

Report on deep dive Yalla Trappan workshop held in Malmö, Sweden on 24th of September 2024

[Yalla Trappan](#) is a notable example of a social enterprise based in Rosengård, a district in Malmö, Sweden. It operates with a specific focus on integrating immigrant women into the labor market, particularly those who are low-skilled and might otherwise face significant barriers to employment. Here are more detailed aspects of the Yalla Trappan initiative as discussed in the OECD LEED meeting.

Overview of Yalla Trappan

- **Social Enterprise Model:** Yalla Trappan functions as a non-profit organization that integrates vocational training and work experience. It is designed to empower participants through work and language learning opportunities, promoting both economic independence and social integration.
- **Community Impact:** The project targets women, many of whom are from immigrant backgrounds, providing them with a platform to improve their language skills and employability. This initiative not only supports individual women but also aims to benefit their families and wider communities.
- **Longevity and Expansion:** The project has been operational for over a decade and has expanded to include multiple locations across Sweden, suggesting a scalable and replicable model for social integration and workforce development.

Key Activities and Programs

- **Vocational Training and Employment:** Women are engaged in activities such as catering, sewing, and other services. For example, Yalla Trappan has collaborated with major companies like IKEA and H&M to provide sewing services, including producing hijabs for IKEA employees.
- **Language and Cultural Integration:** The project emphasizes learning the Swedish language in a work-based setting, which facilitates not only linguistic skills but also cultural integration, helping participants navigate Swedish society more effectively.
- **Funding and Support:** Yalla Trappan has received funding from various sources, including the European Social Fund, which underscores its significance and the recognition of its social impact.

Achievements

- **Employment and Economic Contributions:** By providing jobs and training, Yalla Trappan contributes to reducing unemployment rates among immigrant women, a group that typically experiences higher levels of joblessness.
- **Social Recognition:** The project has received attention for its innovative approach to social integration, serving as a model for similar initiatives in Sweden and potentially in other countries facing similar social challenges.

Challenges

- **Scalability and Sustainability:** While Yalla Trappan has expanded, scaling such initiatives can be challenging, especially in maintaining funding and support while ensuring the quality and impact of services.
- **Integration into Wider Labour Market:** Although the project successfully integrates women into the enterprise itself, broader integration into the wider labour market remains a significant challenge, highlighting the need for broader systemic changes to employment and integration policies.

This initiative exemplifies how targeted social enterprises can play a crucial role in addressing specific societal challenges, such as the integration of immigrant women into the workforce, while also contributing to broader community development and social cohesion.