

Ozeon White Paper

Proof of Progress: A Contribution-Verified Protocol Economy for Regenerative Innovation

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Building a regenerative future together.

Disclosure Statement

Development of Ozeon's blockchain infrastructure and smart contracts has commenced. However, the DAO and associated blockchain functionalities have not yet been fully implemented or made available on the Ozeon platform. Features described in this white paper remain subject to ongoing development, testing, security audits, regulatory review and phased deployment. Their inclusion does not constitute confirmation of current availability or a guarantee of future implementation.



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Executive Summary

Ozeon is a regenerative innovation infrastructure designed for the ocean-climate-land nexus. It responds to a core coordination problem: the world already contains significant scientific knowledge, local expertise, creative capacity, emerging technology and public-good motivation, yet these resources remain fragmented across institutions, platforms, funding systems, disciplines and geographies. Climate instability, biodiversity loss, ocean degradation, land-system disruption and knowledge inequality are not only technical challenges. They are coordination challenges.

Ozeon is built to help close this gap.

The platform connects knowledge, Projects, Open Calls, Bounties, funding, governance, tokenized intellectual property, reputation and climate intelligence into one ecosystem. Its purpose is to help users learn, publish, collaborate, support credible work, recognise contribution and build regenerative initiatives with stronger transparency and accountability.

At the centre of Ozeon is a knowledge-to-action model. Users can publish Articles, create Projects, discover Open Calls, engage with Educational Resources, produce Media, build Tutorials, complete Bounties, participate in DAO governance and contribute to a shared knowledge commons. This creates a pathway from learning to contribution, from contribution to recognition, and from recognition to governance and funding.

Ozeon does not treat users as passive readers or donors. It treats them as contributors to a regenerative commons. Researchers, educators, project creators, students, funders, designers, artists, community leaders, companies, institutions, Web3 participants and citizen scientists can each participate in different ways. The platform is designed to support people who create knowledge, translate it, apply it, fund it, verify it, govern it and turn it into real-world action.

Platform Model

Ozeon's core platform is organised around several interacting layers.

The Knowledge Layer includes Articles, Educational Resources and Learn2Earn pathways, with later Media and Tutorials. Articles allow users to publish research summaries, policy analysis, field notes, project logs, design methods, educational writing and intellectual property disclosures. Articles can be submitted through DAO review and, when accepted, become Educational Resources; the co-designed DAO approved knowledge assets within the Ozeon knowledge commons.

The Action Layer includes Projects, Open Calls and later Bounties. Projects give real-world initiatives a visible place to organise, seek support through crowdfunding, publish updates and build credibility. Open Calls connect users to grants which can be connected to Projects' with blended financing, fellowships, accelerators, research opportunities, fieldwork, competitions, challenges and collaboration pathways. Bounties are intended to convert specific regenerative needs into actionable tasks with defined deliverables, rewards and review pathways.

The Governance Layer includes DAO proposals, Pods, treasury stewardship, Project endorsement, Open Call endorsement, Article inclusion, Bounty validation and platform-rule updates. Governance is designed to be modular, so different proposal types

can be reviewed through appropriate processes while remaining part of one coherent governance system.

The Economic Layer includes Project funding, tipping, support, Bounty rewards, Pro Content, platform fees and the \$OZN utility token. The platform's fee model is intended to support operational sustainability while keeping funding and contribution flows transparent.

The Integrity Layer is supported by OCIS, the Ozeon Climate Intelligence System. OCIS is a connected climate intelligence, Project integrity, funding, reporting and dMRV platform. It supports Project Integrity Scoring, Earth Observation, environmental data integration, dMRV reports, company tools, funder dashboards, evidence packages and market-readiness support.

Dual-Token Architecture

Ozeon uses a dual-token model that separates contribution-based legitimacy from transferable platform utility.

Progress / PRG is Ozeon's non-transferable contribution and reputation token. It recognises verified learning, Educational Resource acceptance, peer review, Article tipping and support, Project funding activity, Bounty completion, governance participation and other approved contributions. PRG cannot be purchased, transferred or sold. This design helps protect governance from becoming purely capital-weighted.

\$OZN is Ozeon's transferable utility token. It is designed for platform utility, Project funding, tipping, Bounty rewards, Pro Content access, selected ecosystem services and blockchain-enabled activity. \$OZN is a utility token rather than an investment product. Its role is to support functional participation within the Ozeon ecosystem, not to provide ownership, profit rights or guaranteed returns.

Proof of Progress connects verified contribution to selected \$OZN minting pathways. It is not a base-layer blockchain consensus mechanism. It is an application-layer contribution-verification and reputation protocol that determines which platform actions count as meaningful progress and how eligible PRG can participate in controlled \$OZN emissions.

This creates a regenerative loop: users learn, contribute, earn reputation, participate in governance, help allocate attention and resources, support Projects, generate evidence and strengthen the commons.

DAO Governance and Pods

The Ozeon DAO governs shared resources, Educational Resources curation, Project endorsement, Open Call endorsement, later Bounty coordination, Ozeon Foundation or Pod treasury use, protocol parameters and selected platform rules. It is not designed as a shareholder structure or speculative investment club. Its purpose is to support contribution-weighted stewardship.

DAO endorsement is an important governance signal, but it is not required for ordinary platform participation. Projects may be created, listed, funded and supported without DAO endorsement. Eligible Projects may also be discoverable and assessable through OCIS without first receiving DAO endorsement, provided they meet OCIS requirements. DAO endorsement may support higher visibility, stronger trust signalling, Ozeon Foundation or Pod treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support, curated funding rounds or higher-assurance verification pathways.

Pods provide domain-specific stewardship. They may support education, ocean-climate systems, Open Calls, Media, Tutorials, Bounties, tokenomics, treasury review, AI ethics, community activation and OCIS-related review. Pods allow specialised working groups to support governance without forcing every decision into one general-purpose voting process.

Tokenized IP and the Knowledge Commons

Ozeon's Tokenized IP Layer is designed to make knowledge more traceable, attributable, reusable and governable. IP-NFTs may be linked to Articles, datasets, Tutorials, Media, design assets, field protocols, creative works, research outputs or other knowledge assets. They support provenance, attribution, licensing and stewardship.

IP-NFTs do not automatically transfer copyright, patent rights, commercial rights or other legal rights unless supported by valid legal agreements. Ozeon's approach is rights-aware rather than speculative. Tokenization is used to preserve attribution and enable transparent knowledge stewardship, not to enclose knowledge or imply automatic legal ownership transfer.

Future fractionalisation or IP Token structures may create legal and regulatory complexity. These should require legal review, rights-holder consent, jurisdictional assessment and governance approval before implementation.

OCIS: Climate Intelligence and Project Integrity

The Ozeon Climate Intelligence System (OCIS) extends Ozeon from ecosystem participation into climate intelligence, Project integrity and evidence support. It is connected to Ozeon rather than replacing it. Ozeon remains the canonical home and funding record for Ozeon-created Projects, while OCIS provides assessment, scoring, dMRV reporting, Earth Observation, funding interfaces, company dashboards and evidence libraries.

OCIS is a climate intelligence, Project integrity, digital Monitoring, Reporting and Verification, Earth Observation, funding and impact evidence platform connected to the wider Ozeon ecosystem. OCIS allows Project creators, companies, individual funders and administrators to assess Project credibility, monitor environmental conditions, generate reports, fund Projects, track evidence and interact with blockchain-enabled contribution and DAO mechanisms where supported by Project funding.

OCIS Phase 1 includes Project submission and Ozeon Project linking, multi-party Project Integrity Scoring, Earth Observation mapping using NASA POWER and Copernicus / WEkEO, dMRV monitoring and reporting, direct fiat funding, Ozeon funding synchronisation, company footprint tools, dashboards and PDF export for core reports.

OCIS is not an accredited verifier, carbon-credit issuer, biodiversity-credit issuer or ESG certification body. It will clearly distinguish between Project-submitted information, AI-generated assessment, dMRV monitoring, public environmental data, reported outcomes, verified outcomes, funding support, formal certification, ESG evidence and legal compliance. OCIS will not imply formal verification, carbon certification, ESG compliance or investment-grade status unless supported by appropriate third-party verification, recognised standards and legal review.

Bounties and Decentralized Work

Bounties are Ozeon's decentralized work mechanism integrating citizen science. They convert regenerative needs into clear, fundable tasks. A Bounty may support research summaries, translation, peer review, data cleaning, Tutorial creation, Media production, field evidence collection, biodiversity observations, Project validation, Open Call support, software development, design work or OCIS evidence preparation.

Bounties allow regenerative labour to be recognised and rewarded even when tasks are too small for grants, too specialised for conventional employment or too urgent for traditional procurement. Accepted Bounty work may generate PRG where the contribution is completed, reviewed, accepted, attributable and aligned with platform rules.

The future Bounty system may become interoperable with external platforms and eventually support a standalone Bounty app. However, Ozeon will retain a canonical Bounty Registry to avoid duplicate task records, duplicate payouts, duplicate PRG issuance, conflicting review outcomes or double counting.

Identity, Compliance and Trust

Ozeon's trust framework uses tiered verification, proportional compliance and privacy-aware design. Not all users require the same level of verification. Basic account verification may be sufficient for low-risk participation, while higher-risk activities involving payments, treasury access, Project funding, Organisation verification, crypto-assets or regulated services may require KYC, KYB, wallet screening, sanctions screening, adverse media checks or enhanced due diligence.

The platform will minimise sensitive data collection, avoid storing sensitive personal data on-chain and use clear status labels to prevent misleading trust claims. Labels such as Listed Project, Funding Live, DAO Endorsed, OCIS Assessed, OCIS Reporting Active, OCIS dMRV Active, OCIS Attested, Third-Party Verified and Registry-Certified will communicate precise states rather than vague assurance.

This is especially important for environmental claims. A Project may be listed, assessed, funded or reported on without being formally verified or certified. Ozeon's terminology should protect users from confusing visibility, scoring, reporting, endorsement, attestation and third-party verification.

Roadmap

Ozeon's roadmap is staged to build trust before complexity. The updated roadmap moves through launch readiness and monetisation, trust and safety, community engagement, off-chain token economy implementation, on-chain integration and the parallel OCIS development track.

The current platform roadmap includes phases for legal readiness, Payment integrations, Project funding, tipping, paywalls, Open Calls, moderation, accessibility, GDPR tooling, search, Internationalisation, Educational Resources, Organisation verification, subscriptions, recommendation systems, PRG contribution ledgers, Learn2Earn, DAO Pods, progress-weighted governance, wallet and custody systems, \$OZN contracts, ICO mechanics, Proof-of-Progress staking, platform fee engines and token rails.

The OCIS track develops in parallel as a connected intelligence and integrity platform. Its Phase 1 scope is separate from later blockchain-enabled contribution records, Progress Token rewards, DAO interoperability, cryptocurrency funding, AI Footprint Calculator and Climate Intelligence chatbot, which are deferred to later phases.

The strategic sequencing is deliberate. A DAO without real contribution records has weak legitimacy. A token without platform utility is speculative. PRG without anti-farming controls can undermine governance. Proof-of-Progress staking without a reliable PRG ledger can create emission risk. OCIS without Ozeon platform synchronisation can create duplicate records. Ozeon therefore prioritises usable infrastructure, trust, compliance, payment rails, contribution records, governance maturity and audit readiness before full token and blockchain deployment.

Final Position

Ozeon is built on the belief that regeneration requires more than good intentions. It requires infrastructure.

It requires systems that make knowledge accessible, contribution visible, funding accountable, governance participatory and impact evidence more trustworthy. It requires tools that support scientists and students, educators and artists, communities and institutions, companies, funders and Project builders, technologists and traditional knowledge holders.

Ozeon's contribution is the integration of these functions into a single regenerative coordination system. It connects learning, publishing, funding, work, governance, reputation, token utility, intellectual property stewardship and climate intelligence.

The result is not merely a digital platform. It is a commons-oriented infrastructure for verified progress, shared intelligence, open participation and evidence-based regeneration.

A platform for learning.

A system for contribution.

A commons for regenerative knowledge.

A pathway from participation to evidence-based impact.

Together, we regenerate.

Abstract

Ozeon is a decentralized coordination, knowledge and regenerative finance infrastructure for innovation across the ocean–climate–land nexus. The platform is designed to reduce fragmentation between scientific knowledge, educational resources, project development, community participation, funding, governance and regenerative action by integrating open science principles, contribution-based reputation, blockchain-enabled coordination, participatory governance and mission-aligned digital asset infrastructure. Its core objective is to make regenerative knowledge more accessible, attributable, verifiable and actionable, while enabling contributors, researchers, educators, innovators, organisations, funders and project creators to coordinate around initiatives with measurable environmental, educational and social relevance.

