



Lite paper v. 1.0

Introduction & Motivation

The emergence of Web3 technologies presents an opportunity to shift organizational structures toward more cooperative models of governance. Rather than a single individual or small group of people at the top governing an organization, algorithmic protocols can gauge policy sentiment in a given community of participants, serving as an *electronic agent* to execute consensus decisions. In Decentralized Autonomous Organizations (DAOs), thousands of people can be empowered to coordinate within a transparent set of rules.

Communities starting out on Cardano today are grasping for products that enable them to achieve the kind of decentralization offered by a DAO's structure. While some organizations may choose not to become a full DAO, they may want to offer a mechanism of community governance and coordination. A great step towards this design is made possible through the use of Native-Scripts for voting and spending; however, it doesn't scale to allow for DAO-driven protocols, or to empower millions of users to partake in the governance of a single DAO.

[ADACommunity](#), a Cardano DAO focused on open-source development, was formed to meet this need and write open-source software. From the Core Contributors of ADAO, the Summon

team formed to create a new platform that will implement these technologies in a way that is accessible to all Cardano users.

By utilizing Plutus-Core, and through a strong understanding of off-chain code, the Summon Platform will allow for decentralized coordination and governance. The Summon Platform will allow individuals of any technical level to *summon* their own transparent, on-chain DAOs, and invite others to join by exclusive invitation or permissionless enrollment. Additionally, the Summon team brings to the table a number of valuable enhancements to the generic template, empowering users without experience writing smart contracts to create DAOs of any shape or size.

Simplifying the DAO creation, collaboration, and management process will broaden the technology's appeal. By making DAO tools an attractive option for corporations, co-ops, and other forms of organization seeking to improve their efficiency, this technology can attract new markets that have yet to be tapped. Individuals and groups previously shut out of investment and business opportunities will be able to organize without the need for intermediaries or permissioned systems.

The potential for automation, communication, and organizational improvement within traditional structures is tremendous. We can make these improvements accessible and easy to implement. The Summon Platform will realize this goal by offering a means to create a smart contract-based DAO on Cardano as simply as setting up a personal wallet.

II: The Organizations

The Summon project is being led by the Summon Association, a not-for-profit Verein (voluntary association) registered in Zug, Switzerland. As an organization in the Swiss jurisdiction, the Summon Association benefits from the best defined regulatory framework for digital assets and financial technology in the world.

In order to achieve the mission of the association to further the research and implementation of DAO technologies a group of developers have been engaged. This development group is organized as Summon Labs LLC, a Wyoming (United States) limited liability corporation. The members of Summon Labs have worked together previously as part of ADAO.

None of this would be possible without ADAO, the first DAO to establish itself on-chain in the Cardano network. ADAO developed Round Table, the first open-source, multi-signature Dapp on Cardano; and the ADAO Staking Portal a frontend interface for interacting with Smart Contracts that trustlessly stake Cardano assets and earn rewards based on amount and time staked.

ADAO will be represented by the ADAO Foundation, a non-profit Stiftung (foundation) in Liechtenstein (currently in formation). As the representative of the ADAO Community, the ADAO Foundation will appoint a delegate to serve on the Summon Association Assembly as provided

in the Articles of Association. The Summon Association doesn't just promote tools for decentralized coordination, it believes in the ethos of decentralized governance.

III: Summon Platform

The Summon Platform consists of open-source, on-chain (PlutusTx and Plutarch validation) code, off-chain computation code (written with Lucid and the cardano-transaction-lib) and server code that runs on the back-end, hosted by the Summon Platform. The Summon team will take advantage of open-source code being developed by the ADAO Community and other Cardano organizations, contributing to those repositories to advance the ecosystem. Summon will also develop off-chain code that will remain closed source to protect proprietary products, with other code being produced on a delayed, open-source model, as deemed appropriate.

Summon allows for users to create, update, and manage DAOs. It also allows for DAOs to manage other DAOs via a controlling stake, and will continue to operate with the highest possible levels of interoperability. This means that DAOs will not be operating in isolation, but instead can directly interact with Decentralized Finance (DeFi) systems in a variety of contexts, subject to certain criteria predetermined by the DAO.

Some of the distinguishing elements of the Summon Platform include the ability to utilize different strategies to collect a return in DeFi, and having these strategies directly implemented into Plutus-Core validators.

IV: Architecture & Design

The Summon Platform MVP will leverage Cardano Native Scripts and Agora Smart Contracts as its primary 'template' for DAOs, providing service for a variety of DAOs that already exist within the Cardano ecosystem, as well as new DAOs that can be easily created. Current features include token generation, smart contract token staking, proposal management, and transaction execution, as well as an advanced Native script multi-signature wallet.

Agora is an open-source library of Plutarch scripts that are designed to enable modular and flexible DAO contracts to be written. Agora is an open-source collaboration between Liqwid Labs, MLabs, and the ADAO Community. The Summon team also plans to continually make contributions to this library as the platform builds out new features.

