Östra Göinge municipality has a problem with rising costs for income support; 100 households with Swedish background and 60 households with foreign background are dependent on economic aid from the municipality. Especially those older than 55 years with foreign background, or those with disabilities, have difficulties entering the labour market. In this project we will examine how we can improve the cooperation between relevant government agencies, NGOs, municipalities and others. How can our educational system take care of those who lack relevant education, are in need of updating their skills or are thinking about changing professions? We will review the way we work with this group and we might find that our staff might need some kind of skills development in order to help our target group more efficiently. The long term goal is to improve the conditions and opportunities for the individual to make a meaningful contribution to their own livelihood by focusing on the individual’s opportunities in a structure that corresponds to the individual as well as the society as a whole.

We are currently looking for municipalities, or other organisations, with which we can exchange experiences about methods and cooperation in our project. Relevant organisations can be working with social enterprises, or in other ways are supporting persons that have difficulties entering the labour market.

If you are interested in discussing possible exchange of experiences, please contact Tomas Carvonen, Planning Manager at Östra göinge municipality, Tomas.Carvonen@ostragoinge.se, + 46 (0)44 775 6020  or

Sara Wanther, EU-Coordinator, EU-Office Skåne Nordost, sara.wanther@skanenordost.se, +46 (0)734-253745.