The Ozeon protocol architecture is centred on Proof of Progress, an application-layer contribution-verification and reputation framework that records and rewards meaningful ecosystem activity. This includes learning, publishing, peer review, project support, bounty completion, knowledge curation, media production, tutorial creation, governance participation and other validated forms of contribution. Rather than relying on capital ownership as the primary basis for influence, Proof of Progress introduces a contribution-weighted model in which legitimacy is derived from verified participation. This mechanism is expressed through Progress, or PRG, a non-transferable token that functions as a reputation, contribution and governance-eligibility primitive. PRG is designed to remain non-speculative, protecting governance from direct market capture while allowing the ecosystem to recognise accumulated contribution.

Ozeon separates governance legitimacy from liquid platform utility through a dual-token model. PRG represents non-transferable contribution and reputation, while \$OZN operates as the transferable utility token used for platform transactions, project funding, tipping, bounties, selected access flows, creator payments, pro features, tokenized IP interactions and validated ecosystem services. This separation is intended to mitigate common token-economic failure modes in which governance, speculation, utility and rewards collapse into a single asset. By distinguishing contribution-based legitimacy from transferable economic utility, Ozeon aims to support a more resilient, mission-aligned and anti-speculative regenerative economy.

The platform also proposes a tokenized intellectual property layer for research outputs, educational materials, media, tutorials, designs, datasets, creative works and regenerative innovation assets. Through IP-NFTs, smart contracts, metadata standards, licensing logic and provenance tracking, Ozeon seeks to formalise attribution and enable new mechanisms for creator ownership, knowledge stewardship, rights-aware publishing and open or conditional access to intellectual property. This layer is designed to support both open

knowledge commons and selective commercialisation pathways, depending on the rights, licensing and governance conditions attached to each asset.

Alongside the core Ozeon Platform, the Ozeon Climate Intelligence System, or OCIS, is being developed as an adjacent but connected climate intelligence, project integrity, digital monitoring, reporting and verification, Earth Observation, funding and impact-evidence system. OCIS is designed to support project submission, Ozeon project linking, Project Integrity Scoring, multi-party assessment, AI-generated Project Integrity Reports, Earth Observation and geospatial mapping, dMRV activation and reporting, project dashboards, company dashboards, funder dashboards, evidence libraries, project funding workflows, funding synchronisation, report exports, subscription-based access and related climate-intelligence functionality.

OCIS and Ozeon are designed as complementary systems. Ozeon provides the knowledge, participation, funding, DAO, token, bounty and governance layer. OCIS provides the connected intelligence, project assessment, evidence management, dMRV reporting and climate-integrity layer. A project does not require DAO endorsement to be listed or assessed in OCIS. DAO endorsement is a separate governance signal that may support visibility, funding eligibility, treasury support, community trust or blockchain-enabled verification pathways. In this architecture, OCIS can assess and report on projects independently, while the Ozeon DAO and blockchain systems can add governance, attestations, incentives and funding coordination around selected project workflows.

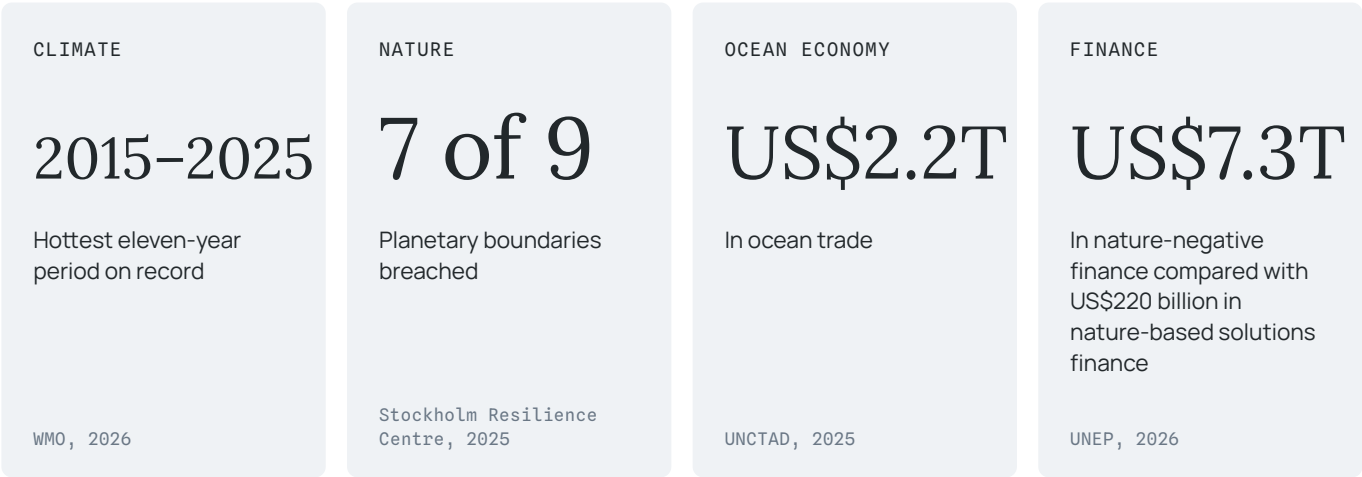
The connection between OCIS and Ozeon's blockchain architecture should be understood as a progressive integration pathway. OCIS provides the operational intelligence, scoring, reporting, funding and evidence infrastructure, while Ozeon's blockchain layer enables project registries, report hashes, evidence attestations, PRG recognition, \$OZN utility flows, bounty payments, DAO governance records and Pod or treasury-linked funding decisions. Cryptocurrency funding, blockchain-enabled contribution records, PRG reward flows and DAO interoperability are treated as staged protocol integrations that connect OCIS outputs to Ozeon's broader decentralized coordination economy.

Taken together, Ozeon proposes a decentralized infrastructure model in which learning, contribution, governance, funding, intellectual property, bounties, project integrity, evidence management and impact reporting are integrated into a unified regenerative innovation economy. The system is designed not to claim that blockchain alone verifies environmental impact, but to use blockchain where it is most appropriate: recording contribution, coordinating governance, supporting transparent funding flows, preserving provenance, enabling utility and making selected project evidence more auditable over time.

Introduction

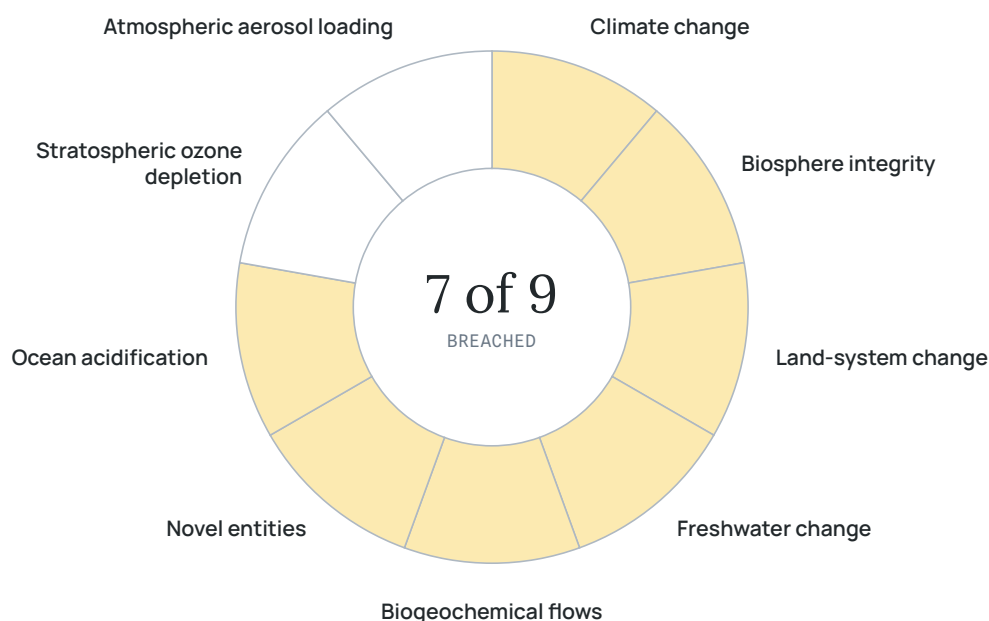
Humanity has entered a period in which ecological instability, technological acceleration, and institutional fragmentation are converging. Climate change is no longer a distant or sector-specific risk; it is already affecting ecosystems, biodiversity, food systems, infrastructure, health, livelihoods, and the adaptive capacity of societies. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has found that human-induced climate change has caused widespread adverse impacts and related losses and damages to nature and people, while climate and non-climate risks are increasingly interacting to produce compound and cascading risks (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [IPCC], 2022). The World Meteorological Organization reports that 2015–2025 were the hottest eleven years on record, with 2025 approximately 1.43°C above the 1850–1900 average (World Meteorological Organization [WMO], 2026).

CHART 1 — WHY NOW: CLIMATE, NATURE, AND OCEAN ECONOMY INDICATORS



The climate crisis is part of a broader Earth-system destabilisation. The planetary boundaries framework indicates that multiple biophysical systems are now operating outside the safe operating space for humanity. The 2025 Planetary Health Check concluded that seven of nine planetary boundaries have been breached, including climate change, biosphere integrity, land-system change, freshwater change, biogeochemical flows, novel entities, and ocean acidification (Planetary Health Check, 2025; Stockholm Resilience Centre, 2025). This shift is significant for Ozean because it demonstrates that climate action cannot be treated as an isolated carbon problem. Regenerative innovation must address interconnected ecological, social, economic, cultural, technological, and knowledge-system failures.

FIGURE 1 — PLANETARY BOUNDARIES AND THE CASE FOR REGENERATIVE COORDINATION

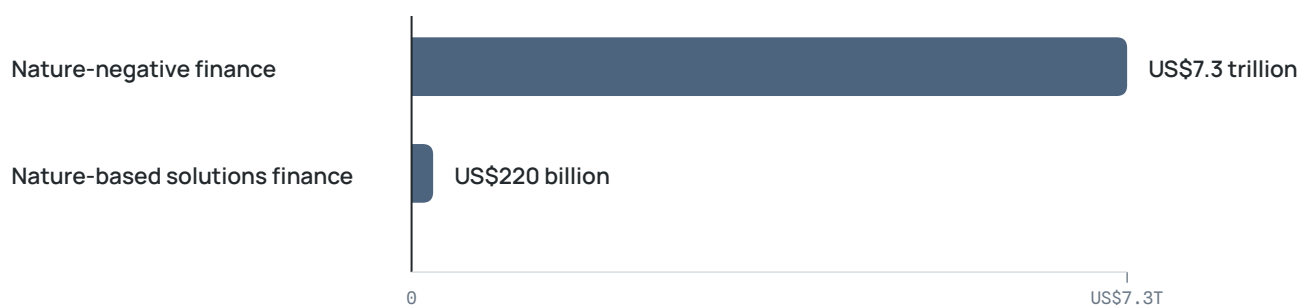


Source: Planetary Health Check, 2025; Stockholm Resilience Centre, 2025.

The ocean sits at the centre of this systems crisis. It regulates climate, stores heat and carbon, supports biodiversity, underpins food security and livelihoods, and connects global trade, coastal economies, and cultural life. Yet ocean systems are being destabilised by warming, acidification, deoxygenation, overexploitation, biodiversity loss, pollution, and uneven governance capacity (IPCC, 2019, 2022). Ocean degradation is therefore not only an environmental concern; it is also an economic and social risk. United Nations Trade and Development reported that global ocean trade reached approximately US\$2.2 trillion in 2023, representing about 7% of global trade, while approximately 600 million people rely on the ocean economy (United Nations Trade and Development [UNCTAD], 2025). The long-term resilience of ocean systems is therefore inseparable from climate stability, food systems, livelihoods, public health, trade, and the future of the global economy.

At the same time, the world continues to finance degradation at far greater scale than regeneration. The United Nations Environment Programme estimates that finance directly harmful to nature reached approximately US\$7.3 trillion in 2023, while only approximately US\$220 billion supported nature-based solutions (United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP], 2026). This imbalance demonstrates that the transition to regenerative economies requires more than technological innovation alone. It requires new infrastructures for knowledge access, trust, capital allocation, participation, project integrity, and long-term accountability.

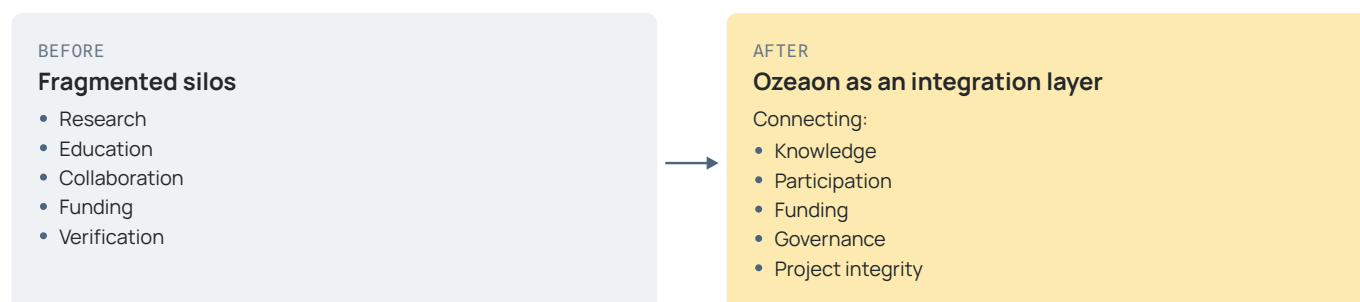
CHART 2 — THE NATURE FINANCE IMBALANCE



Source: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 2026.

