



I-LINC Online Survey Summary Report

The aim of I-LINC is to bring together all European stakeholders in the field of ICT for learning and inclusion with regard to youth employability and entrepreneurship. For a successful participation of stakeholders it will be necessary to reach, collect and inform as many actors and initiatives as possible. To this end, I-LINC conducted a European online survey to map a broad variety of actors and initiatives. First results of the survey are represented in this summary report.

The I-LINC online survey has been instrumental in identifying relevant actors (projects, organisations, initiatives, etc.) in the field of ICT for learning and inclusion on European, national and regional level. While the survey results have demonstrated that some projects and organisations in the field of digital learning for young people seem not to include an inclusion, employability and/or entrepreneurship perspective, it is the I-LINC project' aim to link actors and help them network and eventually take into account all current perspectives in order to boost young people's employability capacities and facilitate their timely integration as digital citizens.

Methodology

The stakeholder mapping survey is a synthesis of former empirical studies in the field of ICT, Learning, Inclusion, Youth, Education and Training, Employability and Entrepreneurship. It is mainly build upon questions and categories of the following studies:

- Studies conducted on behalf of the European Commission Joint Research Centre Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (JRC IPTS), especially
 - o MIREIA - Measuring the Impact of eInclusion Actors on Digital Literacy, Skills and Inclusion goals of the Digital Agenda for Europe Project (<http://is.jrc.ec.europa.eu/pages/EAP/eInclusion/MIREIA.html>)
 - o SCALE CCR - Up-scaling Creative Classrooms in Europe, Report on Mainstreaming ICT-enabled Innovation in Education and Training in Europe (<http://is.jrc.ec.europa.eu/pages/EAP/SCALECCR.html>)
 - o IESI - Mapping and Analysis of ICT-enabled Social Innovation initiatives promoting social investment in 'Integrated approaches to the provision of Social Services' (<http://is.jrc.ec.europa.eu/pages/EAP/eInclusion.IESI.html>)
 - o Mapping and analysing prospective technologies for learning (<http://ipts.jrc.ec.europa.eu/publications/pub.cfm?id=6979>).
- E-Skills for Jobs in Europe - Measuring progress and moving ahead (http://eskills-monitor2013.eu/fileadmin/monitor2013/documents/MONITOR_Final_Report.pdf)



- ICT for Learning Innovation. From Micro Innovation to Large Scale Adoption (<http://files.visir-network.eu/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/VISIR-Final-Publication-web.pdf>)
- SI-DRIVE: Social Innovation – Driving Force of Social Change (http://www.si-drive.eu/?page_id=432, <http://survey20.zsi.at/index.php/829421/lang-en>)

The survey takes into account methodological insights of the above mentioned studies and methodological challenges of online surveys in general. The survey methodology is based on the following principles:

- Simplicity of wording and length of the questionnaire in order to enable a great amount of actors and initiatives to complete the survey (in a short time),
- Translation of survey in all official EU languages in order to reach non-English actors and initiatives,
- Using closed questions in order to be able to analyse multi-language datasets,
- Identification of third party dissemination channels (e.g. collecting all case study contacts of the above mentioned studies)
- Using and adapting questions that have been already tested in previous studies to the extent possible.

The survey asked people to fill in organisations, initiatives/programmes/projects and policy actions in the context of ICT, Education and Training, Inclusion, Youth, Employability and/or Entrepreneurship. It was designed with a dual approach: By filling in the survey stakeholders would

- Provide data which will be publicly accessible on a database (I-LINC repository) which increases stakeholder's visibility (survey part 1)
- Provide data for an in-depth analysis with a focus on social innovation (survey part 2)

Survey part 1 concerns information that is directly included in our publicly accessible database ([I-LINC repository](#)) and survey part 2 concerns information that is analysed confidentially and is not made publicly accessible on a single case basis. Furthermore, corporate or individual identity in relation to individual data or individual results will not be disclosed in the official documents and publications emerging out of the research concerning information from survey part 2.

