

Overview

Metasystem

The [Sovrin ToIP Metasystem Governance Framework \(STM-GF\)](#) provides the legal governance for all participating entities within the Sovrin ToIP Metasystem (STM) or **Sovrin Ecosystem**. The STM is comprised of DID Ledgers ("Peer-Nets") that are either part of the Sovrin Network (did:sov) or a trusted DID Ledger associated with a unique DID Root Namespace.

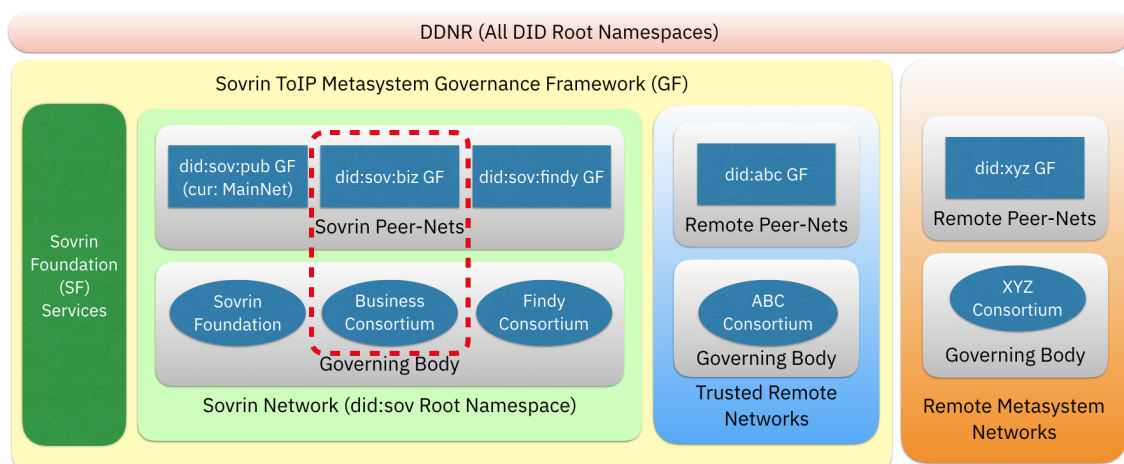
stm-concepts

Sovrin Network

A collection of Peer-Nets that all adhere to the STM-GF but are managed as independent Identity Utilities each having its own Governance framework. Minimally there are two Peer-Nets within the Sovrin Network:

- Sovrin Public Utility (*did:sov:pub*)
- Sovrin Business Utility (*did:sov:biz*)

Sovrin Business Utility



A consortium of organizations leverage the Sovrin Foundation as a fee-based provider for the administration and delivery of a the DID Ledger associated with the *did:sov:biz* namespace. This Peer-Net operates as a public identity utility under its own governance framework. Consortium members pay annual membership fees and provide supporting infrastructure to maintain a sustainable permissioned identity utility that is structured as an enterprise safe-space and purpose built for trusted commerce.

Consortium

Non-Profit Organization

The **Diwalac Consortium** ("Consortium") is a private-sector, international non-profit association of companies, organizations and governments that share a common interest in collaborating on the governance of a dedicated trusted decentralized identity utility that can reliably serve the physical and online identity needs of international commerce.

Name Meaning

Not to be confused with the Norway-based startup Diwala which is focused solving the global problems of lack of identity and certification fraud, **Diwalac** is a neologism based on the following constructs:

1. *Decentralized Identity* (DI) refers to the global movement and technology initiative to establish globally unique identifiers that are self-owned, independent, and rooted in a web-of-trust based on distributed ledger technology that protects privacy and enables secure transactions.
2. The *Filipino* word for "trust" is *tiwala* (ti+wala) which is the noun for: trust, confidence, assurance, credence, belief
3. (C)ommerce pertains to the exchange of goods, services or something of value, between businesses or entities. Identity is an infrastructure necessity for all types of B2B, B2C, C2C and C2C interactions that we experience in our daily lives.

Diwalac (Di + wala + c) is indented to depict *Decentralized Identity for Trusted Commerce*.

Legal Registration

The **Diwalac Consortium** is a register non-profit entity in the state of XXXXXX. The registration of the legal entity is administered by the Sovrin Foundation, which is responsible for obtaining the necessary licenses and permits.

Board of Directors (BoD)

The Consortium will appoint a Board of Directors comprised of representatives from membership.

Bylaws

The BoD is responsible for establishing and maintaining the governance framework for the operation and administration of the *Sovrin Business Utility* ("SBU") along with the bylaws for the BoD.

