

Karina Marie Søgaaard

Director, INNO-CCUS (Denmark's national partnership for Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage)

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Professional Summary

Karina Marie Søgaaard has been Director of **INNO-CCUS** since 2022. The partnership is Denmark's national initiative for carbon capture, utilisation, and storage (CCUS), launched by the Danish government to accelerate the green transition.

She oversees a portfolio of around **30 research and innovation projects** involving more than **80 partners** from universities, companies, and public institutions. Together, they cover the full CCUS value chain, from capture and storage technologies to utilisation and societal integration. To date, the partnership has received **DKK 350 million in funding** through Innovation Fund Denmark and NextGenerationEU.

Karina played a key role in developing *Direction 2050: The Danish CCUS Roadmap 2024*, which sets out pathways for maturing CCUS technologies and achieving negative emissions by mid-century. She also represents Denmark in the **IEAGHG Executive Committee**, where international research priorities are shaped.

Outreach is a central part of her role. She speaks regularly at international conferences and has presented Danish experiences at, among others, **Carbon Capture Canada** (2023), **San Francisco Climate Week**, and the IEAGHG meetings in Copenhagen (2024). She is also active in **webinars, press interviews, and public debates**, emphasizing the need for collaboration across borders and sectors.

With a background in green research strategy and public-private innovation, Karina Søgaaard combines system-level insight with a strong focus on building alliances to bring CCUS from research to deployment.

Areas of Expertise

- Carbon removal and CCUS in national and EU policy
- Public funding and mission-driven R&D
- Why CCUS is essential to Denmark's 110% climate target
- How Denmark is building an ecosystem for carbon removal

Selected Quotes

"We're not betting on one technology. We're investing in an ecosystem of solutions – because climate change isn't one-dimensional."

- Karina Søgaard, Danish CCUS Summit 2025

On Denmark, EU, USA, and global collaboration

"What we do in Denmark is just one piece of a much bigger puzzle. CCUS only makes sense if we work together — across Europe, with the U.S., and globally. Our role is to bring solid Danish research and innovation into that mix, so we help create solutions no country could develop on its own."

- Karina Søgaard, 2025

On the Danish roadmap towards 2050

"The Danish roadmap is really about showing the path — how we move from today's early projects to technologies that can deliver negative emissions at scale by 2050."

On the emergence and future of climate credits

"The idea of climate credits is simple, but the reality is complicated. We need standards that prove the carbon is truly removed and stored for the long term. If we get that right, climate credits can become a real driver for scaling technologies like Direct Air Capture - instead of a distraction."

Background and Career Highlights


Karina holds a Ph.D. from the Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Sustainability. With a background in Engineering, Chemistry, and Biotechnology, she has previously held senior roles at DTU – the Technical University of Denmark, and as Senior Officer in the Department of Research, Consulting/counseling, and Innovation

She has worked extensively at the interface between policy, research, and implementation, focusing on scalable solutions for the green transition.

Contact for Press, interview or background briefing:

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