NGI TRUST CHAIN

D2.11 EVALUATION, SELECTION AND CONTRACTING REPORT- OPEN CALL 1

10/06/2023

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COO = coordinator; BEN = beneficiary; AE = Affiliated entity; AP = Associated Partner

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the deliverable "D2.11 – Evaluation, Selection and Contracting Report 1" of the European project "TRUSTCHAIN – Fostering a Human Centred, Trustworthy and Sustainable Internet". It recalls the TRUSTCHAIN evaluation approach and methodology which applies in the first open call of TRUSTCHAIN as well as provides the necessary documents for the successful evaluation of the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 applications. The documents are included as Annexes and depict the TRUSTCHAIN Background as well as all the specifications and support material for the TRUSTCHAIN Evaluators to manage efficiently the evaluation of this call. It follows the order presented hereafter:

- Section 1 summarizes the evaluator's role and TRUSTCHAIN evaluation rules including the evaluator code of conduct, the management of the evaluator conflict of interest and confidentiality. This section is completed by the Annex 1 that provides the contract to be signed by the Open Call 1 Evaluators and ED, the coordinator of the project that acts as contractor on behalf of the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium. It also includes the declaration of honour on exclusion criteria and the declaration of absence of conflict of interest.
- Section 2 explains the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 key points to be considered by the evaluators for an appropriate evaluation, both organisational, i.e., timelines and contacts, as well as technical, i.e. the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem. It also documents the whole evaluation process for all the applications received for the considered Open Call in particular the 3 phases i.e., the eligibility check, the proposals evaluation and provide the eligibility requirements for the applications.
- Section 3 presents the requirements for a proposal to be eligible and the three evaluation reports, i.e., individual and consensus reports related to the written applications, and the evaluation summary report, which also integrate the evaluation of the pitch for the applicants selected for the last part of the evaluation.

  For more specific details, section 2 and 3 are completed by the guide for evaluator (Annex 2) that contains the eligibility check list, the grid for evaluation and report forms, in its Annex 2, the administrative form and ethical issues table to be compiled by applicants, whilst its Annex 3 contains the template of the proposals to be compiled by applicants.
- Section 4 documents the evaluation process in terms of statistic both from the evaluators and applicants/ third parties' perspectives. It is also complemented by the Evaluation Summary Reports of the selected projects in Annex 3 and the contract model to be filled and signed by the selected projects in Annex 4.
- Section 5 summarizes the ethical principles on which all activities mentioned in this report are based.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1: EVALUATOR ROLE AND GUIDELINE FOR OPEN CALL 1 10
1.1 The Evaluator's role in TRUSTCHAIN 10
1.2 The guide for Evaluator 12
SECTION 2: THE TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1 EVALUATION KEY POINTS AND PROCESS 12
2.1 TRUSTCHAIN OPEN Call 1 indicative timelines 13
2.2 TRUSTCHAIN Contact points 14
2.3 TRUSTCHAIN Applicant classification 14
2.4 THE TRUSTCHAIN R&I ACTION AND technical framework 15
2.5 The TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 scope and OBJECTIVES 18
2.5.1 Introduction to OC1 18
2.5.2 OC1 Specific Objectives 19
2.5.3 OC1 Challenges to be addressed 20
2.5.4 OC1 Specific Requirements 21
2.5.5 Expected Outcomes and Possible Application Domains 22
2.5.6 OC1 mandatory Deliverables 23
2.6 TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 evaluation process 24
2.6.1 Overall process 24
2.6.2 Admissibility and eligibility check 25
2.6.3 Proposal evaluation 25
2.6.4 Online Interview and final selection 27
SECTION 3: ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND THE THREE EVALUATION REPORTS. 28
3.1 The Eligibility Criteria 28
3.1.1 Eligible countries 29
3.1.2 Language 29
3.1.3 Proposal submission 30
3.1.4 Multiple submission 30

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3.2 The Specific requirements 31
3.3 The three Evaluation Reports 31
3.3.1 The Individual Evaluation Report 31
3.3.2 CONSENSUS REPORT 33
3.3.3 THE EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT 33
SECTION 4: TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1 EVALUATION STATISTICS & OUTCOMES 34
4.1 External Evaluators selection-statistics & outcomes 34
4.1.1 Context 34
4.1.2 Countries Coverage 35
4.1.3 Gender Balance 35
4.2 Third parties selection-statistics & outcomes 36
4.2.1 Context 36
4.2.2 Profile of Applicants and technology domains of expertise 36
4.2.3 Countries coverage by eligible applications 37
4.2.4 Proposals Selected 38
4.2.5 Funding allocation per countries 45
SECTION 5: ETHICAL PRINCIPLES RELATED TO H2020 RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ACTIONS EVALUATION 46
ANNEX 1- EVALUATOR'S CONTRACT, DECLARATION OF HONOUR ON EXCLUSION CRITERIA AND DECLARATION OF ABSENCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST 47
ANNEX 2- GUIDE FOR EVALUATOR 59
ANNEX 3- EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORTS OF THE 14 PROJECTS SELECTED 115
ANNEX 4- ONTOCHAIN OC3 CONTRACT MODEL FOR THIRD PARTIES SELECTED .. 185

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LIST OF FIGURES

NA

LIST OF TABLES

NA

ABREVIATIONS

NA

SECTION 1: EVALUATOR ROLE AND GUIDELINE FOR OPEN CALL 1

1.1 THE EVALUATOR'S ROLE IN TRUSTCHAIN

The role of the evaluator in TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 is to investigate and justify the value of the received proposals according to the regulatory frame of the Open Calls according to the eligibility, requirement and TRUSTCHAIN specific evaluation criteria. Experts perform evaluations of the TRUSTCHAIN proposals 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. Evaluators should always keep in mind that significant funding decision will be based on their assessment.

There are two types of evaluators in TRUSTCHAIN.

The **External Evaluators** acting for TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 are selected after having expressed their interest (evaluators call for interest) among others, according to their expertise and skills related to TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 specificities (see section 4). They signed an agreement including a code of conduct and a declaration of non-conflict of interest (see Annex 1) binding them to the TRUSTCHAIN rules. Part of their contractual obligation is also to comply with the deadlines set by the TRUSTCHAIN consortium. They receive a fee of 50€ for each proposal evaluated.

The **Internal Evaluators** are members of the TRUSTCHAIN consortium. They are also requested to respect the code of conduct and confidentiality.

Any conflict of interest, any situation where the impartial and objective evaluation is compromised for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other shared interest is intended to be avoided. In practice, all Evaluators whether external or internal must declare beforehand to the call coordinator any known conflicts of interest or immediately inform them, should one become apparent during the course of the evaluation.

Evaluators must maintain strict confidentiality with respect to the whole TRUSTCHAIN evaluation process. They must follow any instruction given by TRUSTCHAIN consortium and confidentiality rules must be adhered to, at all times e.g., before, during and after the evaluation. Under no circumstance may an Evaluator:

- Attempt to contact an applicant on his/her own account, either during the evaluation or afterwards
- Disclose any information on proposals/applicants
- Disclose any detail on the evaluation outcomes

- Disclose names of other Evaluators involved.

They must return to the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium and/or erase any confidential documents once the TRUSTCHAIN evaluation exercise is over.

The evaluator's code of conduct applies to all stages of the TRUSTCHAIN evaluation process from the conception to the completion of the evaluation and the release and use of the evaluation results. Any deficiency in conduct may undermine the integrity of the evaluation. TRUSTCHAIN Evaluators are thus asked to be professional at all times of the evaluation process and to respect the following principles:

- Independence
  - Evaluators assess proposals on a personal basis;
  - Evaluators represent neither their employer, nor their country;
- Competence
  - Evaluators shall accurately represent their level of skills and knowledge and should work only within the limits of their professional training and abilities in evaluation;
- Impartiality
  - Evaluators treat all proposals equally and evaluate them impartially on their merits, irrespective of their origin or the identity of the applicants;
- Objectivity
  - Evaluators assess each proposal as submitted, not on its potential if certain changes were to be made;
- Accuracy, Completeness and Reliability
  - Evaluators make their judgment against the official evaluation criteria of the call that the proposal addresses, and nothing else;
  - Evaluators have the obligation to ensure that evaluation reports and presentations are accurate, complete and reliable. Evaluators shall explicitly justify judgements, findings and conclusions and demonstrate underlying rationale in order that stakeholders may assess them.
- Consistency
  - Evaluators apply the same standard of judgment to all proposals considering the specific implementation mode.

TRUSTCHAIN is an H2020 Innovation Action and as such, proposals are not negotiated. This strongly limits the possibility of modifying a proposal after it has been selected for funding. It is therefore very important that the evaluators evaluate them as they are, reflecting all the strengths and weaknesses in the scores. To support and train them for this activity, a guide (Annex 2) is provided to them that is described below.

1.2 THE GUIDE FOR EVALUATOR

This guide aims at supporting the evaluation of proposals submitted to the **TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1: Decentralized Digital Identity**. It is intended to support independent Evaluators and internal Evaluators embodied in the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium to:

- Assess on an individual and professional basis and against predefined evaluation criteria, the proposals received in response to the Open Call 1 (All evaluators);
- Draft Individual Evaluation Reports and Consensus Reports for the proposals (All evaluators);
- Establish the short list of proposals admissible for online interview (All evaluators);
- Implement the online interview for the projects shortlisted (Only the internal evaluators);
- Draft Evaluation Reports for the online interview (Only the internal evaluators);
- Contribute to the Evaluation Panels to establish and approve the final ranking list of selected projects and the ones that will be part of the reserved list (Only the internal evaluators).

Moreover, this guide contains information on the overall TRUSTCHAIN Innovation Action as well as more specifically on the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1, i.e.:

- The specific requirements for the objectives of the call and their respective topics of the TRUSTCHAIN frame, the evaluation process and its work flow, the eligibility criteria and the specific evaluation criteria for this call.
- The drafting and the quality of the Individual Evaluation Report and Consensus Report, the latter being also available to the applicants of each proposal.
- A reminder regarding ethical principles related to H2020 research and innovation activities is presented as well as an evaluation check list.

SECTION 2: THE TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1 EVALUATION KEY POINTS AND PROCESS

2.1 TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1 INDICATIVE TIMELINES

Call	Indicative Dates	Who
Call Publication	8th February 2023 at 12:00 PM CET	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium
Call Closure	10th April 2023 at 17:00 CEST	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium
Eligibility, Conflict of interest & Contract Signing	10th to 17th April 2023	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium + External Evaluators
Web Briefing	12th April 2023	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium + External Evaluators
Allocation of Proposals to Evaluators	17th April 2023	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium

Remote Evaluation	Indicative Dates	Who
The remote proposal evaluation takes place	17 th April to 26th May 2023	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium + External Evaluators
100% Individual Evaluation Reports completed	28th April 2023	Internal Evaluators + External Evaluators
100% Consensus Reports completed	5th May 2023	Internal Evaluators + External Evaluators
Panel Review meeting and selection of applicants for the online interview	8th May 2023	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium
Online Interviews	15th May to 19th May 2023	Internal Evaluators + TRUSTCHAIN Advisory Board Members
TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 results publication	Week of the 22 th May to 26 th May 2023	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium

Factually the online interviews were organised in 4 sessions of up to 3 hours starting the 30/05/2023 and finishing the 09/06/2023. 22 Applicants were evaluated for a possible number of selected proposals of 15.

The panel meet on the 19th of June to validate the ranking list. The proof reading of the 87 evaluation reports (including both selected projects and not selected ones) lasted from the 19th to the 29th of June.

The Open Call 1 results announcement to the Applicant started the 29th of June and ended the 30th of June. Allowing then the contracting process of the 13 Open Call 1 innovators.

2.2 TRUSTCHAIN CONTACT POINTS

The TRUSTCHAIN contact points for open Call 1 were the following:

Contact point	Name	Email
Call coordinator	Caroline Barelle	caroline.barelle@eurodyn.com
	Vlado Stankovsky	vlado.stankovski@fri.uni-lj.si
	Daniel Silva	daniels@f6s.com
	Tajana Medaković	tajana@f6s.com

2.3 TRUSTCHAIN APPLICANT CLASSIFICATION

The target Applicants for the TRUSTCHAIN Call 1 are:

- Internet technologists, researchers and innovators.
- Researchers and developers employed in research centres or enterprises among other SMEs, in third-level education institutes, research infrastructures, non-profit organisations and charitable (scientific) foundations.

These Applicants' profiles were able to apply as team of individuals or linked to a legal entity. Thus, their participation is possible in several ways:

- Legal entity(ies):

These are 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

- One or more entities (consortium) established in an eligible country.

- Team of natural persons:

The natural person's part of the team must be established in any eligible countries. This does not consider the country of origin but the residence permit.

Any combination of the aforementioned.

2.4 THE TRUSTCHAIN R&I ACTION AND TECHNICAL FRAMEWORK

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;
- Smart oracles assessing the trustworthiness of data.

- **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**

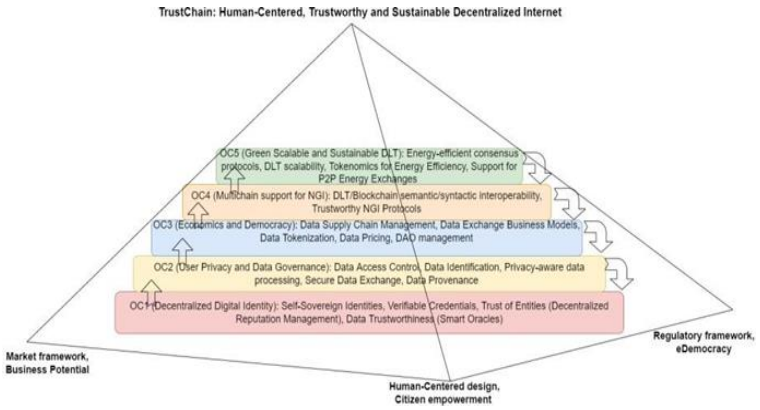
The objective of OC3 will be to define and build mechanisms for smarter data exchange and data trading as well as innovative win-win federated business models' open data.

- **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 methodology of TrustChain is carefully designed in a way it is not significantly harming any of the six environmental objectives of the EU Taxonomy Regulation presented hereafter.

2.5 THE TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1 SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

2.5.1 Introduction to OC1

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;
- 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 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
5. Any challenges or opportunities relating to equality, diversity, ethics and inclusion arising from their project.

Applicants when applying should **clearly specify the Open Call 1 challenges they are going to address. Those are described in the section 3.3.**

2.5.2 OC1 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),**
- **Develop smart oracles to assess the trustworthiness of data fed to blockchain smart-contracts fetched from external systems. [identity-related explanation]**

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

2.5.3 OC1 Challenges to be addressed

The current ecosystem of decentralized 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 onto identity fraud;**
- **Human has not been involved from the initial design stages of the identity eco system. This leads onto 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).**

2.5.4 OC1 Specific Requirements

- **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.

- **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.

- **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.

2.5.5 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;

- 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;
- 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 margenelised individual and their specific needs
- Creative industries (e.g. collaborative production of artistic and unique works)
- Entertainment, leisures, gaming industry
- Tourism, and similar

2.5.6 OC1 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.

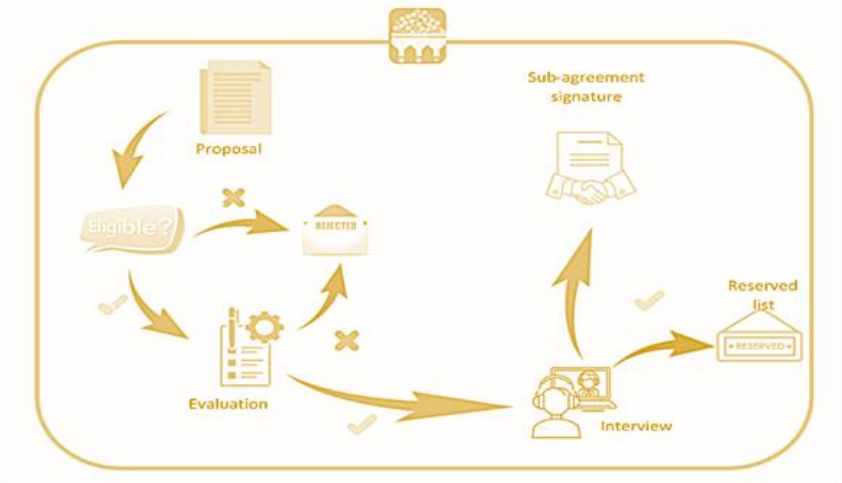
- D2: Detailed technical specification of the solution, software implementation work plan, demo scenarios, the number of end users that will be involved in any pilots, and preliminary business plan.
- D3: Implementation, deployment in an appropriate TRUSTCHAIN platform, testing, demonstration and validation roadmap in a real-life application (i.e., banking, education, healthcare, utilities, defence or cross-border travel) and result of the validation process.
- D4: Modularised software components ready for distribution, full documentation for developers/users, final business plan.

2.6 TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1 EVALUATION PROCESS

2.6.1 Overall process

ONTOCHAIN Proposals are submitted in a single stage. Their evaluation is carried out by the ONTOCHAIN Consortium with the assistance of independent Evaluators. ONTOCHAIN 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. The overall evaluation process is composed of three stages as presented hereafter.

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



2.6.2 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 the guide for Applicant, TRUSTCHAIN OC1 Guide for Applicant.pdf (see section 3 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 accessible here: Administrative Form Preparation.pdf;
- Include the research proposal description. Applicants must strictly follow the template, instructions as well as pages limitation for drafting the research proposal accessible here: Proposal Description Template.doc (live.com). A proposal will only be considered eligible if its content corresponds specifically to the objectives of the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 and demonstrates that it aims to advance the state of the art especially with regards to the TRUSTCHAIN Framework and application domain.

2.6.3 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.

2.6.4 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.

SECTION 3: ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND THE THREE EVALUATION REPORTS

3.1 THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Proposals need to comply both with the eligibility criteria and with all mandatory elements which are specific of the implementation mode of the Open Call 1 specific objectives and related topics. Additionally, aspects relative to page limits may impact on the evaluation and are described below. Annex 1 of this guide provides a checklist

which summarise all rules and specific issues to take into account when evaluating an TRUSTCHAIN proposals.

3.1.1 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 States[1];
- H2020 associated countries (those which signed an agreement with the Union as identified in Article 7 of the Horizon 2020 Regulation): according to the updated list published by the EC[2];
- The UK Applicants are eligible under the conditions set by the EC for H2020 participation and as long as they comply with the same eligibility rules as the other Applicants

[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

[2] http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/3cpart/h2020-hi-list-ac_en.pdf

3.1.2 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.

3.1.3 Proposal submission

Proposals must be submitted electronically, using the ONTOCHAIN Online Submission Service accessible via https://www.f6s.com/trustchainchain-open-call-1/apply 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.

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.

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.

3.1.4 Multiple submission

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 into the evaluation process. Any other submitted proposals by the same Applicant 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 if he/she applies within as Team of natural persons or as part as part of a consortium member. If an individual is taking part in several teams/consortium, 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 into 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.

3.2 THE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

In order to guarantee equal treatment among the proposals, the Applicants are required to respect page limits. The Evaluators are asked to disregard any information contained in the excess pages. Should an Evaluator identify an issue regarding the page limits, they are asked to immediately contact their topic coordinator.

3.3 THE THREE EVALUATION REPORTS

3.3.1 The Individual Evaluation Report

The quality of the Individual Evaluation Report is paramount as it constitutes the basis of the Consensus Report which is sent to the Applicant. It should therefore give a clear assessment of the proposal based on its merit, provide clear feedback on the

proposal's weaknesses and strengths with comments which are consistent with the scores. High quality reports are crucial to the success of the consensus phase.

