



## **Partner Search - European Social Fund**

### **- Labour market integration**

### **- Youth Employment Initiative**

The municipality of Gävle, Sweden, intends to apply for funding from the European Social Fund for projects starting in 2016. In connection to this the municipality of Gävle is hoping to find cities/municipalities/organisations with similar projects/activities from other countries within the EU (preferably in the Baltic Sea Region – but other regions are also of interest), that want to exchange experiences and learn for the future.

### **The Labour Market Unit of the municipality of Gävle**

The task of the Labour Market Unit is (on behalf of the Employment Services, Social Insurance Agency or Social Services) to help job seekers in Gävle to strengthen their chances of finding work. This is done through a variety of activities and in close collaboration with the local business community and the adult education of the municipality of Gävle.

#### **1. Labour market integration**

The project will focus on job training and education based on the Witting method (<http://wittingforeningen.se/wittingmetoden/in-english/>) and functional learning, where design and crafts are integral parts of the activities.

Target groups are primarily persons of foreign origin who are not able to complete the basic level of "Swedish as a Foreign Language" training. The reasons for this may be several: inadequate schooling, literacy problems, language learning etc. Due to the lack of language skills, no or very low education level and work experience, these groups find themselves completely outside the labour market.

The project aims to establish a modern knowledge and design centre in Gävle for women and men from around the world. The project will use the functional pedagogy, combining artistic activities with theoretical teaching (in Swedish, social studies and use of ICT).

### **Partners**

We are looking for cities/municipalities/organisation that work with the target groups:

- foreign born
- persons with long term illness that need support to return to work
- persons with disabilities
- long-term unemployed

that need to get closer to the labour market, participate in labour market activities, find work or start studying in a successful way, through a similar process.

We would like to share ways of working and learn from the experiences of others. Issues that are of interest to us include:

- what works and what has not worked?
- how have project results been implemented into regular activities? what difficulties have you encountered?
- what do your participant profiles look like?
- how do you cooperate with employers?
- what types of employment are the most common among your participants?

- how do you cooperate with designers?
- do you have some kind of production?
- what is the process for the participants to come closer to the labour market?

## **2. Youth Employment Initiative**

We are looking for partners with successful examples of projects within the EU Youth Employment Initiative or other good examples of combatting youth unemployment.

### **What is expected from partners?**

The partner entity will assist the municipality of Gävle by receiving the project team from the municipality of Gävle and by providing the following services:

- Participation in study visits and exchange of experiences to show solutions and processes developed in their city/region/country and to learn what is being done in the other countries participating in the project.
- Exchange of information, documents, materials and methodologies used in their city/region/country with the other partners.

There is no budget allocation for partners, but expenses in connection with the exchange activities will be taken care of by the projects.

**Please send your expression of interest, indicating which project you are interested in (or both) to: [annika.lundqvist@gavle.se](mailto:annika.lundqvist@gavle.se) by the 3rd of August 2015.**

For further information, please contact:

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