

TRUSTCHAIN

OPEN CALL #1 -GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS

DECENTRALISED DIGITAL IDENTITY

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1 PREAMBLE

This document is the main document to support applicants in the provision of their proposals. It provides the technical details for TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 – Decentralised Digital Identity, as well as the modalities for applications, the eligibility criteria, the evaluation process, the financial support, the preparation and submission of the proposal, the support services, the indicative timelines, the information requested for the administrative part of the proposal, the necessary template to be used to draft the proposal as well as an indicative agreement that will be signed if the proposal is successful. This guide is complemented by the Open Call 1 document available at <https://trustchain.ngi.eu/apply>.

Today, the digital identity is an essential component of any application and computing system.

However, many existing systems used by universities, governments, Internet service providers, banks and similar have not kept with the time, and do not appropriately address a plethora of user and usability requirements. Considering emerging requirements, the European legislator created a legal framework for digital identities and trust services in the EU with Regulation (EU) 910/2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market (eIDAS Regulation). While the TRUSTCHAIN project does not intend to limit innovation in any way, reference to the European regulatory framework concerning digital identities (i.e., eIDAS) should be clearly made by the applicants.

The digital identity is usually established by mechanisms of proving a secret that we have (e.g., password), what we possess (e.g., an identification card), or what we are (e.g., biometric data). However, in our complex world, much stronger and/or more fine-grained user-controlled Decentralised Identifiers (DIDs) may be used in order to achieve privacy on one hand and security on the other. The capability to autonomously manage different facets of one's identity brings light to Self-Sovereign Identities (SSIs). Existing SSI approaches need to be assessed in light of current requirements and should be lifted to an appropriate degree of usability in specific contexts. The trustworthiness and/or credentials made possible by SSI technology cannot be taken for granted but should be assessed by means of verifying their issuance from national and certification authorities, interconnections with a variety of digital identities used within social networks, public or private Internet services, or even by means of decentralized reputation mechanisms. Since Decentralised Identifiers (DIDs) and Verifiable Credentials (VCs) are already W3C standards playing an important role in the Semantic Web, any new proposals will have to establish the current state-of-the-art and clearly articulate how this will be brought to a new usability level (e.g., to be used by students, disabled persons, technologically illiterate, etc.). Many of these approaches may be complemented with the use of decentralised data management infrastructures, wherever the use of such decentralised

computing infrastructures makes sense from the viewpoint of benefits (e.g., privacy, security, utility) against drawbacks (e.g., energy inefficiency). **Trustworthy digital identities and data are the focus of this TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 (OC1) on “Decentralised Digital Identity”.**

This Open Call 1 welcomes applications that will clearly define, upgrade/extend the state-of-the-art, and develop the following types of solutions:

- Decentralised user-centric identity management framework for supporting an automated privacy preserving, legal and regulatory compliant infrastructure (e.g., GDPR) potentially in alignment with emerging European regulations and standards (i.e. eIDAS);
- Protocols for trustworthiness assessment of entities by means of verifiable credentials and decentralized reputation systems;
- Smart oracles assessing the trustworthiness of data associated with digital identities;
- Inclusive digital identity platforms focusing on marginalized communities (e.g., refugees, elderly, vulnerable);
- Social identity for delegation and recovery that drives community-based trust establishment (i.e., social guardians);
- Systems considering both public and private administration roles in issuing and managing decentralized identifiers;
- Decentralized identity systems supporting Decentralized Authority Organizations (DAOs); and,
- Use-case driven identity management system deployment (e.g., banking, publishing, healthcare, education etc).

The above system examples are only indicative, and applicants can propose solutions that integrate one or more of them. Applicants can also submit a proposal under a different example scenario, as long as it serves the overall TRUSTCHAIN vision and objectives and fits within the scope of human centric decentralised trustworthy digital identity. It should utilize existing concepts and technologies already developed for SSI and fit within TRUSTCHAIN’s vision and objectives. The solutions should be provided as open-source software achieving TRL 7, tested and evaluated by an adequate pool of potential users which should be identified and mentioned in the application, as well as supported by a self-sustaining business model for exploiting the developed system at the end of the project. The proposed solution will have to use standard technology for full-stack development that is compatible with the current standards.

All third-party innovators that will be selected are expected to regularly discuss and share the newly generated knowledge and ‘know-how’ among the participants at regular Joint Technical Meetings of the consortium and become active members of

the TRUSTCHAIN software ecosystem and community.

The call is open for submission from 8th February 2023 (12:00 PM CET) until 10th April 2023 (17:00 CEST). Its indicative budget is € 1 755 000 with up to a maximum of 15 proposals funded.

The target applicants of this call are developers, innovators, researchers, SMEs and entrepreneurs working on different NGI relevant topics and application domains at the intersection between the technical field (e.g. Software Engineering, Network Security, Semantic Web, Cryptography, Blockchain, Digital Twin, Blockchain Security, Digital Identity, Blockchain Protocol), the Social sciences and Humanities (e.g. Social Innovation, not-for-profit sector, Social Entrepreneurship, public goods) as well as any others including economics, environment, art, design, which can contribute to NGI TRUSTCHAIN relevant vision.

2 THE TRUSTCHAIN PROJECT

The Internet has pushed our existence into the digital era, revolutionising our health, our wellbeing, our social life, our education and our information. Today we approach the Internet with our digital identities. There is a plethora of such digital identities that currently do not properly serve their purpose. Multiple threats related to truthfulness, trust and identity (ID) arise when people interact in this digital world: delusion and manipulation, personal privacy violation and personal data exploitation, unknown provenance of information, anonymity for performing criminal activities, spread of fake news using fake identities, skills mismatches, serious breaches of security are only a few of the threats that have emerged. The spirit of the first-generation Internet based on individual freedom, material progress, and moral community is slowly turning into individualism, materialism, and moralism, diverging from essential ethical and democratic principles that should underline this technology. The design choice of the past, based on a mix of centrally managed networking and device technologies makes today's Internet obsolete when it comes to empowering all citizens to act for a more environmentally friendlier digital transformation, as well as to create a more resilient, inclusive, and democratic society, addressing inequalities and human rights, better prepared for and responsive to threats and disasters.

For TRUSTCHAIN, the current emergence of Internet of Things (IoT), Decentralised Oracles, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Cloud-to-Edge (aka Fog) Computing, Distributed Ledger (DLT) and Digital Twin (DT) technologies created the need to build democratic systems without central points of control that can establish the missing link between universally agreed objectives in the physical world, and the digital representation of the reality, thus contributing to the realisation of trusted relationships in the Next Generation Internet. This can be achieved by using various consensus mechanisms

that associate proofs with digital representations and thus help humans understand the objective truth, achieve trusted relationships on the digital world, allowing them to undertake well-informed decisions, in either a manual or automated manner. The ability to arrive at the objective truth by employing democratic governance mechanisms, consensus-based proofs, verification and certification can lead to a Next Generation Trusted Internet supporting humanity in all aspects of life. Today more than ever, challenges faced all over the world push for our society to reorganise itself to survive. The United Nations have called to reach 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Essentially, TRUSTCHAIN must be leveraged to embed in the Next Generation Internet principles of human-rights, sustainability, ethics and other human values that have been developed and maintained through long lasting centuries of human evolution.

The key concept of TRUSTCHAIN is to embed the key humanity principles in the co-creation of the Next Generation Internet and to provide autopoietic, evolutionary, decentralised and therefore democratic, transparent, traceable, and regulatory compliant mechanisms that can support any ecosystem of entities and actors participating with their digital identities. The basis for this to happen is the use of decentralised digital identity architectures together with IoT, AI, Cloud-to-Edge, DLT and DT. Our intention is to embed in such solution's important societal goals in accordance with objective truth and therefore, trustworthiness.

TRUSTCHAIN - Fostering a Human-Centred, Trustworthy and Sustainable Internet is a European project funded by the European Commission under the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme and the call topic CL4-2022-HUMAN-01-03. As such, it is part of the European Commission's Next Generation Internet (NGI) initiative. Its overall objective is to create a portfolio of Next Generation Internet protocols and an ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the user, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant that can seamlessly integrate and interoperate with any of the existing decentralised applications. TRUSTCHAIN was launched in January 2023 to address the inherent challenges within the current centralised Internet architecture that is not transparent to the user, does not protect the privacy-by-default and does not scale well through 5 Open Calls and an overall budget of 8,775 M€.

The 5 Open Calls are the following:

○ **Open Call 1- Decentralised digital identity**

The overall objective of Open Call 1 is to define and develop:

- **A framework for decentralised user-centric identity management;**
- **Protocols for trustworthiness assessment of entities and their data by means of verifiable credentials and decentralized reputation systems; and,**
- **Smart oracles assessing the trustworthiness of data.**

This is the main focal point of this call.

○ **Open Call 2- User privacy and data governance**

The objective of this OC will be to develop tools, cryptographic mechanisms, and other algorithms for data handling and sharing as well as for the management of data lakes in compliance with the GDPR and other regulations that implement techniques such as:

- **Multi-party data sharing mechanisms**
- **Federated learning mechanisms considering both vertical and horizontal frameworks**
- **Encrypted data analytics based on homomorphic encryption**
- **Secure and privacy preserving data analytics mechanisms**
- **Privacy-preserving usage of Artificial Intelligence, IoT, Digital Twins, Cloud-to-Edge services, or combination of those**

○ **Open Call 3- Economics and democracy**

The objective of OC3 will be to define and build mechanisms for smarter data exchange and data trading as well as innovative win-win federated business models' open data.

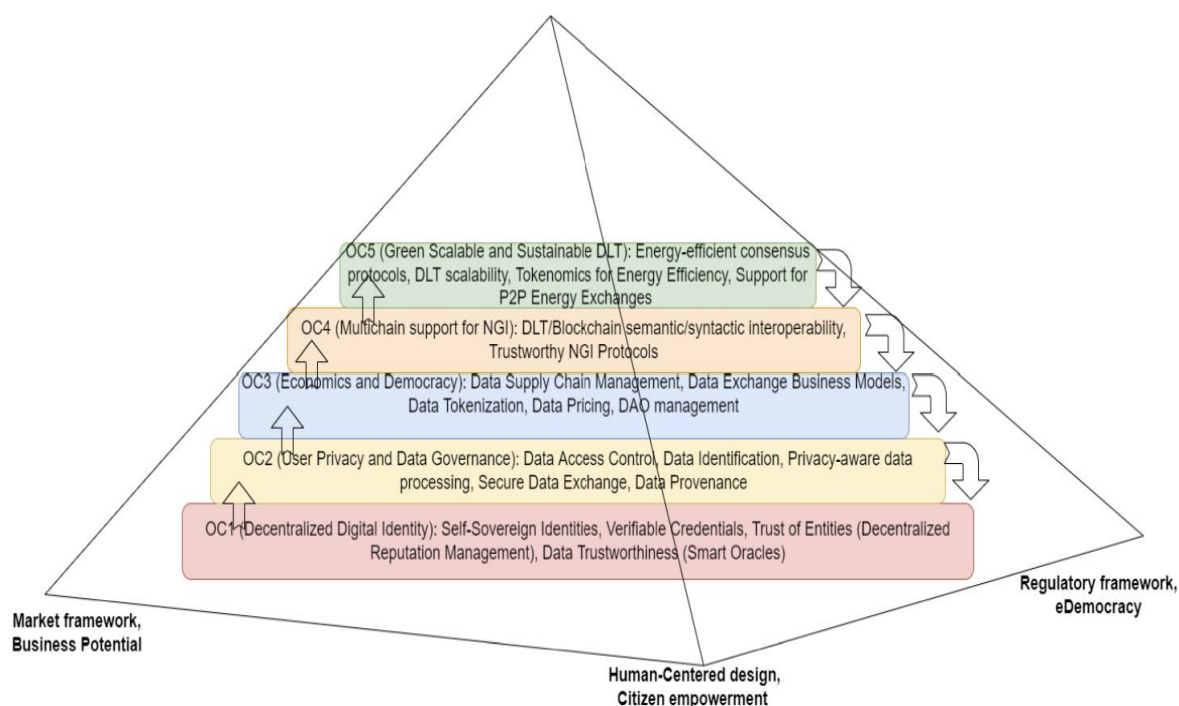
○ **Open Call 4- Multi chains support for NGI protocols**

OC4 goal will be to design and build the gateways that will make it possible to transfer knowledge/metadata/data/process/requirements from one chain to another in a trustworthy and secure manner. Interoperability across multiple chains will be a cornerstone in this call.

○ **Open Call 5- Green scalable and sustainable DLTs**

This call will build on top of all past OC1-4 calls. Its objective will be to employ digital identities, trustworthy data, and already designed novel mechanisms for the ecosystems' economy, in order to achieve high energy efficiency and optimisation of DLTs. We are looking for the most appropriate, relevant and pertinent trade-offs between the use of technologies, the security of consensus protocols on one side, and the sustainability and energy efficiency requirements on the other.

The overall structure of the open calls is summarized in the figure below. Note that each OC provides key technologies that can be used as basis for development in the subsequent calls, while also the opposite interaction can be employed by later calls, e.g., OC2 can pose additional requirements for the final outcomes of OC1 projects.



In this technological framework, TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 is thus closely related to OC2 “User privacy and data governance” and OC3 “Economics and democracy”. Better understanding of what digital identity and its value is, as well as ensuring its better management, is the starting point for better governing sensitive data and investigating economic models for trustworthy and rewarding data exchange. Thus, knowledge created within this OC1 will be transferred / integrated into future OC2 and OC3 calls.

Following the spirit of the Horizon Europe Calls for the Next Generation Internet, the TRUSTCHAIN Research and Innovation Action encourages presentation of results as open-source software and open hardware designs, open access to data, standardisation activities, access to testing and operational infrastructures as well as an IPR regime ensuring interoperability, reusability of results, lasting and sustainable with a long-term societal impact.

This guide is specifically dedicated to Open Call 1 (OC1) and outlines its context and its application modalities.

3 OPEN CALL 1: DECENTRALISED DIGITAL IDENTITY

3.1 INTRODUCTION TO OPEN CALL 1

The call is open for submission from 8th February 2023 (12:00 PM CET) until 10th April 2023 (17:00 CEST).

Its indicative budget is €1 755 000 and will be distributed among up to 15 selected projects led and executed by a critical number of developers, innovators, researchers, SMEs and entrepreneurs working on different NGI relevant topics and application domains at the intersection between the technical field (e.g., Software Engineering, Network Security, Semantic Web, Cryptography, Blockchain, Digital Twin, Blockchain Security, Digital Identity, Blockchain Protocol), the Social sciences and Humanities (e.g., Social Innovation, not-for-profit sector, Social Entrepreneurship, public goods) as well as any others including economics, environment, art, design, which can contribute to NGI TRUSTCHAIN relevant vision.

Selected projects will last for a duration of 9 months. However, TRUSTCHAIN overall action lasting 36 months, their participation at any of the future Joint Meetings after these 9 months for knowledge and know-how transfer to TRUSTCHAIN OC2-5 and for the development of the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem as a whole is requested.

As part of the TRUSTCHAIN action, experts in diverse fields will also provide to third party innovators selected technology development guidance, working methodology

as well as access to technical infrastructure, training in business model development and data related topics, coaching, mentoring, visibility and community building support.

Applicants are invited to submit their proposals on any topic that serves the overall TRUSTCHAIN OC1 vision and objectives. Their proposed solution should consider as minimal requirement to:

- Use standard technology for full stack development;
- Be open source; and,
- Extends the state-of-the-art in the domain of digital identities, and/or solves existing real-world problems with digital identities and provides new highly usable software solutions.

Using the mandatory TRUSTCHAIN OC1 proposal template, applicants are expected in relation to the specific objectives specified hereafter (section 3.2) to explain in their application:

1. The specific technological innovation they propose to develop and how this is clearly different from alternative solutions that are already available in the market, or developed by previous EU research and innovation actions (i.e., EU ONTOCHAIN Project & any other projects);
2. The specific digital identity needs or challenge they propose to address and who would benefit from it immediately and in the longer term;
3. Whether the innovation will focus on the development of new solutions for existing areas, or a totally disruptive approach or idea;
4. Any work they have already done to respond to this need, for example if the project focuses on developing an existing capability or building a new one; and,
5. Any challenges or opportunities relating to equality, diversity, ethics and inclusion arising from their project.

Applicants when applying should **clearly specify the OC1 challenges they are going to address. Those are described in section 3.3.**

3.2 OPEN CALL 1 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Trustworthy digital identities that also preserve privacy, in the sense that specific parts of the user identity are only exposed, are currently needed. Also, before data can be employed in blockchain smart contracts, data trustworthiness assessment is a pre-requisite for online transactions.

