Open for Applications

2nd BioBlock Call for Proposals

21 September – 29 October 2026

bioblock-community.org/call-2026.html

Information Session

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SIEMENS SARTORIUS KIT-WI biolab Institute for Applied Biotechnology berlin Bio-PAT

Core problems in Biotech R&D

1



FRAGMENTED DATA LANDSCAPE

2



LOW TRUST

3



REPRODUCIBILITY CRISIS

4



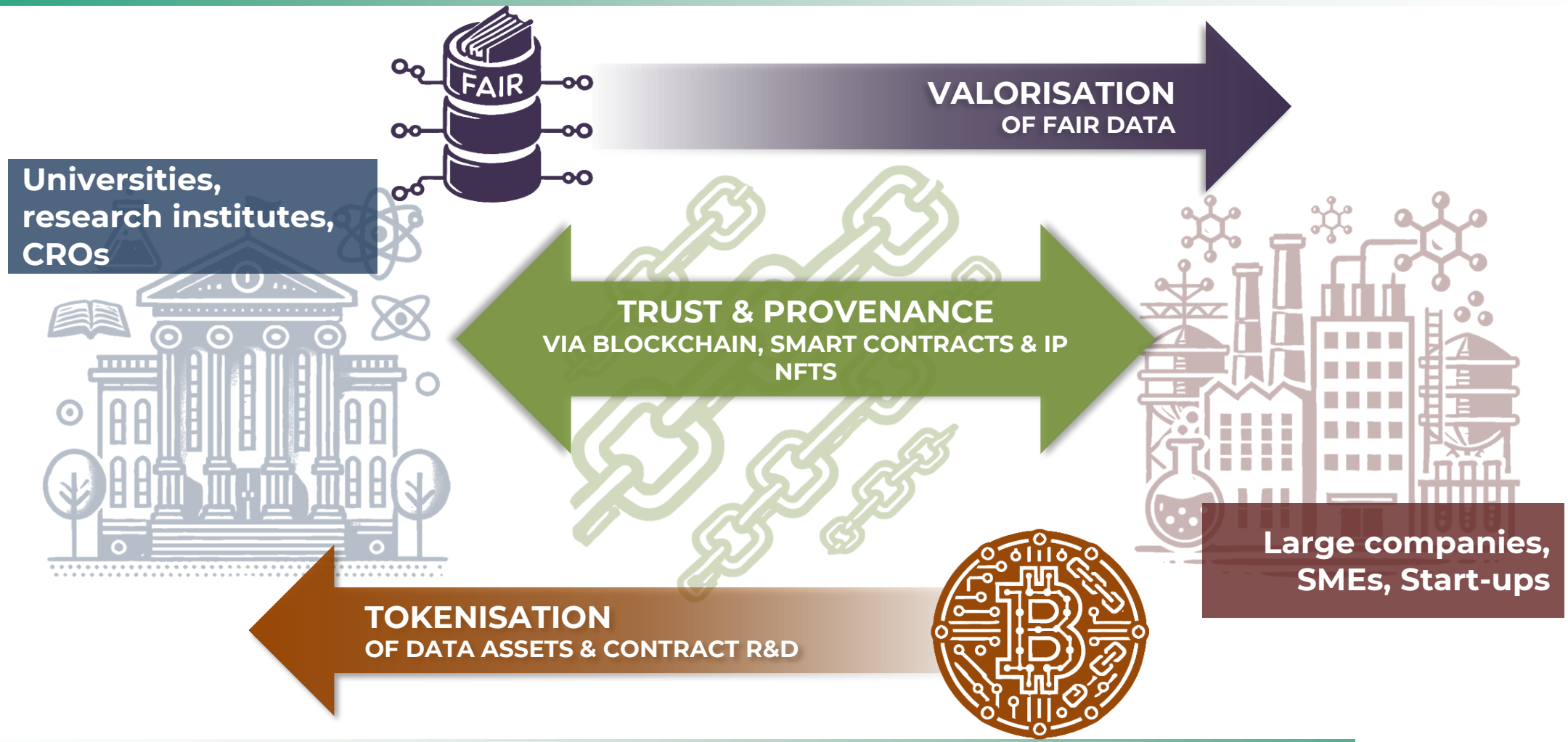
LIMITED COLLABORATION

Research needs trust.

