

# NEXT GENERATION INTERNET

NGI Commons

CO-CREATING DIGITAL COMMONS PRIORITIES FOR  
EUROPE'S DIGITAL DECADE

Workshop – June 5, 2024



# NGI

INTERNET OF HUMANS

# 1000 +

INNOVATIONS



[NGI.EU/DISCOVER-NGI-SOLUTIONS](https://ngi.eu/discover-ngi-solutions)



The Next Generation Internet  
is a **European Commission** initiative.

# NGI AT A GLANCE

**The Next Generation Internet (NGI) is a European Commission initiative** that aims to shape the development and evolution of the Internet into an Internet of Trust. An Internet that responds to people's fundamental needs, including **trust, security**, and **inclusion**, while reflecting the values and the norms all citizens enjoy in Europe.

## Restoring trust

### CHALLENGES

- Protect personal data
- Ensure privacy and security
- Combat disinformation online
- Guarantee access and freedom of choice
- Respect fundamentals rights
- Enforce ethics and sustainability by design



# SUPPORTING INTERNET INNOVATION - AN ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

The NGI is providing funding to support innovators including individual researchers, developers, start-ups and SMEs and an ecosystem for efforts to flourish and grow contributing to Europe technological sovereignty

- **NGI Research and Innovation Actions** are acting as intermediaries: 20% of their budget is dedicated to select, monitor, mentor, train and build the community; 80% to fund individual projects among 3<sup>rd</sup> party individuals and/or organisations
- **NGI Coordination and Support Actions** are at work to ensure synergies across all stakeholders, with a focus on:
  - Outreach, community building, business acceleration
  - Policy and strategic programming
  - EU-US/CANADA collaboration

# COORDINATION AND SUPPORT ACTIONS

## OPEN SOURCE AND INTERNET COMMONS FOR EUROPE'S DIGITAL SOVEREIGNTY

- **The NGI Commons project** main ambition is to help relevant NGI efforts to integrate and align with national and European digital commons policies.
- The project seeks to elaborate on a long-term strategy for Internet Commons, which are critical for sovereignty and trust, helping to overcome fragmentation and close the gap between grassroots commoners' initiatives and top-down sovereignty policies.



**Start date:** 1 January 2024 | **End date:** 31 December 2026

[commons.ngi.eu](https://commons.ngi.eu)

