YEARS OF KNOWLEDGE FIRST
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE ANNUAL REPORT

2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2011 in brief</td>
<td>A message from the Board and Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>The members of the Board, the Research Programme Committee and the Management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Knowledge first</td>
<td>The principles behind the activities of the Rockwool Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Integration in Denmark – Success or failure?</td>
<td>New research results provide an updated picture of immigration to Denmark and of the integration of immigrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Knowledge and hard work</td>
<td>Promoting improved farming in Tanzania and government involvement in project continuation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>We who live in Denmark – Thirty years of research in one book</td>
<td>A presentation of the everyday life of Danes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Can microfinance help the poor?</td>
<td>Learning more about a controversial development approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Can policy-makers in Norway learn from Denmark’s experience with integration policy?</td>
<td>A review of Danish immigration policies for Norwegian decision-makers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>The Healthy Schools Network puts health on the agenda</td>
<td>The stronger focus on students’ health among participating schools in the Healthy Schools Network has paved the way for improved levels of fitness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>A health initiative on many fronts</td>
<td>How do we help the children with the largest health-related problems?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Denmark’s balance of qualifications</td>
<td>New research provides for the first time an accounting balance for the exchange of labour with foreign countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>A stronger lifeline</td>
<td>An initiative to reach the most vulnerable families in Zambia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>A new perspective for Danish schools</td>
<td>Høje Taastrup Municipality has joined the Rockwool Foundation in an effort to develop a new tool to improve the performance of state schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Transatlantic inspiration on health care</td>
<td>Comparing the Danish health system to the American Health Maintenance Organisation Kaiser Permanente</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Young minds are especially vulnerable</td>
<td>The Psychiatric Summit 2011 focused on the young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>What are Danes’ attitudes to the law?</td>
<td>The Danes still have a high level of respect for the law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>A new family for orphans</td>
<td>Support for the most vulnerable children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>A story of unity</td>
<td>A TV soap opera for young people and children in Lebanon spreads a message of peace and tolerance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Creating a cross-cultural team spirit</td>
<td>Football for children in Lebanon to promote peaceful coexistence and tolerance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Crime rates have halved among second-generation immigrants</td>
<td>Patterns of criminality have become closer to those of native Danes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
71 Looking back – 1981-2011
The work of the Rockwool Foundation over its first thirty years

72 30 years of seeking knowledge
The values behind the Rockwool Foundation

76 The Rockwool Foundation 1981-1990:
The first decade

80 The Rockwool Foundation 1991-1995:
Analyses of the functioning of the labour market and of political trust

84 The Rockwool Foundation 1996-2000:
Research into immigration, health, and Danes’ attitudes to the law

88 The Rockwool Foundation 2001-2006:
International research projects and practical aid projects in developing countries

92 The Rockwool Foundation 2007-2011:
Two new research areas, and an increasing emphasis on practical interventions

96 A selection of publications by the Rockwool Foundation

103 Information about the Rockwool Foundation
2011 was a special year for the Rockwool Foundation, in that it celebrated its 30th anniversary. It was also a very busy year, during which the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit carried out work on 36 projects, 8 of which were completed during 2011. In the area of practical interventions, there were a total of 15 new and continuing projects being managed by the Foundation.

In numerical terms the Rockwool Foundation made donations totalling DKK 49.9 million in 2011, compared to DKK 32.1 million and 14.5 million in the previous two years respectively.

Income before donations was DKK 51.9 million. Net financial assets at the end of 2011 totalled DKK 2.4 billion.

The Research Unit
The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit continued in 2011 to provide input to the public debate through a large number of publications, including four books, seven working papers and ten issues of the Newsletter. Three well-attended press conferences were held, at which publications were launched.

Within the well-established research area ‘Immigration and Integration’, results from two research projects were published. An analysis published in early 2011 revealed that levels of criminality among non-Western immigrants and second-generation immigrants are clearly declining, even though they remain above those among comparable groups of Danes. There followed publication in June of the results from a large project that updated our knowledge of immigration to Denmark and the integration of immigrants.

Within the research area ‘Black Activities and the Law of the Land’, the Research Unit carried out an analysis in 2011 on the topic of ‘Danes’ attitudes regarding respect for the law and social morality’. The aim of the analysis was to examine the extent to which any deterioration in the general attitude to the law could develop into a problem for the Danish welfare state.

In Denmark, as in other Western countries, there is a recurring debate on how globalisation affects the economy. The book Danmarks Kvalifikationsbalance (Denmark’s balance of qualifications) published for the first time an accounting balance for the exchange of labour with foreign countries. Issues addressed include, for example, the question of whether a larger amount of qualified labour goes out of Denmark through exports and emigration than enters from abroad.

Research outside the Research Unit
External research in 2011 produced findings which resulted in the publication of the book Hvad kan det danske sundheds-væsen lære af Kaiser Permanente? (What can the Danish health care system learn from Kaiser Permanente?). The book reports on a comprehensive study of the California-based Kaiser Permanente Health Maintenance Organisation (HMO).

Practical intervention projects
Projects within all four programme areas aim at building a knowledge base for practical solutions that could help meet some of the societal challenges in Denmark and abroad, as well as contributing data for new research initiatives.

Under ‘Food Security and Poverty Alleviation’, the Rockwool Foundation is supporting the development of sustainable small-scale farming in Tanzania as well as the establishment and evaluation of Savings and Loans groups in Malawi. Both projects are aimed at promoting household self-sufficiency and creating the basis for long-term economic growth.

Under the programme area ‘Social Capacity Building’, the Foundation is engaged both in providing help to self-help for HIV/AIDS-affected families in Zambia and in developing and testing a cognitive teaching model to develop social and personal skills among the youngest pupils in state schools in Denmark.

Within ‘International Peace Building’, the efforts of the Rockwool Foundation continue to focus on promoting peace through young people. In Lebanon the Foundation seeks to build peace through football activities that cross the many divisions in that society, and through the production of television soap operas conveying messages of peace to children and young people. The Foundation is also engaged in peace-building projects in Burundi, Uganda and Nepal which aim at creating platforms for young people to engage in positive dialogue.

The ‘Health Interventions’ activities of the Rockwool Foundation are the most comprehensive. The Healthy Schools Network, which comprises 180 schools and more than 80,000 students, promotes health and fitness among Danish children. In addition, the Foundation has started funding a new project, Fit for Kids, which is testing a new approach to reaching the most overweight children.

Donations for smaller projects
The Rockwool Foundation also supports initiatives and smaller projects which have the potential to lead to new solutions to the challenges faced by societies. During the year, the Foundation received and processed around 1,300 applications within the category ‘Donations for Smaller Individual Projects’. Of these applications, the Foundation approved a total of seven. Two examples of such initiatives are highlighted in this report.

Thanks from the Board and the Management
The Board and the Management wish to express their gratitude to all the external researchers and organisations with whom the Foundation has cooperated, to the members of the Programme Committee, and to the very committed staff for their fine work performed during the past year.
The members of the Board

... with their extensive knowledge and experience within international business and politics are crucial for the strategic development of the Foundation, working in collaboration with the Management. Each Board member also actively participates in one of the four Board Committees that cover the intervention projects, giving them the opportunity to contribute their broad expertise.

Tom Kähler
Chairman.
Chairman of the Board of Directors of Rockwool International A/S. Former CEO of Rockwool International A/S.

Lars Nørby Johansen
Deputy-Chairman.
Chairman of the Danish Growth Council. Former CEO of Falck, Group4Falck and G4S.*

Mariann Fischer Boel
Former European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development and former Danish Minister for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries.*

Anders Eldrup
CEO of DONG Energy. Former Permanent Secretary of State at the Danish Ministry of Finance.*

Frank Jensen
Lord Mayor, City of Copenhagen. Former Danish Minister of Justice and Minister of Research.*

Klaus Franz
Senior Vice President, Innovation and Business Development, Rockwool International A/S.

Bo Kähler
CEO of Fundator A/S. Former Director of Research, Information Technology and Telematics, SINTEF.

Lise-lotte Kähler
Head of Administration, Scandinavian Highlands Holding A/S.

Søren Kähler
Graduate Engineer with a former international career with F.L. Smidth & Co. and Rockwool International A/S. Elected by employees.

Dorthe Lybye
Senior Project Manager, Rockwool International A/S. Member of the Board, Rockwool International A/S. Elected by employees.

* Member of the Executive Committee.
The members of the Research Programme Committee

... ensure that high academic standards are maintained and that the use of resources is optimised by being applied only to cutting-edge research. The Research Programme Committee is made up of leading Scandinavian professors within the fields of research that are prioritised by the Foundation and is always consulted before the Board makes its final decision on giving a financial grant to a research project.

Torben M. Andersen
Professor, Department of Economics and Business, Aarhus University. Former Chairman of the Danish Economic Council and the Danish Welfare Commission.

Grete Brochmann
Professor, the Department of Sociology and Human Geography, University of Oslo. Former Chairman of the Norwegian Welfare and Migration Commission.

Peter Gundelach
Professor, Department of Sociology, Copenhagen University. Former Chairman, the Danish Social Science Research Council.

Nina Smith
Professor, Department of Economics and Business, Aarhus University. Former Chairman of the Danish Economic Council.

Torben Tranæs
Research Director and Professor at the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit. Former Professor at the Danish National Centre for Social Research.

Elin Schmidt
President. With a former international career with Novo Nordisk A/S. Chairman of the Danish NGO “Mødrehjælpen” and advisor to a number of NGOs operating within the social sector.

The management
On 23 December 2011, The Rockwool Foundation celebrated its 30th anniversary. The guiding principle of the Rockwool Foundation has remained the same since its creation: putting knowledge first.

This principle has been applied to societal challenges that Denmark and its neighbouring countries have faced since the 1980s, whether these have been tax evasion or weak incentives to work, massive unemployment or ghettoisation. Some of the problems investigated by the Foundation have now lost their urgency or been eclipsed by new challenges; others, however, have been of concern - and unresolved - for decades. For example, the percentage of children placed in care in Denmark has been roughly the same over the past century, and the level of undeclared work has remained high for many years. More recently, the Foundation has also turned its attention to problems in countries further away, but still with the same principle as the basis of its approach – recognising the importance of understanding the underlying problem and having the right knowledge on which to base a solution.

We believe that obtaining reliable knowledge of the facts is a prerequisite to successfully addressing the challenges faced by society. Such knowledge is required in order to understand how obesity in Western countries has changed from being a mark of prosperity to being associated with low income, how an immigrant pool of labour could have turned into a financial burden to society - and may now be becoming a valuable resource once more, or how some societies in the developing world can make significant economic progress, while others seem stuck in an endless circle of poverty. Knowledge can enlighten society, aid policy-makers, and form the basis for finding new solutions to problems. That is why the Rockwool Foundation believes so firmly in the principle of always trying to obtain sound knowledge to guide both its research and its practical interventions.

This annual report outlines some of the activities of the Foundation in 2011. In addition, it contains a special anniversary section that takes a look back at the work of the Foundation over its first thirty years. This review, which also describes some of the challenges that society has faced during these three decades, serves to illustrate the importance of seeking knowledge in tackling the problems of society and the world.
The objective of the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit is to use its independent status to produce new, empirically-based analyses related to current problems faced by modern society. The Rockwool Foundation takes it to be self-evident that a deep insight into the nature of a problem is a prerequisite for its solution.

Research areas

/ Work and the Welfare State
/ Families and Children
/ Migration and Integration
/ Black Activities and the Law of the Land
/ Development Economics

Programme areas for practical interventions

/ Food Security and Poverty Alleviation
/ Social Capacity Building
/ International Peace Building
/ Health Interventions

The Rockwool Foundation initiates and implements practical interventions within four strategic programme areas. The aim is to develop models for lasting and sustainable improvements in both rich and poor societies. Projects include elements of innovation and spreading of best practices.
The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit held a well-attended press conference and seminar on 23 June 2011. Among the speakers were the then Danish Minister of Integration, Søren Pind (Venstre, the Danish Liberal Party) and the then Spokesperson on Integration for the Socialist People’s Party, Astrid Krag. At the press conference, the Research Unit presented the results of a series of projects organised under the general heading of ‘Immigration and Integration’. The various projects represented an extension of the Research unit’s immigration research conducted over the period since the mid-1990s, and constituted a ‘status report’ on immigration and integration in Denmark in the early years of the new millennium.

Immigrants and Danish public finances

The improved employment situation for immigrants seen in Denmark until 2009 has had very real financial consequences for the public purse. This was revealed in an analysis of the impact of immigration on public finances, presented at the press conference by Professor Eskil Wadensjö of Stockholm University. The analysis was carried out in collaboration with Christer Gerdes, also of Stockholm University, and Senior Researcher Marie Louise Schultz-Nielsen of the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit.

Net expenditures associated with non-Western immigrants and second-generation immigrants fell substantially over the period 2004-2008. While non-Western immigrants (excluding refugees) each cost Danish public funds DKK 39,000 in 2004, the amount had fallen to DKK 13,000 in 2008. If refugees are omitted from the calculations, then Western and non-Western immigrants taken together as a group made a net contribution to public finances of DKK 1.7 billion in 2008; this was the first annual surplus in any year since calculations of the figure began for the year 1991.

Does the phenomenon of ‘chain immigration’ exist in Denmark?

Martin Junge of the Copenhagen Business School and Marie Louise Schultz-Nielsen and Torben Tranæs of the Research Unit presented an analysis to the press conference of the
Thirty years of the Rockwool Foundation

The conditions of life among non-Western immigrants to Denmark has been a recurring topic in the public debate since the mid-1990s. It was evident to the Rockwool Foundation that there was a lack of research-based information on both the situation of immigrants as a group and their importance for Danish society. In consequence, the Board of the Foundation asked the Research unit to draw up a project proposal on the conditions of life for non-Western immigrants, and for a number of years now the Foundation has been engaged in research in this area. The topic has gained increasing importance over the years as the proportion of non-Western immigrants in the population has grown.

See Rockwool Foundation 1996-2000, p. 84
Danish and Muslim-sounding names were prepared to sacrifice in order to work with someone of the same ethnic origin as themselves.

The project showed that discrimination was common, but that it was very much dependent on the ‘price’ to be paid. If a small reduction in pay was all that was needed to work with a person of the same ethnic background, many people chose to do so. If on the other hand the cost was a large reduction in pay, only a few people then chose to work with a person of the same ethnicity rather than with a more efficient person of a different ethnic background.

It was also found that Danes and immigrants had the same level of propensity to discriminate, and that those who did decide to discriminate were willing to accept an average drop of 8% in pay in order to work with a person of the same ethnicity as themselves.

### Net transfers per person

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<tr>
<th>Origin / Year</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danes</td>
<td>DKK 30,000</td>
<td>DKK 38,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrants and second-generation immigrants from Western countries</td>
<td>DKK 26,000</td>
<td>DKK 34,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrants and second-generation immigrants from non-Western countries, including refugees</td>
<td>DKK -55,000</td>
<td>DKK -31,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrants and second-generation immigrants from non-Western countries, excluding refugees</td>
<td>DKK -39,000</td>
<td>DKK -13,000</td>
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Notes: Figures rounded to whole thousands. Nominal prices. The category ‘Western countries’ includes the 15 countries that were members of the EU before 2004, but not those that joined subsequently.

Source: The figures for 2004 are calculated on the basis of the Danish Finance Ministry’s ‘Law Model’ and have been extrapolated for 2008 using register data from Statistics Denmark.
The then spokesperson on Integration for the Socialist People’s Party, Astrid Krag.

The political debate
After the presentations by the researchers, the two invited politicians commented on the results and their political implications.

Søren Pind felt that the presentations had demonstrated the success of the government’s policy in many ways. He particularly welcomed the strong increase in employment. With regard to the relationship of immigrants to public finances, he said that it is very clear that Western immigrants make a positive contribution, and the politicians must recognise that the country needs immigration. He also wished to retain the incentives to seek employment that were inherent in the level of ‘starting-out assistance’ benefits for those without work.

Astrid Krag found the discrimination experiment of particular interest. Ethnic diversity improves the financial bottom line, and we should ensure that people from different backgrounds get to meet one another. The analyses of poverty among immigrants documented a major social problem among a significant group in the population. A possible future government coalition of the Social Democrats and the Socialist People’s Party would work to avoid the development of an ethnic underclass. She felt that a focussed effort related to education would be needed, especially in relation to the situation of refugees.

The reception by the media
The research results presented were directly relevant to the ongoing public debate on immigration and integration, and consequently the days following the meeting saw comprehensive coverage in the Danish national papers and on the radio and TV. Subsequently, the material has been frequently quoted in background articles on immigration and integration.
Five years ago the Rockwool Foundation initiated its first poverty alleviation project in Tanzania – RIPAT (Rockwool Initiatives for Poverty Alleviation in Tanzania). So far the project has worked with 2,200 farming families in 34 villages, aiming at improving livelihoods through better farming methods. Now the time has come to spread the knowledge even further.
The facts are devastating. Globally, there are close to one billion people suffering from hunger, with some 1.4 billion people living on less than USD 1.25 a day. In Sub-Saharan Africa, one person in three is undernourished, and the region is home to nearly one-third of the world’s poor. Though the proportion of the continent’s total population defined as being in poverty is declining, the absolute number of poor people has increased over the past decade. The overwhelming majority of the impoverished live in rural areas and practise farming.

The motivation for the Rockwool Foundation to engage in the RIPAT rural development project stems from a desire to overcome some of the core problems experienced in the developing world. The Foundation aims to do this by providing the proper tools for people to help themselves. Since it is predicted that food production in developing countries may well need to double to meet the needs of the population, and since farming is the primary means by which this has to be achieved, a focus on improving farming was the logical starting point.

A search for solutions
There is broad agreement among economists that development in agriculture generate the greatest improvements for the poorest people – particularly in poor, agriculture-based economies. Consequently, there is an urgent need to scale up successful interventions that focus on Africa’s army of smallholder farmers. However, making a lasting difference is a tough challenge.

Previously, the Foundation has supported a research project conducted by Professor Martin Paldam that analysed the outcome of development aid. The research sadly concluded that over recent decades, much development aid has failed to produce the intended results. Large-scale agricultural programmes in Africa have been particularly disappointing in terms of producing the desired outcomes. The research project also indicated that generally speaking, countries receiving development assistance do not perform much better than those who do not receive help.

Economists have many suggestions as to explanations for the poor performance of development assistance, including corruption, reduction in competitiveness due to higher costs in areas that receive assistance, and the destruction of incentives due to handouts and gifts. However, rather than abandoning development aid altogether, the Foundation decided to see if it would be possible to create positive development effects through projects of a different and more appropriate design. Thus, RIPAT sought to develop a project design that would not distort the local economy and would ensure full ownership by the target group through help-to-self-help activities.

Changing from within
The RIPAT ‘journey’ started in 2006, with the purpose and vision of finding solutions and appropriate responses to why so many rural areas in Africa, despite having much potential for economic improvement, still cannot provide reasonable livelihoods for the people who live there – and why so many of the development aid projects that have been implemented in these rural areas have had zero or only marginal impacts on the livelihoods of the majority of the small-scale farmers.

Julius Nyerere, the first president of Tanzania, said “People cannot be developed - they can only develop themselves.” This mindset has also been the working premise in the RIPAT project: the belief that lasting and sustainable changes only comes if the participants are actively involved and take full charge of their own development. Active participation requires that village dwellers and leaders at all levels are involved. In order to make the changes brought about sustainable, full cooperation and support are also required from the relevant government authorities. However, motivating the farmers has turned out to be easier said than done.

Fighting the mindset of poverty
When the Rockwool Foundation initiated the RIPAT project in Tanzania, some of the selected villages had already been the targets of development projects that had failed. This caused some initial scepticism among the local people. It was soon realised that one of the biggest challenges of poverty alleviation was to fight the mindset of poverty and donor dependen-

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<th>Programme area</th>
<th>Starting date for project</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Food Security and Poverty Alleviation</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
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FIRST
The RIPAT concept and approach have been developed through trial-and-error implementation in a series of four practical projects in northern Tanzania over the period 2006-2012.

NOW
The practical implementations are in the process of concluding. The impact is being assessed and the lessons learned described; these results will be documented in a forthcoming book. The RIPAT method has been described and will be made available to other implementers in a forthcoming step-by-step guide. PR and advocacy activities are ongoing, aimed at securing funding from, and the takeover of implementation responsibility by, governments, aid organisations or NGOs.

NEXT
The next stage will be the spreading of RIPAT through the government agricultural extension system and project-educated ‘super-farmers’ as well as aid organisations or NGOs. The Rockwool Foundation and its local partner RECODA will continue to be involved in providing training in the RIPAT approach as well as in monitoring activities to ensure the quality of future interventions.
Stakeholder meeting concerning the RIPAT model held in Arusha in June 2011 between policy-makers and representatives of the Rockwool Foundation.

This mindset has been promoted by well-intended aid projects over the years that have focused on providing people with solutions to their immediate needs – for example, by distributing free services and handouts – rather than facilitating development through self-help. Sadly, such projects often reduce the recipients to a state of passivity and leave communities, households and individuals even more helpless. When RIPAT was introduced in villages, people quite often hesitated to join simply because the project avoided providing free handouts and gifts. In RIPAT it has become clear that it is important to introduce good and sound agro-technologies to smallholders; but it is even more important to use a set-up that ensures project ownership and continuation.

Handing over the concept to the government

Over the past five years, RIPAT has been implemented in selected communities in four of the 126 districts in Tanzania. Commissioners from the targeted districts and regions were present at the June meeting. The conference started with a fully-fledged impact assessment is currently being conducted, and the results will soon be published. Moreover, the Foundation is currently in the process of developing a step-by-step guide to implementing RIPAT in practice. Now is the time for the Tanzanian government to take the lead and implement RIPAT itself.

