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Interim report year 2 from the management and coordinating committee (Steering Committee) for the partnership between Tyresö municipality and Theewaterskloof municipality in South Africa

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## **Summary in English and Swedish**

Styrgrupperna ha träffats två gånger under året. Mot bakgrund av första årets trassel med rapportering, ägnades mötet i Tyresö i oktober 2013 åt en genomgång av alla riktlinjer som ICLD har för partnerskap. De beslut/ förslag till beslut som fattats eller föreslagits vid styrgruppsmötena 2012-2013 sågs över och korrigerades. Då det har skett mycket ändringar av tjänstemän som varit engagerade i partnerskapet, gjordes även en korrigering och uppdatering av aktuella personer.

I mars 2014 i Theewaterskloof ägnades en dag åt uppföljning av hur TWK projektgruppen hade arbetat och sökt vägar att införa Ung Företagsamhet i TWK. Den andra dagen ägnades åt samtal om Theewaterskloof's framtid ur hållbarhetssynpunkt, vilket gav bakgrund för samtal om fortsatt partnerskap. Styrgruppen beslöt att till oktober 2014 ansöka om breddning och utveckling inför planer om ett nytt gemensamt projekt.

The joint Steering Committee has met twice during the year- in Tyresö in October 2013, and in Theewaterskloof in March 2014. The task for the 4-day autumn meeting was a thorough reading of the ICLD documents so as to get a



shared understanding of the undertaking and responsibilities of the Steering Committee. We also checked all decisions that had been made by the joint Steering Committee in 2012-2013 to tick off what had been done, what was yet to be done, and what was no longer valid. Since there has been a turnover in staff in both our municipalities we also updated the names of those now engaged in the partnership.

At the meeting in March 2014, the subject for the first day was the development of the Young Entrepreneurs partnership project. The second day Theewaterskloof told about their work; as well as the challenges they face in terms of institutional, corporative, service delivery, infrastructure, development and growth, income and debt collection. They informed Tyresö Steering Committee about the strategy developed by Council and administration to create long term sustainability and that this is the primary objective of the municipality for 2013/2104 and 2014/2015. This presented a good background for discussions about a possible next project that could support sustainability enhancing drives and methodologies of Theewaterskloof and Tyresö municipalities. The joint Steering Committee decided to send in an application for Development and expansion to the October 2014 deadline.

## **Background**

This has been the third year of our partnership, and the second year for the Young Entrepreneurs project.

We have since the inception phase more and more become aware of the differences in the way our municipalities are organized within our national structures, and run on a day-to-day level. The most vital difference that plays a major role in our project is that the schools in Sweden are under municipal rule, whereas in South Africa they are run by National and Provincial Government. For further clarity it is mentioned that South Africa has a three level government model: National Government, Provincial Government and Municipal Government that includes local and district municipalities. Due to the TWK municipality not having any "say" in the schools, this created difficulties when the TWK project team sought to get partners within the local school system. The project intention of promoting entrepreneurship to youngsters as a way to get the confidence, skills and tools to create their own jobs when leaving school and

entering the labour market had to be redirected into a new form- but the objectives: decreasing poverty and unemployment amongst the young are still the same. The need for youths to enhance their own lives is motivated by the negative socio-economic and welfare levels in communities they live in. The Biggest Deal Challenge facilitates for teams to meet with business people and business facilitating and support entities; as well as to gain opportunities to create own businesses as part of the challenge and to subsequently gain vital entrepreneurial abilities, expertise and experiences. The Challenge allows participating youths to rise above their circumstances and to influence others to do the same.

The Biggest Deal Challenge, which is a South African adaption of the Young Entrepreneurs program, "The Biggest Deal- learn and earn", has been launched by the creative TWK project team. The project was launched in Theewaterskloof in May 2014 and will take place during the South African Winter Holiday in June and July 2014. A interactive mayor's breakfast was hosted by the Project team for the municipality, private sector and youth participants to join forces to enhance the success of the Challenge. At the breakfast 27 local businesses and individuals adopted teams for tutoring and funding. This is one of the biggest displays of interaction between the municipality and private sector in the history of the municipality.