The challenge is therefore not merely the absence of solutions. Scientific research, regenerative practices, marine innovation, climate technologies, community knowledge systems, and nature-based approaches are expanding rapidly. The deeper problem is that the infrastructures required to connect knowledge, trust, funding, implementation, and verification remain fragmented. Research may be published but not translated into accessible education. Community knowledge may be valuable but under-recognised. Regenerative projects may be credible but underfunded. Learners may gain awareness but lack pathways into practical contribution. Funders may seek impact but struggle to assess integrity, accountability, and long-term outcomes. The result is a persistent gap between what is known, what can be coordinated, and what can be implemented.

FIGURE 2 — THE KNOWLEDGE-TO-ACTION GAP



Ozean is designed to address this gap as a decentralized coordination, learning, funding, and regenerative innovation infrastructure. It is not conceived simply as a content platform, crowdfunding platform, social network, or blockchain application. Rather, it is a modular ecosystem that integrates open educational resources, publishing, project visibility, participatory funding, decentralized governance, contribution recognition, bounties, tokenized intellectual property, and connected climate intelligence infrastructure into a shared system for regenerative development. Ozean's strategic focus is the ocean–climate–land nexus, with the ocean treated as a high-impact domain for innovation, ecological restoration, biomaterials, biotechnology, food systems, climate adaptation, and regenerative economic models.

This platform direction builds on earlier design research in which Ozean was explored through speculative and circular design methods applied to oceanic health and wellbeing. That research identified fragmentation and weak discoverability of ocean, technology, and algae-related knowledge as a barrier to public engagement, research translation, and future-oriented innovation (Flynn et al., 2026). In the blockchain white paper, this design

proposition is extended into a protocol architecture for contribution, governance, funding, digital asset provenance, and project integrity.

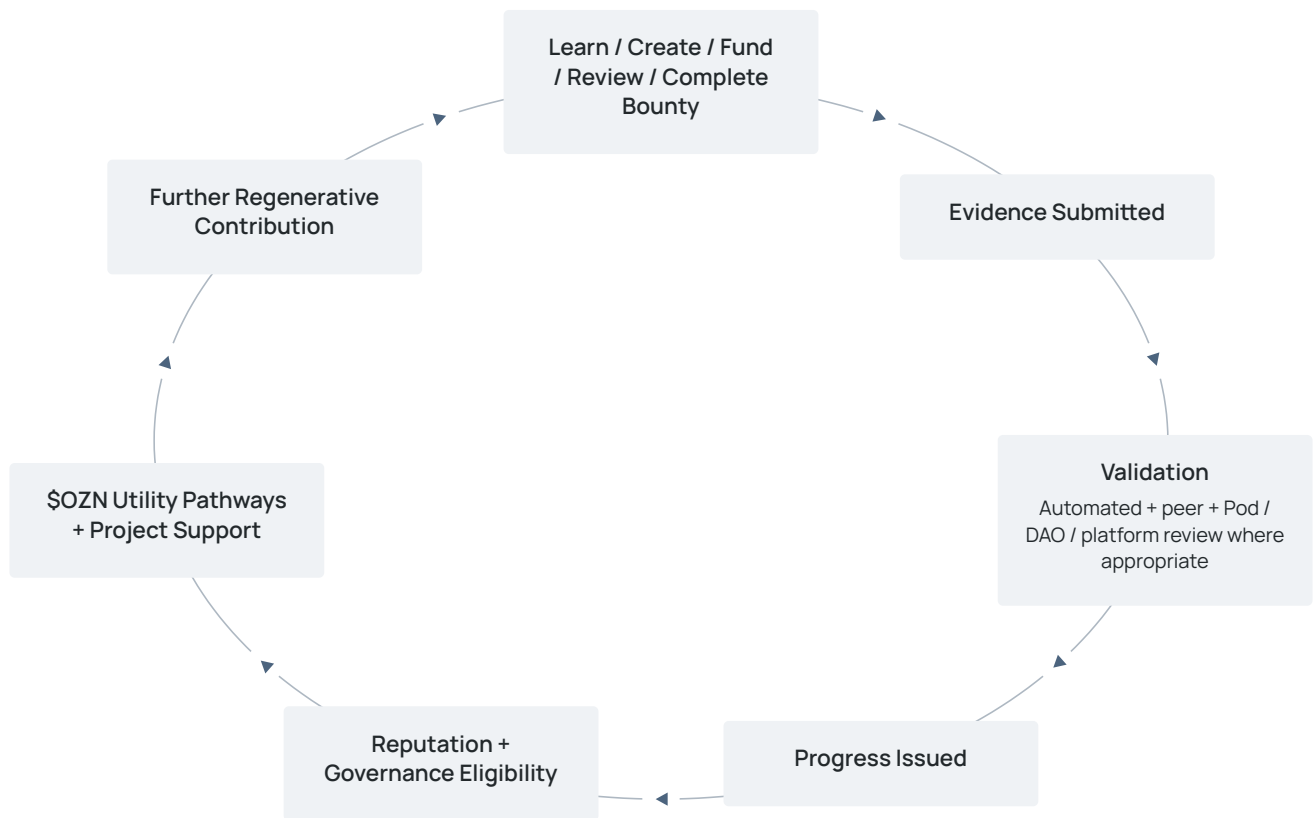
This approach aligns with wider international movements toward open science, ocean literacy, digital public infrastructure, and participatory sustainability transitions. UNESCO defines open science as an inclusive approach intended to make scientific knowledge openly available, accessible and reusable, increase scientific collaboration and information sharing, and open scientific knowledge creation, evaluation and communication to societal actors beyond the traditional scientific community (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization [UNESCO], 2021a). For Ozeon, open science is not only a publishing principle; it is an architectural principle. Knowledge should be findable, accessible, interoperable, reusable, attributable, and capable of moving into education, collaboration, funding, and implementation. This aligns closely with the FAIR principles for scientific data management and stewardship, which emphasise findability, accessibility, interoperability, and reusability as core requirements for effective knowledge systems (Wilkinson et al., 2016).

Ozeon has been endorsed as Decade Action No. 10.7 under the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, attached to the Early Career Ocean Professionals Programme (UNESCO-IOC, 2025). This endorsement situates the project within the Ocean Decade's broader mission to catalyse transformative ocean science solutions for sustainable development and to connect people and the ocean. The endorsement framework also emphasises co-design, engagement across the ocean science value chain, decision-maker involvement, open and accessible data management, and participation in communities of practice (UNESCO-IOC, 2025).

Blockchain technology is introduced within Ozeon not as an end in itself, but as a coordination layer for attribution, contribution records, programmable incentives, governance participation, transparent funding flows, and digital asset provenance. Earlier blockchain systems demonstrated the ability to coordinate value without conventional institutional intermediaries, but they also exposed major limitations, including speculative behaviour, governance capture, energy intensity, regulatory uncertainty, and weak links to real-world outcomes. The transition of Ethereum from Proof-of-Work to Proof-of-Stake demonstrated that blockchain infrastructure can evolve toward substantially lower-energy consensus models, with Ethereum reporting an estimated 99.95% reduction in energy consumption after the Merge (Ethereum Foundation, n.d.). However, lower-energy infrastructure alone is insufficient for regenerative systems. Regenerative digital economies also require incentive structures that reward useful contribution rather than passive speculation.

Ozeon's central protocol contribution is Proof of Progress. In this white paper, Proof of Progress is best understood as an application-layer contribution-verification and reputation protocol rather than a conventional base-layer blockchain consensus mechanism. Proof of Progress validates meaningful ecosystem activity, including learning, publishing, project development, peer review, funding support, bounty completion, knowledge curation, media production, tutorial creation, and other recognised forms of regenerative contribution. The purpose is to convert verified participation into reputation, governance eligibility, and incentive alignment. This reframes "progress" as a measurable ecosystem signal: not simply capital deposited, energy consumed, or tokens held, but useful actions that strengthen the platform's knowledge commons, project pipeline, contributor network, and regenerative mission.

FIGURE 3 — PROOF OF PROGRESS CYCLE



The token architecture separates governance legitimacy from liquid utility through a dual-token model. Progress, or PRG, is a non-transferable contribution and reputation token earned through verified participation. It is designed to support governance eligibility, reputation signalling, and contribution-weighted participation without becoming directly purchasable or speculative. \$OZN is the transferable utility token used for platform transactions, direct project funding, tipping, bounties, premium content access, selected licensing flows, and later digital asset interactions. This separation is intended to address a common weakness in token economies: when governance, speculation, reward, and utility collapse into a single asset, the system can become vulnerable to wealth concentration, short-term market incentives, and governance capture. By separating non-transferable contribution from transferable utility, Ozean aims to preserve governance integrity while still enabling a functional economic layer.

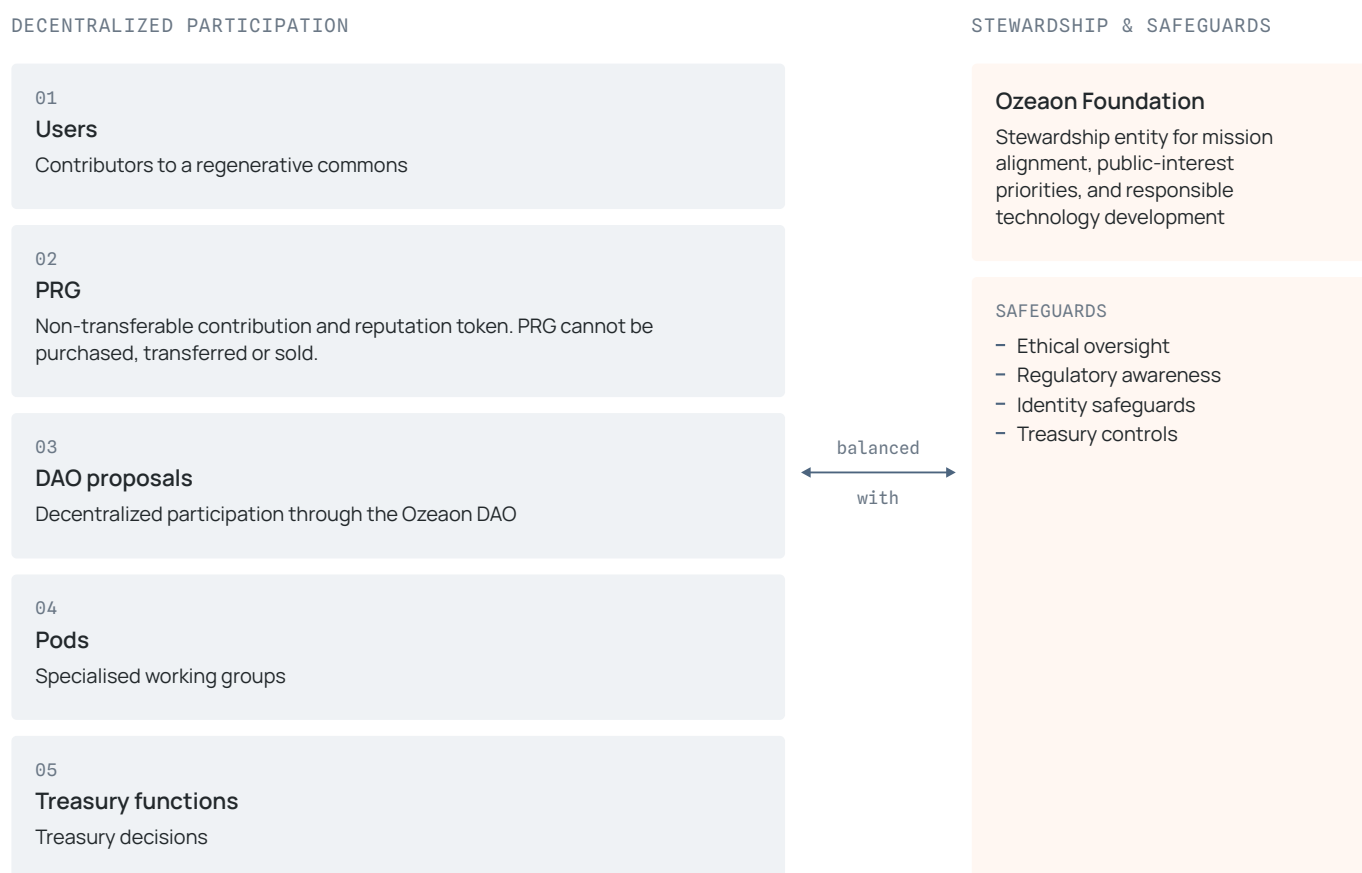
TABLE 1 — DUAL-TOKEN SEPARATION MATRIX

FUNCTION	PRG / PROGRESS	\$OZN
Transferable	No	Yes
Earned by contribution	Yes	Indirectly / through defined ecosystem logic
Used for governance eligibility	Yes	No, or limited depending on governance design
Used for payments and platform transactions	No	Yes
Used for ordinary project funding and direct user support	No	Yes

FUNCTION	PRG / PROGRESS	\$OZN
Anti-speculation role	High	Moderate
Core purpose	Reputation, contribution and legitimacy	Utility, payment and exchange

The governance layer is structured around decentralized participation through the Ozean DAO and specialised working groups, or Pods. DAOs have been described in academic literature as blockchain-based systems that allow people to coordinate through rules deployed on blockchain infrastructure, although their legal, operational, and governance status remains complex and evolving (Hassan & De Filippi, 2021). Ozean therefore adopts a pragmatic governance model: decentralized participation is balanced with ethical oversight, regulatory awareness, identity safeguards, treasury controls, and the role of the Ozean Foundation as a stewardship entity for mission alignment, public-interest priorities, and responsible technology development.

