

Implementing institutional change successfully

Ilija Batljan, PhD
Mayor
Municipality of Nynäshamn

290 municipalities

- Sweden is divided into 290 local authorities (municipalities).
- The municipalities exercise independent political control and have their own areas of responsibility. The degree of autonomy is high.
- Their task is to meet the needs generated by common public interests in their geographical areas.
- The municipalities are responsible, for example, for schools and the provision of social services, but also for social assistance and some labor market support.
- 290 municipalities means also 290 different ways to implement policies.

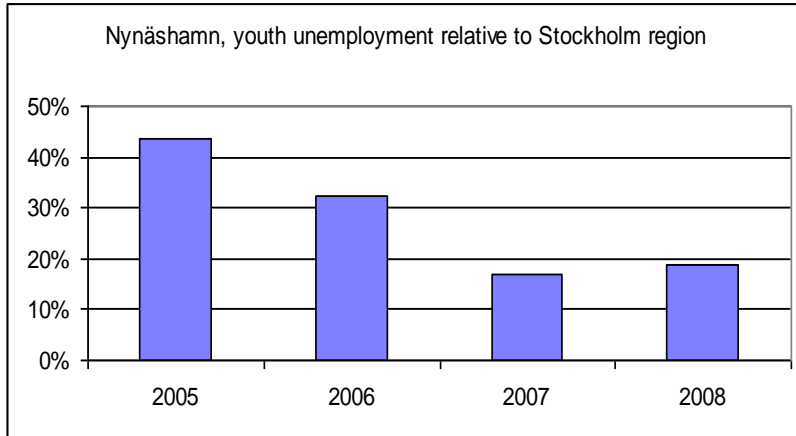
Nynäshamn and economic downturn

- In 2005 Ericsson closed a factory with 700 jobs, military services restructuring resulted in 900 less jobs.
- The closure of Ericsson and restructuring of the Muskö base will mean the disappearance of one in five jobs in Nynäshamn.
- In the times with economic downturn, it is even more important to have effective and focused benefits and employment services.
- From the municipal point of view, we identified the need to build and develop a multi-professional network of co-operating partners (public employment services office, social insurance office and different parts of municipal administrations).
- We developed cooperation and start work together with the goal that the services will be provided jointly in co-located premises.
- We focused that many beneficiaries need a wide range of services.
- At same time we continue to provide services, plan cohabitation and try to avoid big problems when pulling people from various administrations and from different organizational cultures together.

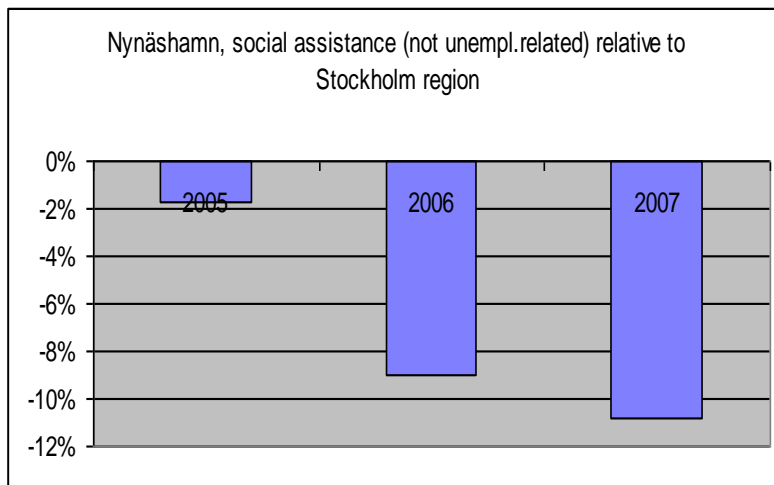
How are we doing relative to the region of Stockholm: indicator 1?



How are we doing relative to the region of Stockholm: indicator 2?



How are we doing relative to the region of Stockholm: indicator 3?

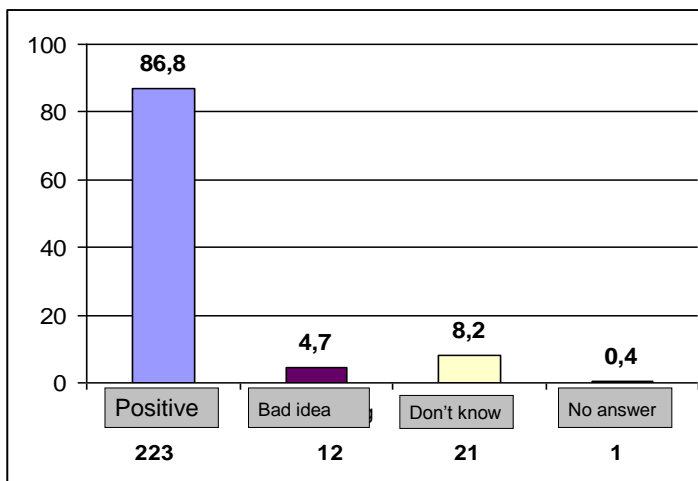


The first Labor Force Development Centre - one-stop access for all citizens

- In Nynäshamn, the Public employment services, The social insurance office and the employment authorities in the municipalities provide the services jointly in co-located premises.
- This is the first Labor force development centre in Sweden with focus on a strong cooperation that focuses on the promotion of employment.
- The Labor force development centre is based on a cooperation agreement.
- The objective of the creation of the Centre is to offer one-stop access for all citizens and to promote fast access to the employment.

Municipalities are looking for the change.

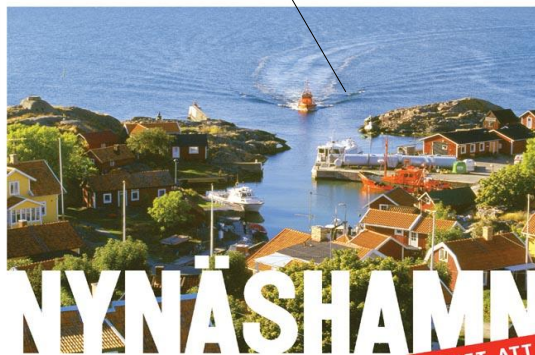
What do you think about the proposal to create a multi-professional permanent network of co-operating partners (public employment service office, municipality, social insurance office) that provide the services jointly in co-located premises.



Final message

- The social benefits and employment support systems should focus on the individuals in need of the support not on different systems.
- That means the systems should be simpler and more transparent, but also emphasize focus on implementation and the results.
- As Nynäshamn's experience shows: implementation is crucial and could be successful also in times with economic downturn.
- Finally: the one-stop shop is not the issue of physical location but the state of mind where co-operation and co-ordination in order to provide the best support for the individual no matter the needs.

Thank you!



Ilija Batljan
+46 8 520 681 72
ilija.batljan@nynashamn.se
<http://www.nynashamn.se>