



PASSIVHUS
Norden



Summary of the sixth Passive House Conference in the Nordic countries



15-17 October 2013 in Göteborg Sweden



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1. Summary of the conference

The sixth Passive House Conference in the Nordic countries was held in Gothenburg the 15th to 17th of October 2013. The arrangers chose Chalmers Conference Centre for the place of the conference, with its possibility to hold several parallel sessions as well as exhibitions in conjunction to the conference.

This year 300 participants learned from experiences of 80 experts during three intensive days. The participants and experts came mostly from Sweden and Norway but also from Denmark, Finland, Poland, Estonia, Rumania, Germany and Switzerland.

The main sponsors and organizers for the conference was LÅGAN (Program for Buildings having very Low Energy Use), Region Västra Götaland and the Swedish Energy Agency in cooperation with The Swedish Construction Federation. Passivhuscentrum Västra Götaland were particularly responsible for the guided tours, SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden for the exhibition and Chalmers University of Technology for the scientific evaluation and set up of papers. The organization committee consisted of:

- Chair: *Åsa Wahlström*, CIT Energy Management
- Jan-Olof Dalenbäck, Chalmers University of Technology
- *Roger Eriksson*, The Swedish Energy Agency
- *Carina Falk*, The Swedish Construction Federation
- *Ingrid Horner*, Region Västra Götaland
- *Louise Hulgaard*, Passivhuscentrum Västra Götaland
- *Kristina Käck*, Region Västra Götaland
- *Eva Sikander*, SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden
- *Pär Åhman*, The Swedish Construction Federation

Three articles have been written about the conference, one in the magazine Energimagasinet (Number 7, 2013) see Appendix 3, one in the magazine Arkitekten (Number 11, November 2013) see Appendix 4 and one in the magazine Energi & Miljö (Number 12, December 2013).



1.1 Main subject at the conference

This year renovation of buildings to passive house standard was equally in focus as new construction. In comparison with previous years the presentations included more experiences from erected buildings which shows that the development steady goes from theory to practice.



1.2 Evaluation of the conference

When the conference was over the organizers sent an evaluation form to all the participants of the conference. The evaluation showed that majority of the participant came from a university or a research institute, a consultant company or a housing company. Over half of the participants had never been at a Passivhus Norden Conference before and most of the participants found the conference special compared to other conferences within the field. Passivhus Norden 2013 seems to have fulfilled the ability for networking since many participants commends the possibility to discuss and exchange experiences with colleges.

The majority, nearly 75 %, of the participants were satisfied or very satisfied with the conference and only 8 % were disappointed with the conference. The guided tours got excellent evaluation. Also the opening session and the conference dinner got very high scores. Over 55% were satisfied or very satisfied with the parallel sessions while about 12% were disappointed. Over 40% were satisfied or very satisfied with the keynote session the second day, the debate, the exhibition and the poser session while less than 20% were disappointed.

The overall experiences of the parallel sessions were very good, the objectives were met, there was enough of time for questions and comments, the length of the sessions seems to be good and the topics were relevant. The session schedule was appreciated especially with the 5 minute break between each speech that allowed people to move between rooms.

About 60 % of the participants appreciated that some of the sessions were in Scandinavian while about 8 % were discontent.

Most participants (60 %) found Chalmers Conference Center to be a good or very good place to hold the Passivhus Norden conference. Some of the session rooms were graded as poor and some as excellent. Food and beverage got excellent scores.



The total result from the evaluation can be found in Appendix 3.

1.3 Scientific committee

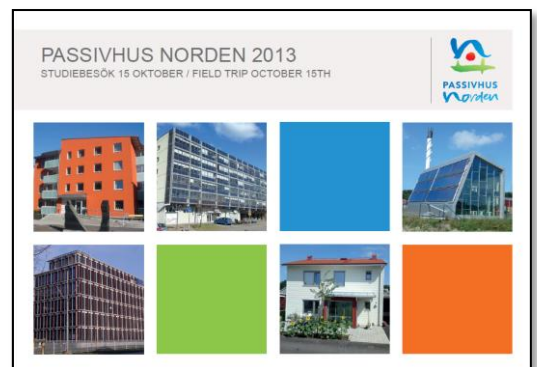
In January 2013 140 abstract were submitted of which 65 were accepted as papers and 16 as posters. The scientific committee consisted of:

- *Chair: Jan-Olof Dalenbäck*, Chalmers University of Technology (SE)
- *Inger Andresen*, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NO)
- *Anders Bernestål*, Andersson & Hultmark (SE)
- *Åke Blomsterberg*, Lund University (SE)
- *Tor Helge Dokka*, SINTEF Buildings and Infrastructure (NO)
- *Hans Eek*, Passivhuscentrum Västra Götaland (SE)
- *Paula Femenias*, Chalmers University of Technology (SE)
- *Anne Grete Hestnes*, The Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NO)
- *Riikka Holopainen*, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland (FI)
- *Dennis Johansson*, Lund University (SE)
- *Timo Kalema*, Tampere University of Technology (FI)
- *Simone Kreutzer*, IG Passivhus (SE)
- *Björn Marteinsonn*, Innovation Centre Iceland / University of Iceland (IS)
- *Stefan Olsson*, Energikontor Sydost (SE)
- *Søren Pedersen*, Passivhus.dk (DK)
- *Svein Ruud*, SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden (SE)
- *Eje Sandberg*, Centrum för Sveriges nollenergihus (SE)
- *Åsa Wahlström*, CIT Energy Management (SE)

All presented papers can be found in the conference proceedings, that can be downloaded at www.laganbygg.se or ordered by e-mail to asa.wahlstrom@cit.chalmers.se.

1.4 Guided Tours

The conference started with guided tours on the first day. The tour participants could choose between three different tours to Alingsås, Göteborg and Kungsbacka. Here the region's best examples of new construction and renovation projects were showed. In a folder the program for the guided tours and information about the visited buildings can be found (www.laganbygg.se).



1.5 Setup



After the guided tours a welcome reception was held at "Börsen" the City Hall of Gothenburg. Lena Malm, Lord mayor of Gothenburg and Kjell Nordström, Chair of Region Västra Götaland welcomed all participants.

During the second and third day exhibitors were placed right outside of the session rooms to present different products and skills associated with Passive House buildings and other low energy buildings. Lunches were served in the same foyers as the exhibitions and conducted to opportunities for the participants to mingle and network with everyone at the conference. In the evening of the second day a conference dinner took place in the canteen of Chalmers University of Technology.

The third and last day was rounded up with a Keynote session including a debate about the political initiatives and building regulations.

1.6 Previous Passivhus Norden Conferences

Nordic conference on Passive Houses have previously been hold five times in the following order:

1. Trondheim, Norway, 2-3 April, 2008.
2. Göteborg, Sweden, 27-29 April, 2009.
3. Åhlborg, Danmark, 7-9 October 2010.
4. Helsinki Finland, 17-18 October 2011.
5. Trondheim, Norway, 21-23 October 2012.

Sweden took the baton for Passivhus Norden 2013 in Trondheim 2012, see Appendix 5. Next time Denmark will arrange the Passivhus Norden Conference.



2. Sessions

One opening session was held to welcome everyone to the conference. This session was followed by the parallel sessions. The last day after two round of parallel sessions the conference was wrapped up with a Keynote session including a debate.

2.1 Opening session

Day two started with an opening session to welcome everyone to the sixth Passive House Conference, a session which attracted more or less everyone attending the conference. Sören Kviberg, Region Counselor from Region Västra Götaland greeted to Gothenburg.

Maria Brogren, Chair of the program LÅGAN and Swedish Construction Federation hold a speech about challenges and opportunities with energy efficient buildings.

Carin Karlsson, Senior Adviser at the Swedish Energy Agency told about the Swedish strategy for investment in retrofitting that will improve the energy performance of the existing building stock. Carin is one of the leaders of the government's assignment to suggest a Swedish strategy for investment in retrofitting that will improve the energy performance of the existing building stock. The assignment is due to that EU and Sweden will not reach the stated energy efficiency targets until 2020 and was delivered to the Government Offices the 1 of November 2013. At Passivhus Norden Carin informed about the strategy and how it will be the basis needed to specify the national energy efficient targets.





The Swedish opinion leader and author Anders Wijkman informed about the deep denial of the global environmental challenges facing the world. The speech called "How do we avoid bankrupting Nature?" were given a lot of praises in the evaluation of the conference.

Despite growing scientific consensus on major environmental threats as well as resource depletion, societies are largely continuing with business as usual. We need a new economic model where energy and resources are used much more efficiently and where we take nature into account; ecosystem services and natural capital must be assigned a value.