The survey consisted of 24 questions with an approximate of about 10-20 minutes for completion. It ran from 22/10/2015 - 31/12/2015. Respondents were asked to provide as many organisations and projects as they liked. The survey was disseminated via diverse online channels and e-mail mailers of all I-LINC project partners.

The results of the survey cannot be considered in the scientific sense as representative. There is no defined population that includes all organizations, projects and networks that deal with ICT, Learning, Inclusion, Youth, Education and Training, Employability and Entrepreneurship. Thus neither a full survey nor a sampling could be performed. The I-LINC team has nevertheless contacts with key players from these areas, which indicated their willingness to distribute as multipliers the online questionnaire on



their networks. The sample was created by key stakeholders on the basis of relevance assessment. The dynamic sampling based on the actors expertise is fundamentally different from the orthodox approach to use existing registers or databases, but offers the option of integrating relevant actors, which are not covered by the defined mapping rules of an ex ante defined population.

Results

The results presented here are a summary of the first part of questions in the survey. The European online stakeholder survey had 94 valid cases in total. Respondents come from all European countries and the described organisations and projects offer their activities in almost all European languages. English and Spanish are the dominant languages, but all other European languages are among the described organisations and projects as well.

Respondents included organisations and projects with a high thematic focus on ICT, youth, education and employability (see figure 1). Less organisations and projects have an important focus on inclusion and entrepreneurship. On the other hand, only very few organisations and projects have no focus on ICT, youth and/or education, whereas some projects and organisations have no thematic focus on inclusion, employability and /or entrepreneurship.

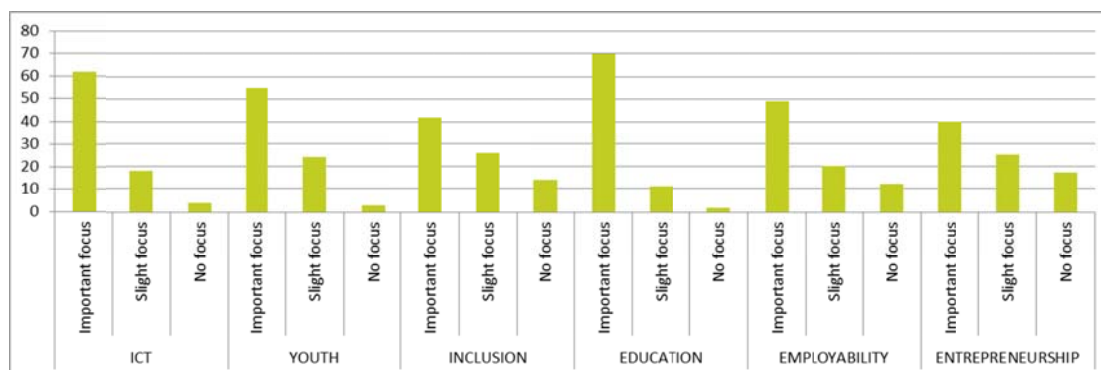


Figure 1: Focus topics (in absolute numbers)

The majority of respondents described organisations and projects. Only few respondents described online communities, research projects or other types of stakeholders. The following figure relates the type of described stakeholder with the institutional setting of this stakeholder (see figure 2). Most of the organisations and projects belong to the third sector. The largest group are Non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The second largest groups include formal (e.g. schools) and non-formal education providers (e.g. telecentres). Online communities are seldom part of these institutions. They are often formed by loose connections of people and have no institutional background or they might be part of broader networks on national or European level.

