

Letter Agreement for Mutual Cooperation and Recognition
Trust over IP / Sovrin Foundation

DRAFT

The Trust over IP Steering Committee and Sovrin Foundation Board of Trustees are pleased to establish, by way of this Letter Agreement, mutual recognition and support for each other's mandate and intent to work together toward advancing the infrastructure and governance required for digital trust and digital identity ecosystems.

This Letter Agreement is made in good faith between the organizations, and does not express or imply any commitments beyond the support and cooperation efforts identified in this document.

The [Sovrin Foundation](#) is a nonprofit corporation which acts as the administrator and governance authority for publicly available SSI infrastructure, as well as supporting interoperable digital identity ecosystems that adhere to the [Principles of SSI](#). Sovrin's activities aim to serve the common good of providing secure, privacy-respecting digital identity for any entity (individuals, organizations and things).

[Trust over IP](#) is a project of the Linux Foundation/Joint Development Foundation which aims to define a complete architecture for decentralized digital trust infrastructure and foster the emergence of interoperable ecosystems adopting verifiable credentials. Trust over IP's goal is to enable frictionless digital transactions and relationships that unlock higher value interactions online through the use of credentials.

By way of this letter, both organizations:

- enthusiastically support the need and importance of their separate but interrelated mandates in order for secure ecosystems based on verifiable credentials and self-sovereign identity to benefit people and organizations across all social and economic sectors;
- commit to assigning one liaison from each organization, each of whom will be responsible for coordinating with each other and maintaining lines of communication between the organizations, attending all-member plenary sessions for each organization, providing periodic updates to the Board of Trustees (Sovrin) and Steering Committee (Trust over IP) and leading a joint annual meeting focused on the objectives of this collaboration;
- commit to proactively seek opportunities to exchange information, participate in meetings/discussions of shared interest, promote the value of each other's work including through joint announcements and media products and otherwise collaborate for the purpose of helping achieve their respective mandates.

The Sovrin Foundation and Trust over IP each produce documentation and operate in a manner that respects open licensing, open-source code and open-standards. Both organizations agree that their open, public materials will be available for reference (with attribution) by the other. Any product/material constrained by copyright or intellectual property restriction that is different from the above is not covered by this agreement, and requires a separate agreement prior to being shared.

Trust over IP and the Sovrin Foundation will jointly and proactively examine the benefits and lessons learned from their collaboration and take measures to expand their cooperation in further opportunities over time. Furthermore, each organization will, from time to time, make public statements that support and promote the strengths and values of their cooperation activities, as well as promoting the intrinsic value and success of the counterparty organization.