Benchmarking the Impact of the Next Generation Internet Initiative

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2024 A study by Gartner, for the European Commission DG CONNECT

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Impact of Next Generation Internet

EU law

Impact in enabling the relevant EU corpus of legislation (e.g., GDPR, DSA/DMA, CRA…)

Sustainability

Self-sustainability: what happened since the EC funding?

Standardisation

Impact on standardisation: which body; which standards; what type of contribution

Alternatives

How NGI offers more choice and alternative solutions to existing status quo.

EU Digital Rights

Impact on the society using the internet with more choice, more privacy, better transparency, inclusion, decentralisation, better sustainability as underpinned by the European declaration on digital rights and principles.

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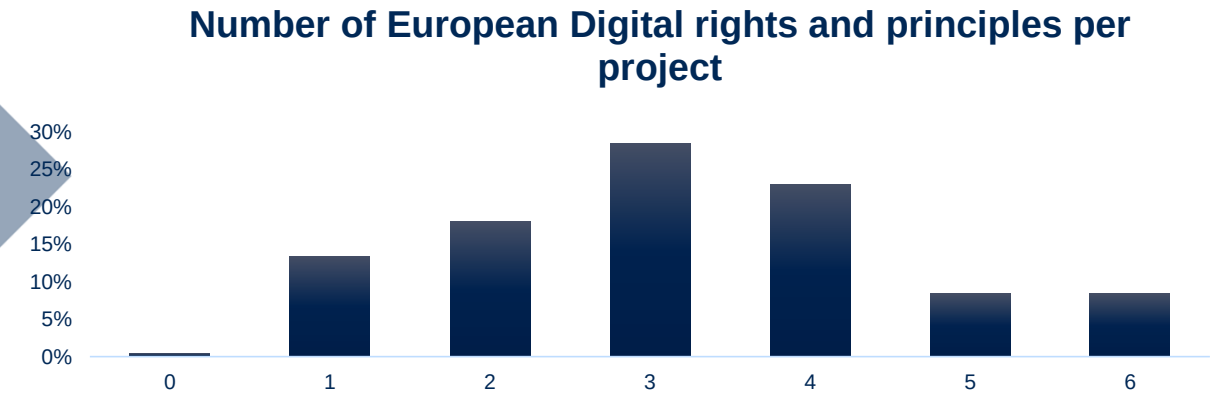
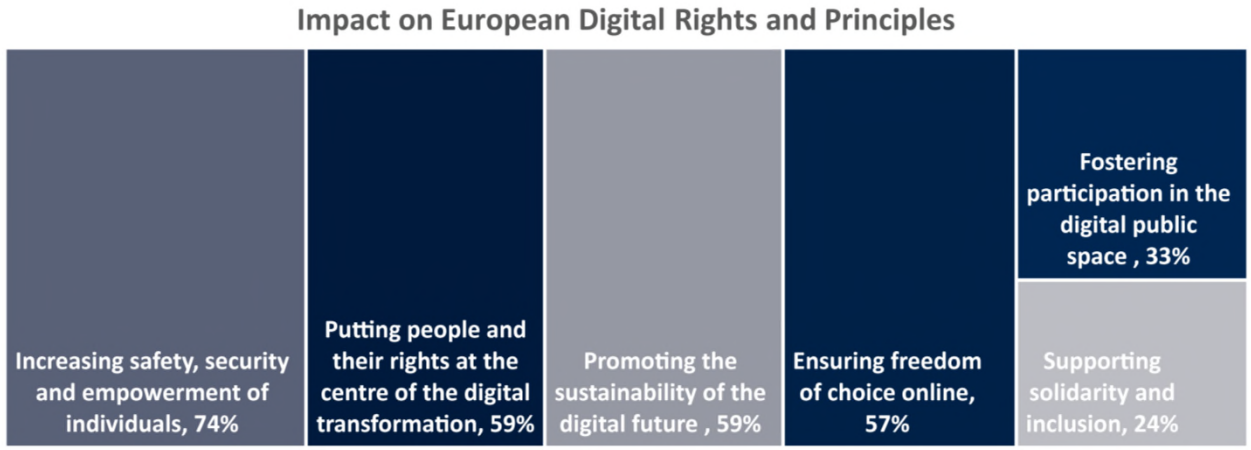
Each NGI project implements European digital rights and principles

EU Digital Rights

https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/european-declaration-digital-rights-and-principles

Data source: NGI 1000 survey (N=239)