# Internal grounding and participation

The members of the Steering Committee in Tyresö represent the political majority and the opposition, as well as all of the municipal departments. Members of the Steering Committee Mrs Margareta Ternstedt, chairman of the board for the upper secondary school and labour market and Mrs Britt-Marie Lundberg-Björk, head of the department for the upper secondary school and labour market, stay in regular contact with the YE project leader at Tyresö gymnasium.

Decisions about the partnership are made in Tyresö by the Steering Committee chaired by the municipal Mayor and also in close communication and contact with the project leader at Tyresö gymnasium.

Both the municipal board and the municipal council are well informed about the progress and development of the partnership.

Information about the partnership has been posted both on the municipality's intranet and on the external website. Tyresö Gymnasium has a webpage about the partnership.

Theewaterskloof municipality heard about the potential partnership with Tyresö Municipality from the South African Local Government Association (SALGA). It led to contact between the two municipalities and principal agreements about a partnership and terms of references. The matter was discussed and considered by the Executive Mayor and his Committee and based on their motivation adopted by Council. It was rolled out politically as a project in the Office of the Speaker who operates through the Steering Committee representing all political parties on Council. Administratively the project resides in the office of the Municipal Manager who facilitated a municipal Task Group consisting of functionaries in the Directorate: Development. The directorate placed it under the care of Department Local Economic Development.

## **External grounding and participation**

The Moderate and Social Democratic Parties in Tyresö have had articles about the partnership in their local newspapers which are distributed free of charge in Tyresö municipality. Articles about the partnership have been in the municipal monthly supplement to the local newspaper Mitt i Tyresö. Lectures and information about the partnership has been given at both the Tyresö Rotary branch and at the local Entrepreneurs Association (Företagarförening). During the meeting in Tyresö on October 2013, the TWK delegation, together with Tyresö politicians and the Tyresö coordinator were received in Stockholm by the South African ambassador to Sweden, Ms Mandisa Dona Marasha.

Ms Marasha was very positive to the partnership Young Entrepreneurs project. She told that she was going to a Bi-national commission meeting in Pretoria, with focus on strategic economic cooperation and skills for young people, women and entrepreneurship. "Cooperation with municipalities in Sweden could enhance these goals. "Ung företagsamhet" is a very good concept and I will tell my colleagues about it. It would be of great help if Young Entrepreneurship could be on the school curriculum in South Africa as it is in Sweden, I will bring this point to the table. I want to identify areas where cooperation could be enhanced, we need to work together to make a bigger impact".

We also invited the ambassador to Tyresö in March 2014 when the TWK project team came to Sweden. The ambassador came to Tyresö gymnasium to meet the

project leaders, learners and teachers engaged in the Young Entrepreneurs project in Tyresö and TWK. The TWK adaption of YE, "The Biggest Deal" was presented to the ambassador, who showed strong appreciation for the concept, and said that she promotes the concept to her peers on the government level in South Africa. The Tyresö coordinator stays in regular contact with the embassy to keep the ambassador informed about the development of the partnership and YE-project.

In Theewaterskloof the project was announced to the public by means of Municipal Town and Corporate newsletters which is free of cost and reaches each household in the municipal area. The Biggest Deal Challenged recently received coverage in local newspapers such as Overberg Gazette and the Elgin/Grabouwer. The Challenge is also advertised on the front page of the Theewaterskloof municipal website http://www.twk.org.za/ As mentioned the Challenge was publicly announced at a mayoral breakfast at which occasion information about the Theewaterskloof/Tyresö-project was also conveyed.

# The Steering- and coordination Committee

The joint Steering committee has met twice during the work year; in Tyresö in October 2013 and in TWK in March 2014. Attached are minutes from both meetings, as well as other documentation from the meetings.

Participants in the meeting in Tyresö

From Tyresö:

Mayor Fredrik Sawestähl, Leader of the opposition Ms Anita Mattsson, chairman of the board for social services, Mr Andreas Jonsson, , chairman of the board for upper secondary school and labour market Ms Margareta Ternstedt, Municipal director Mr Bo Renman, coordinator Ms Mette Kjörstad. Contributors were also project leader Mr Peter Österlund and principle Helene Bergström.

