

D2.4

Matchmaking Activity Report

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Abstract

This report covers the implementation and performance of matchmaking activities by NGI Sargasso, designed to foster collaboration among European, US, and Canadian researchers and institutions. Key components include the development and deployment of a Brokerage System, the organization of info days and matchmaking sessions, and the assessment of participant engagement and matchmaking success. The report highlights the project's achievements in creating valuable international partnerships and contributing to the goals of the Next Generation Internet initiative.

Keywords

Matchmaking, Infowebinar, Brokerage System, Open Calls, Digital Networking, International Cooperation

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Dissemination level		
PU	Public, fully open. e.g., website	✓
CL	Classified information as referred to in Commission Decision 2001/844/EC	
CO	Confidential to GENOMED4ALL project and Commission Services	

* Deliverable types:

R: document, report (excluding periodic and final reports).

DEM: demonstrator, pilot, prototype, plan designs.

DEC: websites, patent filings, press and media actions, videos, etc.

OTHER: software, technical diagrams, etc.



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Executive summary

The NGI Sargasso project aims to strengthen transatlantic collaborations in Next Generation Internet (NGI) research through effective matchmaking activities. This report details the organised initiatives undertaken to achieve this objective, focusing on the Brokerage System, Info Days, and matchmaking sessions.

Key Findings

- **Brokerage system.** A platform was created to connect researchers, SMEs, and tech startups across the target regions. This system facilitates the creation of interdisciplinary teams by matching profiles based on specific attributes such as expertise and research focus.
- **Matchmaking sessions.** Organised info webinars and matchmaking sessions were essential in promoting collaboration. These sessions included detailed briefings followed by networking opportunities at virtual tables categorized by NGI topics like trust, data sovereignty, and digital identity.
- **Impact assessment.** The report highlights the success of these sessions, perceiving high registration and attendance rates. The demographic data indicates broad participation from various regions and sectors.
- **KPIs.** The project surpassed several key performance indicators, including the number of facilitated teams, registered entities, and total applications.

Methodology

- The project addresses the challenge of fostering international cooperation in emerging internet technologies. By utilizing a Brokerage System and structured matchmaking events, NGI Sargasso promotes interdisciplinary and cross-border collaborations.
- The methodology includes automated profiling, manual validation, and personalized matchmaking recommendations, ensuring precise and efficient connections.

The matchmaking activities have proven effective in connecting potential partners and improving the quality of proposals submitted for open calls. Continuous improvements are planned to maintain the system's relevance and effectiveness throughout the project's duration.

The structured, rapid approach of the matchmaking sessions ensures that participants can make meaningful connections immediately making these sessions a valuable component of the NGI Sargasso project.



Objectives

The main goal of NGI Sargasso is to reinforce the collaboration among European, US and Canadian teams through joint experiments on topics related to the Next Generation Internet. To address such endeavor efficiently, it is essential to carry out different activities to ensure the successful execution of the open calls and services programme. Among these activities it included the creation of the ecosystem and tools for the team's formation, after have being identified and understood their priorities and the research subtopics defined.

As part of the activities carried on under the WP2, Preparatory Activities, this report serves as a Summary of the activities and outcomes achieved by M9- September 2023 on the collaboration with target communities and partnership building, including foreseen actions updates.

Matchmaking activities are essential to the project's lifecycle, running concurrently throughout its duration. Registration in the Brokerage System application is mandatory for all participants, as it facilitates precise and efficient connections among participants with aligned interests across Europe, the USA, and Canada.

The project team conducts manual validation of profiles within the Brokerage System App, seeking additional information where necessary and suggesting potential connections between participants. These connections are established only with the explicit consent of the parties involved.

Furthermore, two informational webinars and matchmaking sessions are organized for each open call. These are designed to reinforce matchmaking efforts among participants, ultimately fostering collaborative applications to the NGI Sargasso initiative.



Matchmaking Activities

Under *Task 2.3 Brokering system for applicants*, our partner SPLORO has set up a Brokering IT System, a platform software suite to integrate the NGI Sargasso community.

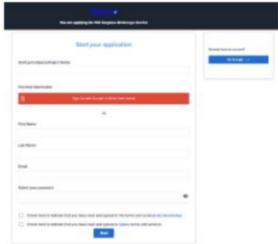

The objective of this platform is to facilitate the contact between researchers, hi-tech startups/ SMEs and Internet-related communities from Europe, Canada, and USA and therefore the creation of teams for jointly apply to the NGI Sargasso programme.

The Brokering system combine an automated registering profiling of the interested applicants at the platform and a set of Matchmaking Activities performed by MWCB.

Matchmaking Activities

Ongoing Activities through the project life

1. Complete your profile at the Brokerage System App to be visible to potential partners
2. Manual Validation of profiles and Matchmaking by consent followed by a personal introduction
3. Online Meetings between participants with similar interests, Matchmaking events
4. Joint applications to NGI Sargasso




FIGURE 1. MATCHMAKING ACTIVITIES THROUGH THE NGI SARGASSO PROJECT LIFE.



Brokerage Platform

The Brokerage System has been designed to bridge the gap between research communities in the United States, Canada, and Europe. Building the connections among both sides of the Sargasso might be challenging in some cases, especially for small and medium entities, and having this free support services may facilitate the access to the programme to entities which might be discouraged due to their lack of network on the other side. (See D.2.3 for further information).

The platform serves as a one-stop-shop for researchers, innovators, and institutions seeking to establish partnerships, share resources, and pursue joint projects. The system caters to a diverse range of scientific disciplines within the Next Generation Internet topics, ensuring that experts from various fields can effectively collaborate and contribute to the global research ecosystem.

The primary objectives of the NGI Sargasso Brokerage System are:

- ❑ To simplify the process of identifying and establishing connections between researchers and institutions in the United States, Canada, and Europe.
- ❑ To provide a user-friendly platform that supports the seamless exchange of information, resources, and expertise.
- ❑ To foster an environment of open innovation and collaboration, encouraging the development of interdisciplinary solutions to pressing global challenges.
- ❑ To promote international cooperation and contribute to the growth and impact of the research communities across the participating regions.

To achieve these objectives, the NGI Sargasso Brokerage System incorporates a range of features tailored to the needs of its users, verified profiles, profile search functionality, personalised recommendations for meetings, direct access to the open call applications and direct touch with NGI Sargasso team to be informed, first-hand, of project events and outcomes.

In conclusion, the NGI Sargasso Brokerage System is designed as a comprehensive, user-friendly platform that addresses the challenges of connecting researchers and institutions across the United States, Canada and Europe. It fosters an environment of open innovation and collaboration, encouraging the development of interdisciplinary solutions to press global challenges. The platform promotes international cooperation and contributes to the growth and impact of research communities in participating regions.

The NGI Sargasso Brokerage System is a very easy step-by-step process composed by 4 steps:

- ❑ **Step 1: Create a profile on the Sploro Platform**



The first step for users is to create a profile on the Sploro Platform to apply for the NGI Sargasso Brokerage System. The user needs to provide their basic details, scientific disciplines, areas of expertise, and other relevant information.

Step 2: Validation Stage

Once the user creates their profile, the Sploro team takes care of the validation stage. The created profiles are validated, and the user is notified of the validation status. The validation process ensures that the user's profile is complete and meets the required standards and eligible criteria.

Step 3: Join the NGI Sargasso Community and matchmaking activities

Once the profile is validated, it is added to the NGI Sargasso community for matchmaking and team building and collaboration. The community is made up of researchers, innovators and institutions looking to establish partnerships, share resources and carry out joint projects. At this point it is the MWCB partners who distribute potential matches among the community based on the type of entity, areas of expertise, technologies, etc. The NGI Sargasso team conducts the offline matchmaking process by cross-referencing data from European, USA and/or Canadian entities that have applied to the brokerage system, to create teams with similar areas of collaboration.

Step 4: Apply to open calls

The last step is the application process in the open calls of the teams that have been formed thanks to the platform. The NGI Sargasso Brokerage System provides direct touch with the NGI Sargasso team to stay informed of project events and outcomes. The open calls are designed to encourage the development of interdisciplinary solutions to press global challenges. The NGI Sargasso Brokerage System's platform promotes international cooperation and contributes to the growth and impact of the research communities across the participating regions.

Matches Recommendations

After the assessment of candidates that have expressed interest to participate at the NGI Sargasso, and the creation of their profile based on specific attributes such as focus area, country of origin or what they could offer to the counterpart, MWCB identifies each profile and provide recommendations when clear matches are found.