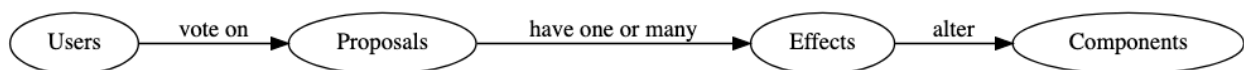


Figure 1: user flow, Agora module - Agora documentation, Liqwid Labs

One of Agora's current limitations is an inability for Plutus validators and Native-Scripts to own a stake in Agora based DAOs; this is being addressed in a coming update, and will be supported

by Summon. The platform will expand its offerings to include higher level functions and more robust features for users.

As a variety of DeFi primitives are introduced into Cardano, such as trading, lending, stablecoin minting, synthetics, bonds, and more, Summon will integrate these primitives at the level of on-chain validation code, as well as off-chain transaction code, so as to allow DAOs supported by Summon to operate with these primitives directly. This will allow users more options in decentralized services as well as broadening possibilities for DAO-to-DAO interactions.

The Summon Platform implements a variety of traditional strategies in validation code, allowing for funds to be spent from the treasury and into auxiliary contracts that manage the funds automatically, redeemable by the DAO at any time. A small fee can be allowed in the validation logic of these strategies to incentivize taking the actions allowed (and intended) by these strategies. Some of these fees will be collected by Summon to maintain the platform and DAOs can also choose to apply fees to fund their treasuries.

As the platform and protocols built around it continue to evolve, there will be more light to shed on the details of the aforementioned topics.

