

G7 CANADA 2018

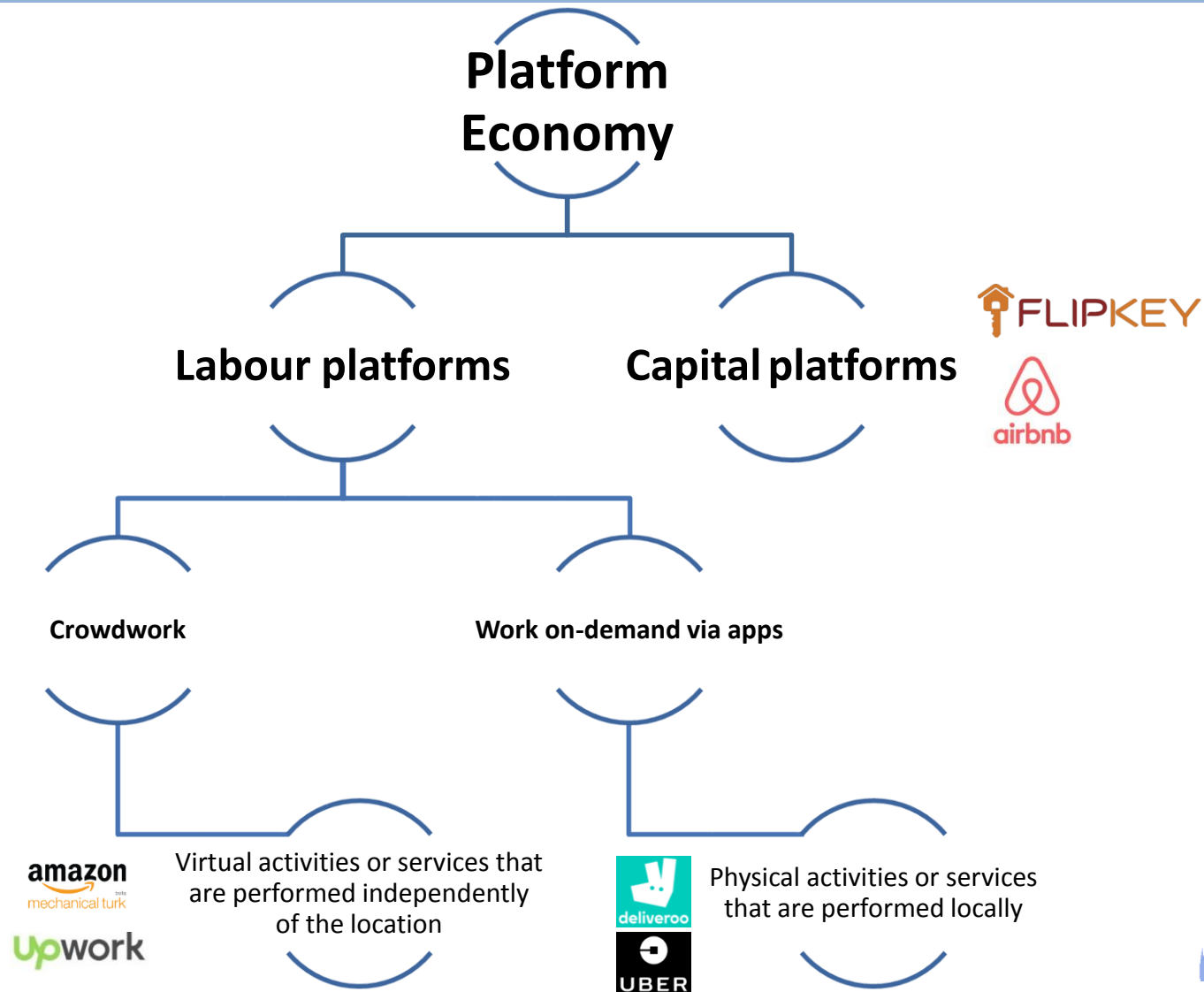
The Platform Economy

Preparatory Meeting, 29-30 January 2018, Ottawa

International Labour Organization

