

**VELO-CITY GLOBAL  
IN COPENHAGEN  
JUNE 22-25, 2010**

- FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT -  
WORLD'S LARGEST GLOBAL  
CONFERENCE ON CYCLING



# DIFFERENT GEARS - SAME DESTINATION

Do you have a hard time convincing politicians, fellow professionals, and even your partners that investing in cycling actually pays off? Do you want to be inspired, challenged and motivated? And would you like to meet people from all over the world who are as committed to promoting cycling as you are?

The European Cyclists' Federation, the city of Frederiksberg and the City of Copenhagen are excited to invite you to the first ever VELO-CITY GLOBAL 2010 – the 2010 edition of the successful ECF conference series Velo-city. This conference brings together cycling experts, city planners, decision makers, NGOs and researchers from all over the world to discuss the potential and challenges of cycling.

The conference will take place in the heart of Copenhagen, one of the world's most inspiring cycling cities, and will offer you first hand experience of the city's many innovative initiatives in the field of cycling.

“ Cycling is healthy as well as being environmentally friendly and for the City of Frederiksberg it makes complete sense to offer cyclists the best possible conditions. ”

*Jørgen Glenthøj, Mayor of Frederiksberg*



## COPENHAGEN - CITY OF CYCLISTS

Copenhagen is the capital of Denmark and one of the world's leading cycling cities. It has approximately 1.700.000 inhabitants, of whom about 600.000 live in the two municipalities, the City of Frederiksberg and the City of Copenhagen. Both municipalities boast a high number of cyclists with

1/3 of the inhabitants' trips being made by bike. The busiest streets in Copenhagen have 36.000 cyclists using them daily. These are impressive numbers, particularly as Copenhagen is such an important and thriving economic centre.

“ Velo-city Global 2010 is for all of you who are as ambitious as Copenhagen, when it comes to promoting cycling in your city and I invite you to come forward and share all your ideas and knowledge so that we all can be leading cycling cities of the world. ”

*Klaus Bondam, Mayor, Technical & Environmental Administration, City of Copenhagen*



“ ECF has held Velo-city conferences on cycling since 1980. We now invite participants from all over the world for the 2010 edition under the name Velo-city Global 2010. Congestion, obesity, climate change and quality of life in the cities are important global issues. Cycling has a vital role to play in tackling these problems and in improving the climate and quality of life in the cities. I hope we may welcome you in ‘cycling city’ Copenhagen June 2010, to learn how to invest in the mobility of the future. ” *(Manfred Neun, ECF President)*



In Copenhagen, riding your bike is as normal as brushing your teeth – and for many Danes, the bicycle is the main means of transport throughout their life. The bicycle is an accepted means of transport for everyone, whatever their gender, age or social position.

As well as VELO-CITY GLOBAL 2010, Copenhagen will be hosting the COP15 in December 2009, as well as a range of related climate conferences. Examples include the Copenhagen Climate Summit for Mayors and the Alternative Climate Summit. The goal of the Velo-city Global 2010 conference is to firmly establish Danish bicycle culture as a positive and practical example with which to inspire cities throughout the entire world to meet the challenges of global climate change.

So, at the first Velo-city Global conference, there will be several exciting opportunities integrated into the programme to learn from Danish cycling expertise:

- Each subplenary session, features a special CPH 1:1 track presenting cycling facilities and solutions of benchmark quality in the municipalities of Copenhagen and Frederiksberg.
- Meet the Danes is a special session where we will facilitate face-to-face meetings with cycling professionals from all over Denmark.
- A bicycle parade throughout the city will be held on Day 3 as an informal way to get into direct contact with cycling Copenhageners.
- Excursions at the end of the conference will enable you to discover more Danish cities of varying size.

# VELO-CITY GOES GLOBAL IN 2010

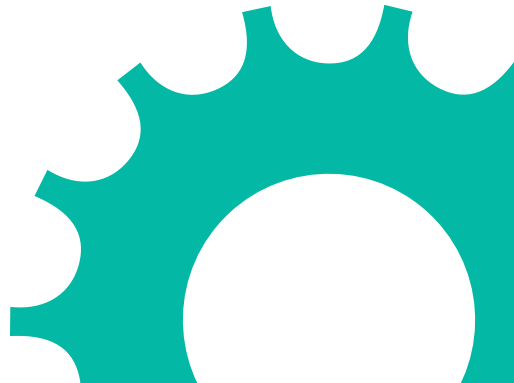
The timing could not be better for the Velo-city conference series to truly “go global” in 2010. Problems like congestion, obesity and climate change are global challenges and we believe that cycling has a unique and vital role to play in tackling them.