Before starting to draft their Individual Evaluation Report, Evaluators are recommended to know what is expected from the Applicant thus to check the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1, the description of the specific objectives. The challenge, the requirements, the context as well as the expected outcomes to be considered by the Applicant are presented in section 2.5.2, 2.5.3, 2.5.4 of this guides.

The Evaluators must also be aware of how the proposal should be structured. There is 2 distinct parts:

The administrative part including any obligatory supporting documents specified in the call and the ethics issues table (see annex 2).

The research proposal description according to the TRUSTCHAIN template and instructions set in the TRUSTCHAIN guide for applicant (see annex 3).

The research proposal description is the most important part to be considered by the Evaluator. It should contain a maximum 10 pages and the following sections:

The first page with the proposal acronym, full title, and the topic(s) selected.

The proposal with**:**

Page count starts here

1 Project summary (300 words)

2 Applicant background (Max. 1 pages)

3 Proposal description (Max. 8 pages)

3.1 Concept and objectives (Max. 1 page)

3.2 Proposal solution (Max. 2 pages)

3.3 Expected impact (Max. 2 pages)

3.4 Business model and sustainability (Max. 1 page)

3.5 Implementation (Max. 2 pages)

Page count finishes here

It will be assessed against the evaluation criteria set in section 2.6.3.

Evaluators are strongly advised to refer to the evaluation grid set in annex 1 to draft their IER.

Practically, evaluators should provide comments for each criterion/sub- criterion and list them under a strengths paragraph and a weaknesses paragraph. The assessment must be factual and not an outcome of personal interpretation. All shortcomings should be clearly justified by providing concrete examples related to the proposal. No recommendations should be made.

When comments are set, Evaluators can proceed to scoring each criterion based on the scoring scale provided in section 2.6.3. **The scores must reflect the comments.**

3.3.2 CONSENSUS REPORT

High quality consensus reports are crucial to the success of the overall evaluation and the quality of the TRUSTCHAIN project outcomes. It should demonstrate a consensus of the two evaluators on the quality of the proposal and provide a clear assessment of the proposal based on its merit with clear feedback on weaknesses and strengths.

Practically within the pool of two evaluators per proposal, a rapporteur (from the TRUSTCHAIN staff) will be assigned the task of drafting the consensus report based on the 2 Individual Evaluation Reports.

First the rapporteur aggregates the comments of the 2 Individual Evaluation Reports for each criterion under a strengths paragraph and weaknesses paragraph. When there is disagreement on the quality of some sub criterion, the rapporteur lists the related comments under a paragraph titled “to be discussed”. This phase leads to the draft Consensus Report that will be discussed among the 2 evaluators in particular the paragraph “to be discussed” so that to find a consensus.

When a consensus is found, the rapporteur proposed scores for each of the 3 criteria to be discussed. When consensus is obtained both on comments and scores then the consensus report is ready for the ranking phase and later on to be sent to the applicant to motivate the rejection of their proposal. Selected applicant for the online interview receives solely an invitation to the interview.

3.3.3 THE EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

The evaluation summary report is the base document for the funding decision to be made. It is composed of the consensus report related to the proposal and the evaluation summary of the online interview. It includes the decision of the evaluation board (TRUSTCHAIN topics referents and the TRUSTCHAIN advisory board members) whether to distribute funding for selected projects or to register the proposal on the reserve list.

The evaluation summary of the online interview is the outcome of a qualitative evaluation according to the evaluation criteria set in section 2.6.3 and in particular to the credibility of the proposed project outcomes, the value for money, the collaborative Spirit/Commitment of the applicant, and the business compatibility. **The score for the interview will be the average of the scores of the 4 criteria.**

Based on these final scores, two short lists of winners will be produced.

When this phase done, the evaluation summary report is ready to be sent to the applicant to motivate the evaluation board final decision.

SECTION 4: TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1 EVALUATION STATISTICS & OUTCOMES

4.1 EXTERNAL EVALUATORS SELECTION-STATISTICS & OUTCOMES

4.1.1 Context

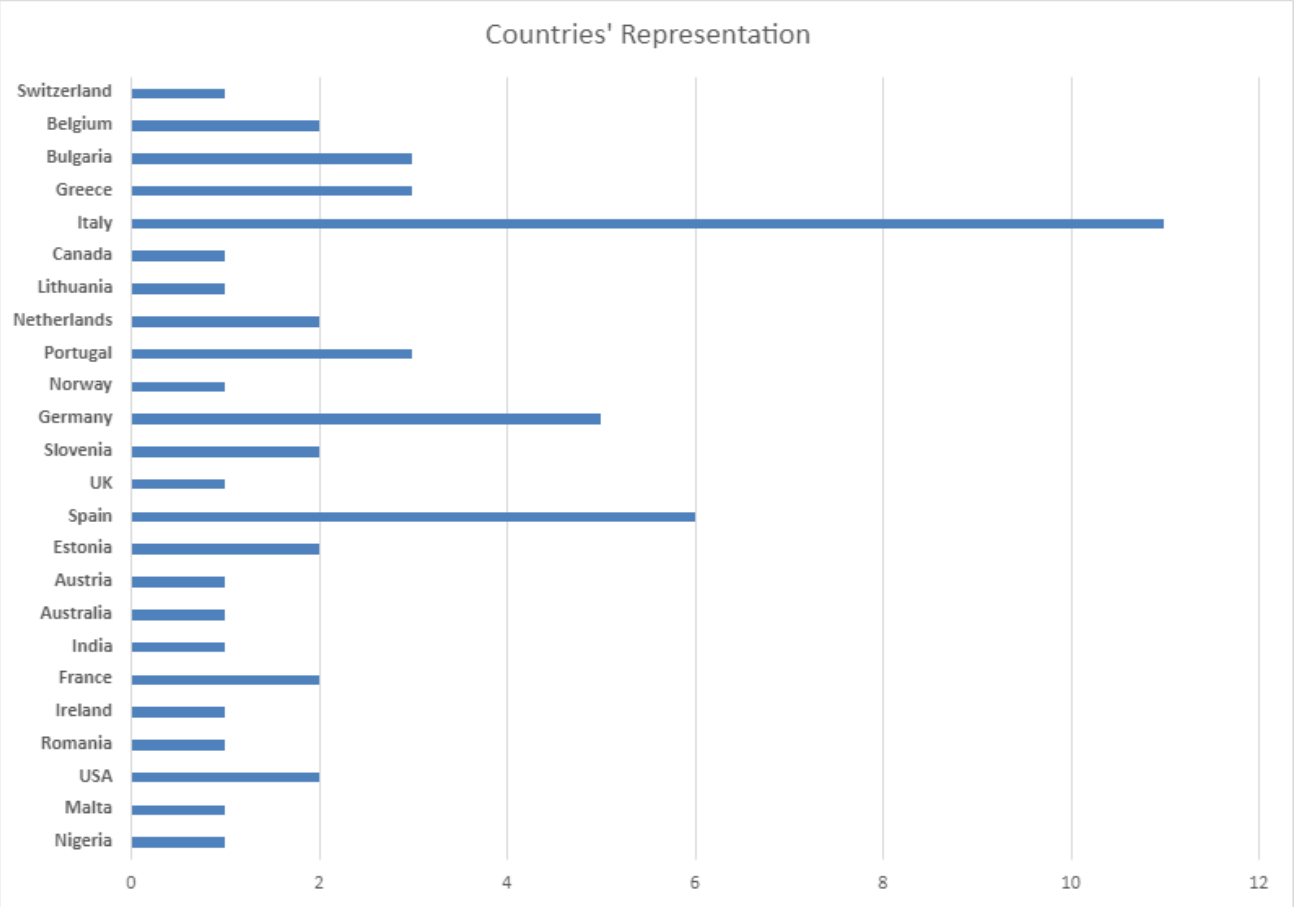
A total of 55 independent experts from all over the world have expressed their interest to contribute to the evaluation of TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 via the expert call for interest. Three webinars were hosted by Trust Chain Consortium to introduce the project and Open Call 1. The webinars also discussed how to ensure the implementation of user-centred approach in TRUSTCHAIN; taking care of ethics aspects in TRUSTCHAIN issues around ARF/digital wallet. The first webinar was hosted on 14th February 2023 followed by second on 27th March 2023 and the final one for OC1 on 3rd April 2023.

The target audience were researchers, innovators and developers whether from the academic sector or private sector with possible experience in open call proposals evaluation and horizon 2020 funding as well as demonstrate expertise in domains such as: Blockchain & distributed systems, smart contracts, cryptography, digital identity, self-sovereign identity, software engineering, computer engineering, multi-agent system, information systems, IoT, digital twin, cloud, security, cyber security, big data, telemetry systems, Artificial Intelligence, 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, Data Protection, context aware services, Smart Cities, FinTech, digital media, education and training, business services, entertainment, Public sector, Healthcare, logistics & supply chain, business management, innovation management, etc.

14 applicants were discarded because they were ineligible, their background was evaluate as not suited for the evaluation of the Open Call 1 or they withdraw of the evaluation campaign by themselves because of personal reasons. So, 41 independent experts (External Evaluators) have contributed to the evaluation of this call. Given the ratio of the evaluators admitted and the number of proposals to evaluate (87), each evaluator evaluates two to three proposals according to their expertise.

4.1.2 Countries Coverage

A large number of countries were covered thanks to the communication and dissemination efforts in getting external evaluators. So, this Open Call 3 received evaluators' interest from 24 countries covering widely Europe as shown in the table below.



4.1.3 Gender Balance

On the 41 external evaluators, 17 (30.9%) were females and 37 (67.2%) were males and one expert preferred "not to say" (1.8%). Even if gender balance was not achieved, we will try to engage more women from next open calls, thus reaching better distribution than the current trends of the women engage in the ICT sector. Indeed, currently only around 17% of the almost 8 million ICT specialists in Europe are women (Women in the ICT sector | European Institute for Gender Equality (europa.eu)).

4.2 THIRD PARTIES SELECTION-STATISTICS & OUTCOMES

4.2.1 Context

A total of 100 proposals from all over Europe have been submitted to this first TRUSTCHAIN open call. 87 of them were eligible and evaluated.

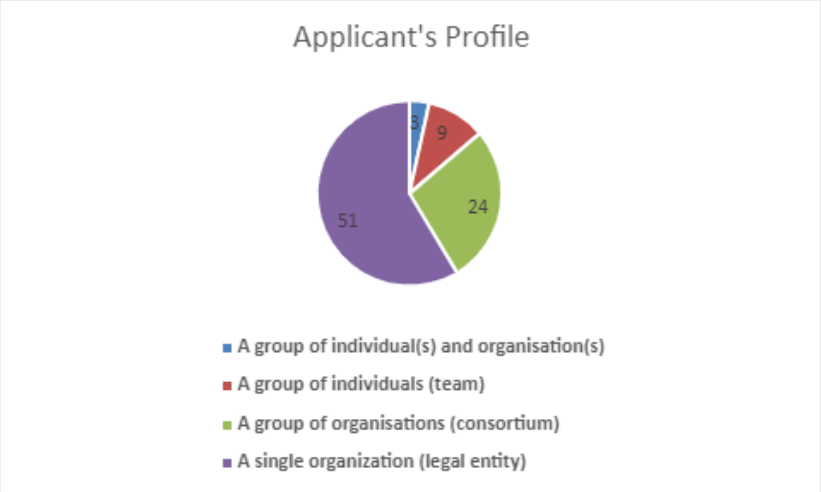
The target audience were researchers, innovators and developers whether from high tech companies including SMEs, academia or natural person(s) legally established in an EU Member State, H2020 associated countries or Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) linked to the Member States.

4.2.2 Profile of Applicants and technology domains of expertise

Applicants were asked whether they were applying as:

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

Out of the 87 applications, 51 were submitted by a single organisation, 24 by a consortium, 9 by a group of individuals, and 3 by a group of individual(s) and organization(s)

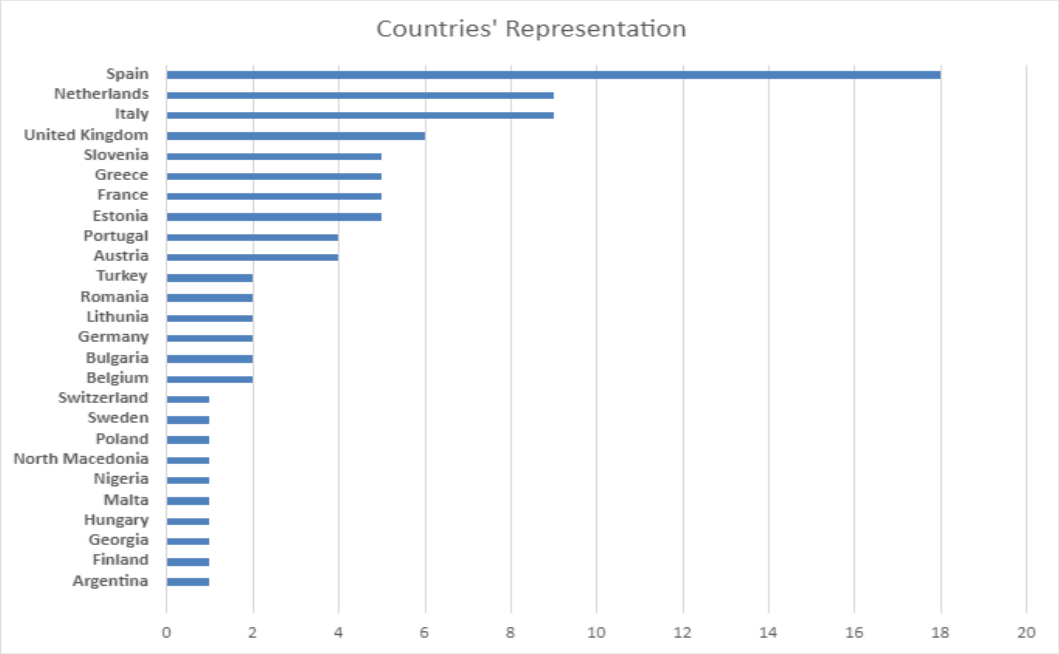


At the same time, applicants were asked to select their technology domain of expertise as follow:

- Data & AI
- Decentralised solutions, blockchain, distributed ledger
- Measurement, monitoring, analysis & abuse handling
- Middleware, distribution, deployment, operations, DNS, authorisation, authentication, reputation systems
- Services & Applications (e.g. email, instant messaging, search, video chat, collaboration, community)
- Software Engineering (Including protocols, interoperability and fundamentals e.g. cryptography, algorithms, proofs)
- Trustworthy hardware & manufacturing
- Cloud engineering, digital twins, edge and fog computing, Digital twins, edge and fog computing,
- Cryptography, standardisation and security engineering,
- Trustworthiness (Including: transparency, auditability and security),
- Privacy and confidentiality,
- Sustainability/Eco-friendliness, ecosystem economics, Well-balanced economy, Green, environmental sustainability
- Middleware, distribution, deployment, operations, DNS, authorisation, authentication, reputation
- Digital identity management, self-sovereign identity, Inclusiveness, accessibility diversity and democracy

4.2.3 Countries coverage by eligible applications

A large number of countries were covered thanks to the communication and dissemination efforts in getting participants from all eligible countries. So, this Open Call 3 received proposals from 26 eligible countries. Spain (18,0%), Italy (9%), Netherlands (9%), UK (6%), France (5%), Greece (5%), Slovenia (5%), were the 7 countries the most represented.



4.2.4 Proposals Selected

After the evaluation process, only 13 proposals were selected from the 87 proposals submitted leading to an overall success rate of 15%. The following presents the selected projects by objectives and topics to whom they belong.

- **DidRoom : Open-source, multiplatform, multi-standard, multifunctional SSI wallet**

Country: Netherlands

Project Abstract:

DidRoom is an open-source multiplatform and multifunctional Identity DID/SSI wallet, compliant with the W3C-DID and W3C-VC standards and with the current "The European Digital Identity Wallet Architecture and Reference Framework" (EUDI – ARF, version 1.0.0 from January 2023) which is the technical core of the eIDAS 2.0 regulation. DidRoom will also have advanced cryptographic and blockchain functions, including signatures, multi-signatures and blockchain interoperability (for Ethereum, Hyperledger Fabric and Sawtooth, and Planetmint)

- **CreatorCredentials.cc: Decentralised Issuer Services for Verifiable Creator Credentials**

Country: Netherlands

Project Abstract:

We propose a project to develop a decentralised user-centric digital identity management framework specifically designed for the cultural and creative industries. CreatorCredentials.cc will develop a software application and a legal framework that can be used by media organisations to provide services to issue verifiable creator credentials.
The app will be based on new and upcoming W3C and ISO standards for decentralised content identification (ISCC), decentralised identifiers (DIDs), verifiable credentials (VCs), and other established online reputation systems. It will be aligned with emerging European regulations on digital identity, such as eIDAS, as well as the directives on copyright (DSM), the Digital Services Act (DSA) and Digital Markets Act (DMA). With the app, media organisations will be able to issue verifiable credentials to creators and rightsholders in providing authentication and attribution to increase the trustworthiness of declarations and claims to digital media content online. This will increase trust and transparency of the digital media markets.
The app will be developed as an open source, dockerized service that can be installed without permission by media organisations intending to offer VC issuer services. It will facilitate the onboarding process, mutual authentication, and verification of credential issuers and creators based on novel SSI trust frameworks. The app will support the creation and issuance of various credential types and subjects, depending on the use case of the creator or rightsholder.
This dockerized service will provide a secure and efficient platform for managing digital identities and credentials, ensuring regulatory compliance, and maintaining privacy. CreatorCredentials.cc will establish a new role for public entities and organisations in digital media publishing. By extending the state-of-the-art in digital identities to the cultural and creative communities and solving existing real-world problems, the project aims to provide new and highly innovative software solutions for credential issuers and future trust services.

- **MUSAP project: Multiple SSCD with Unified Signature API Library**

Country: Finland

Project Abstract:

A Secure Signature Creation Device (SSCD) is a specialized cryptographic device used to generate digital signatures with high level of assurance (LoA). SSCD securely stores locally or remotely the private key which cannot be exported. When a user wants to sign a digital document, SSCD generates a digital signature using the private key and the document digest.
SSCDs are used in applications that require high level of assurance, such as person authentication, identity verification, and signing legal documents, etc. To implement

an SSCD, combination of hardware and software measures are required to ensure device security and signature validity.
This project 'Multiple SSCD with Unified Signature API Library: MUSAP' aims to develop a new software interface called Unified Signature Application Programming Interface (USAPI) Library.
The interface provides a consistent and flexible way for applications to request either low, substantial or high LoA signatures, regardless of the SSCD technology or location of the private key. USAPI simplifies the integration of various systems and services by presenting a standard set of methods and protocols for exchanging data and functionality. Project aims to work on a flexible identity management for end-users allowing them to control their trust relationships (private keys).
USAPI Library allows developers to build eID applications and Identity Wallets that can easily integrate with multiple systems without having to learn the details of each individual SSCD interface. USAPI simplifies the development process, reduces costs, and accelerates time-tomarket for new eID applications, making it particularly useful in the context of citizen's digital services, where multiple independent services need to interact with each other seamlessly.