The spreading and exit strategies are important parameters to the Foundation, and thus it has been vital to get detailed feedback on how the government authorities perceive the RIPAT approach and whether they would consider promoting the RIPAT concept in their own development efforts. With that in mind, the Rockwool Foundation hosted a two-day conference in Tanzania in June 2011, inviting important government representatives and local stakeholders. The conference was chaired by Tom Kähler, Chairman of the Foundation, who was accompanied on the trip to Tanzania by Mariann Fischer Boel, member of the Board of the Foundation and former Danish Minister of Agriculture and EU Commissioner.

Mariann Fischer Boel, member of the Rockwool Foundation Board and former Danish Minister of Agriculture and EU Commissioner, visiting a RIPAT project in a Massai area.
Dominick Ringo, Executive Director of RECODA (centre) visiting a RIPAT project together with Tom Kähler, Chairman of the Rockwool Foundation and Mariann Fischer Boel.

Did you know?

- Globally, there are close to one billion people suffering from hunger, and some 1.4 billion people are living on less than USD 1.25 a day
- Sub-Saharan Africa is home to nearly one-third of the world’s poor
- Current forecasts estimate that food production in developing countries may well have to almost double over the next 40 years to meet the needs of the growing population.

What is RIPAT?
RIPAT is a series of community economic development projects designed to offer proven skills and practices for poverty reduction, food security and environmental conservation. The aim is to combat poverty and food insecurity among families with small-scale farms by improving land use and animal stock on the principle of help to self-help.

RIPAT in practice
Each project targets eight to ten villages. Two groups of 30–35 participants are established in each village. The Farmers Field Schools concept is used (the field is the ‘classroom’). The project concept and technologies are spread to other interested farmers in the targeted villages and to additional villages through the use of the government agricultural extension system and project-educated ‘super-farmers’ who function as local paraprofessional agricultural advisors and provide ‘Farmer to Farmer’ technology transfer.

The RIPAT approach includes three key elements:

a) Sensitisation of communities and formation of groups with good leadership to ensure full local ownership of the project
b) Bridging the technical gap by using the Farmer Field Schools concept
c) Close collaboration with local government authorities, village leaders and government extension officers to ensure the continuation of the project and further spreading to the wider community.

Local partners
The Tanzanian NGO RECODA implements the projects.

field trip to the first RIPAT project, which had concluded two years earlier. Fields were inspected and farmers were given the opportunity to express their opinions on how the project had affected their livelihoods. The outcome of the discussion and the field trip was a consensus that the RIPAT transformation of small-scale farming had been successful, and that the good results had persisted even two years after the end of the project. It was agreed that the agricultural elements were important, but that the good results were even more dependent on psychological factors such as the way the communities and participants were sensitised and farmer groups formed. As a result of the conference, the government authorities recommended that the RIPAT approach should be adopted into mainstream government policies at the national level.

RIPAT in the future
The outcome of the conference in Tanzania was expressed in a resolution made by the participating regional and district Commissioners and passed on to the Minister of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives, Prof. Jumanne A. Maghembe, who kindly received the Rockwool Foundation Delegation and the Danish Ambassador, Bjarne Hennieberg Sørensen. The Minister expressed an interest in visiting one of the RIPAT projects in the future, and confirmed that the RIPAT approach of supporting the progress of small-scale farmers was in line with the national strategy for poverty alleviation. The Minister also emphasised the importance of ‘Farmer to Farmer’ technology transfer, which can be a valuable way of supplementing ‘Expert to Farmer’ technology transfer.

Overall, the evidence indicates that the method needs no further development by the Rockwool Foundation. In the future, RIPAT must to a large extent be spread through the use of the government agricultural extension system and project-educated ‘super-farmers’ who will function as local advisors. It is also the hope that other donors and aid organisations will continue to implement RIPAT. The Rockwool Foundation and RECODA will still play a part in the future, but primarily by training other implementers in the RIPAT approach and in monitoring activities to ensure the quality of future interventions.
Over the years, the Rockwool Foundation has financed a large number of research projects covering important aspects of the everyday lives of the people of Denmark. In the recent past, this work has been extended through the establishment of 'Families and children' as a target research area that considers material, social and health-related elements of life. The results of all this research have been disseminated through a large number of publications of varying degrees of approachability, though many of these publications are no longer available for sale.

Because the Rockwool Foundation and the Research Unit are contacted almost daily with questions about where information can be found on these various topics, and because there was great interest among the members of the Rockwool Foundation Board in publishing an easily accessible overview of the research produced over the years, the Research Director, Torben Tranæs, and the Head of Communication, Bent Jensen, were asked to create just such a presentation.

It was intended that the book should synthesise the work done by the Rockwool Foundation to date, and also give a broad and rounded picture of Denmark and the Danes in the year 2011. It should also – with the benefit of hindsight – answer the question: How have the Danes arrived where they are today?

Work on the book

In order to achieve the desired broad presentation of the everyday life of the Danish population, the two authors not only drew on the results from thirty years of research, but also supplemented these results with information from various official data sources, especially those at Statistics Denmark. The topics covered, like the Foundation’s research over the years,
were wide indeed; and to reflect this breadth, the book was given the title *Vi der bor i Danmark. Hvem er vi? Og hvordan lever vi?* (We who live in Denmark. Who are we? And how do we live?).

Tranæs and Jensen begin with an examination of the current demographics of Denmark, and a discussion of Danes’ patterns of cohabitation and marriage. Then follow chapters on commerce, the labour market, consumption and income, education, time use, the socially marginalised, the health and wellbeing of the population, foreign trade and the balance of payments.

The many years of research on the structure of taxes in Denmark form the basis for chapters on ‘Our taxes’ and on undeclared work, a topic which has always had high priority in the Research Unit’s profile. A special group of chapters deals with the development of the Danish welfare state and the attitudes of the population to their representative democracy and welfare society.

An indirect but important measure of level of support for the welfare state is the law-abiding qualities of the general public, a topic that was investigated in two rounds in the period leading up to the new millennium. So what are the attitudes of the population to the law, and how have these changed over the years? Since the most recent investigation had been carried out in 2000, the Rockwool Foundation decided that a special new follow-up survey could be carried out for the book by Professor Jørgen Goul Andersen; these results were also published independently (see the article on page 50).

*We who live in Denmark* concludes with an overview of all the research that has been carried out by the Unit. Here, those who are interested can find information on where the research results are published in greater detail.

**The reception of the book**

The book was published by Gyldendal in May 2011. In their reviews, the large national papers laid weight on the fact that the book presented a representative view of Denmark. The book sold widely to public libraries in Denmark, helping to realise the Rockwool Foundation’s ambition to disseminate to a wide readership an easily accessible overall account of their research work.

*The book: ‘Vi der bor i Danmark’ (We who live in Denmark), by Bent Jensen and Torben Tranæs. Published by Gyldendal, 2011.*
Can microfinance help the poor?

Questions have been posed recently about the appropriateness of microfinance as a means of helping the poor. In order to improve the availability of properly researched information on the issue, the Rockwool Foundation is conducting a project specifically designed to assess the impact of a popular microfinance model that focuses on local capital and savings.
There are bright colours everywhere at the market in the small village of Mchekacheka. Women wearing blue, orange or green sarongs are selling fresh tomatoes, sweet bananas and dried fish. They haggle loudly over the prices with their customers, hoping to earn enough to feed their families for the day.

Right behind the market, around twenty women of all ages are sitting in a circle under a baobab tree, trying to escape the heat of the sun. Their matching sarongs reveal that they are not a random group of strangers. These women have joined together in a group to form a small village bank as part of a Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) scheme. Their group is one of those funded by the Rockwool Foundation. Beside financial support, the groups receive training in how to run a bank and create their own statutes. The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit is currently carrying out a large-scale quantitative evaluation of the effects of the intervention.

To save, to borrow, to succeed

Among the women is 51-year-old Queen. Her rough hands tell the story of a life of struggle to make ends meet. She looks firmly at the crowd. Her name is fitting, as Queen is the elected chair of the small village bank. She calls for order and the meeting starts.

A metal box with three locks is placed in the middle of the circle. Three women, each carrying a key, open the box. Now savings can be deposited, loans repaid, and new loans granted. When the group first started up, the price of a share was 50 Malawi Kwacha (MWK) (around DKK 1.50). Now the price is MWK 100. “This is a sign that our village bank is a success. Now we are able to put bigger amounts aside,” one of the women concludes proudly.

A more general sign of success is the growing demand. More people want to join the existing village banks, and new ones are opening up in the area. During the course of the project, the local implementing NGO, Synod, has trained ‘Village Agents’ – typically current VSLA members who are highly respected in the local community. When there is a local demand for a new VSLA group, interested villagers can then approach the village agent and for a small fee have him or her assist them in establishing a new VSLA. In this way there is a built-in spreading mechanism in the model.

The group in Mchekacheka has also noticed the increased attention from their fellow villagers. “After we shared out the interest we had earned on our savings, some started up small businesses, others bought livestock and others made house repairs. The benefits of the group became visible to the whole village – and then everybody wanted to join,” one of the members explains.

Usually the groups consist of a maximum of 25 members. The groups pay out the interest earned every nine to twelve months to their members.
A nose for business

After the first share-out, Queen had MWK 5,000 in her hands. In Malawi, that amount would buy a large goat, but Queen chose to start up a small business. And instead of selling tomatoes, bananas or fish like the women at the market, Queen bought fertiliser. Not for her own use, but to trade with farmers.

In this way, Queen earned enough to cover the cost of starting up the business, and she was even able to add to her savings. Afterwards, Queen decided to take advantage of the low interest rate in the VSLA and borrow MWK 10,000 to expand her business. Again, the investment was a success, and paying back the loan was no problem for her.

Queen dreams of earning enough money to build a new house of brick and cement with a corrugated iron roof, so she will be able to provide shelter for her three children during the rainy season. She has no doubt about what the effects of the project have been for her. “I have been given an opportunity to build a better life for myself and my family,” she explains, and the same is true for the majority of the participants in the VSLA project.

Queen continues, “After we shared out the interest we had earned on our savings, some started up small businesses, some bought livestock, and others made house repairs. The benefits of the group became visible to the whole village – and then everybody wanted to join in.”

The indications from the impact assessment by the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit that is currently under way are that many of the VSLA members have experienced positive financial or social effects from joining the project. The future work of the Research Unit will show whether this positive effect can be objectively verified.

More than just finances

The opportunity to save and earn interest was the main reason for the women in Mchekacheka to join the VSLA project. However, being part of a social network was also an important factor.

Falida, a 52-year-old widow with four children, is particularly pleased that the group has provided her with new friendships and a sense of security. “The project is not just about building a village bank or a VSLA. It is a social project, too: we share
The Groups

63 groups have completed the training and are now self-sustaining.

36 groups are currently being trained.

Currently there are 1,783 members in the 99 groups.

74% of the members are female. 21 of the groups consist entirely of women.

In total, the 99 groups currently hold MWK 9.5 million in savings (approximately USD 104,000).

The total equity of the 99 groups is MWK 13.8 million (approximately USD 151,000).

86% of the members of the scheme state they have experienced positive effects, either financial or social, from participating in the VSLA. Fewer than 1% feel there have been negative effects for them.

The project works through self-selected groups of 10-25 members.

- The groups receive training in managing their funds, drawing up a constitution and electing a board.
- The groups receive a cash box with three padlocks.
- The members meet every week to put in savings or to borrow from the common pool of funds.
- The members save by buying ‘shares’ in the VSLA.
- The members decide on the price of a share, the interest rate to be charged, the maturity dates of loans and the length of each operating cycle.
- When a cycle is complete, the members receive their savings along with their shares of the interest earned on the loans.

All’s well that ends well

As the meeting nears its end, with the serious business out of the way, there is time for a bit of fun.

“When are you supposed to ask your husband for money?” one of the young members asks loudly.

“Never ask before you go to the market. But always just before you go to bed,” one of the elderly women answers, and the crowd shares a hearty laugh.

The sun is about to go down behind the mud houses in Mchekacheke. The members of the group get up. They have to get back to their homes before nightfall, as there is no electricity in this area. But before they leave, they dance to show their gratitude for being part of the group. They wave their hips and arms and sing “Yewo, yewo, yewo” or in English: “Thanks, thanks, thanks.”
Can policy-makers in Norway learn from Denmark’s experience with immigration policy?

Research Director Torben Tranæs was one of the keynote speakers at the 2011 annual conference of the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise (NHO).
Are the ever-better welfare provisions in Norway financially sustainable? That was the theme of the 2011 annual conference of the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise (NHO), held on 5 January. The question was seen as especially relevant in light of the increased level of immigration and of the growing proportion of the elderly in the population in Norway, and of the generally high level of social welfare payments and incomes. Torben Tranæs, Research Director at the Rockwool Foundation Research unit, was one of the keynote speakers at the conference. There, he set out Danish experiences with immigration policies for Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg (Norwegian Labour Party) and 1,300 other participants.

A history of failed integration

In his review of Danish immigration policies since the beginning of the 1970s, Torben Tranæs claimed that to a considerable extent the story was one of failure in integration, failure which was in part the result of political decisions. However, experience also showed that making changes in immigration policy can turn around negative trends to achieve better labour market integration and subsequently an improvement in public finances.

In 1973, the Danish Parliament halted immigration of labour from non-EU countries, while in the 1980s this was followed by laws signalling liberal regulations for entry to the country for refugees and for members of the families of immigrants. This changed the balance of immigration from non-Western countries, so that unprecedented numbers of immigrants came to Denmark for reasons not connected with employment. Around the middle of the 1990s, the level of employment among non-Western immigrants was particularly low; in 1996 only one person in three of this group was in work, and even the most productive of immigrants aged 30-40 remained net recipients of money and services from the public sector. At the same time, the proportion of non-Western immigrants in the Danish population had risen sharply, from 1.5% in 1985 to 6% in 2005.

Changes in Danish immigration policy

Large sections of the population and of the political parties started to realise that there had to be a change in Danish immigration policy that would achieve a better balance in immigration to Denmark, with more people coming to the country for purposes of employment rather than as refugees or for family reunification. Around the turn of the millennium and in the years that followed, a number of changes were made in immigration policy that made it more difficult for people to enter the country as asylum-seekers or on grounds of family reunification, while at the same time it became easier to obtain a residence permit for the purposes of employment or education.

The result has been a structural change in immigration to Denmark, so that today more than 80% of residence permits are issued for work or study. At the same time, there has been a significant improvement in the level of employment among non-Western immigrants, reducing pressure on public resources.

What about Norway?

At the end of his presentation, Torben Tranæs suggested that there was also a need for a change in immigration policy in Norway. Over the past ten years, there has been no sign of any structural improvement in the level of employment among non-Western immigrants, which remains far too low for any balance to be achieved with respect to contributions to and demands upon public funds. Financially, then, the current situation is not sustainable, unless of course Norway is willing to use some of its oil wealth for this purpose.
The Healthy Schools Network puts health on the agenda

The Healthy Schools Network is one of the Rockwool Foundation’s largest-scale interventions. From the outset, the aim has been to help students in Danish primary/lower secondary schools to become aware of their own state of health through annual physical measurements. Pilehave School in Vallensbæk has been involved in the project since 2009, and has found that membership of the Healthy Schools Network has resulted in a stronger focus on health, paving the way for improved levels of fitness among the students.

> Pilehave School (Pilehaveskolen) in Vallensbæk, Denmark, buzzes with activity. Over the past two years, through its participation in the Healthy Schools Network, the school has really put health on the agenda. The first step was to set up a Health Committee, which has since initiated a whole series of exciting health-promoting projects both in class and outside lessons. According to Majbrit Keinicke, the teacher responsible for health at the school, participation in the Healthy Schools Network has made a noticeable difference.
The students’ results reflect very clearly the high priority that we give to health at our school. We have taken measurements of our students in both the years that we have participated in the Healthy Schools Network, and around 90% of them have had waist and fitness measurements at the better end of the scale. We regard this as an amazingly successful result that presents a clear picture of active children who enjoy keeping fit,” says Majbrit Keinicke.

Parents are involved
At Pilehave School, it is the physical education and biology teachers who have the main responsibility for the practical aspects of the programme. They present the measuring methods in their teaching, and draw on the results in individual meetings with the students and their parents, if needed, where they set specific goals for each student.

“As we see it, the measurements should not simply be an end in themselves. If we are to change the students’ attitudes to health and fitness, then it is essential to involve both them and their parents. Only in this way can we target the children facing the greatest health challenges. We talk to the students about the measurements, and use the results from the Healthy Schools Network as the basis for a discussion with the parents, if they wish it, and if there is a need for it,” explains Majbrit Keinicke.

Input according to need
The school has many separate exercise and fitness options that are offered to students according to individual needs. Various options have been designed for specific classes, year groups and genders, and according to Majbrit Keinicke this is a factor that really helps to make a difference.

“For example, we offer motor training to children in the introductory classes if they have motor difficulties that inhibit

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**Programme area**
Health Intervention

**Starting date for project**
2008

**Location**
Denmark

**FIRST**
The Healthy Schools Network was initiated in 2008 as a project within the programme area ‘Health Interventions’. The aim is to improve the state of health of Danish children through a focus on information and activities in primary/lower secondary schools, with regular health measurements being conducted both to create an awareness of fitness among school students and for use in evaluating the health of children in Denmark. Teachers, school heads, and representatives of Danish municipalities sit on the Network Board. Expert researchers act as advisors.

**NOW**
The project supports initiatives designed to promote sustained improvements to children’s health and fitness, leading to a better quality of life. At the end of 2011, almost 200 Danish schools and around 80,000 pupils were participating in the Healthy Schools Network. The measurements that the schools make once a year are height, weight, waist measurement, vertical jump measurement, fitness rating and step counting. Measurements are available online at www.sundskolenettet.dk, but an individual’s data can only be viewed by the student concerned and his/her parents. All other data are shown anonymously.

**NEXT**
The project will be evaluated both quantitatively and qualitatively during 2012 and 2013 by the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit working in collaboration with external experts from the University of Southern Denmark.
their play, movements or everyday activities. A number of studies have shown that children with difficulties in this area are less active than children with good motor skills, so it is important to initiate motor testing and training in the youngest classes. Consequently, we have been offering motor training for some years, and we have found that it definitely pays to focus on areas where there is a specific need,” explains Majbrit Keinicke.

The students have a say
Pilehave School has met all the criteria for financial support from the Rockwool Foundation. The school and its staff have made all their results available for sharing on the Healthy Schools Network website, they have set up a Health Committee, they have carried out additional measurements to check the validity of the first ones, and they have produced a comprehensive annual report. It was the students themselves who decided that the funds the school received from the Healthy Schools Network should be used to set up an exercise café. The café features table tennis tables, punch-bags, table football, air hockey and Kinect for Xbox. The space is used during breaks and also in lessons, when the activities have an educational slant. Majbrit Keinicke is convinced that the students’ participation in the decision-making process is the reason that the café is so well used and is always left neat and tidy.

“It is a real pleasure to see how our participation in the Healthy Schools Network has meant that the older students now make active use of the facilities in the exercise café; previously, we had noticed that students tended to become less active during breaks as they got older. The fact that they were involved in deciding how the money from the Rockwool Foundation should be used has clearly been a motivating factor,” she says.

A broader perspective on health
During the past year, the Healthy Schools Network has begun to focus on mental health at two pilot schools in an effort to promote a broader view of good health. The idea is to supplement the physical dimension of health, i.e. the area on which the Healthy Schools Network initially focused, with efforts to improve mental health. The aim of the project is to enable students to achieve a stronger sense of self-esteem, and to nurture their ability to trust others, so that they can participate in healthy relationships with other people and thus experience a greater sense of emotional and social well-being. Since many schools lack both the necessary knowledge and the specific tools needed to work with mental health and well-being, the development work on teaching being undertaken by the Healthy Schools Network will be used as the basis for preparing a manual that schools can draw on as inspiration when they want to begin to focus on their students’ mental health. At Pilehave School, work is already in progress on improving health in its broadest sense, and consequently both the Behaviour Support (Adfærd, Kontakt og Trivsel) teacher and the school nurse are members of the school’s Health Committee.

“We are in the process of further developing our policies on well-being, and we have an established series of activities related to mental health that we run in classes to ensure that students are thriving. We believe that mental well-being is as important as the physiological aspect of health. The school nurse carries out health checks on the students throughout their time at school, and the Behaviour Support teacher talks to students about their well-being and social relationships in order to ensure that not only are the students able to jump and run, but also that they are settled mentally and socially,” says Majbrit Keinicke.

She continues, “We find that because of our ongoing focus on health and measurements as part of the Healthy Schools Network programme, our students are very much aware of the things that matter for a healthy lifestyle. We see a positive spiral of influences, where one thing strengthens another. The students inspire one another, and so the health-promoting activities in the school spread like ripples on a pond.”

Majbrit Keinicke is the teacher responsible for health at Pilehave School.
Over the past 20 to 30 years, the proportions of both overweight and obese children in the population have increased in Denmark. If a person is overweight as a child, there is an increased risk that he or she will also have weight problems as an adult. This in turn increases the risk of developing lifestyle-related illness, as well as often leading to low self-esteem and poor perceived quality of life.

This is one of the reasons that the Rockwool Foundation launched an initiative in 2011 in cooperation with Professor Bente Klarlund Pedersen, MD, of Rigshospitalet, the Copenhagen University Hospital, to make a scientific evaluation of a programme which is specifically targeted at children in Denmark with the greatest health problems, and at their families. The Fit for Kids organisation is behind a structured, targeted initiative that is aimed at the whole family and involves exercise, dietary advice and coaching. The Fit for Kids concept is now to be validated and evaluated by the Rockwool Foundation in order to assess its suitability for use in the longer term and on a larger scale in the battle with overweight, obesity and physical inactivity that is being fought in schools and local authorities through the Healthy Schools Network.