Trust needs traceability.

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The Vision:
A FAIR-Data Trading Marketplace



Impact

For Science

- Reliable & reproducible results
- FAIR & open data adoption
- Protection against plagiarism & misuse

For Society

- Faster biotech solutions for patients
- Transparent & ethical use of data
- Restoring trust in science

For Partners & Industry

- GDPR-compliant, secure cooperation
- IP clarity & innovation protection
- Efficient funding & tech transfer

For Funders & Policy-Makers

- ESG & Open Science alignment
- Scalable, transparent governance
- Clear societal impact pathways

BioBlock Innovation Community
DATIpilot Funding

Funding Budget: 5 million €

Funding duration: 4 years (2025-28)

Thematic and **self-organizational freedom** for the Management Team

Management Team (MT):

TU Berlin, IABC, Bio-PAT e.V., Siemens and Sartorius

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MT core tasks:

- Strategic **Roadmap** Development
- **Governance** Structure and Implementation
- **Community Building**
- **Management of open calls** for community project (CP)
- Project **Coordination and Monitoring**

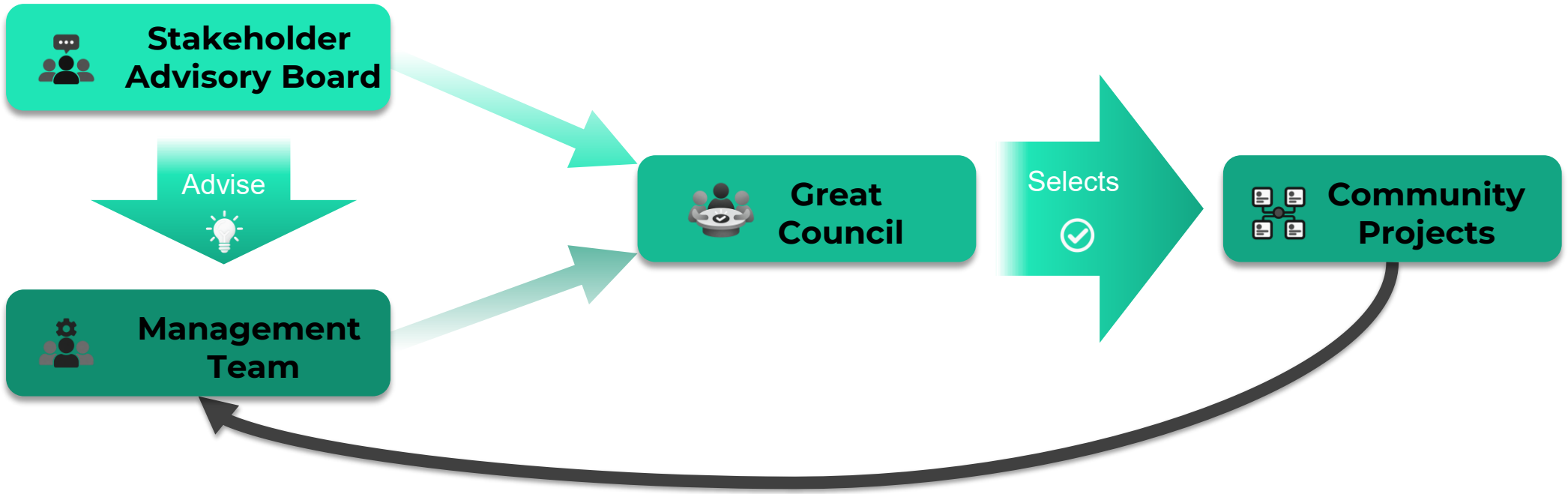
With funding from the:

Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space

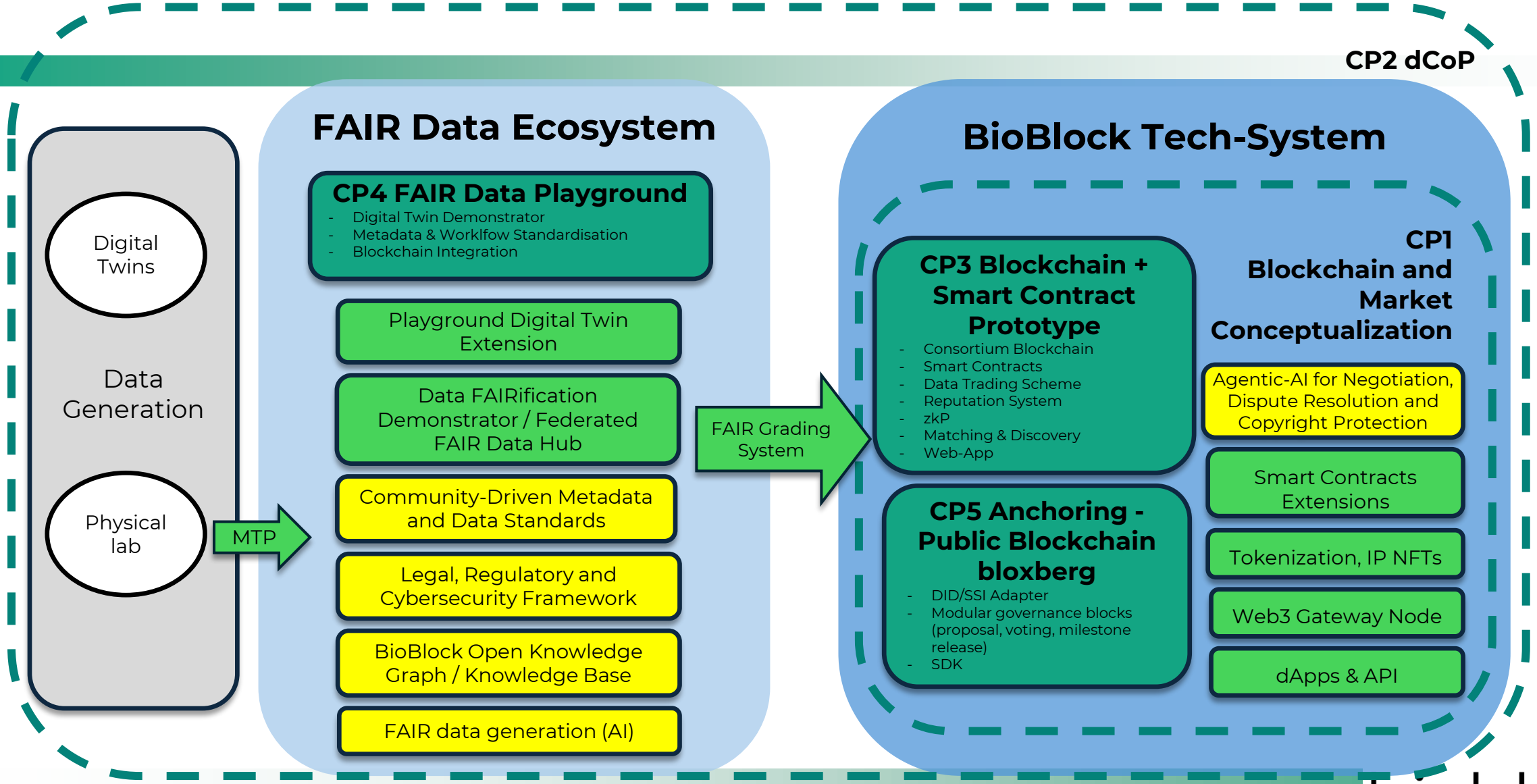
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Governance levels at BioBlock