In order to achieve TRUSTCHAIN vision, it is expected that applicants will develop interoperable and sustainable digital identity management applications that are transparent and address the needs of the future decentralised internet. In particular, the following main objectives should be considered:

- **Develop a framework for decentralized user-centric identity management that lies in the scope of the call and addresses the stated challenges below;**
- **Develop protocols for trustworthiness of entities by means of verifiable credentials and decentralized reputation systems;**
- **To ensure identity attributes are disclosed only with the informed consent from the data owner (i.e., data minimization requirement of GDPR); and,**
- **Develop smart oracles to assess the trustworthiness of data fed to blockchain smart-contracts fetched from external systems.**

Applications should cover real needs of the end-users in one of the sectors such as for example banking, education, healthcare or e-democracy.

3.3 OPEN CALL 1 CHALLENGES TO BE ADDRESSED

The current ecosystem of Decentralised Digital Identity systems experienced a rapid growth in the last couple of years. However, mainstream adoption of those systems still encounters multiple challenges that should be addressed by the TRUSTCHAIN applications.

Today's identity systems are faced with a multitude of challenges due to the centralised nature of the internet. The internet was initially developed without the human in the loop. However, with the exponential growth of the online usage, evolution of decentralised systems and the power of cloud and edge computing has made the centralised model obsolete for many future online applications. In order to develop a usable and interoperable decentralised future internet, some of the identity challenges that exist today need to be addressed. These include:

- **The current identity systems lack usability, privacy, transparency, interoperability and compliant with GDPR and is not inclusive in nature;**
- **It incorporates multitude of technologies such as zero-knowledge-proof (ZKP) that are not transparent to the user and not easy to integrate or deploy by the non-tech-savvy user;**
- **There is a lack of trust in the way the identity credentials are shared and used by multiple online services;**

- Most of the authentication systems request more identity data than what is required. Hence the data minimization principle of GDPR is not observed correctly;
- Most of the existing identity systems do not provide a mechanism by which an individual can delegate their identity credentials to someone they trust for identity recovery or in an emergency scenario (i.e. social guardians);
- The systems don't maintain the privacy of the identity credentials. In addition, the user has no visibility of the audit trail of the identity credentials once shared with a 3rd party. This leads to identity fraud; and,
- Human has not been involved from the initial design stages of the identity eco system. This leads to lack of understanding of the new technologies (i.e., blockchain, reputation-based systems, crypto etc.) and usability issues by the end-users' restricting wider technology adoption.

With respect to those challenges, the proposed solution may include:

- the provision of public administration services;
- digital identities used in the banking (e.g., know your customer (KYC) approaches), education (e.g. micro credentials for micro competencies), healthcare (e.g. access-control mechanisms in cross-border scenarios), and other sectors;
- cross-border use of digital identities;
- digital identities used by Next Generation Internet services; and/or,
- regulatory alignment of existing digital identities (e.g., in the context of EU eIDAS framework).

3.4 OPEN CALL 1 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

3.4.1 Technical Requirements

In general, a user centric design and implementation, a co-created process with citizens as well as a use case driven approach will frame the proposed innovative solution development that should carefully consider the needs for security, privacy, human-rights, sustainability, and trustworthiness. Interoperability (e.g., identity bridges), scalability, greenness, openness, standards, as well as legal and regulatory compliance should be also considered, calculated and assured.

The proposed solutions are intended to be co-created with end users focusing on identity and trustworthiness, adopting a user-friendly design. Therefore, they should

be designed, implemented, piloted and validated using a specific predefined and justified set of end users in an identified use case. The co-creation and validation approach should be clearly elaborated in the applicants' proposal. A citizen digital vulnerable collectives' approach that put in the centre general population and vulnerable people needs instead of technical/experts' users should be considered. It is intended that the solution is accessible for the general population as well as for the marginalized/vulnerable communities. To this end, the applicant should show collaboration with an EU end-user organisation (i.e., banking, healthcare, education, policing etc.) as well as consider vulnerable groups for the evaluation /validation process if possible.

The focus should be on what is currently missing e.g. privacy preservation, reputation management and on expanding what already exists thus scaling rather than building something new from scratch. An initial TRL of 7 should be demonstrated and validated in a real end user setting. If something completely new must be build (see point above), it should be well motivated in particular with what rewards the nature of the problem and why the state-of-the-art solution does not solve it today (i.e., barriers to adoption).

The proposed solution should work within a specific business context and emphasis should be put on its scalability, on its energy efficiency and its value proposition. Cross-border identity translation, moving identities/data across borders (at least within EU) should be carefully considered. It should be also compatible with existing identity management frameworks (e.g., eIDAS), standards and demonstrate the energy efficiency through measurements that are quantifiable.

Finally, focus should also be put on demonstration of the technology. In particular, the applicant should demonstrate to have access to an infrastructure that is EVM compatible where it can be deployed and showcased.

3.4.2 Sustainability requirements

Various emerging technologies currently pose huge environmental impact, and they should be evaluated against any potential benefit from using these technologies. The applicants are requested to provide a short assessment of the trade-offs, from one viewpoint the benefits when using the technology, and from another, the potential energy-inefficiency. Various best effort solutions should be used as baseline for providing such self-assessment.

3.4.3 Regulatory and standards requirements

Applicants are requested to present in a clear and concise manner any existing and/or emerging identity platform (i.e., eIDAS2) / infrastructure standards with which they intend to comply or they wish to contribute in the course of the proposed projects.

3.5 EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND POSSIBLE APPLICATION DOMAINS

In OC1, the application should respond to citizens' needs based on actual facts. Hence, the expected OC1 outcomes are:

- Reliable identity retrieval (e.g., via Social Guardians);
- Flexible identity management options that will allow users to define and modify their own trust relationships;
- Guardrails ensuring that specific parts of identity information are disclosed uniquely with consent from the user in question;
- Decentralised reputation management systems; and,
- Smart oracles for trustworthiness assessment of real-world data.

These outcomes could be materialised by :

- Decentralised digital wallets for self-sovereign identity;
- Identity and attribute reputation management systems
- User centric privacy preserving identity ,management framework;
- Decentralized (data) marketplaces;
- Automated regulatory compliance for KYC
- EU cross-border identity portability and translation;
- Validation of EU qualifications / certifications; and,
- Cross-border mobility of EU citizens.

Possible application domains (not limited to) are:

- Healthcare;
- Education, University diplomas, etc;
- Collaborative environments;
- Social networks (and the use of identities within such networks);
- Notarization;
- Banking;
- Creative industries;
- The aging population and their needs, e.g. taxation relief;
- Any marginalised individual and their specific need;
- Creative industries (e.g. collaborative production of artistic and unique works);
- Entertainment, leisure, gaming industry; and,
- Tourism and similar.

3.6 OPEN CALL 1 MANDATORY DELIVERABLES

Projects selected and funded by the TRUSTCHAIN consortium will have to deliver four deliverables during their participation process. These deliverables are mandatory. They are defined below:

- **D1: State of the art overview, use case analysis and preliminary technical specification of the solution.** The document should clearly specify how the proposed solution extends and/or upgrades the state-of-the-art;
- **D2: Detailed technical specification of the solution, software implementation work plan, demo scenarios, the number of end users that will be involved in any pilots, and preliminary business plan;**
- **D3: Implementation, deployment in an appropriate TRUSTCHAIN platform, testing, demonstration and validation roadmap in a real-life application (i.e., banking, education, healthcare, utilities, defence or cross-border travel), and result of the validation process; and,**
- **D4: Modularised software components ready for distribution, full documentation for developers/users, final business plan.**

4 MODALITIES FOR APPLICATION

4.1 WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS WILL BE ELIGIBLE?

Applications must be based on the TRUSTCHAIN proposal description template (Annex 3) and must clearly fit the objective of TRUSTCHAIN OC1 described in section 3.1.

Furthermore, applicants should demonstrate their long-term commitment to the TRUSTCHAIN research and innovation agenda. Selected applicants will work to demonstrate that the proposed solution progresses from the beginning of the project, reaching a higher maturity level and take-up by the end of the action. Thus, all the projects must evidence substantial progress with a particular focus on the interoperability and sustainability of the outcomes according to the TRUSTCHAIN framework.

Thus, following the spirit of the Horizon Europe Calls for the Next Generation Internet, the TRUSTCHAIN Research and Innovation Action encourages open-source software and open hardware design, open access to data, standardisation activities, access to testing and operational infrastructure as well as an IPR regime ensuring interoperability, reusability of results, lasting and sustainable impact. If the expected results of the proposed project cannot be released as open source, it should be duly justified in the application document.

4.2 WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE PROPOSALS ARE SUBMITTED?

Immediately after the submission deadline **(10th April 2023, 17:00 CEST)** is over, the evaluation process begins (as described in detail in Section 6 of this Guide).

Experts will evaluate proposals and score them adequately according to the quality of the content presented.

The goal of the process is to select up to 15 high value proposals with the procedure defined in section 6. Selected applicants will be invited to join the TRUSTCHAIN Research and Innovation Action. The exact number of selected projects will be subject to the quality of the proposals and the funding available.

5 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

All applicants will have to abide by all general requirements described in this section to be considered eligible for TRUSTCHAIN. Therefore, applicants are requested to read the following section carefully.

5.1 TYPES OF APPLICANTS

The target applicants of this call are developers, innovators, researchers, SMEs and entrepreneurs working on different NGI relevant topics and application domains at the intersection between the technical field (e.g., Software Engineering, Network Security, Semantic Web, Cryptography, Blockchain, Digital Twin, Blockchain Security, Digital Identity, Blockchain Protocol), the Social sciences and Humanities (e.g., Social Innovation, not-for-profit sector, Social Entrepreneurship, public goods) as well as any others including economics, environment, art, design, which can contribute to NGI TRUSTCHAIN relevant vision.

Applicants can apply as individuals or linked to a legal entity. Hence, the participation is possible in several ways:

- **Team of natural person(s):**

Team of individuals, all established in any eligible country. This does not consider the country of origin but the residence permit.

- **Legal entity(ies):**

One or more entities (consortium) established in an eligible country. It can be

Universities, research centres, NGOs, foundations, micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (see definition of SME according to the Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC), large enterprises working on Internet or/and other related technologies are eligible.

- **Any combination of the above.**

In addition, the following condition apply:

- **The participating organisations should not have been declared bankrupt or have initiated bankruptcy procedures.**
- **The organisations or individuals (Team of natural persons) applying should not have convictions for fraudulent behaviour, other financial irregularities, and unethical or illegal business practices.**

5.2 ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

Only applicants legally established/resident in any of the following countries (hereafter collectively identified as the “Eligible Countries”) are eligible:

- The Member States (MS) of the European Union (EU), including their outermost regions.
- The Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) linked to the Member States¹;
- Horizon Europe associated countries, as described in the [Reference Documents](#) and the [List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe](#) according to the latest list published by the European Commission.

5.3 LANGUAGE

English is the official language for TRUSTCHAIN open calls. Submissions done in any other language will be disregarded and not evaluated.

English is also the only official language during the whole execution of the TRUSTCHAIN programme. This means any requested submission of deliverables must be done in English in order to be eligible.

¹ Entities from Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) are eligible for funding under the same conditions as entities from the Member States to which the OCT in question is linked.

5.4 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Proposals must be submitted electronically, using the TRUSTCHAIN Online Submission Service accessible via <https://www.f6s.com/trustchain-open-call-1>. Proposals submitted by any other means, will not be evaluated.

Only the documentation included in the application will be considered by evaluators. It will be composed by a form with administrative questions to be completed directly in the platform and the proposal description attached in PDF format. To be eligible, applicants must strictly follow the proposal template provided in the annexes as well as the page limitation.

The information provided should be actual, true and complete and should allow the assessment of the proposal.

The preparation and submission of the proposal and other actions that follow this procedure (such as withdrawal) fall under the final responsibility of the applicant.

5.4.1 Multiple submissions

Given the fact that this call is a competitive one, and one applicant should focus on only one specific topic the following apply:

- Only one proposal per **applicant** should be submitted to this call, and only one proposal per **applicant** will be evaluated. In the event of multiple submissions by an applicant, only the last one received (timestamp of the system) will enter the evaluation process. Any other submitted proposals by the same applicant or involving the same applicant will be declared non-eligible and will not be evaluated in any case.
- Only one proposal per **individual** should be submitted to this call whether he/she applies within as a Team of natural persons or as part as part of a consortium member. If an individual is taking part in several teams/consortiums, the members of the other teams/consortium will be informed about the participation of an individual in multiple teams/consortiums. Then, only the last proposal received (timestamp of the system) including the individual will enter the evaluation process. Any other submitted proposals involving this Individual will be declared non-eligible and will not be evaluated in any case.

Note that the regular functioning of the F6S platform limits to one application submission per F6S user in each call. If an F6S user wishes to submit more than one application, **for example on behalf of different Applicants**, the F6S user should request support from the F6S support team (support@f6s.com) at least 10 days prior to the open call deadline.

5.4.2 Participation to the 5 TRUSTCHAIN Calls and funding rules

TRUSTCHAIN is an opportunity to fund truly multidisciplinary projects involving partners from different (natural and humanistic) disciplines relevant to Internet development. Thus, applicants can apply, participate and benefit from the 5 TRUSTCHAIN open Calls but as the main objective of the action is to support large number of third parties through open calls, the maximum amount to be granted to each third party is EUR 200 000 to allow cases where a given legal entity (e.g., large research, academic or industrial organisations) may receive several grants (e.g., from different calls).

5.4.3 Complaint due to a technical error of the TRUSTCHAIN Online Submission Service

If you experience any problem with the applications submission system prior the deadline of the open call, you should reach F6S by e-mail through support@f6s.com, cc'ing the TRUSTCHAIN Team (trustchain@ngi.eu), and explain your situation.

If you believe that the submission of your proposal was not entirely successful due to a technical error on the side of the TRUSTCHAIN Online Submission Service, you may lodge a complaint by email through support@f6s.com cc'ing the TRUSTCHAIN Team (trustchain@ngi.eu) and explain your situation. For the complaint to be admissible it must be filed within **3 calendar days following the day of the call closure**. You will receive an acknowledgement of receipt, the same or next working day.

What else to do? You should secure a PDF version of all the documents of your proposal holding a timestamp (file attributes listing the date and time of creation and last modification) that is prior to the call deadline, as well as any proof of the alleged failure (e.g., screen shots). Later in the procedure you may be requested by the TRUSTCHAIN IT Helpdesk to provide these items.

For your complaint to be upheld, the IT audit trail (application log files and access log files of TRUSTCHAIN Online Submission Service) must show that there was indeed a technical problem at the TRUSTCHAIN consortium side which prevented you from submitting your proposal using the electronic submission system.

Applicants will be notified about the outcome of their complaint within the time indicated in the acknowledgment of receipt. If a complaint is upheld, the secured files (provided to the IT helpdesk) for which the investigation has demonstrated that technical problems at the TRUSTCHAIN consortium side prevented submission will be used as a reference for accepting the proposal for evaluation.

5.5 CONFIDENTIALITY AND DEADLINE

Any information regarding the proposal will be treated in a strictly confidential manner.

Only proposals submitted before the deadline will be accepted. After the call closure no additions or changes to receive proposals will be considered.

Proposals must be submitted before **10th April 2023, 17:00 CEST**. To avoid missing the deadline, you are encouraged to submit your proposal as soon as possible.

5.6 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Applicants (even individual members of applicants) shall not have any actual or/and potential conflict of interest with the TRUSTCHAIN selection process and during the whole programme. All cases of conflict of interest will be assessed case by case. In particular, applicants (even individual members of applicants) cannot be TRUSTCHAIN Consortium partners or affiliated entities nor their employees or co-operators under a contractual agreement, nor a member of the TRUSTCHAIN Advisory Board.

If a conflict of interest is discovered and confirmed at the time of the evaluation process, the proposal will be considered as non-eligible and will not be evaluated.

