Evaluating Progress in Web3 Grants: Introducing the Grant Maturity Index.

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Abstract—This report introduces the Grant Maturity Index (GMI), a novel evaluative framework designed to assess the maturity and operational effectiveness of Web3 grant programs. As Web3 continues to develop, the decentralized nature of these programs brings both opportunities and challenges, particularly when it comes to governance, transparency, and community engagement. Traditional funding models are often governed by standardized processes, but Web3 grants lack such consistency, making it difficult for grant operators to measure the long-term success of their programs.

The Grant Maturity Index (GMI) was created through exploratory applied research to address this gap. Inspired by the World Bank's GovTech Maturity Index (GTMI), the GMI is tailored specifically for the decentralized Web3 ecosystem. The GMI evaluates key dimensions of grant programs—governance, transparency, operational efficiency, and community engagement – providing grant operators with a clear benchmark for assessing and improving their programs.

The primary objectives of this research are to:

- Identify the structural indicators that adequately describe Web3 grant programs.
- Describe optimal outcomes for programs by evaluating their maturity across key operational areas.

In this report, the GMI is applied to four major Ethereum Layer 2 grant programs – Arbitrum, Mantle, Taiko Labs, and Optimism. These case studies highlight areas where Web3 grant programs require improvement, particularly in standardizing processes, enhancing transparency, and increasing community participation.

Index Terms—maturity model, Web3 governance, decentralised autonomous organisations, crypto-economic systems, mixed-methods

I. Introduction

TABLE I
Table Type Styles

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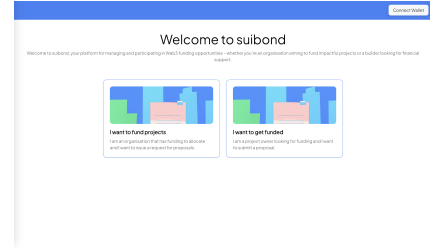
Fig. 1. This shows the suibond application.

Acknowledgment

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