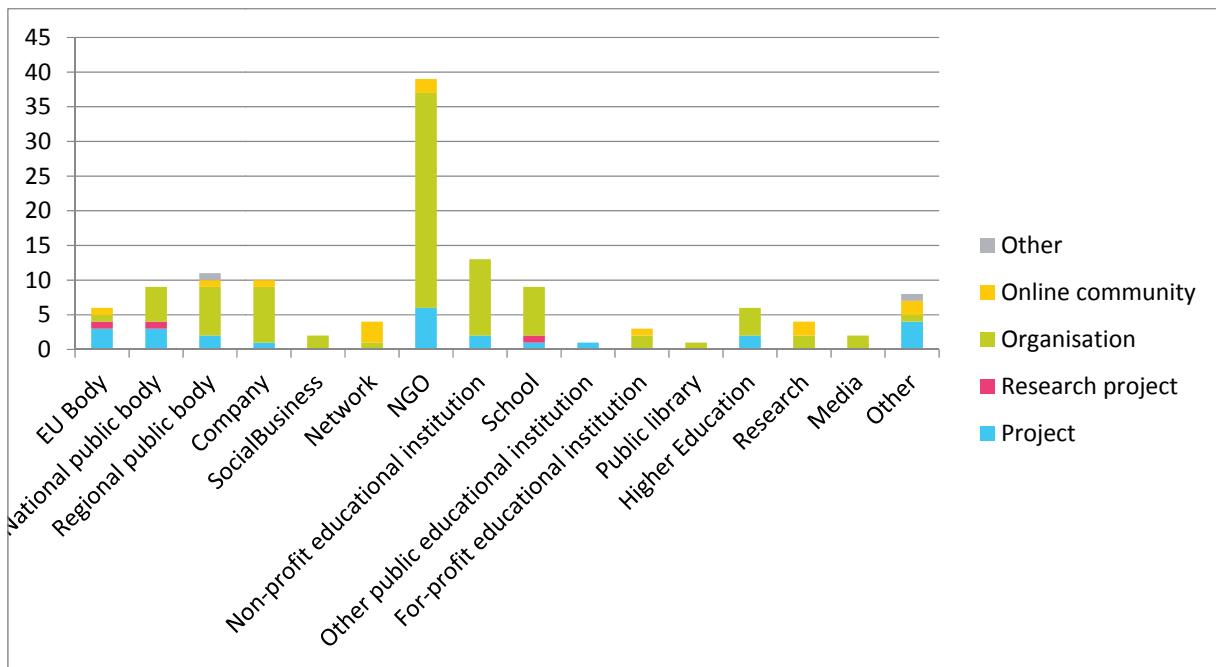


Figure 2: Type of stakeholder and institutional setting (in absolute numbers)

Stakeholders in the field of I-LINC address a variety of target groups (see figure 3). The largest group is young adults (people aged between 18-30 years), followed by youngsters (people aged between 14-18 years). Next to young people as “direct beneficiaries” organisations and projects focus on teachers and trainers as intermediaries. Furthermore, people with low or average ICT skills are much more often addressed by stakeholders than people with already high ICT skills. Unemployed people are targeted more often than drop-outs or early school leavers.

