

D2.13 EVALUATION, SELECTION AND CONTRACTING REPORT- OPEN CALL 3



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D2.13 EVALUATION, SELECTION AND CONTRACTING REPORT- OPEN CALL 3

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the deliverable “D2.13 – Evaluation, Selection and Contracting Report 3” 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 3 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 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 3 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.

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SECTION 1: EVALUATOR ROLE AND GUIDELINE FOR OPEN CALL 3

1.1 THE EVALUATOR'S ROLE IN TRUSTCHAIN

The role of the evaluator in TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 3 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 3 are selected after having expressed their interest (evaluators call for interest) among others, according to their expertise and skills related to TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 3 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 3: Economics and democracy**. 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 3 (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 3, i.e.:

- The specific requirements for the objectives of the call and their respective topics of the TRUSTCHAIN frame, the evaluation process and its workflow, 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 3 EVALUATION KEY POINTS AND PROCESS

2.1 TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 INDICATIVE TIMELINES

Call	Indicative Dates	Who
Call Publication	06 th December 2023 at 13:00 CET	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium
Call Closure	14 th February 2024 at 17:00 CET	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium
Eligibility, Conflict of interest & Contract Signing	14 th to 18 th of February 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium + External Evaluators
Web Briefing	19 th February 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium + External Evaluators
Allocation of Proposals to Evaluators	20 th February 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium

Remote Evaluation	Indicative Dates	Who
Evaluators Web Briefing	19 th February 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium + External Evaluators
The remote proposal evaluation takes place	From the 20 th February 2024 to the 11 th March 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium + External Evaluators
100% Individual Evaluation Reports completed	14 th March 2024	Internal Evaluators + External Evaluators
100% Consensus Reports completed	18 th March 2024	Internal Evaluators + External Evaluators
Panel Review meeting and selection of applicants for the online interview	29 th March 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium
Online Interviews*	From the 22 nd April to the 23 rd April 2024	Internal Evaluators + TRUSTCHAIN Advisory Board Members
Final Report Drafting and cross-checking, final QC	From 23 rd April to 23 th May 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium
TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 3 results publication	Week of the 24 rd May 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium

*Factually the online interviews were organised in 2 sessions of up to 5 hours and a half starting the 22/04/2024 and finishing the 23/04/2024. 20 Applicants were evaluated for a possible number of selected proposals of 15.

The panel meet on the 29th of March 2024 to validate the ranking list.

The Open Call 3 results were announced the 24th of May 2024, allowing then the contracting process of the 15 Open Call 3 innovators.

2.2 TRUSTCHAIN CONTACT POINTS

Contact point	Name	Email
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	Daniel Silva	daniels@f6s.com
	Tajana Medaković	tajana@f6s.com

2.3 TRUSTCHAIN APPLICANT CLASSIFICATION

The target Applicants for the TRUSTCHAIN Call 3 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 autopoeitic, 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 was 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 Open Call 2 was 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 is to define and build mechanisms for smarter data exchange and data trading as well as innovative win-win federated business models' open data.

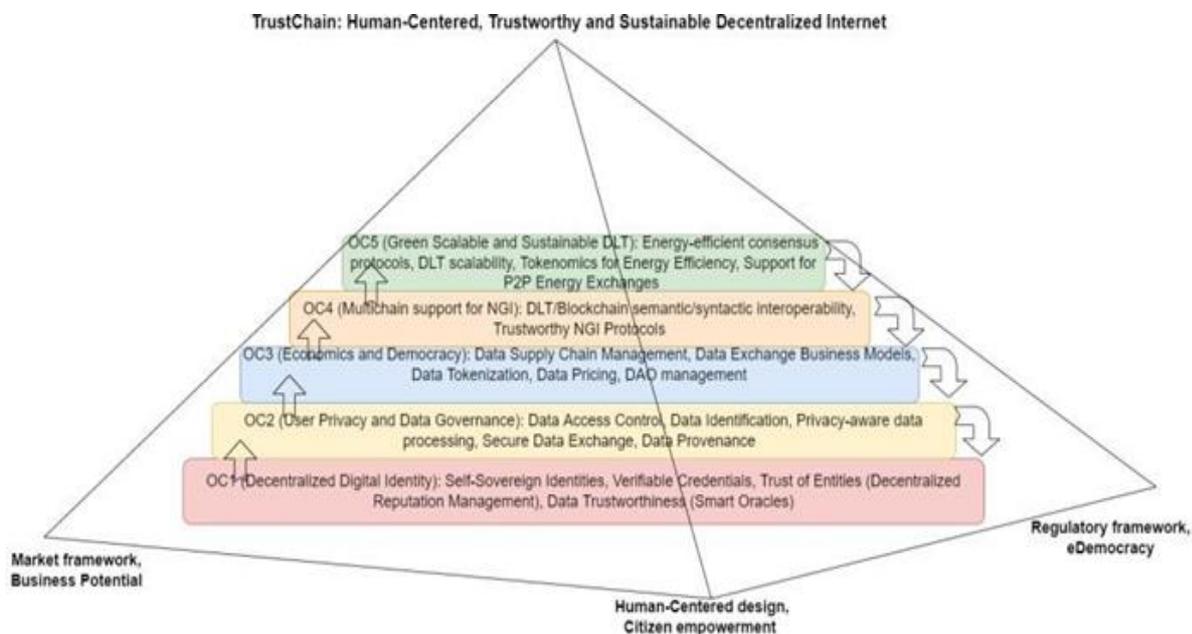
This is the focal point of this document.

- **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 3 SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

2.5.1 Introduction to OC3

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, the TrustChain overall action lasts 36 months, and the selected projects are requested to participate after these 9 months in future Joint Meetings for knowledge and know-how transfer to TrustChain Open Call #4,5 and for the development of the TrustChain ecosystem.

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 Open Call #3 vision and objectives. Their proposed solution should consider as minimal requirement to:

- Be grounded on end users needs and requirements,
- Use standard technology for full stack development,
- Be open source,
- Extend the state-of-the-art in the domain of user privacy, and/or solve existing real-world problems with data governance and provide 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. Whether the innovation will focus on the development of new solutions for existing areas, or a totally disruptive approach or idea;
3. 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
4. Any challenges or opportunities relating to equality, diversity, ethics and inclusion arising from their project.

5. Explain how their proposed solutions will align with the building blocks developed as part of the Open Call #1&2 call on digital identity, user privacy and data governance (more details are available on the [TrustChain webpage](#)).

Applicants when applying should **clearly specify the Open Call 3 challenges they are going to address. Those are described in the section 3.3.**

2.5.2 OC3 Specific Objectives

The objective of this OC is to define and build market mechanisms for data exchange and data trading as well as innovative win-win federated business models open data in compliance with GDPR and other regulations that implements techniques such as:

- Federated business models that consider fair rewarding of its participants
- Establish new or enrich the existing marketplaces. Privacy preserving data sharing on third-party platforms
- Fair data marketplaces: publish, search, discovery, other mechanisms in decentralized environments; negotiation mechanisms for data prices
- Market competition that is fair and regulated in favour of the innovators.
- Tokenization of assets and its fair trading, protection against scams such as rug pulls, initial coin offering (ICO) fraud in digital asset trading
- Establishing the value of the coins based on their quality contents; creating liquidity in the existing data marketplaces.
- Decentralized governance models that are fair and trustworthy to all the parties in a data exchange ecosystem
- Use your eIDAS2 on the EU marketplaces
- Effective data monetization strategies and business models to incentivize data providers to share their data on exchange platforms.

Applications should cover real needs of the end-users in one a specific sector such as for example banking, education, healthcare, or e-government.

2.5.3 OC3 Challenges to be addressed

Navigating the data exchange/trading arena proves challenging due to the involvement of multiple parties, leading to issues of trust, privacy, consent, and regulatory complexities. The existing market mechanisms for data exchange face hurdles, exacerbated by the dynamic nature of data and the digital landscape. Additionally, challenges in market competition, fair settlement practices, and determining ownership rights further complicate the ecosystem. Organizations must grapple with these challenges, ranging from establishing trust frameworks to addressing evolving privacy regulations and ensuring fair compensation for data

contributors. Tackling these complexities necessitates collaborative efforts and innovative solutions to create a secure, transparent, and ethical data exchange environment. Some of the challenges to be tackled in this call are the following:

- The current form of data-sharing practises does not fairly reward the data owners/content producers. Data platform owners make decisions around the terms and conditions of data sharing.
- Accurate data discoverability on such marketplaces is a challenge. Precise matchmaking between sellers and buyers on a marketplace can significantly improve its performance.
- Data trading and exchange raise significant concerns about data privacy and security. There is a risk that sensitive or personal data could be mishandled, leading to privacy breaches, identity theft, or other malicious activities.
- Establishing enforceable data marketplace contracts for data exchange is missing; Clear and fair service level agreements for both sellers and buyers needs to be in place for a trustworthy marketplace.
- There is no standard pricing model for data, making it challenging to determine the fair market value of different data types. Mechanisms to ascertain the data quality and hence its price fairly is a challenging issue as the value of data can be subjective and context-dependent.
- Issue around data provenance exist as it can be difficult to verify the data source. Techniques to inspect the provenance of a specific product, service or data is missing. Open reputation management can be one of the solutions, but it requires careful design considerations.
- Establishing clear data governance practices, including data access controls and usage policies, is essential for responsible data exchange. Data governance frameworks can be complex to implement and enforce.
- Federated marketplaces among self-interested parties emerge in various contexts, such as cloud services, IoT data exchange and more, for increasing service coverage, availability, efficiency, etc. Providing support for trustworthy service provision logging, transparent billing, fair value sharing and coordination in resource allocation in these contexts is a challenge.
- Innovative incentive mechanisms for decentralized, coordinated outcomes, potentially involving tokenomics, in various application contexts should be provided.
- Enabling a sustainable circular economy that involves sharing, leasing, reusing existing materials and products demand data provenance on the transformation of properties of materials and on processes applied on them. Means to achieve

such an economy requires innovation in terms of material traceability and digital passports.

- Marketplaces for AI/ML models trading/exchange has witnessed a rise with advancement in AI training models and fear of data exchange due to privacy violations. A comprehensive comparison of such models on marketplace remains a challenge.
- Digital solutions to enhance civic mobilisation and engagement. Such solutions can utilize real-time information, platforms for crowdsourcing ideas, and platforms for facilitating access to participatory channels, in order to transform and enhance democratic decision-making.

A user centric design approach should frame the developed solution carefully consider the following:

- data privacy protection,
- privacy aware data processing,
- data provenance,
- data use policies,
- data retention and data deletion, right to be forgotten, data minimization, and trustworthiness,
- data minimization and user informed data deletion.

2.5.4 OC3 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, 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 online user privacy and data governance, 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 puts in the centre the needs of the general population and vulnerable people, 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., trustworthy data access, ensuring clear and informed user content and expanding what already exists, thus scaling) rather than building something new from scratch. It is desirable that the selected projects be able to demonstrate their solution at TRL 7 in a real end-user setting. If something completely new must be built (see point above), then it should be well motivated why the nature of the problem warrants a new solution and why the state-of-the-art solutions do not solve it today (i.e., barriers to technology 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 minimum value proposition. Cross-border data sharing, moving data across EU-international borders should be carefully considered. It should be also compatible with existing data sharing frameworks, standards and demonstrate the energy efficiency through measurements that are quantifiable.

The proposal should identify and justify how the proposed solution, or specific services and/or modules provided by it, can be used by other service and application developers of the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem.

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 piloted.

Link with other Open Calls: Understanding what digital identity (Open Call #1) is, data owners privacy policies requirements and data governance (Open Call #2) is prerequisite for designing and implementing innovative and fit for purpose market mechanisms for data exchange and data trading that are data owners centred. Solutions to be developed in this Open Call #3 should consider some of the approaches and outcomes identified in Open Call #1 and #2. Joint activities between Open Call #1 and #2 and Open Call #3 innovators will be facilitated by the Trust Chain consortium.

○ Sustainability Requirements

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

- **Regulatory And Standards Requirements**

New economic/business models for the ecosystem economy, user centric data management, addressing privacy aspects, legally and regulatory compliance (e.g., GDPR-compliance, verification, and certification of records of data processing activities).

- **User Centricity Requirements**

As mentioned above, the proposed solutions 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 applicant's proposal and the vulnerable collectives' approach should be used for the user testing.

A first step is to establish target groups of users. Once this is done, the users should be involved in the co-creation process. Then, accessibility standards should be incorporated through the onboarding according to the vulnerable collectives' approach.

Following that, a roadmap with the appropriate methodologies should be set up. The roadmap should include the approach, objectives and phases of the testing, and sample size. The sample needs to be representative and randomized but within the relevant characteristics of the target population.

User should be onboarded in the design process (if applicable). Proposals for improvement and insights should come from the users during the co-creation process. Complementarily, insights can be proposed by non-users (for example developers, or business partners). This decision must be justified in the corresponding deliverable.

2.5.5 Expected Outcomes and Possible Application Domains

With this OC, the following APIs or SDKs could be created, to be available for the rest of the teams, and for the European developer community, as open source:

- Real World Assets (RWA) tokenization (API or SDK)
- Tokenized Real-World Assets (RWA) management (API or SDK)
- Digital Assets (DA) tokenization (API or SDK)
- Tokenized digital assets management (API or SDK)
- Decentralized governance (DAO like) management (API or SDK)
- Data value management (API or SDK)

With this OC, the following outcomes are expected:

- New data value focused governance models

- Innovative business models for data sharing
- New data exchange framework in a more secure, resilient, and decentralized way
- Innovative data trading platform that considers data owner privacy policies

All this will help individuals and organisations to better govern and share their data when they participate in joint value chains where cooperating partners can also be competitors. Possible use-cases and application domains include:

- Tokenization of real-world assets (RWA)
- Tokenization of virtual assets
- Copyright management
- Gamification: Customer relationships, awards etc.

2.5.6 OC3 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:

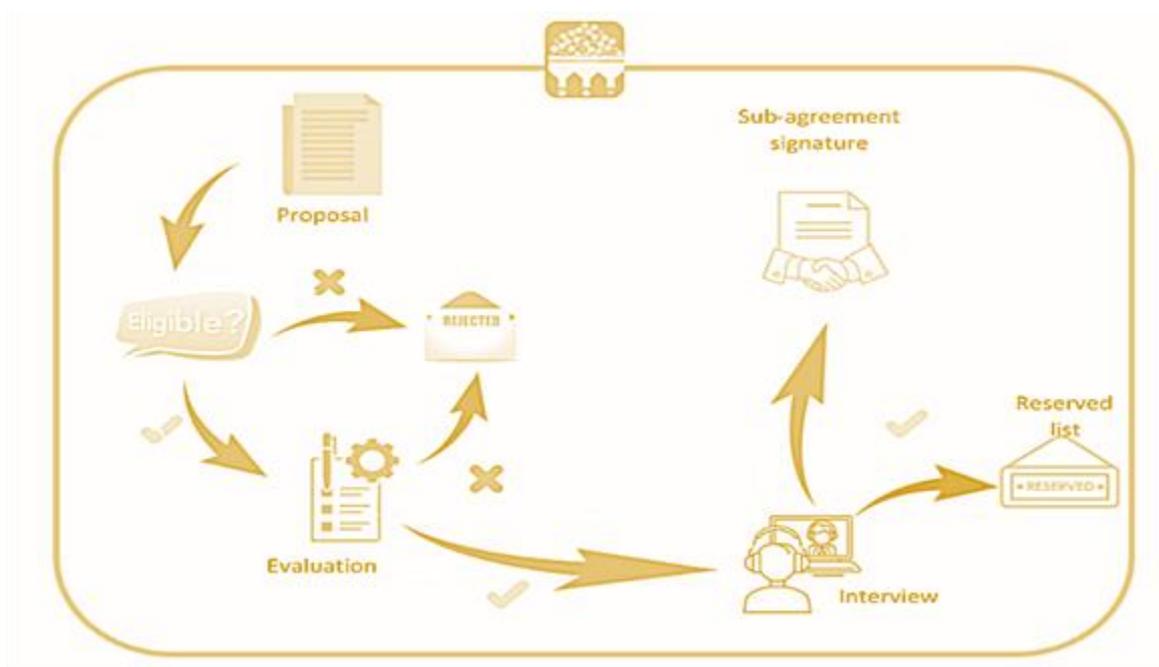
- **D1:** State of the art overview, use case analysis and preliminary technical specification of the solution. The document should clearly specify how the proposed solution extends and/or upgrades the state-of-the-art.
- **D2:** Detailed technical specification of the solution, software implementation 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 3 EVALUATION PROCESS

2.6.1 Overall process

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

- Stage 1: Admissibility & eligibility check
- Stage 2: Proposals evaluation
- 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 OC3 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 3 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

According to the rules, the top projects at the end of the proposal evaluation stage will be invited to the final selection stage. The applicants invited to the online interview will receive via e-mail, an invitation letter the online interview as well as relevant guidelines. **It is worth mentioning here that an invitation to the interview is not a formal invitation for funding.** The interview aims to better understand the project concept, scope, and centrality to the TrustChain vision, the team skills and competencies, capacity, and willingness to exploit the results under a commonly agreed plan with the rest of the TrustChain ecosystem and TrustChain partners. Most importantly, the online interview aims to clarify still unclear aspects of the proposal which have been identified during the proposal evaluation. The proposal evaluation report is not circulated to the applicants before the interview but forms the basis for the interaction with them.

In practice, the interview will be carried out by the evaluation board composed of the TrustChain core partners and the TrustChain advisory board members. It will be recorded to assure maximum transparency. It is based on 10 minutes pitch presentation and 20 minutes of Q&As to clarify some aspects regarding the quality of the proposal and its relevance for TrustChain, as well as to reach a final agreement about scores and the Evaluation Summary Report (ESR). The comments on the ESR are taken into consideration for the preparation of relevant questions during the online

interview and they are not communicated beforehand to the applicants.

The ESR will be structured according to the 3 criteria mentioned in the previous section (i.e., excellence and innovation, expected impact and value for money, project implementation) and will consolidate the comment of the proposal evaluation and the clarifications and overall impression obtained during the online interview. Based on the final consolidate score, the short list of winners will be produced and only at this stage the final ESR will be communicated to the applicants.

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.

2.6.5 Scientific Misconduct and research integrity

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

2.6.6 Monitoring process all along the sub-project's duration

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

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

2.7 FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Open Call #3 budget totals 1.755.000 € to support up to 15 projects.

2.7.1 Indicative Distribution of the Funds

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

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

Payments will be done in 4 instalments based on concrete results (a prefinancing, two interim payments and a final payment). A detailed evaluation process will be presented in the TrustChain Open Call #3 guide for implementation for the related periods. The 2,000.00 € extra funding will be provided in case of the project outcome results in a peer reviewed journal publication with a minimum impact factor of 2.5.