5.7 OTHER

Each applicant must confirm:

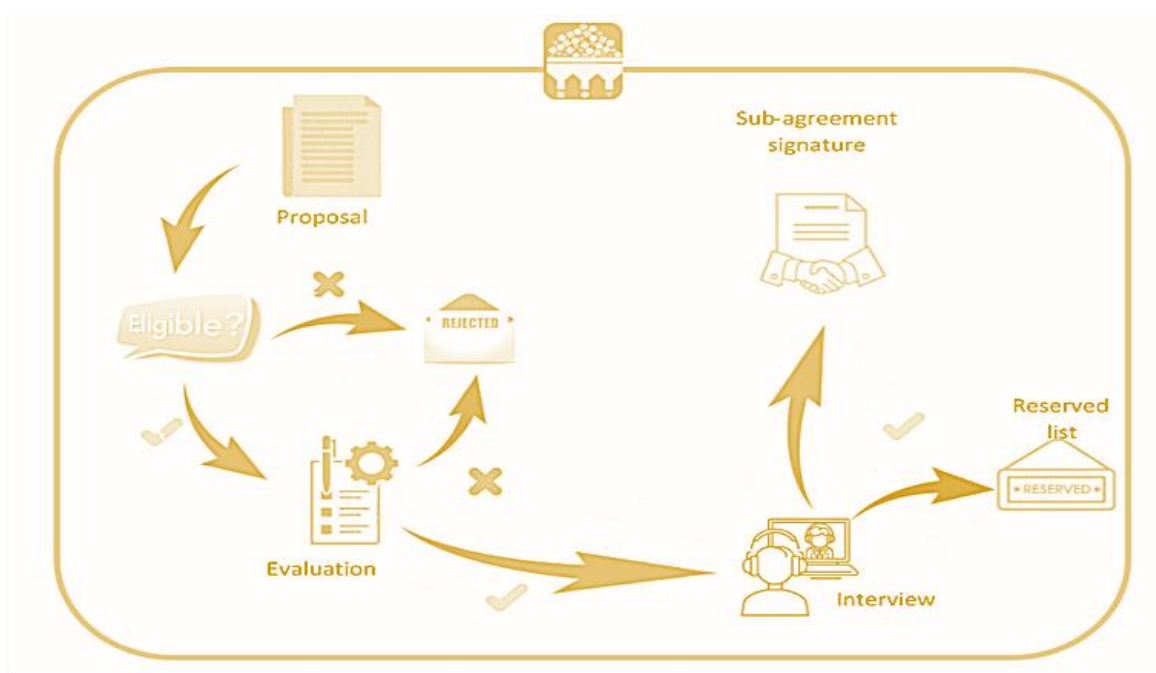
- It is not under liquidation or is not an enterprise under difficulty according to the Commission Regulation No 651/2014, art. 2.18;
- Its project is based on the original works and going forward any foreseen developments are free from third party rights, or they are clearly stated;
- It does not receive extra funding for the development of its proposal from any other public or private entity;
- It is not excluded from the possibility of obtaining EU funding under the provisions of both national and EU law, or by a decision of both national or EU authority; and,
- Via the principal investigator that he/she agrees with the terms presented in Annex 1-Indicative Sub-grant Agreement Form.

6 PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND ACCESS TO TRUSTCHAIN FUNDING

6.1 EVALUATION PROCESS

Proposals are submitted in a single stage and the evaluation process is composed of three stages as presented hereafter.

- **Stage 1:** Admissibility & eligibility check;
- **Stage 2:** Proposals evaluation; and,
- **Stage 3:** Online interviews and final selection.



6.1.1 Admissibility and eligibility check

Admissibility and eligibility criteria for each proposal are checked by the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium staff. A proposal may be declared ineligible or inadmissible at any stage.

To be considered admissible, a proposal must be:

- Submitted in the electronic submission system before the call deadline;
- Compliant with the specific eligibility conditions set out in the relevant parts of this guide (see section 5 of this guide). The eligibility filter enables the creation of a shortlist of proposals to be evaluated;
- Readable, accessible and printable;
- Complete and include the requested administrative data, and any obligatory supporting documents specified in the call (following the template presented in Annex 2 and in Annex 3 if necessary); and,
- Include the research proposal description. **Applicants must strictly follow the template, instructions as well as pages limitation for drafting the research proposal included in this guide (Annex 3).** A proposal will only be considered eligible if its content corresponds specifically to the objective of the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 or is proposed as “open topic” and demonstrates that it aims to advance the state of the art especially with regards to the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 Framework and application domain.

6.1.2 Proposal evaluation

The evaluation of proposals is carried out by the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium with the assistance of independent experts. TRUSTCHAIN Consortium staff ensures that the process is fair and in line with the principles contained in the European Commission's rules on Proposal submission and evaluation. To facilitate the independent experts and the evaluation process, the EasyChair platform (<https://easychair.org/>) will be used.

Experts perform evaluations on a personal basis, not as representatives of their employer, their country or any other entity. They are required to be independent, impartial and objective, and to behave throughout in a professional manner. They sign an expert contract, including a declaration of confidentiality and absence of conflict of interest, before beginning their work.

All experts must declare beforehand any known conflicts of interest and must immediately inform the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium staff if they detect a conflict of interest during the evaluation. The expert contract also requires experts to maintain strict confidentiality with respect to the whole evaluation process. They must follow any instruction given by the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium to ensure this. Under no circumstance may an expert attempt to contact an applicant on his/her own account, during the evaluation process. Confidentiality rules must be adhered to at all times before, during and after the evaluation.

Each proposal is evaluated by a set of 2 experts (one from the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium and one external) according to the following criteria:

- 1- Excellence and innovation (40% weighting)**
 - Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the User Centric Approach.
 - Extend that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective (e.g. ground breaking objectives, novel concepts and approach, new products, services, or business and organisational models)
 - Excellence, capacity of the Applicant to deliver the proposed solution
- 2- Expected impact and value for money (30% weighting)**
 - Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation Internet protocols and an ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the user, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant.
 - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of European and Global markets
 - Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of IPR) and to manage research/sensitive data where relevant in the context of TRUSTCHAIN.
- 3- Project Implementation (30% weighting)**
 - Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extend to which the resources assigned to the work are in line with its objectives and deliverables
 - Quality and effectiveness of the management procedures including risks and mitigation management
 - Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem

The experts will score each award criterion on a scale from 0 to 5 (half point scores may be given):



- 0=Proposal** fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.
- 1=Poor**, criterion are inadequately addressed or there are serious inherent weaknesses
- 2=Fair**, proposal broadly addresses the criterion but there are significant weaknesses.
- 3=Good**, proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings is present.
- 4=Very good**, proposal addresses the criterion very well but a small number of shortcomings is present.
- 5=Excellent**, the proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

For each criterion, the minimum threshold is 3 out of 5 points. The default overall

threshold, applying to the sum of the three criteria scores with the corresponding weight each, is 10.

Each evaluator establishes an individual evaluation report.

Following the individual evaluations by the 2 experts, a consensus activity, typically mediated by the evaluation tool is organised between the 2 experts to find a consensus between them on the quality of the proposal based on the 2 evaluation reports. Comments and scores are validated by the 2 experts in a consolidated evaluation report.

Where necessary, an additional review of projects for which there was a lack of consensus in terms of scoring by individual evaluators or for which additional clarifications are required is undertaken by the TRUSTCHAIN call referent, member of the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium staff. In this case, an additional external evaluator is appointed to review the proposal. The final score is obtained based on the consensus of the 3 evaluators, one internal and 2 externals to the consortium.

The TRUSTCHAIN consortium then formally approves the ranked lists.

The admission to the online interview for applications follows these rules: **the first 20 ranked proposals are admitted to the online interview.**

In any case, all proposals admitted to the online interview must reach the scores threshold.

Regarding the communication of the results, each applicant will receive via e-mail a letter informing of the decision whether a rejection decision motivated by an Evaluation Summary Report or an invitation to the online pitching and interview session.

6.1.3 Online interview and final selection

The top projects per topic at the end of the proposal evaluation stage according to the rules just described, will be invited to the final selection stage, which involves a pitch presentation and a Q&A session.

The interview aims to better understand the project concept, scope and centrality to the TRUSTCHAIN vision, team skills & competencies, capacity and willingness to exploit the results under a commonly agreed plan with the rest of the ecosystem partners.

The interview will be carried out by the evaluation board composed of the TRUSTCHAIN referents and the TRUSTCHAIN advisory board members. Based on 10 minutes pitching and 20 minutes of Q&As, the evaluation committee will assess the finalist project proposals against the following criteria:

C1- Concept:

> Design, reliability, feasibility, novelty of the product or service concept proposed.

C2- Technology:

> Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope, innovation, technical capacity to deliver proposed project, technical milestones.

C3- Impact:

> Expected output, ambition, exploitation plan, future developments.

C4- Team:

> Capacity to perform; knowledge, technological and business expertise; commitment.

Online interviews will be recorded to assure the maximum transparency of the evaluation process. It will be evaluated by all internal evaluators and by TRUSTCHAIN advisors to reach a final agreement about scores and the written report, which will be structured according to the 4 criteria just mentioned. **Any of the 4 criteria will receive a score from 0 to 5, including the possibility of half score. The score for the interview will be the average of the scores of the 4 criteria.**

Based on these final scores, the short list of winners will be produced.

Remaining proposals will be maintained on a reserve list and potentially be later admitted in case of withdrawal or failure of one of the projects initially admitted to successfully complete any phase of the contract signing process.

The list of selected projects is then submitted to the European Commission for final screening and validation.

Regarding the communication of the results, each applicant selected to the interview will receive via e-mail, a letter informing of the decision motivated by an Evaluation Summary Report that will include a consolidated version of the results pertaining to the proposal and the interview.

6.1.4 Scientific misconduct and research Integrity

Issues of scientific misconduct and research integrity are taken very seriously. In line with the Horizon Europe Rules for Participation, appropriate action such as disqualification of the application, termination of the Grant Agreement Preparation phase or, if the Grant Agreement has been signed, the implementation of liquidated damages and financial penalties, suspension of payments, recoveries and termination of the Grant Agreement, will be taken against any applicants/beneficiaries found to have misrepresented, fabricated or plagiarised any part of their proposal.

6.2 THE AGREEMENT PROCESS

The objective of the agreement process is to fulfil the legal requirements between the TRUSTCHAIN consortium and each selected project of the call. It covers essentially the status information of the beneficiaries. The legal requirements for legal entities and natural persons are provided in the table hereafter.

For legal entities	For teams of natural persons
<p>A legal existence:</p> <p>Company Register, Official Journal and so forth, showing the name of the organization, the legal address and registration number and, if applicable, a copy of a document proving Intra EU VAT registration (in case the VAT number does not show on the registration extract or its equivalent)</p> <p>Specifically for SMEs:</p> <p>1. A proof of the SME condition is required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If the applicant has been fully validated as an SME on the Beneficiary Register of the Horizon Europe Participant Portal, the PIC number must be provided. - If the applicant has not been fully validated as an SME on the Horizon Europe Participant Portal, the following documents will be required to prove the status as an SME: <p>2. In the event the beneficiary declares being non-autonomous, the balance sheet and profit and loss account (with annexes) for the last period for upstream and downstream organizations is required.</p> <p>3. Status Information Form. It includes the headcount (AWU), balance, profit & loss accounts of the latest closed financial year and the relation, upstream and downstream, of any linked or partner company.</p> <p>4. Supporting documents. In cases where either the number of employees or the ownership is not clearly identified: any other supporting documents which demonstrate headcount and ownership such as payroll details, annual reports, national regional, association records, etc.</p>	<p>A copy of the ID-card or passport of participant(s) in the project team will be required.</p> <p>A proof for each participant in the project that (s)he is legally established and working in an eligible country (see section 3.2).</p>
<p>Bank account information:</p> <p>The account where the funds will be transferred will be indicated via a financial information form signed by the entity, individuals and the bank owners. The holder of the account will be the legal entity and/or all the individuals or the coordinator of the group on its own (consortium of legal entities or consortium of legal entities and natural persons) if allowed by the other team members.</p>	
<p>Sub-grantee funding agreement:</p> <p>Signed between the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium (represented by its coordinator European Dynamics), and the beneficiary/ies.</p> <p>Have a careful look at the document in Annex 1.</p>	

This information will be requested by the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium according to specific deadlines. Failing to meet the deadlines requested will directly end up the agreement process. These deadlines will be announced in the decision letter for successful applicants.

6.3 MONITORING PROCESS ALL ALONG THE SUB-PROJECTS DURATION

For the monitoring of the progress and proper evolution of the selected projects, selected Third Parties will have to attend several mandatory internal events organised with the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium. Indicatively they are the following:

- Kick-off event devoted to knowing the different selected Third Parties and their foreseen contribution to TRUSTCHAIN.
- Meeting for the set-up of clear KPIs that will be linked to the funding of the selected Third Parties.
- Midterm event devoted to the follow up of the progress of the Third Parties according to the defined KPIs with pitch contest where the Third Parties will present their projects outcomes in particular their prototype and their deployment scenarios.
- Final event with pitch contest where the Third Parties will present their solution in particular their modularised software components ready for distribution.

6.4 FINANCIAL SUPPORT

6.4.1 Indicative distribution of the funds

Selected third party innovators will become part of the TRUSTCHAIN programme and will go through an exhaustive sequential process which will last 9 months. The maximum amount of the fund will vary depending on the type of team (See Section 3.1 Type of Beneficiaries) as indicated in the table below and providing that all the phases have been completed.

Type of team	Maximum funding
Team of natural persons	97K € + 2K €
Legal entity or consortium of legal entities or combination of legal entities and natural persons	115K € + 2K €

Payments will be done in 4 instalments based on concrete results (one prefinancing, one interim payment and one final payment). A detailed evaluation process will be presented in the TRUSTCHAIN OC 1 guide for implementation for the related periods. **The 2K € extra funding will be provided in case of the project outcome results in a peer reviewed journal publication with a minimum impact factor of 2.5.**

- **Beginning of the implementation and Pre-financing:**

During the first weeks of the project implementation, each team will define with their coaches a set of clear and objective KPIs to be achieved and linked with the funding. These KPIs are different for each team and are related to the solution to be implemented. These KPIs will help measure the progress if any, but also the commitment and involvement of the third party innovators (i.e., attending periodic call meetings with the coaches, meeting the deadlines for reporting, etc.). After this KPIs definition, a pre-financing of **30%** will be released.

- **First midterm review linked to the delivery of deliverable D2 and 2nd payment:**

At first midterm of the project implementation, the coaches will assess the KPI's percentage of execution of the project based on the evaluation of the deliverable D2. A 100% completion of the KPIs for the related period will unlock the total of the 2nd payment which is **20%** of the total amount. A lower completion of the tasks will launch the proportional payment. If the KPIs for the related period are met by less than 50%, the payment will be retained until KPIs for the period are assessed as completely reached. If less than 25%, the third party innovators will be automatically disqualified from the process.

- **Second midterm review linked to the delivery of deliverable D3 and 3rd payment:**

At the second midterm of the project implementation, the coaches will assess

the KPI's percentage of execution of the project based on the evaluation of the deliverable D3. A 100% completion of the KPIs for the related period will unlock the total of the 2nd payment which is **30%** of the total amount. A lower completion of the tasks will launch the proportional payment. If the KPIs for the related period are met by less than 50%, the payment will be retained until KPIs for the period are assessed as completely reached. If less than 25%, the third party innovators will be automatically disqualified from the process.

○ **Final review and last payment:**

At the end of the project implementation, third parties will be paid according to their overall completion of KPIs materialised by the deliverable D4.

A final event will be used to evaluate third parties on a face-to-face pitch contest. The third parties will present their implemented solution, and their business plan in the context of TRUSTCHAIN.

A panel of evaluators consisting of the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium and Advisory Board members, will assess the third party innovators to release the final payment (remaining 20%). Only in the case of an underperformance below of a 25% the team will be disqualified, and no further payment released.

6.4.2 Summary of the funding per type of beneficiary

	Project			
	Pre- financing 30% of the total funding	Interim Payment 20% of the total funding	Pre- financing 30% of the total funding	Final Payment 20 % of the total funding
Indicative dates	M2	M4	M7	Project end
Team of Natural persons	29 100 €	19 400 €	29 100 €	19 400 €
Legal Entity(ies) or combination of legal entities or combination of legal entity (ies) and individual(s)	34 500 €	23 000 €	34 500 €	23 000 €

These numbers are indicative, detailed payment schedule and payment conditions

will be settled in the Sub-grant Agreement (Indicative, Annex 1) at the time of the signature. **The 2K € extra funding will be released in case of the project outcome led onto a journal publication in a peer review journal with a minimum impact factor of 2.5.**

6.4.3 Origin of the Funds and specific Provision regarding multiple beneficiaries

Any selected proposer will sign a dedicated Sub-Grantee Funding Agreement (Annex 1) with the TRUSTCHAIN project coordinator (on behalf of TRUSTCHAIN Consortium).

o Specific provision regarding contracting in case of multiple beneficiaries

In the case of projects with multiple beneficiaries (Team of natural persons, combination of legal entities, combination of legal entities and individual(s)), a Team/Consortium Agreement that designates among other the Coordinator/Authorized representative of the Team/Consortium must be adopted and signed by the multiple beneficiaries prior to the signature of the TRUSTCHAIN Sub grantee Agreement.