FIGURE 4 — OZEAN GOVERNANCE ARCHITECTURE



Ozean also introduces a Bounties layer as a mechanism for decentralized, mission-aligned work. Bounties allow users, organisations, Pods, project teams, funders, and future DAO structures to define tasks, allocate rewards, verify outputs, and coordinate distributed contributions. These tasks may include scientific data collection, educational translation, technical prototyping, open peer review, environmental monitoring, media production, tutorial creation, design development, research synthesis, project support, and OCIS-related evidence preparation. In this context, Bounties are not merely gig-work mechanisms; they are programmable contribution pathways that connect learning, work,

funding, verification, attribution, and contributor reputation. This is particularly relevant as technological change and the green transition reshape labour markets, with the World Economic Forum projecting significant labour-market disruption and skill transformation by 2030 (World Economic Forum, 2025).

Artificial intelligence is treated as an enabling but carefully governed layer within the Ozeon ecosystem. AI can support scientific summarisation, semantic search, multilingual knowledge access, project recommendations, anomaly detection, decision support, evidence review, and climate intelligence workflows. However, AI also introduces risks, including bias, opacity, hallucination, data governance concerns, over-automation, and environmental footprint. UNESCO's Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence emphasises transparency, fairness, sustainability and human oversight, while the NIST AI Risk Management Framework provides a structured approach for incorporating trustworthiness considerations into AI design, deployment, use and evaluation (National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST], 2023; UNESCO, 2021b).

The Ozeon Climate Intelligence System, or OCIS, is being developed as an adjacent but connected system within the broader Ozeon ecosystem. OCIS is designed to support climate intelligence, project integrity assessment, Earth Observation, digital monitoring, reporting and verification, funding workflows, evidence management, dashboards and decision-support tools for regenerative initiatives. This distinction is central to the Ozeon architecture. Ozeon is the participation, knowledge, funding, governance, token, bounty, and digital asset coordination layer. OCIS is the connected intelligence, project integrity, evidence, dMRV, and climate assessment layer.

A project does not require DAO endorsement to be listed on Ozeon, to be assessed in OCIS, or to receive ordinary \$OZN-based funding from users, supporters, contributors, funders, or ecosystem participants. DAO endorsement is a separate governance signal that may support higher visibility, stronger trust signalling, DAO treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support, curated funding rounds, or blockchain-enabled verification pathways. This distinction preserves open project funding through \$OZN while allowing the DAO to provide additional governance-based recognition, curation, and treasury-related decision-making where appropriate.

The connection between OCIS and Ozeon's blockchain architecture should therefore be understood as progressive integration rather than a single dependency. OCIS can generate project assessments, ecological footprint mitigation strategies, reports, evidence records, dashboards and funding workflows. Ozeon's blockchain layer can make selected outputs more auditable through project registries, report hashes, evidence attestations, PRG recognition, \$OZN utility flows, bounty payments, DAO governance records and treasury-linked funding decisions. This architecture reflects Ozeon's broader design logic: blockchain is used where it can strengthen transparency, provenance, contribution recognition and coordination, rather than being treated as a universal substitute for scientific validation or institutional verification.

FIGURE 5 — OZEAON PROTOCOL STACK



The wider purpose of Ozean is to create an infrastructure through which knowledge can become contribution, contribution can become reputation, reputation can support governance, and governance can direct resources toward regenerative outcomes. Its thesis is that the transition to a regenerative economy requires more than information, markets, or isolated innovation. It requires systems that connect education, collaboration, legitimacy, direct funding, project integrity, and verification in ways that are transparent, inclusive, accountable, and usable across disciplines.

Ozean proposes Proof of Progress as the organising principle for such a system: a protocol economy in which users are recognised not for extraction or speculation, but for measurable contributions to ecological, social, educational, scientific, cultural, and intellectual regeneration. Together with OCIS, the Ozean ecosystem connects participation and evidence: Ozean enables people to learn, publish, fund, govern and contribute, while OCIS enables projects to be assessed, monitored, reported and supported with stronger integrity infrastructure.

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Problem Statement

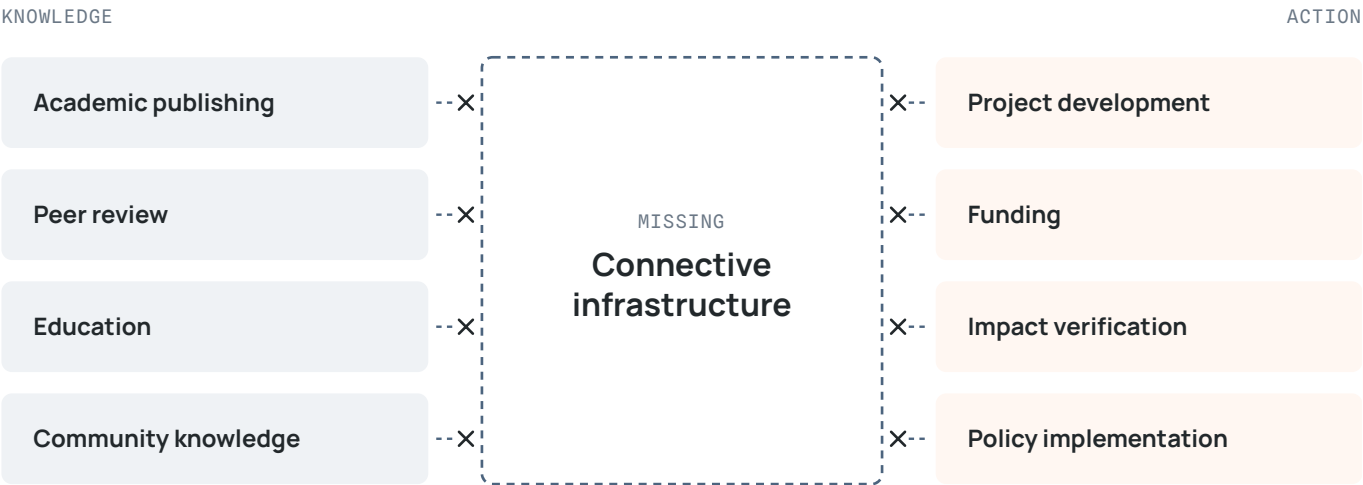
The problem Ozean addresses is not only environmental. It is structural, epistemic, economic, and institutional.

Climate change, biodiversity loss, ocean degradation, land-system disruption, pollution, and social inequality are intensifying at the same time as the knowledge required to respond to these crises remains unevenly distributed and difficult to activate. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has found that climate impacts are already affecting ecosystems, infrastructure, livelihoods, food systems, health, and vulnerable communities across regions, with risks becoming increasingly complex and interconnected (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [IPCC], 2022). The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services has similarly concluded that biodiversity and ecosystem services are declining globally at rates that require transformative change across economic, social, political, and technological systems (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services [IPBES], 2019).

Yet the systems through which societies produce, validate, fund, and implement solutions remain fragmented. Scientific knowledge is often distributed through paywalled journals, institutionally constrained databases, inaccessible technical formats, and disciplinary silos. Even where research is technically available, it may not be understandable, reusable, locally relevant, or connected to implementation pathways. Open science has emerged as a response to this problem, but UNESCO’s Recommendation on Open Science makes clear that openness must involve not only access to publications, but also equitable participation, open data, open infrastructure, open engagement with societal actors, and fair recognition of diverse knowledge systems (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization [UNESCO], 2021).

Ozean’s earlier design research identified a related problem in the oceanic health and wellbeing context: the knowledge needed to imagine and develop ocean-based futures is distributed across scientific, technological, ecological, cultural, and design domains, but remains difficult for non-specialist publics and emerging innovators to discover, interpret, and activate (Flynn et al., 2026). The blockchain white paper extends that design problem into an infrastructure problem: regenerative innovation requires systems that can connect knowledge access, contribution, attribution, funding, governance, and project integrity.

FIGURE 2.1 — THE FRAGMENTED KNOWLEDGE-TO-ACTION SYSTEM



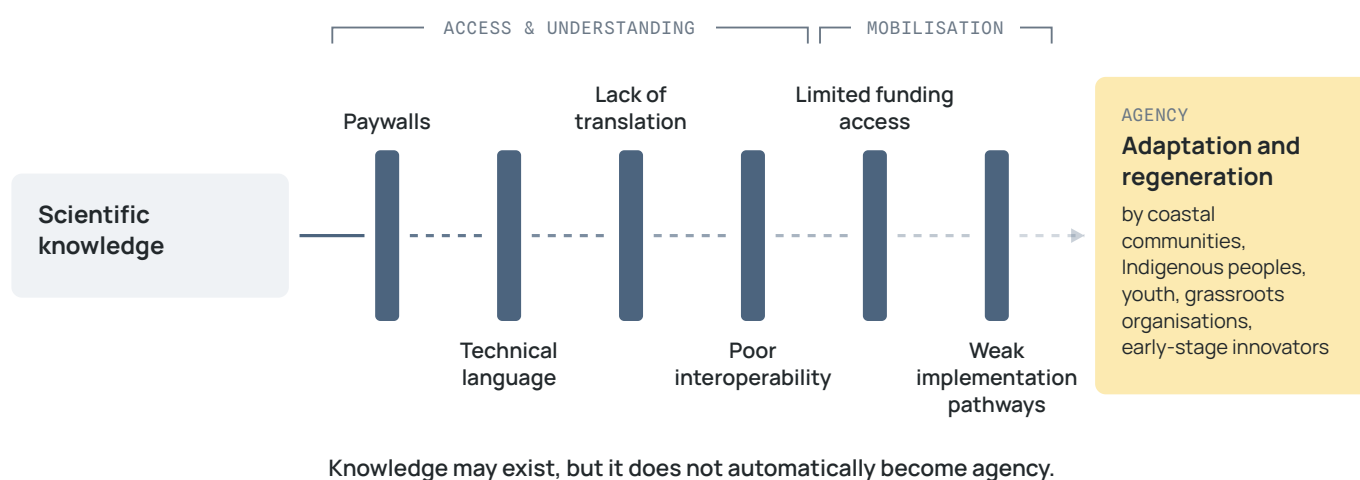
The core problem is not a lack of knowledge, but a lack of connective infrastructure.

2.1 Scientific Knowledge Remains Unequally Accessible

The scientific publishing system remains one of the clearest examples of structural asymmetry in knowledge access. A small number of large commercial publishers control a substantial share of the scholarly publishing market, producing an oligopolistic structure in which publicly funded research, unpaid academic labour, institutional subscriptions, and article processing charges interact in ways that can restrict access and reinforce inequality (Larivière et al., 2015). Although open access has expanded, fee-based models can still shift barriers from readers to authors. UNESCO explicitly warns that open science should avoid reproducing inequities through publication charges and should promote equitable access to scientific knowledge for all countries, institutions, and communities (UNESCO, 2021). Dominik et al. (2022) similarly argue that open science cannot reduce inequality unless it operates within frameworks and environments that actively address unequal power and opportunity across the global research ecosystem.

This creates a particular problem for ocean, climate, and regenerative innovation. Many of the people most affected by ecological degradation, including coastal communities, Indigenous peoples, small island communities, youth, grassroots organisations, and early-stage innovators, are often those least able to access, interpret, or mobilise the research that could support adaptation and regeneration. Knowledge may exist, but it does not automatically become agency. Without accessible translation, contextualisation, and implementation pathways, scientific knowledge remains structurally underutilised.

CHART 2.1 — KNOWLEDGE ACCESS BOTTLENECKS



2.2 Open Science Is Advancing, but Implementation Infrastructure Is Still Weak

Open science frameworks have established a strong normative basis for making research more accessible, reusable, transparent, and collaborative. The FAIR principles define scientific data and related research objects as more useful when they are findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable by both humans and machines (Wilkinson et al., 2016). UNESCO's open science framework extends this logic to the wider scientific ecosystem, including open access, open data, open-source software, open infrastructure, open

educational resources, citizen science, participatory science, and dialogue with other knowledge systems (UNESCO, 2021).

