

DF All Circles' September 2025 Retrospective Reports

DF IT Circle

Name of Reporter/Coordinator: Edwin

Mattermost Handle: @edwinaikins

Point Title One: Marketing Bots Development

Label: New Initiative ▾

Notes: The IT Circle, in collaboration with the Marketing Circle, has initiated the development and integration of bots to strengthen community outreach and engagement. These bots are designed to automate messaging, facilitate interactive campaigns, and generate analytics on audience participation. Current prototypes are undergoing internal testing and have shown encouraging results in reducing manual effort while ensuring consistent communication. Ongoing work includes extending integrations with Telegram and Mattermost, as well as exploring additional use cases to maximize scalability and impact.

Point Title Two: OpenProject Automation for Support

Label: New Initiative ▾ Milestone ▾

Notes: We advanced automation in OpenProject to improve the handling of support requests. A workflow was deployed that assigns queries directly to the appropriate circle and tracks all requests centrally. This ensures accountability, speeds up responses, and provides data to guide decisions such as identifying training needs and enhancing support processes.

Point Title Three: DevOps & Support Maintenance

Label: Event ▾

Notes: The Circle continues to actively maintain and monitor all deployed tools to ensure smooth and reliable operations. This includes carrying out regular updates, applying security



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patches, performing continuous system monitoring, and managing SSL certificates, all with minimal downtime recorded during the month. In addition, ongoing support services are being delivered to circles, helping to provide a stable, secure, and dependable infrastructure that enables teams to focus on their core activities without disruption.

Point Title Four: Automated Work Group (WG) Creation

Label: New Initiative ▾ Milestone ▾ Decision ▾

Notes: We have developed an automation for creating Work Groups (WGs) through Mattermost, which is currently in the Q/A stage. With this system, users can request the creation of a WG directly. Requests under 200 USD are automatically approved, while those above this threshold are routed to the affiliated cluster for review. If approved, the WG is created seamlessly; if rejected, the requester receives documented reasons. Once finalized, this automation will improve efficiency, ensure transparency, and reduce the administrative burden of manual WG creation.

Date: 24/09/2025



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DF Events Circle

Name of Reporter/Coordinator: Rafael
Mattermost Handle: @decentralized_nation

Point Title One: Progress with Documentation

Label: Milestone ▾

Notes: We've made significant progress with our new Documentation System. Mariam has created the first documents and the plan, which have been reviewed and approved by the Circle, and will start being implemented with the Events Circle. This plan starts by organizing existing documents and then creating a process for testing documents and the quality and clarity of the content, keeping documents updated, and allowing for easier tracking and finding existing documents. We've also presented our new plan for documentation to the Onboarding Circle to get more insights and show them the practices we want to implement in the Events Circle

Point Title Two: Marketing for Townhall

Label: Decision ▾

Notes: We've started an effort to increase the Marketing efforts for the Townhall. Namely with the preparation of more posts teasing the topics and the speakers to be shared in the Deep Funding Twitter.

Point Title Three: Collaboration with Marketing Circle for new Townhall Series

Label: New Initiative ▾

Notes: As part of the 3 circles, we started a collaboration with the Marketing Circle, focused on, started aligning our efforts for a new Townhall Series about Deepfunding. This alignment



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will try to maximize the impact of both these sessions and of the short videos marketing is creating to better explain Deep Funding.

Point Title Four: Assist Agro Tech Hub in Partnerships

Label: **Milestone** ▾

Notes: Agro tech Hub has identified a potential partnership opportunity for Deep Funding, and started engaging with Agnest, an entity that finances technological development in the Agricultural Space in Brazil. We've been assisting the Hub with this entire partnership, and also being the bridge between this circle and business development.

