## **Youth Partnership**

Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth





# INFORMATION TEMPLATE ON SOCIAL INCLUSION OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN SWEDEN



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## 1. The socio-economic situation of young people

# 1.1. Social subsistence/ protection and health cover for young people living in poverty

Welfare issues are an important part of Swedish youth policy. The youth policy goal concerns their formal right to a good living standard, but also about their real possibilities to achieve a good living standard.

Municipalities are responsible for providing support and assistance to people in vulnerable situations through the social services. This cover children and young people, people with substance abuse problems, elderly people and people with disabilities<sup>1</sup>

According to Swedish law, parents have a duty to support their children until their 18th birthday. If a young person still is at school (upper secondary) when they turn 18, this obligation is extended. It then applies until the young person have left school, but not after the 21st birthday. This means that young people aged 18–20 who have left school can apply for social assistance on their own behalf. Young people who want to move out of the family home can only receive assistance with their housing costs when there are strong reasons for the move, such as health problems. <sup>2</sup>

The Social Services Act and the Care of Young Persons (Special Provisions) Act govern the work of social services regarding social care for children and young people. If the social services become aware that a child is coming to harm, they must look into the child's situation and assess the need for measures. The social services offer measures and can, in some cases, intervene irrespective of whether consent has been given.<sup>3</sup>

Social assistance is financial support under the Social Services Act. One can receive support for upkeep and for other items that one need to have for a reasonable standard of living. Help with upkeep is called *income support* and consists of a standard (the national standard) plus reasonable costs for other common needs such as housing and household electricity.<sup>4</sup>

The social services do not usually grant social assistance to students during term periods. Young people are assumed to be able to manage on study allowance or other study assistance. If there are special reasons, the social services may make an exception. Study allowances are calculated according to the length of the term, and the study allowance notice states how long the money is supposed to last. If students apply for social assistance during breaks in their studies, the social services can require them to take part in some sort of work experience, even if it is not necessary for their studies.

The social services can also set a special requirement on young unemployed people that they are to take part in work experience or other knowledge-building activities. This applies to:
(1) young people under 25 years old, (2) people over 25 with a special need of knowledge-building activities and (3) students who need social assistance during a break from their studies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.government.se/sb/d/15568

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/Lists/Artikelkatalog/Attachments/9543/2006-114-2\_engelska20061142.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://www.government.se/sb/d/15473/a/183503

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/socialassistance

The public sector provides most of the basic welfare services for young people. However, nongovernmental organizations provide important supplements in several areas. *The Swedish Red Cross* (Röda Korset) and *Save the Children Sweden* (Rädda Barnen) are two major voluntary organizations with several projects on national and local level working with, for example, young criminals, young refugees and vulnerable young people.

# 1.2. Measures to meeting the medical Care needs of Young people at risk of social exclusion

The responsibility for health and medical care in the Swedish health system is divided between the state, county councils and municipalities. The Health and Medical Services Act sets out the respective responsibilities of county councils and municipalities for health and medical care. The Act is designed to give county councils and municipalities considerable freedom with regard to the organisation of their health and medical services. The state is responsible for overall health and medical care policy. The Government provides general state grants to county council health and medical services. In addition, it earmarks special funds to county councils for increasing the accessibility of care and pharmaceutical benefits.<sup>5</sup>

Young people have access to the general public welfare system, meaning that they should be treated on equal terms as everyone else and that their needs should be considered in every area of the welfare system. This concerns for example local social services offices and local health centers. There are however certain services that are targeted more specifically at young people. One example is young people's health clinics (<u>Ungdomsmottagningar</u>) that are local offices where young people seek advice on questions related to physical, mental and sexual health. Many of these are even accessible via Internet. I addition, there is <u>UMO.se</u>, a national web-based youth friendly clinic for young people aged 13 to 25 years. The purpose of the site is to make it easier for young people to find relevant, current and quality assured information about sex, health and relationships. UMO is developed in co-operation with young people in Sweden, youth clinics, school health services, NGO: s and professionals working with young people.

