Copenhagen's Green Roof Requirement — A 2010 Planning Rule Whose Targets Shrank and Whose Built Area Was Never Audited (Denmark)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Denmark

Quality score: 13/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Since 2010 Copenhagen's local plans have required vegetation on new roofs sloped under 30°. The 2009 climate plan targeted 325,000 m² of green roofs by 2015; by 2012 the goal was 150,000 m²; in 2014 ~200,000 m² was expected from approved plans. Built area was never audited.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	0/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-14

City of Copenhagen (Københavns Kommune) — accessed 2026-11-14

Aarhus University DCE Report No. 83 (2014) — Ecosystem-based approaches to climate adaptation — accessed 2026-11-14

Ingeniøren (2009) — Copenhagen's 325,000 m² green roof plan — accessed 2026-11-14

Ingeniøren (2012) — Green roofs bring nature into the city (150,000 m² goal) — accessed 2026-11-14

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