In 2008 the Rockwool Foundation launched the Healthy Schools Network, with the aim of improving the health and quality of life of students in Danish primary/lower secondary schools. Not surprisingly, it proved particularly challenging to influence children who were overweight and inactive. Consequently, in 2011 the Rockwool Foundation began working with Professor Bente Klarlund Pedersen, MD, and the ‘Fit for Kids’ organisation to provide more directly-targeted help for the children with the greatest health-related problems.
FIRST
The pilot project ‘Fit of Kids’ was initiated in 2011, with the practical intervention beginning in January 2012 and scheduled to finish in July 2013.

The aim of the project is to evaluate an existing multi-faceted programme for overweight children and their families in Denmark, and specifically:
- to explore how the intervention can be used via Danish municipal authorities to provide help for the 20% of families that face the greatest lifestyle problems with respect to health
- to contribute to knowledge of the effects of physical activity and altered diet on the metabolic, inflammatory and hormonal responses of pre-pubescent children
- to study any relationship between biological markers and risk factors for the development of diabetes and heart disease
- to monitor blood sugar levels regularly and examine the effects of glucose levels on cognitive functions and quality of life.

NOW
The 80 children who are to participate in the project are residents of the municipality of Høje Taastrup, which lies 25 km west of Copenhagen, and they have been recruited through the Healthy Schools Network. They are aged between seven and ten years, and have BMI measurements above the 90th percentile for the population (i.e. they are seriously overweight).

The practical element of the intervention will be carried out by Fit for Kids at schools in Høje Taastrup. The practical intervention will last for a period of 40 weeks and consist of:
- two physical training sessions per week, with parents encouraged to participate in one of these
- family guidance with individual diet plans and cooking evenings
- coaching for individual families.

The clinical testing and the analysis of the children’s state of health will be carried out by the Centre for Inflammation and Metabolism (CIM) at Rigshospitalet under the direction of Professor Bente Klarlund Pedersen, MD, and Dr Nina Birk Erkens, supported by Professor Lars Bo Andersen, MD, of the University of Southern Denmark.

NEXT
The project will be evaluated quantitatively and qualitatively by the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit and by external experts, with the intention of being able to offer the programme to other municipalities and schools in the Healthy Schools Network.
We have never been scientifically evaluated, but we know from long experience that the children in our programme, first and foremost, lose weight. They also seem happier, and appear to have more self-confidence and greater self-esteem. Parents report fewer conflicts in the home, the children appear better able to concentrate at school, and they seem increasingly keen to change their lifestyles and maintain their weight reduction,” reports Tina Thomsen.

She goes on, “For me, seeing these changes in children is what keeps me going, and convinces me that I’m making a difference, because I’m giving both the children and their parents new habits and a new start in life. The programme is long and demanding; we know that a short input has no effect in the long term. The new habits have to have time to become established, so that the children and their parents can no longer think of living in any other way. Our goal is for the new, healthy habits to become a natural part of their lives by the end of the 40-week programme.”

The first study of its kind
Professor Bente Klarlund Pedersen is very much looking forward to evaluating the project, because no previous academic research has been carried out into the effectiveness of interventions of this type.

“The project is quite unique, in that it is individually tailored to each family participating, and in that the parents are involved to an extent which has not been seen before. My expectation is that the final measurements will show that the children exhibit both improved metabolisms and greater self-confidence,” she says.

“It is very difficult to find ways of helping children with major weight problems. It is therefore extremely important that the Fit for Kids concept is scientifically evaluated and validated, so that it is possible to spread the idea and start to make a difference for overweight children elsewhere in Denmark,” concludes Bente Klarlund Pedersen.

A new start in life
At Fit for Kids, the instructors are in no doubt that their efforts are effective, since they see huge changes in the children as the programme progresses.
Denmark’s balance of qualifications

The book *Danmarks Kvalifikationsbalance* (Denmark’s balance of qualifications) has provided for the first time an accounting balance for the exchange of labour with foreign countries. Does more qualified labour go out of Denmark through exports and emigration, or does more come in from abroad via imports and immigration?

The book *Danmarks Kvalifikationsbalance* was written by Professors Nikolaj Malchow-Møller, Jakob Roland Munch and Jan Rose Skaksen, and was launched at a press conference in November. Four commentators gave their views on the book at the press conference. In addition to the researchers themselves, the panel comprised Benny Engelbrecht, Spokesperson on Trade and Industry for the Danish Social Democrats; Kim Andersen, Spokesperson on Trade and Industry for Venstre, the Liberal Party of Denmark; Kent Damsgaard, Director of Business at the Confederation of Danish Industry; and Lars Andersen, Managing Director at the Economic Council of the Labour Movement.

Do the two sides balance?
The book shows that Denmark made a net ‘saving’ of 115,000 FTEs (Full Time Equivalents) through foreign trade in 2007. In other words, 115,000 more working years went into producing the goods and services that Denmark imported than were spent on producing exports. Furthermore, Denmark had a positive balance of trade in 2007, so the labour imported was not paid for by borrowing. Back in 1980, in contrast, Denmark spent 28,000 FTEs more in producing exports than it saved through imports.

There was also a net gain in labour through migration, though this was overwhelmingly due to the immigration of unskilled labour. However, the analyses showed that there was no overall ‘brain-drain’ from Denmark. At the end of the period examined, there was an approximate balance between the number of immigrants with higher education qualifications...
and the number of emigrants with an equivalent level of education. This counteracts some widespread myths about highly-educated Danes leaving the country because of the high taxes, while well-qualified foreigners choose not to come to Denmark because of the country’s immigration policies and anti-immigrant comments in the media.

**The labour force ‘in stock’**

The calculations in the book also make it possible to see how long Denmark’s supply of labour will last. For how many years could Denmark maintain its current level of production with the labour force that exists today, i.e. without new immigration and without more young people entering the labour market? This topic is becoming increasingly relevant given the demographic changes of recent years, with an increasing proportion of elderly people in the population. The analyses show that Denmark’s ‘stock’ of labour is shrinking. In 1980, there were enough people available to maintain that year’s level of production for a further 30 years; by 2007, the figure had dropped to 25 years. The greatest falls had taken place in skilled labour and in the number of people with short and medium-length courses in further education.

The reasons for this decline are primarily to be found in the ageing of the population, and the decrease could in part be offset by means of labour market reforms aimed at raising the age of retirement.

In any event, the book concludes, there will need to be relatively large changes in the use of labour within industry, in particular manufacturing industry, and within the public sector.

**Exports produce greater efficiency**

The book documents how production for export has accounted for a growing proportion of the Danish economy...
over the past 30 years. However, it has not been necessary to increase the workforce to the same extent, because there has been a considerable increase in productivity per hour worked. The authors point out that one reason for this is that firms in Denmark have quite simply been better at utilising the number of employees that they have when they are producing for export.

In 1980, 21% of Denmark’s production of goods and services went for export. Similarly, 21% of the country’s labour was used in the production of exports. Subsequently, however, the picture changed considerably. By 2007, exports accounted for 37% of Denmark’s production; the proportion of the country’s production that went for export had thus almost doubled in the space of three decades. However, the proportion of labour that was used in creating exports had not risen by an equivalent amount, but had increased only from 21% to 25% over the same period.

One possible explanation for the increasing productivity of the export sector is that it now employs more people with a high level of education than previously. The export market has thus become increasingly important for the employment of people with further education. In 1980, the export sector employed 17% of Danes who had taken a short course of further education, while 12% of this group found employment in the export sector in 1980, the figure was 23% in 2007.

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<td>FTEs, thousands</td>
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<td>2000</td>
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<td>2007</td>
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Note: There is a degree of uncertainty associated with the figures for 2007, because the information available about education is incomplete. FTE = Full Time Equivalent (the amount of work done by one person employed full-time for one year).

Source: Danmarks Kvalifikationsbalance (Denmark’s Balance of Qualifications)

In order to ensure the existence of an adequate workforce, it is also necessary that Denmark be welcoming to immigration, claimed Benny Engelbrecht. Opportunities for recruiting labour abroad should be improved, as should the facilities provided for settling the families of foreign workers.

Kim Andersen (Venstre) thought that the book showed that necessary progress had been made over the years that would help ensure a share for Denmark in the international distribution of work. Milestones on this road had included the reform of the early retirement system and the agreement between the political parties in 2006 concerning the welfare system.

It was also good to have confirmation that the massive effort that Denmark is making in the field of education is indeed necessary. It is particularly important to increase the number of younger people in upper secondary level education, and to make efforts to ensure that they get through the education system quickly and out into the labour market. He also pointed out that there is a significant reserve pool of labour very close by, in Sweden and in Germany. More use should be made of this, and in this connection it would be helpful to have better statistics on international commuting.

Kent Damsgaard of the Confederation of Danish Industry found it particularly interesting that Denmark’s ’stock’ of competencies had been presented in a new manner in relation to the globalised world. He drew the conclusion from the book that exports help to finance the Danish welfare society, and...
that the labour force stock is too small. Denmark needs to be able to attract more qualified labour. Since qualified foreign labour also increases the productivity of companies, it should be an area of special political effort to attract additional well-educated people from abroad.

Highly educated people, working together with skilled workers, are able to produce products that customers on the world market are prepared to pay well for. There is a tendency to regard training in skilled trades as less important, but skilled workers are essential to manufacturing industry, and young people should be encouraged to take up training in skilled trades.

Lars Andersen of the Economic Council of the Labour Movement noted a huge benefit from globalisation. The most routine and repetitive types of job will disappear in Denmark, and this will represent a significant advantage from a welfare point of view. Policies concerning economic growth and education are particularly important for ensuring that low-grade jobs are replaced by more skilled ones in Denmark, said Lars Andersen. In this context, it is a problem that the level of education among young people seems to have stagnated. A split is appearing in Denmark, with on the one hand knowledge-rich centres in Copenhagen and Eastern Jutland, and dynamic industrial areas in Central and Western Jutland, and on the other hand stagnation and a population decline in the rest of the country.

Lars Andersen stressed the importance of skilled labour. The skilled are a source of much innovation, and politicians should improve the opportunities available for skilled workers to continue their education and training. Denmark also faces a great challenge with respect to further education. It is not a question of providing a sprinkling of courses here and there, but of lifting the general level of education in a way that would provide formal qualifications.

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**Net import of labour (FTEs) via international trade, 1980 and 2007**

FTEs, thousands

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<td>FTEs, thousands</td>
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Source: Danmarks kvalifikationsbalance (Denmark’s balance of qualifications)
Cooperation between donors in the West and the NGOs they support in developing countries is often rather sporadic and distant in character. In contrast, the Rockwool Foundation has been engaged in recent years in a close partnership with a dedicated and innovative organisation in Zambia. The result: a help-to-self-help model for empowering the most vulnerable.
The large community centre building is humming with anticipation. Hundreds of plastic chairs arranged in straight rows are occupied by local people, most of whom have come dressed in their best for the occasion. Some are elderly, some are young mothers. Most of them are women. These residents of the local rural area of Kafulafuta near Ndola in Zambia have come along today because the Lifeline in Zambia organisation has summoned them to make them an unusual proposition: to give them the opportunity to volunteer to give help to the weakest members of their community several times each week. Being a volunteer can entail walking for hours to reach poor, AIDS-affected households and teaching these households how to improve their health, educational level and livelihood. The only reward that the volunteers will receive in exchange is knowledge – knowledge that will help them to improve the lives of their own families as well.

A holistic project
In a country where up to 70% of the rural population lives below the national poverty line, and where the main pre-
occupation for many of the inhabitants is simply surviving from day to day, it is difficult to persuade people to take an interest in an offer of knowledge alone. It is even more difficult for an organisation to attract interest in such an offer in a region where other aid agencies tend to hand out cash or gifts of other kinds to the poor. Indeed, many of the participants gathering at the Lifeline mobilisation event are almost certainly also hoping to get something concrete out of showing up. Not necessarily money or food, but rather, as one middle-aged female participant expresses it, ‘inputs’, which in this case might be fertiliser for their small household fields. Like many of the participants at the meeting, this sturdy woman, whose household includes several grandchildren and a daughter infected with HIV, is used to taking care of her family; but she is finding it difficult to enable them to rise above the level of bare survival.

Lifeline specialises in helping rural communities of small farmers: not by means of handouts, but by teaching villagers the skills they need to create better lives for themselves. Lifeline has over time developed a holistic project model which aims at raising the health levels of the most vulnerable households affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, while at the same time promoting children’s education and household food security through knowledge-sharing. The volunteers will be trained in a range of life-improving skills, which they will each pass on by giving regular advice to five vulnerable households assigned to them.

The hope is that by the end of this meeting, many of the participants will have come to terms with the fact that they will not get paid for their efforts. Instead, they will be able to use the knowledge they receive to change their own lives as well as those of others, and these improvements are more valuable than any gift of food or money.

A matter of faith
At the community centre, Christopher Kapembwa, an agricultural expert working for Lifeline, leads the participants in a passionate prayer. The Lifeline organisation makes no attempt to play down its Christian character. Faith is the basis of the motivation of most of the organisation’s employees for helping the poor. In a country where Christianity plays a prominent role in public life, faith is also one of the most powerful forces for social cohesion, and thereby also for social development.

The problem is that there are many Christian denominations and different churches present in the countryside of Zambia, and therefore divisions exist between different groups. In order to reach them all, it is essential to get the different churches to cooperate – and here Lifeline has shown its ability to penetrate poor, rural societies, to mobilise volunteers, and to create trust among the population, thus encouraging participation and engagement in the project.

Beyond the helping hand
When Lifeline was started, its activities were exclusively focused on aiding Zambians suffering from HIV/AIDS, which at the time often meant helping the terminally ill pass away with dignity. Later, the organisation also started targeting orphaned children whose parents had died from AIDS. However, Lifeline has developed further in recent years, and the deep spiritual motivation of its members has now been underpinned by a more professional and holistic view of social development.

After the Rockwool Foundation began supporting the organisation, it became clear that an overriding obstacle to helping the vulnerable households was a shortage of food; without food, the sick would not get better, and the children would not be able to concentrate in school. In fact, children in poor and HIV/AIDS-affected households are often deliberately kept out of school to work in the fields. The low yields obtained from household farming necessitate that all members of the family contribute their labour. The low incomes provided by inefficient farming also mean that parents can afford neither medicine nor their children’s school expenses. Lifeline and the Rockwool Foundation therefore planned a way to integrate food security into their activities. This cooperation has also resulted in an increased focus on long-term strategies and on helping households to achieve sustainable improvements.

Knowledge to reverse poverty
For the small-scale farmers gathered at the Lifeline mobilisation event, improving their livelihoods is deeply dependent on the success of their farms. Another grandmother at the meeting explains that even in good years, their household lives in relative poverty, getting by on a skimpy diet made up primarily of maize porridge. If she uses traditional farming techniques, the amount of fertiliser she can buy at a reduced price through the government will only be enough for half of her fields, and so she cannot produce enough crops to feed the family.

Lifeline introduces the farmers to a number of effective farming techniques that can make a big difference to individual households. These include techniques for how and when to apply fertiliser optimally, so that only half the amount is needed; how to plant certain trees and crops that will improve soil fertility; how to rear rabbits for protein; and how to grow Moringa trees, the edible leaves of which can provide vitamins in the diet. This part of the project represents much of Lifeline’s current strategic focus: empowering the poorest and most vulnerable people in the countryside to take care of themselves.
The potential benefits of this kind of ‘conservation farming’ are well-known among experts, but its success relies on how well it is introduced and implemented in poor households. Preliminary yield data and testimony from individual farmers already indicate that Lifeline project farmers obtain better yields, but systematic data collection is required to confirm such improvement.

Empowering the NGO
An important aspect of the Rockwool Foundation’s support is to help build up the capacity of the Lifeline organisation. Lifeline has realised that promoting lasting development is not an easy task, especially in areas where the ‘donor syndrome’ of becoming dependent on external aid is widespread. Previously, the organisation focused primarily on helping families and communities by addressing their immediate needs, but it was realised that these needs will never be completely met unless the aid provided is based on the help-to-self-help principle.

In the collaboration with the Rockwool Foundation, Lifeline is now trialling methods of ensuring that projects are locally led, of developing a sense of ownership of the projects among local people, and of promoting the full integration into people’s lives of the sound practices introduced through the project. In one of the Rockwool-supported areas, the 150 households participating in a Lifeline project that is reaching its end-point are being formed into an independent community-based organisation that has its own by-laws and process for electing a leadership. The organisation has already achieved good results with establishing a revolving fund, where farmers receive fertiliser at the time they need it for their fields. They pay for the fertiliser in kind from their crops when these are harvested, enabling more fertiliser to be purchased and other farmers to receive assistance in the following year. This scheme will be further extended and developed in the next phase.

Achieving progress together
The Kafulafuta area has been designated as one of the possible future Lifeline project areas to be supported by the Rockwool Foundation, and, if the area is selected, the potential volunteers who showed up at the mobilisation event will form the backbone of the attempt to create lasting improvements in the community. Using the experiences gained in earlier projects, the volunteers will be well-equipped to assist households in getting proper medical treatment, to promote the value of education, and to create Farmer Field Schools for the local farmers to learn how to produce even better yields.

But an equally important objective is to help develop Lifeline’s capacity to be an agent of social change. The Rockwool Foundation will evaluate the project and provide suggestions for improvements to it on an ongoing basis. This form of partnership will be a key factor in creating an efficient model for social capacity building and poverty alleviation – a model which will hopefully also be relevant for other areas where vulnerable families need just the right form of help to pull themselves out of poverty.
A new perspective for Danish schools

Mayor Michael Ziegler and Team Leader Willy Dahl explain to the Rockwool Foundation why they decided to invest resources and effort in helping to develop the Perspekt educational programme.
How can Danish state schools equip children to face the challenges of the future better? This is a question that has been taken up by the Rockwool Foundation, and one that is also naturally very important for the country’s municipal authorities, whose task it is to prepare the next generation of Danes to face the challenges of the future – and that with limited resources at their disposal.

The municipality of Høje Taastrup, 25 km west of Copenhagen, is determined to develop new initiatives that will raise the level of achievement of pupils in the municipality’s primary and lower secondary schools. One of these new initiatives is Perspekt, an educational programme that the municipality has helped to develop over the past few years in collaboration with the Rockwool Foundation.

Perspekt is a pilot project that focuses on developing students’ social and personal competencies, including their abilities to reflect on their own feelings, to distinguish between facts and opinions, and to resolve conflicts in a constructive manner. The programme is based on the premise that these are key competencies for both social and academic aspects of school life.

New solutions are necessary
Mayor Michael Ziegler (Conservative) has no doubt that new initiatives are needed in primary/lower secondary schools. For Høje Taastrup, the status quo is quite simply not good enough as far as academic results are concerned.

“We are among the municipalities in Denmark that have spent most money on our primary and lower secondary schools, but the results we have achieved do not reflect this. In fact, we find ourselves in the lower end of the league tables of academic results among local authorities in Denmark. So we are now working hard to discover how we can improve our schools.”

The position of Høje Taastrup is complicated by the fact that it probably faces more social challenges among its population than the average Danish municipality, and this is reflected in its school results. The municipal authority therefore gives high priority to identifying ways of raising standards among those of its school students that have the greatest difficulty.

“If we don’t succeed in resolving some of our social issues, we will be forced to spend money elsewhere. If we can’t increase the number of school students who gain entry to the upper secondary level of education, there will be more people who can’t get jobs, and more people who end up going astray,” Michael Ziegler explains.

A good tool
For the past two years, the municipality of Høje Taastrup has been involved in piloting the Perspekt programme in the year 3 and year 4 classes at two of its schools; the results so far have been promising. Michael Ziegler is in no doubt about the advantages of the new educational programme.

“In general terms, we have been looking to see how we can raise the standards in our primary and lower secondary schools, and Perspekt is a very good tool in this context. In my opinion, a necessary prerequisite for learning anything is that students have the right social competencies for proper behaviour – there must be order in the classroom, and rules that are followed. If these fundamentals are lacking, then everything else falls apart. So Perspekt offers a promising approach to raising our standards.”
The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit has recently carried out an evaluation of experiences with Perspekt since development of the programme began in 2007. The evaluation confirmed the potential value of the project. Participating teachers were unanimous in reporting a positive effect on the classroom environment: there were fewer conflicts and a greater degree of calm, students exhibited more empathy and independence, and they were able to achieve a higher level of abstraction in their thinking. Some teachers even said that it was the best educational programme they had ever encountered.

An innovative municipality

The evaluation of Perspekt was based on only a small number of classes and students, making it difficult to produce statistically reliable results concerning the effects of the programme. Therefore it is unlikely that all municipalities in Denmark would have been willing to expend the required time and resources on testing and developing such a relatively new idea – but Høje Taastrup sees it as part of its municipal identity to be a little ‘ahead of the game’.

“We have decided that we want to be innovative and willing to take risks, and that is what we are doing in this case. We don’t always know for sure that a new approach will work, but we are ready to try things out. If we are going to make a difference in our schools, then we have to dare to try out new ideas, knowing that some will produce results and others will not,” says Michael Ziegler.

“The reports suggest that the programme produces clear improvements in social competencies. And that fits in well with what we hear from our teachers. The students are also very pleased with the programme. We want students to leave our lower secondary schools not only having acquired some academic skills, but as rounded human beings as well,” concludes Michael Ziegler.

Especially relevant for students with difficulties

In another corner of Høje Taastrup town hall sits Willy Dahl. He is the team leader for the municipality’s Centre for Schools and Institutions, and he controls the administrative levers that adjust the local schools policy. He has been a driving force behind the collaboration on Perspekt, and he sees the programme as a completely natural addition to the school timetable.

“As a former teacher, I know that what’s most important is maintaining a good atmosphere at a school – then the academic results will probably improve as well. And in order to be ready to learn, students also need to know the rules of social interaction."

One reason that the new educational initiative has gone down well in the classroom is that the programme does a great deal to activate students. They are encouraged and challenged to reflect upon topics that are not normally talked about explicitly – for example, about the consequences of various actions that might occur in the course of a normal school day. Quieter students also have the opportunity to join in, and group-based exercises increase each child’s awareness of the choices and actions that might be relevant in various social situations.