# 1.3. Measures to re-engage the young people not in employment, education or training (NEET)

According to the Swedish School Law, municipalities are required to keep themselves informed about the young people who are not in upper secondary school and are under the age of 20, in order to be able to offer them appropriate individual measures. This is known as the "municipal responsibility to be informed". However, there are considerable differences in how municipalities keep themselves informed about young people's occupations and the measures they are offering. During 2012–2013 a governmental committee has analysed the public measures for young people who are not in education, and given a series of suggestions for further developments (SOU 2013:13)<sup>7</sup>. The Inquiry's proposals are:

- Clarification of responsibility for young people beyond compulsory school age but under the age of 20 from a responsibility to be informed to a responsibility to act
- More central government labor market policy measures from age 16
- Improved national and local follow-up

It is proposed that the Inquiry's proposed legislative amendments enter into force on 1 July 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> http://www.government.se/sb/d/15660

<sup>6</sup> http://www.regeringen.se/content/1/c6/20/97/22/5e22ccba.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> SOU 2013:13. Ungdomar utanför gymnasiet – ett förtydligat ansvar för stat och kommun. Stockholm: Fritzes.

In addition The Swedish Association of Local authorities and Regions, SALAR, has published a handbook for municipalities in order to improve the coverage and impact of the work with NEET's on local level.<sup>8</sup>

# 1.4. Measures to ensure access to decent housing for young people at risk of social exclusion

In Sweden, it is primarily the municipalities that are responsible for the housing provision. The Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning (*Boverket*) conducts a Housing market survey annually. The results from 2013 show that 56 percent of the municipalities indicated that they have a shortage of housing for young people. In almost 70 percent of these municipalities, the main reason for this was that there is a general shortage of housing in the municipality. One third of the municipalities report that the smaller homes that actually are vacant are often too expensive for young people.<sup>9</sup>

The government has appointed a "homelessness coordinator" who's task is to strengthen the cooperation between the government and the municipalities. The coordinator has during the past year visited the Swedish municipalities, to encourage them to strengthen their efforts to prevent and tackle homelessness. After discussions with local government officials, targets and objectives for future work have been outlined in written agreements, so called Letters of Intent. Examples of actions in these agreements may be the development of guidelines for the housing supply where the needs for socially vulnerable groups is included and the development of strategic action plan for homelessness in the municipality. 10

The Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning (*Boverket*) was commissioned by the government to go through the rules and guidelines that affect the construction of housing for students and youth. The report, "Proposed rule changes for more housing for young people and students" was submitted to the government in June 2013. In the report the Board suggest several proposals in order to increase and simplify the construction of student and youth housing. One proposal is to provide better opportunities to build homes with temporary planning permission. This means that it will be faster to produce more housing for students and young people.<sup>11</sup>

Since 2002, The National Board of Health and Welfare (*Socialstyrelsen*) have had the assignment to follow up the extent of homelessness and to develop measures to combat homelessness in Sweden. Results from the Boards survey in 2011<sup>12</sup> showed that young adults (18-26 years old) have a hard time finding accommodation. Among the homeless group in Sweden the young adults increases. 40 percent of this group report that their reason for being homeless was conflicts in their families and 25 percent reports substance abuse as the reason.

Another way of measuring exclusion at the housing market is the evictions were young people and children are involved. The number of evictions among youngsters (18-25 years) increased in 2012 compared to 2011. The main reason for evictions within this group was not being able to pay

Information sheet 'Social Inclusion of Youth'
Country

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> SKL (SALAR) 2012, Det kommunala uppföljningsansvaret. Skolverket (2006), Information om icke-skolpliktiga ungdomar – det kommunala uppföljningsansvaret. Stockholm: Skolverket. Skolverket (2011). Vad gör kommunerna för ungdomar som inte går I gymnasieskolan – en rapport om det kommunala informationsansvaret (uppföljningsansvaret). Stockholm: Skolverket.