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

During the first weeks of the project implementation, each team will define with their coaches a set of clear and objective KPIs to be achieved and linked with the funding. These KPIs are different for each team and are related to the solution to be implemented. They will help measure the project progress, but also the commitment and involvement of the third-party innovator (i.e., their consistency in attending periodic call meetings with the coaches, meeting the deadlines for reporting, among other criteria). After the definition of the KPIs, a pre-financing of 40% of the sub-grant amount will be released.

- **Midterm review and second instalment:**

At midterm of the project implementation, the coaches will assess the KPI's percentage of execution of the project based on the evaluation of the deliverable D2. A 100% completion of the KPIs for the related period will unlock the total of

the payment which is 30% of the total sub-grant 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 the KPIs for the period are assessed as completely reached. If less than 25%, the third-party innovators will be automatically disqualified from the process.

- **Final review and final payment:**

At the end of the project implementation, third parties will be paid according to their overall completion of KPIs materialised by the deliverables D3 at M7 and D4 at M9. A final event will be used to evaluate third parties on a face-to-face pitch contest. The third parties will present their implemented solution, and their business plan in the context of TrustChain. A panel of evaluators consisting of the TrustChain Consortium and Advisory Board members, will assess the third-party innovators to release the final payment (remaining 30% of the sub-grant amount). In the case of an underperformance below 25%, the team will be disqualified, and no further payment will be released.

2.7.2 Summary of the funding per type of beneficiary

	Project		
	Pre- financing 40% of the total funding	Interim Payment 30% of the total funding	Final Payment 30 % of the total funding
Indicative dates	M2	M5	Project end
Team of Natural persons	38 800 €	29 100 €	29 100 €
Legal Entity(ies) or combination of legal entities or combination of legal entity (ies) and individual(s)	46 000 €	34 500 €	34 500 €

These numbers are indicative, detailed payment schedule and payment conditions will

be settled in the Sub-grant Agreement (Annex B) at the time of the signature.

2.7.3 Origin of the Funds and specific Provision regarding multiple beneficiaries

Any selected proposer will sign a dedicated Sub-Grant Agreement (Annex B) with the TrustChain project coordinator (on behalf of TrustChain Consortium).

Specific provision regarding contracting in case of multiple beneficiaries:

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

The Coordinator/Authorized representative of the Team/Consortium signs the TrustChain Sub-grant Agreement on behalf of the multiple beneficiaries.

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

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

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

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 3 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 States¹;
- 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 EC²;
- 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.

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 TRUSTCHAIN Online Submission Service accessible via [Open Call #3 - TrustChain \(ngi.eu\)](#). 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

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

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

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 3, 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 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

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 receive 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 and undergoes quality check. 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, the short lists of winners will be produced by a panel meeting including technical core members of the TrustChain consortium, namely ED, ICS, AUEB, UL and NKUA.

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 3 EVALUATION STATISTICS & OUTCOMES

4.1 EXTERNAL EVALUATORS SELECTION-STATISTICS & OUTCOMES

4.1.1 CONTEXT

A total of 14 independent experts from all over the world were onboarded in contributing to the evaluation of TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 3. Three webinars were hosted by Trust Chain Consortium to introduce the project and Open Call 3. 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 webinar for external evaluators was hosted on 19th of February 2024.

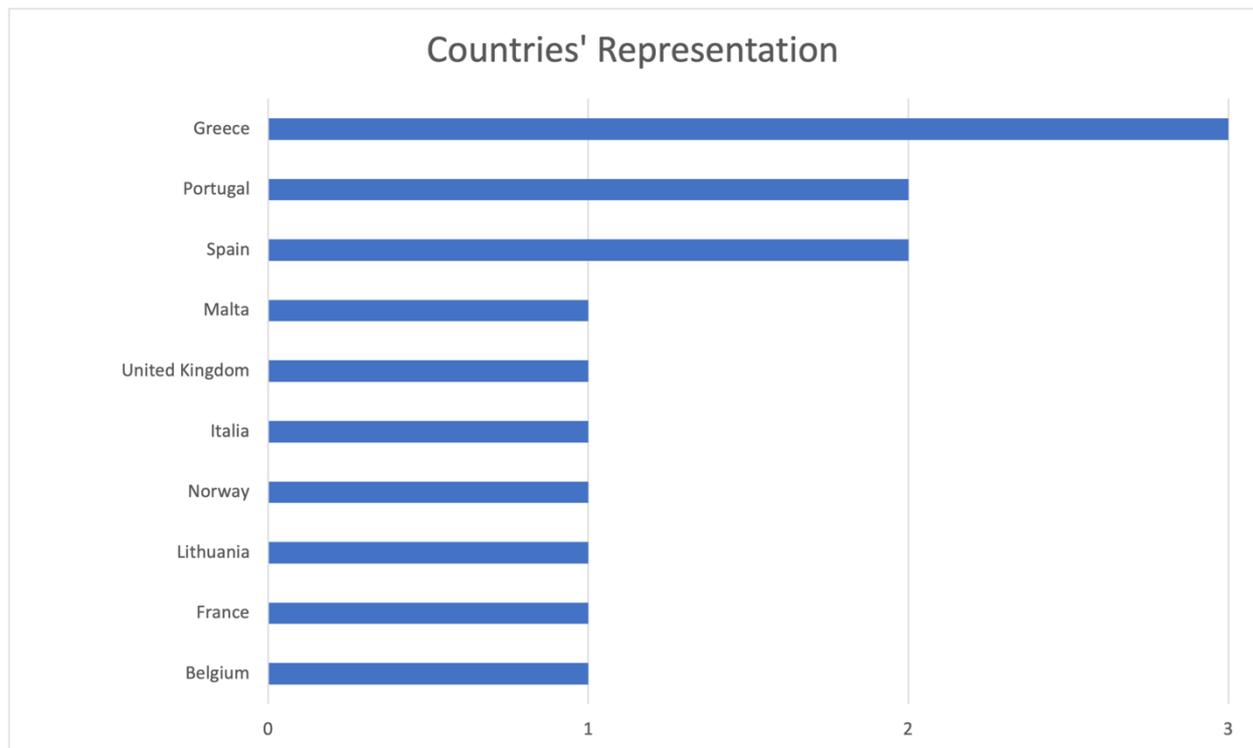
The target audience were researchers, innovators and developers whether from the academic sector or private sector with possible experience in open call proposals evaluation and horizon 2020 funding as well as demonstrate expertise in domains such as: Blockchain & distributed systems, smart contracts, 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.

So, 14 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 (98), each evaluator evaluates six to seven proposals according to their expertise.

4.1.2 Countries Coverage

Many countries were covered thanks to the communication and dissemination efforts in getting external evaluators. So, this Open Call 3 received evaluators' interest from 10 countries covering widely Europe as shown in the chart below.



4.1.3 Gender Balance

On the 14 external evaluators, 3 (22%) were females and 11 (78%) were males. 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 109 proposals from all over Europe have been submitted to this TRUSTCHAIN open call. 98 of them were eligible and evaluated.

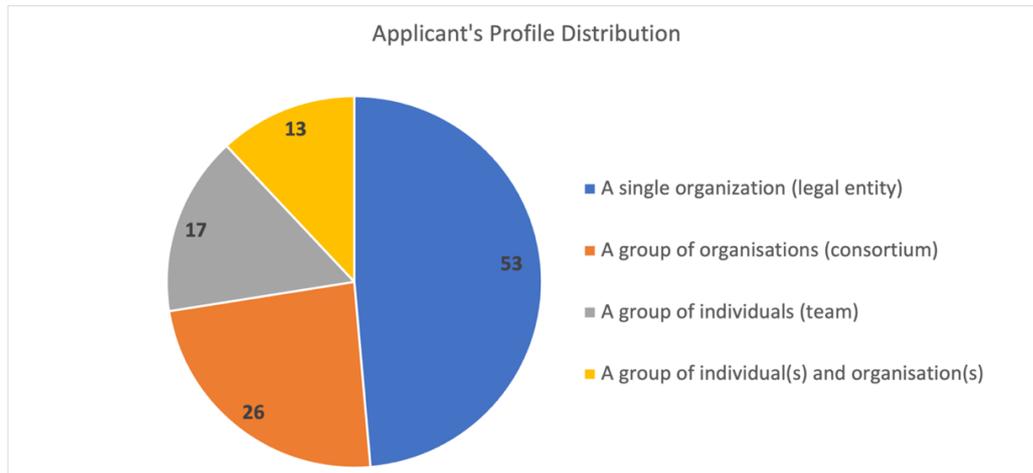
The target audience were researchers, innovators and developers whether from high tech companies including SMEs, academia or natural person(s) legally established in an EU Member State, H2020 associated countries or Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) linked to the Member States.

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 109 applications, 53 were submitted by a single organisation, 26 by a consortium, 17 by a group of individuals, and 13 by a group of individual(s) and organization(s).

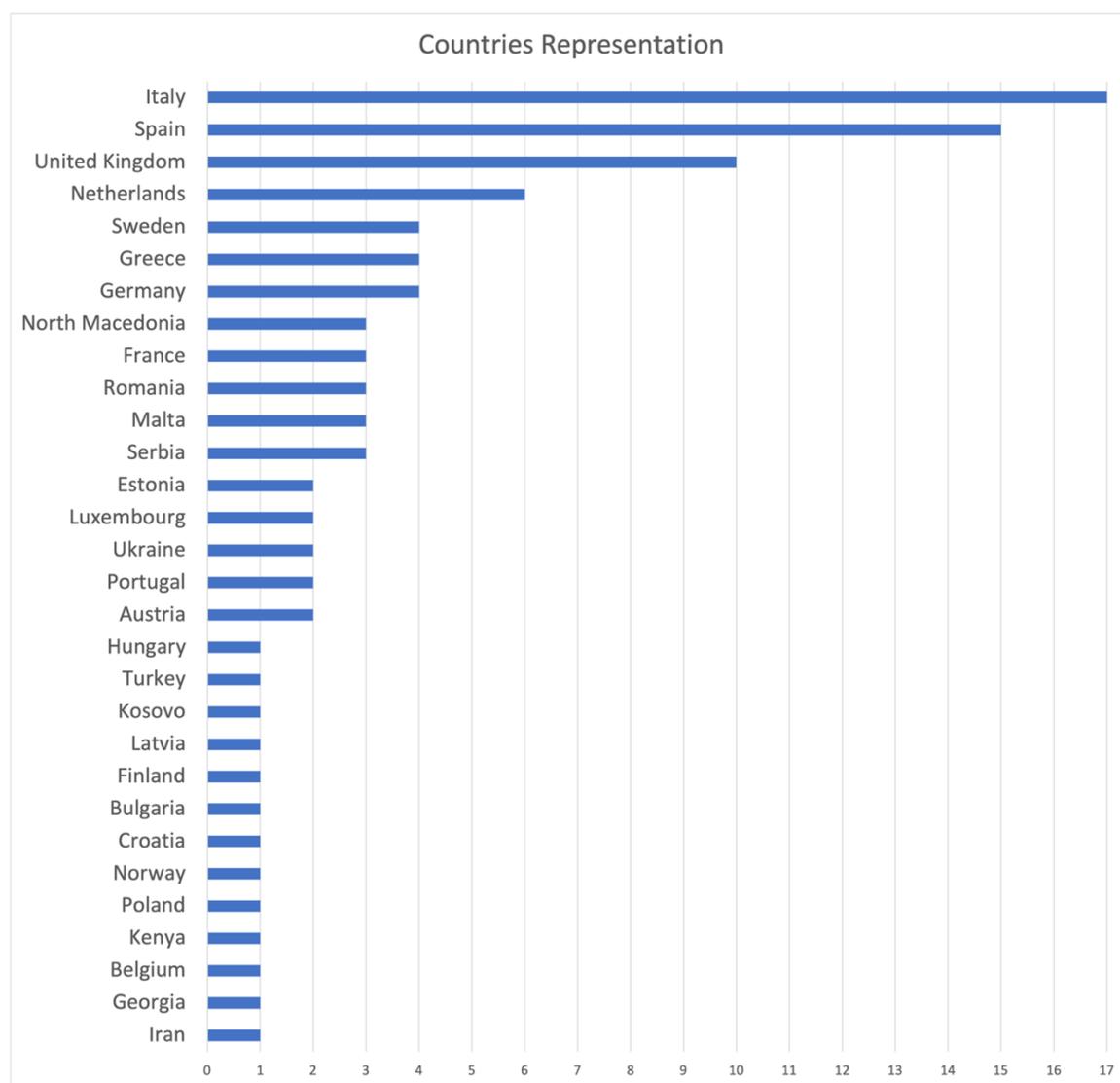


At the same time, applicants were asked to select their technology domain of expertise as follow:

- 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

Many 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 30 eligible countries. Italy (17%), Spain (15%), United Kingdom (10%), Netherlands (6%), Sweden (4%), Greece (4%), Germany (4%), and North Macedonia (3%) were the 8 countries the most represented.



4.2.4 Proposals Selected

After the evaluation process, only 15 proposals were selected from the 98 valid proposals submitted leading to an overall success rate of 15%. The following presents the selected projects by objectives and topics to whom they belong.

- Tru-Ip Amica

Country: Luxembourg

Project Abstract:

The objective of the Tru-IP AMiCA project is to build a market-ready demonstrator that targets real-world experimentation around the use of new tokenisation mechanisms for the protection, exchange, and IPR management of artistic/cultural/heritage assets.

With Tru-IP AMiCA, Compellio proposes the design and implementation of a blockchain-enabled solution for the trustworthy creation and reuse of data within/across data spaces for cultural heritage. The proposed solution encompasses the thematic vision of NGI Trustchain OC3 while focusing on the economic and democratic capabilities that the next-gen internet can enable, particularly for the creative/cultural/IP spaces.

The project will augment and build on existing frameworks, models, and related work that has been performed in the context of:

- The common European data space for cultural heritage
- Europeana's data models and semantic interoperability of data/assets across EU federated cultural alliances (i.e. Aggregators)
- Compellio's participation in the 1st EU Blockchain Regulatory Sandbox with a use case related to "Digital Culture Passports"
- Compellio's joint research with MIT Connection Science in the fields of open blockchain architectures, new tokenisation paradigms, and legal ramifications of tokenization
- Compellio's participation in the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) SATP Working Group

By showcasing the innovative technological capabilities and business benefits of blockchain and web3 technologies, Tru-IP AMiCA aims to pave the grounds for catalysing broader implementations that could position EU's creative/culture economy at the forefront of the strategic deeptech vertical of web2-web3 interoperability.

- Spark-It

Country: Romania

Project Abstract:

The SPARK-IT project is a trustworthy open-source platform for growing ideas, projects and business plans in an environment with specialists in various fields that share their knowledge to enhance innovation. The goals of the project are to accelerate startup growth, to facilitate consultancy from experts in different areas, and to provide a gateway for potential investment opportunities or crowdfunding campaigns. Leveraging the advantages of blockchain technology, SPARK-IT fosters a culture of trust and transparency, shielding one's intellectual property and empowering innovators to find mentorship and collaborate confidently. An artificial intelligence based matching solution and a reputation system using reputation tokens enhance the democratizing access to valuable expertise, while reward tokens with monetary value incentivize specialists to contribute their knowledge, ultimately advancing a thriving ecosystem of innovation and collaboration. The design of the data transfer protocols, and the storage policies provide security, and ensure that only the intended actors can access the information. This is achieved through the use of blockchain technology for traceability, and a decentralized storage system with encrypted data for providing secure access control over the proposals, the obtained feedback and other intellectual property. SPARK-IT paves the way to developing the innovator's business models into ground-breaking solutions that can have a significant impact in the industry.

- Trust-Icmf

Country: Italy

Project Abstract:

In the context of international trade, the lack of interoperability, standardisation, and trust among parties leads to the persistence of contracts on paper-based media, whereas the digitization of contracts in human-machine readable form, interoperability, and decentralisation could lead to significant advantages such as: streamlining and automating workflows based on structured interoperable data, efficient identification of parties, contract drafting and distributed validation alongside the development of an open and sustainable ecosystem based on verifiable data exchange. Given these clear needs, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) / Trade Programme and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) are beginning to propose mechanisms for modular and standardised composition of international contracts.

InTrade4You aims to introduce, for the first time in the market, an open source framework capable of simplifying, accelerating, and enhancing the development and execution of digitised international trade contracts, following a decentralised model.

The main value proposition provided by our open source project is:

- The composition, by the involved parties, of an international contract in the form of Verifiable Credentials (W3C standard), following controlled

vocabularies (JSON-LD) of the UNECE/Trade Programme and de-facto contractual standards of the ICC in use globally.

- The implementation of trustless, evidentiary, and transparent mechanisms based on blockchain and Self-Sovereign Identity technologies for the decentralised identification, consent, and independent verification of relationships, policies, validation mechanisms, and regulatory activities for authorised entities.
- The ability to integrate all the necessary services for the drafting and enforcement of an international contract: from contract creation to the management of banking and customs compliance arising from the same contract, in light of the interpretative rules of the ICC and international best practices.
- A decentralised and interoperable ecosystem for reference, selective disclosure, and sharing of contractual information with negotiation stakeholders (parties, shippers, customs, banks, auditors, ...).

○ [Ai Metabloq](#)

Country: Greece

Project Abstract:

AI-MetaBloQ is a DLT-Marketplace with a Reactive Artificial Intelligence Tool for the use cycle of data related to human biosamples. The DLT Marketplace applies Blockchain technologies to the exchange of data in the field of human biospecimens and patient data, provides service exchange and data transfer services to all members of the chain. The incorporated AI tool produces real time quality assessment of biosamples with simultaneous prediction of appropriate secondary use for a given research activity. The system contains the creation of AI MetaBloQ platform, includes a “Distributed Ledger Technology” online Marketplace that promotes sharing of data, characterizing biosamples and patients, distributing trust between entities in the biosample usage chain, in a regulatory compliant manner, acting as a decentralized digital identity along with privacy preserving exploration of distributed sensitive medical data using strong collective encryption and Distributed Digital Identity. With AIMetaBloQ, data sharing becomes a positive side effect of patient use and control of data, with a "Ledger of Me" approach. The goal is to be the standard in the Biobanking industry. AIMetaBloQ includes a smart tool, based on Reactive Artificial Intelligence, with the aim of fully developed, interoperable, synchronized and ontologically unified Quality Management of biospecimens of human origin, which automatically ranks biospecimens in terms of qualitative completeness, depending on pre analytical data collected in real time from different sources and entities and simultaneously predicts and recommends the suitability of the selected biospecimens by researchers for their research activities, as well as their individual derivatives, depending on the type of research activities set from the beginning. AI-MetaBloQ's Reactive AI engine observes live actions of members of

the usage chain and reacts to them. The smart engine narrows down choices of biospecimens for research use based on how it rates their handling and quality.

o Didimo

Country: Netherlands

Project Abstract:

One major barrier to the wide adoption to adoption and democratization of decentralized identities is assessing the compliance, of decentralized services, to the accepted interoperable standards. Currently in the decentralized identity world, the credential issuance and verification space is populated by multiple standards, that define cryptography, file formats and transport protocols.