- **TREVO: Trusted Electronic Voting**

Country: Greece

Project Abstract:

Voting systems have evolved during the last hundreds of years to become more sophisticated and complex, starting from paper-based ballots up to electronic voting machines and internet voting which have been introduced as new voting technologies. However, electronic-based methods have raised concerns about security and the potential for tampering results, manipulation or hacking. The TREVO project aims to revolutionize electronic voting systems by employing decentralized identities rooted on blockchain and an SSI approach that puts the user at the centre of the process from the early phases of the design phase.
The main objective of TREVO is to tackle main challenges in electronic voting that are still open, such as voter anonymity, ballot privacy, trusted tally/audit as well as verifiability. It employs blockchain technology and more specifically Decentralised Identities, Verifiable Credentials and state-of-the-art communication protocols and architectures, following the latest EU guidelines and regulations in terms of digital identities and data protection. The framework incorporates a mobile wallet that enables EU-wide interoperability for citizen authentication and authorization based on well-established technologies entailing trust from anchors of the public sector. A mobile application is the core of the project which will be cocreated with the end-users, keeping them in the loop from the ideation and design process up to the testing and evaluation, integrating their feedback through an iterative procedure. TREVO will be deployed and evaluated/validated in real use cases of a Greek

municipality (Trikala) where direct citizen feedback is needed for addressing issues such as urban planning, wider regional strategies (e.g. energy or digital transition) and e-governance, leaving no one behind, including elderly people and vulnerable groups. The new approach is expected to increase the trustworthiness of e-voting systems in EU and across the globe and even make a step towards initiating the discussion for e-voting in national elections.

- **Orchestral: Identity in an ethical internet community**

Country: Spain

Project Abstract:

A group of ethical internet activists, members of the Pangea organisation, aim to co-develop an identity management system for marginalised and internet activist communities built by mature communities that work with Pangea's digital service and circular device management services. The system will allow users to manage their online identities and access community-centred internet services trusted high quality data according to their identity profile. The system development uses and will be open-source software. The system will be evaluated and disseminated to other communities. The system will be designed to be trustworthy and to preserve personal privacy. It will be aligned with decentralised identity models, including considering EIDAS and build on existing and emerging digital identity technology solutions, but adapted to the target and other similar communities of practice. The system will be driven by the end-user community and developed by a team of developers and researchers from Pangea and UPC. The system, extended with decentralised digital identity according to the community of practice needs, has the potential to significantly impact the lives of communities involving marginalised citizens working on digital services and circular devices. The system will give users greater control over their online identities and make accessing essential digital services easier. The system will also help to promote trust and privacy online in more efficient and scalable communities.

- **The Social Wallet**

Country: Netherlands

Project Abstract:

We're rapidly moving into a digital-first world, which requires a different set of skills. That creates a real risk that certain groups of people will be left behind. Those with weaker socio-economic backgrounds, in vulnerable personal circumstances – old, sick, incapacitated, homeless – or are already marginalized, like certain minorities, refugees, or internally displaced. The Social Wallet project specifically supports these vulnerable people.

- **DID4EU: Decentralized identity infrastructure for Europe**

Country: Austria

Project Abstract:

The goal of this project is to offer developers and organizations a holistic open source decentralized identity infrastructure that makes it easy to build applications using off-chain and on-chain technologies (e.g. SSI, m-docs, NFTs, SBTs) in a way that is ecosystem- and blockchain-agnostic and compliant with EU's existing and emerging regulation on digital identity like eIDAS2 or GDPR. This project is building on and will extend walt.id's existing open source products in various ways, for example, by adding new capabilities as required by the eIDAS2 regulation (e.g. support for m-docs (ISO/IEC 18013-5:2021) and related data exchange protocols), by making the open source code available on every platform (all popular programming languages & mobile) and by improving overall code quality and scalability to support production deployments. Moreover, we are building vertical-specific applications with customers from different verticals to make decentralized identity accessible to organizations and end-users. Considering that the project establishes a holistic infrastructure under an open source license (Apache 2), third party developers and organizations can also use it to build applications across industries with ease. Finally, the proposed project is completely aligned with TRUSTCHAIN's mission, objectives, challenges, proposed solutions and even several illustrative examples for project ideas.

- **IM4DEC: Identity Management for the Digital Emergency Call**

Country: Austria

Project Abstract:

UN convention Article 9 requires countries to take measures for the full and equal participation of persons with disabilities, including access to communication and information services. Despite this, there are still about 1 million deaf and hard of hearing persons in Europe who currently rely on outdated technology (e.g. fax) and help from others to make an emergency call. DEC112 is a non-profit association that has designed and developed a standard-conform infrastructure (ETSI TS 103 479) for deaf emergency chats (ETSI TS 103 698). Since 2019, the association is now operating a system in Austria in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior that connects emergency chats to the appropriate emergency communication centre by utilising location information. However, still a number of challenges exist that are addressed in the proposal and will - in case of funding - be implemented and made available as open source.

- **WIDE: Web3 Identity Integration for DAOs and Education**

Country: Malta, Germany

Project Abstract:

The project proposal focuses on developing a Decentralized Identity (DID) bridge prototype for managing user identities and connecting the European Commission's eIDAS 2.0 initiative with decentralized autonomous organizations (DAOs) on public-permissionless distributed ledger technologies (DLT). This use-case agnostic solution aims to enhance credential access for Web3- native organizations and protect individuals' data privacy rights.
The solution, WIDE, aims to combine existing technologies from traditional finance and the cryptocurrency sector with innovative DID concepts. It features a novel architecture that preserves privacy and user control, while freeing users from the responsibility of managing their data directly. Our DID bridging client relies on existing wallet solutions to empower DAOs to access user data without the need for custom integrations with individual identity solutions.
This project's anticipated impact includes a component for composable verification of verifiers to the eIDAS ecosystem and improving the composability of eIDAS Type 2 configuration- compliant solutions for improved market access of DAOs to the European Economic Area (EEA). The prototype will undergo testing in three (3) distinct scenarios: voting using EVM wallets, enabling DAOs to verify credentials, and integrating with existing DAO frameworks like DAOHaus 'Moloch v.3'

- **CLIENT-DIDs: Client-managed secret mode for DIDs**

Country: Austria

Project Abstract:

In this proposal, we will improve the Universal Registrar tool, which is a well-known open-source project at the Decentralized Identity Foundation (DIF). Parallel to the Universal Resolver (which allows resolution of DIDs), the Universal Registrar allows creation of DIDs across different DID methods and networks. It offers an abstraction layer with a universal interface, which means that clients of this tool can create DIDs without having to know or implement details of the underlying DID method (which may involve blockchains, web servers, or any other technology). This tool can be self-hosted, it should not be operated by a single centralized authority.

- **EVI Electric Vehicle Identity: Protecting driver privacy, while streamlining transactions in public charging stations**

Country: Greece

Project Abstract:

Drivers of electric vehicles (EVs) face significant data privacy risks when charging their vehicles in Public Charging Stations. Each charge point operator (CPO) uses different software to manage its stations and collect charging fees. Drivers are forced to sign up with multiple applications to start a charging session in Public Charging Stations. This further complicates drivers' experience as each application requires personal and financial data before it enables the driver to initiate a charging session. An underappreciated risk with the dispersion of information across multiple platforms is that vehicle and user data can be used to pinpoint users' locations and everyday activities. Drivers do not retain control on how 3rd parties exploit their personal data. For example, CPOs can use data related to users' daily location, vehicle type and frequency of charging sessions for targeted advertising or provide these data to 3rd party advertisers that seek to target specific user groups. Most drivers do not fully understand the potential uses of their private data whenever they sign up for an EV charging application.

- **IS-CIS: Information Sharing: consensual, innate & sequential**

Country: Spain

Project Abstract:

We propose a generic framework that mimics human nature in disclosure of identity and has a myriad of different social and business applications. It can allow the disclosure of sensitive medical data for the purposes of recruiting a cohort of a medical trial or guide the disclosure of personal data in a social setting. It could become a de facto standard for identity disclosure from human to IT and enable complex multi-person chains of disclosure.
It reserves control and repeal rights in the hands of the individual. It allows discoverability. It places an onus on the asker to justify and convince the askee. It retains a permanent record of who requested, and who granted, what and when. Our proposed framework does not replace validation– it does not verify the data in the system with external sources of truth – as such it is synergic with all other solutions that do provide that validation. Its purpose is to hand a safe, verifiable control to the owner of the data.

- **PRIVE: Privacy Respecting Identity Verification Enabler for Digital Identity Wallets**

Country: Greece

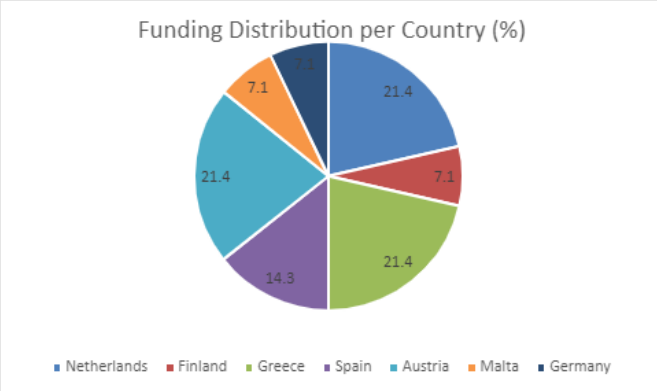
Project Abstract:

PRIVÈ extends the decentralized user-centric identity management framework by building an open source library that can be added as an extension to any SSI wallet on the Holder side to enable the use of hardware-based keys. This offers the possibility

to bind Verifiable Credentials (VCs) to the wallet of the holder and transfer the root of trust of the SSI ecosystem purely to the digital wallet by considering an underlying Trusted Component as part of the wallet, without making any assumptions on the trustworthiness of the other layers. This enables digital identity wallets to align with emerging regulations and standards like eIDAS that require higher level of assurances for services. At the same time, we make sure that privacy-enhancing properties like selective-disclosure are fully supported, in order to make the wallet compliant with privacy regulations like GDPR. To this end, PRIVÈ utilizes a privacy-preserving cryptographic protocol, namely Direct Anonymous Attestation (DAA) to provide verifiable evidence and assurances about the presented VC's origin and integrity. We can now enforce that a VC can only be issued by an attested Issuer and that this VC is bound to the Holder's device (wallet), overcoming the current limitations of bare proof-of-possession of a sw-based key. PRIVÈ follows a user-centric design and implementation, co-evaluated with the end users, thus, envisioning to achieve high level of user acceptance. It is also agnostic of the wallet's implementation and the underlying VC Data Model considered.

4.2.5 Funding allocation per countries

By rules, the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 funds are distributed to the legal representative of the legal entity or of the consortium or to the legal representative of the team of natural persons. In the two last case, a consortium agreement or team agreement is signed by the parties belonging to the consortium or team of individual mentioning amount shared between parties. The figure hereafter shows the funding distribution per countries taking into account only the legal representative's countries. So, Austria, Greece and Netherlands are the most funded country with around 21% each of the total OC1 funding distributed to them. Then follow Spain (around 14%) and then Finland, Germany and Malts each taking an approximately 7% of the funding each. From a geographical point of view, the funding of ONTOCHAIN for this Open Call 1 covers well Europe.



SECTION 5: ETHICAL PRINCIPLES RELATED TO H2020 RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ACTIONS EVALUATION

For the TRUSTCHAIN open calls, the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium aims to strictly follow the ethical principles related to the H2020 research and innovation actions evaluation:

Evaluation must be conducted with integrity and respect for the beliefs, manners and customs of the social and cultural environment, following human rights and gender equality.

Evaluators must respect the right of institutions and individuals to provide information in confidence, ensure that sensitive data are protected and cannot be traced to its source, and validate statements made in the report with those who provided them. Evaluators should obtain informed consent from those who provide private information of its use. When evidence of wrongdoing is uncovered, it must be reported discreetly to a competent body.

These principles have been embedded as much as possible in the evaluation process described above and is reflected by the statistics presented in section 4.

ANNEX 1- EVALUATOR'S CONTRACT, DECLARATION OF HONOUR ON EXCLUSION CRITERIA AND DECLARATION OF ABSENCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

CONTRACTING PARTIES

This contract ('the Contract') is between the following parties:

On the one part:

EUROPEAN DYNAMICS LUXEMBOURG SA (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 as the "Contractor".

On the other part:

[First Name] [Last Name], with Tax ID /VAT Number **[Tax ID or VAT NUMBER]**, address **[Adress]**, with Passport Number/ID Number **[Passport Number/ID Number],** hereinafter referred as the "Evaluator".

The Contracting Parties have agreed to enter this Contract under the terms and conditions below.

By signing this Contract, the Evaluator confirms that she/he has read, understood and accepted the Contract and all its obligations and conditions, including the Code of Conduct set out in Annex 1 and the provisions set out in Annex 2, which form an integral part of this Contract.

The Contract is composed by the following documents:

Annex 1: Code of Conduct.

Annex 2: Declaration of honour on exclusion criteria and absence of conflict of interest.

○ GENERAL PROVISIONS

The European Commission (hereinafter referred as the "EC") and the Contractor, as a member of the consortium, have signed the Grant Agreement no 101093274 for the implementation of the project "TRUSTCHAIN - Fostering a Human-Centred, Trustworthy and Sustainable Internet" (Acronym: TRUSTCHAIN) within the framework of the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme.

The Contractor, following the selection procedure, has chosen the Evaluator to be part of the evaluation team of TRUSTCHAIN.

This Contract sets out the rights and obligations applying to the Evaluator and the Contractor for the purpose of evaluating the proposals submitted to TRUSTCHAIN under the Open Call 1 – Decentralised Digital Identity in 2023.

- **ARTICLE 1 – ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CONTRACT AND TERMINATION**

This Contract shall enter into force on the day of its signature by the Contracting Party. The termination of the Contract will be subject to the terms and conditions set out in Article 10.

- **ARTICLE 2 – TASKS OF THE EVALUATOR**

The Evaluator must participate in the evaluation of the proposals submitted in response to Open Call 1 – Decentralised Digital Identity (2023).

The call was launched the 8th February 2023 (12:00 PM CET) with a closing date of 10th April 2023 (17:00 CEST). More information and the open call material can be found on: Apply – TrustChain (ngi.eu)

The evaluation will take place remotely, using tools provided by the TRUSTCHAIN consortium and the indicative schedule will be as follows:

Web briefing, 16:00 CET on the 12th April of 2023.

Individual evaluation, from the date of reception of the proposals to be evaluated till the 28th of April 2023.

(tentative) remote consensus evaluation between the pool of 2 evaluators per proposal from 29th of April 2022 to the 5th of May 2023.

In case of unexpected event and delays, the TRUSTCHAIN consortium reserves the right to slightly modify the aforementioned tentative schedule.

The web briefing will be recorded to share with experts not able to participate. The date and time of the remote consensus evaluation might change based on the availability of evaluators. A consensus meeting may be needed only in case the evaluators have shown significantly different opinions.

Based on the EC rules, the work in supporting TRUSTCHAIN will be reimbursed based on the number of proposals reviewed, with each proposal corresponding to a value of €50, considering 1 hour to evaluate each proposal.

- **ARTICLE 3 – PERFORMANCE OF THE CONTRACT**

The Evaluator must perform the Contract within the set deadlines and in compliance with its provisions and all legal obligations under applicable EU, international and national law.

The Evaluator must ensure compliance with:

The Code of Conduct (see Annex 1).

The terms and conditions of this Contract do not constitute an employment agreement with the Contractor.

In the event an Evaluator cannot fulfil their obligations, s/he must immediately inform the Contractor.

- **ARTICLE 4 – KEEPING RECORDS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

The Evaluator must keep records and other supporting documentation (original supporting documents) as evidence that the Contract is performed correctly, and the expenses were actually incurred. These must be available for review upon the Contractor's request. The Contractor and the EC are entitled to analyse the evidence to determine whether the Contract has been duly performed.

The Evaluator must keep all records and supporting documentation for five years starting from the date of the end of TRUSTCHAIN in case they are needed for on-going checks, audits, investigations, appeals, litigation or pursuit of claims.

- **ARTICLE 5 – PAYMENT**

- *ARTICLE 5.1. PAYMENT*

The payment amount that can be requested by an evaluator is based on the number of evaluated proposals. All the taxes and other costs related to the evaluation process go to the expenses of the evaluators. The request is sent to the Contractor using the dedicated TRUSTCHAIN Evaluator payment request.

- *ARTICLE 5.2. PAYMENT SCHEDULE*

The payment to the total gross amount will be paid after receiving of the complete documentation for payment. Payments are subject to the Contractor's approval of report(s), and of the payment request(s).

Approval does not mean recognition of compliance, authenticity, completeness, or correctness of content.

- *ARTICLE 5.3. REQUEST FOR PAYMENT*

The Evaluator must make a request for payment to obtain their fees.

To do this, the Evaluator shall issue the payment request using the template provided by the TRUSTCHAIN consortium.

The payment request shall be denominated in Euros (EUR) and the payments will be made by bank transfer 30 days from receipt of the payment request, provided that the payment requirements are met.

All the payment requests shall include:

Concept: [First Name] [Last Name]– Evaluator for TRUSTCHAIN

Recipient: EUROPEAN DYNAMICS Luxembourg SA

12 Rue Jean Engling, 1466 Luxembourg

LUXEMBOURG

VAT: LU17535424

The Amount requested: [Nb. of proposals evaluated x evaluation fee 50€]

VAT number of the evaluator (if applicable): VAT: [Number]

Name of the account holder to which the transfer is to be made: [First Name] [Last Name]

IBAN: [Number]

BIC/SWIFT : [Number]

Name of the Bank: [Name]

The Contracting authority can ask additional documentation if needed for the payment realization.

The evaluator agrees that if s/he does not get any proposal for evaluation, s/he will not have any financial claims towards the Contractor.

The Contractor accepts no responsibility for delays in payments incurred by failure of the Evaluator to provide any of the above information and payment request.

The Evaluator will be liable for all bank charges incurred due to incomplete information they might provide.

- **ARTICLE 6 – CONFIDENTIALITY**

- *ARTICLE 6.1. PRINCIPLES*

With respect to all information of whatever nature or form is disclosed to the Evaluator in the framework of the Contract and identified in writing as confidential, the terms of this Article shall apply.

- *ARTICLE 6.2. OBLIGATIONS*

The Evaluator agrees that such information is communicated on a confidential basis and its disclosure may be prejudicial to the owner of the information, and understands that:

It will not, during the term of TRUSTCHAIN and for a period of five (5) years from the expiration date of the Contract; use any such information for any purpose other than in accordance with the terms of the Contract.

It will, during the term of the Contract and for a period of five (5) years from the expiration date of the Contract, treat the same as (and to procure that the same be kept) confidential, provided always that such agreement and undertaking shall not extend to any information which the Evaluator can show:

was, at the time of disclosure to the Evaluator, published or otherwise generally available to the public, or

has, after disclosure to the Evaluator, been published or become generally available to the public otherwise than through any act or omission on the part of the Evaluator, or

was already in the possession of the Evaluator, without any restrictions on disclosure, at the time of disclosure to the Evaluator, or

was rightfully acquired from others without any undertaking of confidentiality; or

is subsequently independently developed by the Evaluator without use of the information provided by the Contractor.

In case of breach of the confidential rules hereinabove set, the Evaluator will remain solely liable towards possible claims.

- **ARTICLE 7 – CHECK, AUDITS AND INVESTIGATIONS**

The European Commission may, during the implementation of the action or afterwards, carry out checks and audits to ascertain compliance with the proper implementation of the tasks (including assessment of deliverables and reports) under this Contract and whether the Evaluator is meeting their obligations.

It may do so throughout the Contract's validity and up to five years starting from the date of the end of TRUSTCHAIN. The Evaluator must provide - within the deadline requested - any information and data in addition to reports already submitted. The Evaluator must allow access to sites and premises on which the tasks specified in this Contract are performed.