 $<sup>^9</sup> http://www.boverket.se/Boende/Analys-av-bostadsmarknaden/Bostadsmarknadsenkaten-2013/Om-Bostadsmarknadsenkaten/Bostadsmarknadsenkaten/Bostadsmarknadsenkaten-2013/Om-Bostadsmarknadsenkaten/Bostadsmarknadsenkaten-2013/Om-Bostadsmarknadsenkaten/Bostadsmarknadsenkaten-2013/Om-Bostadsmarknadsenkaten/Bostadsmarknadsenkaten-2013/Om-Bostadsma$ 

 $<sup>^{10}</sup> http://www.stadsmissionen.se/Global/Social\%20 Verksamhet/Heml\"{o}shet/Dokument/Stockholms\_Stadsmission\_Heml\"{o}s\_2013.pdf$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>http://www.boverket.se/Om-Boverket/Webbokhandel/Publikationer/2013/Forslag-till-regelandringar-for-fler-bostader-at-unga-och-studenter/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Hemlöshet och utestängning från bostadsmarknaden 2011 – omfattning och karaktär. (2011) Socialstyrelsen.

rent.<sup>13</sup> The Enforcement Authority has the national responsibility of collecting statistics of evictions. In a pilot project 2010, The Enforcement Authority tested a new way of trying to prevent evictions among young people. This new way of working is to adjust the information to the target group and early on get in contact with the ones who are late in paying rent<sup>14</sup>.

Stockholms Stadsmission, an NGO, issues a homelessness report annually, and the report from 2013 states that since 2012, Sweden has taken several policy initiatives to improve the knowledge of homelessness and reduce people's vulnerability. One example that is conducted by the Stockholms Stadsmission themselves in the city of Stockholm is the "training accommodations for young people". An initiative in order to help young adults who for various reasons can not stay at home, or coming from another country with no family or context in Sweden. Young people aged 18-23 years, take responsibility for their own home while getting support in the form of counselling and coaching. The training apartments are appointed to a young person via the social services in Stockholm. The experience of the initiative is very positive and the demand for the training apartments is very high. <sup>15</sup>

## 1.5. Measures addressing the social integration of young people with disabilities

Disability policy is cross-sectorial in Sweden and includes young people. The Ministry of Health and Social Affairs coordinates the national disability policy. In June 2011, the Government adopted a five-year strategy for disability policy. It builds further on the 10-year action plan that applied in the years 2000-2010. The strategy is based, in part, on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to which Sweden has acceded. The Priorities for the policy in 2013 are; Implementation of the strategy for disability policy, The Act concerning Support and Service for Persons with Certain Functional Impairments and assistance compensation, Increased employment for people with disabilities, Sign language interpretation, Review of the Swedish Institute of Assistive Technology, Free choice of technical aids and a High international profile.<sup>16</sup>

The Swedish Agency for Disability Policy Co-ordination (*Handisam*) is responsible for producing knowledge about the living conditions for children and young people with disabilities. They disseminate methods and strategies on how children and young people with disabilities can become more involved in decision-making. Handisam also have a focus group of young people with disabilities where they get the chance to be heard. The results will be included in the agency's follow-up system<sup>17</sup>.

The overall results from the report *Fokus 12- Living conditions for young people with disabilities* from the National Board for Youth Affairs (*Ungdomsstyrelsen*) shows that young people with disabilities have worse living conditions than young people without disabilities in most areas. The differences are greatest within education, labour market and health. Unemployment is higher among young people with disabilities and it is more common with long-term unemployment in the group. The report shows that the young disabled have an alarming health situation and are exposed to harassment and violence. The proportion of young people with disabilities who suffer from stress-related symptoms are twice as large than for young people without disabilities<sup>18</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Ung idag 2013 (2013)Ungdomsstyrelsen

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Årsredovisning Kronofogdemyndigheten 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>http://www.stadsmissionen.se/Global/SocialVerksamhet/Hemlöshet/Dokument/Stockholms\_Stadsmission\_Hemlös\_2013.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> http://www.government.se/sb/d/15472/a/184236

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Med rätt att komma till tals. Så ska Handisam se till att fler kommer till tals i projekt och uppföljning.(2012) Handisam.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Fokus 12 – Levnadsvillkor för unga med funktionsnedsättning (2012) Ungdomsstyrelsen

# 1.6. The contribution of youth work (and youth centres) to social inclusion of young people

In Sweden there is no one clear definition of Youth Work, though Youth Work is undertaken in many different areas.

There is a range of people who can be considered as youth workers in Sweden in the formal and non-formal sector. In Sweden there are formally educated youth recreation leaders and there are plenty of other professions involved in work with young people outside the formal education system such as social workers, young entrepreneurs', special teachers, psychologists, pedagogues, coaches and others. Within the civil sector there are a great number of volunteers working with youth. Independently of who is working with youth, a common and general main objective of youth work is to provide opportunities for young people to shape their own futures.