If two decentralized services, such as a credential issuer (or a verifier) and a mobile wallet, speak different protocols or misuse an existing protocol, the problems generated from this situation can be hard to trace, would have long lasting consequences and be challenging to resolve.

If we aim to democratize the development and deployment of credential issuance/verification, we need to provide tools that allow anyone to easily and independently verify the compliance of the services to one or more protocols.

Born from our experience with developing the open source identity solution DIDroom, DIDimo's main goal is to boost the market adoption of decentralized identity services, by offering anyone to test the wallets' compliance to multiple protocols as well as a marketplace for service providers.

Briefly DIDimo will allow:

- o End-users, developers or software integrators, can assess the compliance of a credential issuer/verifier to multiple standards (we aim for: SD-JWT, W3C-VC, OpenID4VCI, OpenID4VP, vc-di-bbs) by entering its endpoint in a web interface (or via API).
- o Developers/Solution providers can submit their issuance/verification services to DIDimo in order to have a compliance check, receive a blue-stamp if the result is positive (or a red-flag with a list of the issues found) and to list their service in the marketplace of the platform.
- o For every bluestamp, DIDimo produces a "badge" in the form of verifiable credential (W3C-VC) which can display on the website of the credential service provider (or a third party, such as participatory democracy platform, a marketplace, a social media etc.) using an iframe.
- o End-users (and various stakeholders) can browse and compare the list of submitted services in the marketplace.

- End-users can provide feedback and rating of the services, adding a community driven trustworthiness on top of the technical assessment, usable by all the parties in a data exchange ecosystem.

- Flora

Country: Greece

Project Abstract:

Ovulation Tracking applications have become indispensable tools for women, serving multiple purposes, including family planning and detecting potential health risks. However, the collection of sensitive data for analysis by these apps poses significant privacy concerns. If mishandled, such information could lead to user profiling or legal disputes, such as abortion accusations. Recent studies show that many period tracker apps lack privacy safeguards and share data without user consent. Consequently, there is a pressing need to safeguard users' privacy rights.

FLORA is an innovative ovulation tracking app that harnesses Federated Learning to promote transparency and enhance users' privacy. This cutting-edge approach ensures that data remains on users' devices while enabling the collaboratively training of machine learning models.

FLORA offers accurate ovulation date predictions and personalized health insights using Artificial Intelligence, aligning with the advancements of the Next Generation Internet. To bolster security, additional privacy-preserving mechanisms are employed. Fully Homomorphic Encryption is applied during the model aggregation phase to shield user data from potential breaches, while local differential privacy is integrated to ensure data privacy from model-based threats. Furthermore, FLORA leverages blockchain technology to establish a verifiable consent system. This system verifies each user's consent for data sharing and prevents unauthorized alterations. Blockchain also serves as a transparent repository for storing machine learning model versions generated during the Federated Learning process. Lastly, to recognize and incentivize user participation, FLORA introduces a blockchain reward system for users who contribute models or data commensurate with their contributions.

The project's ultimate objective is the development of a user-oriented mobile application for precise ovulation tracking with total control over data, enhanced by the power of AI. This solution places the utmost importance on safeguarding user privacy and machine learning transparency through state-of-the-art techniques, ensuring that individuals can confidently use FLORA for their health and well-being needs.

- Authbond

Country: Malta

Project Abstract:

Contracting in Web3 has an accountability problem because the pseudonymity of contributors diminishes their eagerness to focus on delivery. To address this shortcoming, our project introduces bid bonds to the TrustChain platform and makes it available to Web3. The concept is prevalent in traditional public and private sector contracting, but has yet to be implemented for Web3 to provide transparency to digital trade and democratise on-chain economies. Bid bonds can effectively mitigate risks associated with project defaults, particularly in grant programs that currently rely on milestone-based payments by requiring contractors to deposit a security.

Through our experience in the development of decentralised identity and Web3 credentialing we have not only enabled decentralised autonomous organisation (DAO) contributors to use real-world identities for finding work in Web3, but also identified a concept to use distributed ledger technology (DLT) networks for enhancing the process behind bid bonds. Our solution proposes to replace traditional centralised third parties with a combination of Web3 credentials and staking contracts. This innovative solution not only streamlines the process but also introduces more efficient contracting methods in Web3 and beyond.

These privacy-preserving yet metadata-rich bonds can induce legitimacy for digital identities that are part of the TrustChain Large Scale Pilot (LSP) and provide utility for the WIDE solution by bolstering industry adoption, as well as increasing transparency for users contracting in Web3. Through the use case of awarding contracts for running nodes of a decentralised remote procedure call (RPC) network and together with the RPC gateway provider PORTERS, we want to bring the next generation of services procurement to users of Web3 and the TrustChain platform.

o Valueall

Country: Spain

Project Abstract:

Data are nowadays core assets, not only for companies, but also for everyone of us as individuals. Different initiatives across Europe develop frameworks to guarantee that the use and exchange of data is done in environments (data spaces) ensuring not only trustworthiness, governance and sovereignty, but also the generation of added value for participants.

We usually think of these spaces to be used by large companies, but local retail and businesses could profit from them too. We shop at local groceries, bakeries or corner stores, which have information about everyday shopping activity but do not record or analyze it. Buyers (end users) have no incentives to share their data either.

VALUE4ALL will create a data aggregation platform to incentivize data sharing and create quality datasets. On one hand, customers will be able to scan a QR code located

at the stores to register information about their transactions through a short form (what you bought today, at which time, how was your experience). In return, they will get tokens, which will allow them to earn rewards, discounts or other advantages for their next shoppings, which will encourage them to share valuable and real information. No personal data will be required, so privacy will be kept.

On the other hand, data will be registered and organized in a structured way so local businesses will find a way to improve their service level and reputation, as well as the customer experience and loyalty.

Furthermore, as the quality of generated data is assured, these data sets can be offered and monetized in different and wider data spaces and platforms so they can also be valuable beyond local areas, strengthening the global data value chain.

o Fitchain

Country: Greece

Project Abstract:

FitChain is a decentralized platform designed to revolutionize the fitness and health data economy by enabling secure, privacy-preserving, and equitable exchange of personal fitness data. At its core, FitChain leverages blockchain technology to create a transparent, immutable, and user-controlled environment where individuals can monetize their health and fitness data while maintaining complete privacy and control over their information. Utilizing Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT), and in particular Algorand, FitChain ensures that all transactions are securely recorded, providing a tamper-proof history of data exchange and monetization activities. Smart contracts automate the consent and compensation processes, ensuring that users are fairly rewarded for sharing their data and that data usage adheres to predefined agreements, thus enhancing trust and compliance with regulations like GDPR.

FitChain adopts a federated business model that empowers users with digital sovereignty, allowing them to decide what data to share, with whom, and under what terms. This model disrupts traditional data silos, enabling seamless interoperability between different fitness platforms, wearables, and health apps through standardized APIs and protocols for data exchange. The platform's tokenomics model incentivizes participation and ensures fair value distribution among all stakeholders. Users earn tokens for sharing their data, which can be used within the ecosystem for accessing premium content, services, or converted into fiat currency. Data consumers, such as health researchers, fitness coaches, and sports gear companies, access a rich dataset for analytics, product development, and personalized services, fostering innovation and better health outcomes. FitChain's governance model is decentralized, with decisions made collectively by the community, ensuring the platform evolves in alignment with users' interests and the latest technological advancements. This democratic approach

promotes transparency, accountability, and user trust, making FitChain a pioneering solution for the next generation of the digital health and fitness economy.

o PLD-Predictive Liquid Democracy

Country: Sweden

Project Abstract:

Flowback is an open-source decision system that aims to transform decentralized democratic governance and decision-making through Predictive Liquid Democracy (PLD). This innovative platform crowdsources ideas, promotes civic engagement, and improves the quality of democratic decisions by integrating prediction markets with the flexibility of liquid democracy.

Designed to empower communities and organizations, Flowback offers a transparent and inclusive mechanism for decision-making. It combines AI with human insight, enabling smarter, more democratic choices. By using PLD, Flowback aims to create decision-making processes that are resistant to misinformation, aligned with collective goals, and informed by quality predictions. Users can propose ideas, predict outcomes, bet on predictions, vote, and assess prediction accuracy, ensuring decisions are guided by informed and trusted voices.

Flowback serves a diverse audience, including non-profits, decentralized networks, political parties, educational institutions, corporations, and government entities, all looking to enhance their governance structures and tap into collective intelligence. The system is scalable and adaptable to various sectors, making it a versatile tool for entities of all sizes.

We are seeking support from TrustChain Open Call #3 to refine Flowback's capabilities, particularly in addressing the challenges of civic mobilization and decentralized decision-making. Our focus includes real-world testing and adapting Flowback specifically for (i) open-source communities that need tools for collaborative decision making, (ii) political organizations that need tools for grassroots democracy, (iii) not-for-profit organizations and networks that need tools for decentralized decision making.

Flowback's development aligns with TrustChain objectives, aiming to foster a democratic, trustworthy, and sustainable digital society. By elevating Flowback to a higher Technology Readiness Level (TRL), we intend to prove its real-world effectiveness and validate its potential to reshape decision-making across Europe.

In essence, Flowback is set to redefine digital democracy tools, contributing to the TrustChain Large Scale Pilot and boosting the global competitiveness of European organizations. Our project will exemplify the practical application of TrustChain's vision, propelling us toward a more democratic and sustainable future.

○ Tac

Country: Italy

Project Abstract:

The Enismaro Project offers an end-to-end solution able to track and trace the food production process and to enforce transparency by disclosing information about the products to the parties of the chain and to the end consumers. The solution is enforced by a Blockchain ledger and an IOT sensors framework which are the key to ensure that quality requirements are met.

The solution allows the parties to sign paperless "Smart Contracts" related to KPIs and quality conditions captured by the IOT sensors. The Smart contracts have legal validity as they are registered in Blockchain.

Enismaro makes the agri-food traceability objective.

Enismaro solution is innovative on several aspects. From the process point of view, Enismaro combines an IOT sensor framework – which captures qualitative conditions relating to the product or process in real time – with a Blockchain framework, which is managed autonomously by users. Hence, this allows all the actors in the food chain to create "smart contracts" within the platform in which they agree on certain quality conditions that must be respected (e.g., cold chain monitoring), thus breaking down the information gap and increasing transparency in the process through the information collected by sensors and recorded on the Blockchain.

○ Zkorum

Country: France

Project Abstract:

The internet was initially designed to connect computers, not humans. Consequently, we find ourselves in the midst of an online identity crisis: either we remain fully anonymous and unverifiable, akin to bots, or we adopt public profiles, risking the compromise of our privacy. This dilemma exposes us to a plethora of issues, including scams, stalking, doxing, bullying, identity theft, etc.

The online trust deficit, coupled with the rampant dissemination of false information, extreme opinions, armies of bots, and polarizing algorithms, has transformed social media into a toxic environment. Here, diverse viewpoints are met with hostility rather than open dialogues. Gartner predicts that by 2025, half of users will abandon or significantly reduce their social media usage.

Enter ZKorum, an open-source, privacy-preserving and verifiable social network designed to empower individuals, especially those who are vulnerable or marginalized, to engage in free civil discourse, paving the way for a more resilient democracy. Through the integration of Self Sovereign Identity (SSI) and Zero Knowledge Proof

cryptography (ZKP), ZKorum enables users to anonymously prove attributes like personhood, age, profession, gender, nationality, etc. Additionally, ZKorum offers users an AI-powered solution to rephrase their posts more respectfully, promoting constructive dialogues.

In the short term, ZKorum users log in with work/school email addresses and receive Verifiable Credentials to post as anonymous members of their organizations. This approach addresses the issue of self-censorship in professional and academic settings. As more official credentials, including the European Digital Identity, become available, ZKorum aims to evolve into the next generation eAgora for public opinion polling, discussions, and market research.

With more than 70 active pilot users, ZKorum is testing and iterating on a closed MVP at ESSEC Business School. The scope of this grant application is to develop a trust-minimized system to build auditability for any application generating verifiable data.

- Qx Travel Wallet

Country: Poland

Project Abstract:

QX Travel Experience Wallet is a Web3 ecosystem that enables connection between Cities and Tourists with a Decentralized Identity and an innovative reward system for travelers. By leveraging centralized cloud tools for cities and decentralized technologies for travelers, we plan to offer users a seamless yet secure way to earn rewards. The experience part of the wallet will be an Open Source Software to enable public inspection, contribution, and longevity. For the DID module, we will utilize DIDROOM, a product from the NGI ecosystem.

This innovation bridges the gap between Web 2.0 tools like the ones Google and Meta offer, which often compromise user privacy and monetise user data. This project aims to empower users with decentralised solutions to protect their privacy and deliver reward tokens instead of impression-based advertising. As consumer trust in centralized platforms wanes, there is a growing need for privacy-focused alternatives that allow travelers to access digital tools without compromising personal information.

With QX Travel Experience Wallet, users can still utilise essential digital tools like navigation, exploration, and communication without exposing their data. The city-to-tourist connections utilize web3 wallets that enable tourists to collect city tokens and redeem rewards, further envisioned as a European Travel Coin.

The platform will serve as eWallet for tourists and as a Wallet as a Service for agencies and cities, enabling the democratisation of tourist data and tourist engagement for economic prosperity and democratic principles. By integrating decentralised governance models, prioritizing individual privacy, and promoting fair practices for the tourist experience, this initiative democratizes the digital experience and data.

This project aligns with the NGI TrustChain's Open Call #3 goal by contributing to economic vitality through data marketplaces and data democratisation in smart cities, ensuring that the benefits of technological innovation are inclusive, participatory, and accessible to all.

○ Tc

Country: Serbia

Project Abstract:

The TrustCity (TC) project will establish a secure, transparent and verified model for engaging people in smart cities and communities where users will be able to actively participate in shaping the city's policies, projects and initiatives.

The TrustCity utilizes citizen-focused models based on decentralized autonomous organization (DAO) system to facilitate resident participation in proposing (including problem reporting) and decision-making for policies, projects and initiatives at the city or community level. The transparency model empowers citizens with comprehensive information to make informed decisions and to follow realization through progress reports, all in one place. Users can confidently review and rate the decision realization process at all stages.

As a model for encouraging citizen participation, the TrustCity project is developing a community rewards program through city token. For all activities in shaping the city's policies, projects and initiatives, users will be rewarded with city token, which can be exchanged for discounts on goods and services at local levels. Terms and conditions of city token will be also defined by a smart contract.

Verification of user identity will be confirmed through eID/eIDAS(2) infrastructure during the registration process. All developed tech solutions will follow GDPR regulation and technological interoperable with EBSI infrastructure.

○ Secureopinion

Country: United Kingdom

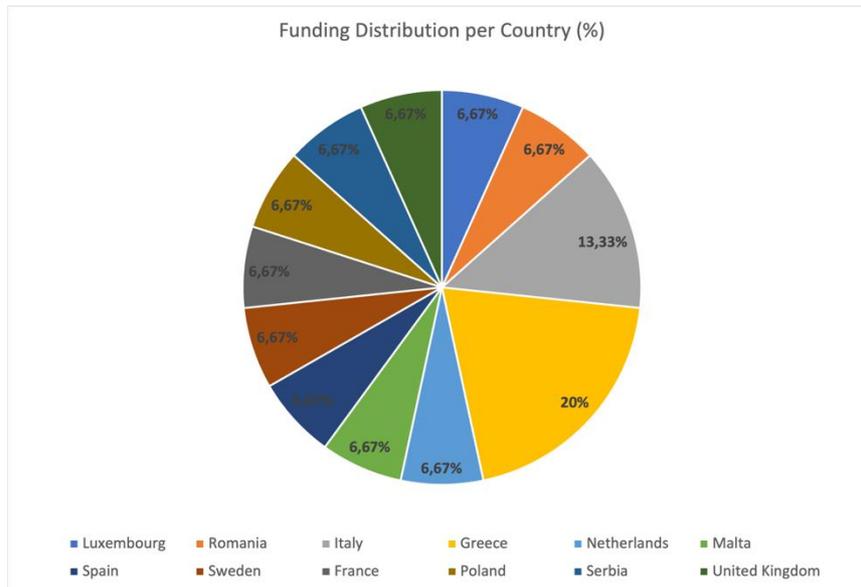
Project Abstract:

Online opinions, whether right or wrong, can significantly influence people to make decisions across various domains, from consumers buying products to political ideologies and voting on certain issues. Fake reviews, spoofed and compromised identities, and sponsored accounts might be involved in coordinated campaigns of disinformation that can distort public perception, damage reputations, and erode trust in online information. The current system is centralized, which could allow data or opinion manipulation and censorship. Furthermore, whistleblowers or legitimate users such as journalists or human rights activists hesitate to express their honest opinions due to the fear of surveillance, retaliation, personal attacks, or reputation damage. In

this research proposal, we investigate the solution that leveraged the decentralized blockchain system to create a secure and privacy-preserving solution for public opinion sharing on social media platforms, fostering increased trust and transparency. The proposal would investigate how blockchain technology can strengthen the security of public opinion sharing by establishing a tamper-resistant, decentralized ledger to record and verify user interactions and content dissemination. We would employ the zero-knowledge proof of the identity to ensure anonymity while still providing verifiability. The proposed solution embraces a user-centered strategy by giving priority to user experience, privacy, and democratic principles. The proposed system supports the essential rights of privacy and aligns with the democratic values of open discussion without the fear of negative consequences. The deliverable of this research would contribute towards building a more trustworthy, transparent, and user-centric digital ecosystem for public discourse and expressing political or social opinions.

4.2.5 Funding allocation per countries

By rules, the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 3 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, Greece and Italy are the most funded countries with 20% and 13,3% of the total OC3 funding distributed to them respectively. Then follow Luxembourg, Romania, Netherlands, Malta, Spain, Sweden, France, Poland, Serbia, and United Kingdom each taking an approximately 6.7% of the funding each. From a geographical point of view, the funding of TRUSTCHAIN for this Open Call 3 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:

[If you are a natural person]

[First Name] [Last Name], with Tax ID /VAT Number **[Tax ID or VAT NUMBER, please specify the one and provide also a legal proof of it (copy)]**, address **[Adress]**, with Passport Number/ID Number **[Passport Number/ID Number, please provide also a copy of your identity document]**, hereinafter referred as the "Evaluator".