Point Title Five: Deliver our Event and Run Hubs

Label: **New Insight** ▾

Notes: During this whole month, we also kept delivering our 3 different type of events (X Spaces, Townhall, Open All Hands), and kept running the Operations with the Community Hubs, providing assistance, and approving their progress

Date:22-09-2025



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DF Data Analytics Circle

Name of Reporter/Coordinator: Oscar Fafali Nyavor

Mattermost Handle : @oscar_fafa

Point Title One: Social Media Performance Review – August Insights

Label: Event ▾ New Insight ▾ Decision ▾ Milestone ▾

Notes: We analyzed August's performance across LinkedIn, YouTube, Twitter, and Telegram. The review highlighted which posts drove the most engagement, when activity peaked, and what fell flat. Based on these insights, we created clear, actionable recommendations on what to post, how often, and at what times, giving the team a practical roadmap for the coming month, next quarter, and year ahead.

Point Title Two: Onboarding, Qualitative Research & Expanding Analytics

Label: Event ▾ New Insight ▾ New Insight ▾ Milestone ▾

Notes: We welcomed two new members to the Analytics Circle to boost the qualitative side of our work. Starting in October, our new Qualitative Research & Insights Lead will help us move beyond surface-level metrics by blending structured research like QA testing, surveys, interviews, usability studies, thematic and sentiment analysis, and journey mapping into our existing dashboards. This will help us get to the “why” behind the numbers and turn findings into clear, actionable insights that guide product improvements, strengthen community engagement, and shape overall strategy. Sentiment analysis will be especially important here. By looking at open-ended feedback (like “one improvement” or “additional comments”) alongside simple rating scales (such as 1–5 satisfaction), we’ll be able to measure community mood, spot pain points more quickly, and track how things change over time across circles, roles, and funding rounds. Altogether, this gives us a more complete picture of both how we’re performing and how people feel about it.



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Point Title Three: QA Testing and Collaboration

Label: Milestone ▾ New Insight ▾ Challenge ▾

Notes: We carried out QA testing on new features to ensure they functioned properly and displayed consistently across devices, including phone, tablet, and desktop. Beyond interface checks, we collaborated closely with the WordPress team to support their development efforts. This involved helping to log bugs systematically, providing clear descriptions and reproduction steps, and retesting fixes once deployed. We also tested new features on the staging website before release, making sure that any issues were identified early and that the platform remained stable and free from bugs.

Point Title Four: Voting Simulation

Label: Event ▾ New Insight ▾ Challenge ▾ Milestone ▾

Notes: We completed a simulation voting exercise with the Review Circle, where 15 members tested three methods: pairwise, score, and quadratic voting using proposals from the BGI round. The aim was to see how each method compared with the real BGI results and to understand which approach reviewers preferred and why. Using the Voting Proof of Concept dashboard, we found that score voting was the easiest but least accurate, quadratic voting required more effort but performed moderately well, and pairwise voting gave the best accuracy but was the most time-consuming. These findings show that no single method is perfect; instead, each comes with trade-offs between simplicity, precision, and fairness. This marks a milestone in exploring alternative voting methods for future decision-making in DeepFunding.

Date: 23 September, 2025



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DF Onboarding Circle

Name of Reporter/Coordinator: Love

Mattermost Handle: love_owokere

Point Title One: Defining “Onboarding” in DF

Label: **New Insight** ▾

Notes:

Following up on the All Hands meeting (13th Aug), the Circle continued discussions around what “onboarding” means in practice. A draft document (“What Do We Mean by Onboarding”) was created and shared for community input. The Circle is working toward clearer definitions and measures of “onboarded-ness,” with connections to analytics documentation.

 Measuring “Onboarded-ness” in DeepFunding - shared version

Point Two: Recruitment Questions Development

Label: **New Insight** ▾

Notes:

The Circle worked on developing recruitment questions to support a clearer and fairer process for bringing new contributors into Circles. Love prepared a draft set of questions for the Onboarding Circle, while Tobias began collecting questions from other Circles. Though some Circles still have questions outstanding. These questions will be integrated with community website materials and used to improve recruitment consistency across DF.

 DRAFT Recruitment guidelines for Deep Funding Circles



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Point Three: Task-based vs Role-based Work

Label: **New Insight** ▾

Notes: The Circle engaged with the “Task-based or Role-based?” discussion (8th Sept) led by Love and Vani. Our practice in the Onboarding Circle remains mostly task-based: members freely pick up tasks, which allows flexibility and shared ownership.