Swedish youth work related to leisure time activities is very decentralised with different service delivery models and there is a heterogeneous provision of youth work that differs between the 290 municipalities where youth policy is implemented<sup>19</sup>. The key challenges facing youth workers and work in Sweden is that professions working with youth are comparatively low paid and that youth work as such needs higher recognition and status.

Having said this, initiatives and projects are rarely "branded" as "Youth Work-initiatives" but can be interpreted as such in retrospect. The state grant to "Engagements guides" (se below) is one example. On a national level this initiative is a funding project but the implementation is carried out within civil society organisations working with young people and trying to involve and engage them in society.

#### 2. Research on social inclusion

2.1 Is there any national report/ national survey investigating the social exclusion of young people in your country, including issues of discrimination?

Mental health problems among young people - background report for the children's and young people's health and health care in 2013. (Psykisk ohälsa bland unga – underlagsrapport till Barns och ungas hälsa, vård och omsorg 2013.)

This report from the National Board for Health and Welfare describes the increasing group of young people who reports psychological disorders or suffer from mental illness. The consequences of mental illness among adolescents are analysed with regard to their future health and adult establishment. Child and adolescent mental health has increased in the 1990 - and 2000's, and the latest data from 2011 show a further increase. In particular, depression, anxiety disorders and substance abuse is increasing amongst young people in Sweden.

http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2013/2013-5-43 (Note, report in Swedish)

## Focus 12 - Living conditions for young people with disabilities

Young people with disabilities have poorer living conditions than young people without disabilities. In the areas of education, labor and health the differences are particularly large. The report from the Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs shows that the young disabled have an alarming health situation and are exposed to harassment and violence. The proportion of young people with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Fokus 06, (2006) Ungdomsstyrelsen

disabilities who suffer from stress-related symptoms are twice as large than for young people without disabilities.

http://www.ungdomsstyrelsen.se/sites/default/files/publikationer\_uploads/wwwfokus12version3.pdf (Note, report in Swedish)

## Young people not in employment or education – how many are they and what are they doing?

An annual publication from Theme Group Youth since 2011, Theme Group Youth is one of five theme groups within the European Social Fund in Sweden during the program period 2007-2013. In this report from 2011, Theme Group Youth presents a new analytical model to describe young people between the ages of 16 and 25 who are not in employment or education, so called NEET:s. The report provides a picture of the number of young people in Sweden who are not in employment or education and what this group are doing. In 2011 there was 112,100 individuals between16 and 25 years old who neither worked nor studied throughout the year. This group has been over 100 000 people each year between 2008 and 2011 and represents about 8-10 percent of Swedish young people. The report is a result of cooperation between several public authorities and organisations with support from the European Social Fund.

http://www.temaunga.se/sites/default/files/ypnieoe\_english.pdf (Note, report in English)

## About LGBT youth - Health

This is a summary of the report *Hon Hen Han*, an analysis of the health situation among LGTB-people in Sweden by the Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs (2010). LGBT youth are more likely than other young people to be victims of demeaning treatment, violence, and threats of violence. Therefore, as a group, LGBT-youth are of significantly poorer health than the general population. This is especially true regarding their mental health and their abuse of alcohol, drugs and tobacco.

http://www.ungdomsstyrelsen.se/sites/default/files/publikationer\_uploads/wwwomungahbtqhalsaeng.pdf (Note, report in English)

#### Focus 11 - An analysis of young people's housing situation

In the 2000s, the proportion of young people between 18 and 25 years old who live at home increased by 6 percentage points. For those who have left their home, the unsafe housing conditions during the same period increased. Focus 11, a report from the Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs give a broad description of young people's housing conditions today as well as the opportunities and barriers faced by young people when they establish themselves in the housing market.

http://www.ungdomsstyrelsen.se/sites/default/files/publikationer\_uploads/fokus11\_version\_2\_0.pdf (Note, report in Swedish)

