

Taking design and
sustainability to
the next level



UN City
COPENHAGEN

About UN City

UN City houses 11 UN-organizations — UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, UN-HCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNOPS, UN WOMEN, WFP, WHO and IOM. The building has around 1,500 employees representing more than 100 nationalities.



Greening the Blue

In October 2007, UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon made public his ambition to make the United Nations more efficient in its operations. Following the Secretary-General's statement, the UN Chief Executives Board for Coordination, consisting of heads of agencies, funds and programmes, decided to take their respective programmes towards climate neutrality.

The vision of UN City on sustainability and greening measurements is in line with the overall vision of the UN. On July 4th, 2013, the UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, praised the energy effectiveness of UN City:

"From solar panels to seawater cooling and external metal blinds to regulate light and heat, UN City shows what can be achieved."



Sustainable in Many Ways

UN City is one of the most sustainable buildings of its kind in Scandinavia. It has received a Platinum LEED-certificate and the European Commission's Green Building Award for New Buildings.

The building has been designed to use at least 55% less energy than a similar-sized office building.

The need for energy is reduced due to eco-friendly features that cut the need for energy used for heating, cooling, lighting and ventilation.



Design & Architecture

UN City is located on Marmormøllen in Nordhavn and has been designed by the Danish company 3xNielsen. Located on an artificial island the building is naturally separated from its immediate surroundings, while still being highly visible from both the city and the water.

The building is shaped like an eight fingered star with an open space in the middle - a heart, which reflects interagency communication and cooperation. The design also reflects the United Nations' ambition to reach out to people in all parts of the world. The open space is adorned by an intricate staircase, which symbolizes interaction across the UN agencies working in the building.



Water Efficiency

UN City captures approximately 3 million litres of rain water annually. This is enough to flush the building's toilets an estimated 5300 times a day. Low-flow taps and toilets reduce the water usage. Combined, the use of innovative taps, toilets and rainwater reduce the consumption of water in the building's kitchens, toilets and showers by 61%.



Resources at Hand

Sophisticated solar shades on the building's facade can be opened and closed to either trap or reflect heat from the sun.

UN City is entirely ventilated with filtered, outside air, and cold sea water is used to cool the building down. Furthermore, 1400 solar panels are placed on the roof of the building.



More information



facebook.com/UNCityCPH



twitter.com/UNCityCPH



Instagram.com/UNCityCPH



un.dk

Marmorvej 51
DK-2100 Copenhagen
Guided.tours@one.un.org
+45 45 33 50 00