The communication to the registered candidates at the brokerage platform offering potential matches is done by email, encouraging organizations to contact their match through the Brokerage App, check their match profile to confirm potential synergies and to team up and apply to the open call with a joint proposal.



Different types of matches have been proposed to candidates in order to increase the teams' options:

- ❑ **General matches**, using all organizations data provided at the registration.
- ❑ **Matches by Areas of Knowledge**: Trust, Digital Identity, Data sovereignty, Decentralized technologies, New Internet Commons, Internet architecture and renovation.
- ❑ **Matches by Baseline Technologies**: Artificial Intelligence, IoT, Cybersecurity, Data, Blockchain and DLTs, Open source hardware & software, software architecture, 6G & Novel networks.

The contact with the candidates also serves as a supportive tool in case of questions, clarifications, or technicalities.

One of the communications to the candidates about their potential matches included information about the Info Day & Matchmaking session, where the potential teams could meet online.

4	Arizona State University, USA	InnovPlantProtect, Portugal	Trust, Digital identity
5	Rice University, USA	Hacking Ecology, Spain	Digital identity, Data sovereignty, Trust
6	Binghamton University, USA	Dymaxion OU, Estonia	Decentralized technologies
7	MetroLab Network, USA	ComeTogether, Greece	Data sovereignty
8	University of Central Florida, USA	Digiotouch, France	Trust, Data sovereignty, Digital identity, Decen technologies, New Internet Commons
9	Saint Louis University, USA	ImpattoZero srl - Farming on demand, Italy	Data sovereignty
10	University of Maryland, Baltimore County, USA	Libelium, Spain	New Internet Commons, Decentralized techn Digital identity, Trust, Data sovereignty, Intern architecture and renovation
11	Purdue University, USA	Nebulous Systems/DecentraLabs, Spain	Decentralized technologies, New Internet Con
12	Arizona State University, USA	Resistene, Czech Republic	Internet architecture and renovation
13	University of California San Diego, USA	Telecommunication Technological Center of Catalonia (CTTC), Spain	Trust, Digital identity
			Trust, Digital identity, Internet architecture an renovation, Decentralized technologies, New Commons
			Internet architecture and renovation, Decentr

FIGURE 2. CAPTION OF THE EXCEL FILE SHARED WITH CANDIDATES WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR POTENTIAL MATCHES.

After the initial call and upon reviewing the impact of the proposed team matches on potential beneficiaries registered in the Brokerage System, the Consortium agreed to adjust the communications strategy for the applicants.

As a lesson learned, the Consortium decided to inform all registered teams about their potential matches. Rather than providing just a few matches per team, a comprehensive list that includes details such as matching areas of expertise, baseline technologies, countries of origin, and more is shared with all Brokerage System registered teams.



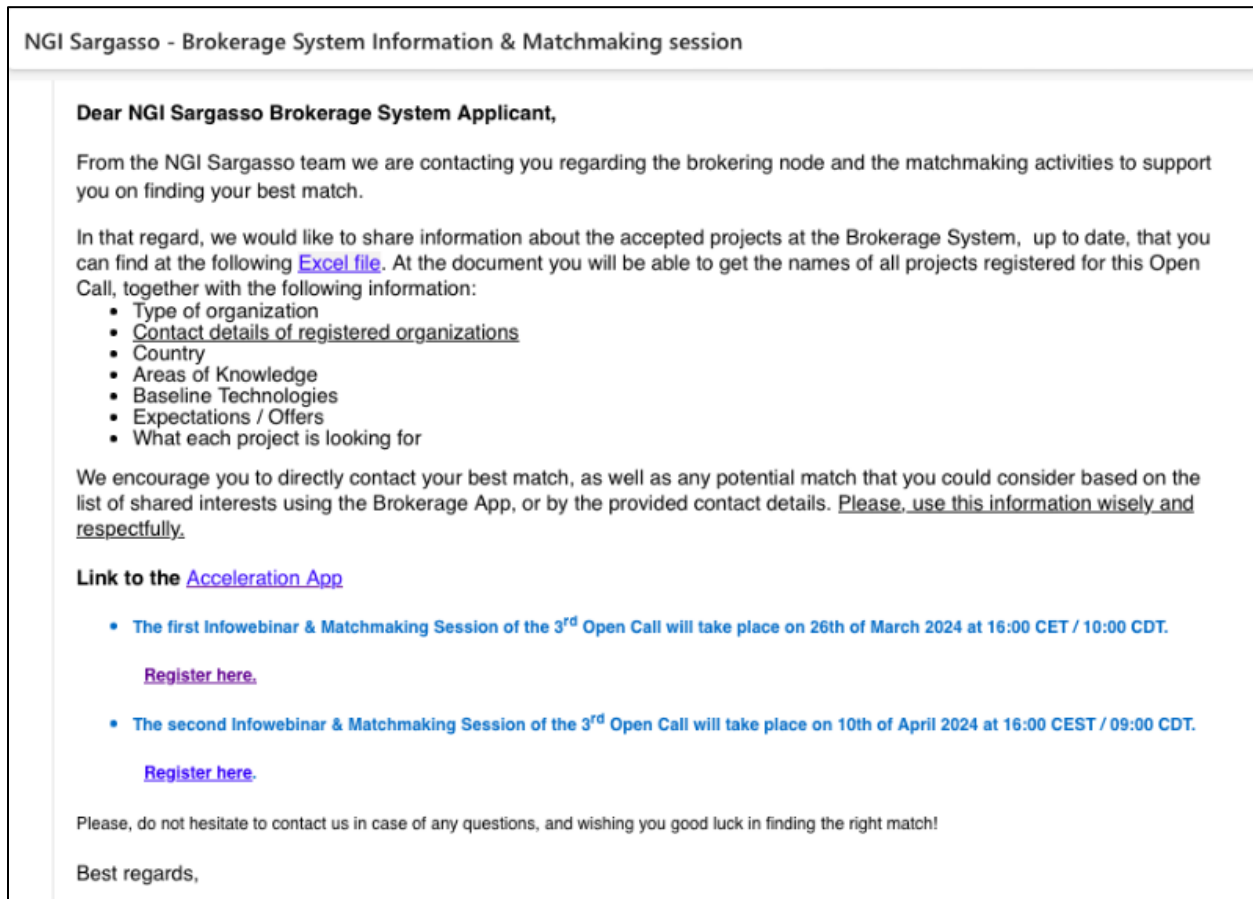


FIGURE 3. CAPTION OF THE EMAIL SENT TO THE NGI SARGASSO BROKERAGE SYSTEM APPLICANTS.

Info Day & Matchmaking session

As part of the Matchmaking Activities, MWCB, with the support of the rest of the partners has organized two (2) *Info Day and Matchmaking* online events per open call with the aim to inform the registered candidates about the Open Call creating awareness of the process behind the applications and the selection.