The Coordinator/Authorized representative of the Team/Consortium signs the TRUSTCHAIN Sub grantee Agreement on behalf of the multiple beneficiaries.

The Coordinator/Authorized representative receives the funding and must distribute the payments between the beneficiaries according to the conditions set in the Team/Consortium Agreement.

The funds attached to the Sub-Grantee Funding Agreement come directly from the funds of the European Project TRUSTCHAIN, and the TRUSTCHAIN consortium is managing the funds according to the Grant Agreement Number 101093274 signed with the European Commission.

As will be indicated in the Sub-Grantee Funding Agreement, this relation between the sub-grantees and the European Commission through the TRUSTCHAIN project carries a set of obligations to the sub-grantees with the European Commission. It is the task of the sub-grantees to accomplish them, and of the TRUSTCHAIN consortium partners to inform about them.

7 PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE PROPOSALS

The submission will be done through the F6S platform (<https://www.f6s.com/trustchain-open-call-1/apply>) which is directly linked with the TRUSTCHAIN Programme. The applicants are required to register a profile at F6S to be able to submit a proposal.

The documents that will be submitted are:

- **Application form (Annex 2):** administrative questions to be completed directly in the F6S platform. In addition, some general questions for statistical purposes and tick boxes to be clicked by the third parties confirming they have read the conditions and agree with the conditions defined in this document. In addition, an Annex 4 will be uploaded in case that more than 3 applicants participate as individuals (natural persons) or/and more than 3 applicants participate as organisations (Legal entities) filled with the information about the applicant(s) that do not fit in the application form.
- **Proposal description (Annex 3):** document in PDF format containing the description of the project. It will include three different sections:
 - (1) Project Summary;
 - (2) Organisation background; and
 - (3) Detailed proposal description.

The project proposals must strictly adhere to the template provided by the TRUSTCHAIN consortium via the F6S platform, which defines sections and the overall length.

Participants are requested to carefully read and follow the instructions in the form. Evaluators will be instructed not to consider extra material in the evaluation.

Additional material, which has not been specifically requested in the online application form, will not be considered for the evaluation of the proposals. Data not included in the proposal will not be taken into account.

It is strongly recommended not to wait until the last minute to submit the proposal. Failure of the proposal to arrive in time for any reason, including communication delays, automatically leads to rejection of the submission. The time of receipt of the message as recorded by the submission system will be definitive.

TRUSTCHAIN offers a dedicated support channel available for proposers at trustchain@ngi.eu for requests or inquiries about the submission system or the call itself. Those received after the closure time of the call will neither be considered nor answered.

8 APPLICANTS COMMUNICATION FLOW

8.1 GENERAL COMMUNICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants will receive communications after each step of the evaluation process indicating if they passed or not. A communication will also be sent to applicants rejected, including the reasons for the exclusion.

8.2 APPEAL PROCEDURE

If, at any stage of the evaluation process, the applicant considers that a mistake has been made or that the evaluators have acted unfairly or have failed to comply with the rules of this TRUSTCHAIN Open Call, and that her/his interests have been prejudiced as a result, the following appeal procedures are available.

A complaint should be drawn up in English and submitted by email to trustchain@ngi.eu.

Any complaint made should include:

- Contact details;
- The subject of the complaint; and,
- Information and evidence regarding the alleged breach.

Anonymous complaints or those not providing the mentioned information will not be considered.

Complaints should also be made within **five** (calendar) days since the announcement of the evaluation results to the applicants.

As a general rule, the TRUSTCHAIN Team will investigate the complaints with a view to arriving at a decision to issue a formal notice or to close the case within no more than twenty days from the date of reception of the complaint, provided that all the required information has been submitted by the complainant. Whenever this time limit is exceeded, the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium will inform the complainant by email of the reasons for the unforeseen delay and the subsequent steps.

9 SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDED BY TRUSTCHAIN TO THIRD PARTIES

Selected participants will receive support with the following services:

- **Access to Infrastructure:** Applicants will be provided with Alastria blockchain infrastructure (two different networks, T Network based on GoQuorum and B Network based on Hyperledger Besu), compliant with Ethereum, for demonstration purposes for those that may request to use it for testing their proposed solution. This will be made available by Alastria through TRUSTCHAIN, at no cost for the third-party innovators selected, in a BaaS model without need for them to install any blockchain node.
- **Use of token:** The TRUSTCHAIN consortium understands that the ultimate value of a new and innovative application should be shown in business context, for example, by demonstrating that the users (physical persons or companies) are willing to pay for using the service. In this context, the TRUSTCHAIN core consortium partners are willing to consider the possibility of issuing a crypto-token for the purpose of demonstration of the applications' business value, should such an interest be expressed by the applicants.
- **Business support services:** To support the third-party innovators to exploit their use cases and successfully reach the market, different trainings and sessions with mentors will be organised. Depending on the team profile, aspects such as Value Proposition, pitching or IPR (among others) will be explored.
- **Communication support services:** Major visibility, promotion and networking opportunities are offered as part of the TRUSTCHAIN project and the Next Generation Internet initiative. Selected third party innovators will:
 - have access to communication tool kits and co-branding materials;
 - be showcased in the TRUSTCHAIN project website;
 - be interviewed and promoted on relevant media channels;
 - be invited to participate in top events, and,
 - connect with a vibrant ecosystem of innovators, investors, industry players and public authorities.

10 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The ownership of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) created by the beneficiaries, via the TRUSTCHAIN funding, will remain with them. Results are owned by the Party that generates them. The Sub-Grant Agreement (Annex 1) will introduce provisions concerning joint ownership of the results of the sub-granted projects.

11 COMMUNICATION OBLIGATIONS

Any communication or publication of the beneficiaries shall clearly indicate that the project has received funding from the European Union via the TRUSTCHAIN project, therefore displaying the EU and project logo on all printed and digital material, including websites and press releases. Moreover, beneficiaries must agree that certain information regarding the projects selected for funding can be used by the TRUSTCHAIN consortium for communication purposes.

12 SUPPORT FOR THE APPLICANTS

For more information about the TRUSTCHAIN Open Calls, please check the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section included at <https://trustchain.ngi.eu/faq/>.

For further information on the Open Call, in case of any doubt regarding the eligibility rules, the information that is to be provided in the Application Form, or if you encountered technical issues or problems with the Application Form, please contact TRUSTCHAIN Technical Helpdesk email: trustchain@ngi.eu.

13 INDICATIVE TIMELINES

Submission to the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 will open on the **8th of February 2023 (12:00 PM CET) and close the 10th of April 2023 (17:00 CEST)**. Dates for the different phases are outlined below but may be subject to change if any modifications in the project's schedule occur.

The table below presents the indicative dates during which each phase of TRUSTCHAIN OC 1 will take place.

Description	Indicative dates
Call Announcement	8th February 2023 at 12:00 PM CET
Call closure and submission deadline	10th April 2023 at 17:00 CEST
Evaluation Period	Until end of May 2023
Signature of Sub-grant Agreement	First week of June 2023
Projects	From June 2023 to February 2024

14 ANNEXES

ANNEX 1- INDICATIVE SUB-GRANT AGREEMENT FORM

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1.CONTRACTING PARTIES

The rights and obligations contained in this Funding Agreement derived from the TRUSTCHAIN Grant Agreement and Consortium Agreement.

This TRUSTCHAIN Funding Agreement for providing financial support to the Selected Third Party, hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement", is entered into by and between:

EUROPEAN DYNAMICS LUXEMBOURG (ED), established in rue Jean Engling 12, Luxembourg 1466, Luxembourg, VAT number: LU17535424, represented for the purposes of signing the Agreement by Mr. Konstantinos Velentzas, legal representative of ED, hereinafter referred to as "**Cascade Funding Partner**",

And

- [if a legal entity]:

[OFFICIAL NAME OF THE SELECTED THIRD PARTY (Acronym)],

VAT Number: [VAT]

Legal Status: [XXX]

PIC Number: [PIC NUMBER]

Name of the legal signatory: [Name]

Legal office address: [ADDRESS and COUNTRY]

- [if a Team of Natural persons]:

[FIRST AND LAST NAME OF THE NATURAL PERSON 1],

ID card/Passport Number: [Number]

Date of issue: [Date]

Taxpayer identification Number: [Number]

Legal address: [ADDRESS and COUNTRY]

[FIRST AND LAST NAME OF THE OF THE NATURAL PERSON 2],

ID card/Passport Number: [Number]

Date of issue: [Date]

Taxpayer identification Number: [Number]

Legal address: [ADDRESS and COUNTRY]

[FIRST AND LAST NAME OF THE OF THE NATURAL PERSON 3],

ID card/Passport Number: [Number]

Date of issue: [Date]

Taxpayer identification Number: [Number]

Legal address: [ADDRESS and COUNTRY]

- [if a Consortium of legal entities]:

[OFFICIAL NAME OF THE SELECTED THIRD PARTY 1 (Acronym)], Project Manager and Authorized representative of the consortium,

VAT Number: [VAT]

Legal Status: [XXX]

PIC Number: [PIC NUMBER]

Name of the legal signatory: [Name]

Legal office address: [ADDRESS and COUNTRY]

[OFFICIAL NAME OF THE SELECTED THIRD PARTY 2 (Acronym)],

VAT Number: [VAT]

Legal Status: [XXX]

PIC Number: [PIC NUMBER]

Name of the legal signatory: [Name]

Legal office address: [ADDRESS and COUNTRY]

[OFFICIAL NAME OF THE SELECTED THIRD PARTY 2 (Acronym)],

VAT Number: [VAT]

Legal Status: [XXX]

PIC Number: [PIC NUMBER]

Name of the legal signatory: [Name]

Legal office address: [ADDRESS and COUNTRY]

Referred to as “Selected Third Party”,

Hereinafter sometimes individually or collectively referred to as “Party” or “Parties”.

Whereas European Dynamics and its partners according to the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium Agreement, (hereinafter sometimes collectively referred as the “**TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries**” and individually and alternatively referred as a “**TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary**”) participate to the H2020 project entitled “**TRUSTCHAIN - Fostering a Human-Centred, Trustworthy and Sustainable Internet**” (hereinafter the “**TRUSTCHAIN Project**”).

Whereas the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries entered into a Grant Agreement N° 101093274 with the European Commission (the “**Grant Agreement**” or “**GA**”) and signed together in 2023 a Consortium Agreement with respect to the TRUSTCHAIN Project (the “**Consortium Agreement**” or “**CA**”).

Whereas the TRUSTCHAIN Project involves financial support to selected third parties through a cascade funding scheme (hereinafter “**Cascade Funding**”).

Whereas further to an open call for specific research as described in Annex 1 “**TRUSTCHAIN Specific Contract**”, the Selected Third Party has been selected to implement such research.

Whereas the Selected Third Party will be in charge of the implementation of such research with also the participation of the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries identified in Annex 1 “**TRUSTCHAIN Specific Contract**”.

Whereas the Cascade Funding Partner is willing to provide technical and financial support to the Selected Third Party for the implementation of such Research and the Selected Third Party is willing to receive such funding under the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

Whereas in accordance with the Grant Agreement and the Consortium Agreement, the Cascade Funding Partner shall sign an agreement with the Selected Third Party compliant with the GA and CA, after validation by the other Participating Partners.

Whereas the Cascade Funding Partner is responsible for the execution of this Agreement with the Selected Third Party and for the monitoring of the Research.

Now therefore it has been agreed as follows:

2. DEFINITIONS

Words beginning with a capital letter shall have the meaning defined in the preamble of the Agreement or in this Section:

- **Access Rights** means rights to use Results or Background in accordance with the stipulations of the H2020 General MGA – Multi and under the terms and conditions laid down in this Agreement.
- An **Affiliated Entity** of a TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary means any legal entity shown in Attachment 4 to the CA, directly or indirectly Controlling, Controlled by, or under common Control with that Party, for so long as such Control lasts.
- **Agreement** means this Funding Agreement, together with its Annexes.
- **Background** means any and all, data, information, know-how– whatever its form or nature (tangible or intangible), including any rights such as intellectual property rights – listed in Annex 1 “TRUSTCHAIN Specific Contract” – that is Needed to implement the Project or exploit the Results and that is:
 - owned or controlled by a Party or a TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary prior to the date of signature of the Specific Contract (Annex 1); or
 - developed or acquired by a Party or a TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary independently from the work in the Research even if in parallel with the performance of the Research, but solely to the extent that such data, information, know-how and/or intellectual property rights are introduced into the Industrial Experiment by the owning Party.
- **Controlled Licence Terms** means terms in any licence that require that the use, copying, modification and/or distribution of Software or another work (“Work”) and/or of any work that is a modified version of or is a derivative work of such Work (in each case, “Derivative Work”) be subject, in whole or in part, to one or more of the following:
 - (where the Work or Derivative Work is Software) that the Source Code or other formats preferred for modification be made available as of right to any third party on request, whether royalty-free or not;
 - that permission to create modified versions or derivative works of the Work or Derivative Work be granted to any third party;
 - that a royalty-free licence relating to the Work or Derivative Work be granted to any third party.

For the avoidance of doubt, any Software licence that merely permits (but does not require any of) the things mentioned in a) to c) is not under Controlled Licence Terms (and so is under an Uncontrolled Licence).

- **Exploitation or Exploit** means the use of results in further research activities other than those covered by the action concerned, or in developing, creating and marketing a product or process, or in creating and providing a service, or in standardisation activities;
- **Financial Support** means the cash element of the financial support to be given by the Cascade Funding Partner to the Selected Third Party for the implementation of the Industrial Experiment as detailed in Annex 1 "TRUSTCHAIN Specific Contract".
- **Research** means the research detailed in Annex 1 "TRUSTCHAIN Specific Contract" to be carried out by TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries and the Selected Third Party.
- **Result** means the outcome of the Research, which may entail the generation of Works protected by intellectual property rights.
- **Participating Partners** means the entities and organisations participating in the Research, as listed in Annex 1.

3. CONDITIONS FROM THE GRANT AGREEMENT AND THE CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT REFLECTED IN THE AGREEMENT

The Cascade Funding Partner receives funding from the European Commission for organizing the Research. Under the TRUSTCHAIN Grant Agreement or the Consortium Agreement, some of the obligations have to be imposed on the Selected Third Party. Those obligations are reflected in this Agreement. The specific obligations that the Selected Third Party must ensure are described in the Multi-Beneficiary General Model Grant Agreement (H2020 General MGA – Multi), available at: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/mga/gga/h2020-mga-gga-multi_en.pdf, in articles 6, 22, 23, 35, 36, 38 and 46. These articles are part of the Agreement, by reference only.

The Selected Third Party acknowledges and agrees that these obligations comprised in this Agreement including Annex 1 and in the Multi-Beneficiary General Model are fully applicable to it and shall do everything that is necessary to comply with these obligations, it being understood that the Selected Third Party is only bound by this Agreement and not by the GA or CA.

4. TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT

4.1 The Selected Third Party shall take part in the Research in accordance with the state of the art. The Selected Third Party shall carry out the tasks according to the schedule set forth in Annex 1 "TRUSTCHAIN Specific Contract" at the latest and shall report to the Cascade Funding Partner on the activities' progress in regular intervals as indicated in Annex 1 "TRUSTCHAIN Specific Contract".

4.2 The Selected Third Party shall attend all group and individual coaching and mentoring sessions provided by the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries or the Cascade Funding Partner over the course of the Research.

4.3 The Cascade Funding Partner shall give Financial Support for the Research carried out by the Selected Third Party, within the limits and in accordance with the Guide for Applicants and schedule of payments specified in Annex 1 "TRUSTCHAIN Specific Contract" and always subject to:

- A favourable resolution by the evaluators and coaches responsible for assessing the Project in each of the stages (a set of deliverables and KPIs will be set-up by coaches and sub-grantees and their achievement monitored during the projects' execution)
- The availability of funds in TRUSTCHAIN bank account during the relevant payment period

- The prior written notice to the Selected Third Party of the date and amount to be transferred to its bank account
- Payments to the Selected Third Party will be made by the Cascade Funding Partner. In particular:
 - The Cascade Funding Partner reserves the right to withhold the payments in case the Selected Third Party does not fulfil its obligations and tasks as per the Guide for Applicant.
 - Banking and transaction costs related to the handling of any financial resources made available to the Selected Third Party by the Cascade Funding Partner shall be covered by the Selected Third Party.
 - Payments will be released no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the notification by the Cascade Funding Partner.
 - The Selected Third Party is responsible for complying with any tax and legal obligations that might be attached to this financial contribution.

