# Project Charter

The purpose of this project is to develop a tool to generate SPDX documents that combine the outputs of FOSSology and Ninka. The tool will sequentially scan a piece of software, whether it is a file or package, using FOSSology and Ninka. The tool will collect the output given by both programs and compare and combine the output into one SPDX document. The result will give end users the licensing information that they need to determine how the scanned software may be used.

FOSSology and Ninka are both scanning tools used to find licenses associated with a given file or package of code. Due to the methods they use each scanning tool can recognize particular licenses better than the other. The tool that we are creating intends to combine the output of both of these scanning tools into one cohesive document. Refer to the documentation of FOSSology (LINK) and Ninka (LINK) for more information.

This project is one piece in a larger meta-project. The meta-project consists of a command line SPDX generator called do\_spdx that is currently part of the Yocto project (refer to Yocto documentation for futher details), an SPDX database, and a dashboard for SPDX usage. In relationship to this larger project, our software will serve as a sub-process for do\_spdx. If do\_spdx does not find the given SPDX document in the database, it will call our product to create one from the two scanning tools.

In addition, we will develop a basic interface and spdx-finalizing procedure to enable end users to manually use our software as a stand-alone program. These will consist of a simple uploader and SPDX finalizer. The core scanner will be able to work independently of these sub-systems to allow for automation or future customization.

If we have completed the main tasks above, we will attempt to optimize FOSSology’s execution time to likewise increase the speed of our program. Also, if time permits, we will attempt to design a web based user interface.