Infoday

Digital Europe programme: 2nd call for proposals – 22 Feb to 17 May 2022

EBSI and blockchain standardisation

14 March 2022

From the EU Digital Europe Programme (WP2021-22) Budget and timeline for EBSI and blockchain standardisation

- **22 February**: Call Opening
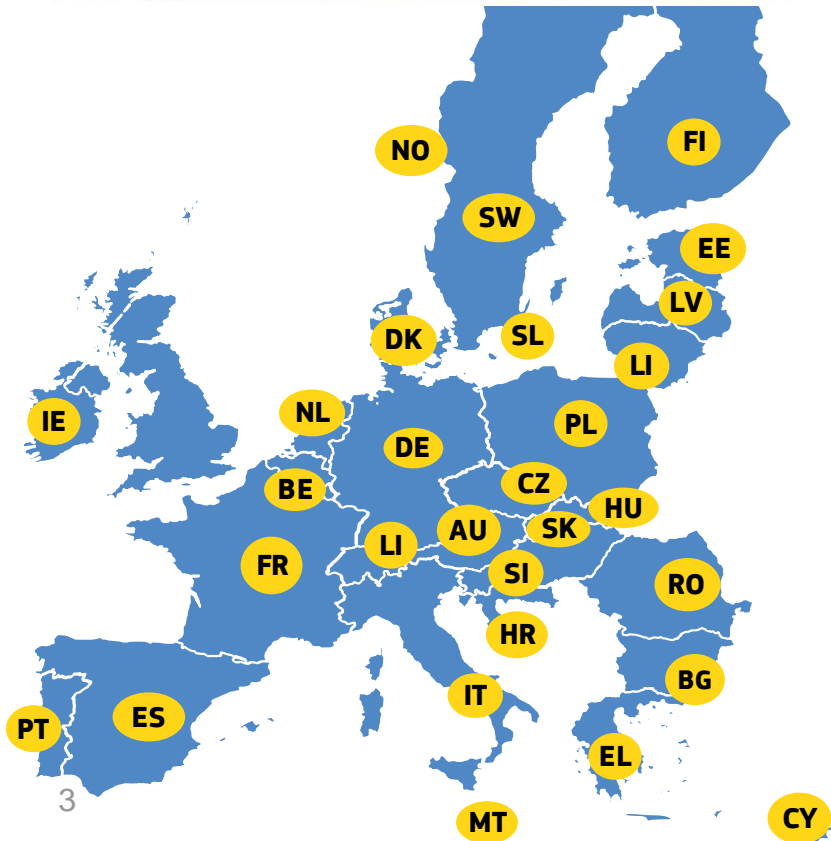
- **17th May 17:00:00 Brussels Time:** Call Deadline

Indicative:

- **June - July**: Evaluation

- **August 2022**: Information on evaluation results

- **December 2022:** Grant Agreement Signing

	EBSI	Blockchain standarisation
Type of Action (co-funding rate)	Simple grant (50% co-funding rate)	Coordination and Support Action (100% co-funding rate)
Indicative budget	EUR 15 M€	EUR 1 M€
Indicative duration	Between 18 and 24 months	24 months
Indicative	Up to EUR 5 M€	EUR 1 M€

https://ec.europa.eu/digital-building-blocks/wikis/display/EBSI/EBSI+Grants

European Commission

The **EUROPEAN BLOCKCHAIN PARTNERSHIP (EBP)**

Our Ambition: Building a Pan-European Blockchain Services Infrastructure (EBSI)

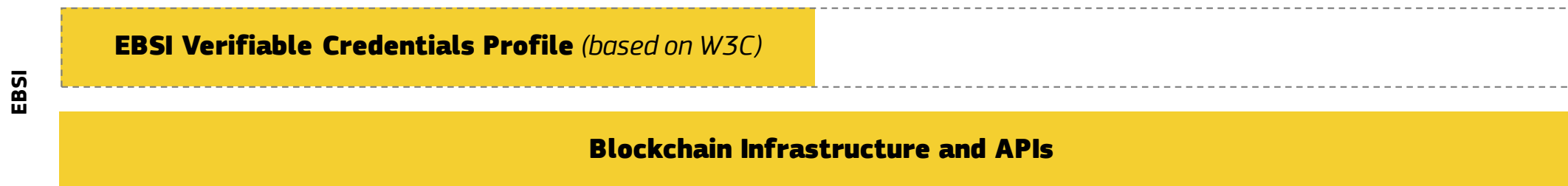- Working with 27 MS (+LI & NO) in EBP
- Supporting public services (at first)
- Cooperation with private sector or applications
- Strengthening EU leadership and autonomy in Blockchain

A Cross-border Public Services Infrastructure

- Public sector as trailblazer
- Avoids fragmentation
- Secure, interoperable, GDRP compliant, sustainable, based on (new) EUID including SSI concepts

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What is **EBSI** today?