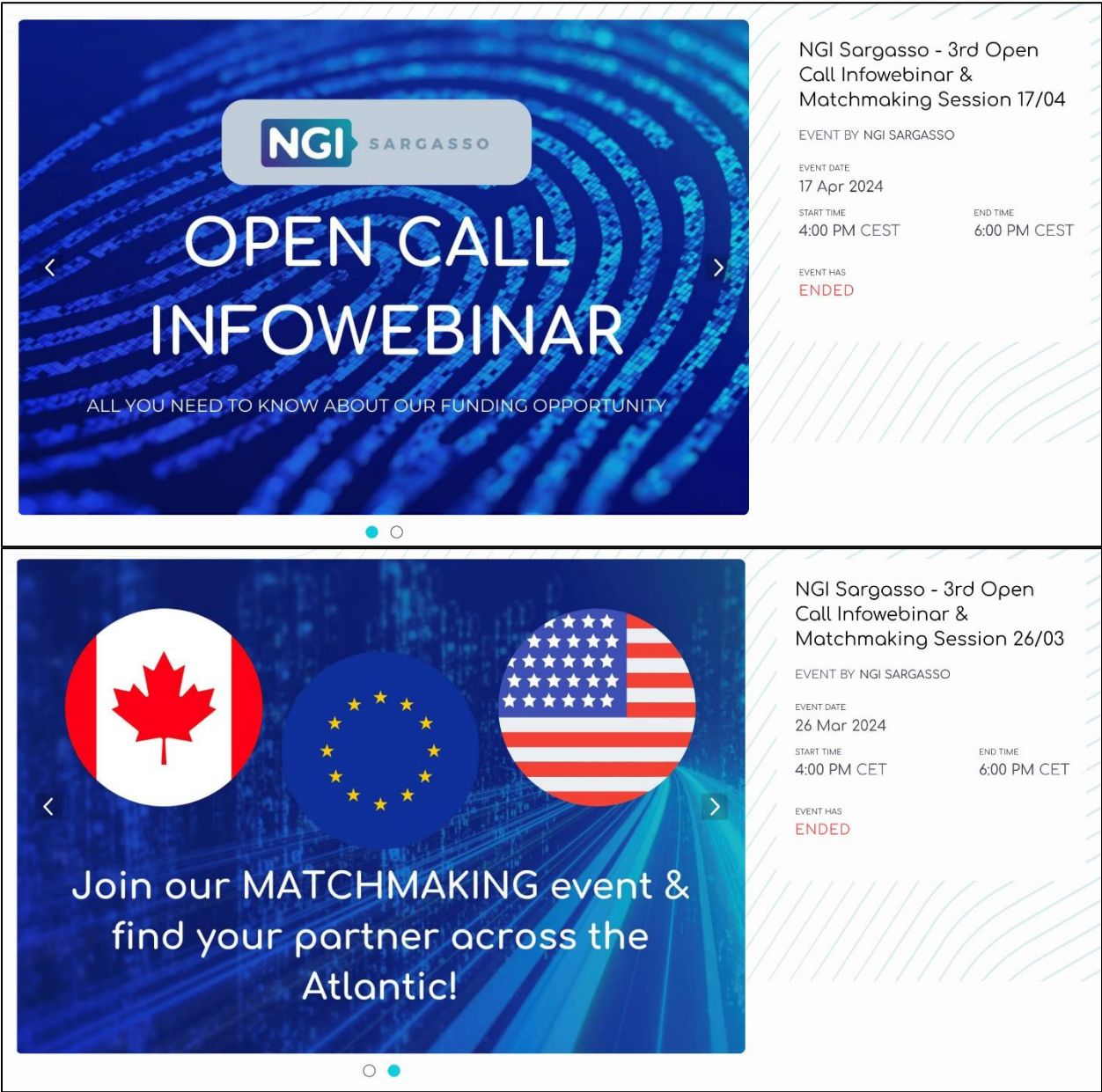


FIGURE 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE MATCHMAKING SESSIONS ON THE AIRMEET PLATFORM



Pre-event promotion

NGI Sargasso's promotion strategy for their Infowebsinars and matchmaking events during Open Call 1, Open Call 2 and Open Call 3 spearheaded by consortium partner AUSTRALO, was impressively comprehensive and strategic. To maximize visibility, NGI Sargasso leveraged a **multi-channel approach**. The outreach extended across platforms such as **Twitter, LinkedIn, and Mastodon (Fosstodon)**, ensuring that the message reached a diverse audience. To support this, AUSTRALO made sure to schedule promotions to coincide with working hours in the USA and Canada, ensuring maximum visibility to potential candidates in these regions, as well as EU candidates and ensuring a positive and valuable matchmaking session with a balanced audience.

Visuals took center stage in the promotional efforts, designed to captivate the audience's attention while delivering essential details such as dates, times, and registration information. Coupled with compelling captions, these visuals conveyed the key benefits of the funding program and emphasized the exciting prospect of meeting potential project partners from the USA, EU, or Canada during the interactive matchmaking sessions that took place after an initial brief of information about the Open Calls.

Key among all actions was the LinkedIn event page, which not only facilitated easier tracking of registrations but also ensured that interested individuals could readily access pertinent information and Airmeet registration link with clear instructions.

The NGI Sargasso newsletter on LinkedIn was also used to promote the open calls info webinars, as well as some dedicated campaigns through Brevo were sent with the call to action to join our info webinars and matchmaking sessions.

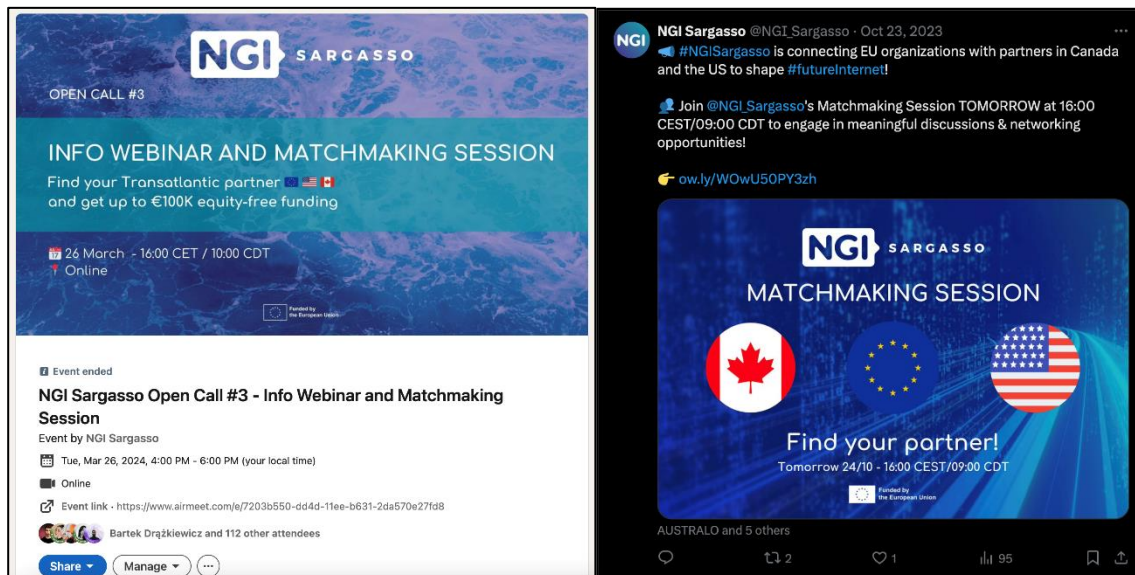



FIGURE 5. PROMOTION OF INFOWEBINARS AND MATCHMAKING SESSIONS ON LINKEDIN




NGI Sargasso
720 followers
5mo • Edited •

📢 Today is the day: Last chance to register to our infowebinar to get up to €100,000 for your [#futureInternet](#) idea! 🚀

🔗 Join us at 16:00CET or 09:00CDT to discover how the [NGI Sargasso #fundingopportunity](#) can support you to develop your [#NextGenerationInternet](#) project. Benefits include up to €100,000; access to an up to 9-month capacity building program; mentoring and coaching, and the [NGI - The Next Generation Internet](#) Community with over 3,000 innovators.

You'll be guided by our team to learn more about our [#opencall](#) selection criteria, application process and all the benefits.


🗓 After the infowebinar, we will start the matchmaking session to help you find your partner across the Atlantic. You'll be able to discuss in tables with your European or US/Canadian collaborator, based on the following topics:

- Trust
- Data sovereignty
- Digital identity
- Internet architecture and renovation
- Decentralized technology
- Interoperability and standardization
- New Internet commons

📅 Hurry up and save your spot now to unleash the [#Internet](#) of the future with us. REGISTER HERE 📄 <https://lnkd.in/dHhBX5He>

[NGIatlantic.eu](#) Project, [NGI Enrichers](#)
AUSTRALO, Sploro, Mobile World Capital Barcelona, European Science Foundation, US Ignite


Sara Abu, Raquel Carro, Teresa Barber Aparici, Rita Salavert Otal, María Elena Martínez Hernández, Ph.D., Marta Fernández Bernabeu, Miguel García González, Virginia Gómez Oñate, Emmanuel Detsis, Mariette Vanderersch-Desmartin