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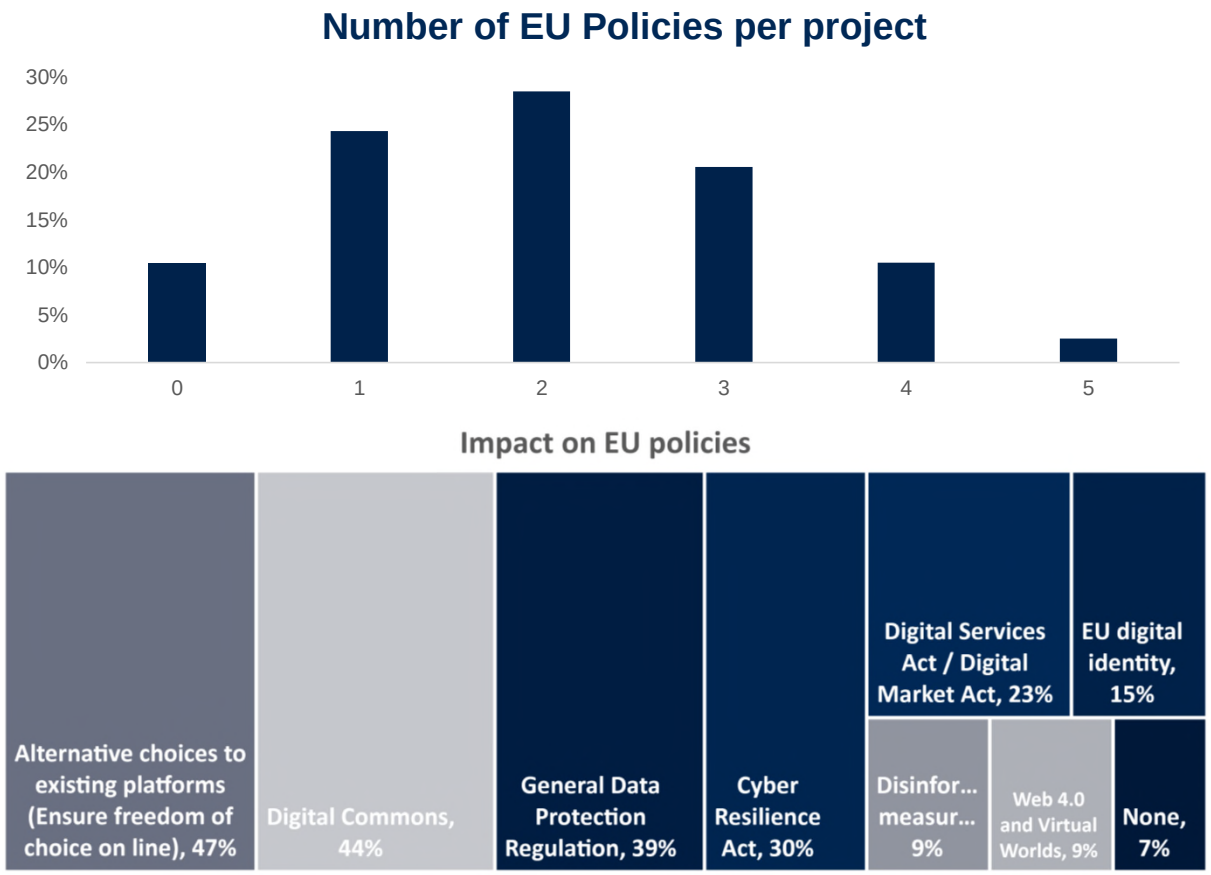
NGI projects fuel the uptake of EU policy

EU legislation and policies



Data source: NGI 1000 survey (N=239)

