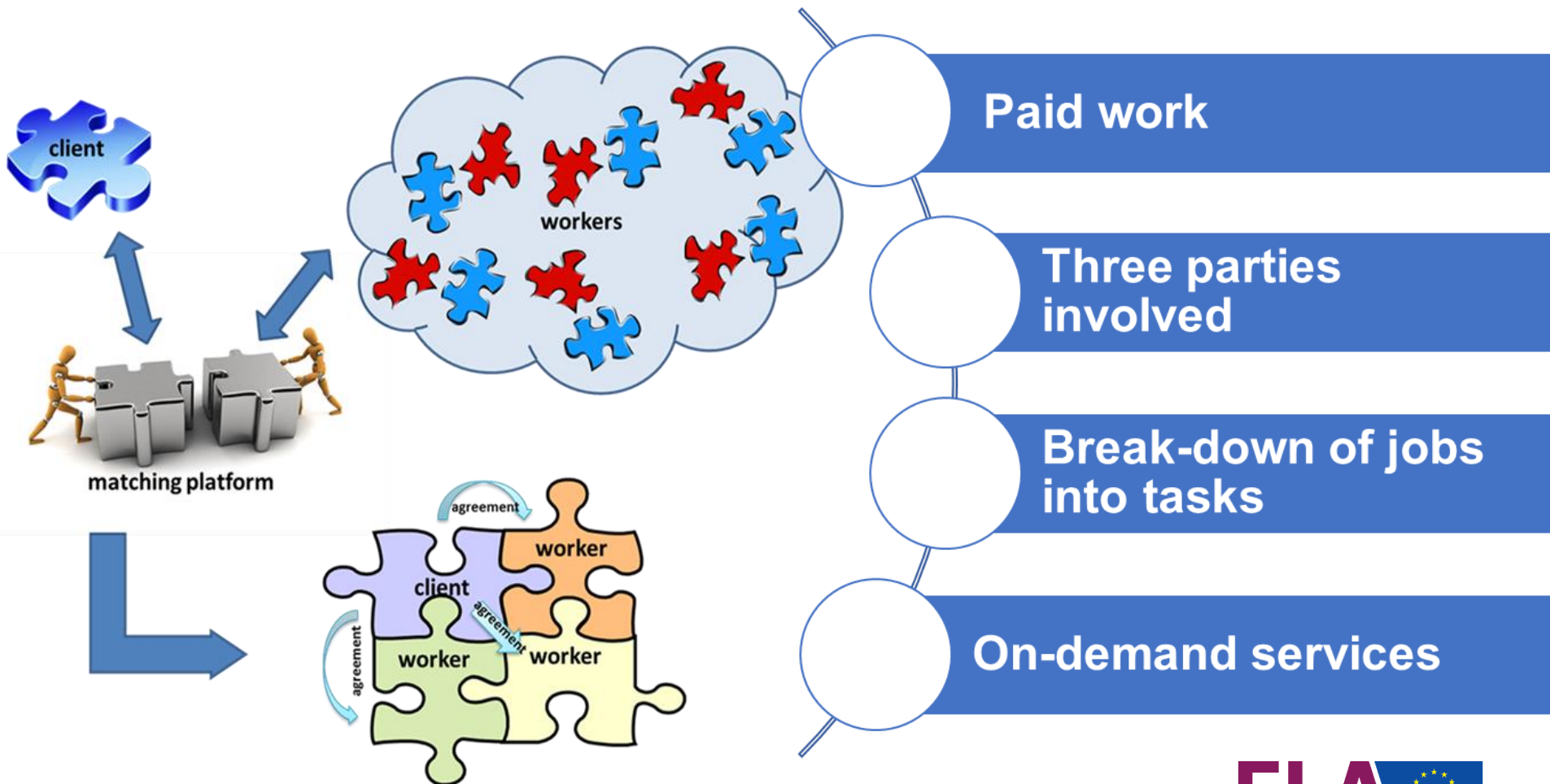


Platform work: Opportunity or risk?

**Cohesion as a value – Benefits and costs for young people of
transitioning to a post-Covid world**
Outreach event of the COR's Young Elected Politicians Programme

23 September 2021
Irene Mandl

What is platform work?



Scale and scope of platform work in Europe

- About 1-2% do it as a main job
- About 10% do it at least occasionally

- Substantial heterogeneity among countries
- But: some common trends
 - **Urban phenomenon**
 - **Growing trend – with mixed developments during COVID-19**
 - **Increasing diversity within platform work**

Types of platform work in Europe

Scale of tasks

Skills level required

Format of service provision

Form of matching

Selector

**Eurofound
identified
10 common types
of platform work**

Main impact on work and employment



Opportunities

Easy labour market access, assignment based on objective criteria



Source of extra income



Stimulant to self-employment



Development of transversal skills



Working time flexibility



Fair and reasonable pay rates



Reduction of risk of assault



Dissemination of OSH information



- On-location platform-determined routine work
- On-location client-determined moderately skilled work
- On-location worker-initiated moderately skilled work
- Online moderately skilled click-work
- Online contestant specialist work



Risks

Labour market segmentation



Ambiguous employment status and issues of social protection



Skills underutilisation and deskilling



Lack of autonomy



Limitations of client ratings



Short notice



High work intensity



Poor career prospects in the platform economy



Below-market pay rates, unpaid working time, unpredictability of earnings



Unclear health & safety responsibility



Some policy recommendations

- Clarification of the concept of platform work and its regulatory frameworks, also for enforceability
- Consider heterogeneity within platform work
- Capitalise on opportunities, incl. for rural development
- Need for awareness raising and information provision
 - **To workers**
 - **To policy makers and labour market institutions**
 - **To the society**
- Need to tackle social protection
- Need to tackle representation and collective voice

Further reading



<http://eurofound.link/ef18001>



<http://eurofound.link/ef19045>



<http://eurofound.link/ef20012>

Thank you for your attention!

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