“The great and special thing about Perspekt is that it gets right down to influencing the students themselves. The other
**Perspekt in brief**

The *Perspekt* project is part of the Rockwool Foundation’s effort to contribute to the creation of new knowledge and practical solutions related to improving school outcomes for the most disadvantaged children.

- *Perspekt* programme functions at school-class level to improve student performance and promote well-being through the development of personal and social competencies.

- ‘Perspekt’ is a combination of the Danish words for perspective and respect.

- The competencies in which training is given include the abilities to reflect upon one’s own feelings, to distinguish between fact and opinion, and to resolve conflicts in a constructive manner. The programme has a fixed structure that involves a high level of participation by the students through both role play and group exercises.

**Evaluating *Perspekt***

In 2011 the Rockwool Foundation began cooperation with researchers from the Danish School of Education, Aarhus University (DPU) to evaluate the potential of the project. The results were promising:

- Teachers reported noticeable improvements in the classroom: both students and the classroom environment exhibited positive effects. There were fewer conflicts, and the classroom atmosphere was calmer. Students displayed more empathy and independence, and were able to work at a greater level of abstraction.

- Teachers were generally of the opinion that *Perspekt* is a unique and much-needed educational tool that meets the goals of Danish primary/lower secondary schooling and promotes the all-round development of students.

- Teachers reported very positive feedback from students, some of whom said that they even made use of the techniques outside school, for example in resolving conflicts at home.

programmes available to us are more concerned with the school environment,” explains Willy Dahl.

He believes that the focus on students’ social skills is especially relevant for students who are more socially disadvantaged or who have behavioural problems. Such students are relatively numerous in Høje Taastrup, a situation which often creates challenges for the teachers there.

**A partnership for building up knowledge**

The municipality of Høje Taastrup has now entered into an agreement with the Rockwool Foundation for continued collaboration with respect to *Perspekt*. In coming years, *Perspekt* courses will be included in the Year 1 class timetable. The aim of the project is now to collect information about how students are influenced by the courses, and about the specific outcomes from the programme. There will be a particular focus on developing teaching methodology that will succeed in reaching the most vulnerable children and those with greatest behavioural problems. Since Special Needs classes are gradually being discontinued in Denmark, ordinary school classes will have to include more vulnerable students in the years to come.

Willy Dahl also considers it very important to find out about the specific effects of new educational programmes.

“In Denmark, we lack basic research on what works in schools. We don’t really have any appropriate institutions for evaluating this kind of initiative – there is no real tradition in the country for this type of research. In the municipal authorities and the schools we are very concerned with finding evidence of what works and what does not, but there is nowhere we can really go to find that information.”

Like the mayor, he believes that despite the financial crises, it is always important for local authorities to invest in improving education – particularly given that Denmark has a stated national target of ensuring that 95% of schoolchildren progress to upper secondary level.

“We will continue to seek out new knowledge. In the future, innovation and education will be vital to our survival. And who knows, maybe *Perspekt* may end up being a Danish export,” Willy Dahl concludes.
Transatlantic inspiration on health care

The approach taken to health care differs considerably between Denmark and the United States. While American health systems are generally more costly than the Danish public system, one of their organisations outperforms Danish health care in several respects. The Rockwool Foundation conducted a comprehensive study in order to learn more about how this could be. The results were published in a book entitled Hvad kan det danske sundhedsvæsen lære af Kaiser Permanente? (What can the Danish health system learn from Kaiser Permanente?).

The California-based Kaiser Permanente health maintenance organisation (HMO) has long been of interest to Danish policy-makers in the public health sector. Kaiser Permanente not only provides health insurance to its 8.5 million members, but also has its own hospitals and its own general and specialist practitioners. It is widely recognised as performing exceptionally well in a number of areas, and especially in chronic care management. The quality of the public health services is a burning issue in the public debate in Denmark. Consequently, in 2006 the Rockwool Foundation initiated a comparative study of Kaiser Permanente and the Danish health system, to be carried out by a team of Danish and international researchers headed by Anne Frølich, MD, of the Department of Integrated Healthcare, Bispebjerg Hospital, Copenhagen. The researchers examined whether any of the systems and methods used by Kaiser Permanente could provide useful input for the Danish national health service policy. The researchers presented their findings in March 2011 at a press conference attended by then Minister of Health, Bertel Haarder (Venstre, the Danish Liberal Party) and by Sofie Hæstorp Andersen, Spokesperson on Health for the Social Democratic Party.

Chronic illnesses represent a major burden for the health care system

The research team focused on the treatment of patients with chronic disorders in the two different health systems. 1.5 million Danes suffer from chronic diseases such as type 2 diabetes, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and heart problems, and the number of these sufferers is rising as the population ages. At the same time, there is a lack of research-based knowledge about the quality of the treatment offered to chronically ill patients in Denmark. It is known that many instances of chronic disorders are never diagnosed.

At the presentation, Anne Frølich emphasised that one important area where Kaiser Permanente is demonstrably superior is in reducing patient hospitalisation: the average annual number of days spent in hospital per 1,000 inhabitants is 814 in Denmark, but only 270 among members of Kaiser Permanente. The number of emergency admissions to hospital is more than double in Denmark compared to Kaiser Permanente. Avoiding hospitalisation has several benefits in addition to the financial ones: patients often contract infections during stays in hospital, and generally they recover more slowly in hospital than at home.

One of the keys to avoiding hospitalisation is investment in preventative care and self-care. If patients are given the tools and support to manage their health care at home, treatment is not only less costly, but may also be more effective. The positive effects of Kaiser Permanente’s efforts in the area of self-care are especially evident in the hospitalisation rates for COPD, an illness which is frequent among smokers. More than three times as many COPD patients are hospitalised in Denmark than is the case for Kaiser Permanente members.

A question of management

Martin Strandberg-Larsen PhD, principal health economist at Novo Nordisk A/S, expanded on the description of Kaiser Permanente’s performance by explaining what exactly the organisation does differently. For one thing, they succeed in providing care focused on patients’ needs, which is especially important for chronically ill patients who require complex and lengthy treatment. The different elements of health care provision are more integrated at Kaiser Permanente, and it is therefore able to offer more coherent and better-coordinated treatment to its clients.

The research also demonstrated that one of the keys to the success of Kaiser Permanente seems to lie in the built-in economic incentives. These have been in use since the foundation
Danish system would make policy-makers wince: the cost per patient is 30-60% higher than in the Danish system. However, this should be viewed in relation to the cost level of other US health systems, which are on average twice as expensive as the Danish service. In other words, Kaiser Permanente has managed to contain costs within the context of an expensive health environment, while offering high quality health services. Jes Søgaard also emphasised that the achievements of Kaiser Permanente have been the result of multi-billion dollar investments in health IT systems. Such investments seem unlikely to be possible in Denmark. But still, the successes that Kaiser Permanente achieves in its chronic care management by focusing on self-care and integrated management make it relevant to look to that organisation for inspiration for possible changes to the Danish system.

A spirited debate
Both the politicians and the experts present at the press seminar were eager to participate in the ensuing discussions about what to make of the comparisons presented. Bertel Haarder pointed to a number of areas where the incumbent government was in the process of implementing measures resembling those used by Kaiser Permanente, such as increased resources for the chronically ill and the planning of a new electronic patient journal system. He especially emphasised the need to create more incentives in the Danish health care system to reduce the number of hospitalisations, a concept which had been integrated into the most recent collective bargaining process with Danish general practitioners.

Sofie Hæstorp Andersen agreed that the comparison was very useful, but also noted that Kaiser Permanente’s members are younger and more affluent than the general Danish population. She felt that the Danish healthcare system was run with too much emphasis on financial management, and too little on medical management. She also pointed to the role that Danish municipal authorities could have in improving the healthcare system, and suggested that the incumbent right-of-centre government had done too little in this regard.

More expensive, but cost-effective
In the final presentation the Director of the Danish Health Institute, Jes Søgaard, gave the policy-makers and experts his analysis of the possibilities of, but also the limitations there are on, transferring these systems to the Danish health sector. The level of cost of Kaiser Permanente compared with the Danish system would make policy-makers wince: the cost per patient is 30-60% higher than in the Danish system. However, this should be viewed in relation to the cost level of other US health systems, which are on average twice as expensive as the Danish service. In other words, Kaiser Permanente has managed to contain costs within the context of an expensive health environment, while offering high quality health services. Jes Søgaard also emphasised that the achievements of Kaiser Permanente have been the result of multi-billion dollar investments in health IT systems. Such investments seem unlikely to be possible in Denmark. But still, the successes that Kaiser Permanente achieves in its chronic care management by focusing on self-care and integrated management make it relevant to look to that organisation for inspiration for possible changes to the Danish system.

Thirty years of the Rockwool Foundation
The issue of public health has occupied a prominent place in the Danish public debate for decades. The Rockwool Foundation has also taken an interest in the functioning of the public Danish health system since before the turn of the millennium. Several research projects have focused on this area. One such publication was Jørn Henrik Petersen’s Sygt og sundt. Om danskernes ønsker til sundhedsvæsenet (Illness and health. What Danes want from the national health service ) in 2000. This was preceded by literature reviews and related studies, including International vurdering af organisation og finansiering af det danske sundhedsvæsen (An international assessment of the organisation and financing of the Danish national health service), edited by Terkel Christiansen. In addition, the Foundation has supported research into the treatment of children with type 1 diabetes, which revealed considerable differences in the clinical results from different treatment centres, even when corrections were made for socioeconomic factors. The Kaiser Permanente research project is thus a natural continuation of earlier efforts to assess the Danish healthcare system with the incorporation of an international dimension.

See Rockwool Foundation 1996-2000, p. 84
Young minds are especially vulnerable.
An increasing number of young people in Denmark are battling with psychological problems, but they do not all receive the treatment that they need. In 2011 the Rockwool Foundation once again sponsored Denmark’s annual Psychiatric Summit Conference. One of the many volunteer workers at the meeting recounts his own personal experiences of psychological vulnerability.

It was during a lesson at commercial college that Peter Larsen, then aged 18, first heard voices in his head. “Peter, you must get up and leave. You must leave now, Peter,” said a voice. Peter looked round the room to see if anyone else had heard it. They clearly had not.

Peter Larsen is now 24. In January 2011 he completed his Bachelor of Commerce degree, and he works for the Danish AgriFish Agency under the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries. In the spring of 2011 he was declared cured after suffering for seven years from schizophrenia. This year, he attended the Psychiatric Summit conference as a volunteer working with psychologically vulnerable young people. His own experiences have given him particular motivation for this work.

A focus on solutions

More than 1,000 participants were invited to attend the annual Psychiatric Summit Conference held on 1 October 2011, which was organised by Det Sociale Netværk af 2009 (The Social Network of 2009). Many of the guests were the psychologically vulnerable or their families; but there were also politicians, Directors of Psychiatry, youth researchers and psychiatric practitioners. The participants spent a constructive day together seeking new solutions to the problems experienced by young people with psychiatric disorders.

The former Danish Prime Minister and President of the Social Network, Poul Nyrop Rasmussen, explained in his welcoming address to the conference why it is so important to focus on the psychologically vulnerable among the young.

“Half of all mental disorders begin at around the age of 14, and 75% of people who are affected by a mental disorder fall ill before they are 25. That is why it is vital that we address the problem and help those young people who are hit by mental problems.”

The facade crumbles

When things began to go wrong for Peter Larsen, however, he did not get the help he needed at once. When the voices started speaking to him in school, he called his then father-in-law, who immediately drove him to the psychiatric emergency department. After a brief talk with the staff there, he was given a clear answer.

“They said, ‘Sorry, we can’t help you.’ Even though I explained to them that I heard voices in my head, voices that told me that I should kill myself, that I should throw myself off a bridge, or jump in front of a car – that I should harm myself generally – I was told that I was not a danger to myself at that time,” Peter recalls.

Neither was Peter Larsen referred to any other source of help, and for the next six months his condition worsened progressively from one day to the next.

“I kept up an outward façade, even to my family – I didn’t want them to find out how bad things were with me. By the end I was hearing the voices round the clock, and one day, when I came home from my after-school job, everything fell apart.”
The voices told Peter that he should kill himself the next day. So he phoned his now ex-father-in-law, who once again drove him to the psychiatric emergency department. This time he was admitted to hospital – in the first instance, for three months.

**They spoke my language**

The turning point came for Peter when he discovered Opus, an outpatient organisation offering treatment to young people with psychoses.

“I didn’t really begin to make progress until I came into contact with Opus in Copenhagen. I had another young person as my contact there, someone who spoke directly to me, without looking down at me and without using incomprehensible jargon. That person had time for me, and made an effort to fit my appointments in around my working hours.”

This was quite a different reception than he had met with elsewhere, says Peter. The consultations were structured around his needs, and there was no constant looking at the clock, as he had come to expect on the basis of his previous experience.

“The traditional system of consultations is far too inflexible. The public healthcare system is so rigid – for example, offices close at 16:00, and if you can’t fit in appointments before that, well it’s just hard luck. And of course there are many

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**Celebrities speak out**

The Psychiatric Summit Conference put on its own version of a popular Danish radio talk show. The radio programme host, Mads Steffensen, chaired a panel of five young celebrities: singers Sys Bjerre, Saseline and Søren Bregendal, star cyclist Mads Fabricius, and Anne Marie Geisler Andersen of the Danish Social Liberal Party, all of whom had had to deal with psychological problems in their lives. The panel discussed frankly three dilemmas posed by members of the audience, evoking both laughter and tears from the many listeners in the auditorium.
people who don’t really like to tell their employers that they have to leave work early for an appointment with a psychiatrist.”

A national strategy for young people
The Summit Conference established clearly that many of Peter Larsen’s contemporaries were in situations similar to his. A survey carried out by the Danish National Board of Health had revealed that 23% of 13-year-old girls in Denmark and 15% of boys of the same age regularly experience anxiety, mood swings or difficulty in sleeping. An increasing number of young people in Denmark seek psychiatric help. Poul Nyrup Rasmussen therefore called for a national strategy for youth at the conference.

“Young people should never be left to cope with their problems alone. It is very important that we find a way of communicating with the young about the difficult things in life. When such a large proportion of our young people feel unsettled, it is not just these young people themselves who have a problem, it is also their families, their schools, the healthcare system and society as a whole. Somewhere or other in the contact between young people and adults in our society, we have a breakdown of communication,” said Poul Rasmussen, who went on to express his pleasure that the new government is committed to making a major effort in relation to vulnerable children and young people.

A declaration was adopted at the Summit with recommendations concerning the actions that decision-makers could take in relation to vulnerable young people – for example, ensuring that interventions are early and coherent, that help is easily accessible for young people, and that municipal authorities have stronger obligations in this context.

Difficult to ask for help
Peter Larsen is doing his bit to help improve the situation; as he sees it, young people with mental disorders need better treatment options and more attention. Consequently, in addition to doing his full-time job and attending evening courses, he devotes around 15 hours a week to voluntary work for Young Minds, and he has also put in a lot of effort with the Social Network.

“I know what it is like to have no help even when I asked for it,” he explains, “so I know how important it is that the right treatment options are available.”

Peter also knows how important it is to be able to dare to say “I’m not OK.” Consequently, he believes that it is vital that psychological vulnerability should become a subject that people feel they can discuss openly.

“More and more demands are being made on the young, and we are all supposed to be strong and resilient; so people don’t seek help. Nobody wants to seem weak in today’s society. Asking other people for help is like an admission of defeat. But I think it shows a lot of strength to be able to ask for help when you really need it.”
What are Danes’ attitudes to the law?

Around the turn of the millennium, the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit carried out its first analysis of Danes’ attitudes regarding respect for the law and social morality. This study was followed up in 2011 with a new publication in the same field. The aim of the new analysis was to examine the extent to which a wavering general moral attitude to the law could develop into a problem for the Danish welfare state.

The results of the new study were published as Borgerne og lovene 2010 (Citizens and the law 2010) by Professor Jørgen Goul Andersen, and were also included in Bent Jensen and Torben Tranæs’ new book for a general readership summarising the work of the Research Unit entitled Vi der bor i Danmark (see page 18 of this report).

The study was based on a survey of a representative sample of the Danish population, and was conducted in 2010. What, then, did the results show?

Long-term decline in moral attitudes to the law – but from a high starting point
The previous surveys had demonstrated that in general, the Danes are a law-abiding people. However, one of the main results that had been found was that there had been a gradual decline in respect for the law. Attitudes hit an all-time low in 1997, and at the time this gave rise to real concerns about the implications for the Danish welfare society.

The new survey for 2010 showed that overall, social morality was higher in Denmark at that date than in 1997, but that over the long term the impression of a gradual decline was confirmed.

In fact, the overall picture conceals two contradictory trends. In terms of attitudes to tax and insurance fiddles, the population has become more moral in the new millennium. In 2010 Danes were distinctly more condemnatory of these types of fraud than they were just ten years previously.

However, this change must be compared with a gradually declining morality in a number of other areas, such as the extent to which it is considered all right to lie for your own advantage, to buy stolen goods, to keep money you find, and to commit social security fraud.

Since the turn of the millennium these two trends have balanced each other out, producing the overall picture of a relatively unchanging level of morality over the past 10 to 15 years.

Undeclared work and pirate copying remain national sports
While Danes are critical in their attitudes to tax fraud in general, their views on working without declaring earnings are much more relaxed. In fact, 52% of Danes reported having paid for undeclared work within the previous year. A further 28% would be willing to do so if the opportunity arose. In total, 80% of the Danish population are thus potential customers for undeclared work.

The study of Danes’ respect for the law also showed that the population takes a tolerant view of pirate copying. Seven out of ten Danes think that to a greater or lesser degree, it is acceptable to copy music and films for one’s own use without paying.

Attitudes to the prohibition in Denmark of the sale of alcohol to young people under the age of 15 have also changed. There has been a marked shift towards agreement that it is good to forbid the sale of beer to 14-year-olds.

Thirty years of the Rockwool Foundation
The very first research project conducted by the Rockwool Foundation included the topic of the time spent by Danes doing undeclared work, so that from the outset the Rockwool Foundation interested itself in this activity that is in conflict with the laws on taxation.

A later project on ‘political trust’ included an examination of attitudes of the population to the welfare state and its legitimacy. Analysing Danes’ moral attitudes to the law constituted a supplementary approach to discovering what was going on in the population with regard to taxes, tax laws and the principles of the welfare society. The law, and the observance of the law, are topics that are high on the Danish political agenda and in the public consciousness. But what are Danes’ moral attitudes to the law, and how do changes in the law affect those attitudes? Does the welfare state undermine Danes’ respect for the law through the high taxes it involves and through the many forms of social security income available that can tempt the weak to indulge in cheating and fraudulent behaviour?

These are issues on which the Rockwool Foundation has aimed to shed light.

See Rockwool Foundation 1996-2000, p. 84
Poverty affects the vulnerable most, and the AIDS orphans in Zambia are truly among the most vulnerable people in the country. Unfortunately, resources to help them are scarce. The Rockwool Foundation supports a social entrepreneur in Zambia who is trying to create a sustainable financing model to help some of the country’s orphaned children.

In Zambia, the HIV/AIDS epidemic has resulted in there being more than 700,000 orphans scattered throughout the country. Because there is a strong structure of extended families in Zambia, these children can often go to live with relatives when their parents pass away. However, there are also many children who are never taken in by their relatives, sometimes due to the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS or because their extended families do not have the necessary resources, while others run away from their foster homes because of mistreatment or abuse.

Ensuring the survival of these children is one thing; providing them with an opportunity to live decent lives in the future is
quite another challenge. However, giving the most unfortunate children a safe and caring home and a good upbringing is exactly what the Jabulani Children’s Village is attempting to do. At present, the village provides 29 orphans not only with food and shelter, but also with a family environment and a level of support for their education that even most non-orphans in the local Sakanja area would envy.

**Wood is the foundation**

One unusual feature of this particular orphanage is the background noise that is instantly audible on entering the Jabulani compound. The humming sound comes from a sawmill not far from the children’s dormitories. This sawmill, which was constructed together with the children’s village itself by its owner, social entrepreneur Tom Dufke, actually generates the resources to cover the running costs of the orphanage: wooden boards are sold at the local market, and furniture is handcrafted and sold to local businesses such as the copper mining companies operating in the area.

One challenge in maintaining this financing model for the orphanage, however, has been the erratic supply of timber, as well as the capacity limitations of the sawmill. Like other businessmen, then, Tom Dufke has had to diversify his means of income generation, especially because he and his wife have an ambition to expand the children’s village to twice its size. One of these initiatives has been supported by the Rockwool Foundation through the Small Donations programme, namely the construction of a chicken run and a vegetable garden. These will not only generate sustainable income for the running of the orphanage, but also provide a source of nutritious food for the children. Tom Dufke has also invested in new facilities in order to increase capacity at the sawmill, and he has made an agreement with the local authorities to increase his timber quota in exchange for planting hundreds of thousands of new trees in the area, thus enhancing the sustainability of the local timber industry.

**A decent life**

Each dormitory in the children’s village is assigned to a widowed ‘mother’ who guides and cares for the children in her charge. The children are taught life skills such as cooking and cleaning, and in adjacent buildings there are workshops for sewing and carpentry. There is even a clinic to treat the children, the workers at the sawmill and the workers’ families if they become ill.

Maron, a boy of ten years of age, is one of the children whose home is at Jabulani. Every day a bus picks him up with the other children to go to the one of the few reasonable schools in the area, and when they get back he attends additional schooling and mentoring in the village library from instructors employed by the children’s village. Maron is especially interested in history lessons, and today his village mentor is teaching him about the history of Zambia and the general elections held just days before.