However, we also recognise that roles sometimes emerge informally for example, coordination, documentation, or recruitment follow-ups. This shows how certain recurring tasks naturally become associated with particular contributors, giving both continuity and recognition of skills.

Key insights:

- A balance between task-based flexibility and role-based clarity supports smoother onboarding.
- Emerging “unofficial roles” should be made visible to avoid hidden power imbalances.
- We are considering documenting which recurring tasks could be formalised into lightweight roles, while keeping space for flexibility and skill development.

 Task-based or role-based

Date: 24th September, 2025



DF All Circles' September 2025 Retrospective Reports

DF Marketing Circle

Name of Reporter/Coordinator: Andrea Reyes

Mattermost Handle: @andreareyes

Point Title One: Deep Feeds

Label: **New Initiative** ▾

Notes: A campaign was created to encourage circle members to create their profiles on the website and to ensure that this feature is well-known within the community. The campaign includes posts and explainer videos to guide members through the process. It also extends to the external community, raising awareness that they too can create profiles and start engaging with the platform. The aim is to strengthen visibility, foster participation, and build a more connected community presence.

Point Title Two: X Space

Label: **Event** ▾

Notes: Supporting the Events Circle with the X Space campaign, held every two weeks, by providing banners, infographics, and social media posts. This also includes coordinating the delivery of media assets and scheduling the exact times when posts should go live.

Point Title Three: Internal Newsletter

Label: **Milestone** ▾

Notes: The first Internal Newsletter was created and distributed to all circle members, featuring updates on processes, interactive games to engage members, and information about upcoming DF events.



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Point Title Four: Concurrent posts strategy

Label: **New Initiative** ▾

Notes: We launched a strategy of creating concurrent posts to ensure consistent visibility across key activities. This includes promoting Town Halls, showcasing solutions in the SNET Marketplace, and introducing short challenges aimed at sparking participation and engagement within the community. The goal is to maintain a steady flow of information, strengthen awareness of ongoing initiatives, and encourage active involvement from both circle members and the broader community.

Point Title Five: RFP Winners

Label: **Milestone** ▾

Notes: In collaboration with the SNET Marketing team, we announced the Hyperon RFP Winners through a coordinated campaign that included both email communication and social media posts, amplifying the reach and celebrated the winners publicly.

Date:



DF All Circles' September 2025 Retrospective Reports

DF BizDev Workgroup

Name of Reporter/Coordinator: Judith Williams

Mattermost Handle: judith.williams

Point Title One: Onboarding of 4 New Circle Members

Label: Challenge ▾ Milestone ▾

Notes: We onboarded 4 new members to the BizDev Circle

Gilvania (Brazil), Christian (Nigeria), Alfred (Nigeria), Iain (UK)

Had our first joint meeting September 1st. Each member brings a diverse background and experience. Got the set up with Payments, Task Management System, DF Basics, and Biz Dev Basics. Each will use their unique expertise, network and style to scout and onboard partners to DF.

Point Title Two: Deep Funding got accepted into Norrsken Paid Membership Club

Label: New Initiative ▾ Decision ▾ Milestone ▾

Notes: This is a new partner outreach initiative

Norrsken is Europe's biggest Ecosystem For Impact Tech Organizations

6000+ Founders, 2000+ Investors across 5 physical locations

They offer several Funding Avenues - recently launched a 57 Million\$ Fund - Norrskens Funds have raised \$750 Million USD to back entrepreneurs who make positive global impact (Their vision and mission is aligned with DF: 'We make saving the planet our business' - they solve the world's greatest challenges with tech)

DF's membership in the house in Barcelona starts in October 2025



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Benefits of membership + Main goals and outcomes:

- In-person access to 2300+ Founders and investors in the membership club in Barcelona
 - Access to networking and educational events
 - Daily/weekly discussions to build in-person relationships with potential partners
 - Promote DF in their ecosystem
 - Funnel proposers to DF
 - Learn from one of the biggest funding providers in the world on how to raise funds for funding rounds/structure + operate funding rounds
 - Potential partnership
-

Date:



DF All Circles' September 2025 Retrospective Reports

DF Documentation Circle

Name of Reporter/Coordinator: Sucrenspace

Mattermost Handle: @sucrenspace

Point Title One: Circle Liaisons & Google Docs Setup

Label: **New Initiative** ▾

Notes: Each Documentation Circle member has now been assigned as a liaison to specific Circles (e.g., Tobias → Review, Vani → DF Book, Sophia → Operations & Onboarding, etc.). Dedicated Google Docs have been created to act as staging areas until the MkDocs automation is ready. This step ensures smoother integration and future-proofing of Circle documentation.