4.5 A written payment request must be sent by the Selected Third Party to the Cascade Funding Partner after reception of the favourable resolution by the evaluators and coaches.

4.6 The Selected Third Party shall complete in a comprehensive manner Annex 4 “Selected third party financial information” to the Agreement and shall notify any changes to the Cascade Funding Partner as soon as it has occurred. The Cascade Funding Partner shall not in any case be liable for any late payment incurred by a change in the financial identification of the Selected Third Party.

5. LIABILITY

5.1 The Selected Third Party shall comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations, including, but not limited to safety, security, welfare, social security and fiscal laws, rules and regulations.

5.2 Selected Third Party shall not be entitled to act or to make legally binding declarations on behalf of the Cascade Funding Partner or any other TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary and shall indemnify all of the latter from any third-party claim resulting from a breach of these obligations.

5.3 The contractual liability of the Cascade Funding Partner under this Agreement shall in any case be limited to the amount of the Financial Support provided to the Selected Third Party hereunder and the Cascade Funding Partner. The Cascade Funding Partner shall not in any case be liable for any indirect or consequential damages such as:

- loss of profits, interest, savings, shelf-space, production and business opportunities.
- lost contracts, goodwill, and anticipated savings;
- loss of or damage to reputation or to data;
- costs of recall of products; or
- any other type of indirect, incidental, punitive, special or consequential loss or damage.

5.4 This limitation of liability shall not apply in cases of wilful act or gross negligence.

5.5 The Selected Third Party shall fully and exclusively bear the risks in connection with the Research for which Financial Support is granted by the Cascade Funding Partner. The Selected Third Party shall indemnify the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries and the Cascade Funding Partner for all damages, penalties, costs and expenses which the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries or the Cascade Funding Partner as a result thereof would incur or have to pay to the European Commission or any third parties with respect to such Research financially supported and/or for any damage in general which the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries or the Cascade Funding Partner incur as a result thereof. In addition, should the European Commission have a right to recover against the Cascade Funding Partner or another TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary regarding the Financial Support granted under this Agreement, the Selected Third Party shall pay the sums in question in the terms and the date specified by the Cascade Funding Partner. Moreover, the Selected Third Party shall indemnify and hold the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries and the Cascade Funding Partner, their

respective officers, directors, employees and agents harmless from and against all repayments, loss, liability, costs, charges, claims or damages that result from or arising out of any such recovery action by the European Commission.

5.6 In respect of any information or materials (including Results and Background) supplied by one Party to another Party or to a TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary, or by a TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary involved in the applicable Research to a Party, no warranty or representation of any kind is made, given or implied as to the sufficiency, accuracy or fitness for purpose nor as to the absence of any infringement of any proprietary rights of third parties.

Therefore,

- the recipient shall in all cases be entirely and solely liable for the use to which it puts such information and materials (including Results and Background), and
- there is no liability in case of infringement of proprietary rights of a third party resulting from any Access Rights.

6. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS POLICY

The Selected Third Party acknowledges the terms of the “Intellectual Property Rights Policy” defined hereinafter. The Selected Third Party agrees that it will comply with the TRUSTCHAIN Intellectual Property Rights Policy to ensure that the Cascade Funding Partner will always be able to comply with such terms towards the other TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries.

“Intellectual Property” means the Background and the Results (foreground) generated in the project.

The background of the third party(ies) is described in Annex 1.1 “TRUSTCHAIN Specific Contract” Article 1.

The background of TRUSTCHAIN partners is described in Annex 1.4 “TRUSTCHAIN consortium background”.

6.1. GENERAL PRINCIPLE REGARDING OWNERSHIP

Results are owned by the Party or by the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary that generates them.

6.2. JOINT RESULTS

As requested in the Consortium Agreement signed between the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries and the Cascade Funding Partner, all Results generated in the course of the Research within the framework of the project by the Selected Third Party with one or several TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries shall be jointly owned between the Selected Third Party and the respective TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries.

One or more TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries may contribute ideas, knowhow, concepts and other insights (together referred to as “Input”) which, while not in themselves protected under intellectual property rights, are conducive to the generation of the Results. The TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries and the Selected Third Party agree that any Results which have been generated on the basis of the Input, shall be construed as Results jointly owned by the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary (or -ies) which provided the Input and the Selected Third Party which generated the Result.

Where such joint Result is covered by intellectual property rights, the joint owners shall execute a joint ownership agreement regarding the allocation and the terms and conditions of Exploitation of the joint Results as soon as possible and before any industrial or commercial Exploitation.

Unless otherwise agreed:

- each of the joint owners shall be entitled to use their jointly owned Results for internal non-commercial research activities and educational purposes on a royalty-free basis, and without requiring the prior consent of the other joint owner(s), and

- each of the joint owners shall be entitled to otherwise exploit the jointly owned Results, including by granting non-exclusive licences to third parties (without any right to sub-license), if the other joint owners are given:
 - (a) at least 45 calendar days advance notice; and
 - (b) fair and reasonable conditions compensation taking into account the specific circumstances of the request for access, for example the actual
 - or potential value of the results or background to which access is requested and/or the scope, duration or other characteristics of the exploitation envisaged.

The joint owners shall agree on all protection measures and the division of related cost in advance.

6.3. ACCESS RIGHTS

6.3.1 The Selected Third Party endeavours to detail in Annex 1.1 “TRUSTCHAIN Specific Contract” Article 1 the Intellectual Property under Controlled License Terms that will be used in the Research.

During the Research, the intended introduction of Intellectual Property (including, but not limited to Software) under Controlled Licence Terms in the Research requires the prior approval of the Cascade Funding Partner and of the Participating Parties to implement such introduction.

6.3.2 Due to provisions of the Consortium Agreement signed between the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries, Access Rights to Background and Results may be requested by the Selected Third Party from a Participating Partner only in the following case and if the following conditions are fulfilled:

- Selected Third Parties have Access Rights to Background and Results if and when such Access Rights have been agreed upon on a case-by-case basis in a separate written agreement between the Selected Third Party and the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary/ies concerned. Such separate agreement shall not affect any legitimate right of another TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary nor violate any of the provisions as set out in the GA and/or CA. The separate agreement shall ensure that the other TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries have access to the Background and Results of the Selected Third Parties if needed for the Implementation of the Project or Exploitation of its own Results.
- Selected Third Parties which obtain Access Rights in return shall fulfil confidentiality obligations at least as stringent as the obligations stated in the Consortium Agreement to be arranged in a separate confidentiality agreement between the Selected Third Parties and the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries concerned.
- Access Rights may be requested by the Selected Third Party up to twelve (12) months after the end of the Research.

6.3.3 The Selected Third Party shall grant Access Rights on its Background and/or Results to the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries as far as such Background and/or Results are needed for implementation of the Research and/or implementation of the TRUSTCHAIN Project, and/or exploitation of the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries’ Results.

6.3.3.1 Where any TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary has Access Rights on the Selected Third Party’s Results and/or Background for implementation of the Research, such Access Rights shall be granted on a royalty-free basis.

6.3.3.2 Where Access Rights on Results and/or Background of the Selected Third Party are needed by TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries in order to implement the TRUSTCHAIN Project:

- Access Rights to the Selected Third Party’s Results shall be granted on a royalty-free basis and shall comprise the right to sublicense such Results to the other selected third parties participating in the TRUSTCHAIN Project;
- Access Rights to the Selected Third Party’s Background shall be granted only if such Background is needed to use the Selected Third Party’s Results to implement the TRUSTCHAIN Project. Such Access Rights shall be granted on a royalty-free basis, and shall comprise the right to sublicense such Background to the other selected third parties participating in the research under the TRUSTCHAIN Project:

- as far as these other selected third parties need to have access to such Background to use the Selected Third Party's Results to carry out their own research under the TRUSTCHAIN Project; and
- if no major interest opposes.

6.3.3.3 Where Access Rights on the Selected Third Party's Results and/or Background are needed by TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries in order to exploit their Results, the conditions on which Access Rights will be granted shall be negotiated between the Selected Third Party and the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary concerned and agreed in a separate written agreement.

Access Rights may be requested by the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries up to twelve (12) months after the end of the Research.

6.4. OPEN SOURCE

Without detriment to the provisions stated in article 6.1, any Result (including documentation, source code and application programming interfaces), shall be published with a permissive open-source licence (e.g., Apache v2.0 or equivalent) within the TRUSTCHAIN file repository (ies).

If part of the Result is delivered under a proprietary license it shall be duly identified and justified in advance by the Third Party. TRUSTCHAIN beneficiaries will have the right to access to it for evaluating the progress of activities during the TRUSTCHAIN project. Non-disclosure of these proprietary result shall be ensured.

6.5. EXPLOITATION OF THE RESULTS

Selected Third Parties are required for up to 4 years after the Research to use their best efforts to exploit their Results directly or to have them exploited indirectly by another entity, in particular through transfer or licensing. The Selected Third Party can request the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries to assist in the exploitation of the Results. To this end, the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries will implement during the TRUSTCHAIN Project an exploitation mechanism based on tailor-made cryptocurrency. During the course of the TRUSTCHAIN Project such assistance will be provided free of charge, whereas TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries shall have the right to charge a reasonable fee for their assistance with the exploitation after the TRUSTCHAIN Project's end.

If, despite the Selected Third Party's best efforts, the Results are not exploited within one year after the end of the Research, the Selected Third Party must request the TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries to assist in the exploitation. The TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries shall then use best efforts to assist in such exploitation.

7. CONFIDENTIALITY

7.1 All information in whatever form or mode of communication, which is disclosed by a Party or an TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary (the "Disclosing Partner") to the other Party or to any TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary (the "Recipient") in connection with the Project during its implementation and which has been explicitly marked as "confidential" at the time of disclosure, or when disclosed orally has been identified as confidential at the time of disclosure and has been confirmed and designated in writing within 15 calendar days from oral disclosure at the latest as confidential information by the Disclosing Party, is "Confidential Information".

7.2 The Recipients hereby undertake for a period of four (4) years after the end of the Research:

- not to use Confidential Information otherwise than for the purpose for which it was disclosed;
- not to disclose Confidential Information to any third party (other than to its Affiliated Entities and Subcontractors) without the prior written consent by the Disclosing Partner, wherein the Recipient must ensure that an arrangement

is in place prior to such disclosure that subjects the Affiliated Entities and/or Subcontractors to provisions at least as strict as provided in this Section 10;

- to ensure that internal distribution of Confidential Information by a Recipient, its Affiliated Entities, Subcontractors shall take place on a strict need-to-know basis; and
- to return to the Disclosing Partner, or destroy, on request all Confidential Information that has been disclosed to the Recipients including all copies thereof and to delete all information stored in a machine readable form to the extent practically possible. The Recipients may keep a copy to the extent it is required to keep, archive or store such Confidential Information because of compliance with applicable laws and regulations or for the proof of on-going obligations provided that the Recipient comply with the confidentiality obligations herein contained with respect to such copy for as long as the copy is retained.

7.3 The recipients shall be responsible for the fulfilment of the above obligations on the part of their employees, its Affiliated Entities or third parties involved in the Project having access to Confidential Information pursuant to this Section and shall ensure that they remain so obliged, as far as legally possible, during and after the end of the Project and/or after the termination of the contractual relationship with the employee or third party.

7.4 The above shall not apply for disclosure or use of Confidential Information, if and in so far as the Recipient can show that:

- the Confidential Information has become or becomes publicly available by means other than a breach of the Recipient's confidentiality obligations;
- the Disclosing Partner subsequently informs the Recipient that the Confidential Information is no longer confidential;
- the Confidential Information is communicated to the Recipient without any obligation of confidentiality by a third party who is to the best knowledge of the Recipient in lawful possession thereof and under no obligation of confidentiality to the Disclosing Partner;
- the disclosure or communication of the Confidential Information is foreseen by provisions of the Multi-Beneficiary General Model Grant Agreement;
- the Confidential Information, at any time, was developed by the Recipient completely independently of any such disclosure by the Disclosing Partner;
- the Confidential Information was already known to the Recipient prior to disclosure without any confidentiality obligation to the Disclosing Partner, or
- the Recipient is required to disclose the Confidential Information in order to comply with applicable laws or regulations or with a court or administrative order.

7.5 The Recipient shall apply the same degree of care with regard to the Confidential Information disclosed within the scope of the Project as with its own confidential and/or proprietary information, but in no case less than reasonable care.

7.6 Each Party shall promptly advise the other Party or the concerned TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiary in writing of any unauthorised disclosure, misappropriation or misuse of Confidential Information after it becomes aware of such unauthorised disclosure, misappropriation or misuse.

7.7 If any Party becomes aware that it will be required, or is likely to be required, to disclose Confidential Information in order to comply with applicable laws or regulations or with a court or administrative order, it shall, to the extent it is lawfully able to do so, prior to any such disclosure:

- notify the Disclosing Partner, and
- comply with the Disclosing Partner's reasonable instructions to protect the confidentiality of the information.

8. DISSEMINATION

- Each Party agrees that any dissemination activity (including publications, presentations, contributions to any standards organisation or open-source code) by the Selected Third Party is subject to the prior written approval of the other Participating Partners and upon proper citation of the TRUSTCHAIN project (cf. paragraph 6.4).
- By 30 days from its dissemination request the Selected Third Party will receive the approval to disseminate or the indication of how/when to proceed in the requested dissemination activity. The Selected Third Party has to be aware that a premature dissemination activity could negatively affect IPRs, as patent applications. Moreover, dissemination activities should be compliant with suggested EU commission guidelines about open access publishing.
- The Selected Third Party and the other TRUSTCHAIN Beneficiaries are entitled to include the main issues and information regarding the Research in their reporting towards the European Commission, subject to prior written notification to the Cascade Funding Partner.
- Unless explicitly agreed by the Cascade Funding Partner, any dissemination of results (in any form, including electronic) must display the NGI emblem and the following text: "This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program through the NGI TRUSTCHAIN program under cascade funding agreement No. 101093274."

9. CHECKS AND AUDITS

9.1 The Selected Third Party undertakes to provide any detailed information, including information in electronic format, requested by the European Commission or by any other outside body authorised by the European Commission to check that the Research and the provisions of this Agreement are being properly implemented.

9.2 The Selected Third Party shall keep at the European Commission disposal all original documents, especially accounting and tax records, or, in exceptional and duly justified cases, certified copies of original documents relating to the Agreement, stored on any appropriate medium that ensures their integrity in accordance with the applicable national legislation, for a period of five years from the date of payment of the balance specified in the grant agreements.

9.3 The Selected Third Party agrees that the European Commission may have an audit of the use made of the Financial Support carried out either directly by the European Commission staff or by any other outside body authorised to do so on its behalf. Such audits may be carried out throughout the period of implementation of the Agreement until the balance is paid and for a period of five years from the date of payment of the balance. Where appropriate, the audit findings may lead to recovery decisions by the European Commission.

9.4 The Selected Third Party undertakes to allow European Commission staff and outside personnel authorised by the European Commission the appropriate right of access to the sites and premises of the Selected Third Party and to all the information, including information in electronic format, needed in order to conduct such audits.

9.5 In accordance with Union legislation, the European Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the European Court of Auditors (ECA) may carry out spot checks and inspections of the documents of the Selected Third Party, and of any recipient of Cascade Finding, including at the premises of the Selected Third Party, in accordance with the procedures laid down by Union law for the protection of the financial interests of the Union against fraud and other irregularities. Where appropriate, the inspection findings may lead to recovery decisions by the European Commission. The Articles 22 and 23 of the Multi-Beneficiary General Model Grant Agreement, also apply to the Selected Third Party.

10. EXPLOITATION

Without prejudice to clause 6.5 above, as also mentioned in the previous chapter, the EU Commission gives high priority that results of RIA projects generate sustainable business. Most importantly, TRUSTCHAIN aims towards the development of a sustainable blockchain ecosystem. Hence, before the end of this subproject, an exploitation agreement will be signed between the TRUSTCHAIN consortium and the third party about common exploitation activities of the subproject results, subject to a negotiation process.