However, principles alone do not guarantee implementation. A FAIR-aligned article, dataset, or educational resource still requires discovery systems, metadata, translation, community validation, applied use cases, contributor recognition, and funding mechanisms if it is to become practically useful. In many sustainability domains, knowledge production and implementation remain separated: researchers publish in one environment, educators adapt material elsewhere, communities organise informally, funders search through separate pipelines, and project teams report progress through fragmented tools. This discontinuity weakens the ability of open science to produce real-world outcomes.

FIGURE 2.2 — FROM FAIR KNOWLEDGE TO APPLIED REGENERATION



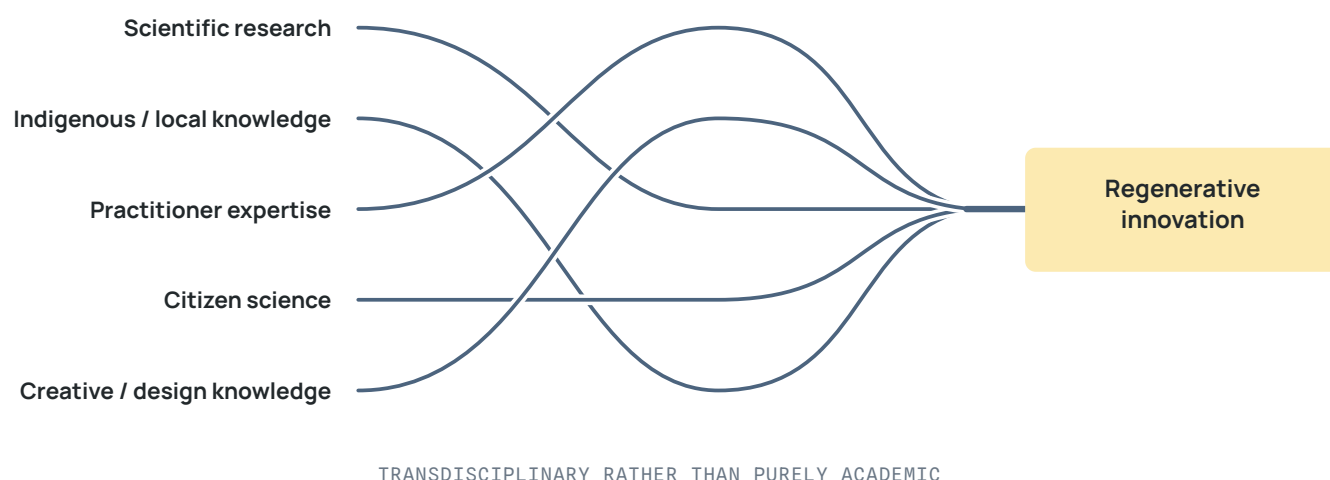
2.3 Indigenous, Local, and Community Knowledge Remain Undervalued

Regenerative innovation cannot rely only on formal scientific institutions. Indigenous peoples and local communities manage, use, occupy, or hold tenure over significant areas of the world’s remaining biodiverse landscapes and seascapes, and IPBES recognises Indigenous and local knowledge as essential to biodiversity conservation, ecosystem stewardship, and sustainable governance (IPBES, 2019). However, conventional research and innovation systems frequently marginalise these knowledge systems or treat them as supplementary rather than foundational.

This creates ethical and practical risks. Ecological solutions designed without local participation may fail because they do not reflect social realities, cultural relationships, place-based ecological knowledge, or long-term stewardship practices. Conversely, community-led and Indigenous-led innovations may struggle to gain visibility, legal protection, funding, or formal recognition. The problem is not simply that local knowledge is absent; it is that existing infrastructures often fail to recognise, attribute, protect, and reward it on equitable terms.

For Ozean, this implies that open science must be paired with responsible knowledge governance. Open access cannot mean unrestricted extraction. Any system that enables knowledge sharing must also support attribution, consent, licensing, cultural sensitivity, and mechanisms that allow communities to decide how their knowledge is represented, reused, protected, or monetised. This is consistent with UNESCO’s emphasis that open science must include dialogue with other knowledge systems and must be guided by equity, inclusion, responsibility, and respect for diversity (UNESCO, 2021).

FIGURE 2.3 — PLURAL KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS



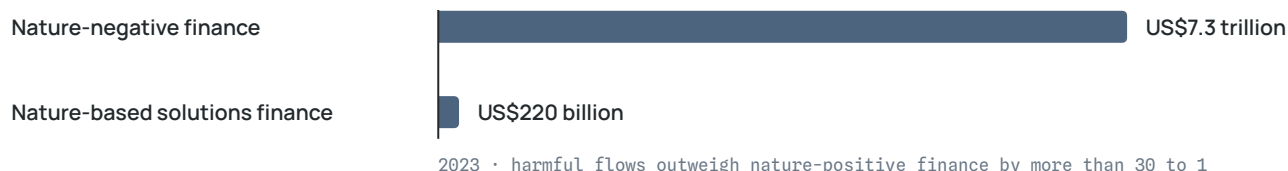
2.4 Funding Systems Are Misaligned with Regenerative Implementation

The global financing landscape remains misaligned with ecological recovery. The United Nations Environment Programme estimates that in 2023 approximately US\$7.3 trillion flowed into activities directly harmful to nature, while only approximately US\$220 billion was directed toward nature-based solutions (United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP], 2026). This means that harmful financial flows outweighed nature-positive finance by more than 30 to 1. This imbalance reveals a systemic capital allocation failure: the global economy continues to finance degradation at a vastly larger scale than regeneration.

The problem is intensified at the project level. Early-stage regenerative projects often require long time horizons, local trust, multidisciplinary expertise, patient capital, and context-specific verification. Traditional funding systems tend to favour mature organisations, established institutions, standardised grant language, conventional risk metrics, and geographically concentrated networks. As a result, promising community-led projects, early-career researchers, independent innovators, and regenerative entrepreneurs often remain underfunded, even when their work is scientifically credible or locally important.

This creates a coordination failure between knowledge, trust, capital, and implementation. Funders need credible ways to identify and assess projects. Project teams need visibility and support. Communities need accessible pathways to participation. Researchers need routes to apply their knowledge beyond publication. Without shared infrastructure, capital does not reliably flow toward the people and projects capable of generating regenerative outcomes.

CHART 2.2 — NATURE FINANCE IMBALANCE



Source: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 2026.

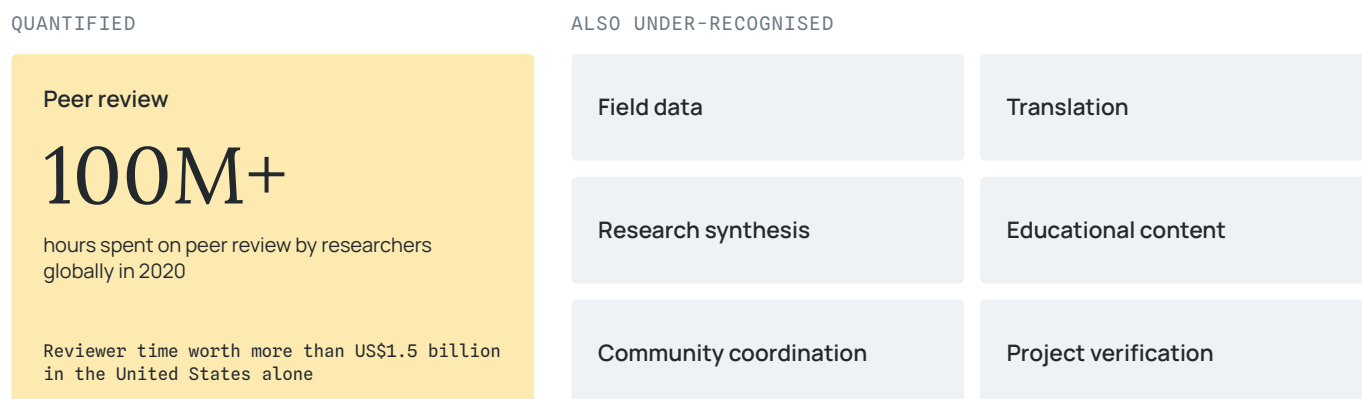
2.5 Peer Review, Field Data, and Knowledge Labour Are Systematically Undervalued

A further structural weakness lies in how knowledge labour is recognised. Scientific publishing depends heavily on unpaid or under-recognised work, including peer review, editorial contribution, data cleaning, field observation, translation, synthesis, and public communication. Aczel et al. (2021) estimated that researchers globally spent more than 100 million hours on peer review in 2020, with the monetary value of reviewer time exceeding US\$1.5 billion in the United States alone. This represents a major hidden subsidy to the scholarly publishing system.

The same issue appears across sustainability and citizen-science work. People collect field data, monitor ecosystems, summarise complex research, translate knowledge for public use, organise community projects, build educational materials, and support open science without reliable compensation, persistent reputation, or portable proof of contribution. These activities are essential to regenerative innovation, but they are rarely treated as core economic inputs.

This creates a contradiction. Societies urgently need more distributed knowledge work, more field observation, more open peer review, more climate literacy, more ecological monitoring, and more transdisciplinary collaboration. Yet the systems that depend on these contributions often fail to reward them. Without better mechanisms for attribution, validation, and incentive alignment, many valuable contributions remain invisible.

CHART 2.3 — THE HIDDEN LABOUR OF KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS



Essential to regenerative innovation, but rarely treated as core economic inputs.

Source: Aczel, Szaszi & Holcombe, 2021.

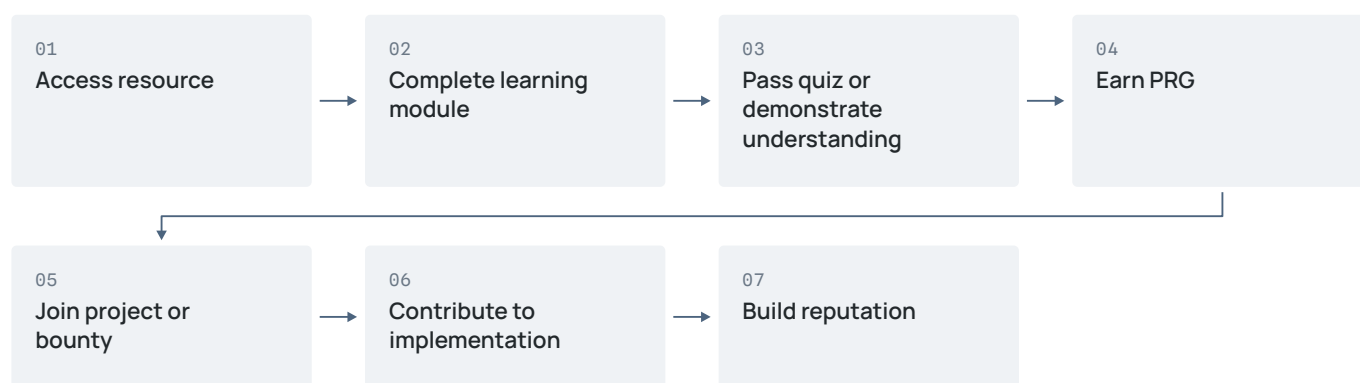
2.6 Education Is Often Disconnected from Action

Education is central to any regenerative transition, but sustainability education is frequently separated from practical pathways for contribution, project creation, funding, and implementation. UNESCO's Recommendation on Open Educational Resources emphasises the importance of quality open learning materials that are accessible, context-specific, cost-effective, adaptable, and available to all learners (UNESCO, 2019). However, open educational resources often remain static, fragmented, or disconnected from real-world application.

This is a major design problem. A learner may complete a course, read an article, or watch a tutorial, but still have no clear pathway to join a project, contribute research, build credibility, access funding, or collaborate with others. In this context, education creates awareness but not necessarily agency. The World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report 2025 highlights that technological change, the green transition, and labour-market restructuring will require significant reskilling and upskilling by 2030 (World Economic Forum, 2025). For regenerative innovation, this implies that learning systems must become more participatory, practical, and connected to meaningful work.

Ozeon therefore treats education not as a passive content layer, but as an entry point into contribution. Learning should allow users to build capability, demonstrate progress, participate in projects, complete bounties, contribute to open knowledge, and gain reputation within a wider ecosystem.

FIGURE 2.4 — LEARNING-TO-CONTRIBUTION PATHWAY



2.7 The Missing Layer: Decentralized Work for Climate and Knowledge

The existing digital landscape does not adequately connect the full regenerative value chain. There are research repositories, learning platforms, crowdfunding tools, social networks, project directories, grant databases, impact dashboards, DAO tools, and carbon or nature-market infrastructures. However, these systems are usually separate. They do not form a coherent architecture in which learning, contribution, credibility, funding, governance, and verification accumulate over time.