We have chosen the slogan Different Gears - Same Destination because we believe that despite our different backgrounds and different levels of cycling, we are all heading in the same direction: encouraging people in cities throughout the world to cycle more.

We see the very different backgrounds of the participants as a driving force for the conference and we will do all we can to support this unique opportunity to join forces across continents, regions and cities.

## **THE MAIN THEMES WE HAVE CHOSEN FOR VELO-CITY GLOBAL ARE:**

- Cycling as a way to improve the quality of life
- Co-benefits of cycling – making the case for cycling for a whole range of reasons
- Cycling behaviour and culture
- Democratic and egalitarian aspects of cycling
- Global responsibility to learn the lesson of the car-centered past





# INVOLVING THE PARTICIPANTS AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Velo-city Global 2010 aims to make a real difference for all of the participants – even after the conference is over. To ensure a long lasting outcome we have chosen to make Velo-city Global 2010 a true learning conference. This means that engagement, interaction and knowledge sharing are integrated throughout the conference programme – and that you as a conference goer are expected to participate actively and put forward all your expertise, thoughts and experiences.

## **FOCUSING ON CONCRETE ACTION**

An underlying principle throughout the conference is that we want action, not just talk. All speakers will be expected to reflect on how their knowledge can be used by others. During the conference, all participants will also be made to reflect on how the presentations, coupled with their own knowledge, can be applied immediately in the city in which they work.




## **A VARIETY OF NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES**

Networking, both structured and of the more spontaneous kind, is an integral part of the programme. For example, in the “Meet the Danes” session, participants will be able to learn from cycling professionals from all over Denmark.

## **FLEXIBILITY AND VARIATION**

Velo-city Global will be a melting pot of different professions, nationalities and perspectives on cycling. To celebrate this diversity, the programme structure is based on both unity and individuality. Every day starts and ends with a plenary session in order to ensure common ground between the participants. In turn, the subplenaries offer varying formats and themes, so that the participants can easily create their own personal programme according to their needs and background.



“ Attending a conference can be - let's be frank - a tad boring and you often leave drained of energy and with a feeling of missed opportunities. Wouldn't it be nice if you could leave a conference bubbling with excitement, with lots of thoughts and ideas that you were burning to realise upon your return? A conference that provided room for building new relationships and contacts that could help you in the process? ”

*Nicoline Jacoby Hansen, Learning Conference Consultant*

## **CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

One of our aims for Velo-city Global is to make it a truly global conference. To this end, we have chosen to make a call for contributions in order to get as many and as varied speakers as possible. The call is divided into the following two subentries:

**Call for Abstracts** – We call on everyone who wants to share cycling solutions, experiences and results with the rest of the world. All contributors are asked to reflect on how their contribution can be of relevance to a global audience.

**Call for Questions** – Here is an opportunity to try and resolve the difficult questions, paradoxes and alternative truths for which there is not an obvious answer. We look forward to being challenged!

You can read more about the different formats for the contributions and the reviewing procedure at [www.velo-city2010.com](http://www.velo-city2010.com).

Deadline for submitting contributions is January 11, 2010.

## **VENUE AND DATE**

The Conference will take place on June 22-25, 2010 at the twin venues Øksnehallen and CPH CONFERENCE on Halmtorvet, a lively square at Copenhagen's "Meat packing district" only two minutes from Copenhagen Central Station. This is an old industrial area in the middle of Copenhagen where art galleries, architectural firms, organic restaurants and trendy bars overlook a constant flow of cycling Copenhageners.

## **LANGUAGE**

The official conference language is English.

## HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

For information on how to participate at the conference, whether as participant, an exhibitor or sponsor, please visit our web site [www.velo-city2010.com](http://www.velo-city2010.com).

Here, you can also get practical information such as how to get to the conference, where to stay, speaker profiles and much more – and you can register for updates via our electronic newsletter.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Registration opens:  
December 7, 2010

Deadline for submission  
of contributions:  
January 11, 2010

Conference dates:  
June 22-25, 2010

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F R E D E R I K S B E R G  
K O M M U N E