# Partners



# THE NGI COMMONS AMBITION

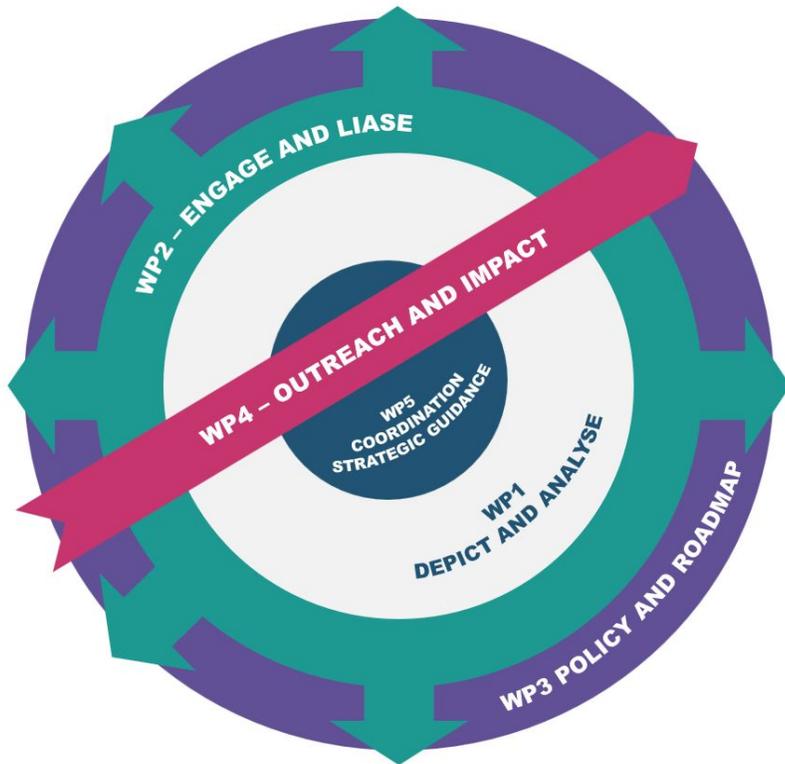
A 36 months CSA started in January 2024



Digital Commons (DC) have become increasingly relevant and diverse, and have crossed paths with core digital governance issues such as digital sovereignty and self-determination over personal data.

**NGI Commons aims to ensure strategic alignment and integration of the NGI efforts within the broader European DC context, elaborating on a long-term strategy for DC, helping to overcome fragmentation and close the gap between grass-root commoners initiatives and top-down sovereignty policies**

# NGI COMMONS WORK ORGANISATION



- **WP1:** to map relevant European commoners initiatives, assess their maturity, and examine the main challenges and priorities for their evolution, while analysing the leverage effect (actual and potential) of NGI funding.
- **WP2:** to engage DC/IC experts in analysing the NGI portfolio, foster collaborations with relevant emerging initiatives at national/local, European and international levels and develop a plan to support further development of commoners initiatives
- **WP3:** to develop a strategic agenda for including DC/IC policies valid for the EU MFF timeframe, and define a long-term strategy that enables the NGI to become a pillar of EU investment into public digital infrastructures that are based on democratic values and contribute to digital sovereignty and trust.
- **WP4:** To increase awareness and promote DC/IC and OS initiatives, as well as relevant digital sovereignty policies and NGI efforts for broad, sustainable and impactful exploitation of assets.

# Digital Commons Task Force

The NGI Commons DCTF is an expert body – helping NGI Commons to shape its research and policy outputs by analysing the NGI portfolio and the effect of NGI funding on Digital Commons/Internet Commons (DC/IC).

- **20+ experts regularly engaged**, based on specific interest topics
- Other experts will be invited to join **all along the duration of the project - up to ~ 70**
- **Connect + Learn + Share knowledge and issues + Mobilise stakeholders**
- **Share events, projects, publications for promotion**
  
- **Dedicated mailing list ([dctf@ngicommons.eu](mailto:dctf@ngicommons.eu))**
- **Bi-monthly online meetings**
- **Community platform** for sharing ideas and facilitating discussions
- **Contact us at [info@ngicommons.eu](mailto:info@ngicommons.eu) to candidate to the DCTF**

# Where to meet us

- **Join the Digital Commons Community Platform** for sharing ideas and discussions
  - sign-up for an account at [Matrix.org](https://matrix.org) and join the following [room](#).
- **We are organising**
  - More thematic workshops and online webinars - news announced on our channels
  - 2 NGI Policy Summits (spring 2025, spring 2026)
- **Thematic conferences we will be present at:**
  - MozFest House (Amsterdam, June 11 - 13)
  - LF Open Source Summit (Vienna, September 16 - 18)
  - EU Open Source Policy Summit (Brussels, February 2025)
  - FOSDEM (Brussels, February 2025)
  - NGI Forum 2025 - stay tuned at [ngi.eu](https://ngi.eu)

# What to expect of Today

**We are eager to learn from you! Share your thoughts!**

**Questions we will ask you:**

- **What do we mean when we talk about Digital Commons?**
- **What should be the criteria for evaluating the leverage effect of NGI funding?**
- **What are and what should be policy priorities for Digital and Internet Commons?**

***The answers will help us in our quest to define the long term strategic agenda for the Digital Commons.***



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Funded by  
the European Union

**NGI**

#### Project funded by



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,  
Education and Research EAER  
State Secretariat for Education,  
Research and Innovation SERI

The NGI Commons project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme under Grant Agreement No 101120640. This project is part of the NGI Initiative. This work has received funding from the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation (SERI).