11. TERMINATION

11.1 The Cascade Funding Partner can terminate this Agreement with immediate effect through written notice to the Selected Third Party and to the other Participating Partners:

- if the Selected Third Party is in breach of any of its material obligations under this Agreement, which breach is not remediable, or, if remediable, has not been remedied within thirty (30) days after written notice to that effect from the party not in breach,
- if, to the extent permitted by law, the Selected Third Party is declared bankrupt, is being wound up, is having its affairs administered by the courts, has entered into an arrangement with its creditors, has suspended business activities, or is the subject of any other similar proceeding concerning those matters, or
- if the Selected Third Party is subject to an Event of Force Majeure, which prevents the Selected Third Party from correct performance of its obligations hereunder and such circumstances have lasted or can reasonably be expected to last more than 3 months.

11.2 Access Rights granted to the Selected Third Party shall cease immediately upon the effective date of termination.

12. CONCLUDING CONDITIONS

12.1 The Parties will not sign Annex 1, and the terms of this Agreement (for the sake of clarity this includes Annex 1) will not be effective, until the Cascade Funding Partner has received written confirmation from each Participating Partner that it agrees to their content. This written confirmation can be given by each Participating Partner sending by email or facsimile to the Cascade Funding Partner.

Once each written confirmation is given by each Participating Platform Partner, any ancillary agreements, amendments, additions or modifications to this Agreement shall be made in writing and signed by the Parties but will only become effective after the Cascade Funding Partner has received written confirmation from each Participating Partner that it agrees to their content, such written confirmation to be given in the manner set out at the above paragraph.

12.2 The Selected Third Party's consistent level in its respective field of expertise played a key role in the selection of the Selected Third Parties to implement the Research. Any total or partial transfer of provisions and the rights and duties it entails in the prior formal approval of all signatories.

12.3 Any subcontract by the Selected Third Party concerning some of its tasks under this Agreement requires the prior written consent of the Cascade Funding Partner and does not affect its own obligations resulting from this Agreement. The Selected Third Party shall secure that the subcontractor will comply with all obligations – especially coming from the Multi-Beneficiary General Model Grant Agreement, and with regard to confidentiality – resulting from this Agreement and that the results attained by the subcontractor will be available in accordance with Section 5.

12.4 The Agreement will enter into force on the date of the last signature by the Parties.

12.5 This Funding Agreement shall continue in full force and effect until complete fulfilment of all obligations undertaken by the Parties. However, this Funding Agreement or the participation of one or more Parties to it may be terminated in accordance with the terms of this Funding Agreement.

12.6 Parties that fail to meet reporting/mandatory activities deadlines must be aware that their non-respect of reporting/mandatory activities deadlines may lead to their costs being considered zero for the corresponding period and they will be excluded from the respective payment.

12.7 In the event that a breach by a Party of its obligation under this contract is identified by the Cascade funding Partner such as improper implementation of the research, the Cascade funding Partner will formally notify the considered Party to remedy this breach. If it is not remedied in reasonable time, the Cascade funding Partner may decide to declare the Party to be a defaulting Party and, on the consequences, thereof which may include termination of its participation and reimbursement of all or part of the financial provision.

12.8 In the event of the termination of the contract by a Party before its legal termination as set in the Annex 1, the Cascade funding Partner may decide to declare the Party to be a defaulting Party and, on the consequences, thereof which may include reimbursement of all or part of the financial provision.

12.9 If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be illegal or in conflict with the applicable law, the validity of the remaining provisions shall not be affected. The ineffective provision shall be replaced by an effective provision which is economically equivalent. The same shall apply in case of a gap.

12.10 This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Belgium.

12.11 Any disagreement or dispute which may arise in connection with this Agreement and which the Parties are unable to settle by mutual agreement will be brought before the courts of Brussel, Belgium.

Done in two originals, one for each Party.

On behalf of the Cascade Funding Partner: European Dynamics	On behalf of the Selected Third Party (Authorized representative in case of Team/Consortium): [Complete]
Signature of the authorized representative: Name: Title: Date:	Signature of Selected Third Party (Authorized representative in case of Team/Consortium): Name: [Complete] Title: [Complete] Date: [Complete]

ANNEX 1.1 – TRUSTCHAIN SPECIFIC CONTRACT

This TRUSTCHAIN Specific Contract for implementation of Research by the Selected Third Party, hereinafter referred to as the “Specific Contract”, is entered into by and between:

EUROPEAN DYNAMICS LUXEMBOURG (ED), established in rue Jean Engling 12, Luxembourg 1466, Luxembourg, VAT number: LU17535424, represented for the purposes of signing the Agreement by Mr. Konstantinos Velentzas, legal representative of ED, hereinafter referred to as “**Cascade Funding Partner**”,

and

- [if a legal entity]:

[OFFICIAL NAME OF THE SELECTED THIRD PARTY (Acronym)],

VAT Number: **[VAT]**

Legal Status: **[XXX]**

PIC Number: **[PIC NUMBER]**

Name of the legal signatory: **[Name]**

Legal office address: **[ADDRESS and COUNTRY]**

- [if a Team of Natural persons]:

[FIRST AND LAST NAME OF THE NATURAL PERSON 1],

ID card/Passport Number: **[Number]**

Date of issue: **[Date]**

Taxpayer identification Number: **[Number]**

Legal address: **[ADDRESS and COUNTRY]**

[FIRST AND LAST NAME OF THE OF THE NATURAL PERSON 2],

ID card/Passport Number: **[Number]**

Date of issue: **[Date]**

Taxpayer identification Number: **[Number]**

Legal address: **[ADDRESS and COUNTRY]**

[FIRST AND LAST NAME OF THE OF THE NATURAL PERSON 3],

ID card/Passport Number: **[Number]**

Date of issue: **[Date]**

Taxpayer identification Number: **[Number]**

Legal address: **[ADDRESS and COUNTRY]**

- [if a Consortium of legal entities]:

[OFFICIAL NAME OF THE SELECTED THIRD PARTY 1 (Acronym)], Project Manager and Authorized representative of the consortium,

VAT Number: [VAT]

Legal Status: [XXX]

PIC Number: [PIC NUMBER]

Name of the legal signatory: [Name]

Legal office address: [ADDRESS and COUNTRY]

[OFFICIAL NAME OF THE SELECTED THIRD PARTY 2 (Acronym)],

VAT Number: [VAT]

Legal Status: [XXX]

PIC Number: [PIC NUMBER]

Name of the legal signatory: [Name]

Legal office address: [ADDRESS and COUNTRY]

[OFFICIAL NAME OF THE SELECTED THIRD PARTY 2 (Acronym)],

VAT Number: [VAT]

Legal Status: [XXX]

PIC Number: [PIC NUMBER]

Name of the legal signatory: [Name]

Legal office address: [ADDRESS and COUNTRY]

Hereinafter referred to as “Selected Third Party”;

Hereinafter sometimes individually or collectively referred to as “Party” or “Parties”.

Whereas the Cascade Funding Partner and the Selected Third Party have agreed the main terms and conditions to implement the Research in the course of the TRUSTCHAIN Project by signing the Standard Research Contract to which this Specific Contract is annexed.

Now therefore it has been agreed as follows:

1. ENTRY INTO FORCE

The specific contract shall enter into force on the day of its signature by the last Contracting Party as a rule of thumbs no more than 15 days after the announcement of the selection. The Cascade Funding Project Manager/ Authorized representative of the consortium shall sign this contract, only after all of the following documents have been received from the Selected Third Party:

- [if a legal entity]:

- The original signed Declaration of Honour (as given in Annex 6 of the Standard Research Contract) by the Project Manager/Authorized representative;
- The SME Declaration form (as given in Annex 7 of the Standard Research Contract);
- The copy of the original Extract of SME;
- The Proof of VAT;
- The Bank Information Form (as given in Annex 3 of this Contract).
- The Estimated budget for the action (as given in Annex 2 of this Contract)

- [if a Team of Natural persons]:

- The original signed Declaration of Honour (as given in Annex 6 of the Standard Research Contract) by the Project Manager/Authorized representative;
- Copy of ID-card or Passport of the legal representative(s) of the Team;
- Bank Information Form (as given in Annex 3 of this Contract).
- Estimated budget for the action (as given in Annex 2 of this Contract)
- A copy of the signed team agreement with the denomination of the Authorized representative.

- [if a Consortium of legal entities]:

- The original signed Declaration of Honour (as given in Annex 6 of the Standard Research Contract) by the Project Manager/Authorized representative;
- SME Declaration form (as given in Annex 7 of the Standard Research Contract) if applicable;
- Copy of the original Extract of SME if applicable;
- Proof of VAT;
- Bank Information Form (as given in Annex 3 of this Contract).
- Estimated budget for the action (as given in Annex 3 of this Contract)
- If a group of legal entities, copy of the signed consortium agreement with the denomination of the Authorized representative.

All documents shall be sent to the Cascade Funding Partner via email to the following address: caroline.barelle@eurodyn.com as a rule of thumbs no more than 15 days after the announcement of the selection

2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE RESEARCH

The Selected Third Party shall implement the Research in accordance with the following:

Description of the

Research	
Acronym	[Complete]
Full Title	[Complete]
TRUSTCHAIN call identification	TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1
Starting date of the Research:	[Complete]
Duration of the Research:	9 months
Date of selection of the Selected Third Party(ies)	[Complete]

Participating Partners involved in the Research	
Cascade Funding Project Manager	European Dynamics Luxembourg SA
Name & surname	Caroline Barelle
Tel:	+35 220 40 08 90
Email:	caroline.barelle@eurodyn.com
Selected Third Party 1 Project Manager Authorized representative	[Complete]
Role	<p>The authorized representative is the intermediary between the party (ies) and the Cascade funding project Manager. In particular, the authorized representative shall be responsible for :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Setting a team agreement of all the Third Party(ies) Partners involved in the Research if relevant -Monitoring compliance with obligations stipulated in this contract. -Keeping partners when relevant, updated. -Collecting, reviewing and submitting reports/deliverables and specific requested documents to the Cascade funding project Manager on time. -Transmitting documents and information connected with the research to any other party (ies) concerned. -Administering the financial contribution related to the research and fulfilling the financial tasks related to the research.
Name & surname	[Complete]
Tel:	[Complete]
Email:	[Complete]
Selected Third Party 2	[Complete]
Role	[Complete]
Name & surname of the Representative	[Complete]
Tel:	[Complete]
Email:	[Complete]
Selected Third Party 3	[Complete]
Role	[Complete]
Name & surname of the Representative	[Complete]
Tel:	[Complete]
Email:	[Complete]

Implementation of the Research		
WP 1		[Complete]
Task 1.1		[Complete]
Starting date		[Complete]
Duration		[Complete]
Objectives		[Complete]
Description		[Complete]
Expected outcomes		[Complete]
Task 1.2		[Complete]
Starting date		[Complete]
Duration		[Complete]
Objectives		[Complete]
Description		[Complete]
Expected outcomes		[Complete]
WP 2		[Complete]
Task 2.1		[Complete]
Starting date		[Complete]
Duration		[Complete]
Objectives		[Complete]
Description		[Complete]
Expected outcomes		[Complete]
Task 2.2		[Complete]
Starting date		[Complete]
Duration		[Complete]
Objectives		[Complete]
Description		[Complete]
Expected outcomes		[Complete]
[Add as many tasks as necessary]		

The expected research outcomes are listed hereafter

Expected research outcomes	
Expected results in terms of Research	[Complete]
Expected results in terms of IPR, software, know-how	[Complete]

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The following deliverables are mandatory. They are linked to the release of the funding.

Mandatory deliverables and reports		
Deliverable (number)	Deliverable/ Report name	Delivery date
D1	State of the art overview, use case analysis and preliminary technical specification of the solution. The document should clearly specify how the new solution extends and/or upgrades the state-of-the-art.	M2
D2	Detailed technical specification of the solution, software implementation work plan, and demo scenarios and preliminary business plan.	M4
D3	Implementation, deployment in appropriate TRUSTCHAIN platform, testing, demonstration and validation roadmap in a real-life application (i.e., banking, education, healthcare, utilities, defence or cross-border travel) and result of the validation process.	M7
D4	Modularised software components ready for distribution, full documentation for developers/users, final business plan.	M9

The following complementary activities are also linked to the release of the funding.

Mandatory complementary activities
<p>The selected third Party(ies) attend several mandatory internal events organised with the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Kick-off event devoted to knowing the different Third Parties and their foreseen contribution to TRUSTCHAIN. - Meeting for the set-up of clear KPIs that will be linked to the funding of the selected Third party (ies). - Midterm event devoted to the follow up of the progress of the Third Party (ies) according to the defined KPIs with a pitch contest where the Third Party (ies) will present their project outcomes in particular their prototype and their deployment scenarios. -Final event with pitch contest where the Third Parties will present their solution in particular their modularised software components ready for distribution

The IPR background of the third party (ies) is described hereafter:

Third party(ies) IPR Background	
Selected Third Party Partner 1 - Project Manager	[Complete]
Selected Third Party Partner 2	[Complete if relevant]
Selected Third Party Partner 3	[Complete if relevant]

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Financial conditions	
Financial Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Team of natural persons: 97K € + 2K € -Legal entity(ies): 115K €+ 2K €
Schedule of payment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pre-financing:M2 - First Interim payment:M4 - Second interim payment: M7 - Final payment: End of the project
Payment conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Beginning of the implementation and Pre-financing:</u> During the first weeks of the project implementation, each team will define with their coaches a set of clear and objective KPIs to be achieved and linked with the funding. These KPIs are different for each team and are related to the solution to be implemented. These KPIs will help measure the progress if any, but also the commitment and involvement of the teams (i.e., attending periodic call meetings with the coaches, meeting the deadlines for reporting, etc.). After this KPIs definition, a pre-financing of 30% will be released. ○ <u>First midterm review linked to the delivery of deliverable D2 and 2nd payment:</u> At first midterm of the project implementation, the coaches will assess the KPI's percentage of execution of the project on the basis of the evaluation of the deliverable D2. A 100% completion of the KPIs for the related period will unlock the total of the 2nd payment which is 20% of the total amount. A lower completion of the tasks will launch the proportional payment. If the KPIs for the related period are met by less than 50%, the payment will be retained until KPIs for the period are assessed as completely reached. If less than 25%, the teams will be automatically disqualified from the process. ○ <u>Second midterm review linked to the delivery of deliverable D3 and 3rd payment:</u> At the second midterm of the project implementation, the coaches will assess the KPI's percentage of execution of the project on the basis of the evaluation of the deliverable D3. A 100% completion of the KPIs for the related period will unlock the total of the 2nd payment which is 30% of the total amount. A lower completion of the tasks will launch the proportional payment. If the KPIs for the related period are met by less than 50%, the payment will be retained until KPIs for the period are assessed as completely reached. If less than 25%, the teams will be automatically disqualified from the process. ○ <u>Final review and last payment:</u>

	<p>At the end of the project implementation, third parties will be paid according to their overall completion of KPIs materialised by the deliverable D4.</p> <p>A final event will be used to evaluate third parties on a face-to-face pitch contest. The third parties will present their implemented solution, and their business plan in the context of TRUSCHAIN.</p> <p>Overall, failing to meet any of the research conditions and milestones aforementioned may result to an early discontinuation of the project and the corresponding disruption of the funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Extra payment for project outcomes publication: 2K € extra funding will be released at the end of the project only if part of all outcomes of the project are published in a peer review journal with a minimum impact factor of 2,5. Proof of acceptance of such publication must be provided by the third party to the TRUSTCHAIN consortium to get paid.
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3. MISCELLANEOUS

3.1 This Specific Research Contract, supplemented by the Standard Research Contract and its Annexes 1 to 8 included, constitutes the sole and complete understanding of the Parties with respect to its subject matter and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous communications between the Parties concerning such subject matter. This Specific Research Contract will be governed and construed according to the choice of governing and constructive law set forth in the Standard Research Contract.

3.2 Save to the extent expressly modified in this Specific Research Contract, all of the terms of the Standard Contract and Annexes 1-8 included shall apply to this Specific Contract. Save to the extent expressly specified in this Specific Contract, all capitalized terms used in this Specific Contract which are defined in the Standard Research Contract shall have the meaning given in the Standard Research Contract.

3.3 The terms of Clause 11.1 of the Standard Research Contract will apply to the signing and enforceability of this Specific Research Contract.

Done in two originals, one for each Party.

