



**Questionnaire Young People
Connected Learning
Project Number: 2018-3-UK01-KA205-059942**

This questionnaire is part of an ERASMUS funded project entitled 'Promoting Quality Digital Youth Work through the Creation/Mapping of Connected Learning Routes in Europe: An Innovative Way to Reach out to Marginalized Young People'. The purpose of this project is to offer new opportunities, open up new routes and ensure access and support for young people to learn anywhere they are in a creative way. The project will also provide an online platform/mobile app to accredit digital learning, both formal and non-formal, and provide a map of learning and opportunities. To support this project it is important to consider your opinion regarding digital learning. This questionnaire will seek to ascertain your views. There are no right or wrong answers. All responses will be treated in confidence and no personal information will be identified. The information will be used to inform the next stage of the project. If you have any queries regarding this research or its conduct please feel free to contact either Dr Laura Bradley (email: lm.bradley@ulster.ac.uk) or Dr Sharon Loane (email: sp.loane@ulster.ac.uk) at Ulster University.

To help you answer the questions in this survey a number of definitions have been provided for clarification below:

Digital Skills/Digital Competencies/Digital Literacy

Definition - "Ability to use information and communication technology (ICT). Underpinned by basic skills in ICT: use of computers to retrieve, assess, store, produce, present and exchange information, and to communicate and participate in collaborative networks via the Internet." (Europass)

Formal Learning (FL)

Definition - "Learning that occurs in an organised and structured environment (such as in an education or training institution or on the job) and is explicitly designated as learning (in terms of objectives, time or resources). Formal learning is intentional from the learner's point of view. It typically leads to certification." (Europass – CEDEFOP)

Informal Learning (IF)

Definition - "Learning resulting from daily activities related to work, family or leisure. It is not organised or structured in terms of objectives, time or learning support. Informal learning is in most cases unintentional from the learner's perspective. Informal learning is also referred to as experiential or incidental/random learning." (Europass)

Non-Formal Learning (NFL)

Definition - "Learning embedded in planned activities not explicitly designated as learning (in terms of learning objectives, learning time or learning support). Non-formal learning is intentional from the learner's point of view. Non-formal learning outcomes may be validated and may lead to certification." (Europass)

Marginalized groups (individuals)

Definition - "Different groups of people within a given culture, context and history at risk of being subjected to multiple discrimination due to the interplay of different personal characteristics or grounds, such as sex, gender, age, ethnicity, religion or belief, health status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, education or income, or living in various geographic localities." (European Institute – EIGE)

Youth Work

Definition - "Youth work encompasses a broad range of activities (eg social, cultural, educational, sports-related and political) carried out with, by and for young people through non-formal and informal learning. Youth work helps young people to reach their full potential. It encourages personal development, autonomy, initiative and participation in society. Youth work provides out-of-school education, as well as leisure activities managed by professional or voluntary youth workers and youth leaders. It is organised in different ways – through youth-led organisations, organisations for youth, informal groups or youth services and public authorities." (European Commission)

1. What is your country of residence?

2. What age are you? _____ Years

3. What is your gender?

Male

Female

Other (Please specify) _____

Prefer not to say

4. Which of the following best describes where you live:

Urban

Rural

Suburban

5. Do you consider yourself or your cultural background as marginalized?

Yes

No

6. What is your highest level of education achieved to date?

High/Secondary school

VET Education

Foundation Level Diploma

Higher Level Diploma

Apprenticeship

Bachelor's Degree

Higher Degree (Masters and PhD)

Professional qualifications

Other (Please Specify) _____

7. What is your current employment status?
- Employed full-time (40 or more hours per week)
 - Employed part-time (up to 39 hours per week)
 - Unemployed and currently looking for work
 - Unemployed and not currently looking for work
 - Student
 - Retired
 - Homemaker
 - Self-employed
 - Unable to work

8. Do you currently volunteer with any organisations?
- Yes
- No

9. How well developed do you feel your digital skills are?
- Very well developed
 - Well developed
 - Adequately developed
 - Poorly developed
 - Very underdeveloped

10. Have you undertaken any training, both formal and non-formal, to improve your skills for employability/employment purposes in the past?
- Yes
- No

If Yes, please provide examples of the training and learning completed:

11. Please detail any qualifications you have gained from undertaking Formal and Non Formal Learning courses:

12. Are you aware of where to access information on providers of Formal and Non Formal Learning?
- Yes

No

If Yes please detail where you can access this information:

13. Do you think that skills acquired in non-formal learning are as valued by education providers and employers as skills acquired in formal education?

Yes

No

Please provide details to support your answer:

14. Do you think there should be more opportunities on offer to young people to develop their employability skills?

Yes

No

15. What type of competencies do you think you need to develop to become more competitive in the labour market?

Digital Skills

Employability skills (e.g. *Communication, creativity, problem solving, time management, etc.*)

Recruitment skills (e.g. *CV development, interview preparation and presence, etc.*)

Foreign languages

Entrepreneurial skill

Other (please specify)

Commented [U1]: Setting the scene for what courses to aim for later on on the platform.

16. Please indicate your preferred way to acquire new skills and learn:

Face to face workshops

Online delivered workshops

- Webinars
- e-learning/individual learning

17. Are there skills that you need to develop that are not provided through an education provider at present?

- Yes
- No

If Yes please provide details as to what these skills are:

18. Who do you feel is responsible for ensuring young people have developed their skills sufficiently to meet the needs of employers? Please select all that apply.

- Universities
- Government bodies
- Youth organisations
- Online providers
- Voluntary organisations

19. Have you completed training courses online?

- Yes
- No

20. Have you completed training courses that are not accredited?

- Yes
- No

21. What do you feel were the barriers to you undertaking further Formal and/or Non Formal Learning to upgrade your skills?

- Lack of details on providers
- Unsure about correct courses
- Time required to complete
- Courses not available in a convenient location
- Personal reasons e.g. lack of confidence
- Language barrier
- Financial issues
- Courses were not accredited
- Other (Please specify): _____

22. What were the factors that encouraged you to undertake further Formal and/or Non Formal Learning to upgrade your skills?

- Employer advice
- Friend completed

- Hobby
 - Accessible
 - Gap in skills
 - Desire to improve skills
 - Matching digital skills to employment needs
 - Professional development
 - Personal development
 - Ease of access
 - Low cost/free
 - Flexibility in hours/methods
 - Unsuccessful in securing a job
 - Other (Please specify): _____
-
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23. Thinking about the Non-Formal Learning courses that you have completed do you think employers value this?

- Yes
- No

24. Thinking about the Formal and Non-Formal Learning courses that you have completed how did you source these courses?

- Careers advisor
 - Friend
 - Parent
 - Local media such as newspapers and social media
 - Online advertisement
 - Other (Please specify): _____
-
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25. Do you feel you need to do more to develop your employability skills?

- Yes
- No

26. Would you find an online map of courses and providers useful to help identify suitable courses to meet your training needs?

- Yes
- No

29. Would you find an online platform/mobile app useful to allow you to accredit any Non-Formal Learning you had completed for your CV and employers useful?

- Yes
- No

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Your contribution to this research is very much appreciated.