



JOB CREATION JUST AHEAD: BUILDING ADAPTABLE LOCAL LABOUR MARKETS

PRE-EVENT WORKSHOP “REDUCING SCHOOL DROPOUT RATES”

23rd April 2014

Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions – SALAR
Hornsgatan 20 - 11882 Stockholm, Sweden

In co-operation with Swedish Public Employment Service, Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR), Swedish Ministry of Employment and the World Association of Public Employment Services (WAPES)

PRE-EVENT WORKSHOP

Wednesday, 23rd April 2014, 16.00 - 18.00: Pre-event workshop

Venue: Sveriges kommuner och landsting – SKL (Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions – SALAR)

Address: Hornsgatan 20 – Stockholm

REDUCING SCHOOL DROP OUT RATES THROUGH IMPROVED LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Chair: *Emily Svård*, Youth Strategy Expert, Swedish Public Employment Service

Reducing high school dropout rates is a challenge confronted by many OECD countries. The Plug In project in Sweden was designed to strengthen co-operation between schools, regional councils, municipalities and other stakeholders around the issue of early school leaving support. Implemented by the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) with ESF funding, Plug In operates through local projects, or “workshops”, managed by 55 Swedish municipalities, with the aim to develop new methods and forms of co-operation to help students at risk of dropping out and to help young adults who have interrupted their high school studies.

This workshop will review the approaches and the first results of the Plug In project and compare them with practices elsewhere to distil lessons on approaches that work.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY OECD AND SKL/SALAR

- *Jan Hendeliowitz*, Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Employment, Agency for Labour Market and Recruitment, Denmark, and Member, OECD LEED Directing Committee Bureau
- *Maria Stockhaus*, Chair, Education Committee, Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions – SALAR, Deputy Mayor of Sollentuna municipality

THEMATIC DISCUSSIONS

THEMATIC DISCUSSION 1: WAYS TO PREVENT YOUNG PEOPLE FROM DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL

- **Addressing dropout prevention: What do we know about effective interventions?**
Anna Liljeström, Ph.D., The Gothenburg Region Association of Local Authorities, Sweden
- **Working with parents to prevent early school leaving**
Ulf Hägglund, URBACT and *Jean Jacques Derrien*, City of Nantes, PREVENT – parents and early school leaving, France
- **Lessons from Pathways to Education Canada: A community-based approach to improving education, employment outcomes & community resilience**
Stacey J Young, Research Director, Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer, Canada

Discussion with the floor and wrap up of key learning points by the chair

THEMATIC DISCUSSION 2: HOW TO BRING THOSE WHO DROPPED OUT BACK INTO EDUCATION?

- *Thomas Townsend*, University of Ottawa, Canada

THEMATIC DISCUSSION 3: BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

- **Strategic approach at city level to reduce NEET rates: the example of Glasgow**
Martin Collins, Glasgow City Education Department, United Kingdom

Discussion with the floor and wrap up of key learning points by the chair

CLOSING and PROJECTION OF MINI-FILMS ON PLUG IN PROJECT