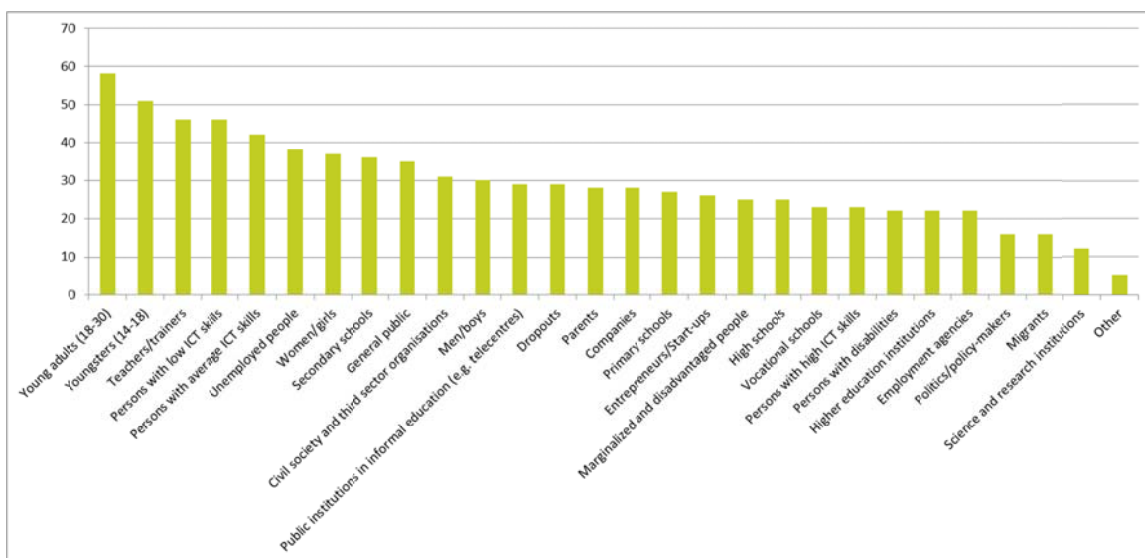


Figure 3: Target groups (in absolute numbers)



Among the most important online activities respondents named the provision of information, e.g. via databases, news and calendars (see figure 4). Furthermore the provision of learning content such as Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and webinars is one of the main offers. Offering cooperative spaces and discussion fora for users are also important online activities. Providing online self-assessments or internet-mediated volunteering such as online internships does not play an important role for a lot of stakeholders but is an activity offered at least by a minority of organisations and projects.

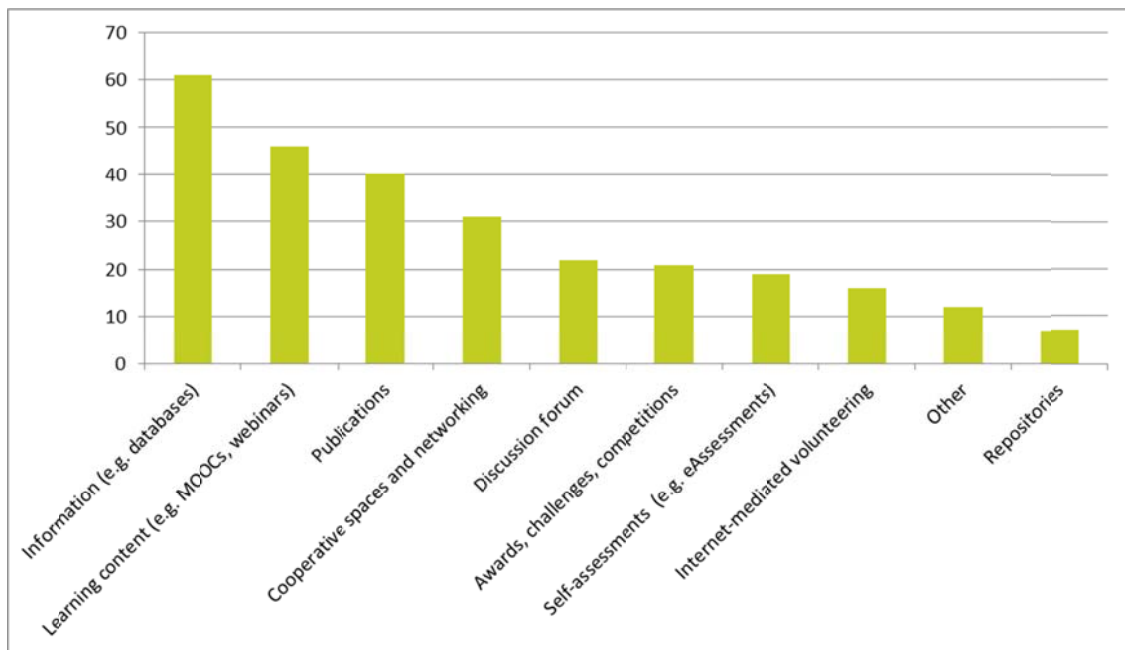


Figure 4: Online activities (in absolute numbers)

In contrast to that, offline activities concentrate most of all on learning provision such as face-to-face seminars, workshops, courses etc. Also bigger events (conferences, summits) are rather an offline activity (see figure 5). Further offline activities include counselling, mediating internships or exchange programs. Providing financial aid for young people is also rather done face-to-face.

