

# Knowledge Sharing in the Social Sector across the Nordic Countries

Hans Skov Kloppenborg, May 27<sup>th</sup> 2024

Development of  
interventions in the social  
field in the Nordic countries



Hans Skov Kloppenborg & Maria Regeskov

VIVÉ

VIVÉ

# Purposes

1. How is the development of interventions in the social field organized at state level in the Nordic countries?
  - > 1) development of new interventions
  - > 2) assesment and dissemination of knowledge about existing interventions
2. What needs, possibilities and challenges do state actors experience for a future joint platform for sharing knowledge about interventions in the social field across the Nordic countries?

# Method and data

1. Mapping of the overall distribution of responsibility in the social field
  2. Analysis of websites and documents
  3. Interviews with state actors
    - Based on VIVEs preliminary written description of processes for developing interventions in the social field in the separate countries.
- Continuously: Dialogue between VIVE and contacts from relevant state actors

# Delimitations

## > "The social field"

- > Includes interventions focused on e.g.: children in out-of-home care, adults and children with disabilities, adults with drug or alcohol addiction, people with psychiatric problems, homelessness.
- > Not included: Medical services, special education, care for the elderly

## > "State actors"

- > Ministerial departments and agencies
- > Other organizations if the state level has some influence
  - > E.g. by giving directions on and funding specific interventions that the organization is to develop
  - > Norwegian competence centres as an example
- > Hard to make a clear-cut delimitation

# Main results

# Knowledge sharing across the Nordic countries has potential

- State actors view Nordic knowledge sharing on interventions as important and giving
- Great similarities in state actors' responsibilities and how development of interventions is carried out on an overall level.

# Two potential platforms for sharing knowledge on interventions across the Nordic countries

## > Networks

- > Interviewees generally view networks as a good way to exchange knowledge and get inspiration
- > Give good opportunities for understanding local contexts for interventions + strong network
- > Attention point: Takes time and commitment from all involved

## > Trans-Nordic website

- > Some interviewees see potential but also several are skeptical
- > Attention point: Hard to agree on e.g. criteria for assessing interventions
- > Attention point: Requires considerable maintenance and updating

# Finding common ground can be challenging

- It can be hard to define themes and aims for a joint knowledge sharing platform that are viewed as highly relevant for all countries. Partly because of differences among countries:
  - Smaller countries have fewer resources → bigger need for inspiration from other countries but less inspiration to give to others.
  - Differences in for example population density affects the needs that state actors in different countries experience
  - State actors in some countries have more active roles in the development of interventions
  - Different local priorities in the individual countries.
- This means that countries might seek to fulfill different needs through a platform for knowledge sharing and that some countries' commitment might fall over time.



# Concluding remarks

- > Knowledge sharing on interventions across the Nordic countries has potential. There are great similarities across the Nordic countries on an overall level
- > ...but also important differences on a more detailed level
- > Important to be aware of for example:
  - > What specific topics or interventions have the biggest interest across countries?
  - > How does e.g. the distribution of responsibility and the criteria for assessing interventions differ across countries and relevant actors?
  - > How might this affect our ambition for more trans-Nordic cooperation within the field?
- > Knowledge sharing takes both time and strong commitment