

New collaborative project delivery model for front-end governance, execution and evaluation

Better collaboration in construction projects: How new ways of working together can reduce delays, costs, and quality problems

What is the project about?

Large construction projects, such as hospitals and public infrastructure, often run late, cost more than expected, and experience quality problems. This project explores how new ways of working together can reduce these problems. It focuses on collaborative project models where clients, engineers, and contractors work closely together from an early stage. The goal is to understand what works in practice and how to design better ways of organizing projects.

Why is this important?

When large projects fail, it affects society. Delays and budget overruns can waste public money and slow down important services. Better collaboration can lead to more reliable projects, fewer conflicts, and higher quality results.

Who is behind the project?

The project is led by researchers from the University of Southern Denmark (SDU). They work together with partners from the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) and the engineering company COWI. Together they bring many years of experience from research and real-world projects.

How will the project be delivered?

In the project, the team will:

- Study collaborative project models from Denmark and abroad
- Interview people who work with construction projects
- Follow the development of a new collaboration model in practice
- Share knowledge directly with partners during the project

This approach ensures that the results are both research-based and useful in real life.

Where and when will it happen?

The project runs from August 2026 to April 2027. It includes a real-life case from the Capital Region of Denmark.

What happens next?

The project will produce simple tools and guidance to help construction organizations plan and run projects more effectively. In the long term, dissemination of these results can lead to better buildings and infrastructure, better use of public funds, and stronger cooperation across the construction sector.