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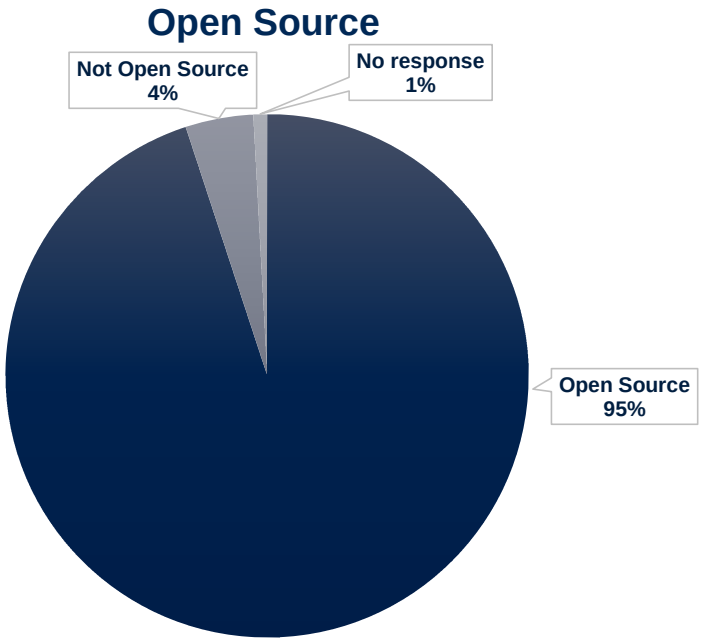
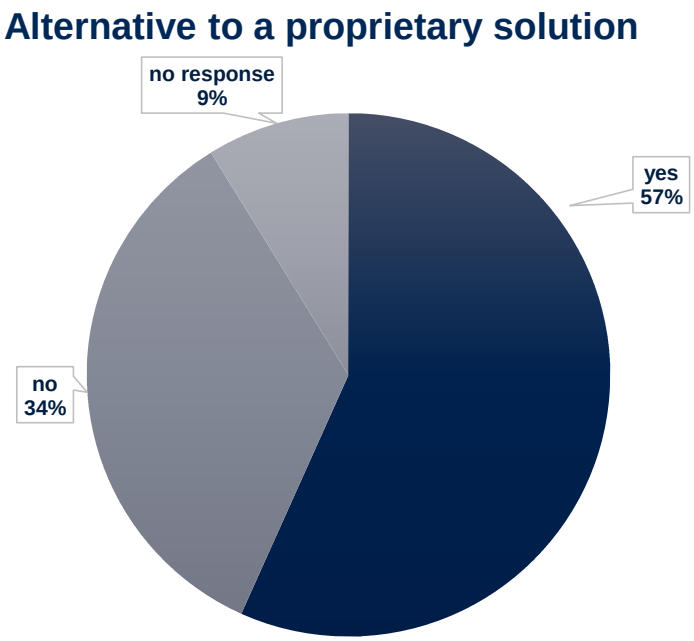
NGI projects are open source and more than half provide alternatives to proprietary solutions

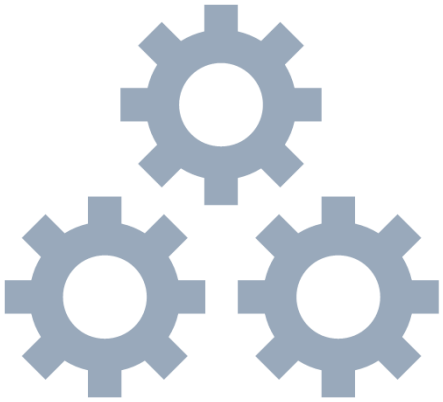
Alternatives





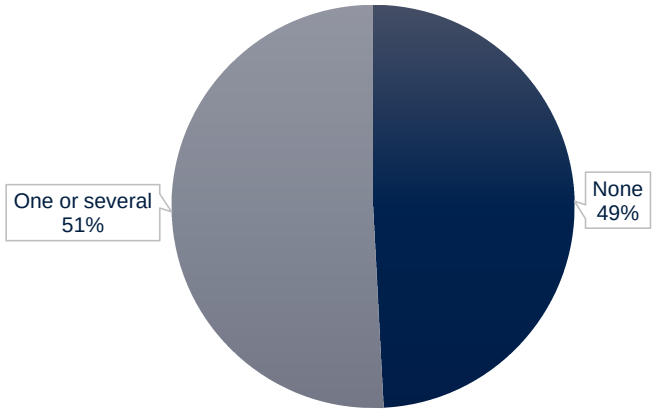
Data source: NGI 1000 survey (N=239)