OPEN CALL INFOWEBINAR & MATCHMAKING SESSION

FIND YOUR TRANSATLANTIC PARTNER & GET UP TO €100K

20 November - 16:00 CET

 Funded by the European Union

17 6 reposts

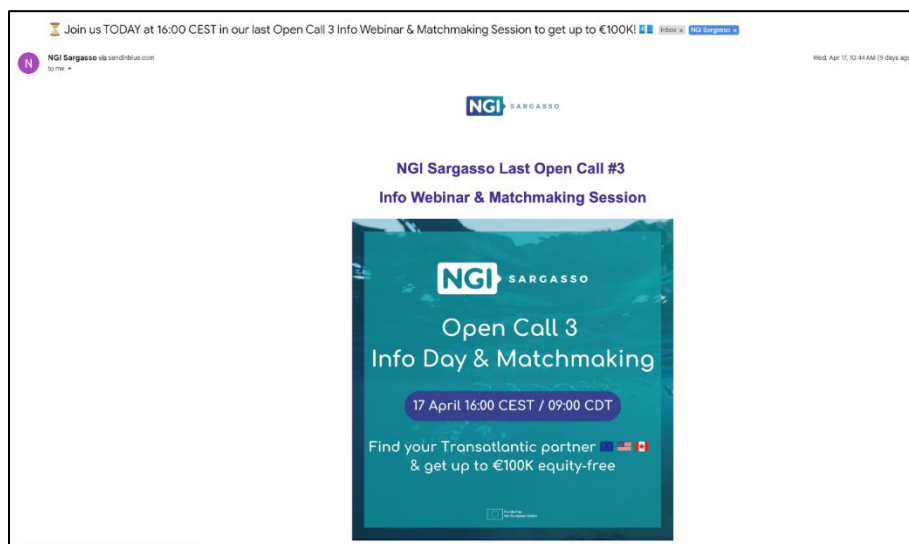

NGI Sargasso
@ngisargasso
Apr 13



FIGURE 6. PROMOTION OF INFOWEBINARS AND MATCHMAKING SESSIONS ON LINKEDIN



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation program under Grant Agreement No. 101092887



NGI SARGASSO Newsletter - October 2023

NGI Sargasso
720 followers

October 21, 2023

[Open Immersive Reader](#)

Welcome to NGI Sargasso's 2nd newsletter!

We aim to bridge gaps and foster collaboration across borders between the EU, the US, and Canada, catalyzing transatlantic collaboration on NGI technologies and services.

We're supporting up to 96 projects with funding of up to 100,000€ and capacity building services.

Our consortium includes partners: European Science Foundation, Mobile World Capital Barcelona, SPORO, and AUSTRALO.

Interested in applying but have further questions? The NGI Sargasso team is hosting a webinar to provide valuable guidance for potential applicants to the funding program on the 24th of October 2023 at 16:00 CEST / 09:00 CDT.

The session will consist of two parts:

- The first part will feature an overview of the available benefits, the application process, and the selection criteria.
- In the second part, there will be a dedicated matchmaking session to help you find a transatlantic partner.

[REGISTER here.](#)



FIGURE 7. PROMOTION OF INFOWEBINARS AND MATCHMAKING SESSIONS VIA NEWSLETTERS



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation program under Grant Agreement No. 101092887

Recognizing the power of direct communication, NGI Sargasso also implemented a robust mass emailing campaign. With a **database comprising over 10,000 contacts in key regions** such as the EU, Canada, and the USA, they ensured that their message reached a vast and relevant audience. This personalized approach helped to generate awareness and drive engagement among potential participants.

NGI Sargasso also **leveraged the broader NGI Initiative channels, boasting a sizable following of over 3000 individuals**. By tapping into this established network, they amplified their reach and extended their outreach far beyond their immediate sphere, especially reaching a network that is already engaged with and committed to the Next Generation Internet values and goals, ultimately facilitating further meaningful connections within the community.



FIGURE 8. PROMOTION OF INFOWEBINARS AND MATCHMAKING SESSIONS WITHIN THE NGI INITIATIVE COMMUNITY ON LINKEDIN

The promotion of the Infowebsinars and matchmaking sessions extended beyond NGI Sargasso's own efforts and the NGI Initiative community, as more collaborations with other projects and institutions were made. This collaborative approach proved invaluable in



reaching new networks and expanding the reach of the events. By tapping into the diverse audiences of these partners, NGI Sargasso effectively broadened its outreach and facilitated connections with individuals and organizations outside of its immediate sphere:

- ❑ Europa Innovazione > <https://www.europainnovazione.com/ngi-sargasso-open-call-infowebinar-matchmaking-session/> and <https://www.europainnovazione.com/tag/usa/>
- ❑ FIRST, finanziamenti per la ricerca e l'innovazione > <https://first.art-er.it/news/ngi-sargasso-webinar-e-matchmaking-il-20-novembre-2023>
- ❑ EURAXXES > <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/worldwide/north-america/events/ngi-sargasso-3rd-open-call-info-matchmaking-session> & <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/worldwide/north-america/events/ngi-sargasso-info-webinar-matchmaking-session>
- ❑ EU Agenda > <https://euagenda.eu/events/2023/11/20/ngi-sargasso-open-call-infowebinar-and-matchmaking-session> & <https://euagenda.eu/events/2024/04/17/ngi-sargasso-open-call-3-last-info-webinar-and-matchmaking-session>
- ❑ NCP Flanders > <https://ncpflanders.be/index.php/news/ngi-sargasso-open-call-on-emerging-internet-technologies-in-collaboration-with-usa-canada>
- ❑ NGI Explorers LinkedIn channel: <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7129818307146190848>



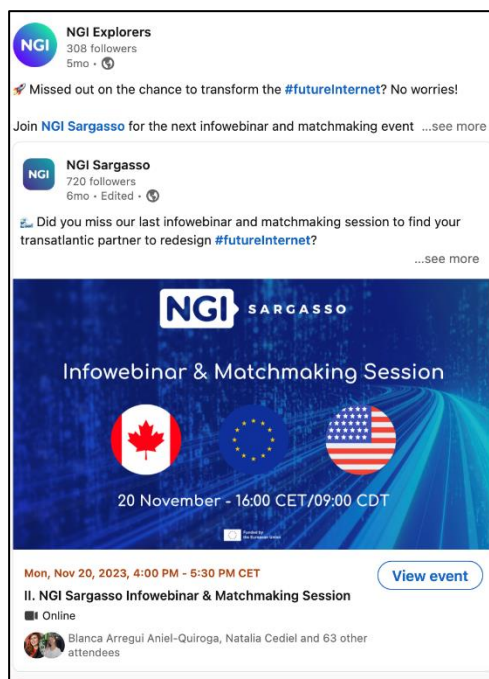


FIGURE 9. PROMOTION OF INFOWEBINARS AND MATCHMAKING SESSIONS WITHIN THE NGI EXPLORERS COMMUNITY ON LINKEDIN

Structure and operations

The Matchmaking sessions have been organized using an event platform (Airmeet), in the afternoons, allowing teams from Canada and USA to participate during the Open Calls.

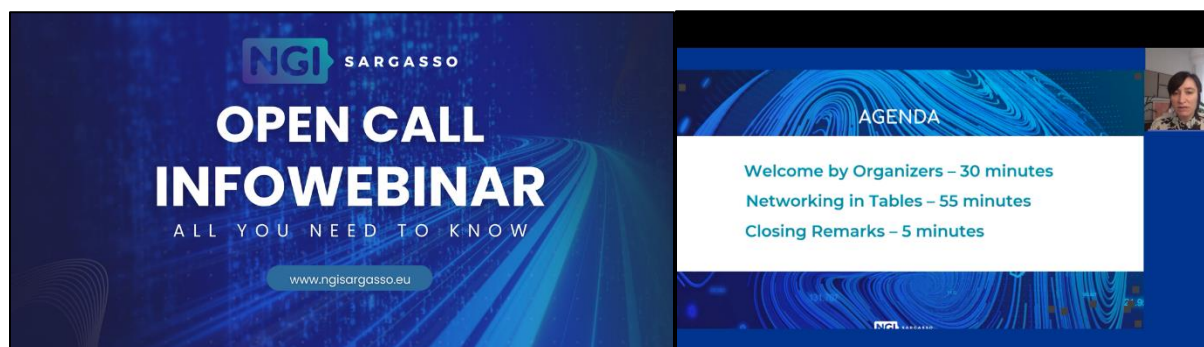


FIGURE 10. AGENDA OF THE INFO DAYS & MATCHMAKING SESSIONS



The Info Day and Matchmaking served as well to introduce the teams interested in the NGI Sargasso project, allowing participants to split on different “Tables” defined by Areas of Knowledge. Each participant registers to the online session sharing their name, job title, organization and country, allowing participants to interact more efficiently.

The objective behind the “Tables split” is to enable participants to meet other teams with the same interests, and to move to other tables freely, increasing their possibilities to meet a potential match.

Instructions on how the matchmaking part of the session worked have been shared with participants at the beginning of the online meeting.

With a view to solve any question about the Open Call, the consortium decided to include a table for Q&A, where the partner in charge of the Open Call could give advice or solve any inquiry from the candidates.

