

REPORT ON THE IOP WORKSHOP WITH PARTNER ORGANISATIONS GOTHENBURG, 16/09 2016

The workshop named "How is it going with IOP in Gothenburg?" organised on 16 September 2016 in Gothenburg invited representatives from all 10 partner organisations with the aim to discuss some selected preliminary on-going evaluation results of this innovative local social investment model. The workshop took place at Gothenburg City Social resource department and had 25 participants.

The research has been conducted as a part of H2020 InnoSI research project alongside 19 other cases studies of local examples of innovative social investment in 10 EU member states.

The focus has been on how the partnership has succeeded so far with its short to mid-term goals of qualitative reception and increasing unaccompanied newcomer children/youngsters chances to integration in the Swedish society. Both targeted groups and researcher perspectives were shared. What is the added value of the partnership in developing qualitative services and the more overarching policy for reception and accommodation? Also, what mechanisms, or rather organisational processes and relations, have served to alleviate the achievement of these goals? Especially what were the organisational challenges and how were they overcome? The research presentation was followed by a group work and discussions on lessons to be learned such as how some challenges have been overcome and how could remaining hindrances be handled.

In sum, among some major factors that were found to alleviate this innovative social investment were the commitment and the common approach (framing) of the needs and services to be developed. Additionally an innovative resource-pooling model has enabled contributions from a greater number of civil society organisations than via commissioned services. The top managers of civil society organisations and municipal social resource department were important driving force in initiating and anchoring and orchestrating the collective action upon perceived minors' needs.

Especially adherence to the principles of dialogue and trust rather than formalised detailed steering as well as strive for more equal influence among the partners has created a favourable environment for the partnership to endure and achieve its results. Also initially favourable political environment and popular support has eased development of partnership services to youngsters

Discussion centred among some remaining challenges in this social investment through a complex civil society public partnership (idéburen offentlig partnerskap, IOP) such as communication challenges between organisations and different professions, challenges related to uncertainty and ambiguity in national regulations and decisions regarding newcomers' possibilities to stay as well as uncertainty regarding public resources for services developed.

The case study results are summarised in an Executive summary available at www.innosi.eu. See the InnoSI project website for summaries of all 20 case studies and other project research findings regarding the status of innovative social investment in Europe and commonalities and differences of the 20 explored local social investment examples.

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