The EC has the right of access for the purpose of checks and audits.

Findings in checks, audits or investigations may lead to the reduction or rejection of fees, rejection of claims for allowances and expenses, or recovery of undue amounts.

Moreover, findings arising from an OLAF investigation may lead to criminal prosecution under national law.

- **ARTICLE 8 – EFFECTS OF BREACHING CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS**

- *ARTICLE 8.1. SUSPENSION OF THE PAYMENT DEADLINE*

The Contractor may at any point suspend the payment deadline if a request for payment cannot be processed because it does not comply with the Contract's provisions.

The Contractor must formally notify the Evaluator of the suspension and the reasons for it.

The suspension takes effect on the date the notification is sent by the Contractor.

If the condition for suspending the payment deadline as referred to above is no longer met, the suspension will be lifted - and the remaining period will resume.

If the suspension exceeds two months, the Evaluator may ask the Contractor if the suspension will continue.

If the payment deadline has been suspended due to the non-compliance of the reports (see Article 3) and the revised report or deliverables or payment request is not submitted or was submitted but is also rejected, the Contracting Party may also terminate the Contract (see Article 10).

- *ARTICLE 8.2. REDUCTION OR REJECTION OF FEES*

The Contractor may reject (parts of) the fees if they do not fulfil the conditions set out in Article 4.

The Contractor may reduce the fee if the Evaluator is in breach of any of their other obligations under the Contract (including the obligations set out in the Code of Conduct).

The Contractor must formally notify the Evaluator of its intention, include the reasons why, and invite him/her to submit any observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the Contractor does not accept these observations, it will formally notify confirmation of the rejection or reduction.

- **ARTICLE 9 – SUSPENSION OF THE CONTRACT**

The Contractor may suspend implementation of the Contract or any part of it, if the Evaluator is not able to fulfil their obligation to carry out the work required.

The Contractor must formally notify the Evaluator of its intention, include the reasons why and invite him/her to submit any observations within seven days of receiving notification.

If the Contractor does not accept these observations, it will formally notify confirmation of the suspension.

The suspension will take effect on the date the notification is sent by the Contractor.

If the reasons for suspending implementation of the Contract are no longer valid, the suspension may be lifted and implementation may be resumed. The Contractor will formally notify the Evaluator if the suspension is lifted and the Contract will be amended if necessary (see Article 13), unless it has been terminated (see Article 10).

ARTICLE 10 – TERMINATION OF THE CONTRACT

The Contractor may at any moment terminate the Contract if the Evaluator:

is not performing their tasks or is performing them poorly; or

has committed substantial errors, irregularities, or fraud, or is in serious breach of their obligations under the selection procedure or under the Contract, including false declarations and obligations relating to the Code of Conduct.

The Contractor must formally notify the Evaluator of its intention, include the reasons why and invite him/her to submit any observations within 30 days of receiving notification. If the Contractor does not accept these observations, it will formally notify confirmation of the termination.

The termination will take effect on the date the notification is sent by the Contractor.

The Evaluator may at any moment terminate the Contract if s/he is not able to fulfil their obligations in carrying out the work required.

The Evaluator must formally notify the Contractor and include the reasons why by giving 15 days' notice.

The termination will take effect on the date the Contractor will formally notify confirmation of the termination.

Only fees for days worked before termination may be paid.

The Evaluator must submit the payment request for the tasks already executed on the date of termination within 30 days from the date of termination.

On termination of the Contract, the Contractor may hire another Evaluator to carry out or finish the work. It may claim from the Evaluator all extra costs incurred while doing this, without prejudice to any other rights or guarantees it may have under the Contract.

ARTICLE 11 – LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES

The Contractor cannot be held liable for any damage caused or sustained by the Evaluator during or because of performing the Contract, except in the event of the Contractor's wilful misconduct or gross negligence.

ARTICLE 12 – FORCE MAJEURE

'Force majeure' means any situation or event that:

- prevents either party from fulfilling their obligations under the Contract.
- was unforeseeable, exceptional and beyond the parties' control.
- was not due to error or negligence on their part or on the part of third parties involved in implementing the action,
- and proves to be inevitable despite exercising due diligence.

A force majeure must be immediately and formally notified to the other Party. Notification must include details of the situation's nature, likely duration and expected effects.

The Party faced with a force majeure will not be held in breach of its contractual obligations if the force majeure has prevented it from fulfilling them.

- **ARTICLE 13 – AMENDMENTS TO THE CONTRACT**

In justified cases - and provided that the amendment does not entail changes to the Contract which would call into question the selection procedure - any party may request an amendment.

Amendments must be made before new contractual obligations are enforced.

The party requesting an amendment must formally notify the other party the requested amendment in writing with the reasons why.

Any amendment to this Contract shall be done in writing and shall be duly signed by both Contracting parties.

- **ARTICLE 14 – APPLICABLE LAW AND DISPUTE OF SETTLEMENTS**

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

Disputes concerning the Contract's interpretation, application or validity that cannot be settled amicably must be brought before the courts of Brussels.

The Contracting Parties have caused this Contract to be duly signed by the undersigned authorized representatives in three (3) copies the day and year first below written:

For : (the Beneficiary) **Mr/Ms** : ..... Independent expert, **Signature:** **Done in** ..... **on DD/MM/YYYY**	**EUROPEAN DYNAMICS Luxembourg SA** Mr Konstantinos Velentzas, legal representative **Signature:** **Done in** Luxembourg **on DD/MM/YYYY**

ANNEX 1 - CODE OF CONDUCT FOR EVALUATORS

ARTICLE 1 – PERFORMANCE OF THE CONTRACT

The Evaluator works independently, in a personal capacity and not on behalf of any organization.

The Evaluator must:

Evaluate each proposal in a confidential and fair way, in accordance with the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 Guidelines for Applicants and the evaluation documents provided by the Contractor in each of the evaluation stages.

Assist the Contractor or relevant service to the best of their abilities, professional skills, knowledge and applying the highest ethical and moral standards.

Follow any instructions and time-schedules given by the Contractor or relevant service and deliver consistently high-quality work.

The Evaluator may not delegate another person to carry out the work or be replaced by any other person.

If a legal entity involved in a proposal approaches the Evaluator during the evaluation of this proposal, s/he must immediately inform the Contractor or relevant service.

ARTICLE 2 – OBLIGATIONS OF IMPARTIALITY

The Evaluator must perform their work impartially. To this end, the Evaluator is required to:

Inform the Contractor of any conflicts of interest arising in the course of their work including of any proposal competing with the proposal where the Evaluator may have a conflict of interest.

Confirm there is no conflict of interest for each proposal s/he is evaluating by signing a declaration of honour included in Annex 2.

Definition of the conflict of interest - For a given proposal, a conflict of interest exists if an Evaluator:

- Was involved in the preparation of the proposal.
- Stands to benefit directly or indirectly if the proposal is accepted.
- Has a close family or personal relationship with any person representing an applicant legal entity.
- Is a director, trustee or partner or is in any way involved in the management of an applicant legal entity.
- Is employed or contracted by one of the applicant legal entities or any named subcontractors.

- Is a member of any of the beneficiaries of the TRUSTCHAIN consortium.

In the following situations the Contractor will decide whether a conflict of interest exists, considering the objective circumstances, available information, and related risks when an Evaluator:

- Was employed by one of the applicant legal entities in the last three years.
- Is involved in a contract or grant agreement, grant decision or membership of management structures (e.g. member of management or advisory board, etc.) or research collaboration with an applicant legal entity or the fellow researcher, or had been so in the last three years.
- Is in any other situation that could cast doubt on their ability to participate in the evaluation of the proposal impartially, or that could reasonably appear to do so in the eyes of an external third party.

2. Consequences of conflicts of interest:

If a conflict of interest is reported by the Evaluator or established by the Contractor, the Evaluator must not evaluate the proposal concerned and shall immediately inform the Contractor about the situation.

If a conflict becomes apparent at any stage of the evaluation, the Evaluator must immediately inform the Contractor. If a conflict is confirmed, the Evaluator must stop evaluating the proposal concerned. Any comments and scores already given by the Evaluator will be discounted. If necessary, the Evaluator will be replaced.

If it is revealed during an evaluation that an Evaluator has knowingly concealed a conflict of interest, the Evaluator will be immediately excluded, and sanctions will apply.

ARTICLE 3 – OBLIGATIONS OF CONFIDENTIALITY

The Contractor and the Evaluator must treat confidentially any information and documents, in any form (i.e. paper or electronic), disclosed in writing or orally in relation to the performance of the Contract.

The Evaluator undertakes to observe strict confidentiality in relation to their work. To this end, the Evaluator:

Must not use confidential information or documents for any purpose other than fulfilling their obligations under the Contract without prior written approval of the Contractor.

Must not disclose, directly or indirectly, confidential information or documents relating to proposals or applicants, without prior written approval of the Contractor.

In particular, the Evaluator:

Must not discuss any proposal with others, including other Evaluators, the Contractor or any other entity involved in any form on the Project, not directly involved in

evaluating the proposal, except during the formal discussion at the meetings moderated by or with the knowledge and approval of the Contractor to this purpose.

Must not disclose:

Any detail of the evaluation process and its outcomes or of any proposal submitted for evaluation for any purpose other than fulfilling their obligations under the Contract without prior written approval of the Contractor.

Their advice to the Contractor or relevant service on any proposal to the applicants or to any other person (including colleagues, students, etc.).

The names of other Evaluators participating in the evaluation.

Must not communicate with applicants on any proposal during the evaluation.

The Evaluator will be held personally responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of any documents or electronic files sent, and for returning, erasing or destroying all confidential documents or files upon completing the evaluation as instructed.

If the Evaluator seeks further information (for example through the internet, specialized databases, etc.) to complete their examination of the proposals, s/he:

Must respect the overall rules for confidentiality for obtaining such information.

Must not contact applicants.

Must not contact third parties without prior written approval of the Contractor.

ANNEX 2 - DECLARATION OF HONOUR ON EXCLUSION CRITERIA AND ABSENCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The undersigned evaluator in his/her own name:

Declares that he/she is not in one of the following situations:

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.

He/she or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of res judicata.

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.

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.

He/she or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over 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.

Declares that the natural persons with power of representation, decision-making or control over the above-mentioned legal entity are not in the situations referred to in b) and e) above.

Declares that he/she:

Is not subject to a conflict of interest as per Article 2 of Annex 1 of the Contract for Evaluators (Code of Conduct for Evaluators).

Has not made false declarations in supplying the information required as a condition of being eligible as Evaluator for the assessment of the proposals received under TRUSTCHAIN open call 1 or does not fail to supply this information.

Is not in one of the situations of exclusion, referred to in the abovementioned point 1.

Full name: …… **Passport/ID number:** …… **Done in** ……, …/…/……	**Signature: XXX**

ANNEX 2- GUIDE FOR EVALUATOR

1.1 TABLE OF CONTENT

NA

1.2 INTRODUCTION TO THE ROLE OF EVALUATOR

1.2.1 THE GUIDE FOR EVALUATOR

This guide aims at supporting the evaluation of expressions of interest submitted to the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1: Decentralised Digital Identity. It is intended to support independent External Evaluators and Internal Evaluators embodied in the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium to:

Assess on an individual and professional basis and against predefined evaluation criteria, the proposals received in response to the Open Call 1;

Draft Individual Evaluation Reports and Consensus Reports;

Contribute to establish the ranking list.

This guide contains information on the overall TRUSTCHAIN Innovation Action as well as more specifically on the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1.

A second section is dedicated to the evaluation process and especially to the workflow.

A third section outlines the eligibility criteria, the specific requirements for the objectives of OC1, as well as the specific evaluation criteria for this call.

Then, a fourth section is dedicated to the drafting and the quality of the Individual Evaluation Report and Consensus Report, the latter being sent to the applicants of each proposal.

Finally, a reminder regarding ethical principles related to Horizon Europe Research and Innovation activities is presented.

In Annex 1 of this document, you can find a checklist that will help you remember all the important aspects and rules of the evaluation of the TRUSTCHAIN action.

Please keep in mind that TRUSTCHAIN is an Horizon Europe Research and Innovation action and as such, proposals are not negotiated. This strongly limits the possibility of modifying a proposal after it has been selected for funding. It is therefore very

important to evaluate them as they are, reflecting all the strengths and weaknesses in the scores.

1.2.2 THE EVALUATOR ROLE IN TRUSTCHAIN

The role of the Evaluator in TRUSTCHAIN is to investigate and justify the value of the received proposals according to the regulatory frame of the 5 Open Calls in particular according to the eligibility, requirement and evaluation criteria specific of TRUSTCHAIN.

Part of their contractual obligation is also to comply with the deadlines set by the TRUSTCHAIN consortium.

Evaluators should always keep in mind that significant funding decision will be made on the base of their assessment.

1.2.3 CODE OF CONDUCT

The Code of Conduct provisions here apply to all stages of the TRUSTCHAIN evaluation process from the conception to the completion of the evaluation and the release and use of the evaluation results. Any deficiency in conduct may undermine the integrity of the evaluation. TRUSTCHAIN Evaluators should thus be professional at all times of the evaluation process and respect the following principle:

- **Independence**

Evaluators assess proposals on a personal basis;

Evaluators represent neither their employer, nor their country;

- **Competence**

Evaluators shall accurately represent their level of skills and knowledge and should work only within the limits of their professional training and abilities in evaluation;

- **Impartiality**

Evaluators treat all proposals equally and evaluate them impartially on their merits, irrespective of their origin or the identity of the applicants;

- **Objectivity**

Evaluators assess each proposal as submitted not on its potential if certain changes were to be made;

- **Accuracy, Completeness and Reliability**

Evaluators make their judgment against the official evaluation criteria of the call that the proposal addresses, and nothing else;

Evaluators have the obligation to ensure that evaluation reports and presentations are accurate, complete and reliable. Evaluators shall explicitly justify judgements, findings and conclusions and demonstrate underlying rationale in order that stakeholders may assess them.

- **Consistency**

Evaluators apply the same standard of judgment to all proposals considering the specific implementation mode.

1.2.4 CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND CONFIDENTIALITY

1.2.4.1 Conflict of interest

A conflict of interest can be defined as a situation where the impartial and objective evaluation is compromised for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other shared interest.

The TRUSTCHAIN Consortium will take any action is necessary to avoid any conflict of interest with the proposals submitted to the TRUSTCHAIN calls.

Evaluators have a conflict of interest with a proposal if they:

- Were involved in the preparation of the proposal;
- Stand to benefit directly should the proposal be accepted;
- Have a close family or personal relationship with any person representing an applicant;
- Are a director, trustee or partner or are in any way involved in the management of an applicant;
- Are employed or contracted by one of the applicants or any named

subcontractors.

Such Evaluator may, however, exceptionally be invited to take part in the evaluation session, if all of the following apply:

- The Evaluator works in a different department/laboratory /institute from where the action is to be carried out;
- the bodies operate with a high degree of autonomy; and
- Such a role is justified by the requirement to appoint the best available Evaluators and by the limited size of the pool of qualified Evaluators.
- Are acting as a referee of an applicant;
- Are in any other situation that may compromise impartiality, or might casts doubt, or reasonably appear to do so, on an Evaluator's impartiality.

In practice, all Evaluators will have to declare beforehand to the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium any known conflicts of interest or immediately inform it, should one become apparent during the evaluation.

1.2.4.2 Confidentiality

TRUSTCHAIN also requires Evaluators to maintain strict confidentiality with respect to the whole TRUSTCHAIN evaluation process. They must follow any instruction given by TRUSTCHAIN consortium and confidentiality rules must be adhered to at all times: before, during and after the evaluation. Under no circumstance may an Evaluator:

- Attempt to contact an applicant on his/her own account, either during the evaluation or afterwards
- Disclose any information on proposals/applicants
- Disclose any detail on the evaluation outcomes
- Disclose names of other Evaluators involved.

The Evaluators must return to the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium and/or erase any confidential documents once the TRUSTCHAIN evaluation exercise is over.

1.3 TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1 EVALUATION PROCESS

1.3.1 TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1 INDICATIVE TIMELINES

Remote evaluation	Indicative Dates	Who
Evaluators Web Briefing	12th April 2023	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium + External Evaluators
The remote proposal evaluation takes place	From the 17th April 2023 to the 26th May 2023	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium + External Evaluators
100% Individual Evaluation Reports completed	28th April 2023	Internal Evaluators + External Evaluators
100% Consensus reports completed	5th May 2023	Internal Evaluators + External Evaluators
Panel review meeting and selection of Applicants for the online interview	8th May 2023	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium
Online interviews	From the 15th May to the 19th May 2023	Internal Evaluators + TRUSTCHAIN Advisory Board Members
TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1 results publication	Week of the 22th to 26th of May 2023	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium

All Evaluators should be available from 17th of April 2023 until the 22th of May 2023, date of the Panel review meeting for the selected projects.

1.3.2 TRUSTCHAIN CONTACT POINTS

The TRUSTCHAIN members involved in the evaluations and the contact points are the following:

Contact point	Name	Email
Call Coordinator	Caroline Barelle	caroline.barelle@eurodyn.com
Technical Aspects	Vlado Stankovsky	vlado.stankovski@fri.uni-lj.si
	Muttukrishnan Raj	R.Muttukrishnan@city.ac.uk
	Jesus Ruiz	jesus@alastria.io
Human Centric Aspects	María Pretel	maria.pretel@cibervoluntarios.org
Ethical Aspects	Ruben Roex	ruben.roex@timelex.eu
Business Aspects	Thanasis Papaioannou	thanasis.papaioannou@gmail.com

1.3.3 TRUSTCHAIN APPLICANT CLASSIFICATION

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.**

1.3.4 TRUSTCHAIN FRAMEWORK

1.2.4.3 The TRUSTCHAIN Innovation Action in brief

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;

• 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.

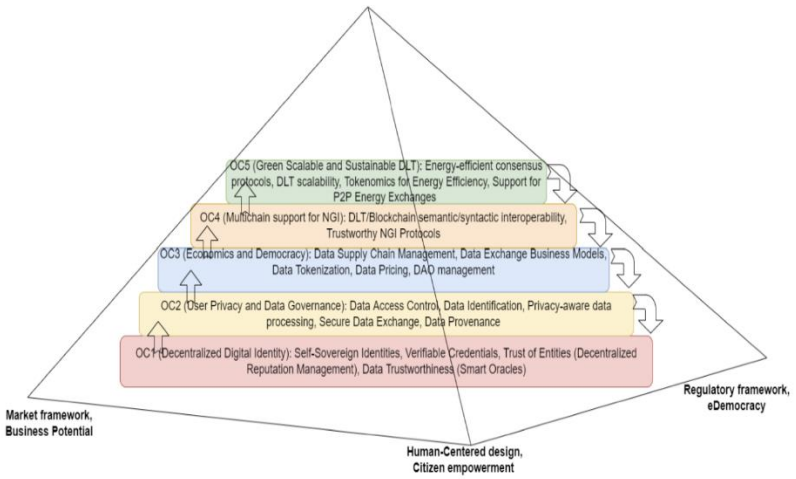
- **Open Call 4- Multi chains support for NGI protocols**

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 for the evaluation of the Open Call 1.

1.3.5 OPEN CALL 1 (OC1): DECENTRALISED DIGITAL IDENTITY

1.3.5.1 INTRODUCTION TO OC1

The call was 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;
- 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 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
5. Any challenges or opportunities relating to equality, diversity, ethics and inclusion arising from their project.