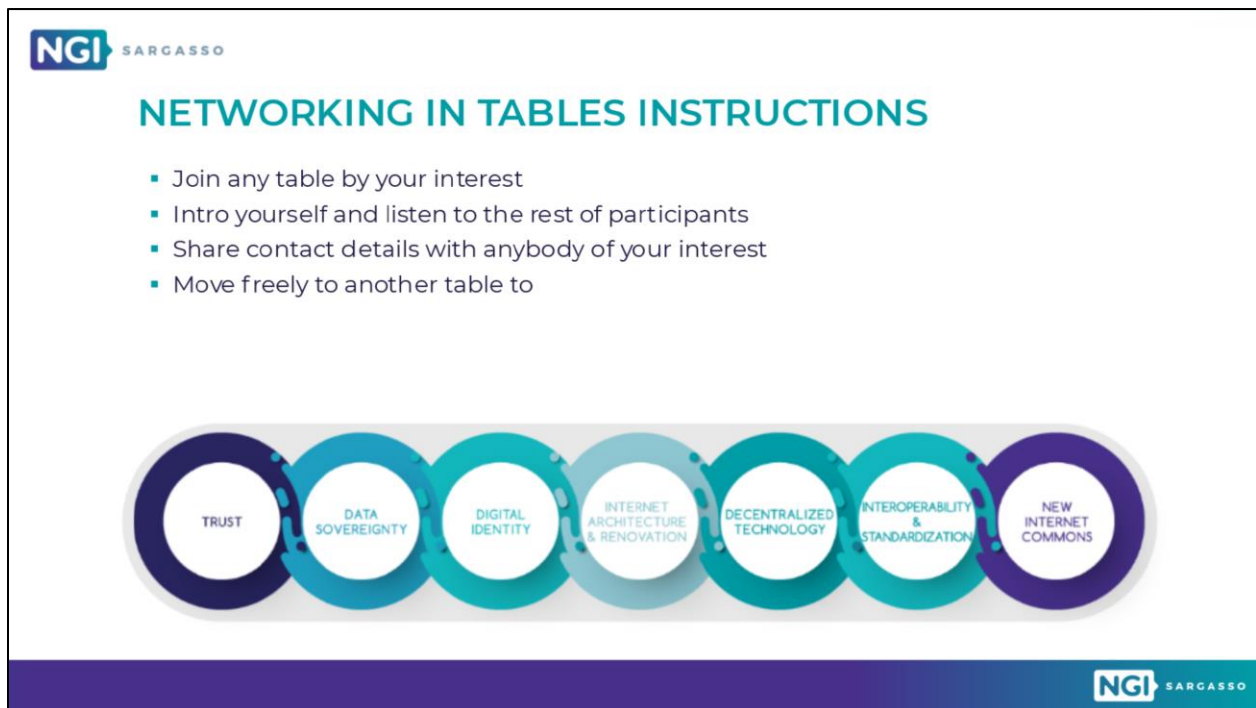


FIGURE 11. INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT THE NETWORKING IN TABLES AT THE MATCHMAKING SESSION

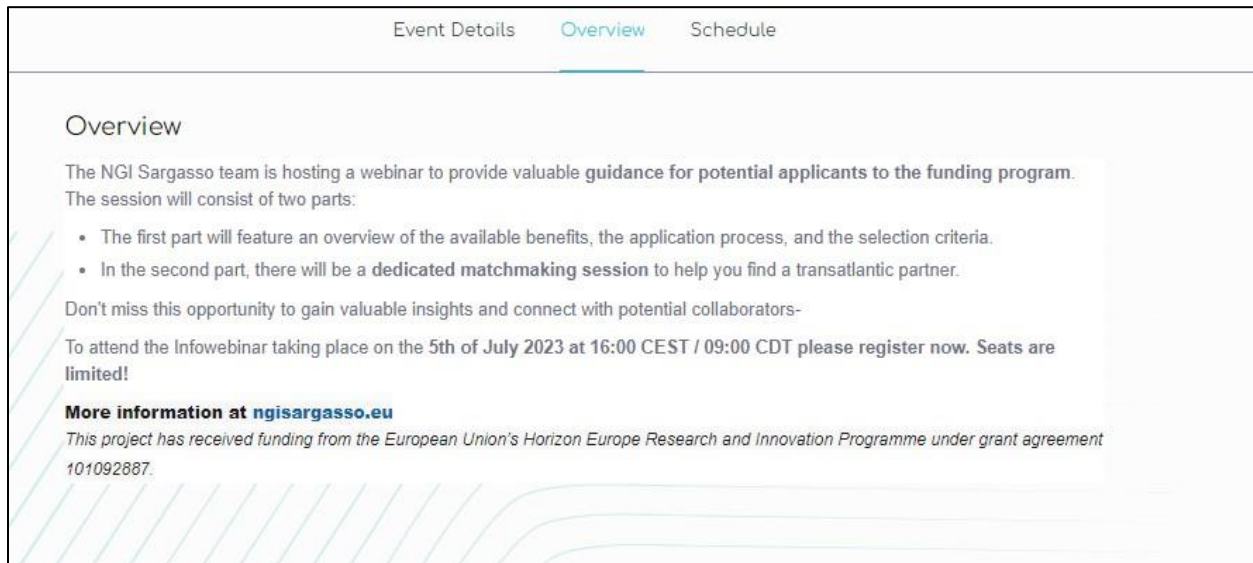


FIGURE 12. OVERVIEW OF THE INFOWEBINAR AND MATCHMAKING SESSION ON THE AIRMEET PLATFORM

For the matchmaking sessions, the "virtual table" or "social lounge" available on the event platform (Airmeet) were used to connect participants. These virtual tables are digital spaces designed to replicate the dynamics of a mini-virtual conference. Here, attendees can choose to sit at any table, freely move between tables, and engage in discussions with others seated at the same table.

The social lounge becomes accessible during specific times: it is available when the session is not live, and it opens immediately following the NGI Sargasso's welcoming remarks and introductory presentations. This design ensures participants have ample opportunity to network throughout the event.

The tables within the social lounge are organized by specific topics, such as trust, data sovereignty, digital identity, internet architecture and renovation, decentralized technologies, new internet commons, interoperability, and standardization. Additionally, there are designated tables for Q&A about the program and a dedicated one to each open call.

Participants are encouraged to join any table that aligns with their interests. Upon joining a table, they have the option to initiate a video or audio call, engage in table chats, or share their screen with others at the table.

Each table is equipped with features that facilitate interaction and engagement, including the table's name, options for screen maximization, screen sharing capabilities, a chat

¹See how it works on video: <https://youtu.be/mwH7qwG7Qhg>



function, an indicator of the current number of participants, and three viewing layouts: gallery view, sidebar view, and active speaker view.

Every participant has a profile page, enabling direct messaging between attendees to foster ongoing communication beyond the immediate session.

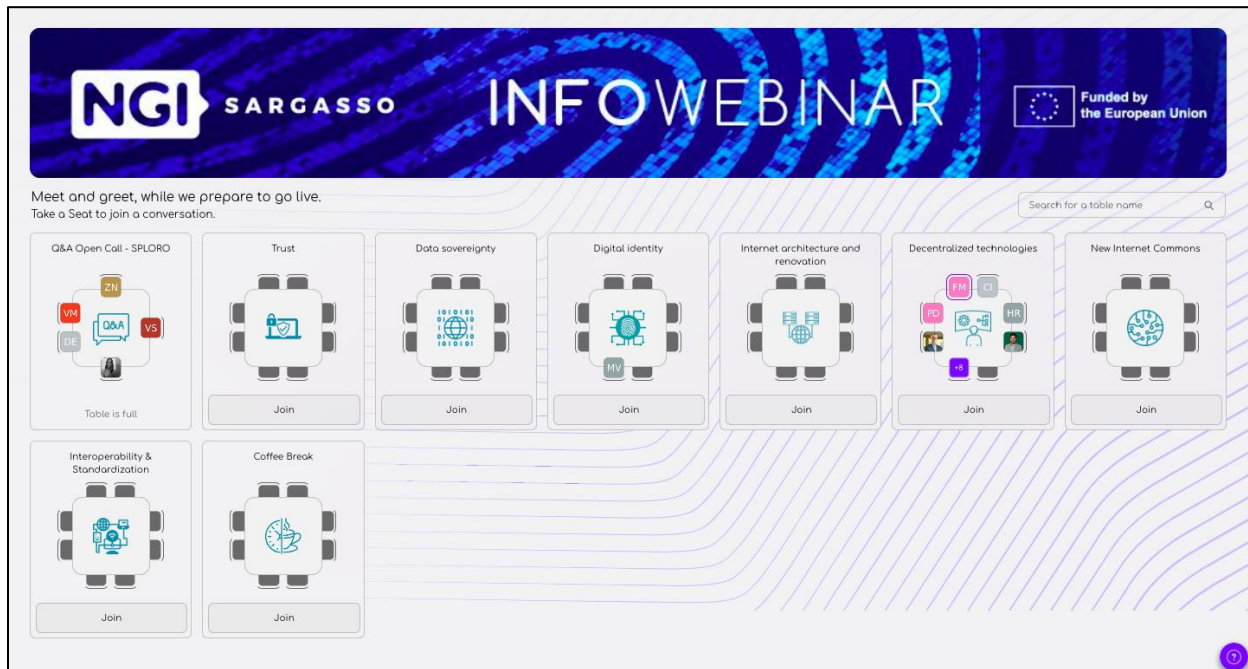


FIGURE 13. THE MATCHMAKING SESSION TABLES.