**A model for progress**

The reason Tom Dufke and his wife left Denmark in 1998 to start Jabulani was not with the aim of saving every Zambian child in need – rather, it was about providing real opportunities to some of those least likely to receive them otherwise. This is also why so much emphasis is put on providing the children with education and skills which can help them to be self-sufficient when they leave Jabulani at age 18.

The chicken run has a specific purpose in this regard: the older children are involved in tending the chickens and the vegetable garden, and they learn about techniques of chicken-rearing such as feeding and vaccination from experts hired to manage the facilities. This enables Maron and the other children to acquire additional skills that will help them with their livelihoods later on, giving them a basis for starting up businesses of their own, and thereby getting the chance to achieve a standard of living otherwise destined to elude them.
Promoting peace in Lebanon through media and sport

For many years, Lebanese media and sports have been seen as agents of division. Every sectarian, religious and political group has its own TV channel, just as most of the sports clubs in the country belong to one or another political party. News stories often vary considerably from TV channel to TV channel, and Lebanese media have in many cases played a significant role in stirring up tensions in the country. This is also the case with football, where spectators are often prohibited from attending their teams’ matches at Lebanese stadiums due to the risk of clashes between supporters from different parties.

The projects in Lebanon that have been funded by the Rockwool Foundation since 2008 have focused on changing this situation and showing that the media and sports can actually help bring the people of Lebanon together and create positives out of the diversity of the country.

The two organisations behind the projects are both involved in peace-building and both focus on children and teenagers. However, their methods are quite different. While the Cross Cultures Project Association (CCPA) promotes peace through sports activities, Search for Common Ground (SFCG) spreads social messages through media productions. With support from the Rockwool Foundation, the two organisations are involved in a joint project to spread the idea of peaceful coexistence in Lebanon called The Team.
“Sometimes real-life stories are better than the ones we can write.”

These are the words of Elie Habib, the producer and main director of the Lebanese TV series The Team, which is funded by the Rockwool Foundation. The Team is a soap opera with social messages that follows a group of teenagers on a football team who must overcome religious and cultural differences in order to achieve common goals and win games. The idea behind the TV series and the creation of a team across conflict lines was partly inspired by the Cross Cultures Project Association’s (CCPA) activities in Tripoli, where volunteers arranged sports activities for children from two conflicting communities. The children were mixed on the football pitch to overcome tensions and prejudices, and they were encouraged to forget about their backgrounds and make new friends.

SFCG and Elie Habib interviewed some of the volunteers behind the peace-building football project. The interviews served as a source of inspiration for The Team and ensured that the themes of the TV series would originate in reality.

“Our country should learn about these good stories. And this is where Search for Common Ground and The Team can help.”
We want to show that it doesn't matter what background you have," Habib says, in acknowledgement of the work of CCPA’s trainers.

**Shared goals**
The Team provides a unique opportunity for young Lebanese people to learn about social issues through the TV screen. With the production of The Team, SFCG hopes to capitalise on the popularity of football to attract audiences, to get across its messages of unity, and to transform social attitudes and diminish violent behaviour among teenagers in Lebanon by merging passion for football with soap opera. Just like the CCPA, the TV series uses sport as a unifying factor to pull down barriers and bring people together around a common project. Roula Attar from SFCG explains, “The Team will be a way for young people to discover their own identities and to learn to understand and appreciate the differences that abound among Lebanese youth, while also identifying commonalities.”

The 13 episodes of the TV series feature characters who must overcome sizeable problems both on and off the football field to achieve their shared goals. These young football players demonstrate that violent conflict is not inevitable and that peaceful solutions to all conflicts are possible. According to SFCG, this is a lesson that should be learned by everybody in Lebanon in order to peacefully resolve the problems that the country currently faces. Roula Attar explains, “If the characters do not play together, they will not score goals. In other words, everybody needs to demonstrate cooperative behaviour.”

**A minefield**
This way of portraying Lebanon and its many conflicts has never been seen before, and Elie Habib is aware that some people will find it controversial.

"Some may not like it, but we want people to think. Dealing with these issues can be like walking across a minefield – just like the coach in the series,” he explains.

The coach in The Team who brings players together across lines of social division is an old army veteran who was injured and disabled by mines during the civil war, and just like SFCG he is on an important but difficult mission. In the series, the coach succeeds in bringing the players together, and now the people behind The Team hope that this will also be the case with the Lebanese youngsters who follow the series during the spring of 2012.

“The actors became great friends on the set, and hopefully the characters on the screen will become role models, promoting understanding and acceptance,” Elie Habib says.

**Combining knowledge**
Teaming up to work on The Team has given both the CCPA and SFCG several benefits for their individual projects. The two organisations have combined experience, ideas and knowledge on different topics and ways of working in order to create this joint project. Their shared knowledge about peace-building in Lebanon has helped them to develop a universe around The Team: the project also involves a school curriculum, social media, an interactive website and a school tournament, thus bringing the idea of The Team directly to the youth of Lebanon. The CCPA will organise the football tournament for school students, and according to Roula Attar, this tournament will be a valuable complement to the TV series. “It can help build understanding of The Team by promoting its values and contributing to its visibility in schools,” she explains.

The tournament and other activities around the TV series will help SFCG get even closer to Lebanese young people and thus help to prepare them for a more peaceful and tolerant country, says Roula Attar.

### Programme area
- **International Peace Building**

### Starting date for project
- **2011**

### Location
- **Lebanon**

**FIRST**
The Team project started in 2011 and is implemented by the NGO Search for Common Ground (SFCG). The aim and strategy is to produce and air a drama series of 13 episodes for children’s TV, promoting peace by conveying messages about collaboration and problem-solving among societal groupings that are intended to influence attitudes and behaviours. The Team project follows an earlier project supported by the Rockwool Foundation which also focused on children’s TV – a drama series called Kilna Bil Hayy, which is Arabic for ‘All of us in the Neighbourhood’.

**NOW**
The episodes will be aired in 2012. An inter-school sports tournament will be organised in collaboration with the CCPA, and this will hopefully form the basis of an annual national sports tournament in the future under the patronage of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the Ministry of Youth and Sports. This tournament will embody and reinforce the messages of The Team.

**NEXT**
An episode discussion guide will be made available online to accompany the series and serve as an aid to discussing the issues raised in each episode. In addition, social media presences – on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube – will be established, as well as mobile phone text messaging setups utilising SFCG’s and CCPA’s youth networks, to encourage a culture of sportsmanship, teamwork and mutual acceptance.
Creating a cross-cultural team spirit

Football can be a powerful tool for promoting peaceful co-existence and tolerance across divides. This is the starting point for the CCPA, an organisation involved in establishing cross-cultural football clubs in Lebanon. In September 2011 the clubs came together for the biggest event in CCPA history.

Lebanon is a divided country in many ways. Distrust among different groups is widespread – a result of the many conflicts that have taken place within the small country in recent decades. The Cross Cultures Project Association (CCPA), a Danish organisation, believes that sports activities have an extraordinary ability to promote trust and build bridges among people torn apart by civil war and conflicts, and that the sports arena may serve as a common ground where people – whether formerly from allied or opposing groups in conflicts – can meet, bond and form social relationships. The CCPA country coordinator in Lebanon, Mazen Ramadan, has worked hard to encourage national dialogue and a sport-for-all culture in the country.

“Sport is the best tool to bring people together and to promote peace. The children learn that it is normal to play with ‘the others’ and they show this to the older generation,” Ramadan says. In September 2011 the CCPA arranged a huge sports festival on the beach in Beirut. The goal was to show the Lebanese public how sports can affect national cohesion and cooperation positively and to demonstrate that there are alternatives to division and conflict.

Passing the exam

Children and volunteers travelled for hours in buses from Tripoli in the North, from Hasbaya in the mountains, from Sour in the South, from the Palestinian refugee camps, and from many other places in the country to arrive in Beirut to participate in the festival for the 110 Popular Clubs in the CCPA network. For four hours, the many boys and girls took part in a variety of different games and activities in the sand, which had been cleaned and made ready for the children by CCPA volunteers. On any other day the beach is dirty and deserted, but on this day it looked like a Lebanese version of Copacabana, full of happy children and hard-working volunteers. Maha, a 12-year-old girl from the Palestinian refugee camp of Nahr al-Bared, was enthusiastic about the event: “Football, music and new friends! I am having the best day of my life. It is my first time at the beach in Beirut, and I have never seen this many children. I want to come back again next year!”

The festival on the beach was the biggest event ever organised by the CCPA in Lebanon, and the first time that Popular Clubs and volunteers from all three phases of the Rockwool project had come together in one place. To Mazen Ramadan, the event was almost like an exam for the CCPA.

“Bringing 1,200 people to Beirut shows that our work actually matters. Some of these clubs were established almost three years ago, and today their members have travelled for several hours to get here just to be part of this project. They want to meet people who feel like them, and they want to show that...”
it is possible for the Lebanese to cooperate and have fun,” said Mazen. The event turned out to be very successful.

**Sustainable peace**
The CCPA began its cooperation with the Rockwool Foundation in 2008. Over the last couple of years, the CCPA has recruited hundreds of enthusiastic volunteers, educated them as trainers and leaders, and then established 110 clubs for thousands of boys and girls – clubs that are now linked together under the CCPA umbrella.

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**Programme area**
International Peace Building

**Starting date for project**
2008

**Location**
Lebanon

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**FIRST**
The project was initiated in 2008 and implemented by the NGO the Cross Cultures Project Association (CCPA). The aim and strategy is to promote peaceful co-existence, tolerance-building and social cohesion among different groups through children’s football. The project sets up lasting Popular Clubs to provide fun meeting places for children, coaches and parents from different sects and groupings.

**NOW**
Around 110 Popular Clubs with approximately 3,000 children (15% girls) as members have been established across the country. The children meet weekly in the clubs, and the project arranges mini-tournaments and Open Fun Football Festivals between clubs to provide positive meeting places for, and to generate good relations among, people living in divided communities.

**NEXT**
The project is scheduled to run until mid-2012. In the remaining period, the CCPA will move from organising activities on the ground to formalising the network of Popular Clubs, providing further training and support, and preparing the formal establishment of an official federation that will include all the Popular Clubs in Lebanon registered under the Ministry of Youth and Sports. The project will be evaluated to document lessons learned and outcomes.

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“Our strategy was to bring sport and social interaction from the streets to newly-established clubs. The last step to ensure sustainability is to bring these clubs into a federation. This is what we need to activate now,” says Mazen Ramadan.

In November 2011, leaders from all the CCPA Popular Clubs met to discuss the statutes and tasks of such a federation, and the CCPA believes that this meeting will provide a solid foundation for the promotion of sport-for-all and national cohesion in Lebanon. Souheil Mansour, trainer and leader from the Hay el-Selloum Popular Club in Beirut, is also optimistic. “I believe that sport can help Lebanon and its children towards a better future. The Popular Clubs and a federation can bring the concept of fun and cooperation to all parts of Lebanon. This will make Lebanon an even better place!” he enthused.
Crime rates have halved among *second-generation* immigrants

In recent years, the Rockwool Foundation has made a notable contribution to research into the conditions of life and integration of immigrants. One of the topics studied has been the participation of this group in criminal activities. Patterns of criminality among both first- and second-generation immigrants from non-Western countries have become closer to those of native Danes. But just how far has this aspect of integration progressed, especially among second-generation immigrants?

> Two approaches to the analysis of criminality among immigrants

There are two ways to approach an assessment of criminal behaviour in any given social group.

One method is for researchers to examine the raw crime statistics. These figures will show how large a proportion of a given group committed crimes for which they were later convicted. This approach can be relevant if, for example, one wants to study the significance for crime in society of the immigration of a particular population group whose social background is different from that of Danes.

Another approach involves researchers making corrections for social background factors. Criminality is most widespread among people with very low levels of education, with poor attachment to the labour market, and who are of a young age. If no account is taken of the significance of these social factors when comparing levels of criminality among various population groups, there is a risk that the figures will be misleading.

In this project, the Rockwool Foundation’s researchers utilised both approaches. Only criminal behaviour among males was studied, since levels of criminality among women are so low that it is difficult to make statistical comparisons across groups. Parents’ social background can only be included in the case of second-generation immigrants, and consequently it was primarily this group’s criminal behaviour that was compared with criminality among Danes.

The analysis dealt with violations of the criminal law by males aged 15 to 45. This age group was chosen because it is among people of this age that most crime is committed.

> A large gap, but a gap that is growing narrower

If we do not control for social background factors such as age, education and attachment to the labour market, then male second-generation non-Western immigrants aged between 15 and 45 are clearly more criminal, on average, than Danes in the same age group.

In 1990, the proportion of male second-generation non-Western immigrants who were criminal was 343% higher than the proportion of criminal Danish men in the age range. By 2006, however, the degree of over-representation had dropped to 300%.

Note: A criminal in this context is defined as a person who committed at least one criminal offence during the year in question of which he was later convicted.

The full analysis is published as ‘Etniske minoriteters overrepræsentation i strafferetlige domme’ (The overrepresentation of ethnic minorities in criminal convictions), by Lars Højsgaard Andersen and Torben Tranæs, published by the University Press of Southern Denmark.
Since criminality among Danes also fell during the period, these figures actually reflect a marked decrease in the level of criminality among non-Western immigrants.

In 1990, 11% of male second-generation immigrants aged 15 to 45 committed a crime for which they were later convicted. By 2006, that proportion was less than half the previous level, with 5% of the group committing a crime that led to a conviction.

However, when the researchers made corrections for the social backgrounds of the second-generation immigrants, the level of over-representation was measured at 76% in 1990. In 2006, it had fallen to 31%. This fall represents a significant movement towards the level of Danes’ criminal behaviour – provided the correction is made for age and social background factors.

If we consider countries of origin, we find that there was a particularly high level of criminality among second-generation immigrants with parents of Middle Eastern origin, whereas second-generation immigrants with parents from Asia had a lower level of criminality than Danish males with the same social background.

What can we read from the figures?
The conclusion that can be reached from the analysis is that non-Western second-generation immigrants are more criminal than Danes, regardless of how the calculations are made.

However, the figures also show that the gap narrowed over the period under consideration, especially if corrections are made to take differences in age and social background into account. Second-generation Western immigrants, in contrast, are less criminal than Danes.

The study also showed that criminals among non-Western second-generation immigrants are convicted of a larger number of crimes than other criminals, and that these crimes more often lead to the imposition of prison sentences.

Violent crime in particular is more widespread among non-Western second-generation immigrants than among ethnic Danes. The proportion of second-generation non-Western immigrants who are convicted of crimes of violence is 55% larger than the proportion of an equivalent group of Danes.

However, the older the second-generation immigrants grow, the more closely their patterns of crime come to resemble those of Danes.
Peace through the young: Three projects

» Millions of people worldwide are affected by conflicts and war. Since young people by definition represent the future of post-conflict societies, they play a crucial role in all peace-building processes.

Children and young people account for a large percentage of the population in developing countries in general, and in nations emerging from conflict and disaster in particular. In fact, people under 25 constitute up to 60% of the population in the world’s least-developed countries. This gives the youth of these areas an important stake in the shaping of the future.

The Rockwool Foundation believes that working through children and young people, who are often open to change, has great potential for promoting sustainable and lasting peaceful co-existence. In order to create stable societies it is essential to include the leaders of tomorrow, responding to the negative experiences that war-affected young people have undergone and capitalising on their energy and capacities.

Following a Call for Proposals and an evaluation of the projects submitted, the Rockwool Foundation launched youth-based peace-building projects in Nepal, Uganda and Burundi. The three projects are all based on the belief that communication between groupings of various kinds (political, ethnic, tribal, etc.) and knowledge of ‘the other’ can promote understanding. Creating platforms for positive dialogue between conflicting groupings is therefore a key factor in the projects supported. Conflict in itself, however, is not necessarily negative – if it is resolved without violence and repression.

Since Africa continues to rank as the least peaceful region in the world, with more than one-fifth of the continent’s population being directly affected by conflicts, the Rockwool Foundation chose to support two peace-building projects in Africa, in Uganda and Burundi.

Through all the three projects, the Rockwool Foundation hopes that sustainable and constructive solutions to the conflicts in the targeted areas will be found. The evaluation of the success of the projects will largely be based on lessons learned through project workers’ experience and feedback from participants and targeted communities.

The Rockwool Foundation is aware that any impact made through peace-building projects can be difficult to quantify. Nevertheless, the Foundation considers the objective to be so important that it was decided to support the three projects.

Did you know that?

» The vast majority of armed conflicts that became active in the past 10 years were recurrences of conflicts which had largely been dormant for at least a year.

» Africa ranks as the least peaceful world region; more than one-fifth of the continent’s population remains directly affected by conflicts.

» In Uganda, 50% of the population is below 15 years of age. In Burundi the figure is 46%, and in Nepal 35%. In Denmark it is only 18%.
Nepal: Creative conflict transformation

The project is a response to Nepal’s emergence from a protracted civil war and the weak capacity of the state to promote peace and reconciliation. A major challenge remains in addressing long-standing social conflicts and understanding the effects of these conflicts from the perspective of young people. In this project, young people are trained in analysing the root causes and effects of conflict and are given the opportunity to express themselves, their opinions and their needs in a way that engages their peers, their communities and the wider society through the design and production of street theatre performances. Throughout the project, young people will film their experiences and produce short documentaries to be presented to political leaders and on Nepali national television.

The action will culminate in two major events: i) a public policy debate between young people, politicians from all three major political parties from the Constituent Assembly of Nepal, and relevant ministries, aiming at commitments for further peace-building policy dialogue with youth; and ii) a presentation of video documentaries made by young people to representatives of national and international NGOs, U.N. agencies and civil society organisations, and discussion to explore the lessons learned, strategies and methods for integrating youth perspectives into peace-building strategies and programmes.

The implementing organisation is Responding to Conflict – United Kingdom.

Groups of young people in Nepal are using their creative talents to make their voices heard and to help heal the divisions left by years of conflict.

Young Nepalese engaged in discussing their plans for a street theatre performance.
In Soroti, peace is both a goal in itself and a precondition for positive development. To make a difference on both counts, the NGO Caritas has launched a new project with the support of the Rockwool Foundation aimed at promoting future peaceful coexistence and improving communication between the young and older members of the community. By establishing peace clubs, by training teachers, young people and children in conflict prevention, and by arranging music, dance, drama and poetry competitions, the project engages older people in discussion and debate with the young on issues of conflict prevention and promotion of future peaceful coexistence.

In earlier peace-building projects in the area, young people have been left out. The rationale has been that such issues were entirely the responsibility of parents and leaders. The present project seeks to engage children and young people by using a bottom-up approach. Activities include role-playing and community discussion meetings, and the project also seeks to promote youth involvement in local decision-making and development planning.

Religious leaders, community leaders, formers of opinion, leaders of tribes and clans and community elders are also targeted through the project, the aim being to change their attitudes towards children and young people.

**Targeting youth**

During the past decade, many families in Soroti in north-eastern Uganda have had to flee the area to escape various violent conflicts and attacks, such as the assaults by the Lord’s Resistance Army, who raided communities with a brutality beyond imagination. The area continues to face problems of disputes related to land and inheritance, and disagreements between clan, tribal, political and religious groupings. Through the work of Caritas in the area, it had become evident that development cannot successfully take place without comprehensive efforts targeting conflict resolution.

Since young people make up a large part of the local population, their involvement in the process is crucial. But the youth of the area are greatly in need of conflict resolution skills that will enable them to handle conflicts and disagreements in a constructive manner. Often, the senior members of society neglect the young, because they see youth empowerment as a threat to their own dominance. Thus, young people often become excluded from participating in the resolution of the problems which concern them as much as anyone else in the community. This is problematic, since there is a high level of risk that young people who are not well integrated into communities or social structures will continue the conflicts.
Absence of war does not mean peace
During the civil war, many families had to spend years in refugee camps. Now the war is over – but the absence of war does not necessarily mean peace. When they returned to their places of origin, families brought with them distressing memories; many were traumatised. Physically, they had lost everything, and were left to rebuild their lives from scratch. It is an immense challenge to rebuild the physical infrastructure of an area in the form of houses, schools and clinics, which in this case were largely destroyed during the period of conflict. But another major challenge, which is often overlooked, is the rebuilding of societal infrastructures such as traditional institutions where conflicts can be solved peacefully and amicably. The years spent in camps away from home and away from traditions have undermined such institutions and created a communication gap between young people and society elders.

Restoring communication platforms and knowledge
In 2011 a representative of the Rockwool Foundation visited the project in Soroti. The traditional leaders and government officials expressed their gratitude to the Foundation for the new project. They, too, saw the dire need for the project, which aims at both resolving some of the problems of the area and at improving communication between children, young people and the older generation.

“The young people of today are our future, but they have many problems,” said Omome Venansio, the Ekirigi (leader) of the Itesot Cultural Union (a local clan), when he was interviewed by the Rockwool Foundation representative. He explained that violence and conflict did indeed constitute a major problem – a problem that had escalated continuously over recent years. Families who lost everything during the war and who were forced to flee their homes had lived in extremely poor conditions in the camps, often with devastating effects.

Although children, young people, older members of the community and community leaders all confirmed the need for and the relevance of the project during the visit by the Foundation representative, only time will tell whether the strategy of using children and young people as a catalyst for peace-building in Soroti will in fact bear fruit and whether it will be sufficient to solve the problems of the community. Lessons learned and best practices discovered will be documented through a qualitative evaluation in the final stage of the project.

“In the evenings, fathers went to drink alcohol and came home drunk,” Omome Venansio said. Children in such families faced domestic violence and neglect.

“Before the many years in refugee camps, the older people in the community used to sit by the fires in the evening and tell stories. Now they do not tell stories any more, and songs, drama and dance have been forgotten. We used to teach important lessons to the young people and children this way.”

“We are glad that the Youth against Conflict project uses creative methods to engage the communities – youngsters and older people – in discussions on peaceful coexistence,” said Omome Venansio, and he went on to express his hope for a future where conflicts would be resolved through non-violent means.
Burundi: The worst wounds are those that do not bleed

How can people forgive? How can they finally put traumatic memories behind them? How can they get over their grief? Through the NGO ADRA, the Rockwool Foundation supports a project in Burundi called Youth for Unity which attempts to heal the psychological wounds of young people brought up in time of war.