Master Document

Preface

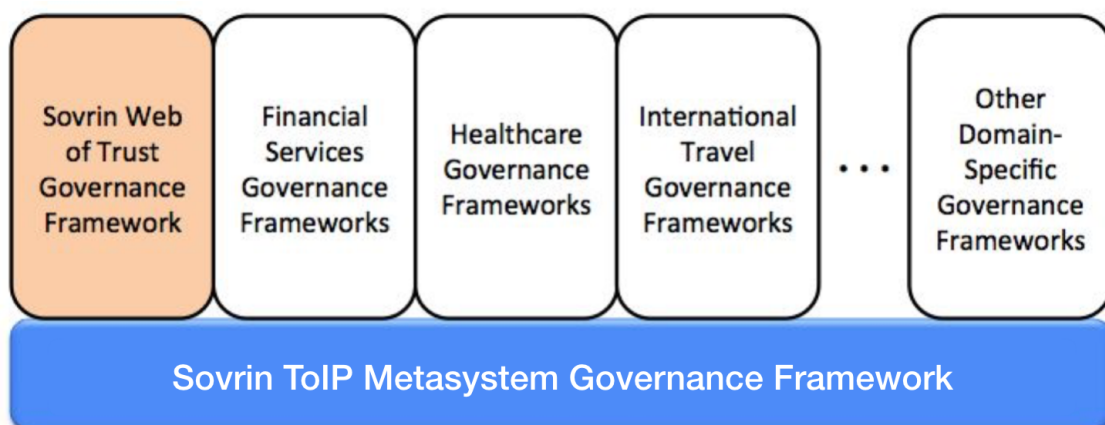
This is an official document of the Sovrin Governance Framework V2 approved by the Sovrin Board of Trustees. If you have comments or suggestions, we invite you to contribute them to the living community version of this document—access is open to anyone. If you are interested in joining the Sovrin Governance Framework Working Group, please visit our [Meeting Page](#).

Acknowledgements

This document was produced on behalf of the Board of Directors by the Governance Framework Working Group.

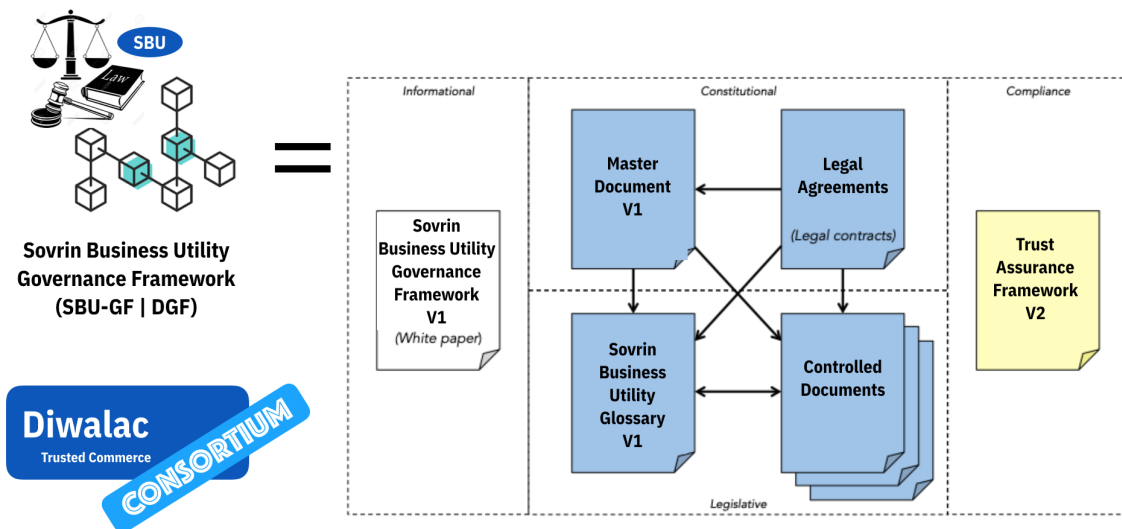
Introduction

The Diwalac Governance Framework (DGF) serves as the *constitution* for the *Sovrin Business Utility*. The DGF (also referred to as "SBU-GF") is a specialized Domain-Specific Governance Frameworks (DSGFs) as described in the [Sovrin ToIP Metasystem Governance Framework \(STM-GF\) Master Document](#).



The DGF leverages the principles, policies, terminology, and standards defined in the STM-GF to enable trusted digital commerce based on decentralized identity.

A key objective of the DGF is to address any concerns or risks that Consortium members may have with participation compliance with Data Protection Regulations such as the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), and the Canadian Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA).



The DGF formally consists of a set of interrelated documents that collectively forms the governance model for the Consortium and the DID Ledger (`did:sov:biz`) that the Consortium manages. The documents are organized in three (3) categories; Blue = Normative, Yellow = Assessment, White = Informative.

