



STOCKHOLM, Sweden

The YFI and SFX Programmes to Support Migrants

Key facts

Partly funded by the European Social Fund, the city of Stockholm runs two programmes – YFI (Integrated Swedish language and vocational training for newcomers) and SFX (Swedish language course for professionals) that set out to support the employment of migrants. This case is an example of how to put in place targeted programmes and that can strengthen the skill levels of migrants according to the needs of the local economy.

Timeframe and funding

The programmes are implemented with funding from the city-level budget as well as the European Social Fund and the Employment and Social Innovation Program.

City population

962,154

Governing body

Stockholm City Council

Link

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Main objectives

The key objectives of the programmes are:

- To provide Swedish language courses for migrants who are vocationally trained and, thus provide them with a quicker way to employment and/or studies (SFX)
- To offer vocational training for migrants with integrated language education targeted at newly arrived migrants (YFI)

Content and mode of delivery



Courses within the SFX programme start at different levels depending on the knowledge of Swedish, and include SFI (Swedish for migrants) and SVA (primary and secondary school Swedish). Students get to study with other students from the vocational field and some of the courses offer internships and workplace training as well as chances to complete education at college or high school level. The intention of the courses is to offer a tailor-made path through the system and to collect all the pieces of the puzzle required for the students to start working in their professional field as soon as possible. The programme is meant to be a quick route for those who already have a professional background when they come to the country. The YFI programme, on the other hand, offers vocational training for migrants with integrated language education targeted newly arrived migrants

Stakeholders



The main stakeholders in the project are:

- SFX: The SFX is a regional collaboration, offered to all interested in the Stockholm metropolitan area. The main stakeholders are all 26 municipalities in the Stockholm region that collaborate to send applicants to the SFX courses delivered by a smaller number of municipalities in the region.
- YFI: The YFI is delivered by the Adult Education Administration in the City of Stockholm, where it is also implemented. The programmes were part of the European FAC (Facts-track Action Boost) project that seek to respond to refugees' needs by transferring and adopting good practices for job inclusion within European cities. The project is co-founded by the programme EaSI of the European Commission DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion and is implemented by a consortium of 10 partners in 6 countries.

Key challenges, success factors & transferability



According to the city, the development of a strong regional cooperation across all 26 municipalities in the region for the SFX has been challenging. However, once the cooperation was set up, the success of both programmes has been the ability to provide migrants – with or without prior education - with better possibilities to enter the labour market and thus shortening the time between arrival in Sweden and getting into employment.

Contact us:

Tilde.Ussing@oecd.org

Directorate for Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

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