## Fokus 08 - The living conditions of young people in socially deprived neighbourhoods in Sweden.

A report from the National Board for Youth Affairs concerning the living conditions of young people in socially deprived neighbourhoods in Sweden. The situation young people find themselves in and circumstances around their childhood and adolescence vary in Sweden. Fokus 08 highlights the conditions for young persons who live in some of Sweden's poorest areas.

http://www.ungdomsstyrelsen.se/publikationer/fokus-08-om-ungas-utanforskap (Note, report in Swedish) http://www.ungdomsstyrelsen.se/publikationer/fokus-08-english (Note, summary in English

### Fokus 09 - Methods against the exclusion of young people

In the report mentioned above, Fokus 08, The National Board for Youth Affairs highlighted the conditions for young persons who live in some of Sweden's poorest areas. Fokus 09 continued with the same theme, but this analysis focus on methods from three other countries, Denmark, England and the Netherlands. This report describes methods and policies when it comes to encouraging young people to find work, educate themselves and to participate in the society.

http://www.ungdomsstyrelsen.se/publikationer/fokus-09-english (Note, summary in English http://www.ungdomsstyrelsen.se/sites/default/files/publikationer\_uploads/wwwfokus09.pdf (Note, report in Swedish)

## Social Report 2010 - The national report on Social conditions in Sweden

The Social Report 2010 from the National Board for Health and Welfare aims to provide an up-todate overview of contemporary trends in respect of social problems and to analyse the possible causes of these trends. The emphasis is on identifying particularly disadvantaged population groups at risk of incurring social and/or economic problems, and on estimating the extent of these problems. The results are part of a longitudinal study by the National Board for Health and Welfare. The report from 2010 shows that more people are able to earn their own living, but the proportion of people outside both the labour market and the social insurance systems has remained unchanged. However, long-term poverty (five years or longer) has continued to decrease in all population groups. Furthermore, incomes increased among all groups, although the increase was higher among high-income earners than among those with lower incomes. Therefore, the income gap has increased.

http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2010/2010-3-11 (Note, report in Swedish) http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2010/socialreport-summary (Note, summary in English)

## Listen to children! (Lyssna på barn!)

This report disseminate methods and strategies so that children and young people with disabilities can be more involved in activities that affect them. The report shows that there is still a great need for more knowledge, few organisations take into account the child's or the young persons own perspective, the school are the institution that can make most impact and inclusion and participation has a wider meaning and do not only concern decisions about one's own person.<sup>20</sup>

http://www.handisam.se/Publikationer-och-press/Rapporter/Handikappolitisk-utveckling/Lyssna-pa-barn (Note, report in Swedish)

Young people's vocies on social exclusion in Sweden (Ungas röster om socialt utanförskap i Sverige)

A report published by UNICEF Sweden in collaboration with the department for Social Work at Stockholm University. The focus of the report is to highlight children's and young people's own voices and reflections on the issue of social exclusion. They get to reflect on economic and material conditions, their school, leisure and general living environment and their expectations for the future.

http://unicef.se/utanfor/rapport (Note, report in Swedish)

 $<sup>^{20}\ \</sup>text{http://www.handisam.se/Publikationer-och-press/Rapporter/Handikappolitisk-utveckling/Lyssna-pa-barn/less-states.}$ 

### Children's economic vulnerability (Barns ekonomiska utsatthet)

This annual report from Save the Children Sweden in collaboration with Malmö University reflects on circumstances surrounding children and young people and their families' economic situation in Sweden. This report is the ninth annual follow-up to the study of children's economic vulnerability. The first study highlighted the development of child poverty in the welfare politically turbulent 1990s up to 1999. Thereafter nine follow-ups, for the years 2000-2010, have been published annually.

http://www.raddabarnen.se/Documents/vad-vi-gor/sverige/samhallets-ansvar/barnfattigdom/Barnfattigdom2012-2-l%c3%a5ng.pdf (Note, report in Swedish)

2.2 Is there any longitudinal research focused on the cumulative nature of disadvantage (taking place across generations of the same family).

Se the **Social report** from the National Board for Health and Welfare and **Children's economic vulnerability** from Save the Children Sweden above.

2.3 Apart from national reports and surveys, are you aware of other research that is valuable for understanding the situation of young people (esp. those with fewer opportunities) in the current crisis?