[If you are acting on behalf of a compagny]

[company name], address **[Adress]**, VAT Number **[VAT NUMBER and provide also a legal proof of it (copy)]**, represented for the purposes of signing by **[First Name] [Last Name of the legal representative]**, legal representative of **[company name]**, hereinafter referred as the "Beneficiary"

And

[First Name] [Last Name] holder of the Passport Number/ID Number **[Passport Number/ID Number, please provide also a copy of your identity document]**, valid until **[Date]**, living at **[Adress]**, hereinafter referred as the "Evaluator".

[Note that information that you provide above will have to be the same then when providing your invoice whether you are the direct beneficiary or acting on behalf of your company. When completing the fields as requested, please delete the highlighted (yellow and pink comments.)]

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 3– Economics and democracy in 2024.

ARTICLE 1 – ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CONTRACT AND TERMINATION

This Contract shall enter into force on the 19th of February, date of the webinar for evaluators. 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 3– Economics and democracy (2024).

The call was launched the 6th December 2023 (13:00 PM CET) with a closing date of 14th February 2024 (17:00 CET). More information and the open call material can be found on: [Apply – TrustChain \(ngi.eu\)](https://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 19th February of 2024.

Individual evaluation, from the date of reception of the proposals to be evaluated till the 14th of March 2024.

The remote evaluation between the pool of 2 evaluators per proposal from 20th of February 2024 to the 11th of March 2024.

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: [Beneficiary Name considering if you are acting on your own or on behalf of a company]

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€]

Tax Number/VAT number of the evaluator providing the service: [Number]

ID Number: [Number]

Name of the account holder to which the transfer is to be made: [Beneficiary name depending for who you are acting]

IBAN: [Number]

BIC/SWIFT: [Number]

Name of the Bank: [Name]

The Contracting authority can ask additional documentation if needed for the payment realization. In any case the information provided in this contract should correspond to the one provided when issuing the invoice. An invoice template will be sent to the evaluator to ease the process when services object of the contract are completed.

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:

1. 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.
2. 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:
 - o was, at the time of disclosure to the Evaluator, published or otherwise generally available to the public, or

- o 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
- o was already in the possession of the Evaluator, without any restrictions on disclosure, at the time of disclosure to the Evaluator, or
- o was rightfully acquired from others without any undertaking of confidentiality; or
- o 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

1. 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.
2. The Contractor must formally notify the Evaluator of the suspension and the reasons for it.
3. The suspension takes effect on the date the notification is sent by the Contractor.

4. 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.
5. If the suspension exceeds two months, the Evaluator may ask the Contractor if the suspension will continue.
6. 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

1. The Contractor may reject (parts of) the fees if they do not fulfil the conditions set out in Article 4.
2. 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).
3. 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.
4. If the Contractor does not accept these observations, it will formally notify confirmation of the rejection or reduction.

ARTICLE 9 – SUSPENSION OF THE CONTRACT

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. If the Contractor does not accept these observations, it will formally notify confirmation of the suspension.
4. The suspension will take effect on the date the notification is sent by the Contractor.
5. 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

1. The Contractor may at any moment terminate the Contract if the Evaluator:
 - o is not performing their tasks or is performing them poorly; or

- o 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.
- 2. 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.
- 3. The termination will take effect on the date the notification is sent by the Contractor.
- 4. 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.
- 5. The Evaluator must formally notify the Contractor and include the reasons why by giving 15 days' notice.
- 6. The termination will take effect on the date the Contractor will formally notify confirmation of the termination.
- 7. Only fees for days worked before termination may be paid.
- 8. 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.
- 9. 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

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

2. 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.
3. 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

1. 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.
2. Amendments must be made before new contractual obligations are enforced.
3. The party requesting an amendment must formally notify the other party the requested amendment in writing with the reasons why.
4. 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:

<p>For : (the Beneficiary) If the beneficiary is a company, please insert here the business name, if you are acting on your own insert instead your name</p> <p>Mr/Ms :</p> <p>The beneficiary,</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Done in on DD/MM/YYYY</p>	<p>EUROPEAN DYNAMICS Luxembourg SA</p> <p>Mr Konstantinos Velentzas, legal representative</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Done in Luxembourg on DD/MM/YYYY</p>
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<p>If the beneficiary is a company, please complete also hereafter :</p> <p>The Evaluator:</p> <p>Mr/Ms :</p> <p>Independent expert,</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Done in on DD/MM/YYYY</p>	
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CODE OF CONDUCT FOR EVALUATORS

ARTICLE 1 – PERFORMANCE OF THE CONTRACT

1. The Evaluator works independently, in a personal capacity and not on behalf of any organization.
2. The Evaluator must:
 - o Evaluate each proposal in a confidential and fair way, in accordance with the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 3 Guidelines for Applicants and the evaluation documents provided by the Contractor in each of the evaluation stages.
 - o Assist the Contractor or relevant service to the best of their abilities, professional skills, knowledge and applying the highest ethical and moral standards.
 - o Follow any instructions and time-schedules given by the Contractor or relevant service and deliver consistently high-quality work.
3. The Evaluator may not delegate another person to carry out the work or be replaced by any other person.
4. 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

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

- o 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.
- o 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

1. 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.
2. The Evaluator undertakes to observe strict confidentiality in relation to their work. To this end, the Evaluator:
 - o 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.
 - o 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:

- o 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.
 - o 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.
 - o Must not communicate with applicants on any proposal during the evaluation.
3. 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.
 - o 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.

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

The undersigned evaluator in his/her own name:

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.

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

<p>Full name of the evaluator:</p> <p>Passport/ID number:</p> <p>Done in,/..../.....</p>	<p>Signature: XXX</p>
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ANNEX 2 - GUIDE FOR EVALUATOR

1 INTRODUCTION TO THE ROLE OF EVALUATOR

1.1 THE GUIDE FOR EVALUATOR

This guide aims at supporting the evaluation of expressions of interest submitted to the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 3: Economics and democracy. 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 3;
- 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 3.

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 OC3, 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 a 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 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.

1.3 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.

1.4 CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND CONFIDENTIALITY

1.4.1 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 cast 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.

1.4.2 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.

2 TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION PROCESS

2.1 TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 INDICATIVE TIMELINES

Remote Evaluation	Indicative Dates	Who
Evaluators Web Briefing	19 th February 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium + External Evaluators
The remote proposal evaluation takes place	From the 20 th February 2024 to the 11 th March 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium + External Evaluators
100% Individual Evaluation Reports completed	14 th March 2024	Internal Evaluators + External Evaluators
100% Consensus Reports completed	25 th March 2024	Internal Evaluators + External Evaluators

Panel Review meeting and selection of applicants for the online interview	29 th March 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium
Online Interviews	From the 22 nd April to the 23 rd March 2024	Internal Evaluators + TRUSTCHAIN Advisory Board Members
TRUSTCHAIN Open Call 3 results publication	Week of the 24 th May 2024	TRUSTCHAIN Consortium

All Evaluators should be available from 29th of March 2024 until the 4th of April 2024, date of the Panel review meeting for the selected projects.

2.2 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 Stankovski Raj. Muttukrishnan Iker Ruiz de Infante	vlado.stankovski@fri.uni-lj.si R.Muttukrishnan@city.ac.uk iker@alastria.io
Human Centric Aspects	Andres Delalamo	andres.delalamo@cibervoluntarios.org
Ethical Aspects	Ruben Roex	ruben.roex@timelex.eu
Business Aspects	Thanasis Papaioannou	thanasis.papaioannou@gmail.com

2.3 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 in a Team of natural persons or linked to a legal entity. Hence, the participation is possible in several ways:

- **Team of natural persons:**

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.

2.4 TRUSTCHAIN FRAMEWORK

2.4.1 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 call is under implementation by 13 selected projects.

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

The objective of Open Call 2 was 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

This call is under implementation by 15 selected projects.

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

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

This is the focal point of this document.

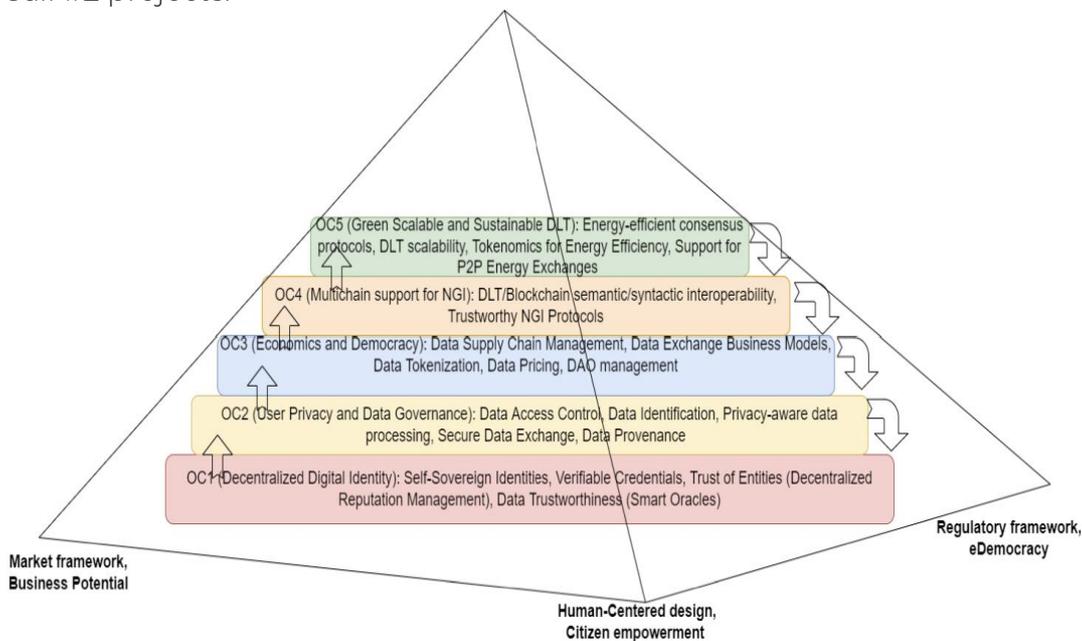
- **Open Call 4- Multi chains support for NGI protocols**

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 Open Call 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., Open Call #3 can pose additional requirements for the final outcomes of Open Call #2 projects.



In this technological framework, TrustChain Open Call #3 is thus closely related to Open Call #4 “Multi chains support for NGI protocols” and Open Call #5 “Green, Scalable and Sustainable DLT” as well as with technologies developed in Open Call #1 and #2. Better solutions for data economics and democracy will subsequently encourage ways for multi-chain interaction to exchange data/assets. Thus, knowledge created within this Open Call #3 will be transferred / integrated into future Open Call #4 and Open Call #5 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 3](#).

3 OPEN CALL 3: ECONOMICS AND DEMOCRACY

3.1 INTRODUCTION

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 among others, actively involved in research, development and application activities in the fields of user privacy, data governance, blockchain, semantic web, ontology engineering, software engineering, Cloud engineering, digital twins, edge and fog computing, ecosystem economics, smart applications, cryptography, standardisation, and security engineering.

Selected projects will last for a duration of 9 months. However, the TrustChain overall action lasts 36 months, and the selected projects are requested to participate after these 9 months in future Joint Meetings for knowledge and know-how transfer to TrustChain Open Call #4-5 and for the development of the TrustChain ecosystem.

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 Open Call #3 vision and objectives. Their proposed solution should consider as minimal requirement to:

- Be grounded on end users needs and requirements,
- Use standard technology for full stack development,
- Be open source,
- Extend the state-of-the-art in the domain of user privacy, and/or solve existing real-world problems with data governance and provide new highly usable software solutions.

Using the mandatory TrustChain proposal template, applicants are expected in relation to the specific objectives identified hereafter to explain in their application:

- The specific technological innovation they propose to develop and how it is clearly different from alternative solutions that are already available in the market, or developed by previous EU research and innovation actions (i.e., the EU ONTOCHAIN Project and any other projects),
- The specific user privacy and data governance needs or challenge they propose to address and who would benefit from it immediately and in the longer term,
- Whether the innovation will focus on the development of new solutions for existing areas, or a totally disruptive approach or idea,
- 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,
- Any challenges or opportunities relating to equality, diversity, ethics, and inclusion arising from their project,
- Explain how their proposed solutions will align with the building blocks developed as part of the Open Call #1 and Open Call #2 (more details are available on the [TrustChain webpage](#)).

Applicants when applying should clearly specify the Open Call #2 challenges they are going to address. Those are described in the section 3.3.

3.2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The objective of this OC is to define and build market mechanisms for data exchange and data trading as well as innovative win-win federated business models open data in compliance with GDPR and other regulations that implements techniques such as:

- Federated business models that consider fair rewarding of its participants,
- Establish new or enrich the existing marketplaces. Privacy preserving data sharing on third-party platforms,
- Fair data marketplaces: publish, search, discovery, other mechanisms in decentralized environments; negotiation mechanisms for data prices,
- Market competition that is fair and regulated in favour of the innovators,
- Tokenization of assets and its fair trading, protection against scams such as rug pulls, initial coin offering (ICO) fraud in digital asset trading,
- Establishing the value of the coins based on their quality contents; creating liquidity in the existing data marketplaces,
- Decentralized governance models that are fair and trustworthy to all the parties in a data exchange ecosystem,

- Use your eIDAS2 on the EU marketplaces,
- Effective data monetization strategies and business models to incentivize data providers to share their data on exchange platforms.

Applications should cover real needs of the end-users in one a specific sector such as for example banking, education, healthcare, or e-government.

3.3 CHALLENGES TO BE ADDRESSED

Navigating the data exchange/trading arena proves challenging due to the involvement of multiple parties, leading to issues of trust, privacy, consent, and regulatory complexities. The existing market mechanisms for data exchange face hurdles, exacerbated by the dynamic nature of data and the digital landscape. Additionally, challenges in market competition, fair settlement practices, and determining ownership rights further complicate the ecosystem. Organizations must grapple with these challenges, ranging from establishing trust frameworks to addressing evolving privacy regulations and ensuring fair compensation for data contributors. Tackling these complexities necessitates collaborative efforts and innovative solutions to create a secure, transparent, and ethical data exchange environment. Some of the challenges to be tackled in this call are the following:

- The current form of data sharing practise does not fairly reward the data owners/content producers. Data platform owners make decisions around the terms and conditions of data sharing.
- Accurate data discoverability on such marketplaces is a challenge. Precise matchmaking between sellers and buyers on a marketplace can significantly improve its performance.
- Data trading and exchange raise significant concerns about data privacy and security. There is a risk that sensitive or personal data could be mishandled, leading to privacy breaches, identity theft, or other malicious activities.
- Establishing enforceable data marketplace contracts for data exchange is missing; Clear and fair service level agreements for both sellers and buyers needs to be in place for a trustworthy marketplace.
- There is no standard pricing model for data, making it challenging to determine the fair market value of different data types. Mechanisms to ascertain the data quality and hence its price fairly is a challenging issue as the value of data can be subjective and context-dependent.
- Issue around data provenance exist as it can be difficult to verify the data source. Techniques to inspect the provenance of a specific product, service or data is

missing. Open reputation management can be one of the solutions, but it requires careful design considerations.

- Establishing clear data governance practices, including data access controls and usage policies, is essential for responsible data exchange. Data governance frameworks can be complex to implement and enforce.
- Federated marketplaces among self-interested parties emerge in various contexts, such as cloud services, IoT data exchange and more, for increasing service coverage, availability, efficiency, etc. Providing support for trustworthy service provision logging, transparent billing, fair value sharing and coordination in resource allocation in these contexts is a challenge.
- Innovative incentive mechanisms for decentralized, coordinated outcomes, potentially involving tokenomics, in various application contexts should be provided.
- Enabling a sustainable circular economy that involves sharing, leasing, reusing existing materials and products demand data provenance on the transformation of properties of materials and on processes applied on them. Means to achieve such an economy requires innovation in terms of material traceability and digital passports.
- Marketplaces for AI/ML models trading/exchange has witnessed a rise with advancement in AI training models and fear of data exchange due to privacy violations. A comprehensive comparison of such models on marketplace remains a challenge.
- Digital solutions to enhance civic mobilisation and engagement. Such solutions can utilize real-time information, platforms for crowdsourcing ideas, and platforms for facilitating access to participatory channels, in order to transform and enhance democratic decision-making.

A user centric design approach should frame the developed solution carefully consider the following:

- data privacy protection,
- privacy aware data processing,
- data provenance,
- data use policies,
- data retention and data deletion, right to be forgotten, data minimization, and trustworthiness,
- data minimization and user informed data deletion.

3.4 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

3.4.1 Technical Requirement

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, 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 online user privacy and data governance, 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 puts in the centre the needs of the general population and vulnerable people, 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., trustworthy data access, ensuring clear and informed user content and expanding what already exists, thus scaling) rather than building something new from scratch. It is desirable that the selected projects be able to demonstrate their solution at TRL 7 in a real end-user setting. If something completely new must be built (see point above), then it should be well motivated why the nature of the problem warrants a new solution and why the state-of-the-art solutions do not solve it today (i.e., barriers to technology 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 minimum value proposition. Cross-border data sharing, moving data across EU-international borders should be carefully considered. It should be also compatible with existing data sharing frameworks, standards and demonstrate the energy efficiency through measurements that are quantifiable.

The proposal should identify and justify how the proposed solution, or specific services and/or modules provided by it, can be used by other service and application developers of the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem.

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 piloted.

Link with other Open Calls: Understanding what digital identity (Open Call #1) is, data owners privacy policies requirements and data governance (Open Call #2) is prerequisite for designing and implementing innovative and fit for purpose market mechanisms for data exchange and data trading that are data owners centred. Solutions to be developed in this Open Call #3 should consider some of the approaches and outcomes identified in Open Call #1 and #2. Joint activities between Open Call #1 and #2 and Open Call #3 innovators will be facilitated by the TrustChain consortium.

3.4.2 Sustainability requirements

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

3.4.3 Regulatory and standards requirements

New economic/business models for the ecosystem economy, user centric data management, addressing privacy aspects, legally and regulatory compliance (e.g., GDPR-compliance, verification, and certification of records of data processing activities).

3.4.4 User Centricity Requirements

As mentioned above, the proposed solutions 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 applicant's proposal and the vulnerable collectives' approach should be used for the user testing.

A first step is to establish target groups of users. Once this is done, the users should be involved in the co-creation process. Then, accessibility standards should be incorporated through the onboarding according to the vulnerable collectives' approach.

Following that, a roadmap with the appropriate methodologies should be set up. The roadmap should include the approach, objectives and phases of the testing, and sample size. The sample needs to be representative and randomized but within the relevant characteristics of the target population.

User should be onboarded in the design process (if applicable). Proposals for improvement and insights should come from the users during the co-creation process. Complementarily, insights can be proposed by non-users (for example developers, or business partners). This decision must be justified in the corresponding deliverable.

