Project Close Report

littlefish - Tools of DAO Work



Fund 9

F9: DAOs <3 Cardano

A. Name of project and Project URL on Ideascale/Fund

littlefish - Tools of DAO Work https://cardano.ideascale.com/c/idea/64178

B. Name of project manager

Cagkan Acarbay

C. Date Project Started

1st July 2022

D. Date project completed

20th September 2023

E. List of challenge KPIs and how the project addressed them

Challenge KPIs are as follows:

- 1. Number of Communities engaged in collaboration using Cardano DAO creation tools.
- 2. Amount of ADA coming from DAOs transaction fees after the solutions on this challenge get implemented (> than the challenge's allocated fund amount)
- 3. Number of DAOs that use Cardano as governance/management chain in 6 months.
- 4. Number of DAO toolset/frameworks available for DAO Ops (>1).

Due to the nature of our project, it is not possible to directly measure the impact of our work on the challenge KPIs. Our project is focused on research into the DAO ecosystem on Cardano:

- Identifying the types tools DAOs work with,
- The state of DAO tooling in Cardano,
- In depth investigations into what the tools are, how to use them,
- Providing DAO tool makers with an understanding of the gaps in the DAO tools ecosystem

Our research incorporates all these elements to provide the most up-to-date information in the Cardano ecosystem on DAOs, DAO tooling, and other tools that make DAO work smoother.

F. List of project KPIs and how the project addressed them

The single KPI of the proposal is **the number of docs** we generated. With this proposal we have generated:

- 54 digital tool related docs:
 https://tools.littlefish.foundation/littlefish-research/remote-work-tools
- 12 Cardano DAO tool deep dives: https://tools.littlefish.foundation/littlefish-research/cardano-ecosystem/cardano-dao-tools
- 12 wallet reviews, 3 number of updates on each of those docs
- https://tools.littlefish.foundation/littlefish-research/cardano-ecosystem/cardano-wallets

In this sense, the proposal has been very successful as we have delivered on this main metric for success.

Beyond KPIs, the proposal aimed to aid in our broader objectives in littlefish Foundation:

Building a strong community of creators and builders

We made many strides in this goal, as the littlefish team worked closely with the community to achieve the objective of this and other proposals. We ran 2 week sprints with the community where everyone voluntarily joined the sessions, picked up research tasks, then fulfilled them.

We eventually decided to move away from a building community concept as it was very difficult to achieve great outcomes. Community we found can easily turn into a work environment and lose its fun, yet not have the benefits of the work environment as the quality and the urgency of the work suffers. So we moved away from the model around January and into a close teamwork approach.

Establishing littlefish Vault (our knowledge base) as a knowledge hub for decentralized organizations in the Cardano space: Our target is 10000 unique and 1000 monthly visitors by the end of February 2023.

Our research is the most comprehensive resource on Cardano DAO tools and wallets. In this sense we have built a great knowledge hub that is useful to DAO tool builders, to users, and to anyone wanting to learn about Cardano and working in DAOs.

In terms of reach and publicity however, we are not where we wanted to be. Our team lacked key marketing skills and so we weren't fully able to utilize the knowledge we generated. We haven't reached the targets of unique or monthly visitors.

THC - A technologically able organization: LFF

The Tech Help Collective (THC) had a subgoal in this proposal, to make littlefish into a technologically able organization. This means "The success of this proposal is primarily

determined by how effective LFF as an organization has become in using digital work and blockchain tools. We need to solve our problems first, so that we can solve others'."

For this purpose, we had workshops to upskill community members, solve problems together, and share our learnings. The workshops we did as part of the proposal have advanced this goal:

- A workshop to revamp the littlefish Discord server together: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGKNsJd3yLw
- Github for beginners session: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMmUX2EGcGw
- DJED stablecoin, an intro for everyone:
 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXQt5CUz3cs

G. Key achievements (in particular around collaboration and engagement)

Even though building with the community didn't produce the results we intended, it was a success in terms of collaboration and engagement with our community. This was an entirely voluntary process, where around 10 unique individuals, over the course of 4 months showed up weekly to sessions, to plan, pick up tasks, deliver, and demo them.

Most of these sessions were internal and not recorded but this one Sprint Review session is available publicly: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZajCaLkFegs

Another success point was this and similar Tweetstorms we did covering the wallet ecosystem in Cardano. This was an engagement peak for us. We plan to make more such events with the work we did in the future to bring more eyes on our work.

https://twitter.com/littlefishDAO/status/1664648200513527811

H. Key learnings

Cardano DAO ecosystem is in its infancy. The focus is on governance infrastructure

Cardano DAO tools are in their infant stage. There are only around 10 DAO tools that are live on the mainnet. Of these, 5 are governance tools: they deliver voting and decision making capabilities to DAOs. These are the backbones of any DAO structure in web3. Only 2 of these tools: Clarity and Summon provide full on DAO creation and governance services.

Many gaps exist in Cardano DAO tooling

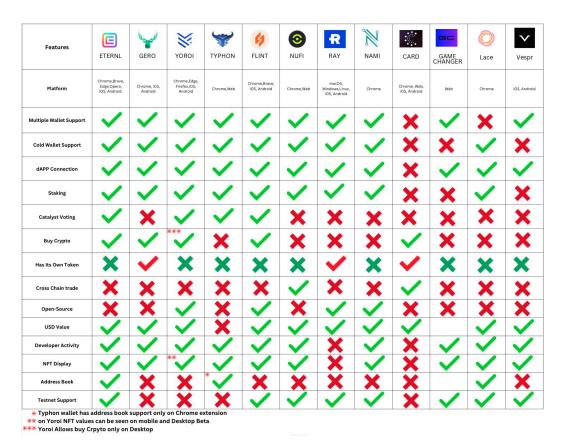
Cardano lacks many tools that other chains have. There is only one smart contract development tool for DAOs: the Agora library, which the entire DAO ecosystem uses to build other tools.

Treasury management tools are entirely lacking, other than 2 multi-sig wallets. DAOs looking to implement anything other than a single man control must use these 2 tools that are rather unpolished products. Any tool to make payments to DAO contributors such as coordinape, sourcecred, or dework don't exist.

Membership and reputation tools are also non existent, other than the Discord bot Hazelbot. Any tools that make the connection between NFTs and community access are sorely needed for DAOs to make better use of community tokenization.

Cardano wallet ecosystem is strong, widely varied, and highly competitive

One main finding regarding the wallet ecosystem in Cardano is that it is wide, varied, and strong. There are many wallets in the ecosystem covering a wide range of features. Anyone looking to pick a wallet to use will have a hard time. So we found our wallet research to be spot on to cover a need in the community to know which tool to use.



I. Next steps for the product or service developed

We have two goals regarding the research we generated:

- 1. Maintain it with DAO tool updates and wallet updates. Make sure the content is up to date and correct.
- 2. Promote it on socials to get more eyeballs on the work. This is crucial as if we don't have eyes on the work, it will be mostly useless. So to make sure, we will keep promoting the work on our Twitter account, make more posts that summarize the findings of our work on DAO tools, wallets, and other tools.

J. Final thoughts/comments

We've applied to and were funded for multiple projects in Fund 9 that had different areas of focus. It has been quite difficult to deliver these with high quality. We've learned this hard lesson that in the future, our focus needs to be purely on one thing. Moving forward, littlefish Foundation is going into a software focus.

K. Links to other relevant project sources or documents

All the research in this proposal: https://tools.littlefish.foundation/littlefish-research/

All our links: https://linktr.ee/littlefish.foundation

Project Close Report Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJ1VjyjeO8s