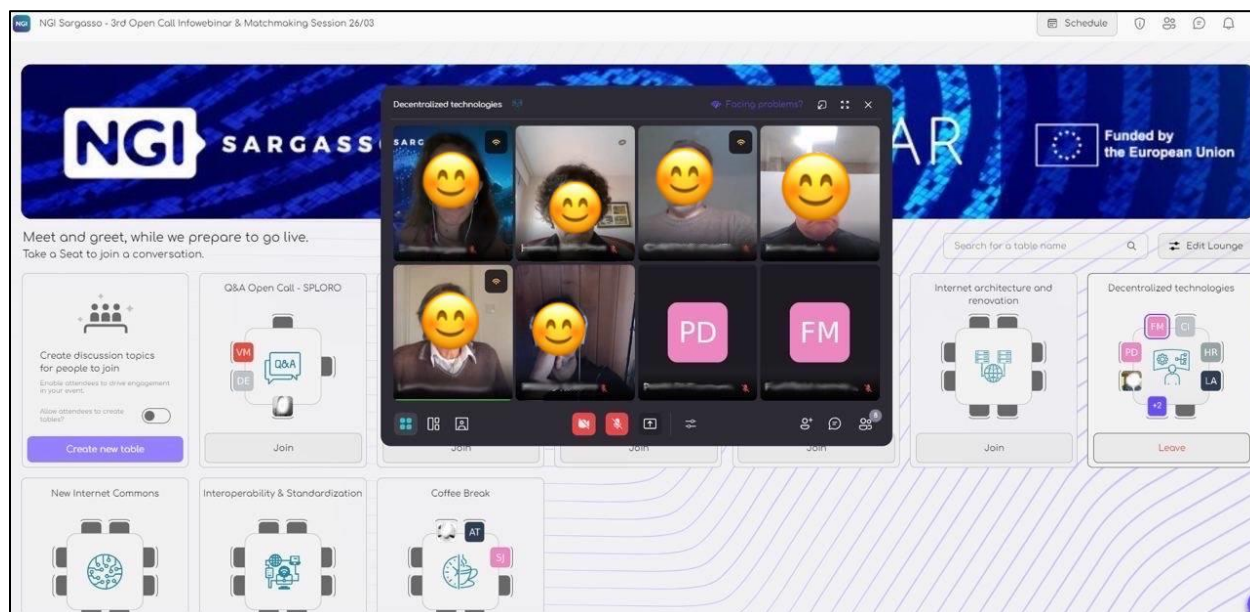


FIGURE 14. MATCHMAKING ACTIVITY AT THE VIRTUAL TABLE.

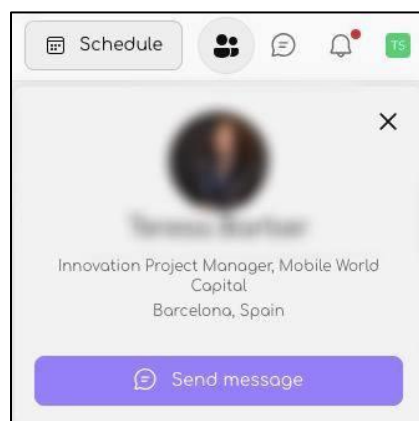


FIGURE 15. SCREENSHOT OF A PARTICIPANT PROFILE.

Post-Event promotion

Following each webinar, NGI Sargasso ensured accessibility for all by making recordings of the infosessions publicly available through our YouTube channel. This proactive step allowed individuals who couldn't attend live or needed to review the information at their convenience to access valuable insights. Moreover, to maximize the reach of these recordings, NGI Sargasso diligently promoted them across various social media platforms. By leveraging the



power of digital sharing, we ensured that the knowledge imparted during the webinars reached a wide audience, extending the impact of our program beyond the live sessions.



FIGURE 16. INFOSESSION RECORDING ON THE YOUTUBE CHANNEL OF NGI SARGASSO.



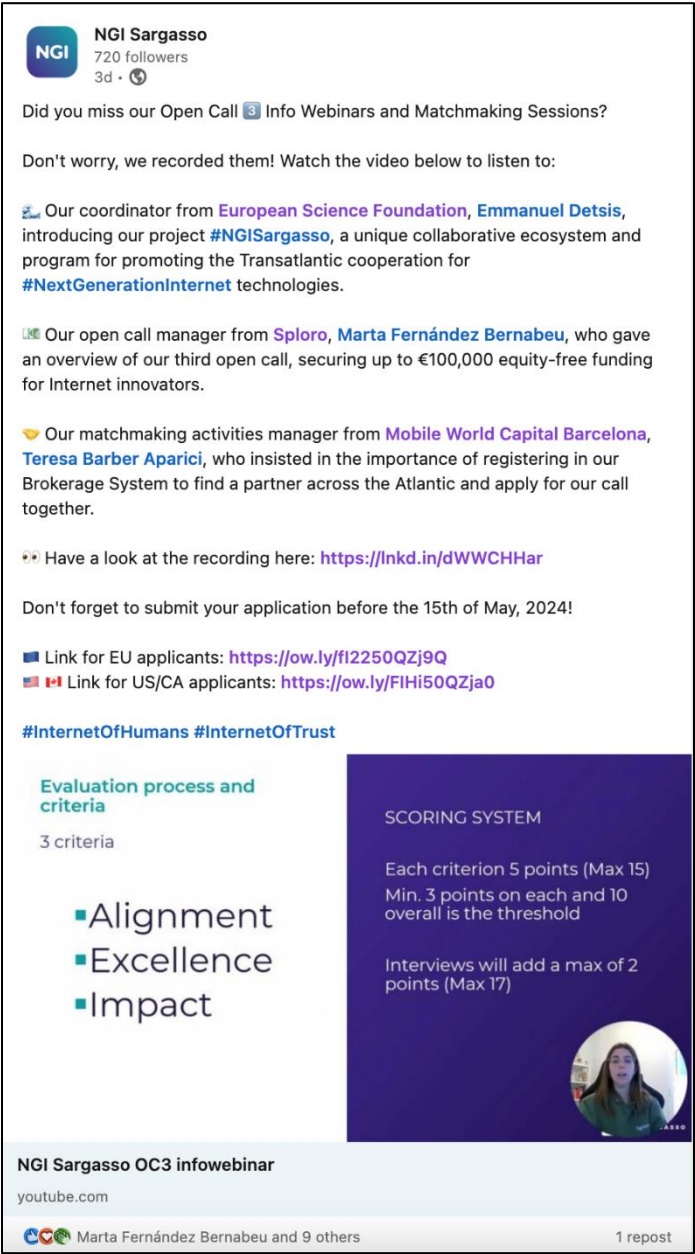


FIGURE 17. PROMOTION OF THE INFOSESSION RECORDING ON LINKEDIN.