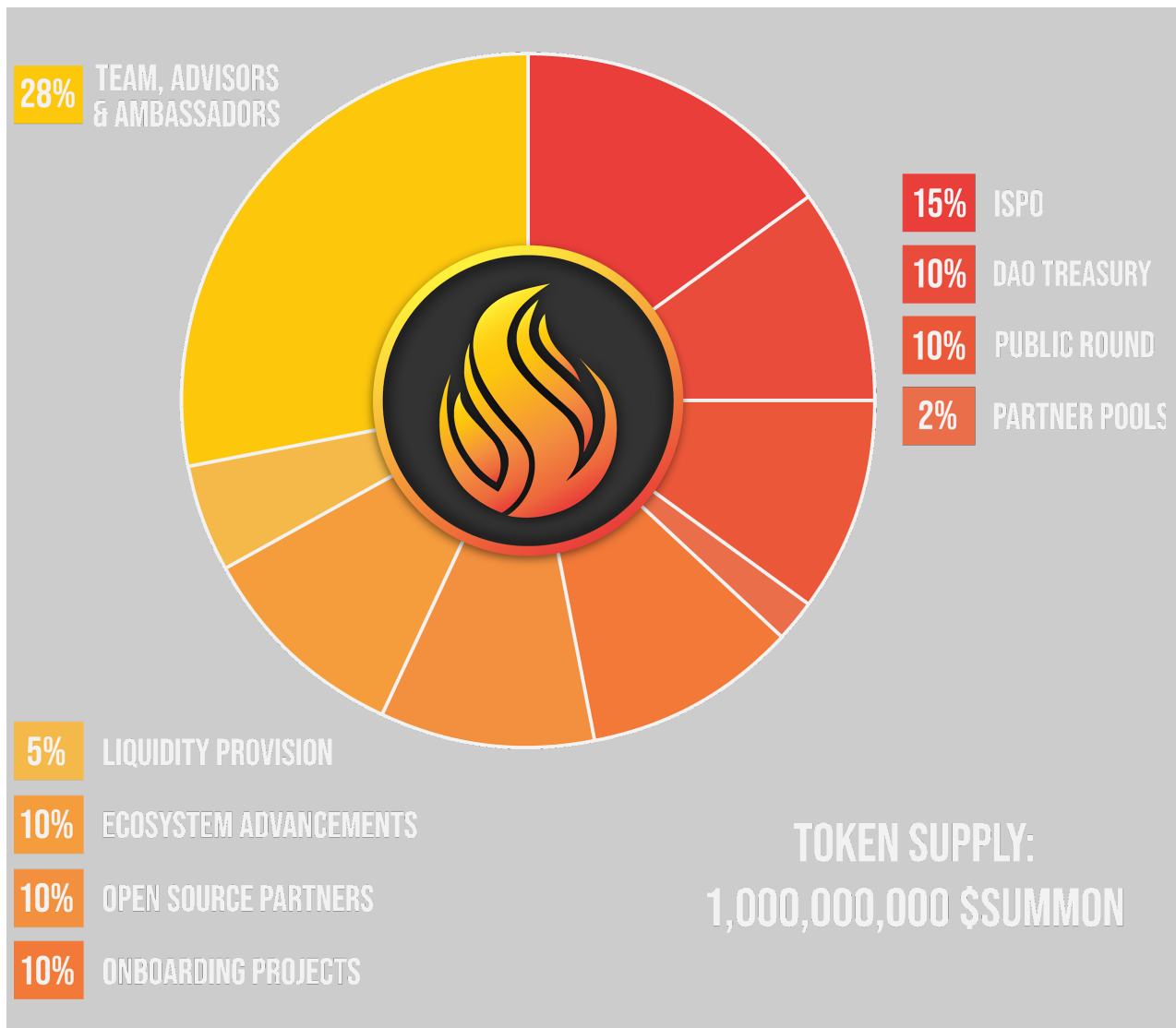
V: SUMMON Tokenomics

Summon DAO Tokens (SUMMON tokens) are the official tokens of the Summon Association and provide several forms of utility. First, holders of Summon tokens are considered part of the Summon Member Community and are eligible for representation at the Summon Association Assembly according to its Articles of Association.

SUMMON tokens serve as a decentralized governance mechanism for the Summon Platform. Utilizing the same tools that the platform offers to others, stakeholders will be given direct governance over specific features and parameters of the platform. This will provide incentive for active interest and utilization of the token by the user community. Through the DAO governance interface, token holders may directly influence development of the platform.

Tokenomic breakdown: (Subject to revision)

SUMMON tokens will be generated by the Summon Association to advance the mission and purpose of the DAO. Upon generation, the tokens will be distributed to members of the Association in recognition of their contributions, or sold to raise funds for building key infrastructure. Tokens will be distributed in a way that provides maximum benefit to the Summon Platform, its contributors, users and the ecosystem at large.



Community Distribution - 37%

- 15% Initial Stake Pool Offering (ISPO) Round - These tokens are provided to ISPO participants who stake to the **ADAO** stake pool and provide continued funding to Summon Labs operations.
- 10% DAO Treasury - These tokens can be used to bootstrap the Summon DAO treasury. If the DAO so chooses, these tokens can also be reserved for other DAOs and organizations looking to hold a stake in the platform and be a part of the Summon ecosystem.
- 10% Public Round - The Initial Public Offering of Summon tokens. This allocation has been set aside for the \$SUMMON public sale and will be split even further into three separate events taking place on the Cardano blockchain starting on August 15, 2022.

Anyone with a Cardano wallet will be able to visit the site, review the terms and conditions, connect their wallet and participate in the sale. The sale will run for three days or until sold out.

- 2% Single Pool Operator (SPO) ISPO Collaborations - These tokens are provided to community SPOs to incentivize decentralization and further distribute the \$SUMMON token.

Partnerships, Ecosystem & Rewards - 35%

- 10% Onboarding Projects - These tokens will be offered in programs to onboard new projects, attract new users, and reward contributors who innovate on the Summon Platform. The Summon Association plans to host hackathons and developer events to encourage and incentivize novel and experimental forms of governance that will advance the platform.
- 10% Open Source Partners - These tokens will go to partner organizations that provide open source resources and essential startup services. An example of one of these organizations is the [ADA0](#) Community who has provided, through their open source work, the foundation for many of the Dapps we see today.
- 10% Ecosystem Advancements - These tokens will be used to incentivize developments that will advance the ecosystem, as well as the underlying Smart Contract infrastructure. This will enable novel governance and reputation systems to be experimented with and built directly into Agora as well as new additional standards, incentivizing the advancement of not only the Summon Platform, but the entire ecosystem at large.
- 5% Liquidity Provision - These tokens will be reserved for the treasury to provide liquidity on various exchanges where appropriate, and to reward users for providing liquidity.

Team, Advisors & Ambassadors - 28%

- Summon Labs team members will receive vested tokens as part of the compensation for their work and continued development of the platform. Allocations of these tokens will be considerate of the entire team, its advisors, and potential technology partners. The Summon team is made up of multiple entities and advisors and is continuing to grow. All compensation for Summon team members, developers, advisors and ambassadors will be taken from this allocation and dynamically vested over the course of three years. Once available, vesting contracts will be deployed on the Cardano blockchain, open sourced and auditable by anyone.

We believe that this allocation of tokens offers the best balance of raising funds for the difficult task of building such an ambitious project, while extending Cardano community members a fair chance to become stakeholders.

VI: Review

Summon brings the opportunity for the average Cardano user to create DAOs around the Agora standard, while operating with high levels of capability in DeFi and interoperability. Summon, thanks to its modular and flexible design, will also be a logical governance platform for any advanced protocol or project on Cardano. As an Association and a Platform, Summon will advance the practices of decentralized governance and coordination to enable a brighter future.

VII: References

<https://github.com/Liqwid-Labs/agora>

<https://github.com/ADAcommunity/agora>

<https://roundtable.theadao.io/>