Category	Name	Description
Primary (White)	Diwalac GF Whitepaper	Introduction to the Diwalac Governance Framework V2
Primary (Blue)	Diwalac Governance Framework (DGF) Master Document	The “constitution” of the Consortium, this document defines the purpose, core principles, and core policies, and also references all other documents in the GF.
Primary (Blue)	Diwalac Glossary	A comprehensive glossary of terms used throughout all the GF documents
Primary (Yellow)	Diwalac Trust Assurance Framework	This document defines criteria and processes for assessing conformance of different consortium stakeholder to the policies of the Diwalac Governance Framework.
Legal (Blue)	Diwalac Founding Member Agreement	Contractual instrument between the Consortium and a Founding Member.
Legal (Blue)	Diwalac Steward Member Agreement	Contractual instrument between the Consortium and a Steward Member.
Legal (Blue)	Trust Anchor Agreement	Contractual instrument between the Consortium and any person or organization initiating a write transaction to the Identity Utility Ledger.
Controlled Documents (Blue)	Governing Body Policies	The governance policies that apply to all Diwalac Governing Bodies.
Controlled Documents (Blue)	Ledger Access Policies	Governing policies for reading and writing to all Diwalac Ledgers and the processing of SBU transactional data.
Controlled Documents (Blue)	Member Business Policies	Governing qualification, application, activation, operation, suspension, and termination of Founding Members.
Controlled Documents (Blue)	Member Technical Policies	Governing the security, node operation, node selection, and reporting requirements for

Purpose

The purpose of the Sovrin Business Utility is to provide a decentralized global public utility for trusted commerce. It is one of many possible DID Ledgers ("Peer-Nets").

The purpose of the Diwalac Governance Framework (DGF) is to define the business, legal, and technical policies for the Sovrin Business Utility.

The purpose of the Diwalac Consortium is to administer decentralized governance for Sovrin Business Utility.

Core Principles

Unless otherwise noted, the Diwalac Governance Framework (DGF) is aligned with the principles outlined in the [STM-GF Master Document](#).

Core Polices

In keeping with all Core Principles and especially the Decentralization by Design and Security by Design principles:

1. Policies, practices, procedures, and algorithms governing participation of Stewards and operation of Nodes MUST follow all Core Principles.
2. The Consortium MUST publish the following Controlled Documents managed as specified by Diwalac Governing Bodies: a. Member Business Policies b. Member Technical Policies c. Ledger Access Policies

Guardianship

In keeping with the Guardianship principle, a Guardian SHOULD: 1. Act in the Dependent person's best interest. 2. Exercise good judgment and carefully manage responsibilities. 3. Avoid commingling—keep Dependent's property separate (e.g., separate DIDs, Public Keys, Wallets, Vaults, etc.). 4. Keep detailed records of all actions taken on behalf of the Dependent. 5. Not violate the Anti-

Impersonation principle (section 2.11.5). 6. Be subject to applicable legal structures regarding the granting and revocation of Guardianships.

Inclusion

In keeping with the Inclusive by Design principles but in recognition of the permissioned write structure of the Sovrin Business Utility: 1. Read access to the Sovrin Business Utility MUST be open to all types of entities.

2. Write access will be limited to members in good standing within the consortium.

Trust Assurance

In keeping with all Core Principles and especially the Decentralization by Design principles: 1. The Consortium MUST specify policies, practices, and procedures for assessing conformance to the Diwalac Governance Framework by publishing and maintaining the Diwalac Trust Assurance Framework as a Controlled Document managed as specified by Sovrin Governing Bodies. The Controlled Document may leverage the services and guidance of the Sovrin Trust Assurance Framework. 2. The Diwalac Consortium MUST publish the Diwalac Trust Mark Policies as a Controlled Document managed as specified by Diwalac Governing Bodies. The Consortium may decide to leverage instead the Trust Mark Policies but a Diwalac Controlled Document must specify such a decision/policy. 4. An Entity serving in one of the Sovrin Network who meets the requirements in the Diwalac Trust Assurance Framework MAY use the appropriate Diwalac Trust Mark as specified in Diwalac Trust Mark Policies.

Economics In keeping with the Sustainability principle: 1. The Consortium MUST publish the Diwalac Economic Policies as a Controlled Document managed as specified by Diwalac Governing Bodies in conjunction with Consortium legal counsel. 2. The Consortium MUST manage Ledger Fees and any mechanism used for paying them to ensure economic viability and sustainability for the Consortium to keep with its charter as a non-profit public trust organization. 3. The Consortium MUST retain a qualified Auditor to publish an annual public audit of Consortium finances.

Governance

The Diwalac Governance Framework Master Document and the Controlled Documents listed in Appendix A shall be revised from time to time. The policies in this section govern this process.

Unless otherwise noted, the Diwalac Governance Framework (DGF) will adhere to the same procedures for managing document lifecycles as outlined in Section 4 of the [STM-GF Master Document](#).

All Diwalac Governance Framework documents will reside in a Github source control repository and will use the repo's Issue Tracker for change management.