N/A

## 3. Examples of policy responses and practices

3.1 What are the relevant initiatives/projects at regional/ national level promoting the social inclusion of young people?

**Theme group Youth** collects and disseminates knowledge and experience from labour market projects targeting young people with funding from the European Social Fund (who operate between the years 2007-2013). Theme Group Youth is a collaboration project with the following actors, The Swedish public employment service, The national board for health and welfare, Swedish association of local authorities and regions (SALAR), The Swedish national board for youth affairs, The Swedish social insurance agency, The Swedish national agency for education and Communicare (NGO). Theme Group Youth produces statistics concerning young people not in education or employment, aggregated information about on going youth projects, thematic reports about methods and practices the projects use in their work, identifies structural obstacles for implementation of methods.<sup>21</sup>

**Plug In** is a collaborative project to prevent early school leaving at upper secondary level. This project is managed and coordinated by the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SKL) in partnership with the Gothenburg Region Association of Local Authorities, Region Jämtland, the Regional Associations of Kalmar County and Södra Småland, Region Västerbotten and Region Östsam. More than fifty municipalities in these regions have become involved in the project. Different competences are collaborating across administrative areas (e.g. education, labour market, health and the social area), trying out new methods to enable more students to complete their upper secondary studies. One important element of Plug In is the Innovation Hub and its website, which is being built up during the project period. The two-year project (2012-2014)

<sup>21</sup> Temaunga.se

is funded by the European Social Fund.<sup>22</sup>

**Unga in** is another project worth mentioning. This project is lead by The Swedish Public Employment Service (*Arbetsförmedlingen*) and financed by the European Social Fund. It is collaboration between civil society organisation's, national governmental agencies and different municipalities. The goal of the project is to find ways to reaching out to and motivate young people who are not in education or employment. Unga in take into account the participant's entire life situation. The methods consist of individual conversations, based on the participants' formal and informal knowledge. Parallel to this they offer a range of activities for the participant with the purpose of getting them closer to the labour market, for example short-term jobs, mentoring, internships and workplace visits.

**Engagement guides** is a government initiative to support the civil society in their work with inclusion. The National Board for Youth Affairs are appointed to distribute state grants to civil society organizations working in neighbourhoods with low levels of organisation/association engagement. The grants have been available since 2010 and the results from the annual report show that the projects are successful not only in attracting traditional association engagement but also a more general engagement in the local community.<sup>23</sup>

# 3.2 Have young people and civil society organizations been given political and financial support to be involved in the policy making process on social inclusion?

At the national level youth organisations are often consulted when making decisions about youth issues including youth issues concerning social inclusion. At the local level there are youth councils in close to 50 percent of the municipalities that gathers young people and give them influence over the local political processes. The level of influence varies between different municipalities. Only about 14 percent of the municipalities include youth organisations in their decision-making regarding youth issues. Sweden is part of the structured dialogue and thus send youth representative to there meetings. At the global level we have youth representatives to the UN General Assembly, the UN High level political forum for sustainable development and the UNESCO general conference as well as other relevant UN meetings. Social inclusion is often discussed in these arenas, and a theme that the National Swedish Youth Council – LSU often focus on.<sup>24</sup>

# 3.3 Have youth organisations and other civil society organisations been involved in the development of the policies related to social inclusion of young people

At the moment the Swedish government is drafting a new youth policy in which the youth organisations have been very active. The policy is cross-sectorial and includes social inclusion among other themes. When it comes to more focused policies concerning social inclusion the youth organisations and other civil society organisations that work with the specific area are often consulted, but not always part of drafting the policies at the first stage.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>http://english.skl.se/BinaryLoader.axd?OwnerID=0fe470b5-c8d3-4083-8b5b-a9ce8d0341fa&OwnerType=0&PropertyName=EmbeddedImg\_32f2a844-ca53-48d6-877f-11e1f55ab523&FileName=plug-infolder\_eng\_singlepage.pdf&Attachment=False

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Engagemang som gör skillnad (2013), Ungdomsstyrelsen

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Med vilket syfte?-En kartläggning av lokalt stöd till ungas organisering (2012) Sveriges Ungdomsorganisationer LSU (http://lsu.se/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Med-vilket-syfte-LSU-rapport-20121.pdf)