3.5 EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND POSSIBLE APPLICATION DOMAINS

With this OC, the following APIs or SDKs could be created, to be available for the rest of the teams, and for the European developer community, as open source:

- Real World Assets (RWA) tokenization (API or SDK)
- Tokenized Real-World Assets (RWA) management (API or SDK)
- Digital Assets (DA) tokenization (API or SDK)
- Tokenized digital assets management (API or SDK)
- Decentralized governance (DAO like) management (API or SDK)
- Data value management (API or SDK)

With this OC, the following outcomes are expected:

- New data value focused governance models
- Innovative business models for data sharing
- New data exchange framework in a more secure, resilient, and decentralized way
- Innovative data trading platform that considers data owner privacy policies

All this will help individuals and organisations to better govern and share their data when they participate in joint value chains where cooperating partners can also be competitors. Possible use-cases and application domains include:

- Tokenization of real-world assets (RWA)
- Tokenization of virtual assets
- Copyright management
- Gamification: Customer relationships, awards etc.

3.6 MANDATORY DELIVERABLES

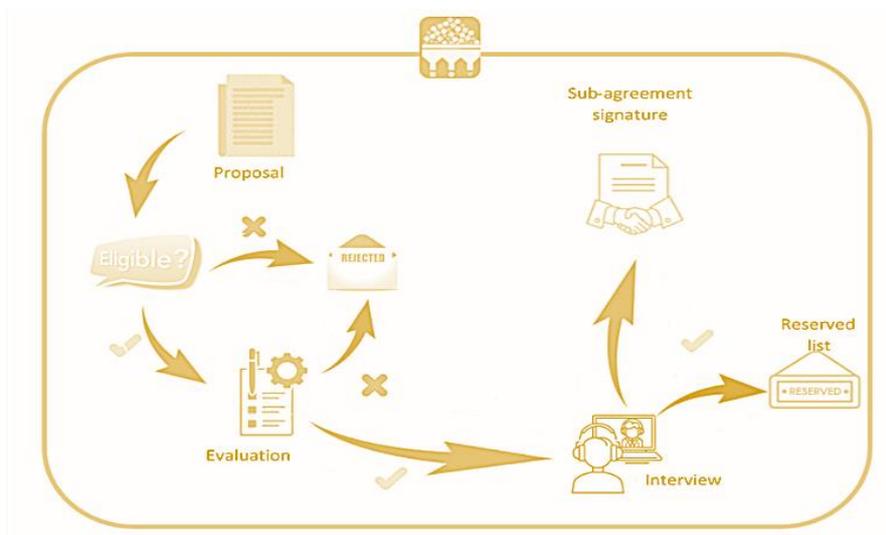
Projects selected and funded by the TrustChain consortium will have to deliver four mandatory deliverables during their lifetime. The four deliverables are defined below:

- **D1:** State of the art overview, use case analysis and preliminary technical specification of the solution. The deliverable 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, number of end users that will be involved in any pilots, and preliminary business plan.
- **D3:** Implementation, deployment, testing, demonstration, and validation roadmap in a real-life application (e.g., 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.

4 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



4.1 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. 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 3 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 3 Framework and application domain.

4.2 PROPOSAL EVALUATION

The evaluation of proposals is carried out by the TrustChain Consortium with the assistance of independent experts. TrustChain Consortium 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 the process in a professional manner. The experts 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 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 all instructions 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 always adhered to before, during, and after the evaluation.

Each proposal is evaluated by a set of 2 experts (one from the TrustChain Consortium and one independent) 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 demonstrates innovation potential in relation to TRUSTCHAIN objective (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models)
- Evaluate the degree to which the human centric methodology is clearly described and sound.
- Evaluate the appropriateness and soundness of the technical approach.

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 innovation on the needs of European and global markets is clearly provided and relevant KPIs are available.
- 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 objective and deliverables and milestones.
- Required mandatory deliverables are provided.
- Quality and effectiveness of the management procedures including risks and mitigation management.
- Integration of the solution to the overall TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem.
- Team is properly established and includes the key expertise to achieve the objectives.

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 expert prepares an individual evaluation report.

Following the individual evaluations by the two experts, a consensus meeting, typically mediated by the evaluation tool is organised between the two experts to achieve a

consensus between them on the quality of the proposal based on the two evaluation reports. Comments and scores are validated by the two experts in a consolidated evaluation report.

When necessary, an additional review of projects for which there was a lack of consensus in terms of scoring by the two experts or for which additional clarifications are required is undertaken by the TrustChain Call Referent (member of the TrustChain Consortium). In this case, an additional independent 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 ranking list.

The admission to the online interview for applications follows this rule: **the 20 highest-ranked proposals are admitted to the online interview.** The TrustChain Consortium may decide to invite more proposals to be part of the online interview stage in case for example of ex-aequo.

In any case, all proposals admitted to the online interview must reach all score thresholds.

Regarding the communication of the results, each applicant will receive via e-mail a letter informing them of the decision, which can be either a rejection decision supported by an Evaluation Summary Report or an invitation to the online interview session.

4.3 ONLINE INTERVIEW AND FINAL SELECTION

According to the rules, the top projects at the end of the proposal evaluation stage will be invited to the final selection stage. The applicants invited to the online interview will receive via e-mail, an invitation letter the online interview as well as relevant guidelines. **It is worth mentioning here that an invitation to the interview is not a formal invitation for funding.** The interview aims to better understand the project concept, scope, and centrality to the TrustChain vision, the team skills and competencies, capacity, and willingness to exploit the results under a commonly agreed plan with the rest of the TrustChain ecosystem and TrustChain partners. Most importantly, the online interview aims to clarify still unclear aspects of the proposal which have been identified during the proposal evaluation. The proposal evaluation report is not circulated to the applicants before the interview but forms the basis for the interaction with them.

In practice, the interview will be carried out by the evaluation board composed of the TrustChain core partners and the TrustChain advisory board members. It will be recorded to assure maximum transparency. It is based on 10 minutes pitch presentation and 20 minutes of Q&As to clarify some aspects regarding the quality of the proposal and its relevance for TrustChain, as well as to reach a final agreement about scores and the Evaluation Summary Report (ESR). The comments on the ESR

are taken into consideration for the preparation of relevant questions during the online interview and they are not communicated beforehand to the applicants.

The ESR will be structured according to the 3 criteria mentioned in the previous section (i.e., excellence and innovation, expected impact and value for money, project implementation) and will consolidate the comment of the proposal evaluation and the clarifications and overall impression obtained during the online interview. Based on the final consolidate score, the short list of winners will be produced and only at this stage the final ESR will be communicated to the applicants.

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.

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

5 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 3 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.

5.1 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 States³;
- 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.

³ Entities from Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) are eligible for funding under the same conditions as entities from the Member States to which the OCT in question is linked

5.2 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.

5.3 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Proposals must be submitted electronically, using the TRUSTCHAIN Online Submission Service accessible via <https://www.f6s.com/trustchain-open-call-3>. Proposals submitted by any other means, will not be evaluated.

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

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

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

5.3.1 Multiple submissions

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

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

evaluation process. Any other submitted proposals involving this Individual will be declared non-eligible and will not be evaluated in any case.

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

5.3.2 Participation to the 5 TRUSTCHAIN Calls and funding rules

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

5.4 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

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.

6 EVALUATION REPORTS

6.1 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 3, 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

4. Project summary (300 words)
5. Applicant background (Max. 1 pages)
6. Proposal description (Max. 8 pages)
 - 6.1 Concept and objectives (Max. 1 page)
 - 6.2 Proposal solution (Max. 2 pages)
 - 6.3 Expected impact (Max. 2 pages)
 - 6.4 Business model and sustainability (Max. 1 page)
 - 6.5 Implementation (Max. 2 pages)

Page count finishes here

It will be assessed against the evaluation criteria set in section 4.2.

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. The scores must reflect the comments.

6.2 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.

6.3 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.

7 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 ELIGIBILITY CHECK LIST, GRID FOR EVALUATION AND REPORT FORMS

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 3- Assessment grid	Proposal Acronym :	Eligibility	
		yes	no
Type of applicant			
A single organisation (Legal entity)			
<i>Secondary or Higher education establishment</i>			
<i>Research organisation</i>			

<i>SME</i>		
<i>Large enterprise</i>		
<i>Public Body</i>		
<i>A non-for profit organisation, association, NGO</i>		
<i>Foundation</i>		
<i>International organisation</i>		
<i>Other?</i>		
<i>VAT number</i>		
<i>Contact mail</i>		
A group of individuals (Team)		
<i>ID information of all the individuals</i>		
<i>Team leader contact mail</i>		
A group of organisations (Consortium)		
<i>Secondary or Higher education establishment</i>		
<i>Research organisation</i>		
<i>SME</i>		
<i>Large enterprise</i>		
<i>Public Body</i>		
<i>A non-for profit organisation, association, NGO</i>		
<i>Foundation</i>		
<i>International organisation</i>		
<i>Other?</i>		
<i>VAT number of the Coordinator</i>		
<i>Contact mail of the Coordinator</i>		
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		

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 3- 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 technical approach 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?							
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?							
2.4 Does the proposed solution answers to a real need of the targeted end users?							
Impact of innovation on needs of European and global markets							
2.5 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							
2.6 Is the strategy to disseminate and exploit the new knowledge generated by action appropriate?							
2.7 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?							
2.8 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?							
2.9 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 Is the work plan well-structured and appropriate to ensure that the research objectives and requested deliverables are achieved?	
3.2 Are the tasks and activities sufficiently detailed?	
3.3 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 Is there appropriate management structure and related procedures?	
3.4 Does the plan ensure quality and effective risk and mitigation management techniques?	
Integration capacity in the Trustchain ecosystem	
3.5 Is there a plan to integrate the work to the overall Trustchain ecosystem? Is the plan appropriately defined and convincing?	
Team excellence and availability	
3.6 Is the experience of the applicant on the research topic well described and adequate to achieve the reaserch goals?	
3.7 When relevant, is the nature of the reaserch team well outlined and adequate to achieve the research goals?	
3.8 Has the applicant demonstrated the capacity to achieve the research goals?	

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

- 0: Bad. The proposal is of very low quality.
- 1: Minimal. The criterion is minimally addressed and there are major weaknesses.
- 2: Poor. The criterion is poorly addressed, and/or there are major inherent weaknesses. Weaknesses are present.
- 3: Low. The proposal addresses the criterion overall, but not in a sufficient way and a number of serious weaknesses are present.
- 4: Insufficient. The proposal addresses the criterion, but not in a sufficient way and/or serious weaknesses are present.
- 5: Almost sufficient. The proposal almost addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion, but shortcomings are present.
- 6: Satisfactory. The proposal addresses the criterion in a satisfactory way, but a small number of shortcomings are present.
- 7: Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well and any shortcomings present are not serious. Weaknesses are very minor.
- 8: Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of minor shortcomings are present.
- 9: Almost Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are very minor.
- 10: Excellent. The proposal is outstanding and successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Enumerate strengths and weaknesses by writing high quality comments.

CRITERION 1- COMMENTS & SCORE * Structure your text in two parts: a) Strengths and Weaknesses

Y
and organizational models) appropriately demonstrated. Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WEGG the requirement:
CT.1.4 is the innovation potential (e.g. ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business

Y
CT.1.5 is the proposed research beyond the state of the art. Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WEGG the requirement:

Y
requirement:
CT.1.6 is the proposed technical approach credible including the user-centric approach. Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WEGG the

Y
if the proposal addresses WEGG the requirement:
CT.1.7 is the proposed concept clear, pertinent, and sound according to the TRUSTCHAIN topic that should be addressed. Tick the box only

CT.1 Quality and credibility of the research/innovation project (level of novelty)
CRITERION 1: Excellence and innovation (40% weighting)

CRITERION 2: Expected impact and value for money (30% weighting)

C2.1 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

C2.1.1 Will the planned research contribute to Trustchain overall goal? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.
 Y

C2.1.2 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? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.
 Y

C2.1.3 Is the proposed solution transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.
 Y

C2.1.4 Does the proposed solution answers to a real need of the targeted end users? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.
 Y

C2.2 Impact of innovation on needs of European and global markets

C2.2.1 Will the planned research have an impact on the needs of European and Global markets? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.
 Y

C2.2.2 Are there achievable KPIs in place? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.
 Y

C2.3 Quality of proposed measure to exploit an disseminate the project results

C2.3.1 Is the strategy to disseminate and exploit the new knowledge generated by action appropriate? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.
 Y

C2.3.2 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? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.
 Y

C2.3.3 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? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.
 Y

C2.3.4 Where applicable does the proposal describe how research/sensitive data will be managed in the context of Trustchain? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.
 Y

CRITERION 2 - COMMENTS & SCORE. ⁸ Structure your text in two parts e.g. Strengths and Weaknesses. Enumerate strengths and weaknesses by writing high quality comments.

10: Excellent. The proposal is outstanding and successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion.
 9: Almost Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are very minor.
 8: Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of minor shortcomings are present.
 7: Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well and any shortcomings present are not serious.
 6: Satisfactory. The proposal addresses the criterion in a satisfactory way, but a small number of shortcomings are present.
 5: Almost Sufficient. The proposal almost addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion, but shortcomings are present.
 4: Insufficient. The proposal addresses the criterion, but not in a sufficient way and/or serious weaknesses are present.
 3: Low. The proposal addresses the criterion overall, but not in a sufficient way and a number of serious weaknesses are present.
 2: Poor. The criterion is poorly addressed, and/or there are major inherent weaknesses.
 1: Minimal. The criterion is minimally addressed and there are major weaknesses.
 0: Bad. The proposal is of very low quality.

CRITERION 3: Project Implementation (30% weighting)

C3.1 Quality and effectiveness of the work plan

C3.1.1 Is the work plan well structured and appropriate to ensure that the research objectives and requested deliverables are achieved? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.

Y

C3.1.2 Are the tasks and activities sufficiently detailed? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.

Y

C3.1.3 Are the planned mobilised resources appropriate in relation to the proposed activity? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.

Y

C3.2 Quality and effectiveness of the management procedures including risk and mitigation management

C3.2.1 Is there appropriate management structure and related procedures? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.

Y

C3.2.2 Does the plan ensure quality and effective risk and mitigation management techniques? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.

Y

C3.3 Integration to the Trustchain ecosystem

C3.3.1 Is there an plan to integrate the work to the overall Trustchain ecosystem? Is the plan appropriately defined and convincing? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.

Y

C3.4 Team excellence and availability

C3.4.1 Is the experience of the applicant on the research topic well described and adequate to achieve the reaserch goals? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.

Y

C3.4.2 When relevant, is the nature of the reaserch team well outlined and adequate to achieve the research goals? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.

Y

C3.4.3 Has the applicant demonstrated the capacity to achieve the research goals? Tick the box only if the proposal addresses WELL the requirement.

Y

CRITERION 3- COMMENTS & SCORE. * Structure your text in two parts e.g. Strengths and Weaknesses
Enumerate strengths and weaknesses by writing high quality comments.

- 10: Excellent. The proposal is outstanding and successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion.
- 9: Almost Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are very minor.
- 8: Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of minor shortcomings are present.
- 7: Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well and any shortcomings present are not serious.
- 6: Satisfactory. The proposal addresses the criterion in a satisfactory way, but a small number of shortcomings are present.
- 5: Almost Sufficient. The proposal almost addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion, but shortcomings are present.
- 4: Insufficient. The proposal addresses the criterion, but not in a sufficient way and/or serious weaknesses are present.
- 3: Low. The proposal addresses the criterion overall, but not in a sufficient way and a number of serious weaknesses are present.
- 2: Poor. The criterion is poorly addressed, and/or there are major inherent weaknesses.
- 1: Minimal. The criterion is minimally addressed and there are major weaknesses.
- 0: Bad. The proposal is of very low quality.

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 3 Text, a document that provides the technical details for the TRUSTCHAIN Open call 3 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 according 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

PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION TEMPLATE

THIRD OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Call closure for proposals: 14 February 2024 at 17:00 CET

Version 2.0 – 06 December 2023

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS ON THE TEMPLATE

This template is to be used for the TrustChain Open Call #3 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 the grant preparation.

Total page limit: 11 pages. 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. **Final pdf must not be longer than 11 pages.**

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.

Please delete the guidance text in each section.

TRUSTCHAIN THIRD OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Acronym of your proposal
Full title of your proposal

Table of Contents

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----Page count starts here----

1. PROJECT SUMMARY

(Maximum 300 words)

-Describe your proposal at a high level.

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

Insert text here.

2. APPLICANT BACKGROUND

(Maximum 1 page)

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

-Describe the organisation proposing the collaboration (size of organization, type of organization, how many people, capital, and market), main expertise and business area as well as its main business interest in this proposal.

- Document the organisation previous related experience including the main publications, projects, product/service portfolio, patents and relevant contributions in line with your proposal.

- Justify the relevance of our organisation's strategy to the specified TRUSTCHAIN 3rd Call topic.

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

-Describe the team, its main expertise and business area.

-List the members of the participating organisations that will directly work on the project (name, job title, main expertise & role in the project) and provide evidence of 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 3rd 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 OC3 objective on Economics and democracy

-It should be clear:

- What are the needs and what are the relevant market trends?
- What TRUSTCHAIN OC3 challenges are you addressing and what is the methodology you are adopting?
- What existing solutions (including your own) from industry and from the scientific literature partly address the challenges?
- What is the human centric approach you are going to follow and how this is relevant for the work proposed
- What new value proposition are you offering, to which target group?
- 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 Economics and democracy as well as to TRUSTCHAIN objectives and requirements
- Clearly the originality and novelty elements.
- Present and justify the current 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 better understand users' needs and 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 Economics and democracy solutions by specific groups of end users
- Add value to the TRUSTCHAIN established impact mentioned in the call text and the TRUSTCHAIN and NGI Ecosystem.
- Outline the industrial impact at the European level and worldwide you are expecting to achieve. Provide measurable indicators and the rationale for the targets established.
- Provide arguments for how this work will advance your own business and competitiveness.
- Present the socio- economic and environmental impact of your work, when relevant.

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

-Outline the data that you generate and a brief 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 your solution is going to comply with environmental sustainability.

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 #3.

-Analyse the activities you plan to execute in each task and the functionality/services you are going to deliver: 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. Please note that if relevant 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.

-Outline a relevant risk management plan.

-Outline the management procedures and overall resources you are aiming to employ.