Burundi – the tiny, beautiful, mountainous but poor and very densely populated country in the Great Lakes region of Africa – has been devastated by years of armed conflict and ethnic hostility. Today, the country is attempting to slowly progress towards political and economic stability in the wake of a conflict that started in 1993 and cost the lives of an estimated 300,000 people.

The Youth for Unity project is a response to the many years of armed conflict and ethnic hostility, a period which has severely undermined trust and peaceful relations amongst the people of the country. In 2003 Burundi was found to be among the top three worst places in the world to be a child, due to widespread exposure to extreme physical and psychological trauma. These children – the current young people of
Burundi – have grown up in an environment of violence, social fragmentation and displacement.

**Peace agents**
The goal of the project is to enable young people to become active and responsible agents in improving their individual and collective situations and contributing to societal peace and reconciliation processes. Through the establishment of Youth for Unity clubs and the promotion of various community peace and reconciliation activities, best practices will be identified, documented and communicated. In the clubs it is possible for Burundi youngsters to engage in activities such as drama, film, dance, community discussion sessions, sports and cultural events, as well as the production and broadcasting of radio programmes and the production of conflict prevention education materials for use in state schools.

The project primarily targets young people aged 15-25, and for many of this group the project represents a unique opportunity. Seventeen-year-old Noelle Vyhkusenge has been involved in the project from the outset. For her, it is more than just a project – it has given her a new level of self-knowledge. “Before I joined Youth for Unity I didn’t realise that I could actually have an influence over my own future. I know now that if I want to change something, I have to take the first step myself – there’s no-one who is going to do that for me,” she says.

The project works with several hundred selected young people like Noelle. They are given teaching and organised into groups, and they learn to be active members of and contributors to their local communities.

**Trusting in a better tomorrow**
One of the greatest challenges for the project has been to build up trust between the young people in order to cement relationships within the groups. Several of the activities used therefore have the goal of creating trust. The young people have been on Action Adventure Camps, where they have learned through games and experiences to handle conflicts and traumas as well as to trust one another – for example, they have to climb over a 2-metre high wall, and face other challenges that require that they work together.

One of the participants is 22-year-old Claude Ndayishimiye. He is very clear about the responsibility placed on him by the project, but he is quite certain that this is the right thing for him. “I am very grateful for the opportunity to be part of this project,” he says. “I have learned a great deal, and I know that the way forward for Burundi is through education and development, not war and destruction. There are many of us and we have very little, but it is time for us to move on, or things will never get better. The project is doing the right thing by concentrating on the young, because we are the future of this country.”

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**Programme area**
International Peace Building

**Starting date for project**
2011

**Location**
Burundi

**FIRST**
The project began with the setting up of outdoor adventure activities for healing and reconciliation training. Fifty Youth for Unity clubs were established, with a total of around 1,000 members. ‘Camp for togetherness’ activities centred on building trust and reconciliation through collaborative community work and conflict management training.

**NOW**
Outreach and peer-to-peer activities such as meetings, drama and singing are being run to raise public awareness of reconciliation, peaceful dispute resolution and the need to include young people.

**NEXT**
Future activities will include the production by young people of a Radio for Unity programme on issues concerning the effects of conflict on youngsters and broader issues of peace and reconciliation; the development of a Conflict Prevention Education (CPE) programme for schools; and the documentation of the lessons learned and best practices discovered for distribution to all relevant stakeholders as well as other organisations and actors within peace-building and conflict resolution.

**WHO**
The project is funded through ADRA Denmark and is implemented by its local branch office in Burundi.
Does **climate change** lead to more migration?

In the international debate on global warming there are often alarming predictions of future climate change leading to mass global migration of up to 200 million ‘climate refugees’ from poor countries to OECD countries. Such predictions, if credible, would call for significant initiatives among policy-makers, but to what extent are they in fact backed by robust evidence?

Environmental migration is a topic which has given rise to widespread debate and gloomy predictions about the state of the world in 2050, but rigorous research and empirical evidence are unfortunately in short supply on this topic. Predictions by the Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change (2006) and others of up to 200 million ‘environmental migrants’ or ‘climate refugees’ have suggested the prospect of global mass migration induced by climate change, with the popular media often adding fuel to these speculations with images of people being temporarily dislocated due to extreme weather events.

Alarmed by these predictions, the UK Government, through their Foresight Programme (see box), commissioned a comprehensive investigation of whether the predictions are supported by the scientific literature and robust empirical evidence. The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit was approached to make a literature study for one area in the field, namely the extent to which climate change affects the economic drivers of migration.

**The main economic drivers of migration**

There are two main economic drivers of migration: income level differentials between origin and destination areas, and income variability over time in origin areas. The fact that large income differentials lead to migration is widely known and accepted. Income differentials are often found between rural and urban areas, leading to rural-urban migration in the quest for higher income levels. Similarly, large income differentials can be found between developed and developing countries, leading to migrations of people from poorer countries to richer countries.

A less well-known, but equally important, economic driver of migration is the need to mitigate large income variability over time. This driver is particularly strong among rural...
The Foresight Programme
An article by the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit on ‘Economic drivers of migration and climate change in LDCs’ has recently been published in the academic journal Global Environmental Change. It constituted part of the input to a larger report on ‘Migration and Global Environmental Change’ commissioned by the Foresight Programme, which is run by the UK Government.

The overall goal of the Foresight Programme is to help the UK government think systematically about the future. It aims to improve the use of science and technology within government and society and to draw on well-established, scientifically-validated techniques to inform those responsible for developing policy and strategy in government.

Foresight reports directly to the Chief Scientific Advisor to the UK Government and to the Cabinet Office. For more information, please visit www.bis.gov.uk/foresight

households in developing countries. Great uncertainties about harvest yields and incomes create a need for income source diversification in order to ensure that not all income sources fail at once.

The Rockwool Foundation’s activities in Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia have shown us that rural households face considerable risks of food shortages and severe falls in income due to failing harvests, widespread livestock diseases and the possibility of severe illness among breadwinners in the household. It can be difficult to make ends meet throughout the period from one harvest season to the next. Income fluctuates considerably over the year with the weather – and there are few ways of saving for hard times ahead.

However, this situation has existed for generations, and households have developed complex coping and adaptation mechanisms to deal with fluctuations in income. One such mechanism is the migration of individual household members to areas with different patterns of income fluctuation. For instance, it has been found that parents are strategic about the choice of husband for their daughters; a good husband is one whose agricultural production is subject to a different climatic pattern than the one prevailing at the home of the parents. Similarly, one or two sons will often undergo schooling in order to be able to migrate to urban areas for employment in jobs that are less prone to income fluctuation due to the failure of rains.

What is (not) known about migration drivers and climate change?
The review of the scientific literature revealed that the debate in the area has been beset by problems such as the use of vague terminology, lack of conclusive empirical evidence, and absence of links to theoretical models of migration. It was found that serious gaps exist in both the economic and the environmental literature that render it impossible to make sound predictions about how climate change and increased climate variability will affect the economic migration drivers in the future, and about how they in turn may change existing migration patterns.

However, some indications do exist in the research. Most notably, a negative relationship between migration and rainfall has been established by many researchers, but there is only very limited evidence as to what drives this relationship. Both of the migration drivers are likely to be affected by climate change and thus may induce more migration, but empirical evidence is limited. There are indications that climate change may increase income differentials, because it is likely to lower income levels in the rural areas of developing countries. And it is easy to imagine that increased climate volatility could increase the frequency of harvest failures, but again no research has yet demonstrated this to be the case.

What should guide policy-makers?
On the basis of these conclusions, it is hard to predict how migration in developing countries is likely to be affected by climate change and increased climate variability in the future. The projections of mass migration due to climate change are not supported by any empirical evidence, and could even be harmful insofar as they might mislead policy-makers.

Development policies focusing on reducing fluctuations in agricultural production and overcoming market imperfections in rural areas will be important for increasing resilience to income fluctuations – fluctuations which may be induced by climate change. Such policies could include the spreading of new agricultural technologies, the introduction of drought-resistant crops, and better access to water and thus to irrigation. This could be complemented by the introduction of microfinance schemes providing micro-credit, micro-savings facilities, and even micro-insurance against the effects of adverse weather.

Thirty years of the Rockwool Foundation
The Rockwool Foundation’s newest research area is Development Economics. The Foundation has in recent years been engaged in global development issues, with a number of practical interventions in developing countries. In order to underpin these efforts to create innovative solutions to the economic and social challenges faced by the population in developing countries, the Research Unit has taken up research in development economics. The subjects covered by this research area include migration, microfinance, and rural development.

See Rockwool Foundation
2007-2011, p. 92
LOOKING BACK AT KNOWLEDGE FIRST
1981-2011
30 years of seeking knowledge

In the period since the end of the World War II, Rockwool® has become a well-known brand in the construction industry. For the past 30 years, the Rockwool Foundation has financed community-related research projects, and for the last seven years has also used practical interventions as a means of creating new knowledge and solving problems.

Although the Rockwool International Group and the Rockwool Foundation are completely different entities, they have much in common. They were established by the same family. The Rockwool International Group was started in 1909, when Valdemar Kähler and his business partner H.J. Henriksen opened a gravel pit on a small Danish island.
The founders of the Rockwool Foundation. From left to right: Gustav Kähler, Inger von der Hude, Valdemar Kähler, Erik Kähler and Dorrit Kähler. In front: Claus Kähler.
Under the management of H.J. Henriksen and Valdemar Kähler’s son, Gustav Kähler, the company diversified into several different businesses, and in 1937 the partnership of Henriksen & Kähler purchased the rights and manufacturing information for the production of stone wool insulation from an American producer for USD 5,000.

After Gustav Kähler’s death in 1958, the conglomerate was divided by the Kähler family into two parts of equal value, and the Henriksen family chose to take on the activities not connected with the production of Rockwool. Gustav’s son Claus, together with his sister and four brothers, took over the stone wool activities and founded the company Rockwool International A/S.

During the ensuing decades, Rockwool International became the largest stone wool manufacturer in the world, with production in six different European countries.

On 23 December 1981, the five then remaining Kähler siblings, together with Dorrit Kähler, widow of their brother Ivar Kähler, decided to establish a foundation which would use its income for the benefit of the general public. Shortly thereafter, 25% of the Rockwool International shares were transferred to the Foundation – making the Rockwool Foundation the largest shareholder in Rockwool International A/S.

Because Rockwool International was expanding rapidly at that time, the dividends from the shares were very small, so that the Foundation was unable to make substantial donations.

In light of this, the idea gradually evolved that the Foundation could do more good to society if, instead of spending money on making direct donations, funds were used to provide politicians with better background information as a basis for policy-making. This was very much in line with Claus Kähler’s own beliefs about decision-making in a company like Rockwool International. When asked if it had been hard while he was CEO of Rockwool International to make the right decisions, he answered: “It has not been hard to make the right business decisions; the difficult thing has been to collect the relevant information about an issue. Once this was done, making the decision was relatively easy.”

The six founders had their backgrounds in industry, and were mostly educated as engineers. They had not been active in
politics or public administration. Claus Kähler and his son Tom Kähler, at that time a member of the management team of Rockwool International, agreed to invite Erik Ib Schmidt, former Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, to advise the Kähler family, in order to ensure that the Foundation could operate in a professional way in its work connected with society.

These early moves subsequently resulted in the establishment of the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit in 1987.

A large number of issues related to society have been studied by the Research Unit over the years. However, approaching the objective truth as closely as possible has always been a primary concern.

The Rockwool Foundation operates on the basis of the same business values as Rockwool International, for example as expressed by Claus Kähler (see box). The aim has always been to have a strong and competent management team in the Foundation and an efficient working culture, corresponding to what would be found in a sound industrial corporation competing successfully on the global market. The Foundation similarly strives to work in cooperation with partner organisations within Denmark and abroad that are themselves efficient.

After Tom Kähler took over as Chairman of the Rockwool Foundation in 1991, higher dividends from the shares in Rockwool International made it possible to gradually expand the research activities of the organisation.

Tom Kähler stepped down as CEO for the Rockwool Group in 2004, by which time the concern was active in 35 countries, with manufacture of stone wool going on in 14 different countries and on three continents. Tom Kähler’s successor as CEO was Eelco van Heel, and under his direction the Rockwool Group has continued its growth; for example, today it also manufactures stone wool in China.

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**Claus Kähler’s business values**

1. Be reliable in dealings with customers, employees, and authorities.
2. Develop the company so that its impact on society is positive overall.
3. Avoid speculation and unnecessary risk-taking.
4. Make important decisions on the basis of good analyses.
5. Maintain good liquidity so that creditors never become a problem.
6. Take care that there is good communication throughout the organisation so that everybody fights in the same battle following the same strategy.
7. Avoid extravagance.
8. Learn to foresee problems and solve them before they get out of hand – do not sweep them under the carpet.
The Rockwool Foundation 1981-1990: The first decade

The Rockwool Foundation was set up in 1981. The first years were a period of consolidation, and then activities began to be expanded. The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit was established in 1987. This article, and those that follow, describe the 30-year history of the Foundation, and some of the important developments in Danish society during that period. The 1980s in Denmark were a decade of great economic imbalances, with relatively high levels of unemployment.

Danish Society

In 1982, a right-of-centre government came to power, led by Poul Schlüter (Conservative). This government took over after many years of Social Democrat control in Denmark. Economic problems marked the early years of the 1980s, and throughout the decade Denmark suffered from a high rate of unemployment of between 8% and 10%. The tax burden was already fairly heavy at the start of the decade, at around 40%, and it nearly reached 50% by the end of the 1980s as a result of the extension of the welfare state and the costs of the high level of unemployment.

In the public debate on unemployment, there were many who proposed that such work as was available should be distributed in a fair and equitable manner, so that young people, for example, could gain a foothold on the labour market. One practical example of the results of such thinking was the introduction of early retirement benefit in 1979. This was intended to make it easier for older employees to withdraw from the labour market, though it was also driven by welfare considerations related to the fact that many older blue collar workers were physically worn out by their work.

There was also discussion of how many of those registered as unemployed truly were without any work. There was a widespread suspicion that there was an increasing level of undeclared work going on, with the unemployed being especially active in this field. What, people wondered, were the distributional and moral implications of the existence of this underground economy?

There were discussions of economic democracy, and of division of surpluses. The working week was cut – first to 39 hours, and later to 37. To what use should this extra leisure time be put, the Danes asked themselves – and did they indeed find that they had more leisure in practice?

Fertility rates had been in decline since the 1960s, and in 1983 the number of births hit a low point. In that year, just over 50,000 Danes were born – the lowest figure for any year in the 20th century.

In 1984 the government declared that atomic power was not going to be introduced in Denmark.
In 1986, the population voted ‘yes’ to closer cooperation within the European Community in a referendum on the Single European Act.

Towards the end of the period, liberalisation came to the nations of Eastern Europe, and the Berlin Wall came down. These changes were followed closely in Denmark, just as they were all over the world.

The Foundation
The first years of the 1980s were a period of consolidation, with the Foundation beginning to make a number of small grants from 1983 onwards to individual researchers and for purposes of the social good. In 1985 there was a change of course when Claus Kähler, then Chair of the Board of the Foundation, and his son Tom Kähler decided that they needed some expert advice in connection with a competition for the writing of an essay on economic democracy. They contacted Erik Ib Schmidt, former Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, to ask for his help in connection with a prize essay on economic democracy.

Schmidt had occupied a powerful position in the central administration in Denmark in the post-war years, and had had a key role in efforts to carry through the coordinated overall planning programmes known as the Perspective Plans. He also had thorough knowledge of the world of research, and it was in that context that he was contacted by the Rockwool Foundation.

Erik Ib Schmidt came to be of great importance for the Foundation’s first projects. He suggested subjects for research and researchers who could carry out the projects. When the Foundation set up an academic programme advisory committee in 1990, he again contributed suggestions as to which researchers to include, as well as becoming a member himself.

In 1986 the first research project to be run directly under the auspices of the Foundation was initiated, and at the end of that year Gunnar Viby Mogensen was appointed as Research Director to work in collaboration with Erik Ib Schmidt in leading the project. Work on the resulting research project ‘Time and Consumption’ began in 1987.
The main goal of the project was to determine the most important elements of the pattern of time use by Danes on various everyday activities, and to describe any significant changes which had occurred in this pattern over the previous 20-30 years. In addition, the project would attempt to establish relationships between time use and the consumption of goods and services.

Other themes in the project were the use of time on undeclared work and DIY projects, and the question of whether the high levels of taxation in Denmark induced distortions in the supply of labour. By covering these issues, the focus given in the project to time spent on work in the formal economy could be supplemented to create a full picture of Danes’ overall work patterns from 1964 to the end of the 1980s. The project leadership system established a structure and working method that ensured that the researchers were totally independent of the Rockwool Foundation, once the Board had granted the funds for the project.

The results of the ‘Time and Consumption’ project were presented at press conferences in 1989 and 1990. Of these presentations, the Danish national newspaper Politiken declared that ‘Few research projects on such broad themes, if any, have ever attracted so much attention’. Thus, around 1990 the Rockwool Foundation became known to large sections of the Danish population. At the same time, the organisational form and some important themes for future projects had been established.

**Principal results from the projects**

Since the mid-1960s, when the first national surveys of time use were carried out, there had been ongoing debate in Western societies as to whether Western civilisation was on its way to becoming a leisure society. Social scientists were not in any doubt. We would have more and more free time in the future – eventually, maybe so much free time that the question of what to do with it all would become a moral issue.

With the completion of the project ‘Time and Consumption’, the Rockwool Foundation was able to quantify the changes in Denmark between the mid-1960s and the end of the 1980s, in line with national surveys in other countries.

The results showed that Danes who were in employment were actually busier overall than before, despite a shorter
formal working week and longer holidays, because DIY work, journey times to and from work, and courses of education and further training all placed greater pressures on the time they had available. In addition, women were now more frequently engaged in paid employment, placing additional pressure on their time.

The study documented a degree of convergence between the time use of women and men in terms of time spent in paid employment and on household work. However, it was still far from being the case that men and women used their time in identical ways.

As the pressure on time increased, with resulting reduction in real leisure time, purchases of durable consumer goods increased significantly. ‘We have achieved more prosperity. But have we also achieved better lives?’ asked Erik Ib Schmidt in the 1990 discussion book Behøver vi at nå det hele? (Do we have to get everything done?).

As far as the unemployed were concerned, the study showed that they were not particularly active on the market for undeclared labour.

In general, Danes’ level of undeclared activity was found to be increasing. In 1980, 8.3% of Danes aged 20 to 69 stated in the anonymous survey that they had carried out undeclared work in the previous 12 months. This figure increased to 12.8% in 1984, and stayed at that level for the remainder of the decade. The amount of time spent on undeclared work increased for those who were involved from 39 minutes per day on average in 1982 to 53 minutes per day in 1989.
Danish Society

The right-of-centre government under Poul Schlüter was forced to resign in 1993 in the wake of the ‘Tamil case’ and the publication of the judge’s report on that scandal. A new Social Democrat government led by Poul Nyrup Rasmussen came to power; the Social Democrats were to remain in government, in alliance with small parties of the centre, for the remainder of the decade.

Unemployment reached its peak in 1994/95. Parliament passed a number of reforms intended to reduce the level of unemployment and to make the labour market more flexible. In the first instance, a number of work leave schemes were introduced: longer parental leave, leave for educational purposes, and a sabbatical leave scheme. A labour market reform of 1994 paved the way for a more active labour market policy, with various amendments being made in subsequent years. A ceiling of nine years of unemployment benefit was introduced, including two years of educational or parental leave.

Due to the increasing participation of women in the labour market, the employment rate for people aged 18 to 64 rose to around 80%, and remained at that level throughout the decade.

The nuclear family was declining, and around 1990 the one-person household became the most common type in Denmark.

Throughout the period, immigration to Denmark was a burning topic of discussion. Early in the 1990s, the number of immigrants from non-Western countries surpassed for the first time the number of immigrants from Western countries coming into the country. The issue became even more relevant around the middle of the decade, when many asylum-seekers from the former Yugoslavia entered the country. Immigration was primarily based on family reuni-fi- cation and people entering the country as refugees, while labour force immigration from countries outside the EU had virtually been halted as far back as 1973 in reaction to the first oil crisis.

Environmental issues had been of concern to the Danish population since the 1970s, and continued to attract consider- able public attention in the 1990s. One widely debated ques- tion, for example, was whether there had been a reasonable return on the huge investments resulting from the ambitious plans for improving the water environment made at the end of the 1980s.

In two referendums on the Danish accession to the Maastricht Treaty, the people voted first ‘no’ in 1992 and then ‘yes’ in 1993.

Some Danes indicated that their concerns about immigra- tion and about Danish politicians’ handling of EU issues had

The Rockwool Foundation 1991-1995: Analyses of the functioning of the labour market and of political trust

The first years of the 1990s were marked by continuing high levels of unemployment. Unemployment as a social problem, and more generally the function of the Danish labour market in interaction with the Danish welfare state, were consequently topics given high priority in the Foundation’s research. Another central area of research was an investigation of the views of the Danes concerning their politicians and the political system.
1995

Presentation of the first empirical results from the project ‘Welfare and labour’.

1993

At a press conference in 1993 concerning the project on ‘Welfare and incentives’. On the left is Gunnar Viby Mogensen, the then Research Director of the Research Unit; on the right is Anders Fogh Rasmussen (of Venstre, the Danish Liberal Party), who was later to become Prime Minister of Denmark. In 1993 Anders Fogh Rasmussen was the Vice-chairman of Venstre and the party’s political spokesperson; he commented on the research results at the press conference.

 contributed to undermining their trust in the political system. It was not clear how deep that mistrust went, and whether it amounted to a breakdown of confidence in the whole concept of a representative democracy.