Applicants when applying should **clearly specify the Open Call 1 challenges they are going to address. Those are described in the section 3.3**.

1.3.5.2 OC1 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

open 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),**
- **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.

1.3.5.3 OC1 CHALLENGES TO BE ADDRESSED

The current ecosystem of decentralized 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;**
- **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).**
-

1.3.5.4 OC1 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- 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. **Ideally**, **a 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.

- 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.

- 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.

1.3.6 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;
- 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;
- 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 margenelised individual and their specific needs

- Creative industries (e.g. collaborative production of artistic and unique works)
- Entertainment, leisures, gaming industry
- Tourism
- and similar

1.3.5.5 OC1 MANDATORY DELIVERABLES

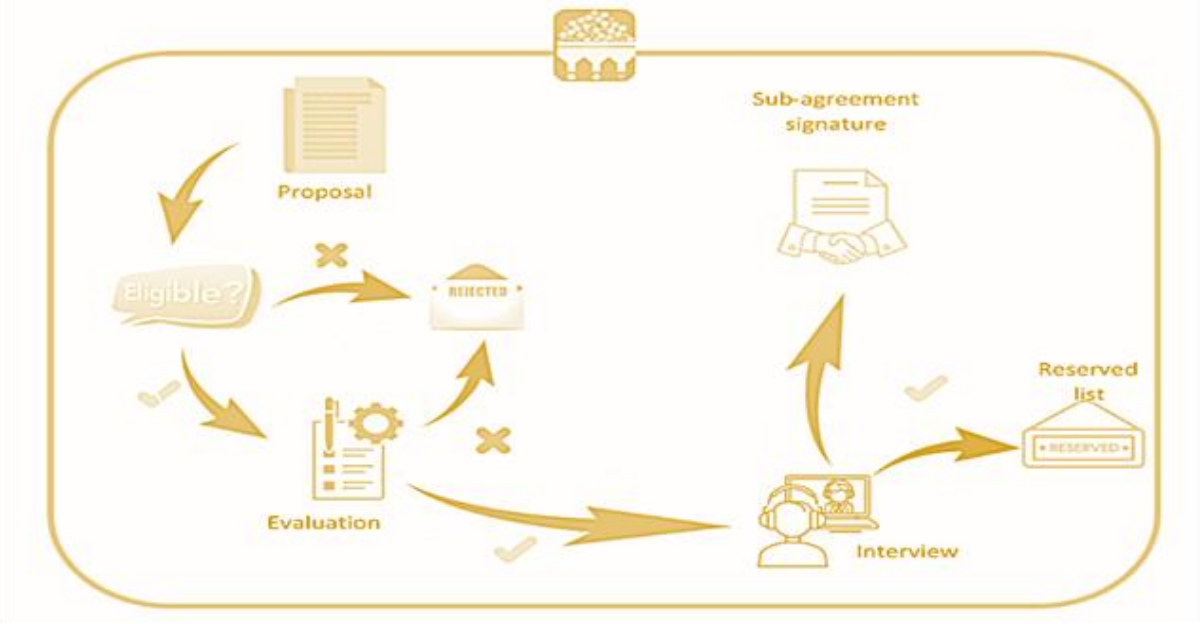
Projects selected and funded by the TRUSTCHAIN consortium will have to deliver four deliverables during their participation process. These deliverables are mandatory. They are defined below:

- **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.**
- **D4: Modularised software components ready for distribution, full documentation for developers/users, final business plan.**

1.3.7 EVALUATION WORKFLOW

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
- **Stage 3:** Online interviews and final selection



1.3.7.1 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 e.g. following the TRUSTCHAIN template.
- Include the research proposal description. **Applicants must strictly follow the template, instructions as well as pages limitation for drafting the research proposal**. 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.

1.3.7.2 Proposal evaluation

The evaluation of proposals is carried out by the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium with the

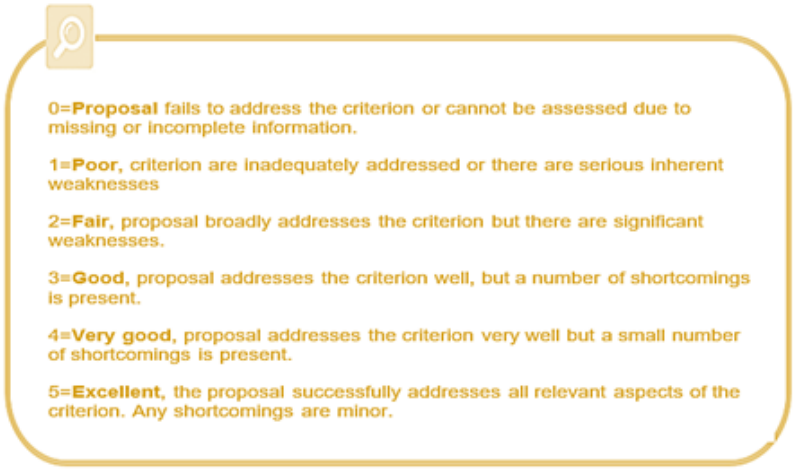
assistance of independent experts. TRUSTCHAIN Consortium staff ensures that the process is fair and in line with the principles contained in the European Commission's rules on Proposal submission and evaluation. To facilitate the independent experts and the evaluation process, the EasyChair platform (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:

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.

1.3.7.3 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.

The indicatives timelines of each phases are provided in section 2.1 of this guide for evaluators.

1.4 ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENT

Proposals need to comply both with the eligibility criteria and with all mandatory elements which are specific of the implementation mode of the Open Call 1 specific objectives and related topics. Additionally, aspects relative to page limits may impact on the evaluation and are described below. Annex 1 of this guide provides a checklist which summarise all rules and specific issues to take into account when evaluating a TRUSTCHAIN proposals.

1.4.1 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1.3.7.4 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 States[1];
- 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.

1.3.7.5 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.

1.3.7.6 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.

1.3.7.7 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.

1.3.7.8 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 were a given legal entity (e.g. large research, academic or industrial organisations) may receive several grants (e.g. from different calls).

1.4.2 SECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

In order to guarantee equal treatment among the proposals, the Applicants are required to respect page limits. The Evaluators are asked to disregard any information contained in the excess pages. Should an Evaluator identify an issue regarding the

page limits, they are asked to immediately contact their topic coordinator.

1.5 EVALUATION REPORTS

1.5.1 INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION REPORT

The quality of the Individual Evaluation Report is paramount as it constitutes the basis of the Consensus Report which is sent to the Applicant. It should therefore give a clear assessment of the proposal based on its merit, provide clear feedback on the proposal's weaknesses and strengths with comments which are consistent with the scores. High quality reports are crucial to the success of the consensus phase.

Before starting drafting their Individual Evaluation Report, Evaluators are recommended to know what is expected from the Applicant thus to check the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 1, the description of the specific objectives. The challenge, the requirements, the context as well as the expected outcomes to be considered by the Applicant are presented in section 3 of this guide.

The Evaluators must also be aware of how the proposal should be structured. There is 2 distinct parts:

The administrative part including any obligatory supporting documents specified in the call and the ethics issues table (see annex 2).

The research proposal description according to the TRUSTCHAIN template and instructions set in the TRUSTCHAIN guide for applicant (see annex 3).

The research proposal description is the most important part to be considered by the Evaluator. It should contain a maximum 10 pages and the following sections:

The first page with the proposal acronym, full title, and the topic(s) selected.

The proposal with**:**

Page count starts here

Project summary (300 words)

Applicant background (Max. 1 pages)

Proposal description (Max. 8 pages)

Concept and objectives (Max. 1 page)

Proposal solution (Max. 2 pages)

Expected impact (Max. 2 pages)

Business model and sustainability (Max. 1 page)

Implementation (Max. 2 pages)

Page count finishes here

It will be assessed against the evaluation criteria set in section 4.2.1.

Evaluators are strongly advised to refer to the evaluation grid set in annex 1 to draft their IER.

Practically, evaluators should provide comments for each criterion/sub- criterion and list them under a strengths paragraph and a weaknesses paragraph. The assessment must be factual and not an outcome of personal interpretation. All shortcomings should be clearly justified by providing concrete examples related to the proposal. No recommendations should be made.

When comments are set, Evaluators can proceed to scoring each criterion based on the scoring scale provided in section 4.2.1. The scores must reflect the comments.

1.5.2 CONSENSUS REPORT

High quality consensus reports are crucial to the success of the overall evaluation and the quality of the TRUSTCHAIN project outcomes. It should demonstrate a consensus of the two evaluators on the quality of the proposal and provide a clear assessment of the proposal based on its merit with clear feedback on weaknesses and strengths.

Practically within the pool of two evaluators per proposal, a rapporteur (from the TRUSTCHAIN staff) will be assigned the task of drafting the consensus report based on the 2 Individual Evaluation Reports.

First the rapporteur aggregates the comments of the 2 Individual Evaluation Reports for each criterion under a strengths paragraph and weaknesses paragraph. When there is disagreement on the quality of some sub criterion, the rapporteur lists the related comments under a paragraph titled “to be discussed”. This phase leads to the draft Consensus Report that will be discussed among the 2 evaluators in particular the paragraph “to be discussed” so that to find a consensus.

When a consensus is found, the rapporteur proposed scores for each of the 3 criteria to be discussed. When consensus is obtained both on comments and scores then the consensus report is ready for the ranking phase and later on to be sent to the applicant to motivate the rejection of their proposal. Selected applicant for the online interview receive solely an invitation to the interview.

1.5.3 THE EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

The evaluation summary report is the base document for the funding decision to be made. It is composed of the consensus report related to the proposal and the evaluation summary of the online interview. It includes the decision of the evaluation board (TRUSTCHAIN topics referents and the TRUSTCHAIN advisory board members) whether to distribute funding for selected projects or to register the proposal on the reserve list.

The evaluation summary of the online interview is the outcome of a qualitative evaluation according to the evaluation criteria set in section 2.6.3 and in particular to the credibility of the proposed project outcomes, the value for money, the collaborative Spirit/Commitment of the applicant, and the business compatibility. **The score for the interview will be the average of the scores of the 4 criteria.**

Based on these final scores, two short lists of winners will be produced.

When this phase done, the evaluation summary report is ready to be sent to the applicant to motivate the evaluation board final decision.

1.6 ETHICAL PRINCIPLES RELATED TO HORIZON EUROPE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ACTIONS EVALUATION

Evaluation must be conducted with integrity and respect for the beliefs, manners and customs of the social and cultural environment; human rights and gender equality; and do no harm principles for humanitarian assistance. Evaluators must respect the right of institutions and individuals to provide information in confidence, ensure that sensitive data are protected and cannot be traced to its source, and validate statements made in the report with those who provided them. Evaluators should obtain informed consent from those who provide private information of its use. When evidence of wrongdoing is uncovered, it must be reported discreetly to a competent body.

ANNEX 1- TRUSTCHAIN ELLIGIBILITY CHECK LIST, GRID FOR EVALUATION AND REPORT FORMS

1 CHECK LIST FOR ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS ON THE TEMPLATE

This template is to be used for the TRUSTCHAIN Call 3 evaluation procedure by the TRUSTCHAIN team to perform the first check of admissibility and eligibility of the submitted proposals.

It has been designed to ensure a systematic and effective assessment of admissibility and eligibility of the proposals before their distribution to the evaluators. The assessor must both control the administrative form as well as the number of pages of the proposal to fill in the template.

A proposal will only be considered eligible if all the "yes" boxes are ticked.

Note that a proposal can be declared ineligible at any stage of the evaluation process. If there is any doubt on the eligibility of a proposal after the aforementioned first check, the Evaluator should report the case to the specific topic coordinator (see section 2.2).

ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

TRUSTCHAIN Open call 1- Assessment grid	**Proposal Acronym :**	**Elligibility**	
		yes	**no**
Type of applicant			
A single organisation (Legal entity)			
Secondary or Higher education establishment			
Research organisation			
SME			
Large enterprise			
Public Body			

A non-for profit organisation, association, NGO		
Foundation		
International organisation		
Other?		
VAT number		
Contact mail		
A group of individuals (Team)		
ID information of all the individuals		
Team leader contact mail		
A group of organisations (Consortium)		
Secondary or Higher education establishment		
Research organisation		
SME		
Large enterprise		
Public Body		
A non-for profit organisation, association, NGO		
Foundation		
International organisation		
Other?		
VAT number of the Coordinator		
Contact mail of the Coordinator		
Country		
Member States (MS) of the European Union (EU), including their outermost regions		

The Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) linked to the Member States		
HORIZON associated countries		
UK applicants		
Language		
English		
Proposal submission		
Electronically via the F6S portal		
Multiple submission		
Latest version on the F6S portal		
Proposal description		
Respect of the page limit		
Acceptance of the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call Terms & Conditions		
Authorisation to apply in the name of		
Conflict of interest avoidance with TRUSTCHAIN consortium		
Fraudulent behaviour avoidance		
Bankruptcy information		
European Commission Regulation No 651/2014, art. 2.18		
Originality and freedom to operate		
Applicant(s) eligibility		

2 GRID FOR EVALUATION

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS ON THE TEMPLATE

The quality of the Individual Evaluation Report is paramount as it constitutes the basis of the Consensus Report which is sent to the Applicant.

This template is to be used for the TRUSTCHAIN Call 3 evaluation procedure by the Evaluators to draft their Evaluation Reports.

It has been designed to help Evaluators assessed the proposals allocated to them in a structure way. Using this grid will ensure that all aspects required under the three criteria are addressed in the evaluation reports (both the Individual Evaluation Reports and the Consensus Report). Moreover, during the consensus report phase it will help the Evaluators in having a structured discussion on the comments to be included in the Consensus Report and in setting appropriate score that reflect the comments.

The Assessment Grid includes a number of questions under each sub-criterion. For each question, the Evaluator should follow the actions described below:

Check if the specific aspect described by the question is present in the proposal

Assess how that particular aspect is addressed in the Proposal by using the following indicators: “Fail”, “Poor”, “Fair”, “Good”, “Very Good”, “Excellent”.

In parallel, the Evaluator should provide their comments in the evaluation report template (see next template) for each sub criterion and under two sections: “strengths” and “weaknesses” (see next template). When drafting the text, the Evaluator should make sure that the comments and the qualitative assessment indicated in the assessment grid are coherent, by using appropriate synonyms.

EVALUATION GRID

TRUSTCHAIN Open call 1- Assessment grid	**Proposal Acronym :**	**Assessment**					
		Fail	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent
Criterion 1: Excellence and innovation (40% weighting)							
Quality and credibility of the research/innovation project, level of novelty							
1.1 Is the proposed concept clear, pertinent, and sound according to the TRUSTCHAIN topic that should be addressed?							
1.2 Is the proposed methodology credible including the User-centric approach							
1.3 Is the proposed research beyond the state of the art?							
1.4 Is the innovation potential (e.g ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or bussiness and organizational models) appropriately demonstrated?							

Excellence/Capacity of the applicant	
1.5 Is the experience of the applicant on the research topic well described and adequate to achieve the reaserch goals?	
1.6 When relevant, is the nature of the reaserch team well outlined and adequate to achieve the research goals?	
1.7 Has the applicant demonstrated the capacity to achieve the research goals?	
Criterion 2: Expected impact and value for money (30% weighting)	
Contribution to Trustchain overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation Internet protocols and ecosystem of decentralized identity management software solutions that is transparent, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant	
2.1 Will the planned research contribute to Trustchain overall goal?	
2.2 Will the proposed solution contribute to an ecosystem of decentralized identity management solutions that can seamlessly integrate and interoperate with any of the existing decentralised applications?	
2.3 Is the proposed solution transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant?	
2.5 Does the proposed solution answers to a real need of the targeted end users?	
Impact of innovation on needs of European and global markets	
2.6 Will the planned research have an impact on the needs of European and Global markets?	
Quality of proposed measure to exploit an disseminate the project results	
2.7 Is the strategy to disseminate and exploit the new knowledge generated by action appropriate?	
2.8 Is the strategy for targeting peers (scientific, industry and other actors, professional organization and policy makers) and the wider community (potential end users) clear, consistent and appropriate?	
2.9 Where applicable, does the proposal describes a potential business strategy/ commercialization plan and how IP property is	

expected to be dealt within the frame of Trustchain?	
2.10 Where applicable does the proposal describe how research/sensitive data will be managed in the context of Trustchain?	
Criterion 3: Project Implementation (30% weighting)	
Quality and effectiveness of the work plan	
3.1 Are the work planning appropriate to ensure that the research objectives and requested deliverables are achieved?	
3.2 Are the planned mobilised resources appropriate in relation to the proposed activity?	
Quality and effectiveness of the management procedures including risk and mitigation management	
3.3 Does the management procedures include risk and mitigation management?	
3.4 Does the plan ensure quality and effective risk and mitigation management techniques?	
Integration capacity in the Trustchain ecosystem	
3.5 Does the proposed plan has integration capacity to the overall Trustchain ecosystem?	

3 EVALUATION REPORT TEMPLATE

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS ON THE TEMPLATE

High quality evaluation reports are crucial to the success of the overall evaluation and the quality of the TRUSTCHAIN project outcomes. In particular the quality of the Individual Evaluation Report is paramount as it constitutes the basis of the Consensus Report which is sent to the Applicant. This template is to be used for the TRUSTCHAIN Call 3 evaluation procedure by

The Evaluators to draft their Individual Evaluation Reports.

The Rapporteur that has been assigned the task of drafting the Consensus report based on the 2 Individual Evaluation Reports.

For the Individual Evaluation Report, the Evaluators should provide their comments in the template based on the qualitative assessment done thanks to the assessment grid (see previous template) and that, for each sub criterion according if it is a “strengths” or “weaknesses”. When drafting the text, the Evaluator should make sure

that the comments and the qualitative assessment indicated in the assessment grid are coherent, by using appropriate synonyms.

When the comments are set, the evaluators can proceed to the scoring of the 3 criteria according to the scoring scale provided in section 2.6.3.

Finally, when asked to do so, the Individual Evaluation Report of the external evaluator is communicated to the Rapporteur.

At the level of the Consensus Report, the designated rapporteur aggregates the comments of the 2 Individual Evaluation Reports for each criterion in a new evaluation report template that will become the Consensus Report. When there is agreement on the quality of some sub criterion, the rapporteur consolidate the comments directly under the strength or weakness paragraphs. In the case of a disagreement on the quality of some sub criterion, the rapporteur lists the related comments under a paragraph titled "to be discussed". This leads to the draft Consensus Report that will be discussed among the 2 evaluators in particular the paragraph "to be discussed" so that to find a consensus.

When a consensus is found, the rapporteur proposed scores for each of the 3 criteria. When consensus is obtained both on comments and scores then the consensus report is ready for the ranking phase and later on to be sent to the applicant to motivate the rejection or the selection for funding.

EVALUATION REPORT TEMPLATE

TRUSTCHAIN Open call 1- Assessment grid	**Proposal Acronym :**	**Score**					
		0	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
Criterion 1: Excellence and innovation (40% weighting)							
Strengths - - - Weaknesses - - -							

Criterion 2: Expected impact and value for money (30% weighting)						
Strengths - - - Weaknesses - - -						
Criterion 3: Project Implementation (30% weighting)						
Strengths - - - Weaknesses - - -						

TRUSTCHAIN Open call 1	Proposal Acronym :	Total score:

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

1. PROJECT SUMMARY 4
2. APPLICANT BACKGROUND 4
3. DETAILED PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION 4
3.1 CONCEPT AND OBJECTIVES 4
3.2 PROPOSAL SOLUTION 5
3.3 EXPECTED IMPACT 5
3.4 BUSINESS MODEL AND SUSTAINABILITY 5
3.5 IMPLEMENTATION 6
3.5.1 Deliverables and milestones 6

----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 3- EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORTS OF THE 14 PROJECTS SELECTED

DidRoom

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 08_2029093

Proposal acronym: DidRoom

Proposal title: DidRoom: open-source, multiplatform, multi-standard, multifunctional SSI wallet

Contact: andrea@forkbomb.eu

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **16,3/20**

Criterion 1- Concept	**Score: 4,1/5**
- Design	
- Reliability	
- Feasibility	
- Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	

Strengths

-The idea is to build a multiplatform, multi-standard and multifunctional SSI wallet.