-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 table provided. 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 delivered

-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 15 PROJECTS SELECTED

MTRU-IP AMICA – TRUSTED IP ASSET MANAGEMENT IN CULTURAL AGGREGATORS

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 036_2260363

Proposal acronym: Tru-Ip Amica

Proposal title: Trusted IP Asset Management in Cultural Aggregators

Contact: theo@compell.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

Total score: 43,5 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

Score: 4,5

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The concept proposed by the application is pertinent, and sound according to the TRUSTCHAIN Open Call #3 topic to define and build mechanisms for smarter data exchange and data trading as well as innovative win-win federated business models' open data.
- The proposal clearly indicates that is open source.
- The concept proposed by the application is very well grounded on end users needs and requirements, clearly indicates the use standard technology for full stack development, and clearly extends the state-of-the-art in the domain of user privacy, and/or solve existing real issues.
- The technical approach of the application very credible and somehow includes the User-centric approach.
- The proposed research is clearly beyond the state of the art.
- The innovation potential (including ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organizational models are clearly appropriately demonstrated.

Weaknesses:

- Though underlining the innovative aspects of the applicant's proposal and the related excellence, the proposal does not present a clear analysis of the potential competitors.

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:

- It is very well demonstrated the 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.
- The planned research clearly shows to contribute to Trustchain overall goal.

- The proposed solution clearly shows to contribute to an ecosystem of decentralized identity management solutions that can seamlessly integrate and interoperate with any of the existing decentralised applications.
- The proposed solution is clearly transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant.
- The proposed solution clearly answers to a real need of the targeted end users.
- The planned research clearly shows to have an impact on the needs of European and Global markets.
- The KPIs described by the applicant are very clearly indicated in terms of content, and also in the related quantification methods.
- The proposal describes how IP property is expected to be dealt within the frame of Trustchain.
- The proposal describes well a potential business strategy/ commercialization plan with credible business development plans and targets.
- The proposal describes in details how research and sensitive data will be managed in the context of Trustchain.

Weaknesses:

- The strategy to disseminate and exploit the new knowledge generated by action is too generic and not very well detailed and or appropriate to achieve results in line with the EU communications and dissemination indications.
- The strategy for targeting peers (scientific, industry and other actors, professional organization and policy makers) and the wider community (potential end users) is not very clear, consistent and appropriate.

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
- Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem
- Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution
- Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem

Score: 5

Threshold: 3
Weight: 30%

Strengths:

- The work plan is very well well structured, clear and appropriate to ensure that the research objectives and requested deliverables are achieved.
- The tasks and activities are very well detailed.
- The planned mobilized resources are appropriate in relation to the proposed activity.
- There seems to be some appropriate management structure and related procedures, but could have been more detailed.
- The plan undoubtedly ensures quality and effective risk and mitigation management techniques.

- There is a clear plan to integrate the work to the overall Trustchain ecosystem and the plan is very appropriately defined and convincing.
- The experience of the applicant on the research topic as well as in similar background related projects is very well described and adequate to achieve the research goals.
- The nature of the research team is well outlined, detailed and adequate to achieve the research goals.
- The applicant team members has a well demonstrated capacity to achieve the research goals.

Weaknesses:

- None

SPARK-IT – IGNITING INNOVATION WITH TRUST, COLLABORATION AND EXPERT MENTORSHIP

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 097_2270120

Proposal acronym: Spark-It

Proposal title: Igniting Innovation with Trust, Collaboration and Expert Mentorship

Contact: adrian.alexandrescu@academic.tuiasi.ro

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

Total score: 41,5 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Score: 4

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposal aligns with TrustChain's goals, emphasizing decentralized digital identity, tokenization, user privacy, data governance, decentralized marketplace and democracy. Using Blockchain for secure, transparent data management and AI for targeted expert matching, it supports TrustChain's goals of reliable data paths and innovative, decentralized business models.
- The project demonstrates innovation potential through its ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches and the potential for new products, services and business models. Key innovative aspects include: AI-Powered matching and expert recommendations, decentralized identity and data governance, tokenized incentives and reputation systems and integration with eIDAS 2.0 Regulation.

Weaknesses:

- While the project emphasizes a user-centered approach, focusing on stakeholder co-creation, piloting, iterative development and incorporating feedback to align with user needs, it lacks a specific team member dedicated to oversee user-centered design processes.

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 planned research and implementation of the project are in line with TrustChain's objectives, offering innovative solutions for decentralized identity management, privacy-aware data governance and the promotion of a trustworthy, decentralized digital ecosystem.
- The interoperability and seamless integration with existing decentralized applications are supported by the use of blockchain as the underlying technology, the generic nature, the open source components and eIDAS 2.0 compliance.
- The project meets the targeted end users' needs by fostering efficient innovation, collaboration and secure idea sharing. It provides startups and entrepreneurs with expert guidance and intellectual

property protection in a trust-based environment. Furthermore the experts get tools to share knowledge, earn money and improve their reputation, while investors can find promising projects to possibly invest in.

- The planned research have an impact on the needs of European and Global markets as it promotes innovation in various industries and leads to the development of new products, services and start-ups. As the proposal mentions, the global innovation consulting market is projected to reach \$262.6 billion by 2027.
- The dissemination and communication plan includes targeted outreach to key stakeholders such as innovators, experts and investors. The strategy includes an active online presence, attending industry events and conferences to present the project and build collaborative partnerships with other innovation initiatives. Also, it is planned a publication of a scientific article in a reputable open access journal such as IEEE Access.
- The key performance indicators (KPIs) listed in the SPARK-IT proposal are relevant and specific, providing a comprehensive framework for measuring platform performance across various dimensions.
- The project uses a clear strategy to engage both academic and industry peers through industry events, conferences and prestigious journals. For the wider community, including potential end-users, the project planning an active online presence and partnerships with local ecosystems to maintain relevance and promote user engagement.
- The proposal introduces a token-based incentive system to reward contributions, with the goal of a sustainable economic model within the TrustChain ecosystem. It also seeks to enhance commercial viability and visibility through forging partnerships with academia, industry and innovation hubs and finally outlines diversified revenue streams, including transaction fees along with potential premium services, to ensure the viability of the platform.

Weaknesses:

- The project exhibits no significant weaknesses across all evaluated aspects of criterion 2, demonstrating a robust and well-considered approach.

<p>Criterion 3 - Project Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 - Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution - Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem 	<p>Score: 4 Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%</p>
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Strengths:

- The project presents a well-structured work plan that is tailored to meet its research objectives and deliver the requested deliverables. It also includes a Gantt chart with clear milestones and deadlines, which shows a careful approach to project planning and execution.

- The proposal describes the tasks and activities in sufficient detail, providing clarity on the project execution path, which ensures that all team members and stakeholders have a clear understanding of their responsibilities and timelines.
- The proposal outlines a comprehensive team of experts from TUIASI, Sigmatic, and SQweb, combining a wide range of skills in blockchain technology, AI, cybersecurity and project management. Additionally, the proposal mentions leveraging existing infrastructure from TUIASI and partnerships for resources, which suggests an efficient use of available assets.
- The inclusion of risk identification and mitigation strategies indicates a proactive approach to project management, ensuring that potential challenges are addressed promptly and efficiently.
- The proposal includes a convincing plan for integration into the overall TrustChain ecosystem. By outlining specific mechanisms for compatibility and synergy with existing TrustChain components, SPARK-IT demonstrates its potential to contribute value to and benefit from the broader ecosystem.

Weaknesses:

- While the proposal's initial engagement of 10-30 users in the pilot phase from the innovation community in Iasi, Romania is a starting point, this number may limit the diversity and robustness of feedback necessary for comprehensive testing of the platform. To ensure a more representative and insightful evaluation of the functionality and user experience of the platform, it would be beneficial to increase the number of participants in the pilot phase from various sources other than the innovation community in Iasi.

TRUST-ICMF – TRUSTED INTERNATIONAL CONTRACT MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 065_2263649

Proposal acronym: Trust-icmf

Proposal title: Trusted International Contract Management Framework

Contact: steven.mohamed@intrade4you.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

Total score: 41,5 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Score: 4

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposed solution aims to implement an open source framework capable of simplifying, accelerating, and enhancing the development and execution of digitised international trade contracts, following a decentralised model.
- They aim to establish data governance practices, including data access controls and usage policies, in order to develop a decentralised data governance and exchange model that is fair and trustworthy to all parties.
- They claim that no other similar solution exists today.
- They claim that will allow companies to save: 75% on the time required to consult and verify documents, access information in real time; increased sustainability thanks to the elimination of paper use; integration with customs systems; and facilitating access to international credit and finance.
- The proposal demonstrates it addresses a real problem in the industry and clearly goes beyond the state of the art. It is also quite aligned with OC3.
- Reasonable mentions of compliance and regulation

Weaknesses:

- However, it is not quite clear on how to achieve 75% less time for customers.
- The concept is clear and pertinent, but it doesn't sufficiently demonstrates a credible technical approach. It has some mentions to how it plans to incorporate user needs but there are some shortcomings in the described methodology - it is too generic.

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

Threshold: 3
Weight: 30%

Strengths:

- The authors aim to add to the TrustChain and NGI ecosystem a new business and sustainable model for data governance, validation and synchronous/asynchronous services exchange, based on decentralized technologies and open source. Third parties may connect to the Single Source of Truth on the blockchain to implement new services, while other parties may implement services based on the exchange of structured information through Verifiable Credentials.
- The potential reachable clients of the proposed solution align with the ones interested in international trade negotiations, currently estimated to be 25-30% of global commercial transactions.
- The proposal has a strong commercial angle and has a good data management plan.
- The business model is also reasonably sound, although profitability is excessively contingent on premium features or extensions.
- The proposal features an interesting plan to reach the wider community through a public user forum and a marketplace.

Weaknesses:

- The KPIs could be better highlighted and the strategy to achieve them.
- Dissemination plan could be better outlined.
- The proposal's details for disseminating the knowledge could have been more detailed.

Criterion 3 - Project Implementation	Score: 4,5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 - Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution - Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem 	<p>Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%</p>

Strengths:

- The project is currently at TRL 3 (partially TRL 4), having conducted deep analyses that led to an exploratory mockup used for identifying the steps to implement in the legal contract, as well as, an experimental proof-of-concept in blockchain by simulating some functional aspects of digital contract creation and developing a prototype for the construction and validation of Verifiable Credentials.
- The authors expect to reach a TRL 7 implementation with demonstration of a prototype in an operational environment, requesting the collaboration of the International Chamber of Commerce – Italy. The expected number of test users will be in the range of 50-100 clients.
- The technical team is experienced and with adequate expertise.
- The integration in the Trustchain ecosystem is well demonstrated.
- The development table is sound and the deliveries are feasible.

Weaknesses:

- Planned mobilised resources could be better highlighted.
- The proposal entails addressing risks and creating a management plan as part of the project, whereas some detail could have already been included in the current proposal.
- The proposal could be more clear about how the extensive team will be allocated to the different milestones.

AI METABLOQ – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN AN DLT BIOSAMPLE AND DATA MARKETPLACE

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 034_2260202

Proposal acronym: Ai Metabloq

Proposal title: Artificial Intelligence in an DLT biosample and Data marketplace

Contact: katsaounis-ceo@metab.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

Total score: 40,5 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

Score: 4,5

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposal under evaluation demonstrates a remarkable level of innovation and excellence, earning it a near-perfect score.
- It skillfully addresses key TRUSTCHAIN OC3 objectives, notably in creating fair and decentralized data marketplaces.
- The project stands out for its innovative approach to real-time data exchange, utilizing an advanced federated business model specifically tailored for biobanks and associated networks.
- This initiative showcases a deep understanding of the biobanking industry's needs, aiming to significantly enhance efficiency, transparency, and security in biospecimen data management.
- Its commitment to developing a decentralized platform is not only ambitious but also well-aligned with Trustchain's broader objectives.
- The proposal's originality is complemented by a practical and achievable approach, reflecting the team's extensive experience and familiarity with the industry.

Weaknesses:

- None

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 presents a novel concept with the potential to set a new industry standard, leading to more efficient and effective research activities in the biobanking field.
- This proposal stands out for its innovative approach in creating a decentralized marketplace, aiming to significantly impact the global biobanking market. Its integration of blockchain and reactive AI technologies positions it as a potentially revolutionary force in the biobanking information sector.

- The project's focus on user-centered design and commitment to data privacy enhances its applicability and relevance in today's market.
- A notable strength of this proposal is its detailed analysis of how the innovation will meet the needs of global markets, coupled with the identification of relevant KPIs to track the project's success. This indicates a clear understanding of the market's demands and a well-thought-out strategy for measuring impact.

Weaknesses:

- However, the proposal could be strengthened by providing more details on data encryption tools, which are essential for ensuring the privacy of patient information. This addition would reinforce the project's commitment to data security, a crucial aspect in the healthcare and biobanking sectors.

<p>Criterion 3 - Project Implementation</p>	<p>Score: 3,5</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 - Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution - Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem 	<p>Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%</p>

Strengths:

- The project stands out for its well-planned implementation strategy and solid foundation.
- The project presents a strong implementation plan, characterized by its ambition, detailed work tasks, and applicable solutions.
- The roadmap and comprehensive risk management approach demonstrate a well-structured and carefully considered strategy.
- The integration plan with the Trustchain ecosystem is a significant strength, indicating a clear understanding of the project's role within the broader framework.
- The team's experience and capabilities are well-suited to the project's objectives, adding to the confidence in their ability to execute this ambitious project.

Weaknesses:

- The proposal would benefit from greater detail in team member roles, ecosystem integration, and project milestones to ensure seamless execution and alignment with the Trustchain framework.
- The details on team member roles and their integration with the Trustchain ecosystem could be more thoroughly presented.
- While the project aligns with Trustchain's objectives, a more explicit interest in participating projects within the ecosystem would enhance its integration potential.
- Additionally, providing more detail on project milestones would offer greater clarity on the project's trajectory and checkpoints.

DIDIMO – DIDIMO: VERIFIABLE CREDENTIAL SERVICES ASSESMENT AND MARKETPLACE

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 048_2262231

Proposal acronym: Didimo

Proposal title: DIDimo: verifiable credential services assesment and marketplace

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

Total score: 40,0 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Score: 4

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposed concept is clear, pertinent, and perfectly aligned with TRUSTCHAIN's OC3 "Economics and Democracy". In particular, DIDimo seeks to accelerate the adoption of decentralized identity solutions by addressing interoperability challenges, ensuring compliance with standards, and fostering trust among stakeholders through a marketplace approach.
- The proposal includes a user-centric approach, through its emphasis on prioritizing user needs and incorporating user feedback at various stages of the platform development.
- The innovation potential (e.g ground-breaking objectives, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or bussiness and organizational models) is appropriately demonstrated and adequately considered and detailed.

Weaknesses:

- Several similar solutions already exist, but they are tight to a certain technology and typically closed source. Noteworthy examples include Polygon ID's credential marketplace, EBSI's wallet conformance page.

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%

Strengths:

- The proposed solution aims to enhance the TRUSTCHAIN's ecosystem by providing a platform for compliance assessment, interoperability, and user-friendly credential services, enabling seamless integration with existing decentralized applications.
- The contribution of the solution towards and an ecosystem of decentralized identity management solutions is clear and detailed adequately including technical details on the means and roadmap to achieve it.

- The proposal includes a strategy for disseminating and exploiting the new knowledge generated by the project is appropriate, aiming to engage with peers in the scientific and industry communities, target potential end-users, and collaborate with policymakers to maximize the impact of the research outcomes.
- The solution is transparent to the users, interoperable, and privacy aware.

Weaknesses:

- The proposal does not explicitly mention specific Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that will be used to measure the impact and success of the research.
- Regulatory compliance is not adequately detailed.

<p>Criterion 3 - Project Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 - Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution - Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem 	<p>Score: 4,5</p> <p>Threshold: 3</p> <p>Weight: 30%</p>
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Strengths:

- The work plan is well and adequately structured for the project size and appropriate to ensure that the research objectives and requested deliverables are achieved.
- The tasks and activities are sufficiently detailed given the project objectives and size.
- The utilization of the planned resources is clearly detailed in relation to the proposed activity.
- The management structure and related procedures are not detailed to an adequate level and detail.
- The applicant's background and experience is well described, indicating their capability to achieve their stated goals. Moreover, their previous collaboration with TRUSTCHAIN would be highly advantageous.

Weaknesses:

- The quality procedures are not sufficiently detailed and the risk and mitigation management techniques are lacking details.

FLORA – FEDERATED LEARNING OVULATION TRACKING APP WITH REWARD SYSTEM

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 086_2268868

Proposal acronym: Flora

Proposal title: Federated Learning Ovulation tRacking App with Reward System

Contact: pefraimi@athenarc.gr

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

Total score: 38,5 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Score: 4

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposal, although addresses a known topic, seeks to implement a secure way to store, learn and share sensitive data. It uses past results from Trustchain OC 1. It brings innovative approach to data storage and AI Federated Learning. There is comprehensive description of the solution to be developed.
- It is noted that the project is targeting to a develop a healthcare application able to record transactions related to data sharing and model training in an auditable and transparent manner. This aligns with TRUSTCHAIN's aim of enhancing trust in digital interactions. In addition, the project endeavors to touch an important topic of democracy and individual rights in modern societies particularly regarding abortion access. As remarked in the proposal "the project's ultimate objective is the development of a user-oriented mobile application for precise ovulation tracking with total control over data".
- Furthermore, the project is aiming to integrate user feedback through surveys, focus groups, and beta testing and collaborations with gynecologists.
- The proposal takes advantage of cutting-edge techniques empowered by AI/ML and blockchain smart contracts in providing an innovative solution.
- The proposal demonstrates the adding value that the research and the product will convey.
- The innovation is derived from the combination of technologies (ML, smart contracts, Federal Learning), the variety of stakeholders and users involved (female population, doctors, medical companies etc.) and the functionality of the final product, that is the tracking app.

Weaknesses:

- The proposal is focused on a very specific use case where data sharing is involved. End-users' organization is not onboarded.

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%

Strengths:

- Overall, the application describes quite well the process to handle sensitive data and market/user oriented dissemination activities.
- The planned research is linked to previous Trustchain's open-calls (the project will embed IS-CIS) and its area of work ensures that the deliverables of the research will be towards Trustchain overall goal for fostering a Human-Centred, Trustworthy and Sustainable Internet. According to the proposed solution, users will be able to provide anonymized and encrypted data to the application engineers, maintaining user privacy.
- While the proposed solution offers privacy of personal information and interoperability with other applications and stakeholders, there are two concerns which will be further evaluated. First, the issue of compliance with regulation on healthcare sensitive data and the upcoming Alact (does the algorithm offer a personal advice or a research medical trend?). Second, it should be analysed whether data entered by users are based on stated preferences or information which could not be fully transparent, thus accompanied with evidence. As a matter of fact, the team cites that "we acknowledge the potential risk of not accumulating a sufficient amount of data during the project's duration".
- The proposed solution targets end users (female population and doctors) who will demand this "adaptable toolkit" for supporting well-informed decisions.
- The research will have an impact on a global scale as it is addressed to the world health industry. Also, the business targets the global market, considering localization and cultural nuances.
- The proposal aims to capitalize the knowledge through a competitive product which will compete with the similar ovulation tracking apps.
- The team presents a credible dissemination and communication plan divided into online presence, content marketing, education and feedback from analytics tools.
- The project has an already established network of peers which includes an industry partner and doctors from an affiliated hospital.

