

## **Knowledge about cycling from around the world collected in one book** *By Søren Bom, chief consultant at City of Copenhagen*

How do you ensure a sound cycle culture - and where do you start? A new textbook for cycling brings together for the first time examples of how planners, politicians, architects and other professionals throughout the world are working to make cities and rural areas more bicycle-friendly. The book is an anthology in English by several authors from different countries working with cycle planning and is highly relevant in these times where congestion and "a good city life" are on the agenda in many Danish cities and especially in connection with the Congestion Commission's work.

The overall message is that cities which are good for cyclists are also good for urban life and for reducing congestion so, cycle planning is not an end in itself, but a means to create a better city to live in. One of the three editors is architect Lotte Bech, who for many years was a planner in the City of Copenhagen, and some of the examples of urban planning and cycle campaigns also come from Copenhagen. The examples in fact come from far and wide and you can read about how Gaungzhou, the largest city in the southern Chinese province of Guangdong province is reinventing its cycle culture. In the last few years, 2,000 km of cycle tracks have been constructed, 5,000 city-bikes have appeared on the streets which, combined with an effective bus network has more than 45,000 registered users.

Another fascinating example of how the global trend towards cycling is unrolling can be found in Seville, Spain, which started pretty much at the bottom and over about the last ten years has built up a brand new cycle infrastructure with green routes, new cycle tracks, bikes and good cycle parking facilities. So, there are articles and examples maintaining that cycle planning really is gaining ground in several places in the world.

The book is primarily a textbook, but is written in plain language and will inspire politicians, students, teachers, planners, architects, communication specialists and others who work professionally to promote cycling in one way or another. The book is just over 300 pages long and includes chapters on cycle culture, urban life, cycling infrastructure, road safety, types of bicycle, politicians and cycling events.

The book's website provides information about how both the printed book and e-book can be purchased. [www.cyclists-world.com/buy-the-book](http://www.cyclists-world.com/buy-the-book)

