

I-LINC

EU platform on ICT learning and inclusion for youth employability and entrepreneurship



Societal Challenge 6 'Europe in a Changing World' • Topic: INSO-6-2014 'Platform for ICT for Learning and Inclusion' • Coordination and Support Action (CSA)

BACKGROUND

Due to the high youth unemployment rate in Europe there is a need to put all our efforts to achieving the goals of employability and entrepreneurship for our future generations. In the ICT industry particularly, but also in other industries wherever employers need people with ICT skills, the skills gap is quickly widening.

"At a time when Europe faces massive unemployment, technology companies face a critical shortfall of talented ICT experts. This contradictory picture reveals a mismatch between the skills on offer and those in demand in today's fast developing technology market. As a result Europe might face a shortage of up to 900,000 ICT professionals by 2020, risking its potential for growth and digital competitiveness". (Source: Grand Coalition for Digital Jobs website)



Young people are often seen as "digital natives" who effortlessly have a wide set of digital skills. However, due to the slow modernisation of the education system and a general lack of information, many young people are "in the dark" as to the available employment opportunities and the skills they need to learn to become employable in the new digital and knowledge economies.

PROJECT DURATION: 3 YEARS

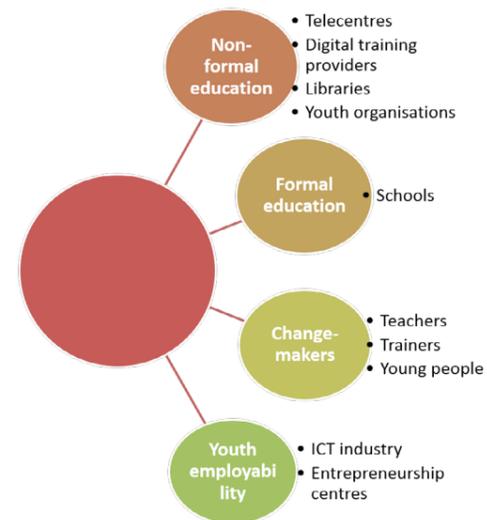
January 2015 - December 2017

OBJECTIVES

I-LINC aims to develop a sustainable and all encompassing platform on the topic of ICT (for) learning and inclusion. The I-LINC platform will be an online environment for networking; participation and learning that will focus on boosting the employability and entrepreneurship capacities of young people.

The project will benefit and gather existing platforms, networks and resources that are available on the topic of ICT (for) learning and inclusion. The project will also develop an active community of stakeholders in the field while linking them to the main beneficiaries - young people. If you would like to participate or tell us about initiatives in this field please contact us: contact@telecentre-europe.org

I-LINC STAKEHOLDERS



EXPECTED RESULTS

- **Develop a wide and active community of stakeholders**, aspiring to become a reference point in the long run in the field of ICT (for) learning and inclusion
- **Link existing stakeholders' activities** in the field of ICT (for) learning and inclusion and join them in order to increase their impact both on policy-maker and end-user level
- **Contribute to the improvement of existing platforms** by creating a common (blended) space for open dialogue and meetings, and foster active mutual exchanges and peer-learning activities
- **Define directions on how to improve tools and services** for the modernisation of education and training and the employability of young people while tackling the risk of digital and socio-economic exclusion (i.e. e-inclusion).

e-learning
training MOOCs
Jobs
e-skills
e-inclusion
employability
Youth literacy
e-competences
ICT