On behalf of the Cascade Funding Partner: European Dynamics	On behalf of the Selected Third Party: [Complete]
Signature of the authorized representative:	Signature of the authorized representative: [Complete]

Name:	Name:[Complete]
Title:	Title:[Complete]
Date:	Date:[Complete]

ANNEX 1.2 ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR THE ACTION

Expenditures	Total in EUR
A.1. Staff costs (where applicable)	[Complete]
A.2. Travel and subsistence	[Complete]
A.3. Equipment and materials	[Complete]
A.5. Conferences and seminars	[Complete]
Total	[Complete]
Revenues	Total in EUR
R.1. TRUSTCHAIN Grant	[Complete]
R.2. Income generated by the action	[Complete]
Total	[Complete]

All amounts should be provided in euro.

Staff costs will be calculated on the basis of the actual daily salary/fees of the employee/service provider, multiplied by the number of days to be spent on the project. This calculation may include, if necessary, all the normal charges paid by the employer, such as social security contributions and related costs, but must exclude any bonus, incentive and profit-sharing arrangements or running costs. Staff costs may not exceed the normal costs for each staff category in the country concerned.

Name of the Authorized representative of the Selected Third Party (ies):

[Complete]

Function of the Authorized representative of the Selected Third Party (ies):

[Complete]


Signature of Authorized representative the Selected Third Party (ies):

[Complete]

ANNEX 1.3 - SELECTED THIRD PARTY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

H2020 HORSE Funding Agreement

ANNEX 4 - SELECTED THIRD PARTY'S FINANCIAL IDENTIFICATION

	
FINANCIAL IDENTIFICATION	
<small>PRIVACY STATEMENT http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/financial_id/financial_id_en.cfm#en</small>	
Please use CAPITAL LETTERS and LATIN CHARACTERS when filling in the form.	
<u>BANKING DETAILS ①</u>	
ACCOUNT NAME ②	<input type="text"/>
IBAN/ACCOUNT NUMBER ③	<input type="text"/>
CURRENCY	<input type="text"/>
BIC/SWIFT CODE	<input type="text"/> BRANCH CODE ④ <input type="text"/>
BANK NAME	<input type="text"/>
ADDRESS OF BANK BRANCH	
STREET & NUMBER	<input type="text"/>
TOWN/CITY	<input type="text"/> POSTCODE <input type="text"/>
COUNTRY	<input type="text"/>
<u>ACCOUNT HOLDER'S DATA</u>	
AS DECLARED TO THE BANK	
ACCOUNT HOLDER	<input type="text"/>
STREET & NUMBER	<input type="text"/>
TOWN/CITY	<input type="text"/> POSTCODE <input type="text"/>
COUNTRY	<input type="text"/>
REMARK	<input type="text"/>
BANK STAMP + SIGNATURE OF BANK REPRESENTATIVE ⑤	DATE (Obligatory)
	SIGNATURE OF ACCOUNT HOLDER (Obligatory)

① Enter the final bank data and not the data of the intermediary bank.

② This does not refer to the type of account. The account name is usually the one of the account holder. However, the account holder may have chosen to give a different name to its bank account.

③ Fill in the IBAN Code (International Bank Account Number) if it exists in the country where your bank is established

④ Only applicable for US (ABA code), for AU/NZ (BSB code) and for CA (Transit code). Does not apply for other countries.

⑤ It is preferable to attach a copy of RECENT bank statement. Please note that the bank statement has to confirm all the information listed above under 'ACCOUNT NAME', 'ACCOUNT NUMBER/IBAN' and 'BANK NAME'. With an attached statement, the stamp of the bank and the signature of the bank's representative are not required. The signature of the account-holder and the date are ALWAYS mandatory.

ANNEX 1.4 - TRUSTCHAIN CONSORTIUM BACKGROUND

Background description	Specific limitations for the Implementation	Specific limitations for the Exploitation

ANNEX 1.5 - THIRD PARTY(IES) PROPOSAL

[to be integrated]

ANNEX 1.6- DECLARATION OF HONOUR

APPLICANT DECLARATION OF HONOUR

Title of the proposal:

On behalf of

(Name of the third party) established in (legal address), VAT number [1] represented for the purposes of signing and submitting the proposal and the Declaration of Honor by (Name of the legal representative),

By signing this document, I declare that

- 1) I have the power of legally binding the above-mentioned party on submitting this proposal.
- 2) The above-mentioned party has not submitted any other proposal under TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1. In case the above-mentioned party has submitted more than one proposal in this Open Call, all associated proposals will be automatically excluded from the evaluation process.
- 3) The party(ies) that I legally represent is(are) fully aware and duly accept all TRUSTCHAIN rules and conditions as expressed in TRUSTCHAIN Open Call documents and all Annexes and will fully respect any evaluation decision and proposal selection under TRUSTCHAIN activities.
- 4) If relevant, the information included in the Annex 7: SME Declaration Form is true and legally binding.
- 5) All provided information in this declaration is true and legally binding.

Third party(ies) representative Contact Information:

Title (Mr, Mrs, Dr.)	[Complete]
Name	[Complete]
Surname	[Complete]
Position in the organisation (If relevant)	[Complete]
Full Address	[Complete]
Country	[Complete]
Email Address	[Complete]
Telephone	[Complete]
Mobile	[Complete]
Signature of the representative and stamp of the organisation (if relevant)	[Complete]

DECLARATION OF HONOR ON EXCLUSION CRITERIA AND ABSENCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

By signing this declaration of honour, I declare that all provided information below is true and legally binding both for me and for the organisations that I legally represent:

1. I declare that me and/or the organisations that I legally represent (If relevant) is not in one of the following situations:

- a) it is bankrupt or being wound up, is having its affairs administered by the courts, has entered into an arrangement with creditors, has suspended business activities, is the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
- b) it or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over it have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of res judicata;
- c) it has been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify including by decisions of the European Investment Bank and international organizations;
- d) it is not in compliance with its obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which it is established or with those of the country of the contracting authority or those of the country where the contract is to be performed, to be proved by the deliverance of official documents issued by the local authorities, according to the local applicable rules;
- e) it or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over it have been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organization or any other illegal activity, where such illegal activity is detrimental to the Union's financial interests;
- f) is subject to an administrative penalty for being guilty of misrepresenting the information required by the contracting authority as a condition of participation in a grant award procedure or another procurement procedure or failing to supply this information or having been declared to be in serious breach of its obligations under contracts or grants covered by the Union's budget.

2. I declare that the natural persons with power of representation, decision-making or control over the above-mentioned SME are not in the situations referred to in a) to f) above;

3. I declare that:

- a) Neither myself or any person (s)/organisation (s) that I represent is (are) subject to a TRUSTCHAIN conflict of interest;
- b) I have not made false declarations in supplying the information required by participation in the Open Call of TRUSTCHAIN Project or does not fail to supply this information;
- c) I am not in one of the situations of exclusion, referred to in the abovementioned points a) to f).
- d) I am aware and fully accept all TRUSTCHAIN condition and rules as expressed in TRUSTCHAIN Open Call documents.

4. I certify that I or the organisation(s) that I represent:

- Is (are) committed to participate in the abovementioned project;

- has stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain its activity throughout its participation in the above-mentioned project and to provide any counterpart funding necessary;
- has or will have the necessary resources as and when needed to carry out its involvement in the above-mentioned project.

Full name: <input type="text"/> On <input type="text"/> behalf of <input type="text"/> SME: <input type="text"/>	Signature and stamp (if applicable) <input type="text"/>
Done at (place) <input type="text"/> the (day) <input type="text"/> (month) <input type="text"/> (year)	

[1] VAT is mandatory during the contract preparation for legal entities. Failure of providing a valid VAT of the specific SME will result in automatic rejection of the proposal.

ANNEX 1.7- SME DECLARATION FORM

Declaration of SME Status

Precise identification of the SME:

Name or Business name	[Complete]
Address (of registered office)	[Complete]
Registration / VAT number	[Complete]
Names and titles of the principal director(s)[1]	[Complete]

Type of enterprise:

Tick to indicate which case(s) applies to the applicant enterprise:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Autonomous enterprise	My enterprise holds less than 25% (capital or voting rights) in another enterprise and/or another enterprise holds less than 25% in mine. <i>* Note: there are exceptions for certain types of investors. See Article 3(2)(D) in the Annex of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Partner enterprise	My enterprise holds at least 25%, but no more than 50% in another enterprise and/or another enterprise holds at least 25%, but no more than 50%, in mine.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Linked enterprise	My enterprise holds more than 50% of the shareholders' or members' voting rights in another enterprise and/or another enterprise holds more than 50% in mine.

Data used to determine the category of enterprise:

Calculated according to Article 6 of the Annex to the Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC on the SME definition.

Reference period (*):		
Headcount (AWU[3])	Annual turnover (€)(**)	Balance sheet total (€)(**)
[Complete]	[Complete]	[Complete]

(*) All data must be relating to the last approved accounting period and calculated on an annual basis. In the case of newly established enterprises whose accounts have not yet been approved, the data to apply shall be derived from a reliable estimate made in the course of the financial year.

(**) EUR 1000

Signature

Name and position of the signatory, being authorised to represent the enterprise:

[Complete]

"I declare on my honour the accuracy of this declaration."

"I declare on my honour that in case of change affecting my SME status, I will immediately inform the Agency."

"I declare having taken knowledge of the Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC on the SME definition."

Done at (date and place): [Complete]

Signature:

[Complete]

[1] Chairman (CEO), Director-General or equivalent.

[2] Annual Working Units = number of full-time equivalent employees.

ANNEX 2- ADMINISTRATIVE FORM

Find hereafter the list of administrative information that you need to fill directly in the F6S portal to apply.

ADMINISTRATIVE FORM

This administrative form has the following mandatory sections:

- SECTION 1: Proposal identification
- SECTION 2: Administrative Data
- SECTION 3: Proposal Description
- SECTION 4: Final questions

Documents to be reviewed when preparing the application:

- TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 Text, a document that provides the technical details for the TRUSTCHAIN Open call 1 available at: <https://trustchain.ngi.eu/apply>.
- TRUSTCHAIN Guide for Applicant, defining the Open Call Terms & Conditions available at: <https://trustchain.ngi.eu/apply>.
- Proposal Description Template, a mandatory and editable document to describe your proposal, available at: <https://trustchain.ngi.eu/apply>.
- TRUSTCHAIN Additional Applicant(s) Template, only needed if your proposal involves more than 3 individuals (Natural persons) or/and more than 3 organisations (Legal entities), available at: <https://trustchain.ngi.eu/apply>.
- Indicative Sub-grant Agreement Form, a template of the sub-grant agreement that the selected applicants will be requested to sign, available at: <https://trustchain.ngi.eu/apply>. It is not necessary to send this document at the time of application.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the TRUSTCHAIN team (trustchain@ngi.eu). Failure to provide the required information in all sections will result in disqualification.

SECTION 1: PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION

1. Proposal Title *
2. Proposal Acronym *
3. Keywords *

Please select the keywords related to your proposal

- ☐ Trustworthy hardware & manufacturing
- ☐ Software Engineering (Including protocols, interoperability and fundamentals e.g. cryptography, algorithms, proofs)
- ☐ Cloud engineering, digital twins, edge and fog computing
- ☐ cryptography, standardisation and security engineering
- ☐ digital twins, edge and fog computing

- ☐ Operating Systems, firmware and virtualisation
- ☐ Measurement, monitoring, analysis & abuse handling
- ☐ Middleware, distribution, deployment, operations, DNS, authorisation, authentication, reputation systems
- ☐ Decentralised solutions, blockchain, distributed ledger
- ☐ semantic web, ontology engineering
- ☐ Data & AI
- ☐ Services & Applications (e.g. email, instant messaging, search, video chat, collaboration, community)
- ☐ Trustworthiness (Including: transparency, auditability and security)
- ☐ Resilient, robust and dependable
- ☐ digital identity management, self-sovereign identity
- ☐ Privacy and confidentiality
- ☐ Empowerment and self-determination
- ☐ Inclusiveness, accessibility diversity and democracy
- ☐ Permission less innovation, decentralisation and level playing field
- ☐ Social good, fairness and ethical behaviour
- ☐ Sustainability/Eco-friendliness
- ☐ ecosystem economics, Well-balanced economy
- ☐ Green, environmental sustainability

SECTION 2: ADMINISTRATIVE DATA APPLICANT(S)

4. You are applying as: *

Notice that as team of individuals (two or more natural persons), you will get a maximum of 97K€+ 2 K€. Any other configuration involving legal entities can obtain up to 115K€+ 2K€. The funding will be automatically calculated according to the selection below.

- ☐ A single organization (legal entity)
- ☐ A group of individuals (team)
- ☐ A group of organisations (consortium)
- ☐ A group of individual(s) and organisation(s)

APPLICANT(S) INFORMATION (INDIVIDUAL(S))

Please fill in the following information about the individual(s) applying as a natural person(s).

WARNING: if in the previous question you indicated you apply as a legal entity, or consortium, do not fill the Individuals section.

INDIVIDUAL - NATURAL PERSON 1

5. Name
6. Surname
7. E-mail
8. ID type (Citizen card, passport, or other)
9. ID number
10. Country of residence/work
11. Has been funded by the European Commission through H2020 before? (Grant or subgrant)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

12. Has been funded by other NGI projects?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one, explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal and indicate the total funding amount received.

13. Has recently applied to an NGI call or another EC funding instrument that is under evaluation or plans to apply to?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one and explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal.

INDIVIDUAL - NATURAL PERSON 2

14. Name

15. Surname

16. E-mail

17. ID type (Citizen card, passport, or other)

18. ID number

19. Country of residence/work

20. Has been funded by the European Commission through H2020 before? (Grant or sub grant)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

21. Has been funded by other NGI projects?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one, explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal and indicate the total funding amount received.

22. Has recently applied to an NGI call or another EC funding instrument that is under evaluation or plans to apply to?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one and explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal

INDIVIDUAL - NATURAL PERSON 3

23. Name

24. Surname
25. E-mail
26. ID type (Citizen card, passport, or other)
27. ID number
28. Country of residence/work
29. Has been funded by the European Commission through H2020 before? (Grant or subgrant)
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
30. Has been funded by other NGI projects?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one, explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal and indicate the total funding amount received.

31. Has recently applied to an NGI call or another EC funding instrument that is under evaluation or plans to apply to?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one and explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal

APPLICANT(S) INFORMATION (ORGANISATION(S))

Please fill in the following information about the organisation(s) applying as legal entity/ies

ORGANISATION - LEGAL ENTITY 1

32. Entity legal name
33. Legal status of your organisation
- ☐ Secondary or Higher education establishment
 - ☐ Research organisation
 - ☐ SME
 - ☐ Large enterprise
 - ☐ Public Body
 - ☐ A non-for profit organisation, association, NGO
 - ☐ Foundation
 - ☐ International organisation
 - ☐ Other? Please specify
34. Country
35. VAT number
36. Incorporation year
37. Contact person email

38. Has the legal entity been funded by the European Commission before? (Grant or subgrant)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

39. Has the legal entity been funded by other NGI projects?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one, explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal and indicate the total funding amount received.

40. Has the legal entity recently applied to an NGI call or another EC funding instrument that is under evaluation or plans to apply to?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one and explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal

ORGANISATION - LEGAL ENTITY 2

41. Entity legal name

42. Legal status of your organisation

- ☐ Secondary or Higher education establishment
- ☐ Research organisation
- ☐ SME
- ☐ Large enterprise
- ☐ Public Body
- ☐ A non-for profit organisation, association, NGO
- ☐ Foundation
- ☐ International organisation
- ☐ Other? Please specify

43. Country

44. VAT number

45. Incorporation year

46. Contact person email

47. Has the legal entity been funded by the European Commission before? (Grant or subgrant)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

48. Has the legal entity been funded by other NGI projects?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one, explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal and indicate the total funding amount received.

49. Has the legal entity recently applied to an NGI call or another EC funding instrument that is under evaluation or plans to apply to?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one and explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal

ORGANISATION - LEGAL ENTITY 3

50. Entity legal name

51. Legal status of your organisation

- ☐ Secondary or Higher education establishment
- ☐ Research organisation
- ☐ SME
- ☐ Large enterprise
- ☐ Public Body
- ☐ A non-for profit organisation, association, NGO
- ☐ Foundation
- ☐ International organisation
- ☐ Other? Please specify

52. Country

53. VAT number

54. Incorporation year

55. Contact person email

56. Has the legal entity been funded by the European Commission before? (Grant or subgrant)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

57. Has the legal entity been funded by other NGI projects?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one, explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal and indicate the total funding amount received.

58. Has the legal entity recently applied to an NGI call or another EC funding instrument that is under evaluation or plans to apply to?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which one and explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal

ADDITIONAL APPLICANT(S)?

