

ELG: Goals and Objectives



Establish the ELG as the primary platform and

market place for commercial and non-commercial LTs.

Enable the European LT community to upload services and data sets into the ELG,

to make them available, to deploy them and also to connect with, and make use of resources made available by others.

Help establish the Multilingual Digital Single Market.

To achieve the required scale, we need, among others: high availability and performance;

SLAs for (paid) services that are applied in real industrial settings; billing; support etc.

These characteristics create various non-trivial costs.

Costs

Cloud hosting (CPU, GPU, RAM, SSD) and bandwidth

Team

- Operations
- Development
- Accounting
- Marketing
- Support (e.g., service helpdesk)
- Management

Legal (SLAs, contracts, GDPR etc.)

Misc. (rent, hardware, electricity etc.)



Towards a Sustainable European Language Grid



Our goal for ELG is to be a sustainable, long-term activity.

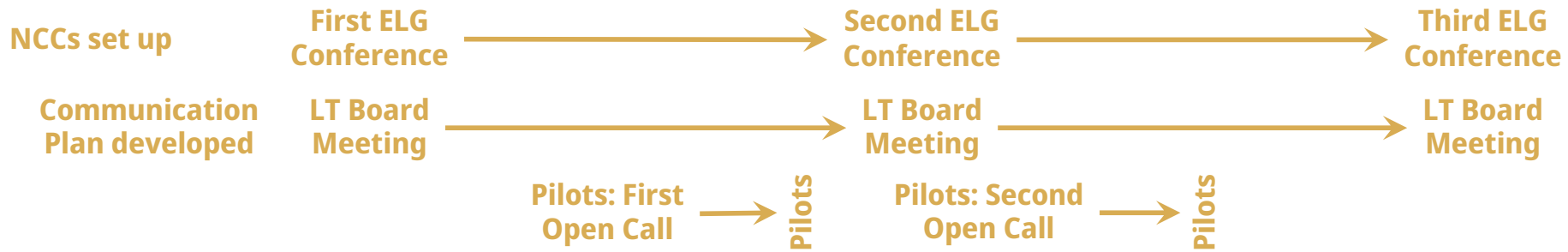
ELG is an initiative *from* the European LT community *for* the European LT community.

For now, ELG is supported by the EU project ELG and, furthermore, by the German BMBF project QURATOR and, to a rather limited extent, by the upcoming project ELE.

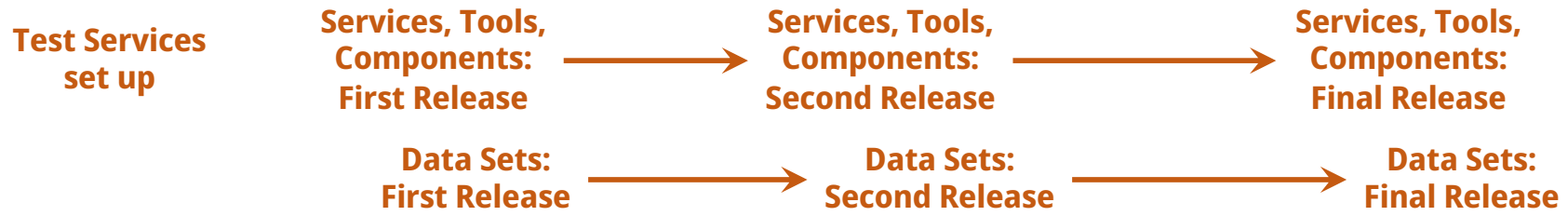
To make ELG successful, we need to identify a way to cover the incurred costs on a long-term basis. We want to find a consensus for a *sustainable operational model*.

Goal: establish a legal entity including business and operations plan.

Grid Community



Grid Content



M1



Grid Platform



Mgmt.



Potential Ingredients of Sustainability Plan 1/2



Regular ads (for companies, services, conferences etc.)

Sponsored content (first result of search/catalogue, marked as “sponsored”)

- Sponsored services
- Sponsored data sets
- Sponsored companies
- Other sponsored catalogue entries

Training events, tutorials, webinars (for a fee for commercial players, free for academia)

Conferences (event registration fees; sponsorship packages for companies)

General consulting services around ELG and language-centric AI (esp. for companies)

Membership fees (if we decide to establish an association or similar)

Project grants (international as well as national projects)

Potential Ingredients of Sustainability Plan 2/2



LTaaS – LT services: hosting of services, models, data sets

(hosting of services or large models creates costs; publicly funded research results to be made available OA; difference between industry and research; costs need to be covered)

- For companies that develop LT – as a primary or secondary dissemination channel, to extend their reach, to open up new markets etc.
- Brokering of commercial LT services (for a fee, split between service owner and ELG)
- For R&D project consortia – as an *additional* dissemination and exploitation channel for industry-relevant research results

PaaS – LT platform functionality: combine ELG services into workflows

RaaS – Hosting service for whole (regional or national) repositories – the “Finland concept”

LT marketplace: matchmaking fee for connecting a buyer with the right supplier

Legal Entity – Options



Basic options:

- a) for-profit company
- b) **non-profit company**
- c) professional stakeholder association
- d) foundation

Mixed financing model

- See the previous two slides
 - Concrete mix of revenue streams to be determined in 2021
- There are probably also other potential ingredients

ELG Legal Entity: Summary and Next Steps

Our ambition is for the ELG to develop into the primary platform for LT in Europe.

- *From* the European LT community *for* the community – with an emphasis on industry.
- Market place for the European LT business space.
- The user survey and the two open calls demonstrate that the European LT community is very interested in the overall setup.

Sustainability of ELG – business and operations plan:

- We're (still) in the early stages – currently identifying external experts to help with the concept and strategy (legal experts, business development experts)
- NCCs, LTC and IAB to act as sounding boards within ELG.

Adapted Timeline – due to Covid-19 extension of ELG:

- Arrive at a consensus by approx. Q3/2021.
- Establish legal entity in approx. Q1/2022.

Corresponding ELG deliverables:

First ELG Sustainability Plan	April 2020
Final ELG Sustainability Plan	January 2022