



SWEDEN

Youth Job Programme (also known as Youth Guarantee Programme)

ASSISTING YOUNG PEOPLE
IN FINDING A JOB

Information review: October 2015

In spite of low overall unemployment rates (7.1%), Sweden had high youth unemployment in 2006, when the initiative was planned, reaching 21.5% in the age group 15-24. These high youth unemployment rates still persist.

The Youth Job Programme consists of several kinds of activities, such as in-depth assessment, counselling guidance and intensified job coaching, complemented with work experience and training.

Evaluations of the practice have indicated that the Youth Job Programme is effective in assisting a specific segment within the target group, i.e. the 24 year olds, in finding a job faster. The effect is small but significant.

Name of the PES

Arbetsförmedlingen
The Swedish Public Employment Service

When was the practice implemented?

2007 – on-going

Which organisation was involved in its implementation?

Several partners are involved in the implementation of the programme, such as employers, study counsellors, vocational training institutions, the Swedish Social Insurance Agency, and others.

Which social groups were targeted by the practice?

Unemployed young people aged 16-24, both men and women.

What were the practice's main objectives?

The practice called 'Jobbgaranti för unga' (Youth Job Programme) is aimed at increasing the chances of young people aged 16-24 of getting a job.

What activities were carried out?

The Youth Job Programme consists of several types of activities, such as in-depth assessment, counselling guidance and intensified job coaching, complemented with work experience and training. The Youth Job Programme stipulates that after three months, individuals aged 16-24 have the right to receive extra help to find employment. The first tool offered is a mapping of their skills and background. Next, they receive study guidance or career guidance. After another three months, they have the right to receive job training through, for instance, an internship.

What resources and other relevant organisational aspects were involved?

The Youth Job Programme includes all employment officers. In some cases, special employment service officers focus only on young people. However, most often the Youth Job Programme involves all staff working with the unemployed.

Private actors involved in the activities are paid through the general budget of the PES. The details of these procurements may vary. The PES is obliged, by the government, to let at least one third of the participants take part in activities carried out by private actors, but this target was not fully achieved.

Source(s) of funding

National budget (tax revenue)

What were the outputs of the practice: people reached and products?

People reached:

During 2008, the Guarantee involved around 11 000 people each month; during 2009 it increased to over 30 000 people each month.

Products:

No public products were produced, but internal documents for guidance of PES staff were developed.

What outcomes have been identified?

The Youth Job Programme is effective in assisting a specific segment within the target group, i.e. the 24 year old in finding a job faster. The effect is small but significant. It was expected that about 6.8 % of the participants would leave the programme for employment or studies. In 2009, this target was exceeded, and close to 8% left for employment or studies each month.

**What are the lessons learnt
and success factors?**

According to an evaluation of the practice, 24 year old unemployed people (who were in the target group for the programme) did find a job faster than a group of 25 year old unemployed people who were not in the target group (the control group).

According to a similar evaluation made by the PES, the likelihood of getting a job after 90 days of activities was between 54% and 61% during 2008 to 2010. The difference between the target group and the slightly older control group is small, but noticeable. During 2008, 59.7% of the 25 year olds (the control group) were employed, compared to 61.0% of the 24 year olds (in the target group). In 2009, 25 year olds were employed more often than 24 year olds, 57.9% compared to 56.7%. In 2010, 53.5% of the 25 year olds were employed compared to 55.6 % among the 24 year olds. The decreasing trend over the years is thought to be a result of the financial crisis.

**More information
on the practice**

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/empl_portal/weesp/SE-1.pdf



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