From Theewaterskloof: Speaker Ms Christelle Vosloo, Counsellor Mr Glen Carelse, leader of the opposition Mr Andrew Cupido, MM (municipal manager) Mr Stanley Wallace.

The meeting hosted by Tyresö had the theme "Cleaning up and moving forward". The days were spent reading through the ICLD guidelines for the partnership and the project as means of getting a shared understanding of the

responsibilities and requirements of the partnership as formulated by ICLD. We were assisted by Ms. Maria Larsson from ICLD, who helped clarify the main targets for ICLD in their assignment to the Swedish donor organization SIDA. Her professional help was much appreciated and helped the steering committee to look at administrative issues that had not been going so well the previous year. We also went through all decisions made at our previous meetings and updated the list by ticking off what had been done, what not (and why), and what was still to be done. See attached minutes and documents.

The minutes of the meeting held between the two Steering Committees in Caledon, Theewaterskloof on Wednesday and Thursday 5 and 6 March are attached to this report. The meeting was attended by Alderman Chris Punt -Executive Mayor of Theewaterskloof municipality; Mister Frederik Sawestahl -Mayor of Tyreso municipality; Mister Stan Wallace - Municipal Manager of Theewaterskloof municipality; Mister Ulf Haraldsson - Deputy Municipal Manager of Tyresö municipality; Ms Anita Mattson – Leader of the Opposition of Tyresö municipality; Mister Glen Carelse - Councillor of Theewaterskloof municipality, Mister Andy Cupido - Councillor of Theewaterskloof municipality, Ms Mette Kjorstad - Coordinator for the Tyresö Steering Committee; Mister Cecil Davids - Member of Theewaterskloof Project Team; and Mister Hugo Geldenhuys – Official: Theewaterskloof municipality: scribe of the meeting. Ms Christelle Vosloo, Speaker of Theewaterskloof municipality was ill and could not attend the meeting. The meeting dealt primarily with feedback by the respective steering committees, matters concerning the funds and project requirements of ICLD, informing the public of the project via the media, financial reporting, the budget, the necessity of video/media conferences, a new coordinator from Theewaterskloof, an assessment of project progression, the future of the project, The Biggest Deal Challenge, sustainability challenges faced by Theewaterskloof municipality, identification of a new project and visit to a housing project.

#### The role of the coordinator

In Tyresö, the coordinator sets agenda for the steering committee meetings together with the Mayor. The coordinator also does the budget for both the Steering Committee and the Partnership Project. The Tyresö coordinator writes the yearly report and minutes from meetings for the steering committee and follows up decisions taken by the steering committee. The coordinator stays in close contact with both the project leader in Tyresö and in Theewaterskloof, and assisted in the planning of the program for the TWK project team when they

came to Tyresö in March 2014, and also helped with the activities during that visit.

In Theewaterskloof the coordinator contacts with the coordinator of Tyresö, writes minutes of meetings between the two steering committees and for the Theewaterskloof steering committee, does the logistical arrangements for meetings, are responsible for invoices, have an oversight role over the Project team on behalf of the Speaker, represents the interests of the Speaker and municipal manager in the project, cooperate in the writing of annual project reports, contribute in the rationalisation of new projects, liaise between the political and administrative functions of the municipality as far as the project goes, support travel arrangements of the steering committee for visits to Tyresö and performs the arrangements for the stay over of Tyresö delegates.

### The mode of cooperation

Theewaterskloof has a new coordinator for the steering committee since March 2014. This is the fourth time that TWK changes coordinator during the last 2 years of the partnership. The shared writing of the minutes from the meeting in TWK in March 2014 by the two coordinators was a pleasure compared to earlier attempts at mutuality. Hopefully also the work done by going through all ICLD documents at the joint steering committee meeting in Tyresö in October 2013 has brought about greater understanding of the ICLD requirements for the partnership, which are essential for the understanding of the tasks that the partnership, and the coordinator, has to deliver, and the mode in which it is to be done.

