

METHOD/TOOL REGISTRATION FORM

2023

PART 1 TOOL SUMMARY

Tool/method name	Gottsunda Culture House
Tool/method summary description (up to 30 words)	The main mission for Gottsunda Culture House is to serve as a node for the local civil society, municipal decision makers, local businesses and local residents. The Culture House is the physical arena where everyone is welcome and important relations are made, with cultural expression as the main mean.
Country observed	Sweden
Year observed	2023
Programme area (please highlight) migrant integration, active citizenship, social inclusion	Migrant integration, Active citizenship, Social inclusion
Tool type (please choose) exercise, video, facilitation technique, methodology, guide, training session, inclusion ice-breakers, etc....	Facilitation, Cooperation, Networking
Specific topic please write others:	Community work
Beneficiaries of tool:	All local residents with focus on Youth and Women
Can this tool be applied to other beneficiaries: yes/no	Yes

What type of beneficiaries: ALL, or specific ones?	All
If specific ones, which?	



PART 2 MORE INFORMATION

Tool full description (up to 100 words):

Gottsunda Kulturhus is a meeting space for several different activities: A café, exhibition space, auditorium and stage. A theater with rehearsal rooms and a large stage, a community center, a library and an artists' collective - all under the same roof in Gottsunda Centrum.

Organizationwise it is like a cooperative network including the Municipality, Civil society organizations, local business and local residents. They all operate in a commercial center owned by real estate company. Gottsunda kulturhus and its network is working with people living in the area to create possibilities to have meaningful leisure time, cultural activities, training, performances, concerts, exhibitions, but above all meetings in pleasant environments for creating positive relations and social cohesion .

Context (observed):

- Gottsunda is a residential area in the city of Uppsala with apprx 15 000 inhabitants. The average resident is a young immigrant and more than 100 languages are spoken in the area. Furthermore, the unemployment rate is high and the electoral participation is low. Followingly, the Culture House tries to serve as a bridge between the individual and the job support agency and also to use culture as a mean for social cohesion and to create relation between residents aswell as between residents and authorities.

Could it be used in other contexts? If yes, which ones?

Yes, it can be used in any local community.

What is innovative about this method ?

The cooperation between many actors from different sectors and to have all services under one roof in the center of the community.

Detailed Methodology (observed):

To create trustful relations and social cohesion by using cultural activities and common areas for informal meetings and also to have close connections to those organizations and public departments that can provide needed services like health clinics, study guides, job centers with more. In the centre of these services and network is a person connected to the Kulturhus and employed by the municipality that can guide local residents to the needed service and also support and arranges cultural activities and courses where trustful relations can be made.

Comments from the IFSJ observers on some things they want to bring home from Gottsunda:

- I will bring back the concept of “space mothership” that concentrate in the same place different useful services and practices.
- For my colleague that deal with families, I think that I will recommend him to approach nurses and midwives as like in Gottsunda. So, he would have more credibility, and maybe he will attract more young parents.

-To put even more focus on the resources and skills that people from the community already have. They are the experts of their neighbourhood and community, so we should listen carefully to their needs and not overlay your own ideas and assumptions about the community’s need.

-Seeing community work as a metaphor for the cycle of life. Community work prepares the soil for the nature to flourish.

Specific advice for staff/volunteers/adult educators:

To remember that trustful relations between people, between organizations and between people and organizations/authorities is a basic success factor and need to be focused on doing community work.

For more resources and information....

Mattias.rosendahl@uppsala.se