In foreign policy, Denmark took on a more active role, with the despatch of a warship in 1991 in connection with the Gulf War.

The Foundation

In 1991 Tom Kähler took over from Claus Kähler as Chair of the Board of the Foundation.

Because of the apparent mistrust in Denmark in politics and politicians, the Rockwool Foundation decided to carry out a project in just that area. The project title was ‘The population and the politicians – confidence or mistrust?’ A number of social scientists mapped changes in the population’s view of politicians over the previous 20-30 years. The results were published in 1992.

With the high levels of unemployment, the functioning and efficiency of the Danish labour market remained an important topic, including the issue of what went on outside the formal labour market. Research into undeclared work resulted in the middle of the decade in a large number of new analyses, published under titles such as Danskernes sorte dagligdag (The everyday undeclared work of Danes) and The Shadow Economy in Denmark.

Another theme was the patterns of working hours and flexibility on the labour market; these topics were the objects of new analyses in a research project published in 1992. The objective was to discover how well the labour market was functioning under the pressure of continued reductions in the length of the working week and, in many places, inflexible rules on working hours.

The Rockwool Foundation also felt that there was a need for new information about unemployment and for new proposals as to how it could be reduced. The Foundation sponsored an essay competition in this area in 1991, with a prize of DKK 300,000. One of the requirements was that entries should put forward proposals for reforms, most especially for reforms that would bring weaker, less productive groups into the labour market.

The project ‘Welfare and incentives’ represented a supplementary approach to research into the Danish labour market and its functioning that was to prove a lasting theme in the Rockwool Foundation’s research over many years to come. The focus in this project was on the labour supply.
The goal of the first part of the project, which began in 1992, was to discover more about how the welfare state, with its taxes and welfare benefit incomes, affects people’s will to work.

In the first instance, the project investigated and disseminated existing knowledge on the subject relating to Denmark, the United Kingdom, Sweden and Germany. Researchers from the four countries participated in the first part of the project, published in 1993, making this the first international project to be organised under the auspices of the Rockwool Foundation.

In 1995, the project’s first empirical results for Denmark were published in a book entitled *Hvad driver værket? Om sammenhængen mellem socialpolitik, skattelovgivning og arbejdsvæddet i dagens Danmark* (What drives the work? On the relationship between social policies, tax legislation and supply of labour in Denmark).

Towards the middle of the 1990s, a book was published on the economic development of Greenland, based on a project on that topic. That project represented an early indication of the Foundation’s future interest in developing economies.

At around the same time, a number of environmental projects were also winning support from the Board of the Foundation. A project on ‘Values in environmental policy’, headed by Erik Ib Schmidt, was designed to discover the assumptions underlying environmental decisions, while another project analysed the historical environmental debate in Danish newspapers right back to the 1870s. A project aimed at contributing to the development of a measure of the green gross domestic product was run in cooperation with Statistics Denmark.

**Principal results from the projects**

The project on the attitudes of the population to politicians documented that Danes’ trust in their representative democracy was deeply rooted. However, the analysis also showed that trust in politicians themselves had decreased significantly. A number of factors were identified which could explain the higher level of mistrust, including a weakening of the political grass roots networks and changes in political journalism.

The analyses of the extent of undeclared work showed that an ever-increasing number of Danes participated in such activity; the figure for 1994 was 15% of the population. However, the unemployed continued to be no more heavily involved in the shadow economy than other groups in society.

The project on flexibility in the labour market detected a softening in the rigid patterns of working hours in parallel with...
the reduction in the working week. Flexibility was increasing slowly but systematically, and working hours were becoming staggered to an ever greater extent. The Danes were pleased with the opportunities available to arrange their working time more flexibly.

The essay competition produced a number of suggestions for reform, and at the same time presented in-depth analyses of the reasons for the high levels of unemployment and its structural nature. The international element of the project on welfare and incentives revealed that there were reductions in the supply of labour as an effect of welfare benefit incomes and the taxes that financed them, but that in general the negative effects were small in size. However, the new empirical analyses for Denmark did demonstrate significant problems related to economic incentives to work in the cases of unskilled workers and the low-paid.

The project on Greenland gave rise to debate, because the researcher, Professor Martin Paldam, showed that the high standard of living in Greenland was maintained solely through economic support from Denmark. If Greenland became independent, living standards would fall significantly – unless the country could make economic changes that would close the gap between consumption and production.

The Foundation’s environmental projects documented, among other things, that Danes had been debating problems of pollution and the right of free access to woods and beaches since the beginning of the 20th century. For example, topics such as water and air pollution and nature conservation featured frequently in newspapers around the time of the First World War. However, it was only in the 1960s that what had hitherto been seen as separate topics became linked in one large complex of problems related to industrial growth and the development of the welfare society.

A project on the calculation of a welfare indicator for Denmark showed, however, that environmental problems and the efforts to resolve them through combating pollution had had no great impact on the material welfare of the population in the period 1970-1990.

Economists Professors Björn A. Gustafsson of Sweden and Klaus F. Zimmermann of Germany at the presentation in 1993 of the introductory overview of research in Northern Europe on the influence of the welfare state on the supply of labour.
The Rockwool Foundation 1996-2000: Research into immigration, health, and Danes’ attitudes to the law

While immigration to Denmark was drawing ever-increasing public attention, there had been little actual research into immigration and the integration of immigrants into society. Under these circumstances, the Rockwool Foundation decided to include the integration and conditions of life of immigrants among its research areas. The Danes’ social morals and the wishes of the population with regard to the health sector were other new themes taken up in this period.

Danish Society
In the second half of the 1990s the Danish business cycle entered a period of expansion, and unemployment halved as the turn of the millennium approached.

The total length of time during which it was possible to receive unemployment benefit was reduced to five years. At the same time, the rights and obligations of the unemployed with respect to activation schemes were strengthened, in parallel with the improved economic situation. In 1999 the rules for taking early retirement benefit were tightened up, while at the same time the age for eligibility for the old-age pension was reduced to 65, with effect from 2004.

The more stringent rules were intended to motivate more people to be active on the labour market after the age of 60, and thus to help offset the consequences of having an ageing population.

As part of the development of the motorway network and improvements to the railway system, the Great Belt Fixed Link (tunnel and bridge) between Funen and Zealand was opened for trains in 1997 and for motor traffic in 1998. The Øresund Bridge between Denmark and Sweden was opened in 2000.

The debate on immigration continued with great intensity throughout the period, with the total number of non-Western immigrants now surpassing 250,000 out of a total population of just over five million.

Another debate was about the Danes’ social morals. The 1990s were declared to be a ‘decade of morality’, but many people had a growing fear that in fact cold, egocentric calculation was replacing traditional community values such as honesty and respect for the law. Checks and sanctions are often of little use if society’s underlying moral attitudes do not support them.

A third topic of debate was the question of how the enormous Danish public sector could be modernised and made more efficient.

In particular, there was concern about the health sector. Around 1960, Denmark had been at the top of the OECD league tables with regard to average life expectancy and health treatment in general; however, by the second half of
the 1990s, Denmark found itself far below the level of other countries with which it usually expected to be comparable. How could these poor results be explained?

Finland, Sweden and Austria joined the EU. The euro was introduced in 12 of the EU member states.

The Foundation
On an organisational level, a new President of the Rockwool Foundation was appointed: Poul Erik Pedersen replaced Bent Løber in 1997.

The focus of the essay competition run in 1991 was on how weak groups with low productivity could enter a labour market with a high minimum wage. Because of the low labour market participation by Danes with non-Western backgrounds and given the general lack of research into immigration, the Board of the Rockwool Foundation decided in 1997 to give high priority to the topic of ‘immigrants and their conditions of life’.

The new project was aimed at investigating the conditions of life experienced by immigrants in the Danish welfare society and their integration into the labour market. The first publication came in 1999 with an overview of the history of, and the international background to, immigration to Denmark up until the mid-1990s.

There followed a round of publications in 2000 that were based on interviews with representative samples of groups from among non-Western immigrants. The interviews were conducted in either Danish or the immigrants’ national languages by a team of second-generation immigrants.

The Rockwool Foundation initiated its first foreign project when the researcher responsible for the book on Greenland, development economist Martin Paldam, was asked to assess the effects of Danish development aid as realised through a series of projects run by Danida, the Danish government overseas development agency.

The study was published in 1997, and it aimed to elucidate questions such as: Do the Danes get full value for the money spent on development projects? Do the recipients get the optimal yield from the funds provided? What can we learn from the projects that have been particularly successful or unsuccessful?
Interest in research into undeclared work was maintained throughout this five-year period. This work gave rise to a new series of publications when the Foundation decided to fund a project that would make comparisons among the countries of Northern Europe on the basis of existing knowledge about undeclared work.

A significant project was ‘Citizens and the Law’, in which the Rockwool Foundation cooperated with Professor Jørgen Goul Andersen, among others, to investigate the relationship of the Danes to the laws and the social norms.

In the light of the problematic situation in the public health sector and the lack of concrete knowledge about its causes and effects, the Foundation initiated research into the area of health. Research funds were to be used to make an evaluation of the Danish health service and to measure preferences among the population with regard to the services the health authorities should provide.

Two projects related to the public sector rounded off the Foundation’s research for the decade. One of these involved an analysis of public budgeting, including an examination of practice in financial reforms over the period from the mid-1980s to the end of the 1990s. The other project analysed expenditure on services by Danish municipalities, and the level of satisfaction with these services among the population.

Principal results from the projects

The book Indvandringen til Danmark. Internationale og nationale perspektiver / Immigration to Denmark. International and national perspectives) (published in Danish and English editions, 1999) documented the very large demographic potential there was for immigration from non-Western countries, and at the same time showed how immigration had been the subject of intensive newspaper debate in Denmark from the end of the 1960s onwards.

The first interview survey results were published in 2000 in a book entitled Misllykket integration? (Failed integration?). The analyses showed that integration into the labour market was proceeding very slowly, and that immigrants from non-Western countries cost the public exchequer around DKK 10

The scene at the presentation of new results on welfare and incentives in February 1998. Media interest was particularly great in view of the ongoing election campaign.
billion annually, or approximately 0.8% of GDP. Their low level of attachment to the labour market meant that although non-Western immigrants constituted only 5% of the population at the time of the study, they accounted for 35% of the total of social assistance paid out.

The project on ‘Citizens and the Law’ showed that in principle, Danes are relatively law-abiding people. In almost all groups of society, the opinion held was that the law was the law, and the law must be obeyed. In practice, however, respect for the law had weakened in many areas, and lack of respect for the law often led to infringement of the law; 30% of the population admitted that they had participated in acts of theft, vandalism or violence.

The analysis of overseas aid showed that the projects examined had succeeded better than the general public imagined, but even so could only be described as partial successes. There was a clear global pattern: projects in Africa, and particularly projects within the field of agriculture, achieved systematically poorer results than those in other areas where Danida was active.

An examination of the existing literature on undeclared work in Northern Europe revealed that the extent of such activities did not differ substantially among the countries studied, namely Denmark, Norway, Sweden, the UK and Germany. However, the study also showed that there were problems associated with making comparisons, because the data were collected in different ways in different countries. In other words, it was suggested, there was a need for new data collection on the basis of a common interview format.

The survey of the preferences of the Danish population with regard to health services showed, among other things, that around 40% of respondents wanted more private hospitals. It was also found that there was a better system of incentives for General Practitioners than for doctors working in hospitals, and that the General Practitioners were more efficient.
The Rockwool Foundation 2001-2006: International research projects and practical aid projects in developing countries

Research into immigrants’ conditions of life and integration was extended through a comparative Danish-German project, while research into undeclared work continued with a unique data collection project in Denmark’s neighbouring countries. The Foundation took an important decision of principle that as well as funding academic research projects, it would be prepared in future to finance direct interventional projects aimed at improving conditions of life in developing countries and assisting the integration of immigrants in Denmark.

Danish Society
In 2001, a right-of-centre government under Anders Fogh Rasmussen (Venstre, the Danish Liberal party) took over the reins of power from the previous Social Democratic administration. The new government placed a formal halt on tax increases that fixed taxes and duties at their 2001 levels.

At the same time, the government introduced a new immigration policy based on freer access to Denmark for labour and education immigrants, but also on more restrictive rules for asylum-seekers and family reunification. Levels of welfare benefits were reduced for newly-arrived refugees.

The Danish population benefited from a period of economic growth that brought unemployment down to levels not seen since before the oil crisis of 1973. The balance of payments continued a long-term improvement, and by the end of 2005 Denmark no longer had a net foreign debt, for the first time since World War II.

Developments in democracy and economic progress in the former Communist countries of Eastern Europe were followed with interest among the Danish population. Even greater interest was shown in how the Danish welfare state would develop. There was growing awareness of the demographic changes that had taken place since the 1960s, and of the subsequent prospect of an increasing proportion of the elderly, and particularly of the very elderly, among the population – a group which could be expected to require large expenditures from the public purse.

The Foundation
Professor Torben Tranæs was appointed as Research Director at the Rockwool Foundation Research Unit in 2003. He replaced Gunnar Viby Mogensen, who had been instrumental in the creation of the Research Unit in 1987.

Research into immigration and integration continued as a high-profile area. One project in which the Foundation invested heavily investigated immigration in Germany and Denmark. Using completely parallel data collected specifically for the project through interviews with representative samples of the immigrant groups studied, the Danish-German research team compared integration of immigrants into the labour market in the two countries as well as their levels of dependency on welfare benefits.
Other new projects in the period involved the analysis of trends in overall tax pressure and in marginal tax rates, a project on the patterns of residence in the Danish population, and an analysis of the newspaper debate on the unemployed since the establishment of democracy in Denmark in the mid-19th century.

A project on ‘Criminality and the labour market’ represented a new area of study for the Research Unit. Among the aspects of the topic investigated was the effect of a criminal conviction on a person’s subsequent employment and income. Does a criminal conviction involve an informal punishment in addition to the formal punishment of imprisonment? Does a conviction mean a reduced level of income for many years afterwards?

Research into undeclared work continued; the Board of the Foundation wanted the results from Denmark to be put into perspective through new data collection in the neighbouring countries. The results were published in 2003. Work on the project continued in Germany with the collection of further data. The German Ministry of Finance was among the users of the new data.

The Foundation requested Professor Jørgen Goul Andersen to carry out an analysis of the functioning and effectiveness of the Danish ‘home help’ service for the sick and elderly. This work put under the spotlight an area where many people felt that things had gone badly wrong.

The Foundation took a decision of principle in 2005 that henceforth its funds could be used for new types of activity: projects for the improvement of conditions of life in developing countries on a ‘help to self-help’ principle, and the design and implementation of projects to promote the integration of new Danish citizens into a West European society.

The first project to be granted funds for activities in developing countries involved support for the Danish Red Cross for a technical college in Sri Lanka. The intention was to help victims of the tsunami to find new ways of making a living. The first project to support the integration of non-Western immigrants into Danish society concerned the use of the methods of cognitive psychology to allow students from other ethnic backgrounds to obtain a better return from their schooling; the intention was to increase their chances of going on to further education or training that
would qualify them for jobs, and thus to help them to obtain employment.

**Principal results from the projects**
The Foundation’s analyses suggested that the home help service was significantly better than it was rumoured to be. The main dissatisfaction was with the help provided with cleaning the house, a service which was not offered at all in neighbouring countries.

The project on undeclared work in selected Northern European countries showed that the proportion of GDP represented by undeclared work peaked in Germany at around the turn of the millennium at 4.1% of GDP. The level in Denmark was approximately the same, while it was rather lower in Norway and Sweden.

The EU Commission decided in 2005 to undertake a preliminary study of the opportunities available for investigating the undeclared economy in all EU member states, using the methodology developed by the Research Unit. The Foundation decided that the Research Unit could make its expertise available in connection with the preliminary study. This offer was not taken up; instead, the EU opted for a low-budget, rather superficial study which concluded, for example, that Italy has few problems with untaxed work.

The Danish-German immigration project presented an overall picture of immigrants in both countries having a lower level of employment than the rest of the population, and showed that the situation had deteriorated over the previous 15 years. While levels of employment had been falling for immigrants in both countries over that period, they had increased for ethnic Germans and Danes. The study also showed that immigrants were less well integrated in Denmark than they were in Germany.

The study of the geographical distribution of Danish homes showed that in both 1985 and in 2003, Danes lived in socially mixed areas. The only group which lived in concentrations away from the rest of the population were non-Western immigrants. More than half of all these immigrants would have to move home if their patterns of residence should parallel those of ethnic Danes.

The project on taxes, welfare benefits and labour supply documented that for most groups, there was high income mobility on the Danish labour market. Only a small group of around
One of the first development aid projects sponsored by Rockwool Foundation was launched in 2006 in northern Tanzania and was given the name ‘RIPAT’ (Rockwool Initiative for Poverty Alleviation in Tanzania). Since then, additional projects have been launched in Africa on the principle of ‘help to self-help’, focusing on the alleviation of poverty and hunger through the development of sustainable small-scale farming and (agri)businesses, through the creation of small farmer groups with good constitutions and by-laws, and through microfinance initiatives that can help to create the foundations for economic growth.

20% of the population remained fixed in relative poverty. The project revealed that the effective level of marginal taxation was very high in Denmark. Effective taxation includes VAT and duties, income tax, and loss of income supplements from public funds resulting from increased earnings. Calculated in that way, it was found that all in Denmark who were active on the labour market had an effective marginal rate of taxation of between 60% and over 70% in 2005.
The Rockwool Foundation 2007-2011:
Two new research areas, and an increasing emphasis on practical interventions

Two new research areas were established during this period: ‘Families and children’ and ‘Development economics’. The cooperation between the Research Unit and the Foundation was strengthened with the commencement of a systematic evaluation of the practical projects by the Research Unit. At the same time, the Foundation formulated a new strategy for the practical projects, with an emphasis being placed on social entrepreneurship.

Danish Society
A municipal reform of 2007 changed the framework within which the local authorities in Denmark conducted their independent administrative duties. The number of municipal authorities was reduced from 271 to 98. The 13 larger administrative areas in Denmark were replaced by five regions, whose main responsibility was the administration of the hospital service.

The period of economic boom, and the high level of employment, continued into the autumn of 2008, when the world financial crisis broke out. As a result of the crisis, unemployment began to rise again, though without Danes having to suffer the high levels of joblessness seen in the 1990s. In the winter of 2010-11 the level of unemployment rose above 5%.

At the end of the period, a government under Social Democratic leadership came to power, with Helle Thorning-Schmidt as Denmark’s first female Prime Minister. The change of government ended a 10-year period of right-of-centre rule. The new government is a coalition of three parties: the Social Democratic Party, the Social-Liberal Party, and the Socialist People’s Party. This is the first time that the Socialist People’s Party has formed part of the Danish government.

At the end of the period, the debt crisis in the EU was still ongoing, and having a negative effect on the Danish economy.

The Foundation
A new President was appointed to the Foundation in 2007: Elin Schmidt. She replaced Poul Erik Pedersen.

A new research area, ‘Families and children’, was established in 2007, and new researchers were appointed to the Research Unit to strengthen its expertise in this area. Two of the first projects in the field concerned children in care and parents’ expenditure of time and money on their children. There followed projects on the conditions of life of the mentally disordered in Denmark, and on Danes’ state of wellbeing and their situation with regard to obesity, exercise and sleeping habits. The results were based in part on a major survey on time use that was conducted in 2008-2009. This was followed up in 2011 with a special survey conducted among immigrants.
After the appointment of Elin Schmidt as President of the Foundation, practical interventions grew to become a substantial part of the Foundation’s activities. The Foundation’s practical intervention projects were organised into four programme areas: Food Security and Poverty Alleviation, Social Capacity Building, International Peace Building and Health Interventions. The management of these projects was strengthened.

The Research Unit is increasingly involved in the evaluation of the outcomes of the practical projects, and in 2011 a Head of Evaluation was appointed to lead this work. A new research area has gradually been established at the Research Unit: Development Economics.

The breadth of the Foundation’s work is illustrated by the fact that the Annual Report for 2009 could point to 32 ongoing research projects and 9 practical projects.

During this period, a team of external researchers conducted an analysis of the American health organisation Kaiser Permanente for the Foundation. One of the goals of this project was to enable the Danish health authorities to benefit from the American experience. Could the Danish health system learn anything from the American method of organising this area? In addition to research in the new area of ‘Families and children’, work continued in the Research Unit during this period on undeclared work and on immigration and integration. For example, one project investigated the significance of the enlargement of the EU for immigration to Denmark. In a special project, a group of international researchers examined the effects of emigration from Poland on the people who remained behind. The scholastic results for young immigrants were analysed in a project entitled ‘PISA Ethnic 2005’.

Principal results from the projects
Many results were published in relation to the ‘Immigrants and integration’ research area. The analyses carried out in ‘PISA Ethnic 2005’ showed that the presence of up to 50% in a class of students who did not have Danish as their first language had no adverse effect on the reading skills of their Danish classmates. However, the study did document that non-Western pupils had great difficulty in acquiring skills that came anywhere near those of the young Danes. Whether in

In 2008 one of the first practical projects under the programme area International Peace Building was launched in Lebanon. In cooperation with the NGO Cross Cultures Project Association (CCPA), the Rockwool Foundation developed a project to encourage peaceful coexistence between various groups in Lebanon through football, and to stimulate the development of an active civil society built on equality and diversity. Since then, additional peace-building projects have been launched in Lebanon, Nepal, Uganda and Burundi.

The scholastic results for young immigrants were analysed in 2007 in the book ‘Pisa Etnisk 2005’.

2007
The scholastic results for young immigrants were analysed in 2007 in the book ‘Pisa Etnisk 2005’.
reading skills, mathematics or natural sciences, the picture was always the same: pupils with a mother tongue other than Danish were found to be considerably less successful academically than their Danish classmates. Other analyses showed, however, that young immigrants were acquiring increasingly more education, even though there was still a long way to go before they reached the educational levels of ethnic Danes.