Appendix A: Controlled Documents

The following Controlled Documents are normative components of the Diwalac Governance Framework V1. All framework documents are published by the Consortium in two forms:

1. A static PDF document representing the current approved version. A link is always available via the Github repo and the table below.
2. A sub-section of the [Sovrin](#) website so that all documentation is easily navigated.

Issues / Comments

A Github source control repository and will use the repo's Issue Tracker for change management.

Definitions

Document Name	Description	Governed By	Normative Location
SBU Glossary	Definitions of all terms used in the DGF	Governance Framework Working Group	Approved PDF Version
Governing Bodies	Definitions of governing bodies within the Consortium	Diwalac Board of Directors	Approved PDF Version
Ledger Transaction Data	Defines the data and metadata process by a Steward Node	Technical Governance Board	Approved PDF Version

Specifications

Document Name	Description	Governed By	Normative Location
Decentralized Identifiers 0.11	Specification for DIDs and DID documents	W3C Credentials Community Group	https://w3c-ccg.github.io/did-spec/
Sovrin DID Method 1.0 Specification	Specification for DIDs on the Sovrin Ledger or Sovrin Microledgers	Sovrin Technical Governance Board	https://github.com/sovrin-foundation/sovrin/blob/master/spec/did-method-spec-template.html
Verifiable Credentials Data Model 1.0	Specification for verifiable credentials	W3C Verifiable Claims Working Group	https://w3c.github.io/vc-data-model/

Policies

Document Name	Description	Governed By	Normative Location
Governing Body Policies	Chartering and functioning of Diwalac Governing Bodies	Board of Directors	Approved PDF Version
Ledger Access Policies	Read and write access to the Sovrin Business Utility	Governance Framework Working Group	Approved PDF Version
Member Business Policies	Member qualification, enrollment, and operational status	Membership Committee	Approved PDF Version
Membership Technical Policies	Technical requirements for operating and protecting a components of the SBU infrastructure.	Technical Governance Board	Approved PDF Version
Economic Policies	Budgetary policies for the SBU.	Finance Committee	Approved PDF Version
Trust Mark Policies	Acceptable uses of the Diwalac Trust Mark	Governance Framework Working Group	Approved PDF Version

Frameworks

Document Name	Description	Governed By	Normative Location
Trust Assurance Framework	Trust assurance for DGF actors	Governance Framework Working Group	Approved PDF Version

FAQ

Frequently asked question?

Answer

Frequently asked question?

Answer

Frequently asked question?

Answer

Glossary

The Sovrin Foundation published in the Sovrin Governance Framework V2 a [glossary of industry terms](#).

The contents herein are considered additional terms specific to the **Sovrin Business Utility**.

DID Namespace

Building on URI Standards, the DID Specification allows for both root namespace (did:xxx) and sub-namespace (did:xxx:yyy) conventions.

Peer-Net

A distinct system of domain specific ledgers operated by decentralized peer nodes and associated with a DID Namespace. Governed by its own governance framework.

Network of Networks

A decentralized collection of discoverable and interoperable Peer-Nets. Each Peer-Net a The internet is already an exemplar of a network of networks structure based on DNS and URI standards.

Governing Body

An organization or consortium that is responsible for the management of a Peer-Net.

Sovrin Foundation

Provider of Services to Peer-Nets Governing Bodies.

Identity Utility Network

A Peer-Net governed by a consortium and preferably built on Hyperledger Indy.

Identity Utility Administrator

The provider of operational and maintenance services for an Identity Utility Network.

Decentralized DID Namespace Registry (DDNR)

Provides registration, discovery, and access for Peer-Nets.

Remote Peer-Net

A system of ledgers associated with a DID Root Namespace that operates under its own Governance Framework. From a Sovrin perspective this would be a trusted ledger as it is recognized under the Sovrin GF.

Sovrin ToIP Metasystem Governance Framework

A set of business, legal and technical governance documents that describe how members of the Sovrin Metasystem will operate. Sovrin Network: The system of ledgers under the did:sov Root Namespace.

Sovrin Peer-Net

A peer-net that is register under the did:sov Root Namespace.

Trusted Remote Network

The system of ledgers under the did:sov Root Namespace that adhere to a ToIP Metasystem Governance Framework.

Remote Metasystem Network

The system of ledgers under a disparate Root Namespace that may or may not exist under a foreign ToIP Metasystem Governance Framework.

Contact us

Business Consortium

Contact Board of Directors

Email bod@sbu.sovrin.org

NOTE: Need to setup emails and or Google Groups/Forums

Contact Governance Framework Working Group

Email sbugf-wg@sbu.sovrin.org

Contact Identity Utility Administrator

The Sovrin Foundation is the provider of administrative services to the Business Consortium. Our Network Administrator is:

Name	Email	Phone	
xxxxx	sovadmin@sbu.sovrin.org	999-999-9999	