59. If your proposal has more than 3 applicants participating as individuals (Natural persons) or/and more than 3 applicants participating as organisations (Legal entities), please upload the Annex 3 – Additional Applicant(s) Template, filled with the information about the applicant(s) that did not fit in this form. (Max file size 30MB.)

UPLOAD FILE

CONTACT PERSON (COORDINATOR)

Contact person for the proposal and coordination of the project what ever the type of Applicant you are.

Notice that the result of the evaluation will be sent to this person.

60. Full Name *

61. Entity (If applicable) *

62. E-mail *

63. Phone number * (Include country code)

SECTION 3: ETHICS

3.1. HUMAN EMBRYOS/FOETUSES

64. Does your innovation project involve Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

65. Does your innovation project involve the use of human embryos? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

66. Does your innovation project involve the use of human foetal tissues / cells? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

3.2. HUMANS

67. Does your innovation project involve human participants? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

68. Are they volunteers for social or human sciences research? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

69. Are they persons unable to give informed consent? *

- ☐ Yes

☐ No

70. Are they vulnerable individuals or groups? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

71. Are they children/minors? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

72. Are they patients? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

73. Are they healthy volunteers for medical studies? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

74. Does your innovation project involve physical interventions on the study participants? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

3.3. HUMAN CELLS / TISSUES

75. Does your innovation project involve human cells or tissues (other than from Human Embryos/ Foetuses)? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

3.4. PERSONAL DATA

76. Does your innovation project involve personal data collection and/or processing? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

77. Does it involve the collection and/or processing of sensitive personal data (e.g: health, sexual lifestyle, ethnicity, political opinion, religious or philosophical conviction)? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

78. Does it involve processing of genetic information? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

79. Does it involve tracking or observation of participants? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

80. Does your innovation project involve further processing of previously collected personal data (secondary use)? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

3.5. ANIMALS

81. Does your innovation project involve animals? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

3.6. THIRD COUNTRIES

82. In case non-EU countries are involved, do the innovation project related activities undertaken in these countries raise potential ethics issues? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

83. Do you plan to use local resources (e.g. animal and/or human tissue samples, genetic material, live animals, human remains, materials of historical value, endangered fauna or flora samples, etc.)? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

84. Do you plan to import any material - including personal data - from non-EU countries into the EU? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

85. Do you plan to export any material - including personal data - from the EU to non-EU countries? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

86. In case your innovation project involves low and/or lower middle income countries, are any benefits-sharing actions planned? Are they children/minors? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

87. Could the situation in the country put the individuals taking part in the innovation project at risk? *

☐ Yes
☐ No

3.7. ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH AND SAFETY

88. Does your innovation project involve the use of elements that may cause harm to the environment, to animals or plants? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

89. Does your innovation project deal with endangered fauna and/or flora and/or protected areas? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

90. Does your innovation project involve the use of elements that may cause harm to humans, including innovation project staff? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

3.8. DUAL USE

91. Does your innovation project involve dual-use items in the sense of Regulation 428/2009, or other items for which an authorisation is required? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

3.9. EXCLUSIVE FOCUS ON CIVIL APPLICATIONS

92. Could your innovation project raise concerns regarding the exclusive focus on civil applications? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

3.10. MISUSE

93. Does your innovation project have the potential for misuse of innovation project results? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

3.11. OTHER ETHICS ISSUES

94. Are there any other ethics issues that should be taken into consideration? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please specify

95. Ethics issues *

- ☐ I confirm that I have taken into account all ethics issues described above

96. Does your innovation require prior approval by a competent ethics or data protection body?

- ☐ No

- ☐ Yes, i.e. * (please specify which ethics/data protection body as well as the time period required for such approval)
Please note that seeking and obtaining the mandatory approvals in a timely manner from competent ethics and/or data protection bodies are the applicant's sole and exclusive responsibility and that the absence of such approvals, when and where legally required, may void the eligibility of the applicant's proposal.

SECTION 4: PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

97. Please upload your proposal in Portable Document Format (pdf). Use the official template available at: <https://trustchain.ngi.eu/apply/>*. Applicants using other kind of template/ document structure will be automatically ineligible.

UPLOAD PROPOSAL (Max file size 30MB.)*

SECTION 5: FINAL QUESTIONS

98. Acceptance of the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call Terms & Conditions Full call documents available at <https://trustchain.ngi.eu/apply/>*

- By ticking this box, I/we confirm that we have reviewed, accept and comply with the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call Terms & Conditions as defined in the Guide for Applicant

99. Authorisation to apply in the name of

- By ticking this box, I confirm the information submitted within this application is true. I am authorised to apply in the name of my entity/group of natural persons.

100. Conflict of interest avoidance with TRUSTCHAIN consortium

- ☐ By ticking this box, I confirm the members of the team involved in the proposal are not employees of any of the legal partners or their associated/linked-entities identified in the Grant Agreement No. 101093274 with the EC.

101. Fraudulent behaviour avoidance

- ☐ By ticking this box, I confirm the organisation(s) or individual(s) applying do not have convictions for fraudulent behaviour, other financial irregularities, unethical or illegal business practices.

102. Bankruptcy information

- ☐ By ticking this box, I confirm the participating organisation(s) do(es) not have been declared bankrupt or have initiated bankruptcy procedures.

103. Multiple submissions

- ☐ By ticking this box, I confirm that all the members involved in the proposal (natural persons/legal entities) are only submitting one proposal under this open call

104. European Commission Regulation No 651/2014, art. 2.18

- ☐ By ticking this box, I confirm the applicant(s) is not under liquidation or is not an enterprise under difficulty accordingly to the Commission Regulation No 651/2014, art. 2.18.

105. Originality and freedom to operate

- ☐ By ticking this box, I confirm the project is based on original works and going forward any foreseen developments are free from third party rights, or they are clearly stated.

106.Applicant(s) eligibility

- ☐ By ticking this box, I confirm the applicant(s) is not excluded from the possibility of obtaining EU funding under the provisions of both national and EU law, or by a decision of both national or EU authority.

107.TRUSTCHAIN Sub-grant Agreement

- ☐ By ticking this box, I confirm the principal investigator involved in the proposal agrees with the terms presented in the Indicative Sub-grant Agreement Form.

108.Double funding and operational capacity

- ☐ By ticking this box, I confirm the applicant(s) has not received funding for a similar project and that the applicant(s) has enough Operational Capacity to carry out the work. In addition, the applicant(s) gives consent to the TRUSTCHAIN consortium to share the needed information (such as entities names and project details (abstract or the full proposal)) with other NGI RIAs projects for the only purpose of cross-checking that there is no double funding or operational capacity conflict.

109.How did you hear about TRUSTCHAIN?

- ☐ News/Media
- ☐ Event
- ☐ E-mail
- ☐ NGI portal
- ☐ Referral
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Through an TRUSTCHAIN partner
- ☐ F6S portal
- ☐ European Commission portal
- ☐ Other

ANNEX 3- PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION TEMPLATE

FIRST OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Closing dates for proposals: 10th April 2023, 17:00 CEST

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS ON THE TEMPLATE

This template is to be used for the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 submission procedure.

The structure of this template must be strictly followed when preparing your proposal. It has been designed to ensure that the important aspects of your planned work are presented in a way that will enable the experts to make an effective assessment against the evaluation criteria.

All proposers should organise their information as focused as possible, explaining at least the following aspects of their projects: overall description of the application; potential users/customers and markets; methods and approaches for users/customer engagement; resolution of the ownership (including preferably open source licensing approach for the results); positioning on the market against existing similar solutions/services; clear description of the added value; data quality properties that will be achieved by the application solution; time to market of the proposed solution/application.

Please be aware that proposals will be evaluated as they were submitted, rather than on their potential if certain changes were to be made. This means that only proposals that successfully address all the required aspects will have a chance of being funded. There will be no possibility for significant changes to content, budget and team composition during grant preparation.

Total page limit: Sections 1, 2 and 3, together, should not be longer than 10 pages.

All tables, figures, references and any other element pertaining to these sections must be included as an integral part of these sections and are thus counted against this page limit.

The total page limit will be applied automatically; therefore you must remove this instruction page before submitting.

After the deadline, excess pages (in over-long proposals/applications) will not be taken into consideration by the experts.

The proposal is a self-contained document. Experts will be instructed to ignore hyperlinks to information that is specifically designed to expand the proposal, thus circumventing the page limit. Please, do not consider the page limit as a target! It is in your interest to keep your text as concise as possible, since experts rarely view unnecessarily long proposals in a positive light.

The following formatting conditions apply: The reference font for the body text is Arial. The use of a different font for the body text is not advised and is subject to the cumulative conditions that the font is legible and that its use does not significantly shorten the representation of the proposal in number of pages compared to using the reference font (for example with a view to bypass the page limit). The minimum font size allowed is 11 points.

Standard character spacing and a minimum of single line spacing is to be used. Text elements other than the body text, such as headers, foot/end notes, captions, formula's, may deviate, but must be legible.

The page size is A4, and all margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 20 mm.

Delete the guidance text in each section.

TRUSTCHAIN

FIRST OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Acronym of your proposal

Full title of your proposal

Table of Contents

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3. DETAILED PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION	4
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3.2 PROPOSAL SOLUTION.....	5
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3.4 BUSINESS MODEL AND SUSTAINABILITY	5
3.5 IMPLEMENTATION.....	6
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----Page count starts here----

1. PROJECT SUMMARY

(Maximum 300 words)

-Describe your proposal at a high level.

Please note that this information may be used for dissemination purposes (only if your proposal is accepted and funded by the TRUSTCHAIN program).

Insert text here.

2. APPLICANT BACKGROUND

(Maximum 1 page)

1. Organisation profile (If applicable, in case a single organisation apply)

-Describe the organisation proposing the collaboration (size of organization, type of organization, how many people, capital, and market), main expertise and business area.

-List the members of your organisation that will directly work on the project (name, job title, main expertise & role in the project).

-Describe the main publications, projects, product/service portfolio, patents and relevant contributions in line with your proposal.

-Explain how your organisation profile matches the expertise needed for the TRUSTCHAIN 1st Call.

2. Team/consortium profile (If applicable, in case a team of natural persons/ consortium of legal entities apply)

-Describe the natural persons/organisations part of the team/consortium proposing the collaboration (size of organization, type of organization, how many people, capital, and market if applicable), their main expertise and their business area.

-For each participating organisation, list the members of the organisation that will directly work on the project (name, job title, main expertise & role in the project).

-Describe the main publications, projects, product/service portfolio, patents and relevant contributions of the different natural persons/organisations part of the team/consortium in line with your proposal.

-Describe the team/consortium partners' synergies and their relevance for the proposed project and TRUSTCHAIN 1st Call.

Insert text here.

3. DETAILED PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

(Maximum 8 pages)

3.1 CONCEPT AND OBJECTIVES

(Maximum 1 page)

-Describe the specific objectives of your proposal and explain the overall concept underpinning your proposed solution considering the TRUSTCHAIN overall goals and specific OC1 objective on Decentralised digital identity.

-It should be clear:

- What are the needs?
- What TRUSTCHAIN OC1 challenges are you solving with your proposal and how?

- What existing solutions (including your own) from the industry and from the scientific literature partly address the challenges?
- The human centric approach you are going to follow.
- What new value proposition are you offering?
- What would be the benefits for TRUSTCHAIN Large Scale Pilot.

Insert text here.

3.2 PROPOSAL SOLUTION

(Maximum 2 pages)

-Give a description of the product/prototype with which you want to face the challenge.

-Indicate:

- How the solution will approach the challenge. You should particularly take care of the relevance of your solution according to current challenges related to Decentralised digital identity as well as to TRUSTCHAIN objectives and requirements
- What is the main differentiator of your proposition compared to the state of the art? You should put emphasis on its originality and innovation aspects.
- Explain the maturity of your product/prototype and the expected maturity at the end of the project (current and expected Technology Readiness Level)
- What will be the approach to validate your proof of concept? Indicate and justify the size of the deployment, the test you intend to conduct (ethical clearance, number of users, devices ...)

Insert text here.

3.3 EXPECTED IMPACT

(Maximum 2 pages)

-Describe how your proposal will contribute to:

- The objectives of the TRUSTCHAIN project as well as to better acceptance of decentralised digital identity by specific groups of end users
- Add value to the TRUSTCHAIN project.
- Create industrial impact at the European level and worldwide.
- Enhance your own business/competitiveness.
- Create socio- economic and environmental impact when relevant.

-Present your dissemination and communication plan to maximise the impact foreseen

-Provide a description of your Data Management Plan

Insert text here.

3.4 BUSINESS MODEL AND SUSTAINABILITY

(Maximum 1 page)

-What is the business potential of the proposal?

-What is the business model? Explain how you will make money with this product or service (revenue model, etc.).

- Explain the next steps towards economic sustainability of your project and towards deploying your solution at a larger scale.
- Justify how you are going to comply with environmental sustainability with your solution.

Insert text here.

3.5 IMPLEMENTATION

(Maximum 2 pages)

- Provide an overview of your overall work plan considering the 9 months' timeframe of TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1.
- Provide the functionalities that are going to be delivered
- Describe the activities that you will carry out in order to implement your project: objective, duration, implementation steps, resources available. Illustrate the timing of your activities using a Gantt diagram or similar. The co-creation approach should be made evident. Use the table hereafter in order to help you present the requested information.

Insert text here.

TABLE 1: EXAMPLE TABLE

Work plan tasks	Description	Starting Month	Ending Month

3.5.1 Deliverables and Milestones

Please add a list of deliverables and milestones using the provided table. 4 deliverables are mandatory for TRUSTCHAIN, please consider them in the list of deliverables (e.g. documents, reports, user manual, a tool ...) you intend to submit. Justify each of them with a small description and state the relevant TRL level for each deliverable.

TABLE 2: TABLE OF DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

No.	Deliverable or milestone name	Description	Type	Delivery Month	TRL level

-Indicate how you intend to manage your activities during your project lifecycle (9 months) including progress monitoring and risks management procedures

Insert text here.

----Pages count finishes here----

ANNEX 4 - ADDITIONAL APPLICANT(S) TEMPLATE

FIRST OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS ON THE TEMPLATE

If your proposal has more than 3 applicants participating as individuals (Natural persons) or/and more than 3 applicants participating as organisations (Legal entities), please upload to SECTION 3 of your application this Annex, filled with the information about the applicant(s) that did not fit in the F6S form.

The structure of this template must be followed when preparing your proposal. Applicants using other kind of template/ document structure will be automatically ineligible.
Only applicant(s) that successfully address all the required aspects will have a chance of being funded.

There is no page limit for this document. Please respect the structure of each table. The minimum font size allowed is 11 points. The page size is A4, and all margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 25 mm.

If you attempt to upload a document with other content than the requested, it will not be taken into consideration.

Please delete this page when submitting the document.

ANNEX 4

ADDITIONAL APPLICANT(S) TEMPLATE

Acronym of your proposal

Full title of your proposal

1. ADDITIONAL APPLICANT(S) PARTICIPATING AS INDIVIDUAL(S) (NATURAL PERSON)

Information type	Fill this column
Name:	
Surname:	
E-mail:	
ID type of document:	
ID number:	
Country of residence/work:	
Has been funded by the European Commission through H2020 before? (Grant or subgrant) (Yes/No)	
Has been funded by other NGI project? (Yes/No) If yes, please indicate which one and explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal.	
Has recently applied to an NGI call or another EC funding instrument that is under evaluation or plans to apply to? (Yes/No) If yes, please indicate which one and explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal.	

Copy and add as many tables as applicants participating as legal entities which did not fit in the F6S form.

2. ADDITIONAL APPLICANT(S) PARTICIPATING AS ORGANISATION(S) (LEGAL ENTITY)

Information type	Fill this column
Entity legal name	
Legal status of your organisation (Indicate only one type) 1. Secondary or Higher education establishment 2. Research organisation 3. Large enterprise 4. Small or medium enterprise 5. Public body 6. A non-profit organisation, association, NGO 7. Foundation 8. International organisation 9. Other	
VAT number	
Incorporation year	
Contact person email	
Country	
Has the legal entity been funded by the European Commission through H2020 before? (Grant or subgrant) (Yes/No)	

Has the legal entity been funded by other NGI project? (Yes/No) If yes, please indicate which one and explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal.	
Has the legal entity recently applied to an NGI call or another EC funding instrument that is under evaluation or plans to apply to? (Yes/No) If yes, please indicate which one and explain the overlaps and differences with the current proposal.	

Copy and add as many tables as applicants participating as legal entities which did not fit in the F6S form.