Innovation in public libraries from a European perspective
65,000 public libraries

100 million people each year
Two-fold impact

European Union

Library community
Each year...

4.6 million Europeans access the internet for the first time at public libraries.

250,000 Europeans find a job using libraries’ internet services every year.

NEW SKILLS
24 million adults participate in non-formal learning activities at their public library every year.
Commission
nominated by member states

proposes legislation

Council
governments of the 27 member states

Parliament
directly elected by European citizens

jointly decide on legislation
Skills
The Commission published a new Skills Agenda in June 2016

Priority areas:

★ Improving skills levels and their labour market relevance across Europe;
★ Making skills and qualifications easier to understand and compare across borders and economic sectors;
★ Improving forecasting and understanding of skills needs now and in the future.

10 actions to be launched, including...
Skills Guarantee

This initiative aims to “help low-skilled adults acquire a minimum level of literacy, numeracy and digital skills and progress towards an upper secondary qualification”, through a process of individual skills assessment, creation of a tailored learning offer, and then an opportunity to recognise and validate the skills developed.

The Proposal for a Council Recommendation on establishing a Skills Guarantee advocates “supporting the setting up of public-private partnerships involving, e.g. social partners, education and training providers, employers, intermediary and sectorial organisations, local and regional economic actors, employment, social and community services, libraries, civil society organisations for the implementation of the Recommendation.”
Education & Training
Europe 2020

The EU’s growth strategy 2010-2020: smart, sustainable, inclusive growth

5 targets, including for education:

- Raising higher education attainment from 32% to 40%
- Reducing the share of early school leaver from 14% to less than 10%
ET2020

Strategic Framework for European cooperation in education and training 2010-2020

“ET 2020 is a forum for exchanges of best practices, mutual learning, gathering and dissemination of information and evidence of what works, as well as advice and support for policy reforms”

Strategic objectives:
★ Making lifelong learning and mobility a reality;
★ Improving the quality and efficiency of education and training;
★ Promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship;
★ Enhancing creativity and innovation, including entrepreneurship, at all levels of education and training.
Public libraries in ET2020 Joint Report


References to public libraries in the report:

“Open learning environments, such as public libraries, open adult education centres and open universities, should be empowered as a means of promoting social inclusion”

“Open learning environments – such as public libraries, open adult education centres and open universities – can help collaboration between educational sectors, including for disadvantaged learners”
Digital Single Market
Better online access to digital goods and services
An environment where digital networks and services can prosper
Digital as a driver for growth
EU Code Week

Initiative to encourage everyone to get coding and gain digital skills - specifically during EU Code Week.

★ 15-23 October 2016

★ Sign up and get resources via codeweek.eu

★ Last year 570,000 people
We are hosting an interactive exhibition together with libraries from 10 EU member states at the European Parliament in Brussels on **18-20 October 2016**

**Background**

15th- 21st October 2016 is *EU Code Week* &

The EU’s *New Skills Agenda for Europe* launches in 2016

Public libraries across Europe contribute to closing a digital gap through non-formal and informal learning activities, including coding.

The public libraries network in many EU member states is the only way to reach out to smaller communities for digital making to be available to all.
Generation Code: born at the library

Join us for a series of events and an interactive exhibition to mark EU Code week

Exhibition in the European Parliament in Brussels
18-20 October 2016
Copyright
Copyright reforms

The Commission has announced it will publish a package of reforms on copyright in Autumn 2016, following several rounds of consultations.
Copyright challenges for libraries

1. Exceptions for libraries:
   • Text and Data Mining
   • Digital preservation
   • Cross-border document supply
   • e-lending

2. Protecting exceptions from override by contracts & Technological Protection Measures

1. Mandatory & harmonised exceptions
WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY

WE'RE CELEBRATING CREATORS AND CREATIVITY
HERE'S HOW LIBRARIES HELP

LIBRARIES HELP PEOPLE OF ALL AGES LEARN TO LOVE READING
WE EVEN HELP THEM GET USED TO NEW WAYS OF DOING IT

WITHOUT LIBRARIES THERE WOULD BE FEWER PEOPLE BUYING AND ENJOYING BOOKS

LIBRARIES ARE ALSO THERE FOR AUTHORS WHEN THEY'RE RESEARCHING THEIR NEXT WORK
AND WHEN THEY'RE DONE WE PROVIDE MARKETING — FOR FREE

WE ARE INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS — WE RESPECT COPYRIGHT
OH... AND LIBRARIES SPEND $25Bn A YEAR ON CREATIVE CONTENT

LIBRARIES SUPPORT CREATORS.
LIBRARIES SUPPORT CREATIVITY.
TO DO IT, WE NEED A COPYRIGHT SYSTEM THAT WORKS.

FIND OUT MORE: www.ifla.org/copyright-creativity
All of this suggests that EU policy-makers are focussed on these themes...:

- Employability
- Skills
- Digital innovation
- Active citizenship
Erasmus+
Erasmus+ programme

Single programme in the field of education, training, youth and sport established 2013

→ Supports progress towards ET2020 strategic objectives
→ Supports progress towards Europe 2020 targets

Brings together seven programmes (The Lifelong Learning Programme, Youth in Action, Erasmus Mundus etc) under three Key Actions (KA1, KA2, KA3) - Calls for Proposals across the year
Daily Innovators & Daily Educators in libraries

KA2 Strategic Partnerships
Sept 2015-Aug 2016
Reading & Writing Foundation + Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway

Aims:
★ To discover what is the current educational offer for adults of the libraries
★ To check this offer especially in the 3 areas of our interest (multicultural, creative and social innovation sectors)
★ To get to know how do libraries define these 3 areas
Daily Innovators & Daily Educators in libraries

Address the identified needs of adult education and to create a supportive learning ecosystem in libraries, where adults can learn to get involved and work in cooperation, develop the ability to innovate and coexist in dialogue.

1. Gather experience across partner countries - quantitative & qualitative research
2. Compare with needs analysis and challenges of adult learning - country specific training events
3. Compose a learning offer for librarians
4. Elaborate a model of a multicultural, innovative and creative adult learning centre
5. Multiplier events at national & international level
Librarians Reloaded (LibRe)

KA2 Sector Skills Alliances
Reading & Writing Foundation, IFLA + Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, USA
€1.4million over 3 years

Aims:
★ Address skills gaps in the librarian sector in Europe by introducing a new VET training curriculum in librarianship.
★ Provide librarians with the skills they need in an evolving information environment
The aim of the LibRe project is to create a **VET curriculum** that addresses both basic skills necessary for librarianship as well as the skills that librarians now need but are not traditionally taught (the main focus here will be on the digital skills gap). The VET curriculum will be composed of: a **self-assessment tool for validation of existing skills**; modules based on a list of competencies compiled in partnership with current and prospective librarians; a librarianship for beginners manual; and integral **work-based learning**. The curriculum take a blended learning approach, allowing the student to create a programme that suits their skills needs, and taught in an **innovative way** via distance and e-learning. The Alliance will also work to ensure **cross-border recognition** of the qualification to allow for librarian mobility across partner countries, and international certification. All materials will be **open source** and in English, and will be disseminated via national and European channels for uptake in other EU countries and beyond the project lifetime.
Thank you!

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