



Networking in the Fight against Homelessness

SWEDEN

1.

How do public authorities organise the fight against homelessness in your country?

There is no really general framework against homelessness in Sweden today at national level. The Government try to stimulate the housing market to build more houses.

Many of the communities in the cities have local programs to help homeless peoples. The local social service in the communities is obligated to help the homeless in all ways.

1a

Relevant public authorities! Which role do they have in fight against homelessness? National or federal level.

The housing market are strictly regulated in a lot of laws and supervised of the ministry

of Justices but there is no help in the fight combating homelessness .

From The ministry of Social affairs there are not much help in this issue. Fore the moment they have produced some about the homelessness in the Swedish NAPs Homelessness in Sweden is a responsibility for the local authorities, the communities. In the Swedish social law the communities have all duty to provide housing for all citizens.

The communities have to provide help and accommodations fore all homeless peoples.

1b

How is the fight against homelessness founded?

The Swedish government have founded 3.5 million Euro to stimulate NGO and local communities to fight against homelessness in general.

The local communities have a duty in the social law to stimulate NGOs economically and take help from them when they need. If they don't have any own social program fore homeless people they have to by help from the NGOs.

But that's a huge problem fore us that there are no many to national NGO network in Sweden.

1c

Which kind of cooperation exists between the homeless NGO sector and the responsible public authorities in the fight against homelessness?

The social service from the communities often have many to a homeless person but have to ask the NGO to provide accommodation. In the bigger cities the communities

has program themselves to provide some accommodations but need the NGOs to get help fore all of them or to get ordinary flats in the ordinary housing stocks.

Co-operation and networking different sectors of service provision.....

There are some cooperation between social service the employment exchange and the sickness insurance system fore addicted peoples in some cities. But it's not specific fore homeless peoples.

2a Cooperation and networking to ensure access to housing:
Is there cooperation? Which sort? Formal/informal

With the housing associations?

Not so much in daily live but some contact in the national network for the homeless peoples.

With other housing providers?

To provide ordinary flats there is a lot of local co operations with the housing companies and local house owners and NGOs over the hole country .

Main difficulties to get flats in the big cities and to convince the landlords that NGOs in cooperation with a homeless person can handle the situation without specific problems.

2bCooperation and networking to ensure access to health

Is there cooperation? Formal /

There are no specific health care for homeless peoples but we do have a general free healthcare

fore all citizens in Sweden. But we know that it don't works fore the homeless peoples. In Gothenburg and Malmö the city mission recently have started healthcare specific to homeless peoples.

We also have a new national network: dentists and doctors against homelessness.

But the are still no good mental care fore homeless peoples.

We do have a good care fore all addicted persons even the homeless in the country.

2c Cooperation and access to employment;

There are no national program fore homeless peoples in Sweden.

They have money from the social service and are not special welcome to jobcentre ore to the employment exchange as a job searcher. They are almost unemployable.

In the communities they sometimes try to activate homeless people in some specific jobs.

2d Cooperation - Immigration sector;

Immigrants are no specific target group in Sweden. They are not real homeless and many do

have a job. The great problem with the immigrants are the segregation.

2e Cooperation - Judicial system:

There is no cooperation with judicial system, but there are a lot of cooperation's with the prisons. Some NGOs in Sweden do cooperate in an Equal project to get housing to former prisoners.

3 Examples of Good practise.

The cooperation between the NGOs and local government in the city of Gothenburg I will mention as a good practise.