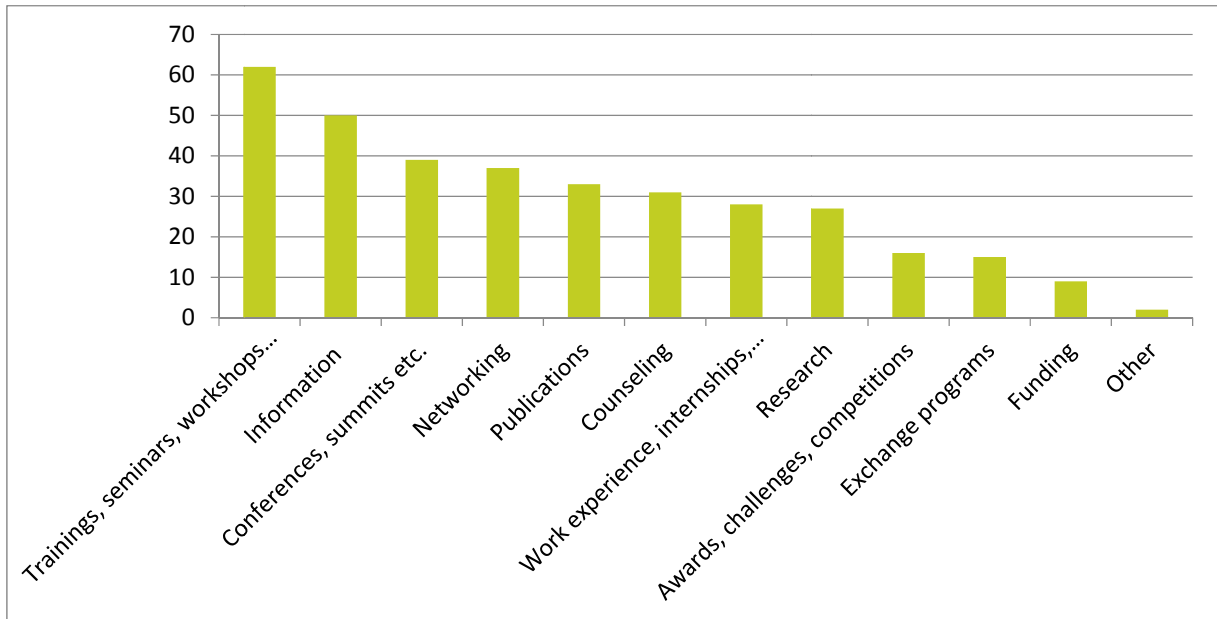


Figure 5: Offline activities (in absolute numbers)

The following figure compares the reach of stakeholders with their non-fee/fee-structure (see figure 6). Most of the described projects and organisations offer their activities for free. A lesser amount of projects and organisations uses a dual approach where part of the activities is free to users and for other activities fees have to be paid. Only a small amount of organisations and projects provide only fee-based activities. Especially if projects and organisations reach a lot of people (from 100.000 onwards) their activities are provided almost entirely for free.