Over half the NGI projects are rooted in the standards' ecosystem

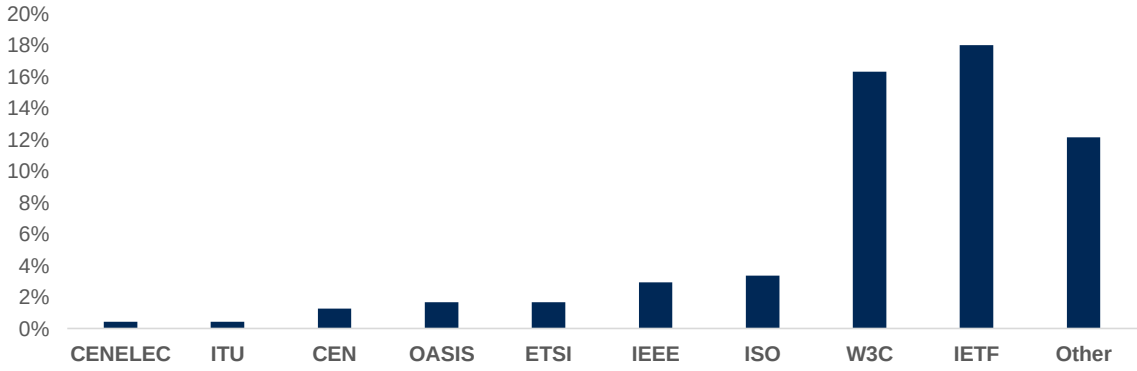


Standardisation

Collaboration with standardisation organisation



Standardisation organisations



Data source: NGI 1000 survey (N=239)

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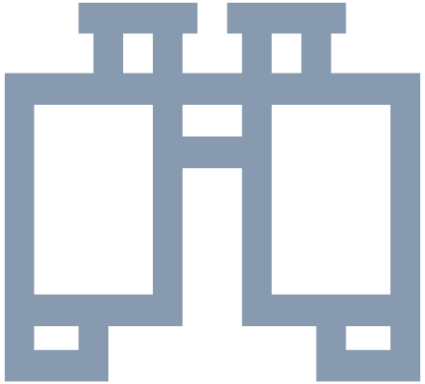
75% of NGI projects follow through

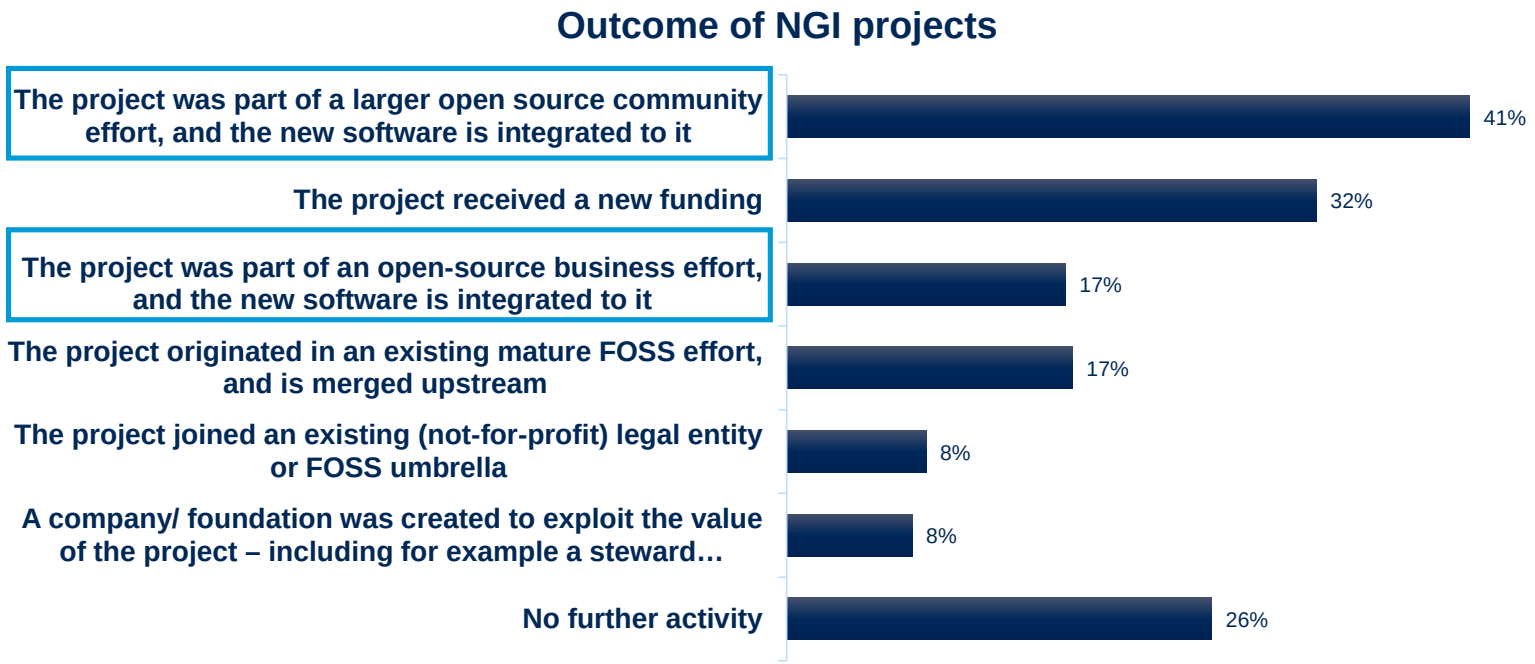
60% was part of a larger effort and the new software is integrated