The missing layer is a decentralized work and knowledge infrastructure for regenerative action. Such a system must enable:

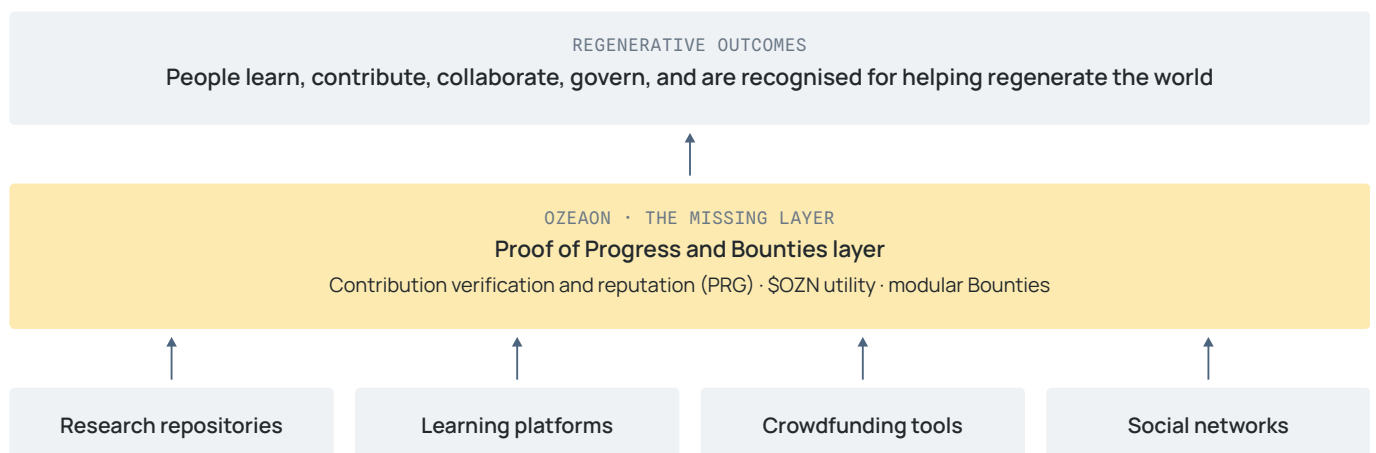
- individuals to learn through open, accessible, and scientifically credible knowledge;
- contributors to demonstrate verified progress through meaningful participation;
- researchers, students, practitioners, and citizens to receive recognition for public-good knowledge work;
- communities to publish, protect, and govern knowledge on fair and context-sensitive terms;
- funders to discover and support credible regenerative projects with improved transparency;

- project teams to coordinate tasks, bounties, milestones, updates, and verification;
- governance systems to reward contribution rather than merely financial power;
- and regenerative innovation ecosystems to retain memory, reputation, and trust across time.

This missing layer is why Ozean introduces Proof of Progress, a dual-token architecture, and a modular Bounties layer. Proof of Progress is designed as an application-layer contribution-verification and reputation protocol that recognises meaningful ecosystem activity. PRG functions as a non-transferable contribution and reputation token. \$OZN functions as the transferable utility token for platform transactions, direct project funding, tipping, bounties, premium access, and selected ecosystem services. Direct \$OZN-based project funding does not require DAO endorsement. DAO endorsement is instead a separate governance signal that may support higher visibility, curated funding pathways, DAO treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support, or blockchain-enabled verification workflows.

The Bounties layer enables mission-aligned work to be specified, funded, completed, reviewed, and rewarded. This supports a wider regenerative work economy in which knowledge labour, project support, field evidence, education, research synthesis, community coordination, and implementation tasks can be recognised as valuable contributions rather than remaining invisible background labour.

FIGURE 2.5 — THE MISSING LAYER: OZEAN AS COORDINATION INFRASTRUCTURE



The global transition toward sustainability must not only be ecological. It must also be epistemic, economic, and institutional. The world needs systems that distribute not only information or capital, but also agency, credibility, trust, contribution records, and tools for coordination. Ozean is designed to provide this connective layer: a decentralized ecosystem where people can learn, contribute, collaborate, govern, and be recognised for helping regenerate the world.

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The Ozean Solution

3.1 Overview:

A Decentralized Infrastructure for Regenerative Innovation

Ozeon is a decentralized knowledge, coordination, and regenerative finance infrastructure designed to connect open science, educational resources, project development, community participation, tokenized contribution, funding, governance, and climate intelligence within one interoperable ecosystem. Its central objective is to reduce the fragmentation that currently separates scientific knowledge, public learning, innovation communities, funding pathways, governance mechanisms, and real-world implementation.

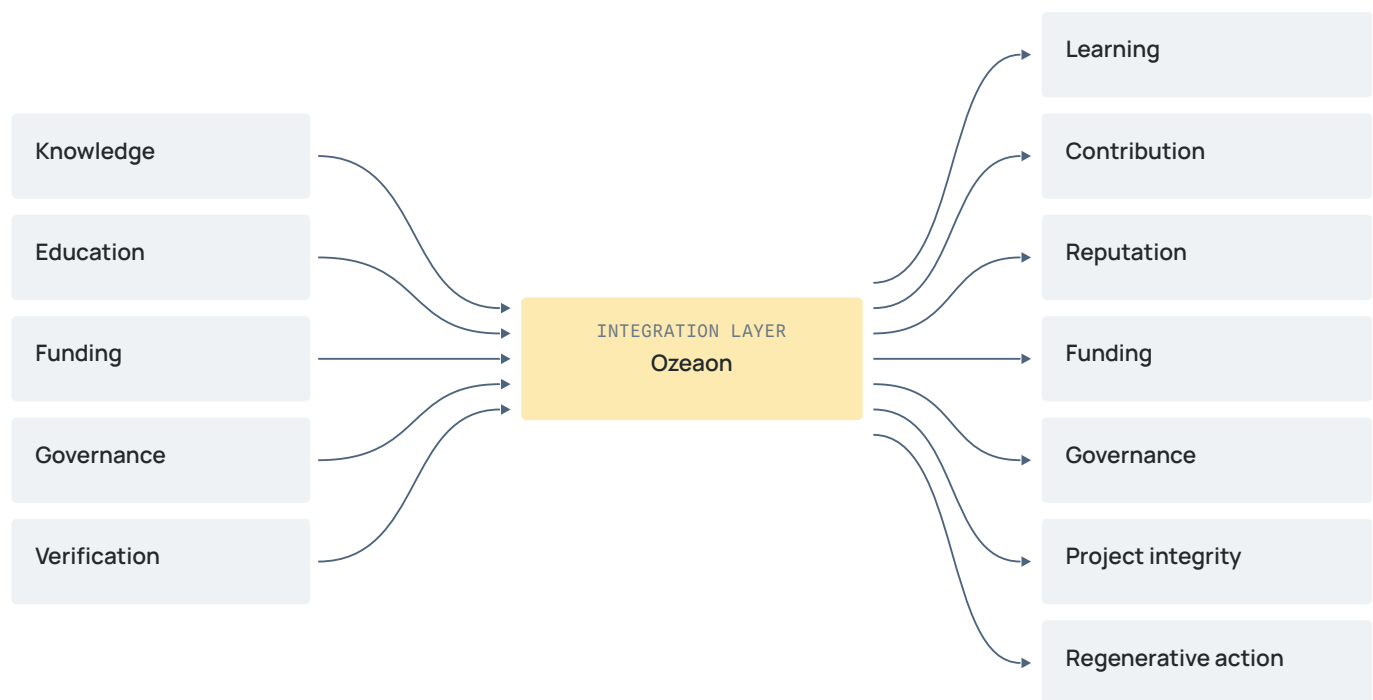
Rather than functioning as a single-purpose platform, Ozeon is designed as a modular protocol economy for regenerative development. The system enables users to learn, publish, collaborate, fund, govern, complete bounties, build reputation, and participate in regenerative value creation. Its architecture is grounded in the principle that knowledge should not remain static or institutionally isolated. Knowledge should become actionable; action should become verifiable; verification should generate reputation; and reputation should support governance, funding, and further contribution.

This approach builds on prior design research in which Ozeon was explored as a speculative and circular design response to oceanic health and wellbeing, with particular attention to the fragmentation of ocean-related knowledge, public engagement, and future-oriented innovation pathways (Flynn et al., 2026). In this white paper, that design proposition is extended into a blockchain-enabled coordination architecture for contribution, funding, attribution, governance, and project integrity.

Ozeon is also aligned with open science principles, which emphasise the need to make scientific knowledge openly available, accessible, reusable, transparent, and inclusive (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization [UNESCO], 2021). It also draws from the FAIR principles, which define effective research objects as findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable by both humans and machines (Wilkinson et al., 2016). Ozeon extends these principles into a broader platform architecture in which knowledge assets, project records, contribution histories, funding flows, and governance actions can be structured as part of a shared regenerative innovation system.

FIGURE 3.1 — OZEAON AS REGENERATIVE COORDINATION INFRASTRUCTURE

DISCONNECTED SYSTEMS

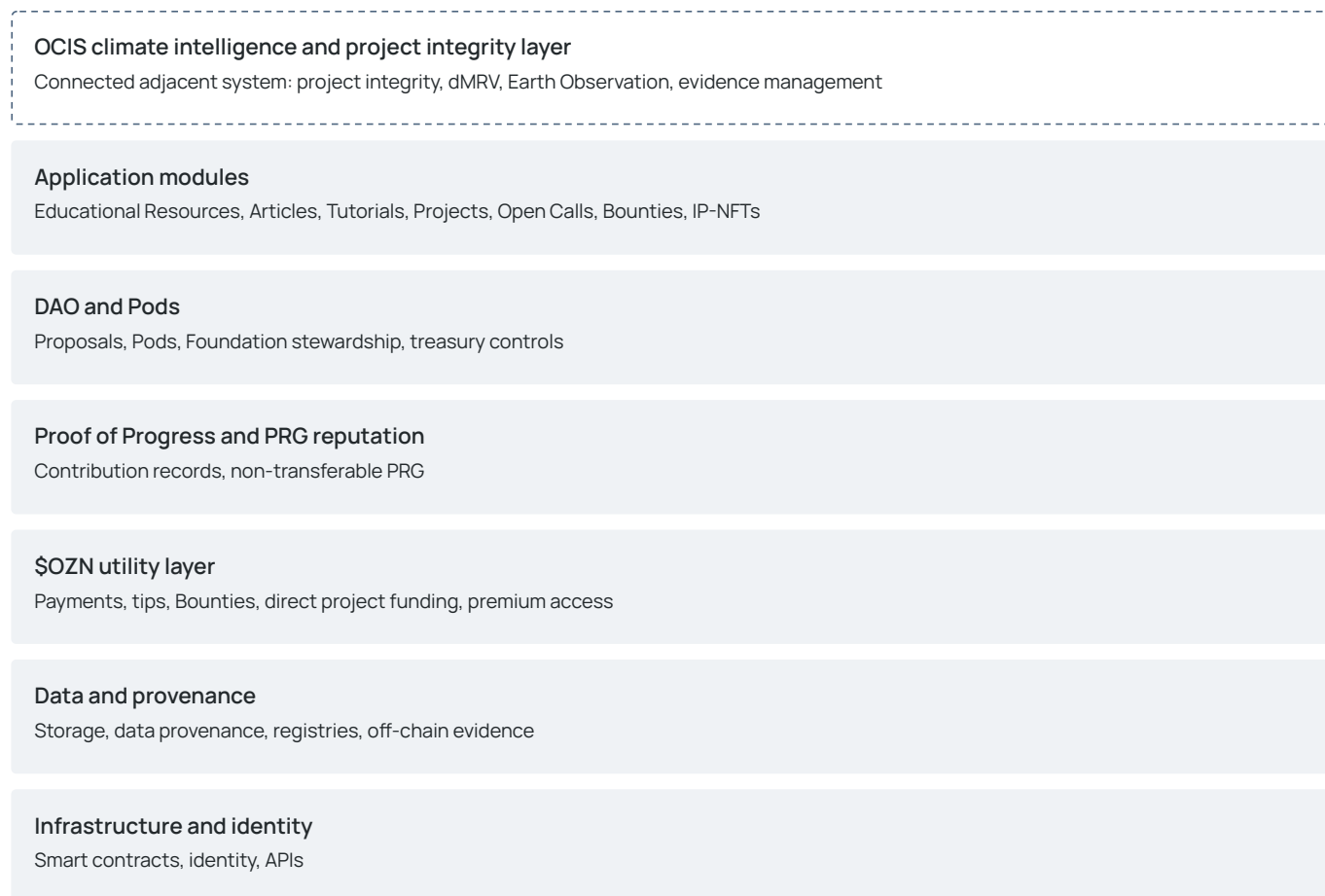


The Ozean model is organised around seven primary solution layers:

1. Learning and knowledge access;
2. Creation and publication;
3. Tokenized intellectual property and attribution;
4. Project funding and regenerative finance;
5. Governance and community curation;
6. Bounties and decentralized work;
7. Proof of Progress and contribution verification.

