

# Sustainable education?

A keynote speech by Nicolai Seest

Most people agree that education has a crucial role to play in providing the next generations with both a skillset and a mindset to become change makers for a more sustainable future. And in doing so to give young people the best prerequisites for living good and meaningful lives.

Nicolai will share a case from Denmark and Greenland showing how young people grow when they get the opportunity to contribute positively to their surroundings. Action for Sustainability (the case) is an example of how real-world challenges, design thinking methods, and knowledge from the traditional school subjects can play together in strengthen motivation and learning among young people.

Nicolai will argue that education not only has an important role to play in raising awareness and growing capabilities among the learners for creating a better tomorrow. We must also ask what sustainability means in an educational context. Is the way we teach and the educational system itself sustainable? Or more importantly: How can we develop education to become more sustainable and develop schools in a more sustainable way?

Nicolai will take us on an inspirational journey. On the way, he will share cases and examples, his own viewpoints, and make us reflect on what we can do individually and jointly in making education more sustainable.



## About Nicolai Seest

Nicolai is the founder of &LEARNING, a Copenhagen based social impact company aiming to transform education into more meaningful, creative, and sustainable learning experiences for young people. He has developed Action for Sustainability, which supports teachers and headmasters in creating learning projects, where the pupils develop solutions to real life problems (the

17 SDGs), while applying knowledge and know-how from the traditional school subjects.

Nicolai has developed and coordinated a 6-year campaign for the Danish Ministry of Education promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in education. He is the former chairman of the Danish Entrepreneur Association and holds a MA in Human Resource Management from London as well as a BA in Political Science from the University of Copenhagen.