-Different data formats and selective disclosure are enabled by the proposed concept that is interesting.

-The concept of this SaaS is quite mature and feasible. It is based on an existing platform that supports different standards and that will be extended for further uses cases implementation.

Weaknesses

-The novelty of the concept has not been made convincing compared to the existing.

Criterion 2- Technology	**Score: 3,9/5**
- Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation	
- Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project	
- Technical milestones	

Strenghts

-The technological solution is sound and the ability to reach TRL7 and beyond is there. It is open source, and use the following technology stack: Javascript, WASM, ZKP implemented using Coconut, BBS+, EVM signatures, Programmable wallets. It supports both offchain and onchain identity.

-The team has the technical capacity to deliver smoothly the project expected outcomes.

-The technical milestones are achievable.

Weaknesses

- The User Centric Approach is not convincing. For example, they are claiming to be able to involve their customers, but it is not clear which use case(s) they want to implement in the timeframe of the project, thus what kind of end-users they are going to involve nor in the user requirements phase or validation

one.

Criterion 3- Impact	Score: 3,9/5
- Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	

Strenghts

- The community-based approach is interesting, and the expected outcomes are clear since a multi-platform SaaS aligned with EBSI is going to be implemented following open-source requirements and integrating an holistic approach to answer customers' needs.

- Future developments are also interesting moving to Cloud-based solutions and focusing on Machine identification and key revocation.

Weaknesses

-The exploitation strategy and revenue model are not fully persuasive and missed at that stage further details.

Criterion 4- Team	Score: 4,4/5
- Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	

Strenghts

-The team is well qualified, experienced and has the capacity to perform and achieve the project goal.

Weaknesses

-Commitment to TRUSTCHAIN has not been fully demonstrated during the interview.

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: **42** **(Threshold: 30/50)**

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation	**Score: 4,5**
- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strenghts

-The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. It aims to create and resolve a DID base identity based on Dyne.org W3C-DID implementation, achieve EUDI-ARF compatibility, implement smart oracles for blockchain interoperability and off-chain cryptography and data validation, and cover a broad range of cryptography, such as multiple signatures, hashing, multisig, zkp and quantum-proof.

- A clear analysis of the state of the art is provided and the solution goes beyond it.

- The team is credible.

Weaknesses

- The participation of end users in the UCD process is claimed only vaguely. Pilots with end users are insufficiently considered. Thousands of users are supposed to be involved in the validation of the approach, but it is not clear from the proposal how their engagement/recruitment in this process will happen.

- In terms of methodology, it is mentioned that Dyne.org supports four levels of federated DID creation. However, it is not clear why four is a good number and moreover it has not been made convincing why those four levels will be enough to describe arbitrary DIDs and VCs.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money	**Score: 4**
- Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the European and global markets. - Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

(including management of IPR) and to manage research/sensitive data where relevant in the context of TRUSTCHAIN.	

Strengths

-The solution, if proven successful, could be used in public administration and other domains, e.g. in the educational domain. The use of off-chain consensus protocols, and the great interoperability with existing main ledgers can be instrumental in this respect.

- The proposal has clear strategy for adherance with EU regulations, including GDPR.

- The two rollouts are very nicely planned and their timing is appropriate.

-The proposed strategy and measures to disseminate project outcomes are sound.

Weaknesses

- The communication approach to rich various stakeholders is insufficiently outlined.

- The Business strategy is not well elaborated in the proposal and the business model described does not provide any example for the monetization of the proposed solution

Criterion 3- Project Implementation	**Score: 4**
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

- The proposal contains a credible and viable work plan.

- Key deliverables have been presented that will ensure a good follow-up of the progress.

- Necessary resources will be engaged in order to implement the solution.

Weaknesses

- Risk management and mitigation plan are insufficiently considered in the proposal.

CreatorCredentials.cc

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 09_2030095

Proposal acronym: CreatorCredentials.cc

Proposal title: Decentralised Issuer Services for Verifiable Creator Credentials

Contact: sebastian@posth.me

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **15/20**

Criterion 1- Concept	**Score: 3,9/5**
- Design - Reliability - Feasability - Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	

Strengths

-The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. It aims to provide a verifiable creator credentials app that enables media organizations to issue verifiable credentials to creators by combining innovatively web domain validation, ebsi, electronic seals and blockchains to build trust.

-The proposed concept is feasible. The baseline on which the applicant will start to develop the proposed solution is clear. The applicant will base its development on the ISCC codes and the DID Declarations already implemented by the VeriSimpleDC project funded by NGI Trublo.

Weaknesses

- The novelty of the proposed solution compared to the baseline already developed in NGI TRUBLO has not been convincingly demonstrated.

- The user centric approach is not enough considered and only related to testing when the product is already launch.

Criterion 2- Technology	**Score: 3,9/5**
- Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation - Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project - Technical milestones	

Strengths

-Overall the technologies to be implemented sounds appropriate to achieve the intended milestones

-The applicant has the technical capacity to deliver the proposed project.

Weaknesses

-The cross-chain aspect is not fully clear.

- The target problem could be solved with any generic SSI. So the good of the technological approach is not convincingly demonstrated.

Criterion 3- Impact - Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	Score: 3,2/5

Strengths

- The expected outcomes are clear and based on a real need of the industry thus with potential impact.

Weaknesses

-The significance of the expected impact has not been fully analysed at that stage.

-The exploitation strategy is not fully convincing and missed further details especially regarding the business model.

Criterion 4- Team - Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	Score: 4/5

Strengths

-The applicant's team is multidisciplinary at the intersection of information technology and European legislation/regulation making them suitable performing the project.

Weaknesses

-The integration capacity with TRUSTCHAIN is not fully clear.

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: **38,5** **(Threshold: 30/50)**

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation	**Score: 4**
- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strengths

-The proposal's concept is to provide an app where media organizations would be able to issue verifiable credentials to creators by combining innovatively web domain validation, ebsi, electronic seals and blockchains to build trust. Then the creator would be able to sign and trademark their content while users would be able to verify who created the content.

-The proposed solution is credible. It offers a novel approach to the actual market need for a verifiable creator credentials system.

-The proposed solution aims to go beyond the state of the art in the selected application field.

-The team has a good expertise and the ability to carry out the research is convincing.

-The applicant's team is composed by experienced personnel in the fields of information technology and European legislation/regulation making them suitable for the trustchain project.

Weaknesses

-The added value of the proposed solution is limited to certify media organizations making them able to issue and sign trusted verifiable credentials as mentioned above. The difficult part and the most innovative which includes generating the ISCC codes and making the DID Declarations is already implemented by the VeriSimpleDC project which was funded by NGI Trublo.

-The user-centric approach proposed is not entirely justified. While an advisor has been selected from the publishers side, the involvement of the creators is not planned, neither as part of the team nor in the task plan. Also, no user-pilots are mentioned to be used. Likewise, no user-requirement analysis is

considered to be used.

-While the project provides an efficient way to verify ownership of digital assets, it lacks a clear plan or guidance on how to transfer ownership and allow asset owners to receive royalties or payments.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money	**Score: 4** Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%
- Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the 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.	

Strengths

-The proposal will contribute to TRUSTCHAIN's goal by increasing trustworthiness in digital media market through the issuance of verifiable credentials.

-The app will be an interoperable dockerized service.

-Also, it will be opensource, and the sustainability of the project will be achieved by providing services upon the app (customization, consultation, premium features) or offering a subscription hosted version of the service.

-The planned architecture of the system is well described, especially in the interaction with Trustchain components. It will contribute to NGI TRUSTCHAIN with new components.

-This architecture is adequate to the creation of an ecosystem and leaves room for future developments, as it aims to be open and transparent.

-The proposal targets a clear existing need in the creative industry, for a trustworthy system to verify the identity and the rights holders' rights.

-The possible impact on the European and world market is credible.

-The proposed approach takes appropriate action in regard to the sensitive data, considering it both in WP1 and WP5.

Weaknesses

-The applicant denotes that the app will be eIDAS and GDPR compliant, but it is not clearly described how it will be accomplished.

-The dissemination and the exploitation of the solution are not adequately targeted.

-The strategy for reaching the interested parties is not detailed enough.

-While a potential business strategy is outlined, the IP rights management of the overall solution is not sufficiently detailed.

Criterion 3- Project Implementation	**Score: 3,5**
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

-The workplan proposed covers adequately all activities of the project.

-The outlined management plan, although not strongly structured, seems adequate to this type of action and the size of the team involved. The risk management will be done through periodic meetings, which is sufficient.

Weaknesses

-The resources allocation on every task is unclear.

-The implementation plan doesn't include risk and mitigation management.

MUSAP project

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 40_2055708

Proposal acronym: MUSAP project

Proposal title: Multiple SSCD with Unified Signature API Library

Contact: jarmo.miettinen@methics.fi

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **16,1/20**

Criterion 1- Concept	**Score: 4,0/5**
- Design - Reliability - Feasability - Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	

Strengths

-The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. It aims to develop a new software interface called Unified Signature Application Programming Interface (USAPI) Library so that to generate digital signatures with high level of assurance (LoA). It is solving an important and fundamental problem of digital wallet secure key management with a particular focus on interoperability.

-The proposed concept is clear and feasible while usability is evident.

-The novelty appears from the specific linkage of existing technologies, and it should be the first unified API for every SSCD.

- Access to end-users and customers to pilot has been sufficiently demonstrated.

Weaknesses

- The user centric approach is insufficiently considered since the early stage of the design.

Criterion 2- Technology	**Score: 4,1/5**
- Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation - Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project - Technical milestones	

Strengths

- The proposed technology based on mobile device fit well with TRUSTCHAIN scope, as it will integrate SSCD to decentralized system. It builds on technologies already deployed by the Team and bridge existing solutions. It is focusing on iOS and Android and USAPI library can support type 1 and type 2 for EUDI wallet. The library will be open source.

-The team has the technical capacity to deliver the proposed technical milestones. These milestones are coherent and realistic.

Weaknesses

- Only the backend solution will be provided with a standard frontend to be customised by the end users of the solution which might limit full and fast adoption of the proposed solution.

-The solution is not fully open-source that is a weakness.

Criterion 3- Impact	**Score: 3,7/5**
- Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	

Strengths

- The expected outcomes that are the delivery of an API for SSCDs integration are clear.

- As the focus is on interoperability, high synergies are foreseen with other projects.

- Portability across devices is also a strong point of the proposed solution that will maximise adoption and impact.

- The ambition to have an effect in future development standards is realistic.

- For future developments the team planned to provide support for Type 1 and Type 2 configuration of EUDIW simultaneously that is interesting.

Weaknesses

-The exploitation strategy is not fully convincing and missed at that stage further details. Exploitation of only the backend might limit the full adoption of the solution if the frontend part is left to the end users.

The business model is too vaguely presented.

-The impact significance for end users has not been sufficiently demonstrated.

Criterion 4- Team	**Score: 4,3/5**
- Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	

Strengths

- The Team has the adequate business knowledge and technological expertise. It is highly qualified and has the capacity to perform and achieve the technological project goals in the TRUSTCHAIN frame.

Weaknesses

-The Team has not demonstrated enough knowledge in User Centric Design/approach.

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: 42 (Threshold: 30/50)

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation	**Score: 4,5**
- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strengths

- The proposed project is clearly presented and fits well with the goals of TRUSTCHAIN OC1

- The analysis of the state of the art is appropriate and clear. The proposed solution goes beyond the state-of-the-art with several innovative functionalities.

- The project has the potential to be widely deployed and used by other solutions that is interesting since there is a clear focus on interoperability and standardisation.

- The team is well experienced and is already working in the area, therefore it is indicating high chance of project success.

Weaknesses

- The user-centric approach is insufficiently considered. The proposed API at this stage do not sufficiently consider the needs of different stakeholders such as users/developers.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money	Score: 4
- Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the 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.	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

- The project is highly relevant for TRUSTCHAIN and has potential to counter the ecosystem fragmentation. It is targeting a real-world problem that slows the adoption of novel cryptographic schemes thus it has a good potential for impacting this area.

- The plan to make the solution regulation-compliant are clear and appropriate.

- The Team is well positioned on the market and experienced in the topic proposed. Already existing collaboration with the industry and standardization bodies have been well presented. This is an asset to maximise impact.

- Several high valuable impacts are convincingly presented, among others an open source solution, active contribution and influence on EU policy, new standards proposed etc.

Weaknesses

- It has not been clearly presented in the proposal how can USAPI remains compatible with future crypto schemes that is a weakness regarding sustainability.

- The business model and target groups is described very vaguely, e.g. it is clear that there is a B2B and B2G possible model where the applicant will sell services to those groups. However, there is not any estimation made on market size and potential. This is also not planned or seen from the implementation plan.

- IPR management is not sufficiently considered in the proposal.

Criterion 3- Project Implementation	Score: 4
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

-The proposed work plan and timelines are coherent.

- decent risk management plan

- decent data management plan

- USAPI already starts with TLR2/3

- the implementation plan is well presented

Weaknesses

- It is not entirely clear from the proposal what kind of resources will be mobilized to deliver the project outputs.

- Information regarding dissemination or communication activities are insufficiently presented nor are activities related to market research or commercialization strategy sufficiently elaborate upon.

TREVO

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 43_2056435

Proposal acronym: TREVO

Proposal title: Trusted Electronic Voting

Contact: antonis.mygiakis@konnecta.io

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **13,5/20**

Criterion 1- Concept - Design - Reliability - Feasability - Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	**Score: 3/5**

Strengths

-The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. It aims to developped a validated user-centric designed, e-voting system respecting trust and identity management.

-The proposed concept is feasible.

-The UCD is well considered.

Weaknesses

- The novelty of the proposed solution compared to the existing is not clear.

- The scalability of the proposed solution has not been really demonstrated. The proposed solution will fit well in the context of the municipality of Trikala but it has not been made clear how it can fit in broader voting context.

-The consideration of the legal aspects behind the voting solution itself has not been sufficiently justified during the interview.

Criterion 2- Technology - Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation - Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project - Technical milestones	**Score: 3,5/5**

Strengths

-Overall the technologies to be implemented sounds appropriate to achieve the intended milestones

-The applicant has the technical capacity to deliver the proposed project.

-The creation and verification of DID will be not an issue since they have a local municipality in the team as governmental institution to cover such activities

Weaknesses

- The benefit of decentralized identifiers for specific use case is unclear.

Criterion 3- Impact - Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	**Score: 3/5**

Strengths

- The expected outcomes are clear.
- The close collaboration with local government will facilitate wider adoption on national level.
- Future development and sustainability of the outcomes are planned

Weaknesses

-The impact for end users and stakeholders in the value chain is not clearly identified.

-The significance of the expected impact has not been fully analysed at that stage.

-The exploitation strategy is not fully convincing and missed further details especially regarding the business model. It is claimed that the service will be offered as pay-per-use model but it needs more details to evaluate the business viability.

Criterion 4- Team - Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	**Score: 4/5**

Strengths

-The capacity of the team to perform the technical activities of the project as well as the UCD is adequat.

Weaknesses

-The expertise on legal and regulatory aspects as well as business aspects related to voting system has not been made evident during the online interview

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: **40** **(Threshold: 30/50)**

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation	**Score: 4**
- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strengths

- The concept and methodology are clear according to the TRUSTCHAIN topic. The proposed methodology is in line with the concept of the call proposing decentralized identities rooted on blockchain and an SSI approach for revolutionizing electronic voting systems.

- Overall, the objective is to provide a trusted, decentralised identity framework that is in line with latest EU Guidelines and the TrustChain objective towards an ecosystem of decentralised software solutions. Moreover, the applicants follow EU guidelines, available tools (e.g. EUDI) and strive to maximise the GDPR compliance.

- The experience of the applicant on the research topic is well described and adequate. Moreover, the team include personel with a high-level of interdiscriplinary know-how (Blockchain, Computer Engineering and Public Administration fields).

- The proposed solution seems to be beyond the state of the art and could be materilaised.

Weaknesses

- Voting challenges may be partly outdated since the publication year was in 2016 (7 years ago).

- It is unclear what are actually the missing gaps from TRL 3 above since the project methodology sounds to concise and does not provide concrete development and/or research steps.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money	**Score: 4**
- Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the European and global markets. - Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of IPR) and to manage	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

research/sensitive data where relevant in the context of TRUSTCHAIN.	

Strengths

- The system is aligned to the TrustChain's objectives and envisions to deliver an inclusive and trustworthy e-voting application with a digital identity wallet will be regulatory compliant and part of the project's portfolio of Next Generation Internet protocols.

- TREVO follows the European Digital Identity (EUDI) Wallet Architecture and Reference Framework10 which enables compliance with the eIDAS 2.0 regulation and interoperability with other wallet implementations and aims also to use Alastria infrastructure and the AlastriaID model.

- The project results are anticipated to meet the needs of the local municipality expecting to address also the needs of e-voting at an EU and worldwide level.

- The main dissemination activities are described in a sufficient way.

- The dissemination and exploitation follow focused steps in order to maximise the results.

Weaknesses

- The exploitation of the proposed solution has a valid market analysis and possible exploitation scenarios however it could provide some quantitative data.

- The revenue model mainly deals with the compliance and legal overview where the pay-per-use basis may not be fully compliant with GDPR and EU regullatory in case of data analytics. It would be suitable to touch the sustainability concerns in case where the voting groups would be very small.

Criterion 3- Project Implementation	**Score: 4**
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

- The research objectives and requested deliverables are described in a detailed way. The time schedule seems feasible, reaching the minimum TRL7, described per sprint and month.

- The management procedure contains convincing risk and mitigation management strategies.

- The maturity of the TREVO solution is elevated and ambitious since the TRL level in the last demonstration step indicate TRL 7.

Weaknesses

- There is no clear reference on infrastructures and facilities of the applicant, to implement the proposed research.

Orchestral

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 45_2056574

Proposal acronym: Orchestral

Proposal title: Identity in an ethical internet community

Contact: suport@pangea.org

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **14,1/20**

Criterion 1- Concept	**Score: 3,2/5**
- Design	
- Reliability	
- Feasability	
- Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	

Strenghts

-The proposed solution is fully in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. It aims to co-develop an identity management system for marginalised and internet activist communities.

-The idea is to give users greater control over their online identities and make accessing essential digital services easier. The concept will be developed by mature communities that work with Pangea's digital service and circular device management services. From that perspective the User Centric approach to be implemented is secured. The applicant will have full access to end users that is appropriate. Overall, the concept seems feasible to achieve.

- The social-focused participating organization is unique and can provide potentially interesting user feedback.

- The innovation is convincing since a new service to enhance an existing organizational model will be proposed to marginalised citizens.

Weaknesses

-The baseline on which the project will be developed is not clear as well as if the applicant will be able to achieve it in the timeframe of the 9-month duration.

- Communities that will be involved in the project development are not enough identified. Activists is a broad term and can imply many kind of users, including some who carry certain risks. This has to be clarified.

Criterion 2- Technology	**Score: 3,6/5**
- Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation	
- Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project	
- Technical milestones	

Strenghts

- The proposed technology fit well with TRUSTCHAIN scope.