Alongside these layers, the Ozean Climate Intelligence System, or OCIS, is being developed as a connected adjacent system that adds project integrity assessment, climate intelligence, environmental data integration, dMRV-aligned reporting, evidence management, and decision-support workflows for regenerative projects.

FIGURE 3.2 — OZEAON PROTOCOL STACK



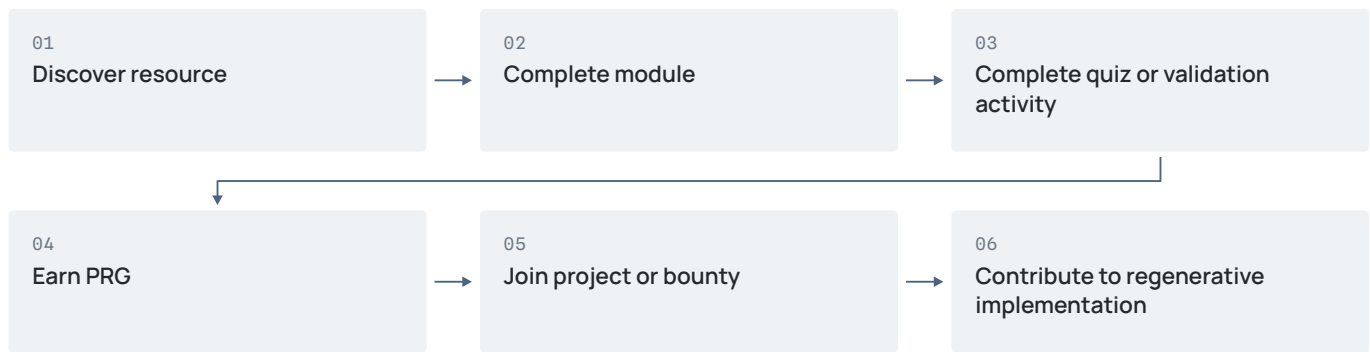
3.2 Learn: Open Access to Regenerative Knowledge

The learning layer provides structured access to regenerative knowledge through open educational resources, articles, research summaries, learning modules, quizzes, and thematic knowledge categories. This layer is intended to make ocean, climate, land, sustainability, and regenerative innovation knowledge more accessible to learners, educators, researchers, innovators, communities, and institutions.

Ozeaton’s educational resources are not designed as passive content repositories. They are intended to become participatory knowledge objects that can be discovered, cited, discussed, reviewed, translated, curated, and connected to projects or bounties. This design reflects the wider shift from static content delivery toward open, participatory, and reusable learning systems. UNESCO’s Recommendation on Open Educational Resources defines OERs as learning, teaching, and research materials in any format that are either in the public domain or released under open licences that allow access, reuse, adaptation, and redistribution (UNESCO, 2019).

Within Ozeaton, educational participation becomes part of a broader contribution economy. Users can complete learning modules, demonstrate understanding through quizzes, engage with open resources, and build reputation through verified educational progress. This transforms learning from a purely consumptive activity into a pathway toward participation, contribution, and governance.

FIGURE 3.3 — LEARNING-TO-CONTRIBUTION PATHWAY



AI-assisted knowledge tools may support summarisation, semantic search, recommendation, translation, and scientific discovery workflows. However, these tools should remain governed by clear transparency, reliability, and risk-management principles. The NIST AI Risk Management Framework emphasises that trustworthy AI systems should be valid and reliable, safe, secure and resilient, accountable and transparent, explainable and interpretable, privacy-enhanced, and fair (National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST], 2023). For this reason, AI in Ozean should support human learning and decision-making rather than replace scientific judgement, peer review, or community governance.

3.3 Create: Publishing, Attribution, and Knowledge Contribution

The creation layer enables users to publish articles, research summaries, educational materials, tutorials, media, project logs, technical designs, field observations, and other knowledge assets relevant to regenerative innovation. This supports Ozean’s role as a knowledge commons where contributors can make work visible, attributable, reusable, and connected to action.

The problem Ozean addresses is not simply that knowledge is unavailable. It is that knowledge is often disconnected from attribution, incentives, collaboration, implementation, and long-term stewardship. By allowing users to publish within a structured platform environment, Ozean creates clearer pathways between knowledge production and ecosystem participation.

Published contributions may include:

- peer-reviewed or pre-publication scientific summaries;
- open educational resources;
- technical guides and tutorials;
- biomaterial or circular design concepts;
- project documentation;
- citizen-science records;
- field notes and local ecological observations;
- artistic, cultural, and narrative works connected to ocean and climate action;
- and other regenerative knowledge assets.

Each contribution can be linked to metadata, authorship, licensing terms, subject categories, Sustainable Development Goal alignment, project associations, and community review. This structure supports discoverability, reuse, reputation, and accountability.

TABLE 3.1 — OZEAN KNOWLEDGE ASSET TYPES

ASSET TYPE	EXAMPLE	COMMON TO ALL ASSET TYPES			
		METADATA REQUIREMENTS	VALIDATION PATHWAY	POSSIBLE REWARD MECHANISM	REUSE / LICENSING OPTION
Scientific summaries	Research outputs, peer-reviewed or pre-publication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Authorship - Licensing terms - Subject categories - SDG alignment - Project associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community review - Peer review or validation activity - Acceptance into the knowledge system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PRG via Proof of Progress - \$OZN tipping - Bounty payments - Royalties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open or Creative Commons - Community licences - Restricted commercial - Attribution-only - Culturally sensitive access
Open educational resources	Educational modules				
Technical guides and tutorials	Open-source tools				
Biomaterial or circular design concepts	Biomaterial recipes, sustainable product designs				
Project documentation	Project-linked innovation documentation				
Citizen-science records	Datasets				
Field notes and local ecological observations	Field protocols				
Artistic, cultural, and narrative works	Creative works on ocean and climate action				

3.4 Tokenized Intellectual Property and Digital Stewardship

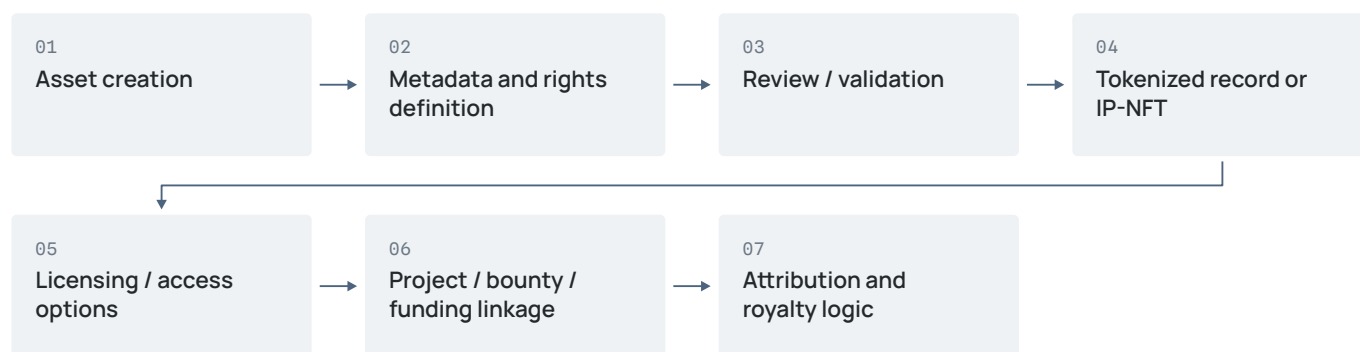
Ozean's tokenized intellectual property layer is designed to support transparent attribution, provenance, licensing, access control, and value-sharing for selected knowledge and innovation assets. This layer may include IP-NFTs or other blockchain-enabled records representing rights, claims, metadata, licensing conditions, or stewardship relationships attached to digital or intellectual assets.

NFTs and related tokenized asset structures can provide a mechanism for representing uniqueness, ownership, provenance, and programmable rights in digital environments. In the context of intellectual property, Bamakan et al. (2022) identify potential applications for NFTs in improving transparency, traceability, transferability, and commercialisation pathways for patents and other IP assets, while also noting unresolved legal, technical, and governance challenges.

For Ozean, tokenized IP should not be treated as speculative collectibles. It should be framed as a digital stewardship mechanism for regenerative knowledge assets. These assets may include sustainable product designs, open-source tools, research outputs, biomaterial recipes, datasets, educational modules, field protocols, creative works, or project-linked innovation documentation. The purpose is to give contributors stronger

control over attribution, licensing, reuse, royalties, and collaboration conditions while supporting a more transparent regenerative knowledge economy.

FIGURE 3.4 — TOKENIZED KNOWLEDGE AND IP WORKFLOW



This layer must be designed carefully. Open science and tokenized IP can conflict if openness is interpreted as unrestricted extraction or if tokenization creates unnecessary enclosure around public-good knowledge. Ozeon will therefore support a spectrum of licensing models, including open licences, Creative Commons licences, community licences, restricted commercial licences, attribution-only pathways, and culturally sensitive access conditions. In this way, tokenized IP can support both open knowledge commons and contributor protection.

3.5 Fund: Regenerative Finance and Project Support

The funding layer enables users, communities, institutions, organisations, and ecosystem participants to support regenerative projects through transparent and traceable funding mechanisms. Ozeon is designed to help projects move from visibility to participation, from participation to support, and from support to accountable implementation.

Regenerative finance, or ReFi, refers to the use of financial tools, digital infrastructure, and economic coordination mechanisms to support ecological regeneration, social resilience, and long-term commons stewardship. Schletz et al. (2023) describe blockchain and regenerative finance as an emerging field that seeks to connect decentralized technologies with regenerative economic principles, while also highlighting the need for credible governance, accountability, and real-world outcomes.

Ozeon responds to this challenge by treating regenerative finance as a participation and verification problem, not only a capital allocation problem. The platform connects project pages, community support, transparent funding flows, milestone reporting, contribution records, and climate intelligence infrastructure. This allows funders and supporters to engage with projects in a more structured environment while allowing project teams to build trust over time.

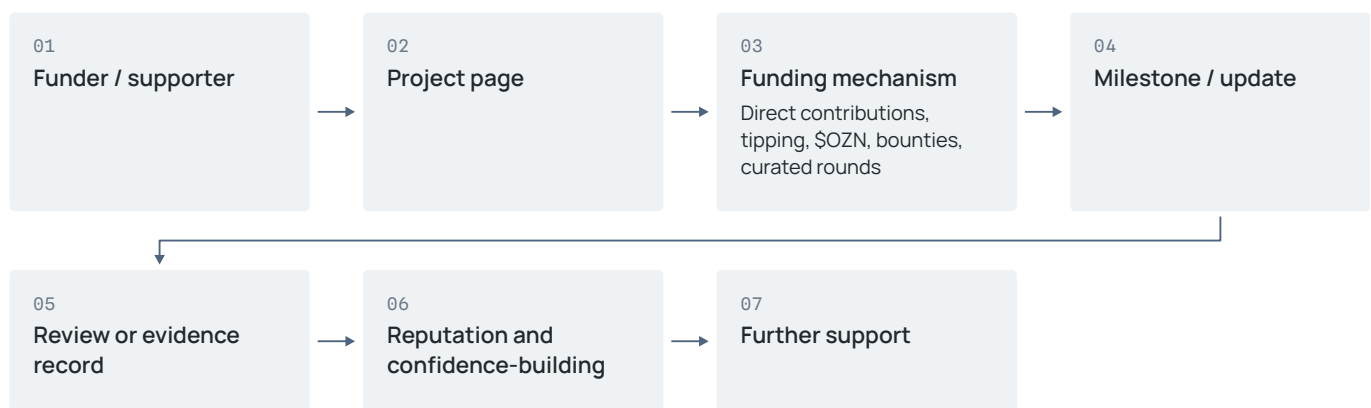
Project funding may occur through several pathways:

- direct contributions or donations;
- tipping and supporter payments;
- \$OZN-based project funding;
- bounty-based funding;

- organisation-backed project support;
- curated funding rounds;
- future DAO treasury proposals;
- premium or promoted project visibility;
- and ecosystem service payments.

A project does not require DAO endorsement to receive ordinary \$OZN-based funding, tipping, bounty payments, or direct user support. DAO endorsement is a separate governance signal that may support higher visibility, stronger trust signalling, DAO treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support, curated funding rounds, or blockchain-enabled verification pathways. This distinction preserves open funding access while allowing the DAO to provide additional recognition, curation, and treasury-related decision-making where appropriate.

FIGURE 3.5 — REGENERATIVE FUNDING FLOW



The purpose of this layer is not to replace grants, philanthropy, public funding, or impact investment. Instead, Ozean is designed to complement existing funding systems by improving visibility, coordination, transparency, and early-stage support for regenerative projects that may otherwise remain invisible or under-resourced.

3.6 Dual-Token Architecture: PRG and \$OZN

Ozean uses a dual-token architecture to separate contribution-based legitimacy from transferable platform utility. This distinction is central to the system's governance and incentive logic.