Point Title Two: Documentation Index Presentation by Rafael C. & Mariam

Label: **Event** ▾

Notes: Guests Rafael and Mariam shared their documentation index proposal, which standardizes process documentation and improves accessibility. Their framework includes a master index spreadsheet, a standardized process template, and an appendix for issues in existing docs. Documentation Circle will monitor their rollout of Drive folders and assess how it benefits multiple Circles.

Point Title Three: Budget Projection for the Next 6 Months

Label: **Decision** ▾

Notes: Sophia drafted and presented the circle's 6-months budget projection in our last meeting based on the Circle's allocation. Apportionments were discussed for key initiatives such as proofreading, MkDocs automation refinement, liaison work, and onboarding docs, etc.

Decisions will feed into the Half-Yearly Forecast to align resources with Circle priorities.



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Point Title Four: MkDocs Automation Requirements & Walkthrough

Label: Decision ▾ Ongoing Work ▾

Notes: Work continues on the MkDocs automation requirements document. The first draft is underway, including discussions on metadata, tagging, hierarchy, and review/approval flows. Anthony is preparing a walkthrough guide to support adoption across Circles.

Point Title Five: Single Source of Truth & Maintenance Cycles

Label: Challenge ▾ Planning ▾

Notes: The Circle continues refining SSOT principles, aligning with Rafael's framework. A maintenance calendar is being considered to ensure docs are reviewed regularly and outdated materials are sunset. Coordination with DF team and circles remain key for sustainability.

Point Title Six: Proofreading Initiative Update

Label: New Initiative ▾ Ongoing Work ▾

Notes: Proofreading team setup is progressing. A dedicated Mattermost channel is in planning, with workflows for approvals and stakeholder alignment (Rafael, Edwin) pending. This initiative is expected to become a major support function across Circles for public-facing materials.

Date: 23rd September 2025



DF All Circles' September 2025 Retrospective Reports

DF Dev Outreach Circle

Name of Reporter/Coordinator: Ubio Obu

Mattermost Handle: Ubiodee

Point Title One: All Hackathon Projects on the Market Place

Label: Milestone ▾ Event ▾

Notes: What we started as an experiment, to tie hackathons to the marketplace has turned out so well, we are proud to say that all the hackathon winners have onboarded their solution to the market place. The model also validated our AI on-boarders role, who actively helped the winners with onboarding of their AI services.

Point Title Two: Partnerships for a Physical hackthon

Label: Event ▾ Decision ▾ Event ▾

Notes: To have a succesful hackathon it is expedient we partner with key stakeholders in the space, as we speak we have had 6 universities in Nigeria willing to work with us on a National AI hackathon competition in Nigeria, in India we are in advance talks with MIT, one of the biggest technology university in India and in Nigeria we are also in talks with possibility of having ITU a our partner.

Point Title Three: Campus Tour

Label: Event ▾ New Initiative ▾ Decision ▾

Notes: To onboard new developers we have kickstarted an initative called campus tour, it is a one-on-one engagement in Campuses in different forms like workshops, conversations etc in order to onboard them to our landing page, to kick start a journey of bringing them to the ecosystem. Currently over 8 universities have been slated and we are targeting to reach about 500 - 1000.

Date: 9/23/2025



September 2025 DF All Circles Retrospective Report

DF All Circles' September 2025 Retrospective Reports

DF Review Circle

Name of Reporter/Coordinator: Paulo Polegato, Asad Nadeem,
Mattermost Handle: @polegato, @slate, @quecy_ayebofo

Point Title One: Milestones Review Quality Assurance Team

Label: New Initiative ▾ Event ▾ Challenge ▾ Decision ▾ Milestone ▾ New Insight ▾

Notes: Setting up a Milestones Review Quality Assurance Team to ensure that all milestone evaluations meet a consistent standard of quality, fairness, and transparency. The goal is to support reviewers by providing a second layer of oversight, helping verify that submitted deliverables align with defined criteria and that reviews are thorough, evidence-based, and aligned with community expectations.

