Title: Aragon Developer Grant Program - 300k USDC Funding Request

Transaction:

We request a first tranche of 150,000.00 USDC on the Ethereum mainnet to the following address: **0xe3cdf267f7cb8a5c32868a226523b6efdfa6eaca** here within referred as "DevGrants DAO".

The use of funds and the permission controls of DevGrants DAO are outlined in this proposal.

Financial Compliance:

I have completed a Financial Compliance Form for this Withdraw Request

Description:

The team that will deliver upon the program consists of members of the existing guilds to ensure that projects which receive funding will be closely incorporated into Aragon's value proposition - details on the team can be found in the Team section. We are requesting 300,000 US dollars.

The target recipients are teams building projects using the Aragon OSx stack. These teams are extending the Aragon protocol's functionality, enabling new use cases for on-chain organizations.

The initiative will push plugin experimentation to external development teams, accelerating the expansion of functionality available to DAOs and making Aragon OSx more attractive and versatile for DAOs to launch.

Objective:

DAOs move faster than infrastructure, sometimes needing functionality not yet easily accessible within the Aragon stack. We have seen smaller, focused teams respond more quickly to market needs throughout the ecosystem.

This initiative aims to incentivize external teams to contribute towards the functionality of the Aragon OSx protocol, thus:

* Increasing the number of developers familiar with our code base and tooling
* Empowering the Product guild to focus on architecture work needed to enable modularity (instead of working on specific features)
* Providing valuable insight to the Product guild to facilitate the prioritization of modules
* Encouraging developer feedback to improve our developer experience

The initiative will focus on funding and supporting:

* Plugins: Smart contracts published on the Aragon OSx protocol in mainnet chains extending functionality for Aragon DAOs
* dApps: Decentralized applications using the Aragon OSx protocol in some capacity.
* Modules: Dependent upon Aragon's Modularity Framework, modules are defined as a modular capability for the Aragon App. Still to be further defined.

It will not accept funding requests for educational, community, or other general initiatives.

Details:

Strategic relevance

[Aragon's Governance Hyperstructure Strategy](https://github.com/aragon/strategy-governance-hyperstructure/blob/v1.0.0/strategy-governance-hyperstructure.md) aims to bootstrap a two-sided market with tooling developers on one side and DAO builders on the other. That strategy relies on teams beyond the Product guild contributing towards extending the functionality of the Aragon OSx protocol. The scope of the proposed funding mechanism is to incentivize precisely that.

Funding

Sourcing and target recipients:

* The proposed team will publish bounties and/or RFPs with a set cadence (TBD, whether quarterly or monthly). Those bounties/RFPs will be scoped based on previously identified needs of DAOs and on what excites developers about our product.
* Additionally, organic inbound submissions may also be accepted for a grant at the discretion of the proposed team.

The purpose of the program is:

* The development of plugins, dapps, and modules that enrich Aragon OSx functionality by teams outside Aragon's product guilds
* Making such plugins, dapps, and modules accessible and usable for multiple DAOs built on Aragon OSx, see "Integration with Aragon OSx and the AragonApp" for further details

Funding schema:

* Beneficiaries can get up to $30k per grant/bounty and a maximum of two grants/bounties
* Payouts will have an average dollar-denominated USDC: ANT ratio of 2:1 (i.e., a $30k funding will consist of $20k in USDC and $10k in ANT)
* Payout schedule to vary, but final payment upon project completion to represent at least 70% of the overall funding

* Beneficiaries will receive the payments to a DAO/multisig they set up on Aragon OSx

Teams/individuals who have sourced or stewarded beneficiaries or have in other ways facilitated the funding disbursement process can receive a payout of up to 5% of the granted amount. The decision to award such a "scout" payout remains at the discretion of the DevGrants DAO team.

Success

The measure of success would be DAOs deploying on Aragon OSx and actively using the plugins/dapps/modules funded through the program. Furthermore, we will measure success earlier in the funnel by the number of valid submissions (submissions within the here-defined scope) that were attracted.

* 50 valid program submissions
* 10 DAOs have installed/forked at least one plugin/dapp/module that has been funded

Additional benefits we expect the program to bring are:

* Increase the number of plugins published on mainnet chains
* Increase dApps using Aragon OSx to enhance their functionality

Isolating and measuring the impact of the current program will not be done at this point as many other initiatives of the guilds contribute to these outcomes.