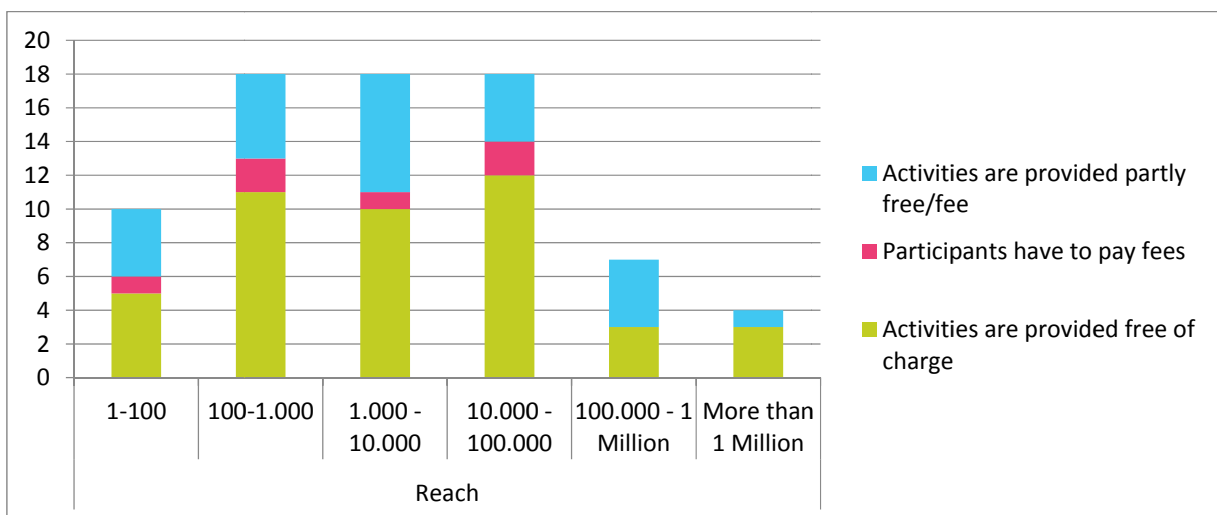


Figure 6: Comparing reach and participant costs (in absolute numbers)



No matter whether the described stakeholder is an online community, project or organization the geographical scope of the stakeholders are quite diverse. Online communities consist on local level to worldwide. The majority of described stakeholders operate on local, regional or national level. On the other hand, there are a couple of stakeholders which operate all over Europe or even worldwide. Only few organisations operate on sub-local level.

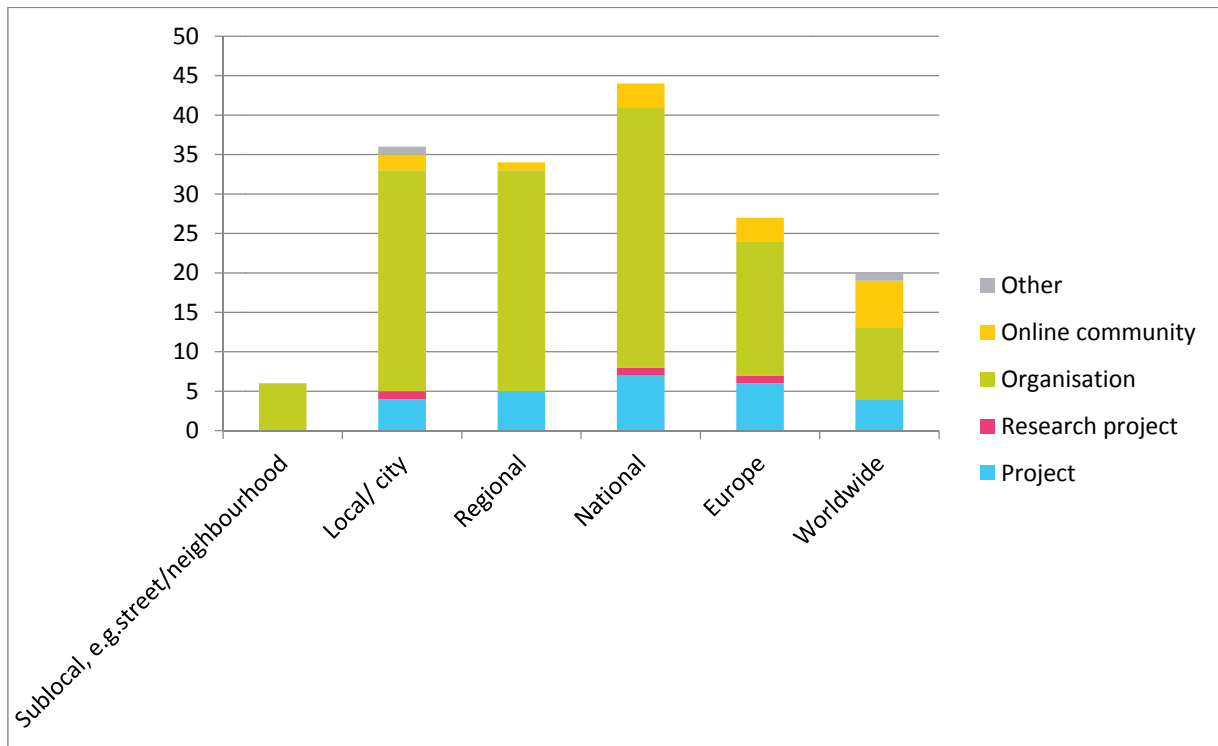


Figure 7: Comparing geographical range and type (in absolute numbers)