Weaknesses

-The technical capacity of the team to reach the technological objectives is not clear at the stage of the online interview and it seems that some persons have to be hired in order to proceed.

-The stack of technologies and their interaction have not been sufficiently addressed during the interview.

Criterion 3- Impact - Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	**Score: 3,8/5**

Strenghts

- The expected outcomes are clear.

-The impact significance for end users is expected to be high because the applicant is in close contact with Pangea a federation of NGSOs working on that domains with end-users.

Weaknesses

-The exploitation strategy is not fully convincing and missed at that stage further details. The applicant has already a close collaboration with IOTA and e-reuse. It is not clear how exploitable outcomes obtained with the TRUSTCHAIN funds will benefit to one or another.

Criterion 4- Team - Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	**Score: 3,6/5**

Strenghts

-The collaboration of the Applicant with Pangea is an asset for the project.

-The applicant is experienced with a good track records on user-centric developed tools and interesting collaboration with relevant partners in the development of infrastructure in decentralized digital identity

Weaknesses

- It is not clear if the team has overall the technical capacity to perform and achieve the technological project goals in the TRUSTCHAIN frame. At the time of the interview, it is not clear if the team has all the human resources to achieve the technical goal of the project. This should be secured.

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: 39 (Threshold: 30/50)

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation - Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	**Score: 4,5** Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strenghts

- The proposal effectively demonstrates innovation potential by introducing a new service to enhance an existing organizational model.

- The applicants have strong qualifications, both as independent organizations and as potential collaborators, and their experience appears sufficient to achieve project objectives.

Weaknesses

- The viability of commercial and proprietary solutions is questioned due to cost and control concerns. The proposal lacks sufficient justification for this claim.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money - Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the 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.	**Score: 3,5** Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strenghts

- The expected outcomes are clear.

-The impact significance for end users isintended to be high.

Weaknesses

- The proposal lacks sufficient justification for its contribution to a decentralized ID management ecosystem and its impact on Europe or globally. More information is needed on how it can be integrated with other decentralized applications.

Criterion 3- Project Implementation	**Score: 3,5**
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strenghts

- The work plan is coherent and in line with the objectives and deliverables to be achieved.

Weaknesses

- The proposal has risk and mitigation management procedures and techniques, but they are too general and applicable to any project. Specific risks and mitigations for this project are insufficiently identified.

- Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem has insufficiently been demonstrated.

The Social Wallet

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 050-2057328

Proposal acronym: The Social Wallet

Proposal title: The Social Wallet

Contact: sfboender@sphereon-int.com

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **16,9/20**

Criterion 1- Concept - Design - Reliability - Feasability - Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	**Score: 4,2 /5**

Strengths

- The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. It aims to provide a Social Wallet that will leverage digital identities based on DIDs and VCs and provide a framework for a decentralized user-centric system for identity management targeting marganalised people.

-The proposed concept is clear and feasible since based on already developped technology while usability is evident. It takes into account the current DID standards and is eIDAS compliant

- The direct link of the Applicant with a municipality will facilitate user engagement in the design and validation process.

Weaknesses

- The novelty seems limited and has not been fully convincing.

Criterion 2- Technology - Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation - Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project - Technical milestones	**Score: 4,3 /5**

Strengths

The proposed technology fit well with TRUSTCHAIN scope. It will be open source and a SaaS will be delivered.

- The proposed solution will also enable selective disclosure of the data by the users

-The team has the technical capacity to delivered the proposed technical milestones and the UI. These milestones are coherent and realistic.

- The team has a good knowledge of existing standards in the field that is an asset.

Weaknesses

-The solution delivered will not be multi-platforms/device.

Criterion 3- Impact - Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	**Score: 4,1/5**

Strengths

- The expected outcomes are clear with a clear ambition and possibility to exploit.
- The impact is intended to be wider than the EU.
- A feasible exploitation plan is proposed that will combine open source and SaaS offering.

Weaknesses

-The impact significance for end users has not been sufficiently demonstrated.

Criterion 4- Team - Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	**Score: 4,4 /5**

Strengths

-The team is highly qualified and has the capacity to perform and achieve the technological project goals in the TRUSTCHAIN frame.

Weaknesses

-No major weakness.

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: **38,5** **(Threshold: 30/50)**

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation - Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	**Score: 4** Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strengths

- The proposal is well structured and well written. Overall, it clearly highlights the potential for developing a social wallet based on an already used methodology within a government organisation to incentivise the marginally excluded citizens.

- The technologies are clearly explained and the alignment with ARF digital wallet is also clearly brought in.

- The applicants have the needed expertise having worked on the development of such technologies and have also demonstrated the current implementations they have done.

- Benefits of social wallets through user centric feedback received from the past projects is demonstrated.

- The proposed work contributes to TRUSTCHAIN's overall goal of creating a portfolio of NGI protocols and an ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions. The proposed solution is privacy-aware and regulatory-compliant.

Weaknesses

- It is not clear from the proposal, if the team will evaluate the proposed solution with 1 or 2 other councils.

- The state of the art is not sufficiently discussed; hence, difficult to ascertain the innovation potential beyond state of the art.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money - Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant.	**Score:3,5** Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

- Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the 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.	

Strengths

- The impact of the proposed solution is expected to be high on the Belgian/Netherlands market
- The exploitation strategy is sound.

Weaknesses

- The dissemination plan is restricted only to Dutch blockchain consortium discussions.
- Issues related to Intellectual Property Rights are not sufficiently presented.
- Impact beyond Belgian/Netherlands markets is not sufficiently discussed.
- Management of sensitive data is insufficiently considered.

Criterion 3- Project Implementation - Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	**Score:4** Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

- The project team has clearly demonstrated the in-depth understanding they have in terms of the technology stack needed for the implementation.
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including the planned engagement of stakeholders to achieve the objectives and deliverables, is in line with the overall project plan/goals.
-The proposed project has integration potential with the Trustchain ecosystem.

Weaknesses

- The project risks and mitigation plan are not sufficiently presented. This is a major shortcoming.

DID4EU

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 56_2058057

Proposal acronym: DID4EU

Proposal title: Decentralized identity infrastructure for Europe

Contact: dominik@walt.id

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **16,9/20**

Criterion 1- Concept - Design - Reliability - Feasability - Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	**Score: 4,1/5**

Strengths

-The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. It contributes to a decentralized identity management ecosystem, offering transparent, GDPR-compliant solutions for real user needs. Factually it will be a eIDAS compliant wallet for digital identity that will include government-issued credentials and that will target EU public sector

-The proposed concept is sound, clear and feasible. It is inclusive since it can support data from all over the world as well as different languages. It also addresses interoperability which is appropriate in the TRUSTCHAIN context.

-A User Centric approach is considered.

Weaknesses

-The novelty of the concept has insufficiently been elaborate upon during the interview.

-The approach to engage users in the validation process is insufficiently secured at that stage.

Criterion 2- Technology - Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation - Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project - Technical milestones	**Score: 4,6/5**

Strengths

-The technology fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation. The technological solutions proposed are sound and convincing. walt.id is in high TRL, already available on the market. Also some parts of the wallet are available open-source. The identities can be managed on-chain and off-chain. The working plan includes expanding on mDocs, MDL, soulbond tokens (NFTs, BSTs) that is interesting. on the lines of synchronous and asynchronous flow in identity are planned to be developed and selective disclosure should be considered.

-The team is well aware of recent technological and regulatory advances in the field of digital identity including AMLR, TFR and MiCA and has the technical capacity to deliver smoothly the project expected outcomes.

-The technical milestones are achievable.

Weaknesses

- One minor shortcoming is that the proposed solution is not yet fully compliant with eIDAS and the ARF.

Criterion 3- Impact - Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	**Score: 3,9/5**

Strengths

- The project is ambitious tackling crossboraders issues and the expected outcomes are clear. It is intended to be open source and multi-platform that is sound in the context of TRUSTCHAIN.

-The proposed solution will be exploitable by other TRUSTCHAIN projects that is interesting.

Weaknesses

-The exploitation strategy is not fully convincing and missed at that stage further details. The Market potential has not been convincingly demonstrated and the business model needs to be further elaborated.

Criterion 4- Team - Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise	**Score: 4,3 /5**

- Commitment	

Strengths

-The team is highly qualified and has the capacity to achieve the project goal.

It has already a large community using its products that contributes to the ope-source solutions they provide which is interesting in the context of TRUSTCHAIN.

Weaknesses

-Commitment to TRUSTCHAIN has not been fully demonstrated during the interview. It is not clear at that stage even if claimed, how the team will establish synergies with TRUSTCHAIN partners to integrate their solution with the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem. This is a minor shortcoming.

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: **45** **(Threshold: 30/50)**

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation - Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	**Score: 4,5** Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strengths

-The proposed concept is clear and relevant to the TRUSTCHAIN topic of decentralized identity.

-The proposed methodology includes a user-centric approach and is credible.

-The application is beyond the state-of-the-art with innovative aspects sufficiently demonstrated.

-The research team is well-described and adequate to achieve the research goals.

Weaknesses

-No major weakness

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money - Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the 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.	**Score: 4,5** Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

-The proposed research addresses TRUSTCHAIN's goals by contributing to a decentralized identity management ecosystem, offering transparent, GDPR-compliant solutions for real user needs.

- The strategy for disseminating and exploiting new knowledge is appropriate, targeting scientific, industry, and community peers.

- IP management plan is sufficiently considered.

- Management of sensitive data in compliance with GDPR is appropriate.

Weaknesses

- The significance of the impact on European and global markets is insufficiently quantified.

Criterion 3- Project Implementation - Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	**Score: 4,5** Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

-The work plan is appropriate to achieve research objectives and deliverables.

-Resources are properly planned.

-Risks and mitigations are clearly considered.

-The proposed plan for DID4EU has sufficient integration capacity with the overall TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem.

Weaknesses

-No major weakness

IM4DEC

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 61_2058617

Proposal acronym: IM4DEC

Proposal title: Identity Management for the Digital Emergency Call

Contact: christoph@ownyourdata.eu

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **13,4/20**

Criterion 1- Concept	**Score: 3,6/5**
- Design - Reliability - Feasability - Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	

Strengths

-The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. It aims to developed a software solution for delivering emergency messages and notifications that will use verified identities to connect with government-operated emergency services.

-The UCD with deaf people is well considered.

- The novelty of the proposed solution is sufficiently demonstrated.

Weaknesses

- The scalability of the proposed solution has not been really demonstrated apart from the country where it is developed e.g Austria even if there is some potential to work all over Europe.

- The concept is at that stage still a bit fuzzy. The need for using DID and decentralization technologies has not been well justified. The added value of a digital wallet has not been made clear during the interview.

Criterion 2- Technology	**Score: 2,9 /5**
- Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation - Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project - Technical milestones	

Strengths

-Overall the technologies to be implemented sounds appropriate to achieve the intended milestones

-The applicant has the technical capacity to deliver the proposed project.

Weaknesses

-The relation between the DID and the AI chatbot as well as there integration is not clear.

-Trust is weak in language models even for training purposes and it is unclear how this challenge will be tackled.

Criterion 3- Impact	**Score: 2,9/5**
- Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	

Strengths

- The expected outcomes are clear. The potential societal benefits and the contributions to TRUSTCHAIN objectives is appropriate.

Weaknesses

-The significance of the expected impact has not been fully analysed at that stage. It is not clear for example how many stakeholders will benefit from the proposed solution. What is the share of emergency calls by deaf people Nation wise or EU level is not clear from the interview and thus the significance of the impact as well.

-The exploitation strategy even if the solution is open source is not fully convincing and missed further details especially regarding the business model.

Criterion 4- Team	**Score: 3,9/5**
- Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	

Strengths

-The capacity of the team to perform the technical activities of the project as well as the UCD is adequate.

Weaknesses

- The team is not fully multidisciplinary and UX/UI expertise has not been fully demonstrated.

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: 39,5 (Threshold: 30/50)

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation	Score: 3,5
- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strengths

- The proposal offers a software solution for delivering emergency messages and notifications that will use verified identities to connect with government-operated emergency services.

- The proposal's team is experienced in the research topic and can implement the proposed solution.

- The proposed solution follows an user-centric methodology, which allows users to use and manage their decentralised identities for emergency calls.

- The proposed solution is well aligned with EU and global standards for privacy policy and identity management. It wants to demonstrate the linking between eIDAS conform identity with a Decentralised Identifier for the purpose of digital emergency call.

Weaknesses

- The proposal does not present sufficient details on how to add additional information to the identity; the proposal mentions the use of service endpoints but without clarifying the idea.

- The development of an AI-based chatbot seems to be out-of-scope; the proposal links the training data with DID to solve the challenge of providing better training material for control room operators, which is not sufficiently elaborated and thus not completely clear.

- The proposal does not clearly explain the strategy to link an eIDAS identity to a DID and whether the project proposers have the sufficient access/clearance for such integration.

- The proposal states that the proposed solution is GDPR-compliant, however it does not provide sufficient information on data management and how the solution will be GDPR compliant.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money	Score: 3
- Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the 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.	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

- The proposal describes very well the potential societal benefits and the contributions to TRUSTCHAIN objectives.

- The proposal is aligned with emerging European regulations, in particular EU Regulation 2023/444.

- The proposed solution contributes to the TRUSTCHAIN goal.

- The proposed solution will be made available as open-source, and the statement is backed up by providing Letter of Support the Austrian associations OSSBIG (Open Source Software Business Innovation Group) and DigitalesVetrauen.at (an umbrella organisation of Austrian identity providers).

- The proposal is aiming to achieve TRL9 by the end of the funding.

- The proposal presented a clear dissemination and communication plan, and data management plan.

Weaknesses

- No major weakness.

Criterion 3- Project Implementation	**Score: 3,5**
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

- The work plan is of good quality; it has enough details and proves that it is achievable in the given timeframe.

Weaknesses

- The proposal states that team has a know-how on Risk Management, highlights the main risks but does not provide a risk mitigation strategy.

- The proposal does not sufficiently describe any plans or potential means of integration with other services of the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem.

WIDE

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 074-2059105

Proposal acronym: WIDE

Proposal title: Web3 Identity Integration for DAOs and Education

Contact: matthew.scerri@gmail.com

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **13,8/20**

Criterion 1- Concept	**Score: 3,6/5**
- Design - Reliability - Feasability - Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	

Strengths

- The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. It aims to develop a Decentralized Identity (DID) bridge prototype for managing user identities, and connecting the European Commission's eIDAS 2.0 initiative with decentralized autonomous organizations (DAOs) on public-permissionless distributed ledger technologies (DLT). The focus is put on on interoperability of different identity ecosystems that is interesting.

- The proposed concept is clear and feasible.

- The direct link of the applicant with a university will facilitate user engagement in the design and validation process. Three distinct validation scenarios with different level of centralisation are foreseen that are interesting.

Weaknesses

-The architecture has not been sufficiently explained during the interview.

- The testing and validation use cases are missing

- The proposed project is too scientifically oriented instead of being applied.

Criterion 2- Technology	**Score: 3,6/5**
- Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation - Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project - Technical milestones	

Strengths

-There is a technical capacity to achieve the technical miestones proposed

- Some high level technological milestones are identified: Refine architecture (Month 2) ; Prototype DID (Month 5) ; Enhance DAO (Month 7) that are coherent and achieveable.

Weaknesses

- The transparency and regulatory compliance of the proposed solution are not sufficiently demonstrated. It is not clear how the aforementioned is considered at architectural level.

-The architecture is not enterily defined yet that is a weakness. Some elements of centralisation exist that do not have been clearly justified.

Criterion 3- Impact - Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	**Score: 3,2/5**

Strengths

- The expected outcomes are clear. A functioning prototype will be delivered.

- A preliminary business plan is identified but will be refined.

Weaknesses

-The exploitation strategy is not fully convincing and missed at that stage further details. The business model is not clear yet.

-The impact significance for end users has not been sufficiently demonstrated.

Criterion 4- Team - Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	**Score: 3,3/5**

Strengths

-The team is overall qualified and has the capacity to perform and achieve the technological project goals in the TRUSTCHAIN frame

Weaknesses

-The business expertise has not been fully demonstrated during the interview.

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: **40** **(Threshold: 30/50)**

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation	**Score: 4**
- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strengths

-The applicant is very well qualified and has the required knowledge and capacity to implement the project. The team comprises the required technological expertise to carry out the project activities. The capacity to achieve the research goals is supported by a description of their experiences and previous projects.

-The proposed concept is clear and pertinent.

-The proposal clearly describes the contribution beyond the state of the art and the innovation potential of the project proposal is good and sufficiently demonstrated.

Weaknesses

-The proposal lacks detail on how the technical requirement of applying a user-centric design approach and co-creation process with citizens by carefully considering the needs for security, privacy, human-rights, sustainability, and trustworthiness, is addressed.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money	**Score: 3,5**
- Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of	

Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the 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.	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

-The proposed solution can seamlessly integrate and interoperate with eIDAS 2.0 and its European digital identity-compliant wallets (EUDIWs).

-The proposed solution is interoperable and privacy aware and the proposal well describes these two features.

-The expected impact on the needs of the European and global markets is reasonable and clearly outlined (i.e., improved market access of DAOs to the European Economic Area (EEA)).

-The proposal provides clear dissemination and exploitation activities that are pertinent and suitable for disseminating the new knowledge generated by the action.

-The business potential is realistic and the business model is quite relevant to the TRUSTCHAIN frame.

Weaknesses

-The transparency and regulatory compliance of the proposed solution are not sufficiently described.

-Intellectual property resolution is not so clear at this stage of the proposal.

-The proposal lacks detail on how research/sensitive data will be managed in the context of TRUSTCHAIN

Criterion 3- Project Implementation - Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	**Score: 4,5** Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

-The work plan is well-detailed, clear, and appropriate to ensure that the research objectives and requested deliverables are achieved.

-The planned mobilised resources in relation to the proposed activities are appropriate and pertinent.

-The proposal clearly describes the management plan and the risk management, which are appropriate and pertinent.

Weaknesses

-The proposal lacks detail on the capacity of the proposed work plan to integrate into the TrustChain ecosystem

CLIENT-DIDS

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 075-2059134

Proposal acronym: CLIENT-DIDS

Proposal title: Client-managed secret mode for DIDs

Contact: markus@danubetech.com

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **15,4/20**

Criterion 1- Concept	**Score: 3,5/5**
- Design - Reliability - Feasability - Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	

Strenghts

-The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. It moves away from a centralised approach to a decentralised client secret mode enabling them to manage certain tasks according to DIDs. It will give more control to the users.

-The proposed solution is user friendly and based on previous work. It is open source and its feasibility is clear.

-The novelty is clear.

Weaknesses

-The methodology to engage users in the user requirements and the validation process is insufficiently secured at that stage.

-Secret management by the users entails some security risks that have not been sufficiently considered during the interview.

-The project proposes quite an ambitious leap in TRL.

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Criterion 2- Technology	**Score: 4,1 /5**
- Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation - Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project - Technical milestones	

Strenghts

- The proposed device agnostic solution will allow DIDs creation and management as well as respective wallet keys in a fully decentralised and blockchain agnostic manner that fit perfectly to TRUSTCHAIN scope in terms of innovation.

- The technological approach is sound.

-The team has the technical capacity to deliver the proposed technical milestones. These milestones are coherent.

Weaknesses

-The user centric testing approach is weak.

Criterion 3- Impact	**Score: 3,8 /5**
- Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	

Strenghts

- The expected outcomes are clear and should lead into a portfolio of tools for decentralized identity management. The open-source project is ambitious tackling cross-border and sectors issues.