Assessment of matchmaking

1st Open Call Infowebinar & Matchmaking Session 1

06 JUN 2023, 16:00 CEST

Registrations	125
Attendees	119 (95%)

TABLE 1. 06 JUN 2023 SESSION PERFORMANCE

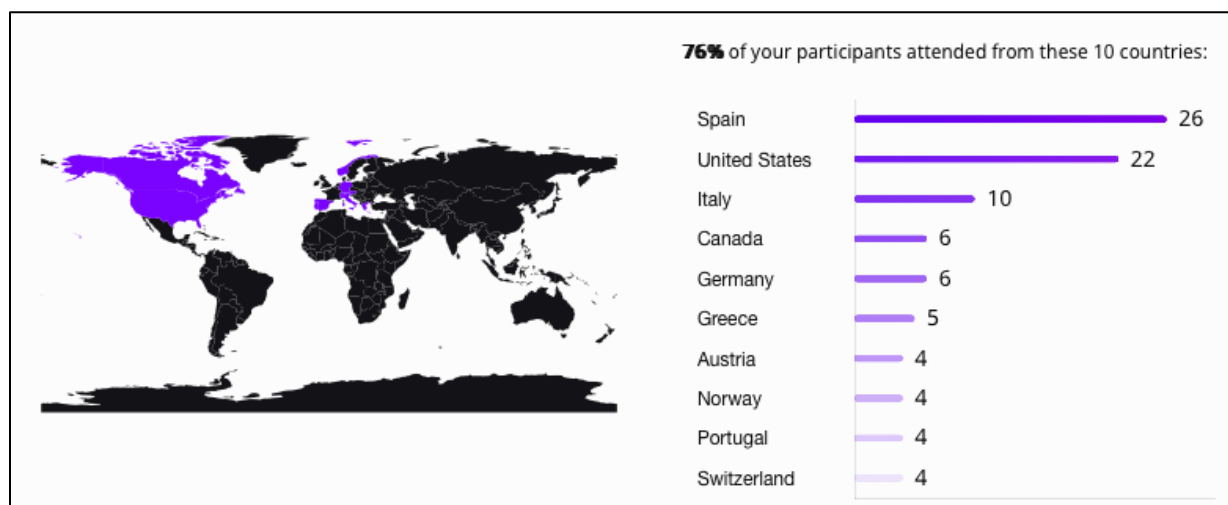


FIGURE 18. 06 JUN 2023 SESSION PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

1st Open Call Infowebinar & Matchmaking Session 2

05 JUL 2023, 16:00 CEST

Registrations	58
Attendees	53 (91%)

TABLE 2. 05 JUL 2023 SESSION PERFORMANCE



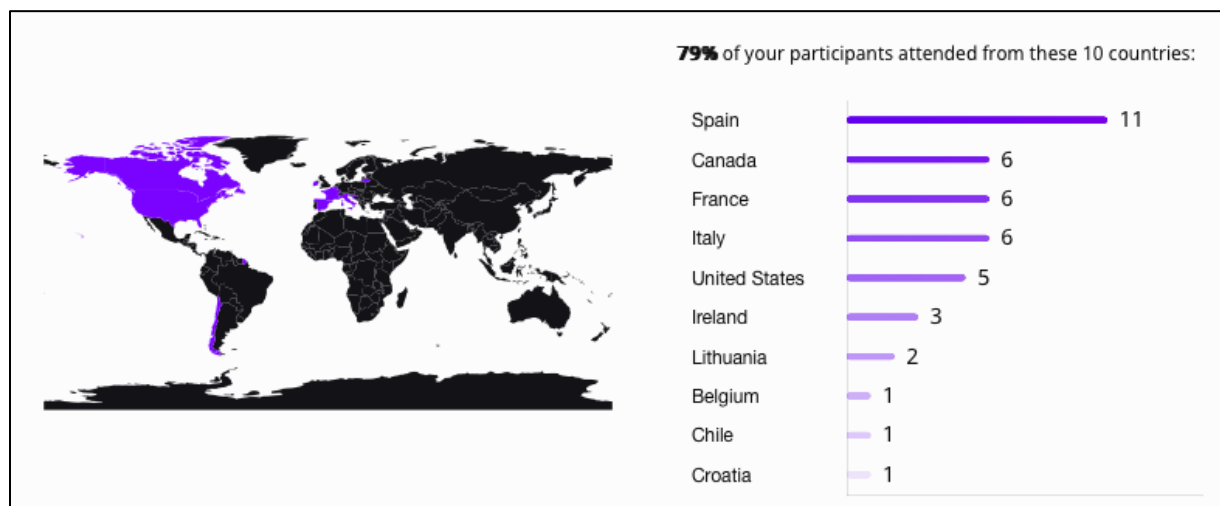


FIGURE 19. 05 JUL 2023 SESSION PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

2nd Open Call Infowebsinar & Matchmaking Session 1

24 OCT 2023, 16:00 CEST

Registrations	86
Attendees	63 (73%)

TABLE 3. 24 OCT 23 SESSION PERFORMANCE



FIGURE 20. 24 OCT 2023 SESSION PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS



2nd Open Call Infowebinar & Matchmaking Session 2

20 NOV 2023, 16:00 CET

Registrations	61
Attendees	50 (82%)

TABLE 4. 20 NOV 2023 SESSION PERFORMANCE



FIGURE 21. 20 NOV 2023 SESSION PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

3rd Open Call Infowebinar & Matchmaking Session 1

26 MAR 2024, 16:00 CET

Registrations	68
Attendees	55 (81%)

TABLE 5. 26 MAR 2024 SESSION PERFORMANCE





FIGURE 22. 26 MAR 2024 SESSION PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

3rd Open Call Infowebinar & Matchmaking Session 2

17 APR 2024, 16:00 CEST

Registrations	60
Attendees	37 (62%)

TABLE 6. 17 APR 2024 SESSION PERFORMANCE

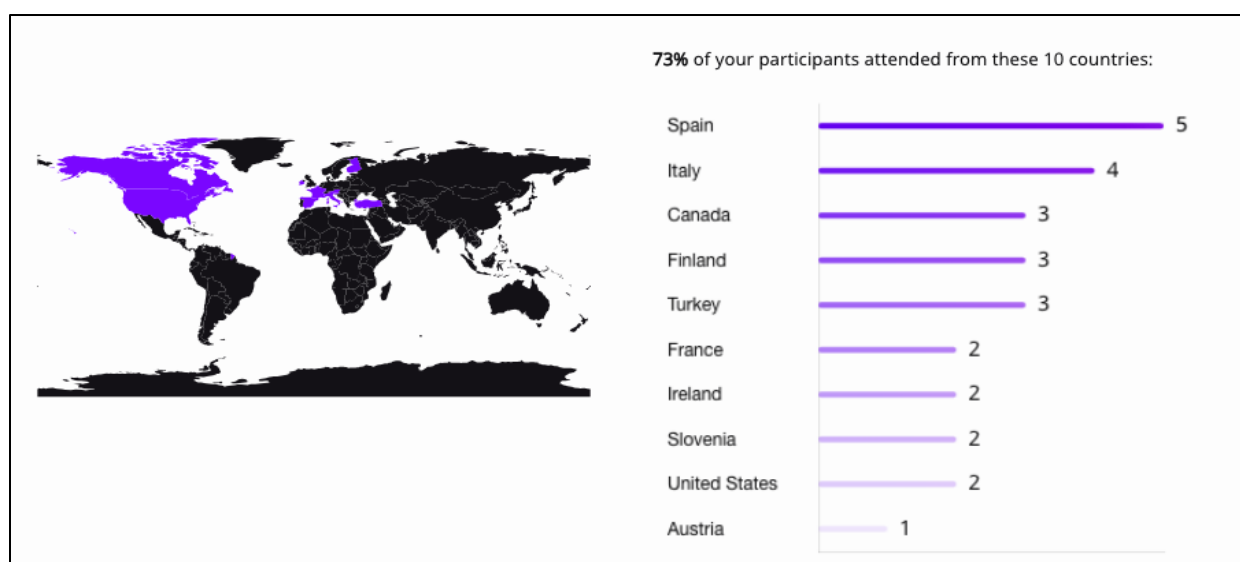


FIGURE 23. 17 APR 2024 SESSION PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS



4th Open Call Infowebinar & Matchmaking Session 1

11 JUN 2024, 16:00 CEST

Registrations	50
Attendees	31 (62%)