The coordinator in Tyresö stays in regular contact with the coordinator in TWK, to ask for information or to remind of things to be done. The Tyresö coordinator initiates contacts about the report and budget and, and sends (translated) minutes from the Tyresö SC meetings to the TWK coordinator to pass on to the TWK Steering Committee. The Tyresö coordinator does the budget for both the steering committee and the YE- project, and TWK are to send in invoices together with receipts to verify the invoice to the Tyresö coordinator. This year a deadline for sending in invoices has been set by the Tyresö coordinator so as not have to ask for a postponement again. If any

invoices are not sent in in time, they will be disregarded and not put in the final account to ICLD.

TWK responds to the Tyresö coordinator rather than initiating contact about the work, hopefully that will become more of a shared responsibility and awareness with the new TWK coordinator.

The Tyresö coordinator does the first version of this report, and then it is processed by the TWK coordinator, and finally by both Steering Committees.

The role of the coordinator of Theewaterskloof municipality is as described in the aforesaid. The Theewaterskloof Steering Committee took a decision that the new coordinator must be involved in the project on the almost the same level as the Tyresö coordinator. This goal had by and large been achieved and currently the coordinating tasks, especially in regards to reporting, general administration, financial activities and applications for continued funds have been more evenly shared between the respective coordinators of Tyresö and Theewaterskloof. Theewaterskloof municipal coordinator does the administration and coordinating tasks of the local steering committee whilst he also has an overview role in regards to the projects of the local project team. Financial administration emanating from Theewaterskloof's tasks in regards to the project is dealt with by the coordinator.

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### The contribution of the foreign partner:

In terms of human resources the participants are representatives of structures of Council and administratively personnel in the office of the municipal manager and Directorate: Development. The Steering Committee consists of the Speaker, three councillors and the coordinator. The working group consists of all department local economic development. Costs are related to, amongst others, travel, passports and VISAs; meetings, venues for meetings, meals and refreshments, VAT, proportional salaries of personnel and councillors; and the costs of The Biggest Deal Challenge, media, the mayoral breakfast. Involving the

private sector is also a contribution and currently 27 businesses ranging from small, medium to macro sizes.

## Continuation of partnership

The Young Entrepreneurs project comes to an end in the summer of 2015. We are convinced that by then the concept will be firmly adjusted to the realities of Theewaterskloof and will be able to stand on it's own as a yearly event without the aid of Tyresö. But, even if there will be no more ICLD funding for the project, the ties have grown strong between the politicians and staff involved in the project from both Tyresö and TWK, so Tyresö will follow the development of The Biggest Deal with great interest.

The issue of continuation was raised at both SC meetings during the year. The aim is to send in an application for development and expansion in October 2014. Before doing this, the two Steering Committees are going to have videoconferences to discuss which field/s to look into during the 6 month development phase before applying for a new project in October 2015. The proposals for a new partnership project when this is written are, from Tyresö's side within the field of water, sewage and waste management- but it is still to be discussed in the Development and expansion phase. It is too early to say anything about a timeframe for the new project since that would depend upon which project is going to be sought for. A vital key factor on which the future of the partnership is based on, and depends on, is the administrative work done by the two coordinators- this must work well from both sides and be shared equally.

#### Contact with ICLD

We are most grateful that Maria Larsson from ICLD could be with us a couple of days when we had our meeting in Tyresö in October 2013. She helped create clarity about the requirements that before had not been observed as they should. As one TWK delegate said, "It is hard to find the time at home to go through all these documents properly, therefor it is good that we could spend this time doing it properly and with professional help".

Last year we had to have a postponement for our report since it was not finished on time, we sent in our report on September 13th 2013. We received feedback in March 2014. It was a very long time to wait 1/2 year for feedback and refunds for

our expenses. Because we this year send in our report earlier than the deadline (August 1<sup>-1</sup>), we hope that this can be of help to ICLD and better fit in with the administrative routine of the ICLD work year.

We appreciate that we could get the format for the application for development and expansion in a Word document so that we can work with it before it appears on your website in September as we need time to process the application.

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