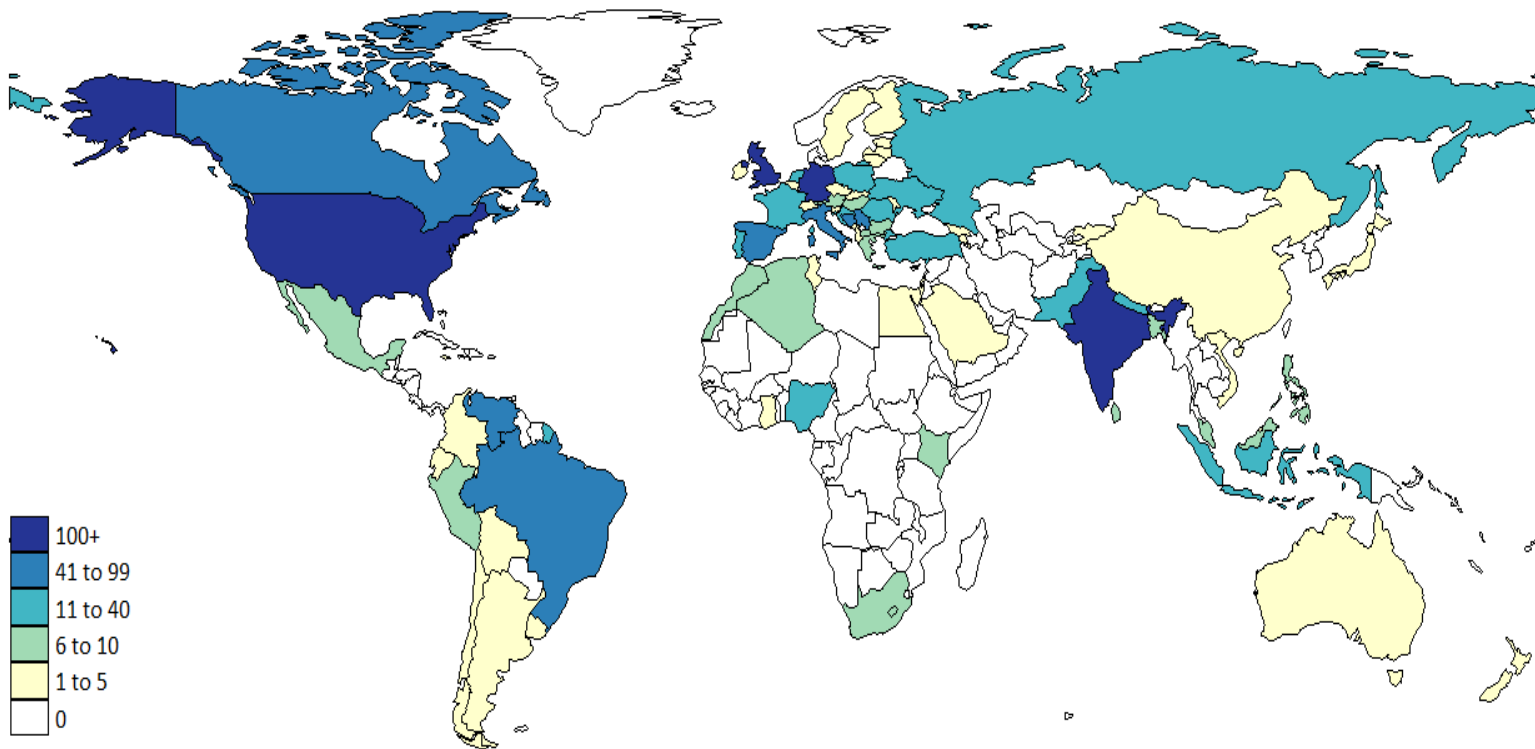


I. What is the Platform Economy?



II. Scope of the Platform Economy

Where are crowdworkers located?



Source: ILO Survey of Crowdworkers, 2017.