TABLE 7. 11 JUN 2024 SESSION PERFORMANCE

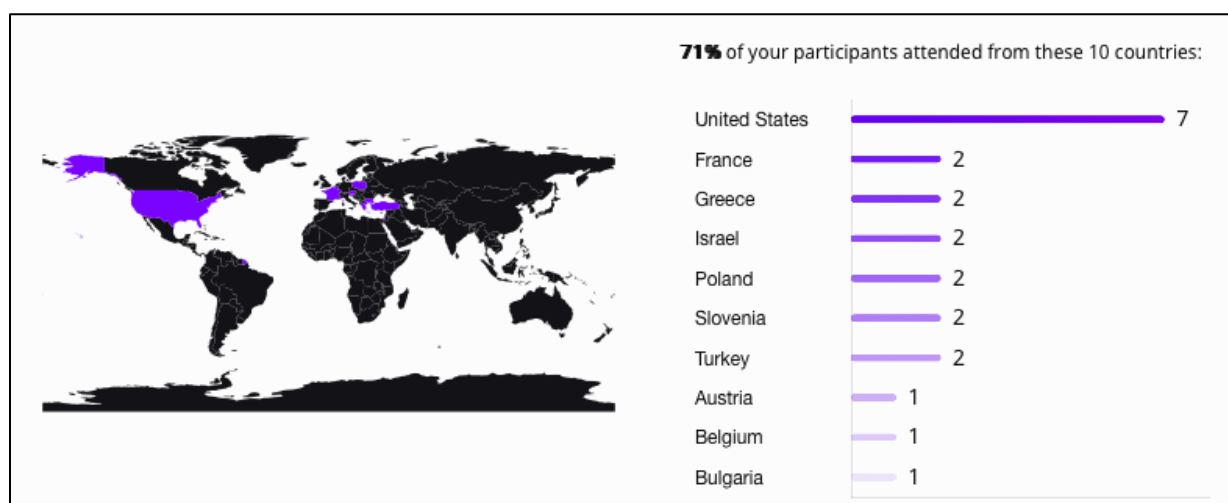


FIGURE 24. 11 JUN 2024 SESSION PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

Brokerage impact assessment. Further information available at Deliverable 2.3

- Total applications in the funnel: 454
- Total applications accepted: 237
 - Calls:
 - OC1: 125
 - OC2: 96
 - OC3 (until 23/04): 16
 - Countries:
 - From USA: 66
 - From Canada: 15
 - Types:
 - Corporations from USA/Ca: 7
 - NGO: 3
 - Non-profit: 10



- Public entity: 3
- Research center of foundation: 14
- SME: 65
- Start-up/spin-off: 71
- University: 64
- Total applications rejected (no matches the BS eligibility criteria): 13

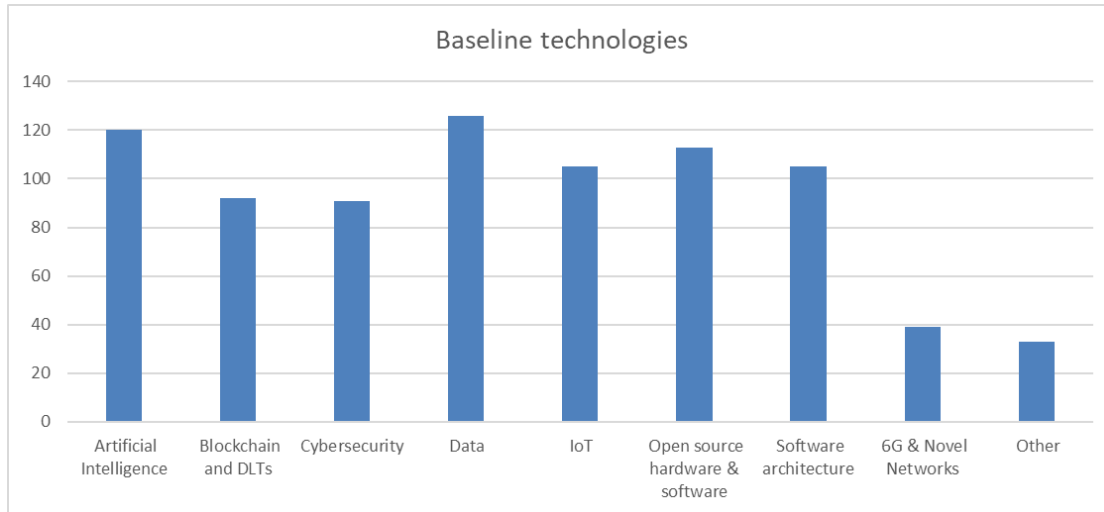


FIGURE 25. NGI BASELINE TECHNOLOGIES ADDRESSED

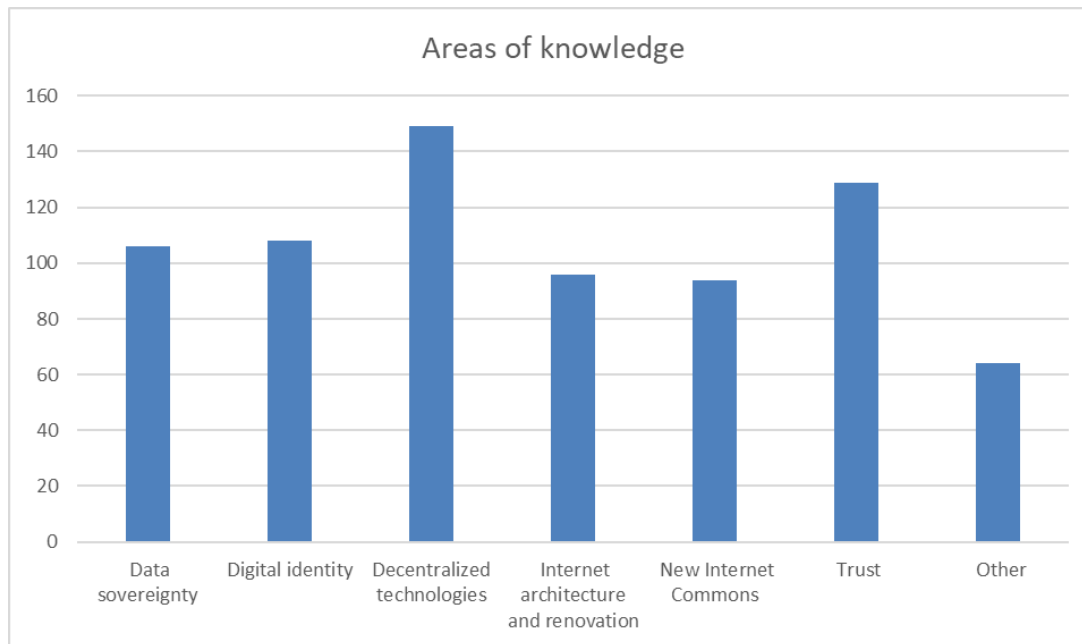


FIGURE 26. NGI AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE ADDRESSED

KPIs

#	Objective	KPI	Status
01	No. of teams facilitated	>200	132
02	No. of EU entities on matchmaking platform	>200	181
03	No. of Canadian and USA entities on matchmaking platform	>150	88
04	Total number of applications	>300	204
05	No. of NGI topics addressed	>8	Current Status: The full analysis of those topics addressed will be presented on the updated version of D1.4, following the analysis of the final reports of all the grantees

TABLE 8. NGI SARGASSO'S MATCHMAKING KPIs.



Conclusions

As demonstrated during the initial Open Call and refined in subsequent ones, the methodology for the matchmaking activities will be ongoing throughout the NGI Sargasso project. The Consortium will implement necessary changes and adapt the approach for each new call, as has been done previously.

A key objective of the program is to enhance the interactivity of the Info webinars and Matchmaking sessions to maintain engagement and appeal. Additionally, the Consortium aims to ensure that potential beneficiaries are fully informed about their possible matches with teams registered in the Brokerage System.

The Brokering system will be up and running during the whole duration of the project, even if a call for proposals is not open. This will facilitate the quick profiling of the applicants and connection with relevant partners, while increasing the quality of the applicants thanks to the extended preparation time.

NGI Sargasso matchmaking sessions are an important tool in the programme, designed to efficiently connect participants with potential partners for open calls. These sessions, lasting no more than two hours, are both concise and highly effective, ensuring rapid networking without compromising on the quality of connections made.

Each session kicks off with a comprehensive briefing on the program and the specifics of the matchmaking process. This is immediately followed by networking opportunities at virtual tables. These tables are thoughtfully categorised by topics, enabling participants to easily locate organizations with shared interests or technological focuses. The flexibility to move between tables enhances participants' opportunities to identify the most promising matches.

Networking at these sessions is deliberately quick, encouraging brief but impactful introductions. This leads into deeper conversations with potential partners, thereby supporting the process of forming mutually beneficial collaborations.

The NGI Sargasso matchmaking sessions influence in facilitating meaningful partnerships, making them an indispensable tool for participants aiming to submit joint applications for open calls.