Point Title Two: RC Information Dashboard Testing

Label: Event ▾ Decision ▾ Event ▾ New Initiative ▾ New Insight ▾ Milestone ▾

Notes: We're QA testing the RC Information Dashboard to ensure data accuracy and usability. As part of this, we're using dashboard insights to assess reviewer performance and help identify strong candidates for the upcoming Milestone QA Team.

Point Title Three: Project Follow-Up (Onboarding of Services on marketplace)

Label: Milestone ▾ New Insight ▾ Decision ▾ Challenge ▾ Decision ▾ Decision ▾

Notes: we conducted follow-ups with funded teams facing challenges in onboarding their AI services to the DF Marketplace. The goal was to identify blockers and connect them with the Dev Outreach team for targeted support, helping streamline the integration process and ensure successful deployment.



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Point Title Four: Milestones Review Workshop

Label: Milestone ▾ New Insight ▾ Decision ▾ Challenge ▾ Decision ▾ Decision ▾

Notes: As a Review Circle, we organised and participated in a Milestones Review Workshop focused on aligning our collective understanding of milestone evaluation standards. The session aimed to improve consistency across reviews, address common challenges, and ensure that milestone assessments are clear, fair, and evidence-based.

Date: 23rd September, 2025.



DF All Circles' September 2025 Retrospective Reports

DF Operations Circle

Name of Reporter/Coordinator: Mayordefi | Ayo

Mattermost Handle: mayordefi | oluayoola7d

One: Documentation: **Event** ▾ **Milestone** ▾

Notes: Operations Documentation Drive continued in September

1. Onboarding flow for deepfunding for coordinators has been updated on the DF Manual.
 2. OC process documents are being updated for updated workflows.
 3. An RFP playbook for awarded teams has been created.
 4. A playbook/manual has been created for Tool subscription request
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Two: Support [Circles | Members | Awarded Teams] **Support** ▾ **New Initiative** ▾

Notes:

1. Improvement on the Onboarding and Payment requests forms.
 2. Awarded teams are being onboarded onto the DF operations platform.
 3. The Open DF Support Call was initiated and continues to air weekly on Fridays.
 4. Support Ticket Command launched in collaboration with the IT Circle.
 5. Support Ticket use/application was demo-ed at the DF Open All Hands.
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Three: Operations [Circles | Members | Awarded Teams] **Ongoing** ▾ **Milestone** ▾

Notes:

1. Contract signing ongoing for the newly awarded RFP Teams
2. Circle Member and Awarded Teams payments continue to be executed weekly on Thursdays
3. 20 New DF Circle Members onboarded into the All Circle Community



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Four: Community Product Management: Improvement ▾ Milestone ▾

Notes: Efforts continue to be deployed on the Community Portal in September, including content for the Deep Funding community, the institution of Community site workgroup. We also tested the integration of Discord as one of the social share features. I also helped resolve the blog post issue from the back end and

Five: Internal Communications and Onboarding of Two New Members: Event ▾

Milestone ▾

Notes: In September we welcomed Anisha [Technical] and Norah [Non Technical] in Operations, their onboarding is actively ongoing. We look forward to their contributions in the ecosystem.

Six: Process and System Feedback: Event ▾ Milestone ▾ New Initiative ▾

Notes: We executed a feedback survey on the DF Retrospective reports: we will be able to present our analysis and report in the next Open All Hands.

Seven: Cross Circle Collaborations

Label: New Initiative ▾ Milestone ▾ Event ▾

Notes:

1. We have ongoing collaboration with IT, Dev Outreach, Data Analytics, Review Circles and Strategy Guild [SNET Ambassadors Program] on executing the “knowledge of the AI marketplace among awarded teams” survey.
2. We also in September began the deployment of an initiative centred around larger community members’ experiential qualitative analytics

Date: 24-09-2025



September 2025 DF All Circles Retrospective Report