

Foundation for Solidarity

PARTNERSHIP DATA SHEET

1. The partnership

Question 1 is designed to elicit an explanation of the nature of your partnership in concrete terms and of the factors which led you to form this partnership.

What was the starting point for the partnership?

The ResourceExchange program was developed in one out of 18 districts within the city of Stockholm and was prolonged (through out 2005) partly due to interest from other districts. The program will be validated, improved and disseminated during the period and the partnership will increase their dialogue with stakeholders to facilitate implementation on local, regional and national levels. More information about the implementation process will be available within 2005.

With which immigrants do you currently have contact or relations?

Mostly with immigrants from outside of Europe: Iran, Iraq, Africa...

What led you to take an interest in these immigrants?

These are the ones, who mainly immigrated until now to Sweden.

What is the social situation of these immigrants?

Only 15% of all refugees were gainfully employed after asylum and introduction periods in 2000, and the unemployment rate for the target group were almost four times the rate for Swedish citizens. The underlying reasons for this are known, the solutions however, are somewhat lacking.

There are numerous reasons for this at individual, organizational and bureaucratic levels.

Today, there are about 5,000 Swedes studying as immigrants (SFI) in Stockholm.

A newly arrived immigrant does not have the same opportunities when it comes to introduction as a refugee. Introduction of refugees (app. 15% of the newcomers) is state funded and organized by the municipalities while the other newcomers are directed to apply for social welfare at the local social office if not self supported. Immigrants on social welfare are to a large extent directed to "Swedish for immigrants" for several years with no work place contact.

What is the legal status of these immigrants?

They have a legal status.

Has the historical background of the host country influenced the situation of these immigrants?

Yes.

How would you define the partnership?

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The work takes place in a national development partnership, as well as in transnational co-operation. The program is funded by the EU initiative Equal within the European social fund and is part of the European employment strategy.

Who are the players in the partnership?

Various schools of Stockholm, a consultant enterprise, the City of Stockholm with social services and education in 4 local districts.

When did the partnership start (date)?

About two years ago.

When is the partnership scheduled to end?

2005

Why did you launch the partnership?

The unemployment rate for the target group were almost four times the rate for Swedish citizens. The underlying reasons for this are known, the solutions however, are somewhat lacking.

It is of huge importance that we can create new flexible ways to enable these immigrants, especially immigrant students, to be self-supporting, empowered and participate in society. Within the framework of the economy and industry as well as humanity.

How did you launch the partnership?

First of all the ResourceExchange program was developed in one out of 18 districts within the city of Stockholm.

Explain how the partnership operates?

The development of comprehensive programs and its commencement will take place in new arenas and by new actors. The money traditionally spent on language training and integration activities managed by several authorities will be transferred to one new actor, in this first case the compulsory school.

Key factors for for the success of the ResourceExchange project are:

- partners should define their own pre-conditions for participating in partnership building and innovative projects and processes
- partners (individuals and organizations) have to be eager for the opportunity solving the problem with discrimination (and not just the symptoms)
- commitment, responsibility, co-operation and actively involved partners
- willingness to change one selves and the practice of their own organizations to reach the vision and goals - not just everyone else
- processing tools for involvement, evaluation and continuously improvements

- stakeholder dialogue
- political dialogue

List the activities you have developed within the framework of the partnership?

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The ResourceExchange provided a one-year workplace introduction for immigrants and refugees within compulsory schools, pre-schools and children's leisure centres.

There are some results of the developed activities:

Appreciation by participants (i.e. immigrants):

All participants, 100%, wish that more immigrants should have the opportunity to participate in ResourceExchange. A survey pointed out that 100% has increased their knowledge about the Swedish society at large and the Swedish school system. 88 % has learned what a parent to a child in the Swedish school is expected to do. In a scale 1-5 (nr 1 is not at all and nr 5 very much) 58% (nr 5) and 35% (nr 4) of the participants say they increased spoken Swedish. 64% (nr 5) and 29% (nr 4) of the participants answered that they now are speaking more Swedish in their spare time because of the project. Of those completed the program app. 40% has work or education (new measures will be available in October 2004).

Appreciation by the schools (i.e. headmasters, mentors, supervisors, and teachers):

A better understanding for immigrant's situation, part of local and national integration activities, more open to meet other cultures, extra resources, new task for the schools and pre-schools.

Appreciation by the development partnership:

increased understanding of European, national and local learning;
knowledge, understanding and respect of one another's field of operation;
increased understanding of potentialities and possibilities of development working in
"development partnership";
increased knowledge on possibilities and obstacles concerning the target group;
cultural exchange
developing social auditing

What aims are you seeking to achieve in launching the partnership?