Community-Driven Project Selection

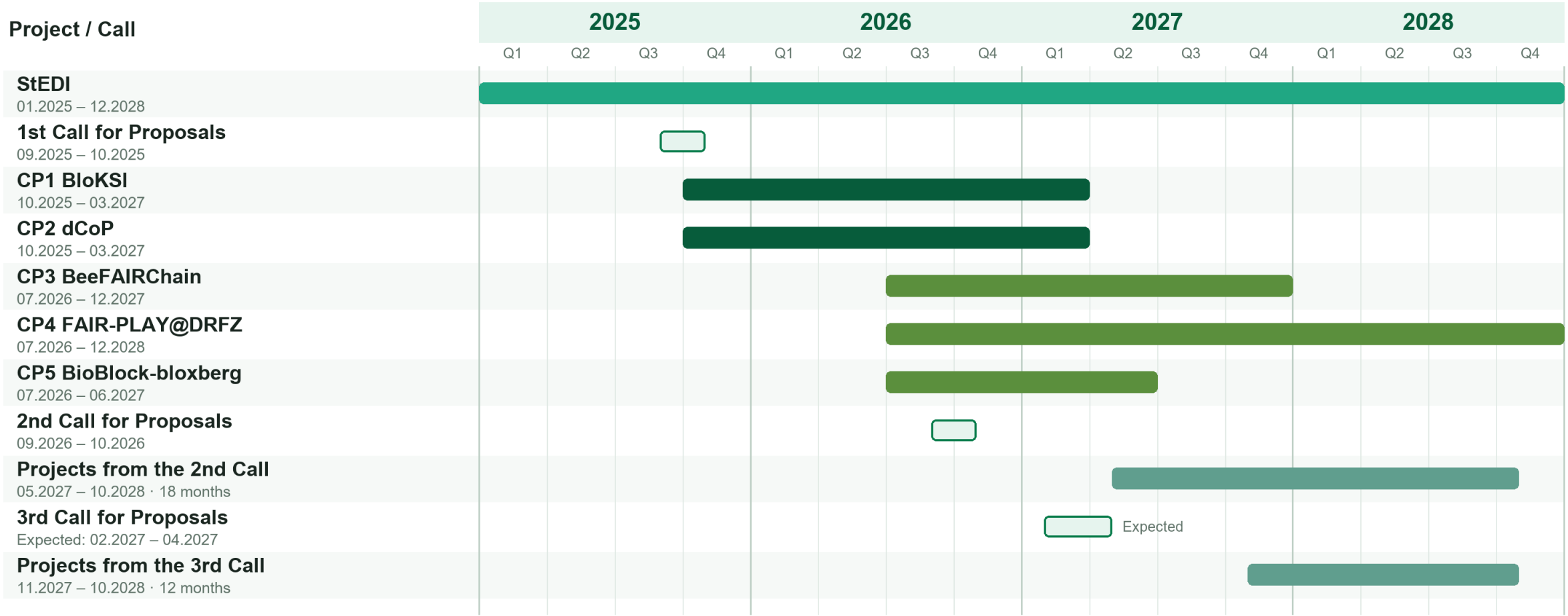


BioBlock Ecosystem



Projects & Calls for Proposals

BioBlock funding period: 2025–2028



Dates include the start and end months. The 3rd Call for Proposals is tentative.