30% receive a new funding

8% saw a company or foundation created



Sustainability



Data source: NGI 1000 survey (N=239)

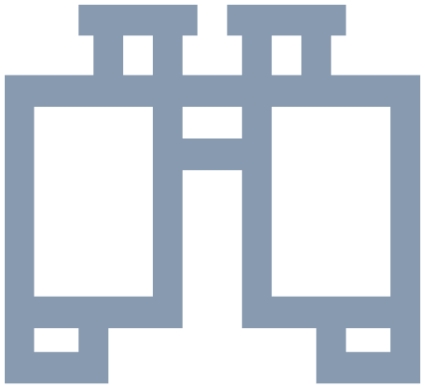
As 8% of projects follow through with the creation of a company or a foundation, we estimate (*) that the NGI has created 80 new sustainable legal structures.

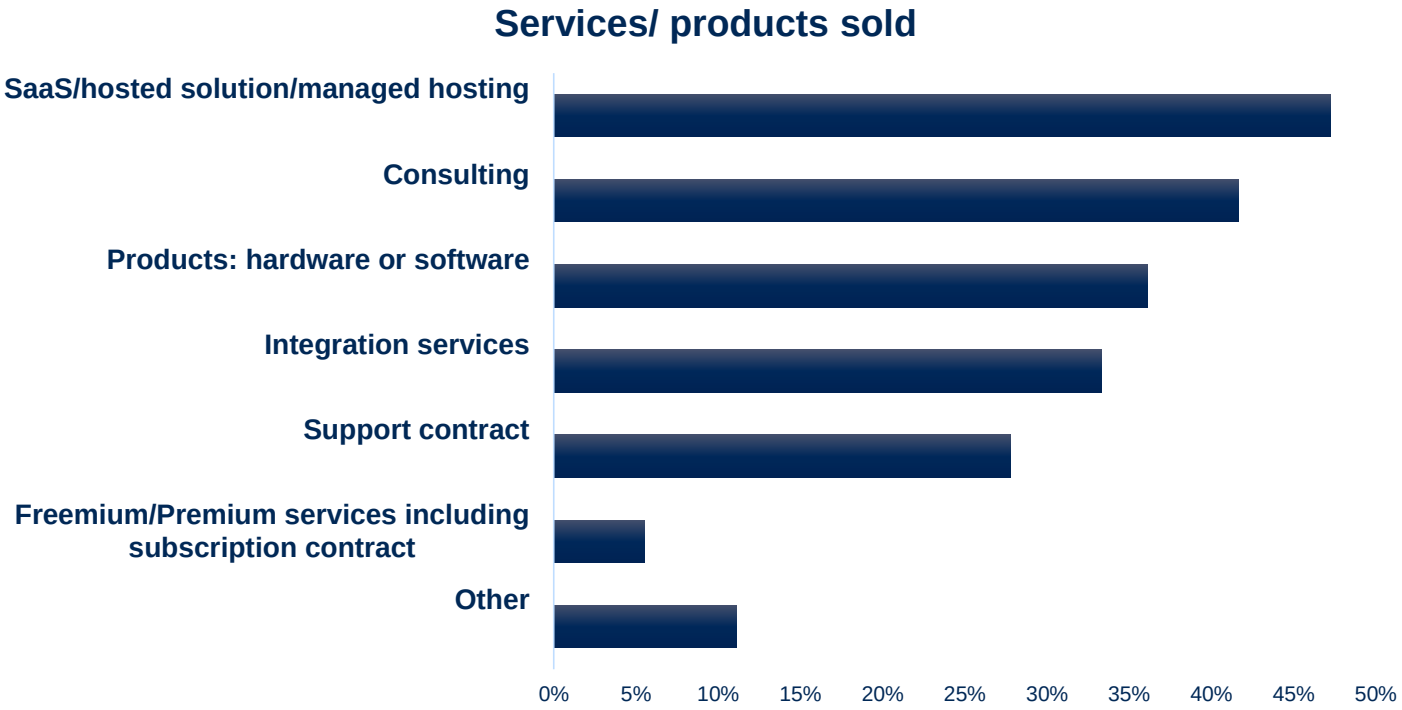
(*) Estimation based on NGI survey response rate