EBSI is user centric, decentralised and reusable in multiple contexts and use cases. It is governed by public authorities. It is based on open standards to stimulate interoperability and the creation of cross-border public services

Actors

TAO	Issuer	Holder	Verifier	TAO	Issuer	Holder	Verifier	TAO	Issuer	Holder	Verifier	TAO	Issuer	Holder	Verifier	TAO	Issuer	Holder	Verifier	TAO	Issuer	Holder	Verifier
Gov. Entity	Gov. Entity	Citizen	Gov. Entity	Gov. Entity	University	Student	Company	Gov. Entity	SS Institution	Worker	Inspector												

UCs

| ESSIF (verifiable credentials facilitating identification) | Education | Social Security | Document traceability | Trust data sharing | SME financing |

EBSI

EBSI Verifiable Credentials Profile *(based on W3C)*

Blockchain Infrastructure and APIs

EBSI has now more than **40 nodes** in more than **20 countries** (to be reinforced)

Call for proposals (topic): EBSI deployment of services (DIGITAL-2022-DEPLOY-02-EBSI-SERVICES)

Goals:

1. Reinforcing EBSI nodes and support services

2. Deployment of cross-border use cases

   I. Leveraging the work on <u>verifiable credentials</u> of ESSIF, EBSI's Diploma and the European Social Security Pass use cases

   II. Other EBP use cases

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Call for proposals (topic): EBSI deployment of services (DIGITAL-2022-DEPLOY-02-EBSI-SERVICES)

1: Reinforcing EBSI nodes and support services (<u>indicative</u> 1/3 of total EC funding)

Establishment, deployment and operation of EBSI nodes within EBP countries

To enhance the performance, robustness, resilience, security and sustainability of EBSI and the provision of EBSI related services at national/local level in a coordinated way

The supported nodes should:

✓ Become or contribute to the creation of EBSI competence centres in EBP countries, delivering support services to facilitate the exploitation of EBSI uptake at national and cross-border level

✓ Contribute to the creation via **EBSI of electronic ledgers as qualified trust services** as foreseen in the proposal for the European Digital Identity Framework

Projects with consortia regrouping EBSI nodes (established and/or to be established) from at least 7 EBP countries, they should:

✓ Work in a coordinated way with the EBSI core team and in particular the European Commission

✓ Cooperate with other similar projects, facilitate integration of new nodes in the EBSI network

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Call for proposals (topic): EBSI deployment of services (DIGITAL-2022-DEPLOY-02-EBSI-SERVICES)

2.i: Deployment of VC cross-border use cases (indicative 1/3 of total EC funding)

Support the deployment of EBP cross-border use cases, exploiting EBSI capabilities, progressing on business, functional or technical requirements, where appropriate providing new solutions or components for EBSI

Reinforce coordination e.g. with the EBSI adopter programme, EBP representatives, the EBSI core team and the European Commission

Cooperation with other stakeholders to facilitate the wide exploitation of EBSI use cases across Europe

i. Leveraging the work on <u>verifiable credentials</u> of the ESSIF, EBSI's Diploma and the European Social Security Pass use cases

- ✓ Prepare for a large scale exploitation into production (business requirements, scaling up of the activities, involvement of additional stakeholders, reinforcement the governance for the use case, communication)
- ✓ Proposals are expected to be submitted by applicants from at least 7 EBP countries

Proposals related to the piloting of the first implementation of the European Digital Identity Wallet and its APIs should do it under the topic "DIGITAL-2022-DEPLOY-02-ELECTRONIC-ID"

Call for proposals (topic): EBSI deployment of services (DIGITAL-2022-DEPLOY-02-EBSI-SERVICES)

2.ii: Deployment of other cross-border use cases (indicative 1/3 of total EC funding)

Support the deployment of EBP cross-border use cases, exploiting EBSI capabilities, progressing on business, functional or technical requirements, where appropriate providing new solutions or components for EBSI

Reinforce coordination e.g. with the EBSI adopter programme, EBP representatives, the EBSI core team and the European Commission

Cooperation with other stakeholders to facilitate the wide exploitation of EBSI use cases across Europe

ii.   Other EBP use cases, E.g. Document traceability, SME financing and Asylum demand management

✓ Progress on business, functional and technical requirements

✓ Pilot and preparation for future exploitation at scale

✓ At least actors from 3 EBP countries (but more is welcome)

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Call for proposals (topic): EBSI deployment (DIGITAL-2022-DEPLOY-02-EBSI-SERVICES)

Who are the types of main stakeholders that are addressed?

