

Meet the engineer: Rigmor Leirvik

"One thing that is important in all our projects abroad is to use locally available building materials as much as possible. Almost 95 percent of the materials for the new embassy have been brought from the local market in New Delhi. This is a part of our green thinking – as it is more sustainable to use materials suited for local conditions, instead of transporting materials from Europe."

- Rigmor Leirvik, Statsbygg

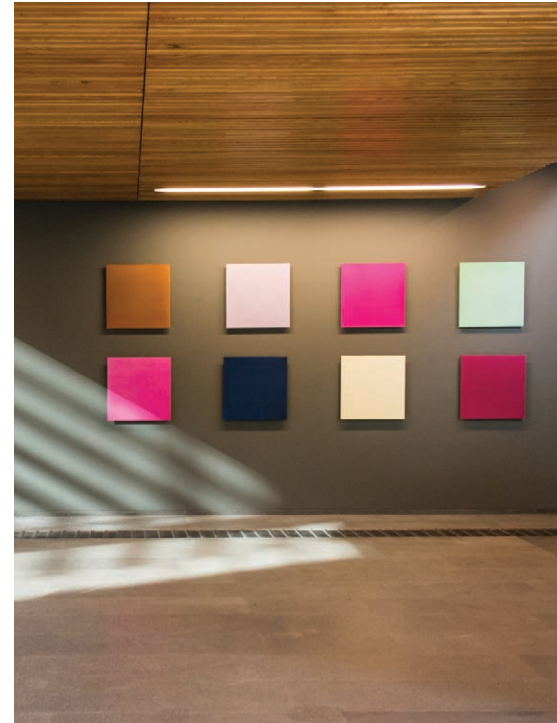


Welcome to our new office



Around 50 people work in the building covering all aspects of Norway's growing cooperation with India.

Art



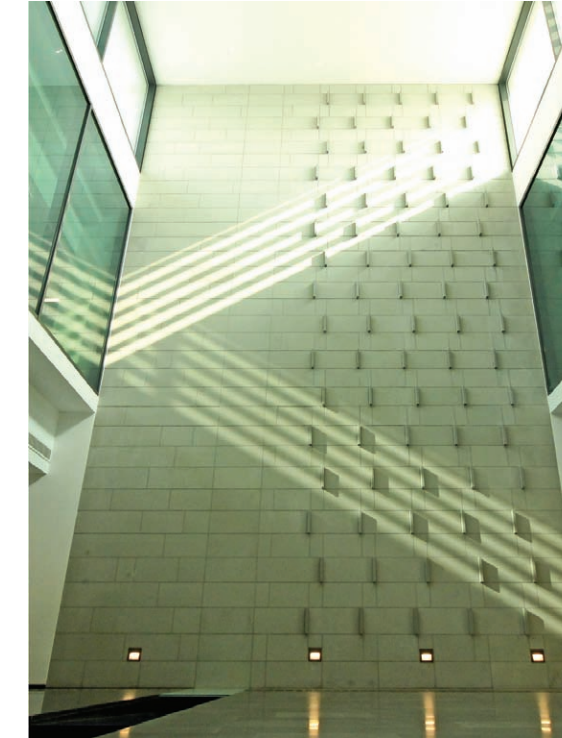
The artwork in the main reception area symbolizes the 19 counties of Norway, each painting is inspired by the county flower.

The meeting rooms are named after famous Norwegian locations and all meeting rooms have been given art work from the respective geographical location.

Meet the architect: Terje Grønmo

"It has been an exciting challenge and involves not just the architectural design, but the whole construction process." The handling of materials and preservation of the green areas have been important considerations, as well as the environmental concerns and care for the trees. Trees probably more than 60 years old have been shifted allowing for as much of the green space as possible to remain as it is.

- Terje Grønmo, Terje Grønmo Arkitekter AS



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The New office building of the Royal Norwegian Embassy New Delhi

We are very proud inhabitants of a greener embassy that offers sustainable solutions for water usage, electricity, cooling and heating.

It is one of the few buildings in India to make use of geothermal wells, taking advantage of the cool temperature of the Chanakyapuri underground.



Architecture



For the new embassy, efforts were made to retain the original compound and overall architectural appearance

High sustainability and environmental ambitions were set for this project by the architect.

The new building presents a fusion of Norwegian and Indian design elements through the interior, the furniture and the architecture. However, it is characterized by the adaptation to local climate and Indian environmental concerns.

Water

Sustainable water management has been a major concern in the construction of the new embassy, as water shortage is one of the most pressing environmental issues in the region. The new compound is constructed in a way that leads rainwater back into the ground, including wells for rainwater harvesting.

Geothermal wells circulate water in 30 well tubes sunk 100 meters into the earth. Through this circulation, the water loses its heat.

Heating of water is 100% from solar panels. Use of efficient sprinkler system reduces the loss of water during irrigation.

The new embassy is registered as Green Rating for Integrated Habitat, by the Government of India's national rating system for green buildings.

Electricity

We produce 200kWh per day from solar! That is equivalent to powering a 40W bulb for 6 months and 16 days or a 3W LED for 7 years and 7 months.

The building itself is also adapted to the local climate: shielding of the façade keeps the sun out of the office spaces, which reduces the need for air conditioning.

For the electricity purchased, Statkraft, a leading company in hydropower internationally and Europe's largest generator of renewable energy, delivers I-REC certificates (International Certificate Standard for Renewable Energy) in order to ensure clean, green, renewable energy.



Design and functionality

The new embassy building has natural lighting for most areas, however curtains glazing in front of windows protect from direct sun light.

External walls also have air cavities to increase insulation.

70% of the material used in the interior of the building are low energy materials.

Automatic room lighting with sensors is installed to reduce electricity-usage.