- Management project
- Starter projects
- Calls for proposals
- Projects selected in the 1st Call for Proposals
- Projects from the 2nd & 3rd Calls

BioBlock Community Projects

CP1 – BloKSI

- Platform requirements and workflows
- Architecture and implementation roadmap

CP2 – Decentralized Community of Practice

- Community governance and decision-making
- Participation, onboarding, and knowledge exchange

CP3 – BeeFAIRChain

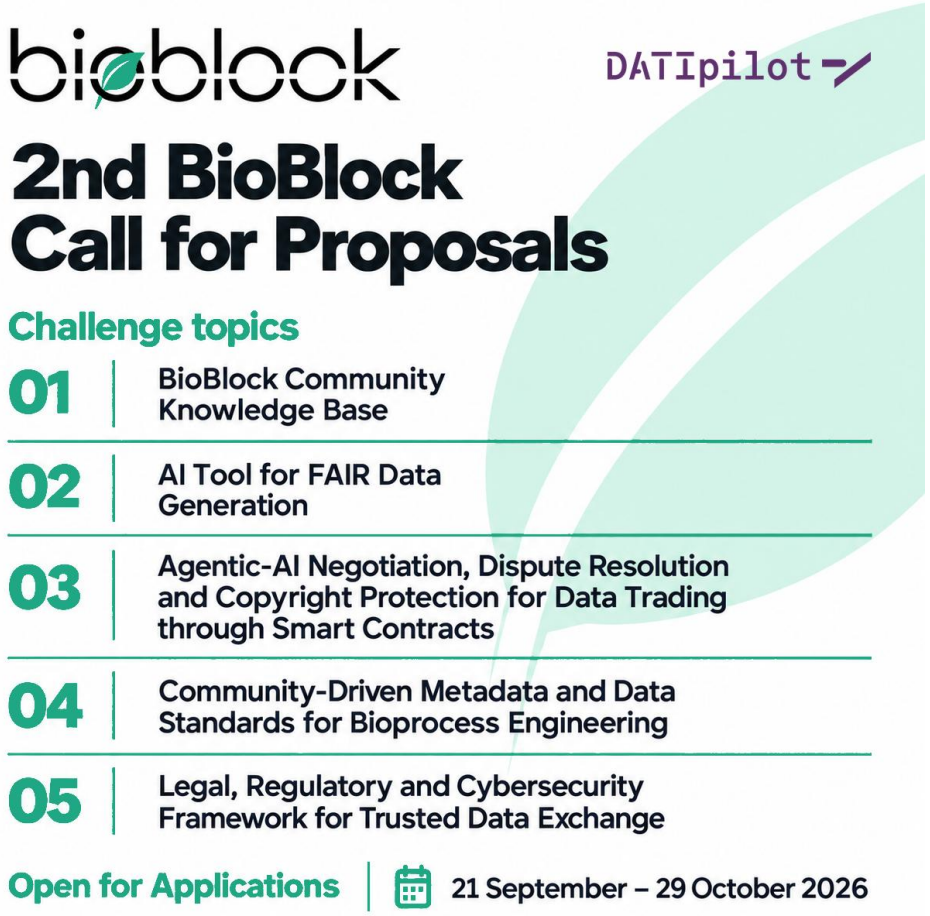
- FAIR data marketplace prototype
- Blockchain-based trading and privacy

CP4 – FAIR-PLAY@DRFZ

- FAIR-by-design laboratory demonstrator
- Robotics and Digital Twin integration

CP5 – BioBlock-bloxberg

- Decentralized identities and governance tools
- Public bloxberg hash anchoring



Challenge 1
BioBlock Community Knowledge Base

AIM

Connect members, expertise and digital resources in a dynamic knowledge graph and make them discoverable.

REQUIREMENTS

Actively extend CP3 discovery concepts, metadata and interfaces. Reinforce decentralization in the architecture and collaborative workflows.

MAXIMUM BUDGET PER PROJECT

€200,000

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

- One operational graph database with a BioBlock-specific schema
- At least 50 community entities, such as members, projects, datasets or services
- At least 3 entity types and 3 relationship types
- A functional natural-language search or query interface
- Documented interfaces or import mechanisms for future expansion

Challenge 2
AI Tool for FAIR Data Generation

AIM

Guide researchers towards structured, machine-readable and interoperable experimental data during planning and execution.