The analyses made by the Research Unit of ‘Starting-out assistance’ showed that on average, both men and women found jobs more quickly when the alternative was this low-level benefit. (Starting-out assistance was a social security safety net provided for the first seven years of residence for people without employment who had been granted residence permits for Denmark after 1 July 2002, and who came from countries outside the Nordic region or the EU. It was abolished with effect from 1 January 2012). The analyses also showed, however, that living on starting-out assistance alone meant living in poverty. Conditions of life for the large group of refugees who do not find work were so difficult, the researchers concluded, that it was hard for them to pay for even the most basic food and housing.

The project on parents’ expenditure of time and money on their children documented that Danish parents give more and more time to their offspring. Studies also show that caring for children is shared more equally between couples than in many other countries, even though there remain sizeable differences in the amount of time that mothers and fathers spend together with their children.

The results of the project on the life conditions of criminals were published in 2008. These showed that after serving a prison term, criminals could expect to face considerably more punishment in the form of lasting loss of income, referred to as informal punishment.

The project on children in foster care showed that children who were placed in care outside the home were less likely
to succeed than others during the remainder of their lives. Grades in school, level of education achieved, chances of gaining employment or committing crime – in all respects, these children fared worse than others.

The analyses of Danes’ health, wellbeing and obesity showed that Danes have a weight problem. Twenty years ago, every third man and every seventh woman in Denmark aged 25-44 was obese or moderately overweight. Today, this is the case for a half of all men and one third of all women in the same age range.

The project on immigration from the newly-joined member states of the EU revealed a significant level of immigration that had increased the level of flexibility in the Danish labour market. In just a few years there had been a trebling in the number of immigrant workers from Eastern Europe. The analyses also showed that companies which employed foreign experts were more productive and paid higher salaries than otherwise comparable companies that did not.

In 2008 the Rockwool Foundation launched the Healthy Schools Network. Its aims were to encourage the implementation of health-promoting initiatives in Danish primary/lower secondary schools and to collect data on the health of Danish schoolchildren. These health-related data included records of BMI, waist measurement, fitness rating and vertical jump height.

At a press conference on undeclared work in the summer of 2010, it was revealed that a majority of Danes (52%) had purchased undeclared work during the previous year. The survey also showed that an additional 28% were willing to buy undeclared services, even though they had not actually done so within the previous year. A quarter of the Danish population carry out undeclared work.
A selection of publications by the Rockwool Foundation

Titles are given in English first, with original titles in parentheses where the book is not in English and the title has been translated.

1989

Twenty-four hours a day. Patterns of time use and consumption since the 1960s (24 timer i døgnet. Tidsanvendelse og forbrugsmønstre siden 1960’erne).
By Erik Ib Schmidt, Eszter Körmendi, Gunnar Viby Mogensen and Jon Vibe-Pedersen. Herning: Systime.

Time and consumption.

1990

An empirical study of the development of the service sector in Denmark since 1966 (Empirisk belysning af servicesektorens udvikling i Danmark siden 1966).

1991

The everyday life of Danes.
Developments in Denmark from the 1960s to the 1990s (Danskernes dagligdag. Trækk af udviklingen i Danmark fra 1960’erne til 1990’erne).

1992

Fixed hours of work: A thing of the past (Den faste arbejdstid er fortid).

When do we want to work? ( Hvornår vil vi arbejde?).
By Benedicte Madsen and Mette Nayberg. Copenhagen: Spektrum.

The fight against unemployment (Kampen mod ledigheden).

Employment and unemployment in the 1990s (Arbejde og ledighed i 1990’erne).
By Gunnar Viby Mogensen, with contributions by Poul Erik Pedersen, Georg Poulsen, Sven Folmer Thomesen and Finn Thorgrimson. Copenhagen: Spektrum.
Welfare and work incentives. A North European perspective.

Solidarity or egoism?

Can we trust the politicians?
(Kan vi stole på politikere?)
By Gunnar Viby Mogensen. Copenhagen: Spektrum.

Unemployment and flexibility on the Danish labour market. (Arbejdsløshed – 90ernes udfordring. Arbejdsløshed og fleksibilitet på det danske arbejdsmarked).
By Troels Østergaard Sørensen. Copenhagen: Statistics Denmark.

What makes us work?
(Hvad får os til at arbejde?)

Research on the ‘black’ sector in Denmark, 1980-92 (Forsknin en den sorte sektor i Danmark).

1994

What do we do about unemployment? (Hvad gør vi ved arbejdsløshed?)

Aspects of research on environmental economics conducted in Denmark and selected industrialised countries, and by international organisations, 1992-94 (Aspekter af miljøøkonomisk forskning i Danmark, udvalgte industrielande og internationale organisationer, 1992-94).

1995

Environmental policy – Why and how? (Miljøpolitik – hvorfor og hvordan?).
By Erik Ib Schmidt. Copenhagen: Spektrum.

Economic development in Greenland. What must be done to stop financial dependence on Denmark?
(Grønlands økonomiske udvikling. Hvad skal der til for at lukke gabel?).
By Martin Paldam. Aarhus: Aarhus University Press.


What benefit have we had out of economic growth? Changes in consumption viewed in the light of environmental policy.
(Hvad fik vi ud af den økonomiske vækst? Forbrugsudviklingen i miljøpædagogisk perspektiv).

1996

Environmental policy and welfare. (Miljøproblemer og velfærd).

Features of the environmental debate in six Danish newspapers, from the 1870s to the 1970s.
**1997**

**Actual and potential recipients of welfare benefits, with a focus on housing benefits, 1987-1992.**
(Aktuelle og potentielle modtagere
af velfærdsydelser med hovedvægt
By Hans Hansen and Marie Louise
Hultin. Copenhagen: Statistics
Denmark.

**The shadow economy in Western Europe. Measurements and results for selected countries**
(Skyggeøkonomien i Vesteuropa.
Målinger og resultater for udvalgte
lande).
By Søren Pedersen, with contributions
by Esben Dalgaard and
Gunnar Viby Mogensen.
Copenhagen: Statistics
Denmark.

**Danish foreign aid. The economicealities of altruism**
(Dansk U-Landshjælp. Altruismens politiske
økonomi).
By Martin Paldam. Aarhus: Aarhus
University Press.

**1998**

**Employed – unemployed – early retirement. Where is the Danish labour market going – and how is it perceived by the parties involved?**
(Beskæftiget – ledig – på efterløn.
Hvor beveger det danske
arbejdsmarked sig hen – og hvordan
opleves det af dets aktører?).
Edited by Gunnar Viby Mogensen,
with contributions by Peder J.
Pedersen, Søren Pedersen and
Nina Smith, and with comments
and evaluations by Lars Andersen,
Carsten Koch and Richard B.

**The shadow economy in Western Europe. Measurement and results for selected countries.**
By Søren Pedersen, with contributions
by Esben Dalgaard and
Gunnar Viby Mogensen.
Copenhagen: Statistics Denmark.

**Work, incentives and unemployment**
(Arbejde, incitamenter og ledighed).
Edited by Nina Smith, with contributions
by Peter Jensen, Peder J.
Pedersen, Søren Pedersen and Nina
Smith. Aarhus: Aarhus University
Press.

**Citizens and the law**
(Borgerne og Lovene).
By Jørgen Goul Andersen, with contributions
by Hans Jørgen Nielsen
and Marie Louise Hultin. Aarhus:
Aarhus University Press.

**The law and me. Danes’ relationship to the law of the land**
(Lovene og mig. Danskernes forhold
til landets love).
By Jørgen Goul Andersen, with comments
and evaluations by Karen Jespersen,
Jørn Henrik Petersen and
Jørgen Westerståhl. Copenhagen:
Spektrum.

**A contribution to the study of inequalities in income distribution**
(Et bidrag til studiet af uligheder i
indkomstfordelingen).
By Erik Iib Schmidt. Copenhagen:
Statistics Denmark.

**1999**

**Immigration to Denmark. International and national perspectives**
(Indvandringen til Danmark.
Internationale og nationale
perspektiver).
By David Coleman and Eskil
Wadensjø, with contributions by
Bent Jensen and Søren Pedersen.
Copenhagen: Spektrum.

**Is working worthwhile? Danes’ labour supply in the welfare state of the 1990s**
( Kan det betale sig at arbejde? Danskernes arbejdslivsbud i
90’ernes velfærdsstat ).
By Bent Jensen. Copenhagen:
Spektrum.

**Not just creative thinking. On budgetary policy and political budgets**
(Ej blot til pynt. Om budgetets politik og politikernes
budget).
By Peter Munk Christiansen.
Aalborg: Aalborg University Press.

**An international assessment of the organisation and financing of the Danish national health service**
(International vurdering af
organisation og finansiering af det
danske sundhedsvesen).
By Terkel Christiansen. Odense:
Odense University Press.

**The Danish national health service: Choices and priorities. A literature survey of methods and results**
(Præferencer for sundhedsvesenets
organisation og ydelser. Et
litteraturstudie af metoder og
resultater).
By Annie Gaardsted Frandsen.
Odense: Odense University Press.

**Services expenditure and user satisfaction in Danish municipalities**
(Serviceudgifter
og brugertilfredshed i danske
kommuner).
By Henrik Lolle. Aalborg: Aalborg
University Press.

**2000**

**Abortive integration? Immigrants’ encounter with the labour market and the welfare society**
(Mislykket
integration? Indvandrernes møde
med arbejdsmarkedet og
velfærdsstyrelsen).
Edited by Gunnar Viby Mogensen
and Poul Chr. Matthiessen, with contributions
by Olaf Ingerslev, Claus
Larsen, Hans Jørgen Nielsen,
Niels-Kenneth Nielsen, Søren Pedersen
and Marie Louise Schultz-Nielsen.
Aarhus: Aarhus University Press.

**Integration in Denmark around the turn of the millennium. Immigrants’ encounter with the labour market and the welfare society**
(Integration i Danmark omkring
årtusindskiftet. Indvandrernes møde
med arbejdsmarkedet og velfærds-
samfundet).
Edited by Gunnar Viby Mogensen
and Poul Chr. Matthiessen, with contributions
by Olaf Ingerslev, Claus
Larsen, Hans Jørgen Nielsen,
Niels-Kenneth Nielsen, Søren Pedersen
and Marie Louise Schultz-Nielsen.
Aarhus: Aarhus University Press.

**Foreigners in the Danish newspaper debate from the 1870s to the 1990s**
(De fremmede i
dansk avisdebatt fra 1870’erne til
1990’erne).
By Bent Jensen. Copenhagen:
Spektrum.
Nature as a political issue in the classical industrial society: The environmental debate in the Danish press from the 1870s to the 1970s.

What Danes want from the national health service (Danskernes ønsker til sundhedsvæsenet).

Ilness and health. What Danes want from the national health service (Syg og sundt. Om danskernes ønsker til sundheds­væsenet).

2001

Can laws make a country? Danes’ attitudes to the law (Kan land med lov bygges? Danskernes lovomtal).

Foreigners in the Danish newspaper debate from the 1870s to the 1990s.

Citizens and the law II. Danes’ attitudes to the law of the land in the year 2000 (Borgere og Lovene II. Danskernes forhold til landets love anno 2000).
By Sanne Lund Clement. Aalborg: aalborg University.

The integration of non-Western immigrants in a Scandinavian labour market: The Danish experience.

2002

Immigration and the public sector in Denmark.
By Eskil Wadensjø and Helena Orrje. Aarhus: Aarhus University Press.

How are immigrants doing? Immigrants’ living conditions and integration into the Danish labour market (Hvordan har indvandrerne det? Indvandrernes levevilkår og integration på det danske arbejdsmarked).

Social security benefits in Denmark and Germany – with a focus on access conditions for refugees and immigrants.

Immigrants and the labour market. The meeting with the Danish welfare society (Indvandrerne og arbejdsmarkedet. Mødet med det danske velfærdssamfund).

How do Danes value their health? (Værd(i)sætter danskerne deres helbred?)

2003

Denmark’s informal economy. Historical and international aspects (Danmarks uformelle økonomi. Historiske og internationale aspekter).
By Gunnar Viby Mogensen. Copenhagen: Spektrum.

The shadow economy in Germany, Great Britain and Scandinavia. A measurement based on questionnaire surveys.

Do-it-yourself work in North-Western Europe. Maintenance and improvement of homes.

From shortage of work to shortage of labour. Working life in Denmark in the new millennium (Fra mangel på arbejde til mangel på arbejdskraft. Arbejdsliv i Danmark i det nye årtusinde).

Developments in Russia, Poland and the Baltic States. Light ahead after changes to the economic system (Udviklingen i Rusland, Polen og Baltikum: Lys forud forændringen af det økonomiske system).
By Martin Paldam. Aarhus: Aarhus University Press.

2004


Migrants, work, and the welfare state.

Immigration and the labour market. A comparison of Germany and Denmark (Zuwanderung und Arbeitsmarkt. Deutschland und Dänemark im Vergleich).

Will there be enough hands? Danes’ incentives to work in the welfare state of the 21st century. (Vil der være hænder nok? Danskernes arbejdsudbud i 2000-tallets velfærdsstat).
By Bent Jensen. Copenhagen: Gyldendal.

2005

Black activities in Germany in 2001 and in 2004. A comparison based on survey data.
By Lars P. Feld and Claus Larsen. Copenhagen: Statistics Denmark.

Immigration to Europe. The welfare state and integration (Indvandringen til Europa. Velfærdsstat og integra­tion).

From asylum seeker to refugee to family reunification. Welfare payments in these situations in some European countries and Canada (Fra asylsøger over flygtning til familiesammen­føring. Offentlige kontantydelser i disse situationer i en række vestlige lande).

2006

A dividing population? (En befolkning deler sig op?).
By Anna Pål Damm, Marie Louise Schultz-Nielsen and Torben Tranæs, with comments and evaluations by Rikke Hvilshøj, Henrik Sass Larsen and Svein Blom. Copenhagen: Gyldendal.
From asylum seeker to refugee to family reunification. Welfare payments in these situations in various Western countries.

A comparison of welfare payments to asylum seekers, refugees, and reunified families. In selected European countries and in Canada.

Tax, work and equality - a study of the Danish tax and welfare system.
(Skat, arbejde og lighed – en undersøgelse af det danske skatte- og velfærds system).

Extracts from the newspaper debate in Denmark on the unemployed from the 1840s to the 1940s. Volume I: The debate up until 1907 (Træk af avisdebatten om de arbejdsløse fra 1840’erne til 1907’erne. Bind I: Debatten indtil 1907).

Extracts from the newspaper debate in Denmark on the unemployed from the 1840s to the 1940s. Volume II: The debate from 1907 to the 1940s (Træk af avisdebatten om de arbejdsløse fra 1940’erne til 1940’erne. Bind II: Debatten fra 1907 til 1940’erne).

2007

Extracts from the newspaper debate in Denmark on the unemployed from the 1840s to the 1940s. Volume I: The debate up until 1907 (Træk af avisdebatten om de arbejdsløse fra 1840’erne til 1907’erne. Bind I: Debatten indtil 1907).

PISA Ethnic 2005. The competencies of ethnically Danish and ethnically non-Danish ninth-grade school pupils in Denmark, 2005
Edited by Niels Egeland and Torben Tranæs, with contributions by Peter Jensen, Torben Pilegaard Jensen, Niels-Kenneth Nielsen, Helle Klaft Schademan and Nina Smith.
Odense: University Press of Southern Denmark.

The reading scale in the PISA 2000 study. An evaluation of the psychometric characteristics of the scale for pupils with Danish and non-Danish ethnic backgrounds (PISA 2000’s læseskala. Vurdering af psykometriske egenskaber for elever med dansk og ikke-dansk sproglig baggrund).

Determination of net transfers for immigrants in Germany.
By Christer Gerdes. Copenhagen: The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit.

The consequences for wages and employment of foreign labour in Denmark (Udenlandsk arbejdskraft i Danmark. Konsekvenserne for løn og beskæftigelse).
By Nikolaj Malchow-Møller, Jakob Roland Munch and Jan Rose Skaksen. Copenhagen: The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit.

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2008

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By Line Vikkelsø Slot. Copenhagen: The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit.

Virtuous and vicious circles at school (Skolens gode og onde cirkler).
By Mads Hermansen, with contributions by Frode Boye Andersen, Kirsten Bro, Inge Henningsen, Mads Hermansen, Leif Glud Holm, René Skaaning Jakobsen, Annette Hildebrandt Jensen, Svend Kreiner, Thomas Lund, Vibeke Petersen, Pernille Pind, Birgit Ryberg and André Torre. Copenhagen: Forlaget Samfundslitteratur.

Extracts from the newspaper debate in Denmark on the unemployed from the 1950s to the 1990s (Træk af avisdebatten om de arbejdsløse fra 1950’erne til 1990’erne).
By Line Vikkelsø Slot. Copenhagen: Samfundslitteratur.

Leading learning. Improving learning in schools (Læringsledelse. Læft til læring i skolen).
By Mads Hermansen, with contributions by Frode Boye Andersen, Kirsten Bro, Mads Hermansen, Annette Hildebrandt Jensen, Vibeke Petersen and Birgit Ryberg. Copenhagen: Forlaget Samfundslitteratur.

Immigrants at the workplace and the wages of native workers.
By Nikolaj Malchow-Møller, Jakob Roland Munch and Jan Rose Skaksen. Copenhagen: The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit.

2007

Young people, parties and alcohol
(Unge, fester og alkohol).
By Peter Gundelach, Margaretha Järvinen and Jakob Demant, with a contribution by Jeanette Østergaard. Copenhagen: Akademisk Forlag.

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(Hjemmehjælp. Mellem myter og virkelighed).

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By Nikolaj Malchow-Møller, Jakob Roland Munch and Jan Rose Skaksen. Copenhagen: The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit.

2008

Allocation practice for work experience places – The internship consultant caught between the demands of companies and the need to avoid discrimination (Praktikpladser og formidlingspraksis – praktikkonsulenten i spændingsfeltet mellem virksomhedskrav og hensynet til ikke-diskriminering).
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PISA Ethnic 2005. The competencies of ethnically Danish and ethnically non-Danish ninth-grade school pupils in Denmark, 2005
Edited by Niels Egeland and Torben Tranæs, with contributions by Peter Jensen, Torben Pilegaard Jensen, Niels-Kenneth Nielsen, Helle Klaft Schademan and Nina Smith.
Odense: University Press of Southern Denmark.


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2010

Undeclared work and the Danes (Danskerne og det sorte arbejde).

Disentangling the heterogeneous relationship between background characteristics and a child’s placement risk.

A good place to live. On how municipality level characteristics explain municipality level variation in children’s placement risk.

Health, well-being and overweight among Danes (Helbred, trivsel og overvægt blandt danskere).

Drugs and nightlife (Stoffer og natteliv).
By Margareth Taarup, Jakob Demant and Jeanette Østergaard.
Copenhagen: Hans Reitzel.

2011

Citizens and the law 2010 (Borgerne og Lovene 2010).

The overrepresentation of ethnic minorities in criminal convictions (Ethniskes minoriteteres over-repræsentation i strafferetlige domme).

Sleep – Marriage, income and health (Søvn – ægteskab, indkomst og helbred).
By Jens Bonke, with a contribution by Morten Møller. Copenhagen: Gyldendal.

We who live in Denmark. Who are we? And how do we live? (Vi der bor i Danmark. Hvem er vi? Og hvordan lever vi?).

The significance of immigration for public finances in Denmark (Indvandringens betydning for de offentlige finanser i Danmark).

The price of prejudice.

Trends in the Danish immigration multiplier.

Immigration and welfare state cash benefits – The Danish case.


Qualitative integration – Are we heading for an ethnically divided society? (Kvalitativ integration – er vi på vej mod et etnisk opdelt samfund?).
By Torben Tranæs. Copenhagen: The Rockwool Foundation Research Unit.

The significance of immigration for public finances in Denmark.

Economic drivers of migration and climate change in LDCs.

Denmark’s balance of qualifications (Danmarks Kvalifikationsbalance).
By Nikolaj Malchow-Møller, Jakob Roland Munch and Jan Rose Skaksen. Copenhagen: Gyldendal.

What can the Danish health care system learn from Kaiser Permanente? (Hvad kan det danske sundhedsvesen lære af Kaiser Permanente?).
Edited by Anne Frølich, with contributions by Finn Diderichsen, Ilana Graetz, John Hsu, Allan Krasnik, Mary Reed, Michaela L. Schiøtz, Martin Strandberg-Larsen and Jes Søgaard. Odense: University Press of Southern Denmark.
Photography

ADRA
Pages 66, 67

Werner Catrina
Page 74

The Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise (NHO)
Page 24

Cross Cultures Project Association
Pages 58-59, 93

Jonas Helth Lønborg,
Pages 20, 22, 23

Bo Jarner
Pages 78, 81, 83, 85, 86, 87, 89

Rigmor Mydtskov
Page 73

Polfoto / Peter Hove Olesen
Page 68

Polfoto / Lars Krabbe
Page 61

Polfoto / Steen Ole
Page 77

RECODA
Page 14

The Rockwool Foundation,
Pages 16, 17, 36, 37, 39, 52, 63, 64, 65, 91

Search for Common Ground / GREEN Lebanon
Pages 54-55

Stig Stasig,
Pages 6, 7, 12, 13, 19, 32-33, 35, 45, 94, 95

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Auditors
PricewaterhouseCoopers
### Statement of income 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest and dividends</td>
<td>59,943,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration costs*</td>
<td>- 8,060,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profit before donations</td>
<td>51,882,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocated donations</td>
<td>- 49,901,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Result year-end</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,980,625</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Board members’ fees

### Capital as at December 31, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tied up capital</td>
<td>2,317,720,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available capital</td>
<td>87,922,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital and reserves</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,404,913,582</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Board members’ fees

1,665,064