Weaknesses:

- Business potential is briefly addressed. Market potential should have been further described, including providing market sizes and its expected revenues.
- KPI are not enough defined and not clear measurable goals are provided.
- Scientific dissemination activities are under developed.
- All the same, the proposal describes a basic business strategy without going into much details about revenue models and IP property. On the other hand, the blockchain-based reward system presented is weak (only the assumption of acceptance of the token by third parties for off-chain payments has been mentioned without supporting whether this would be a liability or an option by these third parties). The token strategy could be further developed.
- The proposal raises the concern of sensitive data and is willing to establish itself as a benchmark in preserving user data within health applications. In the context of Trustchain this should be further evaluated.

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
- Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem
- Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution
- Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem

Score: 4

Threshold: 3
Weight: 30%

Strengths:

- Overall, the work plan is well defined. The team evidences experience and know-how.
- The proposal has shown a well-balanced work plan which lead to the final deliverables.
- The various tasks and activities have a sufficient description in terms of context and time plan.
- The team has the appropriate level of resources to deliver the results.
- The team has a proposed management structure with roles and responsibilities backed by management procedures and resourced such as project management, quality assurance etc.
- The applicant consists of a nine individual with strong research background in the field.
- As individuals and as a team, the research team has the necessary resources to carry out the research while the collaboration with an industrial partner will allow the team to test the application, ensuring usability and functionality.
- The applicant has demonstrated through the relevant experience of the research team, its capacity to deliver the final results.

Weaknesses:

- Management plan is mentioned, yet it is briefly explained.
- Risk Management lacks an initial assessment and mitigation plans. The plan has highlighted risk concerns, has illustrated a risk management plan but mitigations plans could be further elaborated.
- Effort allocation is not clearly presented.
- Deliverables are not aligned exactly with required ones, but main outcomes are present.
- As the project is linked to concepts of previous Trustchain open calls, it aims at integrating the final work to the overall Trustchain ecosystem but this is not clearly defined.

AUTHBOND – AUTHENTIC BOND OPERATING NETWORK FOR DAOS

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 063_2263431

Proposal acronym: Authbond

Proposal title: Authentic Bond Operating Network for DAOs

Contact: bb@acurraent.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

Total score: 37,0 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Score: 4

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposal is recognized for its clarity and robust alignment with the TRUSTCHAIN context, effectively resonating with the initiative's objectives.
- Its adoption of a user-centric methodology and positioning as beyond the state-of-the-art highlights the proposal's ambition and innovative approach.
- The integration of Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) with privacy NFTs for bid bonds particularly stands out as a novel concept, pushing the boundaries in digital identity management and contract security within the context of Web3 procurement.
- The team's prior participation in OC1 is a positive factor, indicating a deep understanding of Trustchain's current needs and a commitment to building upon existing technologies to benefit the ecosystem.
- Overall, the proposal is highly commendable for its innovative approach and alignment with Trustchain's goals.

Weaknesses:

- The proposal would benefit from addressing the identified risks and exploring more groundbreaking aspects of its concept.
- The characterization of the proposed concept, while innovative, is noted as not groundbreaking, suggesting room for further development in its innovative aspects.
- Risks associated with the market adoption and practical implementation of such innovative technology need to be more thoroughly addressed. These risks include potential barriers to understanding and accessibility, especially for users unfamiliar with these advanced technologies.

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%

Strengths:

- The proposal is recognized for effectively aligning with the Trustchain initiative's objectives, particularly in developing a suite of Next Generation Internet protocols and decentralized identity management software solutions.
- It is commendable for its thoughtful approach to contributing to the ecosystem of decentralized identity management solutions and for its alignment with market needs through its innovative solution.
- The project's revenue model, which relies on the issuance and management of bid bonds on the TrustChain platform, alongside commissions for transactions and contracts, indicates a direct and constant source of revenue.
- The proposal to develop subscription services with access to premium features adds to its revenue model, but these functionalities require more detailed development in the proposal.

Weaknesses:

- There is a need for clearer articulation of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to effectively measure the project's impact.
- Ambiguities related to the project's use by F6S and potential conflicts of interest have not been adequately clarified, creating a critical weakness in the proposal's clarity and effectiveness.
- Additionally, while the proposal introduces innovation from a business perspective, the business model itself, including its financial viability, scalability, and market engagement strategy, needs further development.
- Addressing the evolving regulatory landscape around blockchain and NFT, and ensuring compliance with legal frameworks, remains a significant challenge for the project.
- Further detailing the strategy for commercializing the solution and managing intellectual property within the Trustchain framework would also strengthen the project's long-term impact and value proposition.

<p>Criterion 3 - Project Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 - Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution - Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem 	<p>Score: 3,5 Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%</p>
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Strengths:

- The proposal demonstrates notable strengths in project implementation, particularly in its detailed presentation of development activities, which suggests a comprehensive and well-planned approach.
- The involvement of an end-user organization indicates a commitment to aligning the project outcomes with real-world needs and applications.

- The attention to risk mitigation reflects proactive planning, and the qualifications of the team are highly commended, bringing expertise in digital identity and blockchain technology to the project.
- The project's plan to integrate with the overall TrustChain ecosystem, based on its participation in OC1, is commendable.
- The proposal's approach to resource allocation and management, including a planned budget and resource allocation, appears appropriate for the scope and scale of the project. This demonstrates an effective approach to managing the resources necessary for project implementation.

Weaknesses:

- The omission of the deliverables table due to page limitations and the lack of clarity regarding PORTERS' status as an EU organization are significant weaknesses.
- The roadmap for achieving Technology Readiness Level 7 (TRL7) is not convincingly outlined, and there is a need for more detailed presentation of potential project development risks and associated mitigation strategies.
- The lack of Key Performance Indicator (KPI) measurement in the project is a notable shortcoming. KPIs are essential for measuring the impact of actions and constantly reviewing the project's direction.

VALUEALL – UNLOCKING VALUE FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS IN A DATA ECOSYSTEM

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 052_2262653

Proposal acronym: Valueall

Proposal title: Unlocking value for all participants in a data ecosystem

Contact: smadariaga@arsys.es

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

Total score: 37,0 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

Score: 4

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposal exhibits a strong and clear concept, aligning strongly with the TRUSTCHAIN topic and intended outcomes, particularly by contributing to an economic and democratic framework for the sharing data.
- The technical approach presented is highly credible and well-supported by clear examples. A commendable user-centric approach is demonstrated throughout the project's lifecycle, with a strong emphasis on ensuring value for all the participants in the value chain.
- The proposal showcases innovation potential, particularly in envisioning fair access and participation in the creation, sharing, and monetisation of datasets to a wider audience.

Weaknesses:

- Although the proposal demonstrates potential innovation, the limitations of existing products are not appropriately discussed, making it unclear if the research is beyond the state of the art.

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 proposal focuses on facilitating democratic participation and engagement by delivering a platform that facilitates data capture and distributes the economic value created fairly across participants. It strongly aligns with the TRUSTCHAIN overall goal.
- The proposal credibly elaborates how the solution will contribute to the ecosystem of decentralised identity management solutions. The approach being undertaken, with the use of eIDAS 2 authentication mechanisms and the standards-driven approach further confirm the potential for integration and interoperability with existing applications.
- The proposal aligns with TRUSTCHAIN goals of promoting decentralized, privacy-centric, and regulatory-compliant data governance solutions.

- The proposal aligns strongly with the EU initiatives aimed at promoting, supporting and fostering a data economy through environments which facilitate data sharing
- A credible dissemination approach is well evidenced in the proposal, particularly through the ties with the business community. This is also supported through the identification of specific tasks focusing on dissemination.
- The proposal clearly details the intention to engage with peers and the wider community through the dissemination strategy, potentially through industry collaborations but also through a standards-driven approach.
- The business model centres around the sale of complementary solutions which the applicant provides. The proposal describes in sufficient detail the business model, which is centred on a freemium approach and includes other options to ensure economic sustainability. Aspects concerning intellectual property are also sufficiently articulated with a focus on providing the solution as open source.
- A credible data management plan and a focus on privacy preserving mechanisms is well evidenced. However, it is not clear where collected data will be stored.

Weaknesses:

- Although the proposed solution addresses a tangible and specific need in relation to equitable access to data sharing platforms for citizens and local businesses, the evidence of the real need on the customers' side is not clear.

<p>Criterion 3 - Project Implementation</p>	<p>Score: 3</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 - Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution - Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem 	<p>Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%</p>

Strengths:

- The proposal demonstrates a detailed and well-structured work plan, providing a solid foundation for achieving the intended objectives effectively.
- Tasks and activities are clearly explained in sufficient detail, contributing to a comprehensive understanding of the project's execution.
- A project plan is included in the proposal, outlining the timeline and milestones for project implementation. Relevant details on the project management procedure are sufficiently articulated.
- The details provided on the company and participants convincingly articulate the experience of the applicant on the research topic, enhancing the proposal's credibility.
- The composition of the research team is adequately outlined, ensuring a diverse set of expertise to address various aspects of the project.

- Details on the composition of the team and their specialization areas are included in the project, demonstrating capacity to achieve the research goals effectively.

Weaknesses:

- Integration with the overall TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem is not sufficiently evidenced.
- The proposal lacks detail on the planned mobilized resources in relation to the proposed activities.
- The proposal does not appropriately identify risks and mitigation management techniques.

FITCHAIN – EMPOWERING PERSONAL HEALTH DATA SOVEREIGNTY THROUGH BLOCKCHAIN-ENABLED MONETIZATION

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 104_2270502

Proposal acronym: Fitchain

Proposal title: Empowering Personal Health Data Sovereignty through Blockchain-Enabled Monetization

Contact: mloukeris@neuronai.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

Total score: 36,5 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

Score: 3,5

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The concept is clearly stated, addressing effective data monetization strategies and business models to incentivize data providers to share their data on exchange platforms.
- Besides the solution described in the proposal is aligned with TrustChain's vision for a democratic and transparent digital ecosystem since the solution is enabling a decentralized, blockchain-based platform for the fair monetization and secure management of personal health data, aligning with key themes of economic empowerment and democratic governance within the digital health ecosystem.
- The applicants possess a fitness blog boasting over 1000 registered users, providing a valuable foundation to tap into for addressing market needs. The plan to engage this user base actively in the project's design and implementation makes the proposal credible concerning user-centricity.

Weaknesses:

- While the concept is innovative, the proposal lacks a comprehensive exploration of the current state of the art. Existing apps like Sweatcoin and Fitivity, which reward users with cryptocurrencies for physical activities, are not thoroughly examined or compared. The absence of such a comparative analysis diminishes the demonstration of the project's innovation potential.
- The proposed fitness decentralized marketplace is intriguing but the proposal doesn't elaborate on the mechanisms for setting data prices and outlining the process by which data consumers will select data from the marketplace.
- The data sharing process is not clear, particularly regarding the proposed unique encryption key for each user. Concerns arise about potential vulnerabilities, especially if a data consumer might purchase data and share the key. Additionally, the mechanism for users to grant and revoke access to their data remains unclear.

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 proposal outlines contributions to Trustchain's overall goal and its ecosystem. The project further supports Trustchain's objectives by facilitating rewards via federated business models, enhancing data marketplaces, implementing trading mechanisms, and advocating decentralized governance. Leveraging the Algorand blockchain ensures transparent transactions, with a commitment to GDPR-compliant data management, emphasizing privacy and consent-based access.
- The proposal aims to revolutionize the utilization and value of personal health and fitness data within the digital economy, anticipating significant industrial impact both in Europe and globally, with plans to increase blockchain adoption by 20% in European markets and 15% worldwide within five years, addressing a real need in the dynamic health and fitness sector by enabling users to monetize their fitness data.
- The dissemination plan effectively outlines the audience and channels, employing a multi-channel strategy to target diverse audiences within health, fitness, blockchain, and academic communities.
- The applicants present achievable Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) including market size projections, target penetration rates, user engagement estimations and revenue streams.
- A comprehensive business strategy is described with various revenue streams like transaction fees, Subscriptions, Data Analytics and partnerships. Concerning the IP the app will be open-source under GNU GPL license fostering wider adoption, community contributions and collaborations.

Weaknesses:

- The suggested proposal lacks clarity on its approach to achieving interoperability and seamless integration with existing decentralized applications. Additionally, it overlooks the utilization of other platform components that could enhance its effectiveness.
- The description of the exploitation plan could have been more comprehensive and detailed.

Criterion 3 - Project Implementation	Score: 3,5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 - Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution - Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem 	<p>Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%</p>

Strengths:

- The proposal presents a well-structured Gantt Diagram outlining achievable milestones and a sound workplan addressing 7 tasks over 9 months. Although the specific tasks and activities could have been more detailed, the description despite being brief, is clear, demonstrating a robust overall planning framework.
- The consortium, with its complementary expertise in the addressed domains, along with the team's substantial track record in the fitness sector and blockchain applications, supported by a portfolio of TRL-7 applications, suggests a high likelihood of success in achieving the research goals.

Weaknesses:

- The proposal lacks a detailed description of mobilized resources.
- Absence of a comprehensive risk and mitigation plan raises concerns about the project's readiness to address potential challenges.
- Despite mentioning integration with other platforms, there aren't any plans for integrating the proposed solution with the TrustChain platform. Furthermore, the proposal does not consider the utilization of the other Trustchain's components, limiting the scope of potential synergies.
- The leadership structure for each task and the governance framework, along with the communication methods between the partners are currently unclear.
- While the project has a user-centric approach, the absence of a dedicated expert in the team raises concerns about effectively translating user needs into solutions.

PLD-PREDICTIVE LIQUID DEMOCRACY – FLOWBACK: ENHANCING DEMOCRATIC DECISION-MAKING WITH PREDICTIVE LIQUID DEMOCRACY

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 083_2267975

Proposal acronym: PlD-Predictive Liquid Democracy

Proposal title: Flowback: Enhancing Democratic Decision-Making with Predictive Liquid Democracy

Contact: info@digitaldemokrati.se

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

Total score: 35,5 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Score: 4

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposal will foster a more democratic and trustworthy internet ecosystem which is one of the goals of TrustChain and will offer a democratic platform that leverages the collective intelligence of communities and organizations
- This project was an innovative idea to use AI capabilities and digital technology for human values and better democracy and prevent misinformation in decision-making process.
- Combining LD techniques with Prediction Agents is an innovation that can significantly contribute to the democratic decision-making system based on digital technology in Europe and beyond.

Weaknesses:

- The Flowback solution has been implemented and initially tested in several organizations. However, it was better to clarify the identified weaknesses from previous implementations.
- It is not enough clear what will be developed beyond the state-of-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.
- 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

Threshold: 3
Weight: 30%

Strengths:

- The utilization of Flowback solution in several organizations shows the possibility of successful implementation of Flowback and being the real needs for such solution
- Overall, the impact is well described with quantitative goals for KPI.
- Business Model is well presented, although revenue estimation is missing.

Weaknesses:

- The use of decentralized technology such as blockchain or DID was not clearly explained in the solution, so the role of this project in integration of other Trustchain solutions was an open question.

- Although the names of the technical technologies used in the project were mentioned, there was not enough explanation about how the integration of the PLD solution components will preserve privacy or have compliance with security and privacy standards such as GDPR is not clear.
- Although PLD proposed as an innovation, comparison with other existing digital solutions in the field of LD which have been combined with other digital concepts, was not mentioned appropriately.
- Dissemination and Exploitation is not addressed enough. Scientific audience is not addressed with enough detail.
- Although based on previous experiences, this solution is responsible for a few thousand participants, for the stability of the service when there are 100s of thousands or millions of participants, technical tests and scalability checks are needed. or the scope is limited? it was not clear.

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
- Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem
- Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution
- Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem

Score: 3,5

Threshold: 3
Weight: 30%

Strengths:

- The work plan is very well detailed and aligned with almost all deliverables requested, except the State of Art analysis.
- The future goals were presented with targets.

Weaknesses:

- Required resources were mentioned generally, but It was not clear how many resources were needed for each task/stage
- There was a lack of blockchain expertise among founders (The experience of the natural person from Switzerland (ineligible country) has been disregarded and therefore the experience of the team as a whole as well as its capacity to achieve objectives has been impaired. This is reflected in the score.)
- Although the risk management procedure was mentioned, important risks like data leakage or possible attack to different stages (like voting stage) need to be briefly addressed.
- Integration with other TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem was not mentioned clear.

TAC – TRACEABILITY AND TRUST IN THE AGRIFOOD SUPPLY CHAINS

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 049_2262305

Proposal acronym: Tac

Proposal title: Traceability and Trust in the Agrifood supply Chains

Contact: marcodaddeo@enismaro.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

Total score: 35,0 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Score: 3,5

Threshold: 4

Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposed concept is clear, pertinent to the call and sound following the TRUSTCHAIN topic addressed.
- The proposed technical approach is credible and includes the User-centric approach which is clear.

Weaknesses:

- The proposed research approach beyond the state of the art is detailed in quite generic terms and the description remains at high level and does not perform one-to-one comparisons with existing and new capabilities/features.
- The positioning of the solution against the problem that it solves and competitive solutions and/or products is not adequate.
- The innovation potential is not appropriately demonstrated and adequately detailed as it is lacking positioning of the solution in the research and innovation domain in the agrofood domain and food chain components.

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

Threshold: 3

Weight: 30%

Strengths:

- The planned research well contributes to the Trustchain overall goal in a clear approach and manner.
- The contribution of the solution towards an ecosystem of decentralized identity management solutions is detailed adequately including technical details on the means and roadmap to achieve it.
- The solution is transparent to the users, interoperable, privacy aware and regulatory compliant and detailed at a good level.
- The proposed solution answers to real needs as defined by the selected targeted end users.

- The planned research is expected to have a significant impact on the needs of European and Global markets and the solution is adequately considered and aligned to this direction.
- KPIs are included in the proposition and there are clear and measurable targets.
- The strategy to disseminate and exploit the new knowledge generated by action is appropriate and well detailed following the project objectives.
- The strategy for targeting peers and the wider community is clear, consistent and appropriate for the project type and purpose as well as its technical objectives and scope.
- The proposition of the potential business strategy is clear.

Weaknesses:

- The proposal does not well describe the approach for research and in particular sensitive data management.