REQUIREMENTS

No additional challenge-specific restrictions. The assistant should also support learning and self-training.

MAXIMUM BUDGET PER PROJECT

€300,000

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

- One functional AI application or assistant for FAIR data generation
- Integration of at least 2 ontologies, controlled vocabularies or metadata standards
- Validation using at least 3 experimental or bioprocessing workflows
- Machine-readable metadata and FAIR-compliant dataset descriptions for each use case
- Usability testing with at least 10 users
- Guidelines and interactive training modules for integration into collaborative routines

Challenge 3: **Agentic AI for Data Trading: Negotiation, Disputes and Copyright**

AIM

Support negotiation and licensing with AI agents and smart contracts. Address ownership, copyright protection and human oversight.

REQUIREMENTS

Extend existing BioBlock marketplace, smart-contract, role and governance processes and their interfaces.

MAXIMUM BUDGET PER PROJECT

€150,000

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

- One functional demonstrator combining AI negotiation and smart contracts
- At least 3 negotiable parameters, such as price, licensing or redistribution rights
- At least 2 successfully executed end-to-end data-trading scenarios
- A concept for decentralized auditing, human oversight and fair community-driven parameter control
- One demonstrated dispute-resolution or escalation workflow
- Blockchain records of agreed terms, asset provenance and ownership or authorship for each transaction

Challenge 4: **Community-Driven Metadata and Data Standards for Bioprocess Engineering**

AIM

Make bioprocess data understandable, reproducible and reusable across laboratories, instruments and organizations.

REQUIREMENTS

No additional challenge-specific restrictions. Reuse and connect existing standards, ontologies and vocabularies.

MAXIMUM BUDGET PER PROJECT

€250,000

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

- One documented, machine-readable metadata schema or data model
- Coverage of at least 3 representative bioprocess use cases or workflow types
- Mappings to at least 2 existing standards, ontologies or controlled vocabularies
- Validation with at least 3 organizations or stakeholder groups
- At least one reusable technical artifact, such as a JSON schema, RDF/OWL model or API specification

Challenge 5: **Legal, Regulatory and Cybersecurity Framework for Trusted Data Exchange**

AIM

Develop an integrated framework for trusted data exchange and translate legal and security requirements into practical guidance.

REQUIREMENTS

Coordinate closely with the BioBlock Management Team and build on existing marketplace, smart-contract, role and governance processes.

MAXIMUM BUDGET PER PROJECT

€250,000

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

- One integrated legal, regulatory, data-protection and cybersecurity framework
- Analysis of at least 5 data-sharing or data-trading scenarios
- Risk classification covering law, privacy, cybersecurity, intellectual property and governance
- At least 3 reusable templates or decision tools, such as model clauses, checklists or decision trees
- Validation with at least 3 stakeholder groups, including technical and legal or regulatory expertise

Application and Submission Process

PARTICIPATION

Funding applicants

Legal seat in Germany required.
Check partner rules and budgets.

Other entities may participate as:

Associated Partners

Contribute expertise, resources or infrastructure. No direct funding and no reporting obligations.

Subcontractors

Specific tasks commissioned by a funded partner under procurement law. Payment possible, no exploitation rights.

Questions: info@bioblock-community.org

INITIAL APPLICATION

By 29 October 2026

- Choose one challenge and format: Communitysprint or Praxissprint.
- Complete all template sections in English.
- PI CVs: maximum 2 pages each.
- Combine proposal and CVs in one PDF.

SEND TO

submission@bioblock-community.org

FILE NAME

BioBlock2ndCall_ProjectAcronym_LeadInstitution.pdf

ASSESSMENT AND PtJ APPLICATION

By 27 November 2026

Shortlist notification

4 December 2026

Online interviews, 09:00–16:00

By 14 December 2026

Great Council recommendation for funding

By 31 January 2027

If recommended: submit the full proposal in German to PtJ via easy-Online.