The Resource Exchange aims to shorten the time from residence permit to work for newly arrived refugees and immigrants by developing and implementing a model for work place introduction in school. The goal for the newcomer is self support – partial or complete.

Vision of the partnership is to shorten the time from residence permit to self support and our goal is to develop and implement a new flexible model for work place introduction and new practice to enhance the employability of immigrants.

The program aim to enable immigrants/refugees to, through work place introduction, within a year get experience of the school system and Swedish society at large, facilitate being a parent in a new country and ultimately be able to provide for themselves.

Our criteria for success is:

a model for work place introduction that is implemented at different levels as well as

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knowledge and experience of development partnership as a model for collaboration including tools for management, operational control and monitoring the work.

They want to create a new model, working with several organizations, but under one roof.

Do you have an operating budget for the partnership?

Yes.

Have you received any public and/or private funding for the partnership?

Yes, public funding.

How many people are working on the partnership?

It is difficult to tell: between 10-20.

How many people are involved in the partnership?

A lot of more people: there are mentors, language teachers, employer officers,...

Have you set up monitoring procedures to evaluate the partnership?

Yes.

ResourceExchange results and processes are evaluated mainly by self-evaluation. The development partnership has successfully tried out and developed Social Auditing for projects. Central themes in social auditing are stakeholder dialogue, common targets, measurable indicators, internal and external communications.

Is there any other important information not covered by the previous questions which you think should be mentioned? (Please answer yes / no and provide an explanation where necessary):

2. Details of the initiator of the partnership project

Question 2 is designed to elicit details of the individual/organisation whose idea it was to launch the partnership and which has been the driving force behind it from the outset.

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INNOTIMMI is an international management consultancy team with its headquarters in Finland and branches in Sweden. Its core competencies are leadership, implementing change, innovativeness, communities and learning.

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3. Details of the other partners involved in the partnership

Question 3 is designed to elicit details of the individuals/organisation who accepted the initiator's invitation to join the partnership and to illustrate the basic principle which underlies this difference between the partnership project initiator on one hand and the other partners on the other.

Different schools and leisure centers. Administration and therefore the first sector plays an important role to reach the decision makers, but on the practical level the work places are the schools and leisure centers.

4. Sector in which the initiator of the partnership project operates

Question 4 is designed to establish the economic and social sector in which the initiator of the partnership project operates?

Does the initiator of the partnership project operate in the primary / secondary / tertiary sector? (Please underline as appropriate and provide details):

The project is carried out in the primary sector, but the partnership involved all of the sectors. The anagement lies in the hands of an international management company.

Does the initiator of the partnership project operate in the third sector. If so, in which area?

Schools are involved as important actors to provide work places and actors.

Is there any other important information not covered by the previous question which you think should be mentioned? (Please answer yes / no and provide an explanation where necessary):

A partnership between organisations like this needs the first sector to carry the activities, as a reference frame and allowing resouces, without it, the company and the schools would not have been able to set up a financed program. Once initiated, collobarotaion can develop and be managed indepently.

5. Sectors in which the other partners in the partnership operate

Question 5 is designed to establish the economic and social sectors in which the other partnership project partners operate.

Do the other partners in the partnership project operate in the primary / secondary / tertiary sector? (Please underline as appropriate and provide details):

In alls sectors.

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Do the other partners in the partnership project operate in the third sector? If so, in which areas?

Is there any other important information not covered by the previous question which you think should be mentioned? (Please answer yes / no and provide an explanation where necessary):

6. Special characteristics of the initiator of the partnership project

Question 6 is designed to establish whether any factors either related or external to the launch and operation of the partnership - economic and financial situation, employment situation, geographical location - have influenced the launch and operation of the partnership project for and by the project initiator.

Do you think that the initial economic and financial situation of your organisation influenced your decision to form this partnership?

No.

Have you received funding? If so, from whom?

From the EU initiative Equal within the European social fund.

Is external funding an important factor in the operation of our organisation?

No.

Is external funding an important factor in the launch and operation of the partnership project?

Yes.

Has the employment profile of your organisation - number of staff, nationality, age range, gender, employee status - influenced the launch and operation of the partnership project?

No.

Outline the profile of your organisation in terms of number of staff, nationality, age range, gender and employee status.

Difficult to say for the partnership.

Do you think that the geographical location of your organisation - urban/rural location, area of high/low population density, high/low immigrant density - has influenced the launch and operation of the partnership project?

No.

Outline the geographical profile of your organisation indicating whether it is located in an urban/rural location or in an area of high/low population density or high/low immigrant density.