- Member states authorities (at different level)

- Public and Private sector service providers

- Node operators

- Attribute/Attestations/Credentials Providers, (e.g universities)

- Digital Wallet providers

- Other organisations are also encouraged to participate, in particular the organisations that are necessary for the piloting of specific use cases

Importance of the support of EBP representatives

Consortium composition (DIGITAL-2022-DEPLOY-02-EBSI-SERVICES)

- **Eligibility:** Minimum 3 applicants (beneficiaries; not affiliated entities) from 3 different eligible countries..

- **For the evaluation of proposals:**

  - EBSI nodes and support services: All proposals addressing this priority are expected to be submitted by consortia regrouping EBSI nodes (established and/or to be established) from at least 7 EBP countries.

  - Deployment of cross-border use cases:

    - Leveraging the work on verifiable credentials of the EBSI's Diploma and the European Social Security Pass : All proposals are expected to be submitted by applicants from **at least 7 EBP countries.**

    - Other use cases : All proposals are expected to be submitted by applicants from **at least 3 EBP.**

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Call for proposals (topic): Blockchain Standardisation (DIGITAL-2022-DEPLOY-02-BLOCKCHAIN-STANDARD)

Goals:

- ✓ Implementing the Rolling Plan for ICT standardisation
- ✓ Reinforce the link of EBSI with standardisation bodies
- ✓ Strengthen participation of European start-ups, SMEs and independent experts

Key tasks:

- ✓ Mapping of blockchain/DLT standardisation activities;
- ✓ Setting up of a coordination facility
- ✓ Supporting participation and leadership (e.g. chairing of technical committees) of European experts

The aim is to achieve a critical mass of **experts contributing to blockchain/DLT standardisation activities** by supporting travel, accommodation as well as by specific work/service contracts

European Commission

Call for proposals (topic) : Blockchain Standardisation (Blockchain Standardisation (DIGITAL-2022-DEPLOY-02-BLOCKCHAIN-STANDARD)

Who are the types of main stakeholders that are addressed?

- Member states authorities (at different level); (in liaison with EBP)
- Public and Private associations/service providers working with blockchain/DLT standardisation
- Organisations that have experience in blockchain/Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) standardisation activities
- Participants of European collaborative research and innovation programmes, i.e. Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe

Rolling plan for ICT standardisation:
https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/rolling-plan-ict-standardisation/about

Other relevant links: Standict (https://www.standict.eu/); INATBA (https://inatba.org);
EBSI (https://ec.europa.eu/digital-building-blocks/wikis/display/ebsi)

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Joining Forces for Blockchain standardisation 2021

Participants: Standardisation experts, representatives of Regional and National initiatives.

Main take-aways:
- ✓ The take-up of blockchain needs an interoperable standardisation framework.
- ✓ Blockchain standards would benefit from further global coordination and local compliance activities.
- ✓ Special attention to Governance.
- ✓ **Support is needed to enable participation of individual experts and under-represented stakeholders i.e. researchers and SMEs.**

Event's report: https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/joining-forces-blockchain-standardisation-2021-event-report
INATBA's website: https://inatba.org/reports/inatba-publishes-a-joint-report-with-the-european-commission-on-blockchain-standardisation/

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Submission of proposals for both topics

- Proposals to be submitted via [Tenders and Funding Portal](#)

- Direct link to the call (both topics): [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/digital/wp-call/2022/call-fiche_digital-2022-deploy-02_en.pdf](#)

- All documents listed in section 5 of the call must be submitted for the proposal to be eligible (otherwise application is ineligible): Application Part A (administrative information)

  - Application Part B (Technical description of the project)

  - Mandatory annexes and supporting documents:

    - Security issues table

    - Security issues table

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Additional events or information

14 March: General infoday on the Digital Europe 2nd Call for Proposal

https://hadea.ec.europa.eu/events/digital-europe-programme-info-day-second-wave-calls-proposals_en

25 March (tbc): Specific infoday/workshop on EBSI and blockchain and Standardisation

More info will be given through EBSI website and others (e.g. Tenders and Funding Portal)

FAQ: will be developed for the topic (via Tenders and Funding Portal)

EBSI | Help Center (europa.eu) and