1 May 2027: expected project start
Duration: up to 18 months

Funding is subject to PtJ legal/financial checks and approval.

Förderfähige Projektformate in den Innovationscommunities, Stand 22.04.2026

	Communityprojekte (Reguläre FuE-Projekte)	Communitysprints	Praxissprints
Ziel	Individuell zugeschnittene Förderung für [illegible]schungs- und [illegible]ansferarbeite[illegible]it längerer [illegible]fzeit, höherem [illegible]lbedarf u[illegible] oder mehreren [illegible]hern.	Einfache Förderung für schnell umsetzbare Forschungs- und Transferarbeiten als Einzelprojekt für wissenschaftliche Partner[1] oder als Verbundprojekt aus 1 wissenschaftlichem Partner und 1 Praxispartner[2]. Einzelprojekte von Praxispartnern sind nicht möglich.	Einfache Förderung für Verbünde, bei denen „Communitysprints“ nicht passen. **Wissenschaftliche Partner[1] beantragen Communityprojekte (Spalte 2) und Praxispartner beantragen Vorhaben ähnlich Communitysprint[2] (Spalte 3).** Mehrere wissenschaftliche und Praxispartner können zusammenarbeiten. Reine Praxisverbünde sind nicht möglich.
Anzahl Partner	Unbegrenzt	Max. 2 Partner: - mind. 1 wissenschaftliche Einrichtung[1] und optional ein Praxispartner[2]	Mind. 2 Partner: - mind. 1 wissenschaftlicher Partner[1] und mind. 1 Praxispartner[2]
Laufzeit	Max. 3 Jahre	Max. 18 Monate	Wissenschaftliche Partner[1]: max. 36 Monate Praxispartner[2]: max. 18 Monate Abweichende Laufzeiten im Verbund sind möglich, d.h. Vorhaben von Praxispartnern können flexibel beginnen (i.d.R. gleichzeitige Bewilligung eines Verbundes).

[1] staatlich anerkannte Hochschulen, Universitäten, Universitätskliniken, außeruniversitäre Forschungseinrichtungen: Institute der Fraunhofer, Leibniz, Helmholtz und Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, Ressortforschungseinrichtungen sowie weitere Einrichtungen, deren Hauptaufgabe in der Forschung liegt
[2] Praxispartnerinnen und Praxispartner sind unter Bezug zur o.g. Definition der Hochschulen und außeruniversitären Forschungseinrichtungen nicht-wissenschaftliche Partner, z.B. Unternehmen, gemeinnützige Organisationen, Gebietskörperschaften sowie sonstige Einrichtungen wie Stiftungen, Verbände, Vereine oder Bildungseinrichtungen. Sie müssen ihren Sitz (Betriebsstätte, Einrichtung) in Deutschland haben.

SAB Review Timeline

2nd Call 2026

6–20 NOV:
TWO WEEKS FOR REVIEW



Review pack

Shortlisted proposals
Evaluator Guidelines
Evaluation Form

Review deadline

Send completed
Evaluation Forms
to the MT

Shortlist

Applicants receive
notification

Online pitches

09:00-15:00 Uhr
SAB re-evaluates
finalists

Selection result

Applicants receive
final notification

Review workload

~3 proposals per Challenge
~6 pages per proposal
Confirm availability and Challenges

Review and scoring

Excellence, Impact, Quality/Efficiency
0–5 points per category
Minimum 3 per category, 10 overall thresholds

Participation rules

Declare institutional/Challenge conflicts
Keep proposals confidential
Anonymous reviews, unpaid participation

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With funding from the:

Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space


P. Neubauer


E. Martinez


M. González Gómez


N. Trapp


B. Heurich


M. N. Cruz B.


J. Karsten


A. Bockisch


S. Krauss


A. Gierse

One chain. Many minds. FAIR Biotech.

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www.bioblock-community.org