- The focus of the proposed solution is complementary to other related projects on decentralized identities; thus, it can be employed by other wallets and provide the creation and registration services for different use cases which is sound.

Weaknesses

-The exploitation strategy is not fully convincing and missed at that stage further details. Even if the team does not want to restrict the open-source value of the proposed solution, the open-source model has not been investigated enough yet to identify exploitable outcomes. There is a lot of competition in that niche and the proposed business model lacks details on how to handle the competition.

-The impact significance for end users has not been sufficiently demonstrated.

Criterion 4- Team	**Score: 3,9/5**
- Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	

Strenghts

-The team is highly qualified and has the capacity to perform and achieve the technological project goals in the TRUSTCHAIN frame.

-The team has shown a strong commitment to TRUSTCHAIN.

Weaknesses

-The team has not demonstrated enough knowledge in User Centric Design and it is not clear if they have enough knowledge to perform the end-user validation of the tools

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: 37,5 (Threshold: 30/50)

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation - Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	**Score: 4,5** Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strengths

- The project concept is clear and pertinent to the TRUSTCHAIN context.

- The proposal objective is clear. It aims to solve a critical user-centric design challenge dealing with the creation and management of DIDs and respective wallet keys.

- The proposal clearly states its previous engagements and achievements in this space which gives confidence on the team.

- The team has a relevant background and an adequate scientific experience. It has a high quality of networking, and proven expertise in the domain of DID.

Weaknesses:

-The innovation potential, particularly novel concepts and beyond state of the art is not fully addressed.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money - Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the 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	**Score:3,5** Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

TRUSTCHAIN.	

Strengths:

- The proposal addresses the TRUSTCHAIN goal to create a portfolio of tools for decentralized identity management, clearly identifying contributions and benefits for the community of users.

-The proposal will have a large-scale impact on the overall open-source DID community-building products both in the EU and across the countries. It will promote more robust user control enabled on DID management hence ensuring better control and interoperability.

- It supports the wider blockchain-building community and projects in the EU that is appropriate.

Weaknesses

- The strategy to disseminate and exploit the outcomes is somehow missing, only traditional dissemination channels have been reported.

- Data management of sensitive data is insufficiently addressed just considered as an option to be delivered only if needed. Related issues are underestimated.

- Sustainability of the project is not fully addressed for example a strategy for business exploitation and a related business plan are not enough discussed.

Criterion 3- Project Implementation	**Score: 3**
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths:

- Overall, the proposal includes an effective work plan that covers various aspects of the project. The deliverables of the project and milestones are well-identified.

Weaknesses:

- Insufficient details are provided on planned mobilized resources in relation to the proposed activities.

- The risk management plan is insufficiently detailed. Risk are not fully described, and the proposed mitigation tools/strategies are only focusing on limited and specific technical problems.

EVI Electric Vehicle Identity

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 076-2059151

Proposal acronym: EVI: Electric Vehicle Identity

Proposal title: Electric Vehicle Identity: Protecting driver privacy, while streamlining transactions in public charging stations

Contact: c.stefanatos@parityplatform.com

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **14,4/20**

Criterion 1- Concept	**Score: 3,3 /5**
- Design - Reliability - Feasability - Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	

Strengths

-The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. It aims to addresses the challenge of identity credentials shared and used by multiple services providing a solution that minimized the data exchanged in the context of charging stations for EV.

-The concept is clear and feasible.

-A UCD approach is presented that sounds reasonable and fit for purpose.

-The proposed solution is original in the sense that it will implement a certificate securing matchmaking between payment/vehicle/charging station network.

Weaknesses

-The scalability of the proposed solution at EU level has not been really demonstrate a part from the country where it is developed e.g. Greece and Cyprus

Criterion 2- Technology	**Score: 3,9/5**
- Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation - Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project - Technical milestones	

Strengths

- Compatible with ALASTRIA, also proposes using oracle for off-chain data management

The technical milestones sound coherent and appropriate.

-The applicant has the technical capacity to deliver the proposed project.

Weaknesses

-The wallet will be open-source however the whole solution will be propriatary that will limit the business opportunity especially in the context of TRUSTCHAIN.

Criterion 3- Impact	**Score: 3,3/5**
- Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	

Strengths

- The expected outcomes are clear. The proposed solution will impact the greek and cycprus market of EV charging.

Weaknesses

-The significance of the expected impact has not been fully analysed at that stage. It is not clear for example how many stakeholders will benefit from the proposed solution. Also it is not clear if the proposed solution will have a negative impact on the competitivness of the charging stations.

- Deployement of the solution on the whole EU market is not yet clear and thus impact at EU level limited.

- Some part of the use case is not fully considered e.g. fleet of rental vehicles. The business model in that case is not convincing.

Criterion 4- Team	**Score: 4/5**
- Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	

Strengths

-The capacity of the team to perform the technical activities of the project.

Weaknesses

- UX and UI Knowledge as well as legal expertise have not been fully demonstrated during the interview.

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: 40 (Threshold: 30/50)

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation - Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	**Score: 4** Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strengths

- The proposal addresses the challenge of identity credentials shared and used by multiple services providing a solution that minimized the data exchanged in the context of charging stations for EV.

- The proposed solution is sound and is already at TRL 5.

- The proposal touches many of the key issues of OC-1 such as data privacy that is appropriate and it moves beyond the state-of-the art on some aspects.

- The team have relevant experience judging from the members' backgrounds and projects involved.

Weaknesses

- The proposal states that the private data that can be extracted is limited, however it is not discussed which those data are and how those can be exploited.

- The innovation is limited to the application context.

- The solution potentially introduces an excessive number of identities. This somehow defeats the purpose of a single all-encompassing identity.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money - Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the European and global markets. - Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the	**Score: 4** Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

project results (including management of IPR) and to manage research/sensitive data where relevant in the context of TRUSTCHAIN.	

Strengths

- The proposed solution targets a real need with the increasing number of EV and the UC is clearly identified. The proposed solution can be generalized to all the settings involving hardware devices.

- It employs an energy efficient blockchain that shows the willingness for environmental sustainability.

- The proposal aims at creating identities as described in OC-1.

- The idea of using multiple identities with different 3rd parties is innovative, and potentially has more applications.

- The proposal will be used in a real platform.

- A large user base will potentially use the app. This also strengthens the impact of the project on European and global markets.

- The business model is a good fit for this application.

Weaknesses

- The idea of using multiple identities seems like an easy fix that may lead to identity dispersion. I am not sure if this is desirable for TRUSTCHAIN. The proposal does not provide a short assessment of the trade-offs between the benefits of the new technology with respect to the energy inefficiency.

- The communication strategy is not enough elaborated to maximise impact.

Criterion 3- Project Implementation	**Score: 4**
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths

- The work plan is well detailed, sound and aims to get TRL 9 at the end of the project. The task breakdown looks sound as well as the timeline.

- The applicant has access to an infrastructure EVM compatible where to deploy the technology.

Weaknesses

- Risk and mitigation management is not enough elaborated in the proposal.

- The potential for integration to the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem has not been made clear.

IS-CIS

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 93_2059675

Proposal acronym: IS-CIS

Proposal title: Information Sharing: consensual, innate & sequential

Contact: daniel.field@ust.com

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **13,5/20**

Criterion 1- Concept	**Score: 3,1/5**
- Design - Reliability - Feasability - Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	

Strengths

-The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1. A tokenized solution for blockchain-based data sharing according to a given consent is proposed. Tokenization of consent can have potential to impact the web3 ecosystem and also brings the ability for the interoperability with other on-chain solutions. With the propose solution the consent will be tokenized, timebound and revocable that is interesting.

-The proposed concept is feasible

Weaknesses

- There is no control over the data by the data owners when he/she consents to share them for a specific purpose. Traceability mechanisms on how data usage is compliant with the consent given are missing.

- The novelty of the proposed solution is not clear. There are already some exiting consent solutions in the market and the differiencation from the existing was not made evident during the online interview.

- The user centric approach is not enough considered even if the proposed solution is context based there might be baseline requirements to be gathered from end users in order to be considered for a generic solution.

Criterion 2- Technology	**Score: 3,6/5**
- Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation - Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project - Technical milestones	

Strengths

-Overall, the technologies to be implemented sounds appropriate to achieve the intended milestones.

Token-based implementation and DLT as underlying technology supporting the logic.

The proposal will be Alastria compatible and build on top of standard web3 technology stack that fit with

TRUSTCHAIN requirements.

-The applicant has the technical capacity to deliver the proposed project.

Weaknesses

- It is only a consent management platform, data formats and usage are not the focus of the solution which is a weakness since data abuse can still occured after consent has been given. So the proposed solution solution just solved one part of the problem

Criterion 3- Impact - Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	**Score: 3,3/5**

Strengths

- The expected outcomes are clear and potential impact for different sectors such as pharma, health is clear. Societal and NGI impact are also sufficientlyconsidered.

-The exploitation strategy is context dependent. Depending on context, different business models can be implemented i.e B2B, B2C, PPT, pay by result, Open Source or Consultancy which is interesting to investigate.

Weaknesses

-The significance of the expected impact has not been fully analysed at that stage.

-The business proposition is insufficiently detailed.

Criterion 4- Team - Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	**Score: 3,6/5**

Strengths

-The applicant is overall well qualified to perform the technological activities.

Weaknesses

-Specific skills regarding user centric design and business have not been demonstrated during the interview.

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: **40** **(Threshold: 30/50)**

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation	**Score: 4**
- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposed solution and objectives are clear and sound as well as in line with TRUSTCHAIN scope.
- The capacity of the applicant to deliver is obvious with good technological expertise.

Weaknesses:

-The implementation of a user-centric approach is poorly substantiated without proper identification of end users.

- The novelty has not been made fully evident in the proposal.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money	**Score:3,5**
- Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the 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.	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strenghts:

- The outcomes are clear with potial for impact : flexible identity management options will allow users to

define and modify their own trust relationships and guardrails ensuring that specific parts of identity information are disclosed uniquely with consent

- Market-specific validation cases are presented to assess impact of the innovation that is sound.

- With the developement of the proposed solution, a potential contribution to eIDAS2 can be envisaged.

Weaknesses:

-The sustainability requirement/environmental impact is not sufficiently considered and assessed.

- The definition of the business model and go-to-market strategy is not satisfactorily developped. The description is too high level.

- There is a lack of organicity in dissemination strategy that is a shortcoming.

Criterion 3- Project Implementation	**Score: 4,5**
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%

Strengths:

- The proposed workplan is coherent and in line with the objectives and deliverables to achieve. Resources mobilisation is adequat with the activities to perform.

- The procedure for risk and mitigation management is appropriate.

- The proposed solution has the potential to be integrated in TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem.

Weaknesses:

- No major weaknesses

PRIVÈ

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 1

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 99_2059821

Proposal acronym: PRIVÈ

Proposal title: Privacy Respecting Identity Verification Enabler for Digital Identity Wallets

Contact: agiannetsos@ubitech.eu

Overall Comments

The proposal is selected for funding.

Form information

SCORING

Scores are assigned on a scale from 0 to 5.

Interpretation of the score:

0– The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

1– Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

2– Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

3– Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

4– Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

5– Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

Evaluation result – Online interview

Total score: **15/20**

Criterion 1- Concept	**Score: 3,3 /5**
- Design - Reliability - Feasability - Novelty of the product or service concept proposed	

Strengths

-The proposed solution is in the scope of the TRUSTCHAIN OC1 in aiming to achieve high Level of Assurance (LoA) in electronic identification. It focuses on user privacy and will enable user-controlled anonymity. It considers hardware for storing trust anchors for VCs that is sound.

-The concept is feasible within the 9 months duration of the project and based on the CAP portal developed in another NGI projects.

Weaknesses

-The novelty of the proposed solution has not been convincingly demonstrated.

-The methodology to engage users in the user requirements and the validation process is insufficiently secured at that stage even if a plan exists for example with the Greek Ministry of Digitisation. A plan for usability testing is also for example missing some details.

Criterion 2- Technology	**Score: 3,9/5**
- Technology and business fit to TRUSTCHAIN scope innovation - Technical capacity to deliver the proposed project - Technical milestones	

Strengths

- The proposed technology considers different aspects of digital identity that is sound. It will allow to bind Verifiable Credentials (VCs) to the wallet of the holder while supporting privacy-enhancing properties like selective-disclosure that fit well into TRUSTCHAIN scope. It will use privacy-preserving cryptographic protocol, namely Direct Anonymous Attestation (DAA) to provide verifiable evidence and assurances about the presented VC's origin and integrity. The proposed solution will moreover support cross device cooperation that is appropriate.

-The consideration of hardware for storing trust anchors makes the proposed solution complementary to other solutions on decentralized identities that is interesting in the TRUSTCHAIN context.

-The team has the technical capacity to deliver the proposed technical milestones.

Weaknesses

- A clear implementation framework is missing

- Revocation will not be addressed during this OC1 that is a drawback.

Criterion 3- Impact - Expected output - Ambition - Exploitation plan - Future developments	**Score: 3,4/5**

Strengths

- The expected outcomes are clear.

- Collaboration with the Greek Ministry of Digitisation exists that is an asset for potential exploitation.

Weaknesses

- At that stage, in terms of exploitation, it is intended to implement a subscription fee for service providers to use the proposed infrastructure for their services. The exploitation strategy is not fully convincing and missed further details especially in terms of feasibility.

-The impact significance for end users has not been sufficiently demonstrated. Moreover, the team need to collaborate with the Greek ministry to become a fully trusted partner for identity that is not in favor of user engagement.

Criterion 4- Team - Capacity to perform - Knowledge, Technological and Business expertise - Commitment	**Score: 4,4/5**

Strengths

-The team is highly qualified and has the capacity to perform and achieve the technological project goals in the TRUSTCHAIN frame.

Weaknesses

-The team has not demonstrated convincing knowledge in User Centric Design.

Evaluation result – Proposal

Total score: 41 (Threshold: 30/50)

Criterion 1- Excellence and Innovation	**Score: 3,5**
- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context and credibility of the proposed methodology including the user centric approach - Extent that the proposed work is beyond the state of the art and demonstrate innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution	Threshold: 4 Weight: 40%

Strengths

-The proposed solution aims to achieve high Level of Assurance (LoA) in electronic identification by isolating the keys from holder (of the VCs) while still being stored in the user domain and by binding the identity data to the holder, while guaranteeing user privacy by selective disclosure.

-The overall goal is clear. It includes specific conceptual objectives, that are clear, measurable, realistic, and achievable within the duration of the project. The target group is clearly identified. The important assumptions for the accomplishment of the project objective and output are set up appropriately. The project is in line with the needs of the target country and society as well as with the needs of the target group.

-The private key of the holder is proposed to be hardware-based. The proposed solution is currently TRL 5 and it has been developed within eSSIF Lab and previously DOOR projects which is in line with TRUSTCHAIN scope.

Weaknesses

-A convincing comparison with other state of the art solutions for SSI-VCs to clarify innovation is missing.

-The solution will be evaluated by means of real users, but the approach is not adequately discussed. For example, although it is claimed that real patients will participate in the evaluation of the solution, it is also mentioned that no real health data will be used. Thus, it is not clear whether the user feedback will be useful in such a scenario. On top, the number of patients to be involved in user pilots is not enough justified.

-This solution is not blockchain-based, which the applicants claim it to make the solution more energy-efficient. High energy consumption is not there for PoA/PoS blockchain solutions. Moreover, the absence of a blockchain logging may harm the durability or availability of the linkage of DIDs to VCs or the

strength of trust anchoring. A real pros and cons comparison with blockchain-based approaches, especially in the domain of medical records, would be more appropriate here.

Criterion 2- Expected impact and Value for Money	**Score: 4,5** Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%
- Contribution to TRUSTCHAIN overall goal to create a portfolio of Next Generation protocols and ecosystem of decentralised identity management software solutions that is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant. - Impact of the proposed innovation on the needs of the 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.	

Strengths

- The impact of the proposed approach has been analysed for various stakeholders. The project is consistent with the development policy of the partner country, with TRUSTCHAIN objectives and with national's plan for country-specific program implementation.

- The project is adequate as a strategy to produce an effect with respect to the development issues of the target field and sector (artificial intelligence (AI), virtual reality, blockchain and sustainable energy) of the partner country.

-The project contains a sound strategy for the dissemination of its outputs.

Weaknesses

- There is already a multitude of solutions for SSI/VC management on the market that have been developed recently. It is not clear how the propose exploitation strategy and business model will enable winning over this competition.

- Sufficient details and information's are missing on ripple effects of the investment. For example, the team did not preview any effects or influences beyond the overall goal assumed, like the influence on the establishment of policies and on the preparation of laws, systems, standards and the like, Influence from technological changes, etc.

Criterion 3- Project Implementation	**Score: 4,5** Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%
- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan including extent 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	

Strengths

-The implementation plan is credible overall.

- Milestones and deliverables are coherents.

- The plan maintenance and management activities to ensure the sustainability of the project outcomes is adequat.

Weaknesses

-The dissemination plan is too vaguely discussed

ANNEX 4- ONTOCHAIN OC3 CONTRACT MODEL FOR THIRD PARTIES SELECTED

Standard Research Contract

- 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	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 : -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]**

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
The selected third Party(ies) attend several mandatory internal events organised with the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium: -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]**

Financial conditions	
Financial Support	-Team of natural persons: 97K € + 2K € -Legal entity(ies): 115K €+ 2K €
Schedule of payment	**-** Pre-financing:M2 - First Interim payment:M4 - Second interim payment: M7 - Final payment: End of the project

Payment conditions	
Payment conditions	○ **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 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. ○ **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 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. ○ **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 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. ○ **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 TRUSCHAIN. 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. ○ **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.

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: **Name:** **Title:** **Date:**	**Signature of the authorized representative:** **[Complete]** **Name:[Complete]** **Title:[Complete]** **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

PRIVACY STATEMENT http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/financial_id/financial_id_en.cfm#en

Please use CAPITAL LETTERS and LATIN CHARACTERS when filling in the form.

BANKING DETAILS ①

ACCOUNT NAME ②	
IBAN/ACCOUNT NUMBER ③	
CURRENCY	
BIC/SWIFT CODE	BRANCH CODE ④
BANK NAME	

ADDRESS OF BANK BRANCH

STREET & NUMBER	
TOWN/CITY	POSTCODE
COUNTRY	

ACCOUNT HOLDER'S DATA

AS DECLARED TO THE BANK

ACCOUNT HOLDER	
STREET & NUMBER	
TOWN/CITY	POSTCODE
COUNTRY	

REMARK	

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
ED	Outcomes jointly acquired during EU projects such as ONTOCHAIN grant agreement 957338	According to ONTOCHAIN Consortium agreement
UL	Outcomes jointly acquired during EU projects such as ONTOCHAIN grant agreement 957338	According to ONTOCHAIN Consortium agreement
AUEB	STEcon 360 BME (Business Model Evaluator) s/w tool Outcomes jointly acquired during EU projects such as ONTOCHAIN grant agreement 957338	NA According to ONTOCHAIN Consortium agreement
ALA	Data and information necessary to implement the action or exploit the results	No restrictions for other beneficiaries, access on a royalty-free basis, under fair and reasonable conditions
ICS	NA	NA

CIB	Data and information necessary to implement the action or exploit the results	No restrictions for other beneficiaries, access on a royalty-free basis, under fair and reasonable conditions
TLX	NA	NA
F6S	NA	NA

- 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:_____ **On behalf of SME:_____**	**Signature and stamp (if applicable)** **[Complete]**
Done at (place)_____ the (day)_____(month)_____(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:

☐	**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. * ***Note****: there are exceptions for certain types of investors. See Article 3(2)(D) in the Annex of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC.*
☐	**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.
☐	**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.