It is interesting to see that the geographical scope does not have a major effect on the amount of people that stakeholders reach (see figure 8). Even regional projects with major impact can reach up to a million people. On the other hand, projects and organisations that operate worldwide might not necessarily have a huge audience. Projects and organisations in the field of I-LINC are quite diverse in geographical range and reach of people.

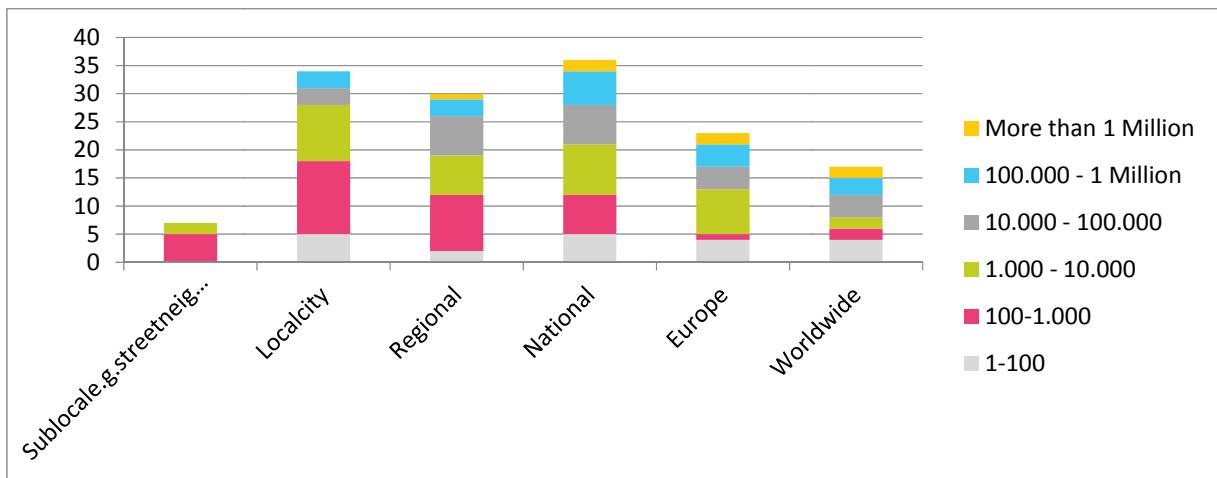


Figure 8: Comparing geographical range and reach (in absolute numbers)

Summary and outlook

The I-LINC online survey has been instrumental in identifying relevant actors (projects, organisations, initiatives, etc.) in the field of ICT for learning and inclusion on European, national and regional level. While the survey results have demonstrated that some projects and organisations in the field of digital learning for young people seem not to include an inclusion, employability and/or entrepreneurship perspective, it is the I-LINC project' aim to link actors and help them network and eventually take into account all current perspectives in order to boost young people's employability capacities and facilitate their timely integration as digital citizens.

Most of the respondents described organisations and projects (instead of more research projects, online communities or policy actions). This could be a result of resource capacity. Online communities and short-lasting research projects might not have the capacity for responding to surveys. I-LINC needs to find ways to also address stakeholders which might not be equipped with a lot of human resources.

The information given in this report is based on an analysis of the first part of the I-LINC European online stakeholder survey. The dataset-cases will be available in our [I-LINC repository soon](#). The second part of the survey included questions about the organisational development of different projects and organisations, about motivations for founding an initiative and perceived success factors and barriers. This part of the analysis will be published in a separate report and will be fed into further I-LINC activities (such as webinars, wikinclusion, f2f workshops.)



I-LINC
EMPOWERING YOUTH FOR EMPLOYABILITY

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I-LINC Project Consortium



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