



# the BYOCYCLE

Copenhagen is well known as a world leader in sustainable living. From the way in which the city promotes the use of renewable energies to the way in which plastic bottles are recycled, Copenhagen is a city where sustainability seeps into everyday life.

A well-known and popularly discussed feature of Copenhagen living is the bicycle. Over one third of people living in Copenhagen commute to work or school by bicycle, and bicycle ownership in the city is upwards of 90%.

Bicycles are used for getting to work, going grocery shopping, and picking up children from school. The bicycle is very much part of everyday living in the city and its prominent usage is envied by cities around the world. While cycling in Copenhagen is widely used and acknowledge as a step towards sustainable living, there remain problems in the lifecycle of the bicycle. Bicycles produce no pollutants when it is being peddled around the city, but what becomes of the bicycle when it is past its usable lifespan? Added to this problem is the issue of abandoned bicycles, which amount to approximately 13,000 each year.

What if old and abandoned bicycles were reintroduced back into the sustainable ecosystem of Copenhagen? Although they may no longer be suitable to be used on the road again, their basic framework and structure allows them to be recycled for another purpose. Instead of disposing them as waste, these bicycles could be transformed into a meaningful part of Copenhagen's ambitious plan to be carbon neutral by 2025.

