Digital Testbed Framework

"This innovation allows us to open up the opportunity for a new kind of development cooperation, whereby a private sector party can create additional components to our government stack or further develop previously created solutions of Estonia."

Siim Sikkut, Government CIO of Estonia

The Digital Testbed Framework is a new and innovative collaboration model designed by the Estonian government. It aims to give start-ups, scale-ups and govtech innovators, access to the technologies that the state uses to build its own digital services.

Users will have access to the government's original tech stack to build new innovative web and mobile applications, as well as the opportunity to test it against a government framework and get proof of concept, before using it for their own commercial solutions. Estonian Government gets the solution for free use and it will be part of the publicly available source-code repository.

Benefits for the applicant

→ Access to a tried-and-tested set of technologies (code and sometimes data) that help power the world's most digitally advanced nation.

→ There are no financial obligations from either side.

→ It's fast and simple to use — there is no lengthy sales or approval process or unnecessary red tape.

→ We'll provide our stack and constructive feedback on your idea and if our collaboration is a success we'll shout your name from the rooftops.

→ You can build or try out your groundbreaking new ideas, prototypes, products or whole new digital services with our world-leading digital government acting as your proof of concept.

→ You can get a "rubber-stamp" for your new ideas or, even better, further iterate your emerging solutions via live market testing and approval in a nation-wide testbed.

→ Your solution will become part of the government's publicly available source-code repository and help drive further innovation across the world.

→ You get the opportunity to innovate, collaborate and further develop the digital services of Estonia — a country described by Wired magazine as 'the most advanced digital society in the world'.

List of previous projects done through Testbed Framework:

→ Open source speech recognition software by TalTech, used by Estonian Parliament

→ HOIA - the official COVID-19 exposure notification app for Estonia

→ Text analytics tool Texta by Texta OÜ, used by Minsitry of Justice

→ Translation engine Neurotõlge by University of Tartu

Co-operation principles

Collaboration for all

We are open to the possibility of collaborating with any interested party, regardless of the industry or domain.

Procurement requirements

As no financial transactions are taking place from either side, normal state procurement law isn't applicable during this process.

Individual approach

Never say never! If a financial arrangement or contract is agreed on, then this will be verified individually and be done so in accordance with public procurement and state laws.

Less bureaucracy

As the Digital Testbed Framework has been made available for free in the spirit of collaboration and innovation, no contractual commitments or future obligations exist between the state and partners.

No harm, no foul

Projects which do not involve counter-performance by us do not allow any right of claim against us by the other party. We also reserve the right to terminate any projects if we feel that it isn't beneficial for either party to continue working together.

Early bird catches the worm

If there is a match between our needs and your proposal, the collaboration will be allocated on a "first come, first serve" basis - so don't wait too long before applying!

For more information:
testbed.e-estonia.com