II. Scope of the Platform Economy



- 600,000 workers (equalling 0.4% of total U.S. employment) are working in the gig economy



- 3% of UK adults performed work via online platforms at least once a week



- Between 1% and 5 % of the adult population of the EU has earned some income in the platform economy at some time



III. Characteristics of Platform Work

Findings from ILO's survey of crowdworkers

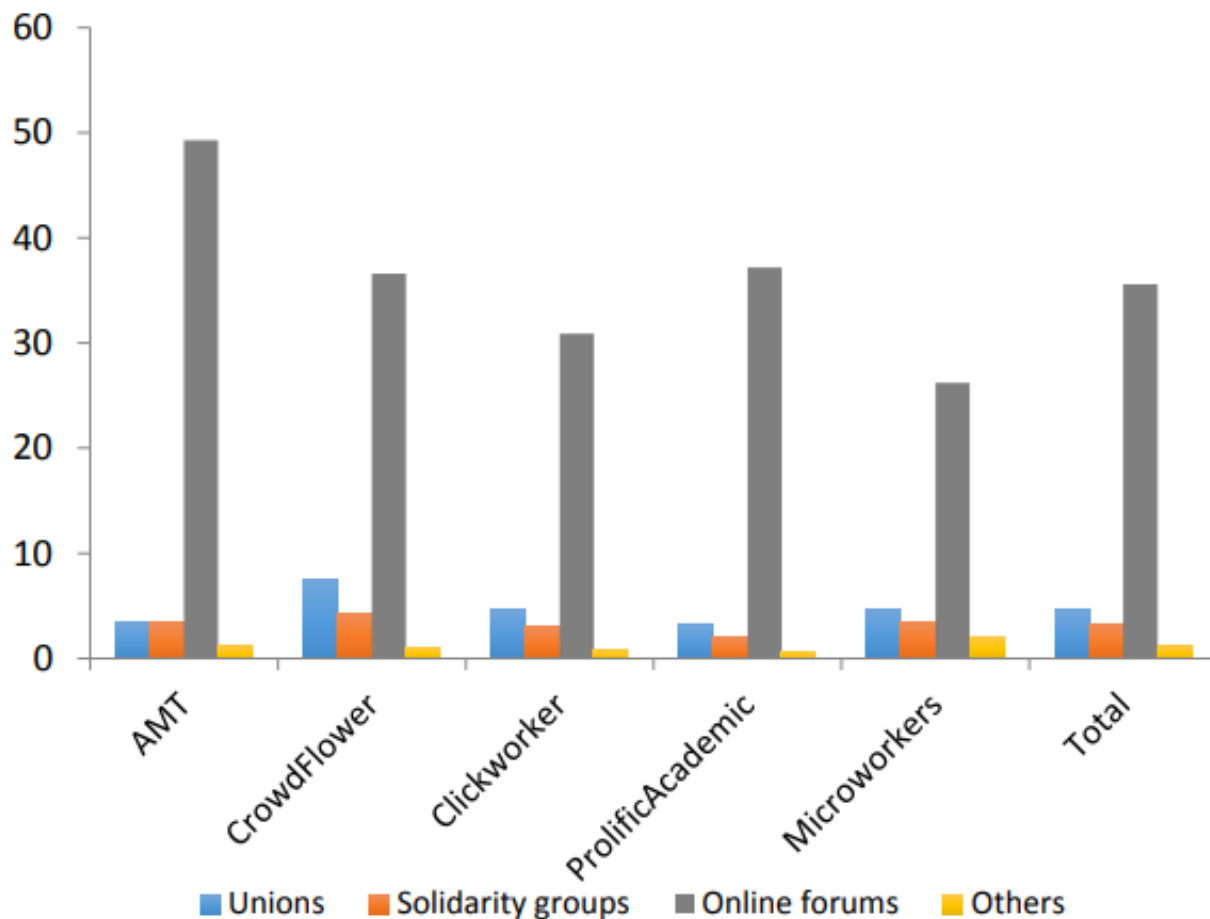
- Important source of income
- Crowdworkers appreciate the flexible work arrangement
- Risk of underemployment
- Low pay rate
- Unpaid searching time
- Monitoring and rating system
- Mechanism to raise concerns



III. Characteristics of Platform Work

Findings from ILO's survey of crowdworkers

Mechanisms to raise concerns



IV. Employment status

Employees or independent contractors?

- Venue where this issue will be resolved
- Lack of social protection → risk of informality
- Challenges to freedom of association and collective bargaining



VI. Policy questions

- How can existing legal and institutional frameworks address platform work? Are they “fit for purpose”?
- What enforcement mechanisms are needed?
- What are the right mechanisms to address platform workers’ grievances?
- How can social protection systems cover platform workers?
- How can we guard against the dangers of informality?
- How can challenges of representation and organisation be addressed?
- Is an augmented workforce desirable?

