



## Partner search from Samspelet Coordination Agency in Sweden

### EU Programme

European Social Fund, Programme area 2: Increased supply of labour

### Deadline for interest

31st of October 2015

### Organisation

*Samordningsförbundet Samspelet* is a Coordination Agency for financial coordination and collaboration between Värmland County Council, the Social Insurance Office, the Public Employment service and four of the 16 municipalities in the county; Karlstad, Kristinehamn, Hammarö and Grums. Samspelet represents approximately 188 000 people and its task is to support actions for people who are in need of rehabilitative and coordinated support, from at least two of the parties in the Coordination Agency, in order to move closer towards studies or work.

Samspelet has been granted funding from ESF for a project called "Porten". Porten started on September 1<sup>st</sup> with a four month preparatory phase where setting up a transnational partnership is one of the activities.

### Partners searched

We are looking for partners within two fields, it could be one and the same partner or two different partners. As the Baltic Sea region is a prioritized area for us within ESF we are mainly looking for partners in Finland, Denmark, Germany, Poland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Our approach to this partnership is sharing of best practice and mutual learning and exchange of experience.

1. We are looking for organizations active in the field of social work and rehabilitation, who have successful partnerships with employers (public and/or private) in order to facilitate participation of potential labour force. We want to build structured and qualitative partnerships with employers in order to be able to provide training and job opportunities for people with fewer opportunities. We want to gain new insight and perspectives and are looking for partners who are interested in an exchange of experience and who are willing to share their best practice.
2. In our partnership it is also important to promote equality between women and men, gender mainstreaming, and equal opportunities for all without any discrimination. Therefore we are also looking for partners, within the field of social work, who are strategically working with gender mainstreaming in their organizations. A priority would be if our partner also has experience with strategic work concerning equal opportunities for all and anti-discrimination. We want to learn more in these fields through successful examples and methods, sharing of best practice, i.e. how to integrate gender equality perspective in operations.

## Project idea

The numbers of unemployed among groups with fewer opportunities are increasing. Only about 55 % of people with disabilities have a job although more than half of the unemployed say that they would be able to work if they had access to the right support. Värmland County Council is one of the regions in Sweden with the highest number of disabled people. At the same time the work force is decreasing and the older population is growing. An inclusive labour market is an important for democracy but it is also a question about growth and prosperity. It is a challenge on a local, regional, national and European level to utilize everybody's competence and to promote diversity as a possibility for growth.

The main project idea for Porten is to facilitate participation of potential labour force, mainly people with fewer opportunities, i.e. mental health issues. Porten is for people in the ages of 18-61 who are in need of coordinated support from at least two of the parties of the Coordination Agency.. The target group has documented disabilities and work capacity and they are motivated to work. The main objective of Porten is extended inclusion of people with disabilities in the labour market. Porten will develop methods and offer support and activities in order for participants to find, get and keep a job. Coaches from the Public Employment Service will work with Supported Employment in order to provide long term and sustainable support for both participants and employers. An employer coordinator will work with networking, contacts and collaboration with employers so that the participants will have access to quality assured training and job opportunities. In order to enable all parties to work with diversity and inclusion of all in the labour market, Porten will also work with skills development by offering various courses and trainings.

Porten will create structured and qualitative partnerships with employers (public and/or private) by promoting diversity through a growth perspective and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). By supporting participants and employers, Porten will set up quality assured and customized training and work places in public authorities or companies. Porten will facilitate possibilities for people with fewer opportunities to gain important knowledge and experience of the labour market, and employers will have opportunities to introduce potential labour force in their organization. Some examples of what we want to achieve in our project:

- Cooperation with employers through promoting diversity as a possibility of growth and CSR in order to set up quality assured and customized training and work places in public authorities or companies.
- Activities and forming of a structured arena for discussion where employers, participants and staff can be inspired, motivated and talk about needs, benefits and opportunities in order to increase knowledge about each other.
- Training on demand for mentors/tutors at the work place so that they are better prepared for supporting participants at their work place.
- Activities, training and support for participants, both from staff and employers, so that they are better prepared for successful training and work.
- Training for staff so that they can better support the participants (i.e. career guidance, branch knowledge, supported employment,) as well as supporting the employers (support for mentors/tutors).
- Promotion of equality between women and men and equal opportunities for all without discrimination.

## Project Aim

The main objective of Porten is to increase inclusion of people with disabilities in the labour market. Porten will develop methods and offer support and activities in order for participants to find, get and keep a job. This requires extended cooperation with employers, gender mainstreaming, inclusion of people with fewer opportunities and anti-discrimination.

## Activities / Work Packages

Some examples of activities that could be included in a transnational partnership are job shadowing, study visits, training sessions/workshops, conferences for sharing best practice.

## Contact

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