Urban area with relativla high population density of migrants, district of the capital city.

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7. The socio-political environment of the initiator of the partnership project

Question 7 is designed to establish whether any aspects of the socio-economic situation of the initiator of the partnership project favour or promote the development of the partnership project in terms of the integration of immigrant populations and the fight against negative discrimination. Question 7 is broad and general in its scope.

Do you believe that there are conditions which control access to the employment market? If so, what are they?

Yes, qualifications, language skills, and there is the problem of discrimination (race, culture...)

Have these conditions which control access to the employment market affected the partnership project?

This is one of the reasons, why the partnership was launched.

Is there a national, regional or local framework which shapes the fight against negative discrimination?

Yes, there is a national arena dealing with such themes, but everything is very decentralized.

Have you had recourse to this legal framework which shapes the fight against negative discrimination in launching and funding the partnership project?

No, they have asked for help, but the national arena first wanted to have a look, how the project will develop. Now they are in discussions with them for support.

Is there a regional or local framework which promotes the integration of immigrant populations?

Have you had recourse to this legal framework which promotes the integration of immigrant populations in launching and funding the partnership project?

Are there any political, social, cultural or media factors which led you to launch this partnership project?

Yes, they want to change political, social and cultural factors. They want to attract attention.

Have you developed a social responsibility policy?

In a way, but not very developed by now.

What do you understand by a social responsibility policy?

It is not a very clear term.

Have you developed a social label, a code of good practice, social audits, a gender equality policy, etc.?

Yes, social audits have been developed. And a lot of other evaluations have been developed.

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Do you take part in social and economic benefit programmes at European, national, regional or local level?

Yes, this project is funded by the EU.

Do the other partners in the partnership project inhabit a different socio-political environment to yours?

No.

Have your partners in the partnership project developed a social responsibility policy?

Don't know.

Have your partners in the partnership project developed a social label, a code of good practice, social audits, a gender equality policy, etc.?

The social audits have been developed together.

Do your partners in the partnership project take part in social and economic benefit programmes at European, national, regional or local level?

Yes, this project is funded by the EU.

8. Benchmarking

Question 8 is designed to measure social, economic and environmental performance in terms of the integration of immigrant populations and the fight against negative discrimination.

Do you think that this partnership project for the integration of immigrant populations and the fight against negative discrimination has changed your social and economic environment?

Yes, the project starts to attract other municipalities, and has raised awareness.

Do you think that this partnership project for the integration of immigrant populations and the fight against negative discrimination has changed the social and economic environments of your partners in the partnership?

Yes, as it has raised a lot of awareness and involvement.

Have you introduced or changed your social responsibility policy as a result of the launch of this partnership project?

Not yet.

Have your partners in the project introduced or changed their social responsibility policy as a result of the launch of this partnership project?

No.

Has this partnership project raised awareness of the issues involved in public authorities at European, national, regional or local level?

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Yes, at local, regional and national level.

9. Social responsibility in business

Question 9 is designed to establish, where applicable, the extent to which economic entities actually support the principle of “social responsibility in business”. This question is addressed primarily to organisations, irrespective of whether they are businesses, unions or NGOs and whether they operate in the private or the third sector, who have elected to embrace this new political trend – social responsibility in business – which does not simply equate to the notion of work in the social sector, particularly in the field of the integration of immigrant populations and ethnic minorities and the fight against negative discrimination. If this is not the case, the project initiator should simply answer the first two questions.

Are you familiar with the principle of “social responsibility in business”?

No, not really.

Have you already started to integrate this principle into the management of your business or organisation?

No.

Is social responsibility in business one of the strategic aims of your business or organisation? If so, why?

Have you undertaken to carry out a social and environmental audit of your business or organisation dealing, for example, with issues such as working conditions, gender equality, anti-discrimination policy, the integration of immigrant populations, continuing training and development, energy consumption, water consumption, etc.?

Yes social audit for quality reasons.

Have you defined a set of social responsibility in business policies and set targets for improving the social and environmental conditions in your business or organisation? If so, what are they?

Not yet.

Have you broadened the scope of your social responsibility in business policies to include your employees, suppliers, clients, shareholders, NGOs, local residents, etc.? If so, how have you done this?

No.

Are you sensitive to the notion of “fair trading”?

Not really.

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Do you think than initiatives designed to promote the integration of immigrant populations and to fight negative discrimination are important elements of social responsibility in business?

Yes possible.

How do you see your initiative with respect to these two areas (integration of immigrant populations and to fight negative discrimination)?

Useful instrument in a partnership surrounding.

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