2.2 Parallel sessions

The opening session was followed by four parallel sessions with four presenters in each session. There were also possibilities to change between sessions since there was a 5 minute break between each presenter. In total for the two days about 70 presentations were held, most of them in English but some sessions were given in Scandinavian. To find out more about the setup please see Appendix 1, the program.



2.3 Keynote session



The third and last day was rounded up with a Keynote session. Torben Esbensen from Esbensens Consulting Engineers in Denmark guided through the first construction of a zero energy building that was built already in 1974 until today's challenges in construction of low energy buildings. Torben was in spring 2013 awarded with the international pioneer price for passive house construction.

Thereafter a debate was held about the political initiatives and building regulations with the following participants.

- Ola Johansson, riksdagsledamot Centerpartiet
- Ulf Kamne, Fastighetsnämndens ordförande, Miljöpartiet
- Kristina Gabrielli, Miljöchef Peab
- Krister Kilersjö, VD Eksta
- Anneli Mälargård, Utvecklingsledare Miljö Skanska
- Moderator: Jan-Olof Dalenbäck, Chalmers University of Technology



3. Exhibition

Beyond the exhibitions held in the lobby during the whole conference 16 different projects were presented in a poster exhibition.

3.1 Exhibition in Volvo foyer and on entrance floor

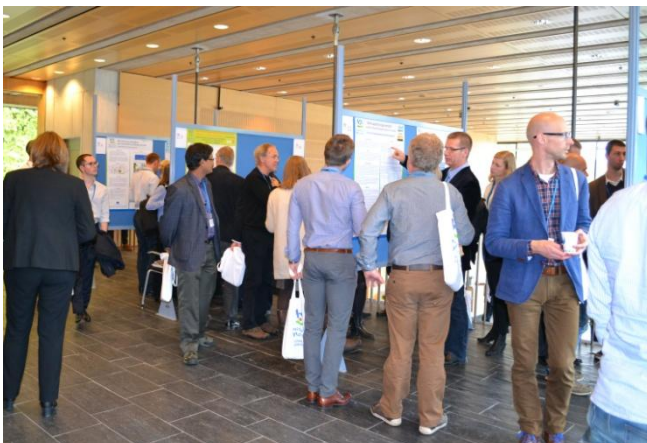
Twenty different companies had one exhibition spot to show off their latest products or results from different projects in the area of low energy buildings. The following companies were represented that also can be seen in Appendix 1, the program:

- LVI
- Isola
- Skanska
- Veidekke
- SPU-Isolering
- lavenergi*programmet
- WSP
- Steico
- Danfoss
- Procyon
- Göteborg Energi
- IQ Samhällsbyggnad
- LÅGAN
- Chalmers University of Technology
- The Swedish Energy Agency
- The Swedish Construction Federation
- Region Västra Götaland
- Passivhuscentrum Västra Götaland
- SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden
- CIT Energy Management

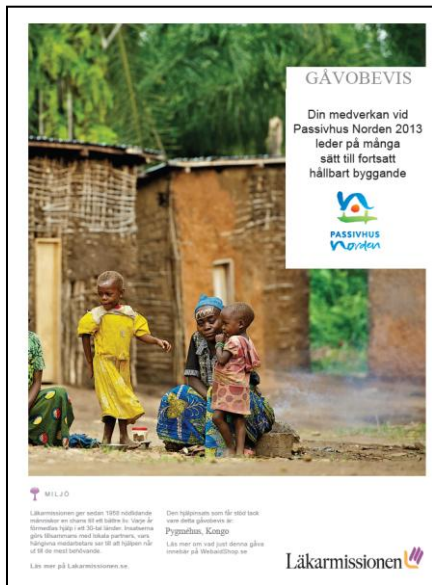


3.2 Poster Exhibition

Sixteen posters were presented at the last day of the conference. The authors to the posters were also offered to write a paper to be included in the material that was handed out at the conference and now available on the website www.laganbygg.se. All posters can also be found in the proceedings of the conference.



4. Presents and acknowledgements



All contributors with presentations and posters were given a gift evidence from webaid through Läkarmissionen. The support were given for construction of buildings for pygmé people in Kongo.

On behalf of the organization committee we will thank all people that contributed to an excellent conference that will lead to more sustainable and energy efficient buildings.

Åsa Wahlström and Pär Åhman

October 2013

