



CIRCULAR
ECONOMY
OFFICE

A city warehouse transforms office furniture into a municipal circular success



The Copenhagen pilot proves that circular furniture reuse works — not just in theory, but in the day-to-day of a major city administration. As part of the Circular Economy Office (CEO) initiative, the municipality of Copenhagen has created **a citywide warehouse system that delivers furniture reuse at scale.**

This real-life infrastructure supports thousands of municipal users, shows strong environmental results, and sets a blueprint for others across Europe.

CPH Pilot at a Glance

At a **3,500 m² municipal reuse warehouse**, the city collects and redistributes office and institutional furniture across **7 administrations.**

Key features include:

- **Free collection and delivery**
- **A shared webshop with over 10,000 inventoried items**
- **Access for all municipal employees**
- **Data tracking for procurement, reuse, and CO₂ savings**

Daily operations are handled by **three warehouse employees**, while **two development consultants** support strategic coordination and system development. Transportation is handled by external supplier.

Copenhagen's Circular Furniture Loop

The warehouse was created as part of a larger circular strategy — to reduce new purchases, cut emissions, and avoid waste.

Furniture reuse is now seen as the default option, not the exception.



1. Released Furniture

Furniture that is no longer needed in offices, schools or institutions is released from service. This can be due to relocation, downsizing, upgrades or changes in use.

2. Pickup / Transport

In collaboration with external logistics services the warehouse staff collects the released items free of charge and transports them to the central reuse warehouse.

3. Municipal Warehouse / Storage

Furniture is received, visually inspected, and stored in a 3,500 m² facility. Items are grouped by category and condition to facilitate reuse.

4. Refurbishment (optional)

Furniture in need of minor repairs, cleaning or adjustments is refurbished by warehouse staff to extend its lifecycle and improve usability.

5. Internal Webshop / Database

Each item is entered into a centralized webshop system with descriptions and photos. All municipal employees can browse and reserve available pieces.

6. Online Order

Employees from any municipal department can place an internal order via the webshop — just like they would for a new item, but without procurement costs.








7. Delivery

The team at the warehouse coordinate the orders and the delivery routes, but the actual transport is handled by external moving service.

8. Reuse

The item is reintegrated into everyday use within a new setting — fulfilling its next function without the need for new production or purchase.

Reuse in Numbers


 CIRCULAR ECONOMY OFFICE	 CITY OF COPENHAGEN	Circular Results at Scale – Copenhagen's 2024 Impact
 Reused items (via webshop)	6,411 furniture items	
 Avoided CO ₂ emissions	320 tons	
 Avoided purchasing costs	15.8 million DKK (2.2 m €)	
 Items stored in warehouse	> 10,000 furniture items	
 Webshop usage	all city departments	


Copenhagen is turning procurement savings into circular impact — and building the case for internal systems that make reuse easy.

Partnermeeting in Copenhagen and Malmö

How can circular economy become the new standard in public office environments?

During a three-day partner meeting in Malmö and Copenhagen, the CEO – Circular Economy Office network combined workshops and presentations with hands-on experiences:

 Meetings with pioneering companies and local initiatives showed how circular practices can be innovative, economically viable, and future-ready.

 From circular interior solutions and public reuse infrastructures to expert talks during 3daysofdesign – the shared goal was clear: turning circular visions into reality.



real world examples of circular solutions

Watch the Video



What's Next

The city is now looking to expand the system further:

- **Better IT infrastructure and warehouse flow**
- **More staff capacity**
- **New partnerships for upcycling and refurbishment**
- **Continued savings reinvested into operations**

The model is designed to be replicable — offering other municipalities a clear entry point into circular practice.

CEO partner Copenhagen



City of Copenhagen

With a strong focus on sustainability and public sector innovation, the city of Copenhagen is a key driver of urban circular solutions. The reuse warehouse is one of several initiatives demonstrating circular leadership in practice.

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