

# DCE STRATEGY 2025

#### VISION for the DCE

Tech is, with DCE as the entry point, the preferred supplier of research based policy advice for the public and private sectors and NGO's within topics on environment, nature and climate.

#### **AMBITION**

Our **ambition** is to deliver independent, research-based policy advice of the highest quality through transparent processes and with high integrity.

The research-based policy advice from DCE responds to **the societal needs** and the dissemination is useful and timely for the clients. We emphasize openness and public disclosure for products and results.

We cooperate and create relations and partnerships nationally and internationally contributing to ensure international state of the art of the research based policy advice and develop it further through sharing of experiences with partners.

#### **ABOUT DCE**

DCE - Danish Centre for Environment and Energy is the central entrance to research-based policy support within the areas of nature, environment, climate and energy.

DCE delivers independent science-based policy advice of high international quality and contributes through this to the societal development nationally and internationally. DCE coordinates and supports the implementation of framework contracts on research-based policy support between Aarhus University and public sector agencies covering the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Climate, Energy and Utilities, and Greenland's Government. Other important customers include the Danish municipalities, private businesses and the European Commission.

DCE supports and coordinates the ISO 9001 certified quality management of the research-based advisory activities within the area of environment and energy. DCE ensures that the advisory services are holistic, interdisciplinary and consistent over time and based on the latest knowledge from the broad knowledge base across Aarhus University.

DCE publishes reports and scientific briefings produced by researchers at Aarhus University. The publications are an integral part of the research-based policy advice of authorities and other interested parties within the area of environment and energy.

#### **KEY FOCUS AREAS**

A SWOT analysis undertaken in 2021, including mapping of key dilemmas and identification of prioritised activities from the AU action plan 2022, resulted in identification of potential key focus areas for DCE for the coming years.

#### **Green transition**

 Together with DCA, we cover almost all scientific areas related to the green transition of the Danish society. This is a unique position that allows us to promote the role of AU Tech in addressing societal needs of high priority.

# **Quality of policy support**

- Streamlining of process flows ensuring clear and efficient pathways through the quality management system, which is based on continuous feedback, improvement and development
- Facilitate dialogue through workshops and common activities between research groups to clarify professional disagreements and promoting consistency of the research—based policy support.
- Further engaging competences from other parts of Tech and AU in activities within research-based policy advice. Promoting HPC and data management in relation the Framework contract in order to substantiate the understanding for financial support and alignment.

#### International collaboration

- Promoting DCE competences in research- and other networks
- Screening of international advisory activities, analysing current contracts and exploring possible new business cases with foreign authorities.
- Development of an international training course on research-based policy support (with DCA)

## Competitiveness

- DCE is in a position that allows us to identify future demands for policy advice through our extensive collaboration with partners and customers, including e.g. ministries and the private sector, and we can support the departments in developing the answers to needs and demands.
- DCE, together with DCA, develop the necessary freedom to operate in a competitive manner within the legal requirements of the university.
- Development of an environmental management system for DCE activities (covering ECOS and ENVS).

# DCE ACTION PLAN

TECH BENCHMARKS	INITIATIVE	PLANNED ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	
Prioritisation and development of new partnerships and organisational pathways	<ul> <li>Build strategic partnerships</li> <li>International collaboration</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Establishing iClimate business network based on iClimate Service Center.</li> <li>Further develop the values of key international networks: PEER, EURAQA, NORMAN</li> <li>Development of an international training course on research-based policy support (with DCA).</li> </ul>	MIS, ASH  ASH, SJM, IBK  ASH	
Recognised research, integrated research-based consultancy	Strenthen policy advice	<ul> <li>Screening of international advisory activities, analysing current contracts and exploring possible new business cases for further engagement with foreign authorities.</li> <li>Promoting data management in relation the research supporting policy advice and the Framework contract in order to substantiate the understanding for financial support and alignment</li> </ul>	LMS, SJM	
Joint responsibility for openness, collaboration, co- ordination and development with trust and respect for each other	Local climate actions	Location-based "best climate practice" catalogue addressing the national emission target.	HBA, NN	
The DCE complementary topics				
Improved processes as a prerequisite for successful	<ul> <li>Create strong cross-cutting cohesion among</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Continuous dialogue with ENVS and ECOS at management level</li> </ul>	HBA, KIB	

implementation of the DCE ambition	DCE partners (centre unit, ENVS, ECOS) Improved case management	<ul> <li>Roadshows, internal webinars to inform staff about opportunities and procedures. Improved roadshow concept.</li> <li>Introduce DCE-partner measure to provide clarity and improve day-to-day links with staff in ECOS and ENVS</li> <li>Further harmonising case management and exploring the potential value of using workzone as a tool for this</li> </ul>	ASH, CD, MIS  HBA, KIB  VVN
DCE branding and profiling	Improved profiling of policy advice	<ul> <li>Supporting specific communication activities for e.g. products, projects, and conferences</li> <li>Hosting webinar series on novel topics</li> <li>Increased cooperation with ENVS and ECOS staff engaged in communication activities</li> </ul>	MIS, ASH
Improved framework for research based policy advice	Engagement in processes and fora on research based policy advice	<ul> <li>Engagement in Forum for research based policy advice (under DKUNI)</li> <li>Cooperation across AU and TECH on frameworks, terms and guidelines for research based policy advice</li> </ul>	GBA, CD, HBA