Data source: NGI 1000 survey (N=239)

NGI-fueled companies have varied business models

Sustainability

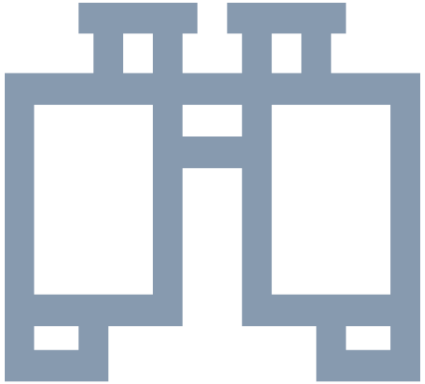




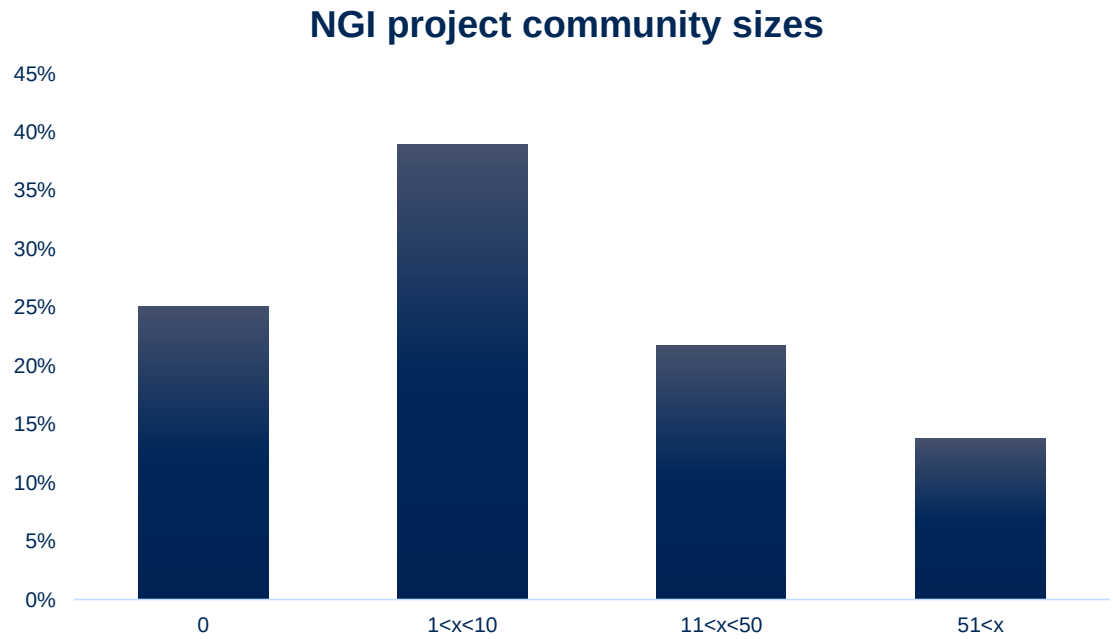
Data source: NGI 1000 survey (N=239)

NGI projects attract community talent and effort

40% of projects have a small community (<10 people)(*) contributing
Close to 15% of projects have a large community (over 50 people)
6 projects are running with a community larger than 1000 people.



Sustainability



(*) number of people, apart from those funded by NGI

Data source: NGI 1000 survey (N=239)

Open Source

The NGI tapped very successfully into the open-source community:

- an estimated 80.000 (*) people are contributing through code, testing or bug reporting.
- 1/3 of solutions are channeled through mainstream distros.

(*) Estimation based on survey results
This number does not include those funded by the NGI.

Data source: NGI 1000 survey (N=239)

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Agility

20% of projects (*) got additional funding inside the NGI demonstrating NGI is a sustainable fund allowing projects to mature or to evolve before they can reach a self-support level.

25% did not have any known follow-up other than making the code available, illustrating the agility of NGI funding, with a ‘fail fast’ approach to innovation.

(*) Estimation based on: 32% of projects received new funding and 68% of these received NGI funding

Data source: NGI 1000 survey (N=239)

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Thank you!