

IFHP PRESS RELEASE 24.09.2018

## **Jens Kramer Mikkelsen – former Lord Mayor of Copenhagen - elected President of the International Federation of Housing and Planning (IFHP) at the Annual Council Meeting.**

After an unanimously positive vote at the IFHP Council Meeting Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, IFHP is pleased to announce Mr. Jens Kramer Mikkelsen as its newly elected President in replacement of outgoing President Mr. Flemming Borreskov.

“It is an honour and privilege to be able to contribute to IFHP in bringing its vision of better, greener and inclusive cities to life.” says Jens Kramer Mikkelsen.

IFHP unites a community of more than 2000 individuals from every continent around a shared purpose of creating and promoting understanding of human settlement issues in a changing world on a non-profit basis and on a basis of neutrality on political, religious and race-related matters.

Resting on IFHPs two main pillars, housing & planning, IFHPs contemporary action plan, Social Cities, translates the original purpose of IFHP into an actionable platform designed to improve liveability and social cohesion in the urban environment. Social Cities introduces a scalable and adaptable methodology for measuring, designing and implementing socially sustainable solutions in collaboration with citizens, politicians and corporations.

Funded by Realdania and the Rambøll Foundation, the Social Cities programme is currently under its inaugural testing with five Danish municipalities and is developed in collaboration with Rambøll Management and the London School of Economics & Political Science.

“IFHPs Social Cities platform enables local governments, planning professionals, public & private organisations and civil society to address and find sustainable solutions to the defining challenges of our time.” says Jens Kramer Mikkelsen.

The momentum for IFHP Social Cities reaches far beyond the Danish municipalities currently involved and IFHP is inviting more cities internationally to be part of the movement.

“For IFHP to have a significant sustainability-impact on cities, it needs to scale its programs. Therefore, we are offering our extensive list of members as partners for local

governments and developers to make better cities that are designed by people for people.”  
says Jens Kramer Mikkelsen.

Jens Kramer Mikkelsen takes over from Flemming Borreskov who has served as IFHP President since 2010. Mr. Flemming Borreskov assumed the Presidency at a critical time for IFHP and has been instrumental in the relocation of IFHP’s headquarters to Copenhagen, Denmark, as well as in transitioning the IFHP towards contemporary challenges. After sharing his optimistic outlook on the future of IFHP, Mr. Flemming Borreskov welcomed Mr. Jens Kramer Mikkelsen in his new role.

“Jens Kramer Mikkelsen assumes the presidency at a time where IFHP needs competent steering towards the many opportunities at hand. I could not imagine a more qualified person in that capacity than Jens Kramer Mikkelsen.” says Flemming Borreskov.

- END -

## About Jens Kramer Mikkelsen

Mr. Jens Kramer Mikkelsen comes from a long, successful career within the field of urban development and is a formidable addition to IFHP.

Throughout two decades, Mr. Jens Kramer Mikkelsen transformed Copenhagen from being a deeply indebted, stagnating city into a growing metropolis with continuous development. Since 2004, Jens Kramer Mikkelsen has worked to maintain and safeguard growth and urban development in Copenhagen, in which he has been highly successful. Mr. Jens Kramer Mikkelsen is currently Director of Urban Development at NREP and previous positions include:

- CEO of CPH City & Port (2007-2018)
- Managing Director of Ørestad Development Corporation (2004-2007)
- Lord Mayor of Copenhagen Municipality (1989-2004)
- Member of Copenhagen City Council for 26 years (1978-2004).

Mr. Jens Kramer Mikkelsen has a number of honorary positions which include Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Copenhagen Goodwill Ambassador Corps, Chairman of the Board at Danish Fitness & Health Organization (DFHO), and Chairman of The Copenhagen Airport Growth Committee.

## About IFHP

The International Federation for Housing and Planning was inaugurated in London on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August 1913 under the Presidency of Ebenezer Howard and Secretaryship of Ewart Culpin. Since then, the purposes and areas of interest of the federation have gradually evolved and expanded, as the headquarters locations have moved 16 times over its 100+ years of existence through five countries: UK, Belgium, Germany, The Netherlands and now Denmark.

Today, IFHP is a global network of urban professionals who work to make cities better for people. We advocate for people's roles in cities and for social cohesiveness, as it is our belief that a city cannot function and thrive without inclusivity at all levels. We strive to achieve a combination of local, concrete and implementable actions and global advocacy.

We base our activities on our motto "Better cities for all". Currently, the [UN Sustainable Development Goal number 11](#) (Make cities more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable) and the [UN Habitat's New Urban Agenda](#), are our most important references when it comes to defining sustainable cities and housing issues. IFHP is an [implementation agent](#) of these goals. This means that we explain, translate and concretize the global agendas, by transforming them into practical action on a local scale - through projects, seminars and workshops with relevant partners in various countries.

Aside from the Social Cities programme, IFHP's activities center around what we call '[urban labs](#)'. In these 'laboratories', members, cities, companies, or organisations present challenges within urban development, where IFHP brings independent expert knowledge from various sectors and nationalities to discuss the issue. These urban labs can take different forms, ranging from two-hour seminars to workshops lasting several days, and can result in different outcomes, ranging from reports or concrete actions to further progress in dialogue between relevant actors in our network.

Read more: [www.ifhp.org](http://www.ifhp.org) and [www.ifhpsocialcities.org](http://www.ifhpsocialcities.org)