Integration with Aragon OSx and the AragonApp

Plugins/dApps/Modules developed by program beneficiaries will be discoverable in a database maintained and curated by the DevEx team. The current version of the database is [here](https://www.notion.so/aragonorg/Aragon-OSx-Developer-Ecosystem-36c3cfd85c3d43f0b8bebb0e2811c298).

The team will work with other Aragon guild members, program beneficiaries, and prospective DAOs to assess the best path for surfacing the modules/plugins/dApps being funded. Two options are currently apparent:

* Build a custom front end so DAOs can interact with the beneficiary project
* Audit and integrate the beneficiary project in Aragon App's main user flow (the Product Guild will cover the cost of the audit)

Team:

The address of DevGrants DAO, which will receive the funds from Aragon DAO, is the following 0xe3cdf267f7cb8a5c32868a226523b6efdfa6eaca. DevGrants DAO is a member DAO deployed

through Aragon App, where all actions require a support threshold of 2 out of 3 signers. The current set of signers are:

* Developer Advocate - interfacing with the Product Guild, preparing bounties/RFPs, ensuring submissions are functioning as required and compatible with Aragon OSx, providing technical guidance to beneficiaries, & escalating findings within Product Guild
* Ecosystem Lead - interfacing with Growth Guild, coordinating program promotion and non-technical support for applicants and beneficiaries, structuring program practices, consolidating and reporting results
* Finance Coordinator - interfacing with the Eagle Ops Guild, providing power-user feedback, and ensuring proper financial and compliance procedures are followed.

The signers are also ultimately the team driving the execution of the program and pulling other guild members and shared resources as needed for the successful delivery. Signers can be changed at the discretion of the Guild Lead of the respective guild they represent.

Funding breakdown:

Any team effort is already accounted for in the budgets of the respective guilds to which the team members belong. The requested funds will be used as follows:

* ~95% to be allocated to beneficiaries as per the scope outlined in the Details section
* ~5% to be allocated as scout payouts per the definition outlined in the Details section. This provision should also cover the costs if the team chooses to utilize a dedicated tool or service (i.e. Questbook, JokeRace, DAOlens, OpenQ)

DevGrants DAO requests a mandate to distribute the funds within nine months from receiving them. Unallocated funds will be returned to the Aragon DAO treasury address 0xaA655C4AC5aB454c8d36f100eAd92EED38bC0a78.

The funds shall be allocated to the DevGrants DAO in two tranches:
* Tranche 1: 150,000.00 USDC in the first transaction (current vote)
* Tranche 2: 150,000.00 USDC once the balance of Aragon DAO surpasses 300,000.00 USDC. The second tranche is not an automatically scheduled transaction and will be subject to passing a separate onchain vote

Risks & Dependencies:

1. Not enough applications - this does not present a substantial threat as the program mainly targets learning and process refining at its current scale. To mitigate this, the proposal already budgets for incentivizing scouting and stewarding applications. If the pipeline does not include enough quality applications, no funds will be given out, and future iterations will work on more extensive incentives toward expanding the funnel.

2. Beneficiary projects gain no traction - although a popular and helpful tool, funding in isolation are inadequate to support projects and developers contributing towards the Aragon OSx ecosystem. As outlined in the details section, the team will work with beneficiaries to improve the discoverability of the supported projects. Furthermore, synergies with other initiatives undertaken by the Developer Experience team and the Growth Guild should mitigate the risk of low usability of funded projects.

3. Running the program is too resource-intensive, presenting a medium risk to the initiative. Time spent on this initiative is time team members could have spent elsewhere. Before this proposal has been brought to the DAO for voting, it has received approval by the Product and Growth guilds, and the required time commitments from team members will be accounted for in future quarterly planning.

4. A beneficiary does not deliver a functioning plugin/dapp/module - the guilds will mitigate this risk by building multifaceted relationships with the beneficiaries. Another deterrent that will be used is making the bulk of the funding conditional on final delivery. A standardized contract can be part of the process, but realistically the upfront payment amount is too small to justify pursuing legal action.