Project Aiur by Iris.ai

There are a number of problems in the world of science today hampering global progress. In an almost monopolized industry with terrible incentive misalignments, a radical change is needed. The only way to change this is with a grassroots movement of researchers, librarians, R&D departments, universities and students. We need to remove the powerful intermediaries, create new incentive structures, build commonly owned tools to validate all research and build a common Validated Repository of human knowledge. A combination of blockchain and artificial intelligence provides the technology framework, but as with all research, the scientist herself needs to be in the center. She will have the right incentives to publish openly, do thorough peer reviews, publish failed results and be more rigorous about the reproducibility of her work – and so will all of her connected peers across the globe. We hope you will join us.

Iris.ai and project Aiur

Iris.ai is an international startup aiming to make science belong to everyone, change researchers' incentives, and improve scientific content, making it more transparent, accountable and widespread in society.

Some problems faced by the scientific community include there being too much information to manage, it cost a lot of money to access, not all research can be reproduced, systems like citation makes information skewed for example towards financially stronger institutions, and finally researchers have a number of problematic incentives such as "publish or perish" and having to publish in expensive top-level journals to get more funding.

We are working to change this. With Project Aiur we aim at making Science belong to everyone through using blockchain technology – the same technology that has built cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin and Ether. The technology allows us to to bring together a big community of researchers, coders, and anyone interested in science. Together we will work to address the problems outlined above. We will collaborate to build what we call a "Knowledge Validation Engine" based on artificial intelligence and machine learning technology – a machine where we can take a piece of research and have it checked up against all other research in the world. This means we will over time build a massive collection of research that has been validated.

Everyone who is a member will own the project, can use the tools we build together, and can vote in important decisions.

Tokenization details

The AIUR token, a cryptocurrency or "digital coin", will be introduced as the main "currency" in the project. Besides granting membership, AIUR will be used to give access to the KVE and any other tools developed on top of the community's software. Anyone who contributes to the community with things like code, training data and research earn AIUR tokens. Having tokens gives voting rights.

The community will consist of people contributing: AI trainers, coders, people finding bugs, and researchers and reviewers. It will also have people using the tools developed, and this includes software developers building tools on top of

1

the community software, R&D departments and research institutes, academic departments and consortia, and individual researchers. Because the AIUR tokens can be earned through contributing to the community it is what's called a "functional token", as opposed to a pure "currency" or "security". These tokens are the only way to get access to the Aiur tools, and they also function as a voucher, or a discount, to tools built on top of Aiur. This also mean this project is not made for people aiming to make a quick buck. It is for those who genuinely believe in the long term goals and want to contribute in some way.

Beyond building a new economic model, using the blockchain also adds massive value on three other fronts:(1) Censorship resistance. The publishing process has a number of systematic biases, meaning essentially not all researchers are considered equal and thus their research will be harder to find in search engines.(2) By combining blockchain and AI, we can build software with a community, fully traceable, including open data sets. (3) Usually anonymity is a benefit of blockchain, but for us it's the flip-side of anonymity: full scrutiny, through entity-independent trust. Which basically means everyone will have their research scrutinized, no matter who you are.

When the project launches we will sell tokens, aiming to raise EUR$ 10M (or rather, the equivalent in Ether, which is the currency we will accept). If we don't reach at least 60% of this goal within a month, everyone gets their money back – and we won't take in more than 5x the goal. 75% of the funds raised will belong to the community, and be paid out to those who help reach the initial milestones. We will do our best, and invite everyone to contribute. The remaining 25% will go to Iris.ai for the execution of the initial project.

We're essentially hired as a consultant for the project in the project, until it's solid enough to manage on its own. In the first phase, we will keep 50% of the AIUR tokens to have a certain level of control, but (by contract!) we release the control and give back all tokens so we only become a 2% holder when the community is ready to manage itself.

Everything described above is regulated in "smart contracts", or code that is executed when certain criteria is met. These contracts also manage the system's stability, exchange rates between AIUR and ETH and if needed, taxation of community members displaying unwanted behavior: for example holding on to a large number of tokens without ever contributing. This system, which we call the "institution", will also pay for all transaction costs when the transaction is of value to the community – so individuals do not pay to contribute. We also build a "constitution" which will regulate rights and obligations of the community members.

Validation of science is something that has to be an open process – no one company can sit in the middle and hold any kind of power. On the other hand, someone needs to set up the right mechanisms for the community to function. The process described above allows us to do so in phase 1, and then relinquish power automatically as we transition to phase 2.

Join us!

3