school or two schools. If this is to have any impanct at all we need a lot of schools, and we have to create a movement that could be so strong.

**#21:** Who are the students? It's us! We must also educate the business people and create a new place of education not only for the youngsters but also for the business people.

# Salons

A few statements from the one and a half hour salons held at the end of the symposium's first day.

From the salon about "Education"

#### Ideas for a new education on Samsø:

- Education that is not found elsewhere
- Samsoe as s lighthouse
- Moving things
- Problem-solving approach
- Open platforms (trust and transparency)
- Research dimension, theoretical superstructure
- Development of general theories, not only best practices
- Shall it appeal to all? (creative gymnasium)
- Webinars

#### Not only education but also formation

- Representing the whole
- Citizen to citizen
- A meeting place for academia, business and civil society

## Which 25 PhD dissertations will have been produced in 25 years?

- Rainwater and community
- Resilient energy landscapes
- Etc.



Above from the salon "Smart and sustainable communities". Sketched by Mie Nørgaard, assistant professor, Aarhus School of Architecture.

From the salon that made their own headline for the dialogue in the smaller circle: "Group around courage and fear" "It should be manageable, funny and easy. If it is hard and tough, it will never happen."

"I don't know how to do it! That's the most important sentence."

"Contact people who you prefer to talk to."

"The fear of not succeeding is huge."

# **Checking out**

WHAT SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS SAID ABOUT BEING PART OF THE NEXT PRACTICE SYMPOSIUM BEFORE LEAVING. YOU CAN ALSO HEAR WHAT SOME OF THEM SAID TO THE CAMERA ABOUT WHAT THEY HOPED TO TAKE HOME FROM THE SYMPOSIUM **HERE** 

Lene, Energy Academy: I made good connections, and I talked to almost all of you.

**Peter, Energy Academy:** We must not forget best practice, the story of Samsoe is that, and that's what people can learn from.

**Mie, Aarhus School of Architecture:** I got hit by the island atmosphere, and besides inspiration for my professional work, I've been personally inspired to go back to my local community, a small town, and do stuff.

**Karen, ICIS:** Thank you for inviting me, it's been a wonderful experience with information and connectedness, a lot of love and care for each other and for the planet. It's been touching, emotional, spiritual, physical, mental, emotional.

**Peter, Aarhus School of Architecture:** At conferences we usually like to impress each other, not here. It has been enlightening to get in contact with both the rational and the emotional.

**Søren, Global Citizen:** Being chaotic and systematic. It's also important to have chaos as a friend and a driver for a sustainable world. Mary-Alice, SOAR: Space for stories and energy, and we need it to exchange our stories, because important stuff comes from not going all the time. Those spaces are really important. Thank you for the space.

**Inge-Dorthe:** Compared to how I spend a lot of my time, it is wonderful to be in a place where you can openly be in doubt. It's very important as we're not quite sure yet what we want to do next.

Malaika, Artful Punch: It has been grounding for me, and this is the major reason why I will take a lot with me: now I feel like a whole person. Saying goodbye is a good opportunity as it means that we can soon say hello again.

**Ole, Lysbrocenteret:** Thanks for all the open doors to the ideas, and I hope to be part of some of them.

**Erik, Artful Punch:** I would love to be part of this family. People have put so much effort into this. All the generousity that is here, all the levels of abstraction that allows everyone to meet, it is a really good skill and quality, thank you all. Martin, NCC: Thank you all, and sorry I was late ... I'm here because I need new energy and new insights to change the business world. We're trying to build a new world and yet we are still anchored and trying to produce results in the old one. Let's continue the journey!

Else Marie, Lysbrocenteret: I'm so touched by being in a room with so much inspiration and willingness to share. Out there we usually don't cope very well with our living conditions, and that's urgent. Next practice, Malene, you're right on – and there's a lot of possibility here to deal with that.

**Kasper, Alectia A/S:** We're working with sustainable buildings, but I'm not sure that we are doing it right. I want to talk more with people and involve them, and maybe in 2-3 years we will know more.

Irina, p.hd. student: I've experienced what sustainable developmet is actually about, and what holistic thinking is about. It's not so much about the academic, but more about the projects I am doing and want to do in my life. It's been very giving to be here. Jesper, Energy Academy: There's no doubt for me that Samsoe is the test market here and that you are as saints for us. Let's go global now!

**Michael, Energy Academy:** I moved over here a little over a year ago, and it's about practice, the best and the next. We dream and we succeed with the implementation, it's nice.

**Søren, Energy Academy:** I'm very pleased that you all came. We're in a remote place – we're stuck here together and also connected here together. It's also exciting to see how we can blend our competences and approaches, and the Energy Academy is not just a house: We're a blender, a transformer. The light is so beautifull outside right now, and in here we're trying to light up things too, to put focus and attention to the new commons. Thank you for being here.

#### THANKS TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE NEXT PRACTICE SYMPOSIUM 2013

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