Criterion 3 - Project Implementation	Score: 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 - Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution - Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem 	<p>Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%</p>

Strengths:

- The work plan is well and adequately structured for the project size and appropriate to ensure that the research objectives and requested deliverables are achieved.
- The tasks and activities are sufficiently detailed given the project objectives and size.
- Integration and alignment to the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem is adequate and well detailed.
- The team excellence and availability is sufficiently detailed and has the required competence to achieve the project research goals.
- The experience of the applicant on the research topic is well described, detailed and adequate to achieve the research goals and project objectives.

Weaknesses:

- Deliverables and milestones are mixed and not distinguished and not serving their purpose. Also there are some high TRLs given to user manuals etc. which is not appropriate.
- The utilization of the planned resources is not clearly detailed in relation to the proposed activity.
- The management structure and related procedures are not detailed to an adequate level.
- The quality procedures are not sufficiently detailed and the risk and mitigation management techniques are lacking details.

ZKORUM – ZKORUM – VERIFIABLE MODERATION ON EAGORA

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 005_2239764

Proposal acronym: Zkorum

Proposal title: ZKorum – Verifiable Moderation on eAgora

Contact: yuting.jiang@zkorum.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

Total score: 35,0 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Score: 3,5

Threshold: 4

Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposed solution aligns with Trust Chain's objectives by addressing OC3 challenges related to economics and democracy in healthcare data sharing.

Weaknesses:

- In terms of user-centricity, they didn't mention any figures and target audience which align with this idea.

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%

Strengths:

- The solution adds value to TrustChain's established impact by providing a secure and incentivized data marketplace within the healthcare domain, fostering collaboration and innovation in medical research and personalized treatments. This contributes to TrustChain's mission of promoting trustworthiness and transparency in digital transactions.
- The solution adds value to the EU Market by Increasing data liquidity and accessibility in the healthcare sector can lead to improved healthcare outcomes and cost efficiencies at the EU level. A fully GDPR-compliant solution can eliminate the bureaucracy typically associated with this context.

Weaknesses:

- According to the business strategy and their plan, they need to work harder and connect with relevant individuals in the business sector.

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
- Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem
- Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution
- Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem

Score: 3,5

Threshold: 3

Weight: 30%

Strengths:

- The proposed work plan is appropriately demonstrated and ensures that the research objectives and requested deliverables can be achieved.
- The milestones and deliverables are identified.
- The experience of the applicant on the research topic is described and appropriate to achieve the research goals and the nature of the research team is adequately outlined.

Weaknesses:

- The risks are not adequately demonstrated and appropriate mitigation management techniques are not formulated.

QX TRAVEL WALLET – THE WEB3 EXPERIENCE WALLET AND SAAS / WAAS TRAVEL ECOSYSTEM

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 067_2263791

Proposal acronym: Qx Travel Wallet

Proposal title: The Web3 Experience Wallet and SaaS / WaaS Travel Ecosystem

Contact: zoran@nasteski.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

Total score: 35,0 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

Score: 3,5

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- This project demonstrates an intent to develop an user-centric approach, with a solid co-creation plan, and has sufficient technical implementation details.
- Reasonable mentions of regulation but not of MiCA, which will be necessary for the proposed token.
- In general, I really like the project. Creating a loyalty programs for tourism based on tokens and NFTs has a potential to incentivize tourist visits and enhance their experience.
- The approach of combining both cloud and Web3 technologies to guarantee some basic properties, while providing good user-experience.
- The project does include a valid technical approach including a user-centric design.

Weaknesses:

- However, the conceptualisation of the project is not convincing (e.g. the section "conceptual results as benefits" doesn't sufficiently argue for the need of those benefits and whether cities and tourists would actually value them).
- In other words, the project looks innovative on the surface but it doesn't demonstrate with details how novel it is in comparison to the state of the art.
- The problem statement is unclear. It'd be good to show the actors of the current ecosystem. What each of them do, what are their problems. Only then it'll be good to show how everything changes with your solution. Currently, everything is pretty chaotic. There are some challenges listed late in the proposal but it's still a bit unclear.
- What's exactly being stored on the blockchain? How will you anonymize the data? How's privacy achieved if user's location might be on blockchain (is it?)
- How would you protect against QR code just being posted somewhere for people to get free rewards?
- The analysis of the competitors is almost non-existing. The proposal simply states that the project is better than anything that exists currently.
- It's unclear what goes into blockchain and what's stored in the cloud. What's the main motivation for using blockchain if there's a centralized component in your system anyway?
- The proposal mentions zero knowledge proofs multiple times. What are they used for?
- The report says that the projects prioritizes "human right". I'm not sure how this is achieved.

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 proposal's analysis of expected impact is sound, with a good focus on the strategy to disseminate and communicate results.
- The data management plan is also adequate.
- The proposal fits very well into Trustchain goals and, more specifically, into the goals of OC3.
- It's good to see that the team has thought about specific tools and technologies that they plan to use.
- It's good that the project is building on top of existing tools rather than designing everything from scratch.
- It's good that the team has good connection with a specific local community that is one of the main Europe's tourism hub.

Weaknesses:

- The proposal is focused on Europe and doesn't approach how it could expand its impact by addressing the needs of global markets.
- The proposal fails to show how its solution is interoperable and able to be integrated with other decentralised applications, it is only focused on decentralised governance.
- There are no explicit KPIs in place.
- The dissemination and engagement plan is correct but focus on the local community. It's a good first step. However, how would you further penetrate the European/global market as a whole?

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
- Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem
- Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution
- Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem

Threshold: 3
Weight: 30%

Strengths:

- The management plan is well-balanced, allocating sufficient time for feedback loops.
- The team is experienced and demonstrates technical and strategic capacity.

Weaknesses:

- The proposal doesn't clarify how it will allocate its resources for each milestone, only detailing the generic roles of each member of the team.
- The proposal mentions its added value to the Trustchain ecosystem, but fails to identify how it will integrate itself within the ecosystem.
- The report mentions integrating Trustchain tools. It'd be good to discuss further, how the proposal solution could be of use to other project.
- The risk management plan could be more detailed.

TC – TRUSTCITY

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 093_2269717

Proposal acronym: Tc

Proposal title: TrustCity

Contact: aleksandar@cityandme.app

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

Total score: 35,0 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

Score: 3,5

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposal introduces a technically sound solution that aligns with the framework of the call, particularly in its approach to user-centric stakeholder involvement.
- TrustCity's integration of a Decentralized Autonomous Organization (DAO) system and community rewards in smart city governance is viewed as highly innovative.
- The emphasis on secure, transparent community participation indicates a strong user-centric approach.

Weaknesses:

- There is a need for more detailed elaboration on the co-creation process, including specific steps and methodologies to ensure effective user participation.
- Offering a novel model for civic engagement that could transform traditional public engagement methods, the proposal falls short in demonstrating how this innovation leads to the creation of new knowledge that advances beyond the present state-of-the-art.
- The proposal does not convincingly demonstrate how the created knowledge will position the partners at the forefront of the field, nor does it sufficiently detail the innovation in terms of groundbreaking objectives.
- The proposal lacks detailed information on specific tools or methods for gathering and incorporating user feedback, such as surveys or meetings. This gap weakens the clarity and credibility of the user-centric approach and could be addressed by outlining more concrete mechanisms for user engagement and satisfaction measurement.

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 proposal holds the potential to significantly contribute to Trustchain's overall goal, particularly through its civic mobilization and engagement initiatives aimed at transforming democratic decision-making procedures in urban areas.
- TrustCity's integration of a Decentralized Autonomous Organization (DAO) and token system in smart city governance aligns well with TrustChain's focus on decentralization, digital identity, and transparency, offering a novel model for civic participation that could positively impact European market innovation.
- TrustCity's project demonstrates a user-centric approach by involving citizens directly in city governance.

Weaknesses:

- There is a need for more detailed information regarding the treatment of sensitive data and the specific Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for measuring the project's impact.
- A more developed plan for the exploitation and dissemination of results, alongside a clearly defined business strategy, is crucial for enhancing the proposal's potential for long-term success and scalability.
- The proposal's approach to targeting peers like scientific, industry, and other actors, and the wider community is not adequately formulated, lacking detailed steps and procedures.
- Intellectual Property (IP) management within the TrustChain framework is not explicitly discussed, which is essential for the project's alignment with Trustchain's requirements and principles.
- The proposal lacks details on how it will adhere to broader regulatory standards, especially concerning the use of tokens or cryptocurrencies.
- The proposal needs to provide specific details on user feedback mechanisms and strategies for ensuring that the solution aligns with actual user demands and expectations.

Criterion 3 - Project Implementation	Score: 3,5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 - Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem - Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution - Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem 	<p>Threshold: 3 Weight: 30%</p>

Strengths:

- The proposal presents a well-structured work plan that is appropriate for achieving the research objectives and requested deliverables.
- TrustCity's plan to enhance civic engagement in smart cities through a DAO and token-based rewards system is laid out in a structured action plan, indicating a solid foundation for implementation.
- The applicant's experience and the research team's nature are adequately outlined, demonstrating a capability to achieve the research goals, particularly in the pilot location of Niš, Serbia.

Weaknesses:

- While risks are identified, the proposal lacks adequately formulated mitigation management techniques. This gap in risk management is crucial, especially considering the project's ambitious scope and the need to address potential challenges proactively.
- The lack of detailed information on tasks, resource allocation, and a comprehensive risk management plan is a significant shortcoming.
- The proposal does not provide sufficient information on how it plans to integrate with the TrustChain ecosystem. A clearer demonstration of this integration, alongside a more robust risk management strategy, would provide a better understanding of the project's overall feasibility and its alignment with the broader objectives of TrustChain.

SECUREOPINION – DECENTRALIZED AND SECURE PUBLIC OPINION SHARING PLATFORM USING ZERO-KNOWLEDGE BLOCKCHAIN

TRUSTCHAIN OPEN CALL 3 EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

Proposal number: 101_2270439

Proposal acronym: Secureopinion

Proposal title: Decentralized and Secure Public Opinion Sharing Platform using Zero-Knowledge Blockchain

Contact: muhammad_habib.rehman@kcl.ac.uk

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

Total score: 35,0 (Threshold: 35/50)

Criterion 1 - Excellence and Innovation

Score: 3,5

- Clarity, pertinence, soundness of the proposed solution in the TRUSTCHAIN context
- 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

Threshold: 4
Weight: 40%

Strengths:

- The proposal concept is clearly stated, it addresses a blockchain-based solution for secure public opinion sharing on social media platforms. It outlines the necessity for authenticity in public discourse and aligns with TrustChain OC3's objectives, tapping into the trend of increased blockchain adoption for governance. The methodology is clear and pertinent to the TrustChain topic by addressing online opinion manipulation and fraudulent activities.
- The proposal addresses a credible technical approach by utilizing zero-knowledge blockchain solutions to ensure the credibility of public discussions while preserving anonymity. It incorporates Non-Interactive Zero Knowledge Proofs (NIZK) and Schnorr's Zero-Knowledge Proofs (SZKP) to enhance verifiability and user authorization. Additionally, the integration of blockchain smart contracts improves transparency in financial transactions, enhancing user trust and security.
- The proposal showcases innovation by uniquely integrating zero-knowledge proof and blockchain technology to address challenges of online opinion manipulation and fraudulent activities. It emphasizes the novelty of the solution and its potential to set a precedent for tamper-resistant opinion-sharing platforms and decentralized frameworks, which goes beyond existing approaches.
- The proposal demonstrates the innovation potential by proposing a solution that enhances democracy and safeguards economic transactions while providing a user-centric approach. The integration of zero-knowledge proof and blockchain ensures secure and anonymous opinion sharing, contributing to a more inclusive and trustworthy digital environment. Additionally, the proposed solution offers notable benefits, such as increased reliability, improved democratic processes, and enhanced user experience, which highlight its innovative nature
- This is a timely and important project. Indeed, in the era of misinformation and omnipresent cloud providers, having a solution that provides some authenticity combined with privacy-preservation is important. I also believe that such a platform could have a profound impact. There's also quite a lot of information about use-centric approach (although, it could be slightly more concrete)

Weaknesses:

- The user centric approach is not fully developed, being not clear who, how many, when and how will be involved. this is a major shortcoming.
- I'm not sure what will be used as a statement passed to the ZKP. We cannot prove a validity of a piece of information with ZKP. Thus it seems that even with the system in place, one could a) spread misinformation, b) use Sybil identities to disseminate some propaganda
- It's not clear how scalable the system would be. Uploading all the opinions on a blockchain probably will be very resource-intensive (and potentially unfeasible)
- The proposal claims that the combination of blockchain and ZKP is new, while it's not the case. Both technologies have already been used in numerous projects.

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 decentralized 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 planned research contributes to TrustChain's overall goal by proposing a secure public opinion-sharing platform that aligns with the objectives of increasing decentralized decision-making and asset management, and developing fraud-free economic transactions and democratic solutions. The solution ensures anonymity and immutability of public opinions, thereby contributing to the goal of a reliable decentralized ecosystem.
- The proposal contributes to an ecosystem of decentralized identity management solutions by incorporating zero-knowledge proof and blockchain technology. These technologies ensure the integrity and authenticity of shared opinions while preserving user anonymity, aligning with the requirement for interoperable and privacy-aware solutions.
- The proposal ensures transparency to users by implementing zero-knowledge proof and blockchain, which provide immutability and auditability of public opinions while maintaining user privacy. The solution is designed to be interoperable, privacy-aware, and regulatory compliant, adhering to the requirements specified.
- The proposal addresses a real need of the targeted end users by providing a secure and decentralized platform for public opinion sharing. It safeguards against online fraudulent transactions and manipulation of public opinion, thereby fulfilling the needs of users seeking fair governance and transparent decision-making processes.
- The proposal is expected to have a significant impact on the needs of European and global markets.

Weaknesses:

- The proposal does not elaborate on the specific Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) relevant for measuring the impact of the proposed solution on European and global markets.
- The dissemination plan is not fully elaborated, resulting too generic and vague.
- The proposal does not elaborate how data will be anonymized, stored securely, and used to improve the platform while ensuring user privacy.
- The strategy for stakeholder engagement and project dissemination is adequate but slightly generic. You mention multiple institution types (e.g., "to extend the reach of our message, various media outlets and industry publications will be collaborating with us"). It'd be good to provide some examples (and maybe existing links that you might have?).
- The KPIs are not explicitly described. Also, the sustainability point is a bit debatable. Not making people to travel doesn't make a solution eco-friendly.

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
- Quality of the integration plan in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem
- Excellence/Capacity of the applicant to deliver the proposed solution
- Integration capacity in the TRUSTCHAIN ecosystem

Threshold: 3
Weight: 30%

Strengths:

- The team behind the proposal seems very experienced and shows deep expertise in working with the relevant technologies. I'm confident that they can handle the research part of the project.
- There are some good reflections on how to integrate the project into the Trustchain ecosystem.
- The overall plan and milestones are adequate.

Weaknesses:

- Although a Workplan is elaborated highlighting the task duration, deliverables and milestones, is it not fully justified who is leading each WP/task.
- It is not clear how the work will be integrated to Trustchain.
- I'm slightly concerned about the implementation part, as the team seems to have less resources on the implementation/industrial side.
- The risks are not discussed in full.

ANNEX 4 - TRUSTCHAIN 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 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 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.

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

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 3
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
<p>The selected third Party(ies) attend several mandatory internal events organised with the TRUSTCHAIN Consortium:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Kick-off event devoted to knowing the different Third Parties and their foreseen contribution to TRUSTCHAIN. - Meeting for the set-up of clear KPIs that will be linked to the funding of the selected Third party (ies). - Midterm event devoted to the follow up of the progress of the Third Party (ies) according to the defined KPIs with a pitch contest where the Third Party (ies) will present their project outcomes in particular their prototype and their deployment scenarios. -Final event with pitch contest where the Third Parties will present their solution in particular their modularised software components ready for distribution

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

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

Financial conditions	
Financial Support	-Team of natural persons: 97K € + 2K € -Legal entity(ies): 115K €+ 2K €
Schedule of payment	- Pre-financing:M2

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

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	<input type="text"/>
IBAN/ACCOUNT NUMBER ③	<input type="text"/>
CURRENCY	<input type="text"/>
BIC/SWIFT CODE	<input type="text"/> BRANCH CODE ④ <input type="text"/>
BANK NAME	<input type="text"/>
ADDRESS OF BANK BRANCH	
STREET & NUMBER	<input type="text"/>
TOWN/CITY	<input type="text"/> POSTCODE <input type="text"/>
COUNTRY	<input type="text"/>
ACCOUNT HOLDER'S DATA AS DECLARED TO THE BANK	
ACCOUNT HOLDER	<input type="text"/>
STREET & NUMBER	<input type="text"/>
TOWN/CITY	<input type="text"/> POSTCODE <input type="text"/>
COUNTRY	<input type="text"/>
REMARK	<input type="text"/>
BANK STAMP + SIGNATURE OF BANK REPRESENTATIVE ⑤	DATE (Obligatory) <input type="text"/>
	SIGNATURE OF ACCOUNT HOLDER (Obligatory) <input type="text"/>

- 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

Partner	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	According to ONTOCHAIN Consortium agreement
UL	Outcomes jointly acquired during EU projects such as ONTOCHAIN grant agreement 957338	According to ONTOCHAIN Consortium agreement	According to ONTOCHAIN Consortium agreement
AUEB	<p>STEcon 360 BME (Business Model Evaluator) s/w tool</p> <p>Outcomes jointly acquired during EU projects such as ONTOCHAIN grant agreement 957338</p>	<p>NA</p> <p>According to ONTOCHAIN Consortium agreement</p>	<p>Access to specific versions of the STEcon 360 BME s/w tool that are tailored to the context and needs of TRUSTCHAIN on a fair and reasonable basis</p> <p>According to ONTOCHAIN Consortium agreement</p>
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	No restrictions for other beneficiaries, access on a royalty-free basis, under fair and reasonable conditions
ICS	NA	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	No restrictions for other beneficiaries, access on a royalty-free basis, under fair and reasonable conditions
TLX	NA	NA	NA
F6S	NA	NA	NA
NKUA	NA	NA	NA

ANNEX 1.5 - THIRD PARTY(IES) PROPOSAL

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 3. 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.

<p>Full name: _____</p> <p>On behalf of _____</p> <p>SME: _____</p>	<p>Signature and stamp (if applicable)</p> <p>[Complete]</p>
<p>Done at (place) _____ the (day) _____ (month) _____ (year)</p>	

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

ANNEX 1.7- SME DECLARATION FORM

Declaration of SME Status

Precise identification of the SME:

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

Type of enterprise:

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

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

Data used to determine the category of enterprise:

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

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

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

(**) EUR 1000

Signature

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

[Complete].....

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

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

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

Done at (date and place): [Complete].....

Signature:

[Complete]

[1] Chairman (CEO), Director-General or equivalent.
 [2] Annual Working Units = number of full-time equivalent employees.