Progress, or PRG, is a non-transferable contribution and reputation token. It is earned through verified participation, such as learning, publishing, peer review, bounty completion, project support, content validation, and other meaningful ecosystem activity. Because PRG is non-transferable, it cannot be bought, sold, or accumulated through market speculation. Its purpose is to represent demonstrated contribution, not purchasing power. This design is conceptually related to non-transferable token frameworks, such as soulbound tokens, which have been proposed as mechanisms for representing credentials, affiliations, commitments, reputation, and trust relationships in decentralized systems (Ohlhaver et al., 2022).

\$OZN is the transferable utility token used within Ozean's economic layer. It is intended for project funding, tipping, bounties, premium content access, platform transactions, selected licensing flows, and later digital asset interactions. Unlike PRG, \$OZN is designed for exchange and utility, not as the primary basis for governance legitimacy.

TABLE 3.2 — DUAL-TOKEN SEPARATION MATRIX

FUNCTION	PRG / PROGRESS	\$OZN
Transferable	No	Yes
Core function	Reputation and contribution record	Utility and exchange
Earned through contribution	Yes	Indirectly through ecosystem mechanisms
Used for governance eligibility	Yes	Limited or indirect
Used for platform transactions	No	Yes
Used for direct project funding	No	Yes
Speculative risk	Low by design	Higher, requiring controls
Primary design purpose	Legitimacy, trust, participation	Funding, rewards, access, transactions

This separation addresses a common failure mode in token economies. When one token simultaneously functions as a speculative asset, governance instrument, reward mechanism, and platform utility, governance can become vulnerable to wealth concentration and short-term market behaviour. Ozean's separation of PRG from \$OZN is designed to preserve contribution-weighted governance while still enabling a liquid economic layer for platform activity.

3.7 Govern: DAO, Pods, and Contribution-Weighted Participation

The governance layer is designed to enable community participation in curation, platform evolution, project signalling, treasury decisions, working-group formation, and mission alignment. Ozean's governance architecture should be understood as progressive decentralization: governance functions can become more decentralized over time as the platform matures, participation grows, and safeguards are established.

DAOs are generally understood as blockchain-based systems that enable people to coordinate and govern themselves through rules deployed on blockchain infrastructure (Hassan & De Filippi, 2021). However, DAOs also face well-documented challenges, including voter apathy, plutocracy, legal uncertainty, governance capture, technical complexity, and low participation quality. Ozean therefore does not frame decentralization as an automatic solution. Instead, it presents governance as a carefully designed socio-technical system.

Ozean's governance layer may include:

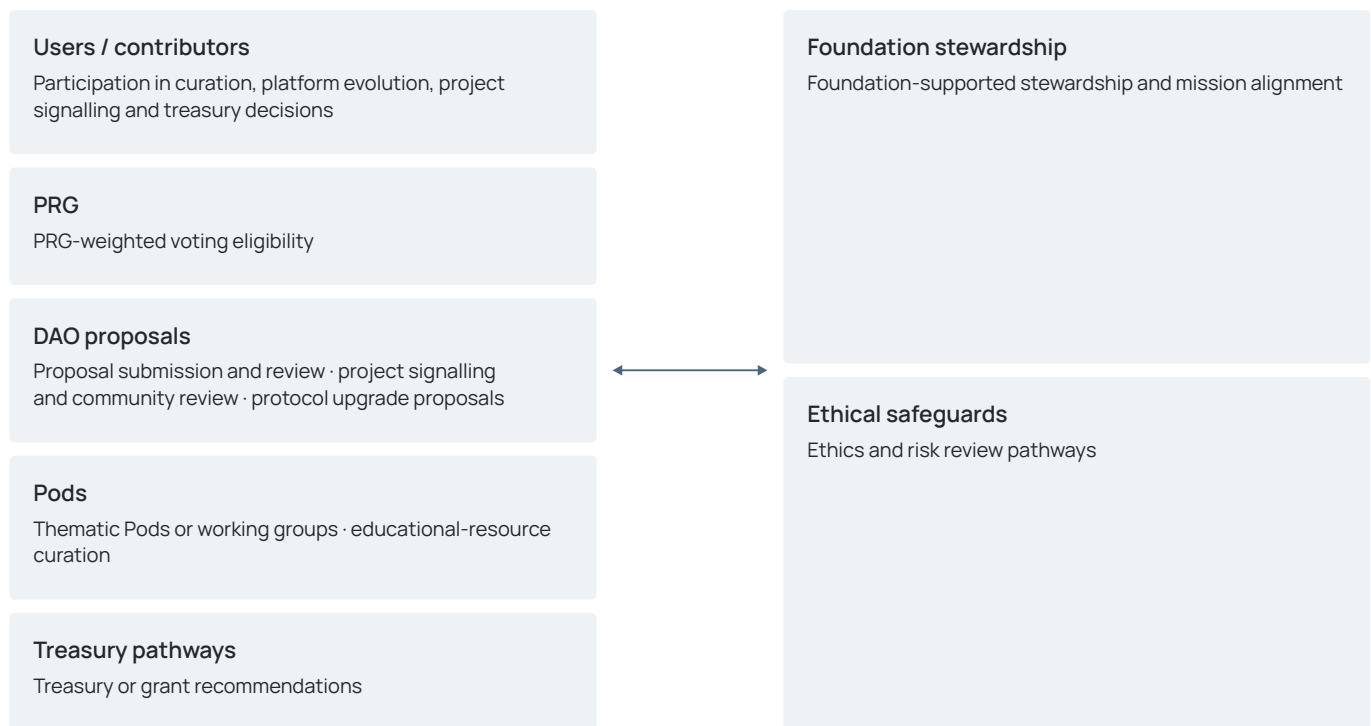
- PRG-weighted voting eligibility;
- proposal submission and review;
- thematic Pods or working groups;

- educational-resource curation;
- project signalling and community review;
- treasury or grant recommendations;
- protocol upgrade proposals;
- ethics and risk review pathways;
- and Foundation-supported stewardship.

FIGURE 3.6 — OZEAON GOVERNANCE ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE (DAO)

STEWARDSHIP & SAFEGUARDS



Pods are specialised working groups that can focus on domains such as education, ocean science, regenerative economics, tokenomics, AI ethics, project review, open calls, or ecosystem partnerships. This allows governance to be more context-specific and expert-informed, while still remaining accountable to the wider community.

3.8 Work: Bounties as Decentralized Coordination Infrastructure

The Bounties layer enables users, organisations, Pods, project teams, funders, and future DAO structures to coordinate mission-aligned work through defined tasks, contribution requirements, rewards, deadlines, submission workflows, and verification processes. This creates a practical bridge between learning, contribution, compensation, and project implementation.

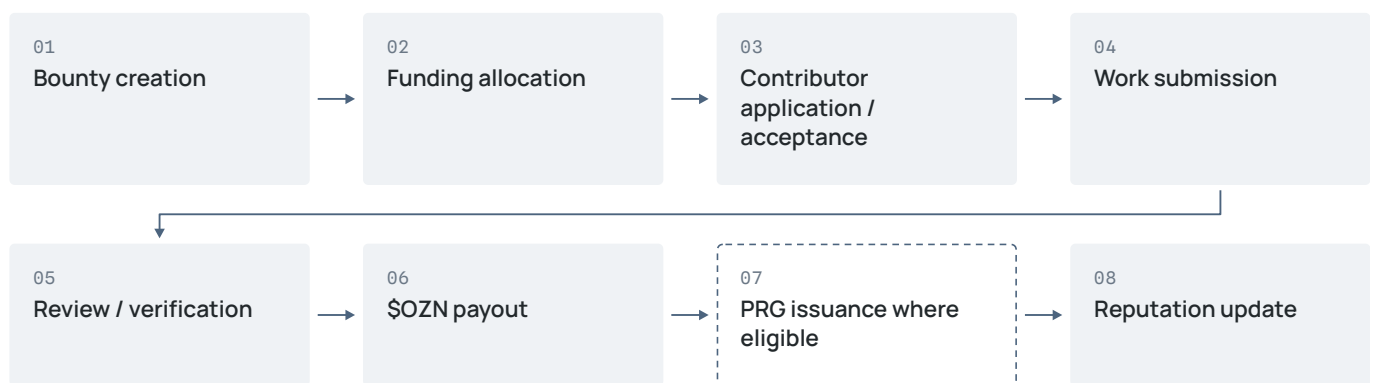
Bounties may support:

- scientific data collection;
- environmental monitoring;

- open peer review;
- educational content validation;
- translation and localisation;
- technical prototyping;
- regenerative design work;
- citizen-science tasks;
- project documentation;
- ecosystem mapping;
- OCIS-related evidence preparation;
- and community outreach.

This mechanism is especially important because many forms of regenerative work are distributed, interdisciplinary, and difficult to fund through conventional employment or grant structures. Bounties allow useful tasks to be specified and rewarded without requiring every contributor to be part of a formal organisation. They also create a way for learners and early-career professionals to build reputation through practical contributions.

FIGURE 3.7 — BOUNTY LIFECYCLE



In Ozeon, bounties should be understood as more than task postings. They are programmable contribution pathways that support decentralized science, environmental monitoring, open education, and regenerative project execution. Over time, the Bounties layer may also become one of the primary mechanisms through which Proof of Progress is generated and verified.

3.9 Validate: Proof of Progress as a Contribution-Verification Protocol

Proof of Progress is Ozeon's central contribution-verification and reputation protocol. It is designed to recognise meaningful participation across the ecosystem and convert verified action into non-transferable reputation.

In conventional blockchain systems, consensus mechanisms such as Proof-of-Work and Proof-of-Stake are used to secure networks and validate transactions. Proof-of-Work has been criticised for its high energy consumption, while Proof-of-Stake secures networks through capital staking rather than computational work. Ethereum's transition from

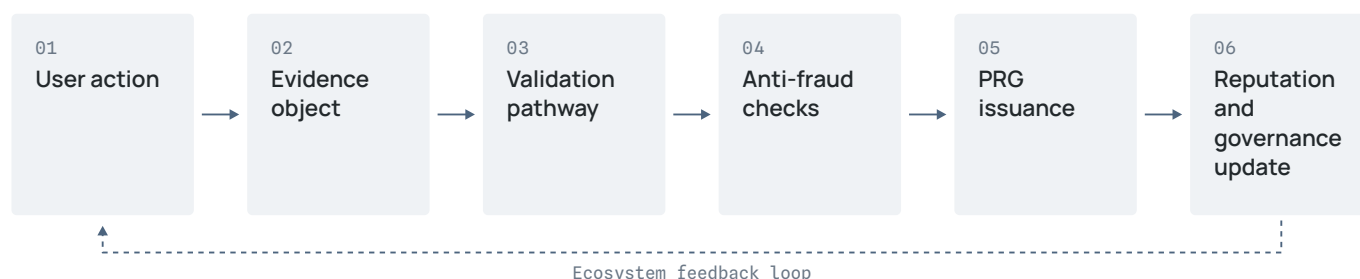
Proof-of-Work to Proof-of-Stake reduced the network's energy consumption by approximately 99.95%, demonstrating that blockchain systems can evolve toward lower-energy architectures (Ethereum Foundation, n.d.).

Ozeon's Proof of Progress is not be presented as a replacement for base-layer blockchain consensus unless Ozeon later develops its own blockchain network. Instead, in this white paper, Proof of Progress is defined as an application-layer protocol for contribution verification, reputation issuance, governance eligibility, and ecosystem incentive alignment. It validates actions that create knowledge value, coordination value, project value, or regenerative impact.

Proof of Progress may verify:

- completion of approved educational modules;
- successful Learn2Earn quiz performance;
- acceptance of articles, tutorials, or resources into the platform's knowledge system;
- peer review or validation activity;
- project funding or support;
- delivery of project milestones;
- completion of approved bounties;
- contribution to open calls, Pods, or governance processes;
- and verified environmental or project-integrity outcomes through OCIS.

FIGURE 3.8 — PROOF OF PROGRESS VERIFICATION FLOW



The purpose of Proof of Progress is to create an alternative legitimacy system. Instead of allowing platform influence to be determined primarily by wealth, attention, or speculation, Ozeon recognises contribution. This creates the foundation for a more credible regenerative economy in which governance influence and reputation emerge from actions that strengthen the commons.

3.10 Ethical and Strategic Oversight: The Ozeon Foundation

The Ozeon Foundation provides the ethical, educational, and strategic stewardship layer of the wider ecosystem. Its purpose is to help preserve mission alignment, support public-interest activities, guide responsible technology development, and provide oversight in areas where purely token-weighted governance may be insufficient.

This is important because decentralized systems are not automatically ethical, inclusive, or resilient. They require governance design, accountability mechanisms, legal awareness, accessibility standards, and safeguards against misuse. In the case of Ozeon, these requirements are especially important because the platform operates at the intersection of open science, education, funding, blockchain, AI, environmental claims, community knowledge, and potentially sensitive ecological or cultural data.

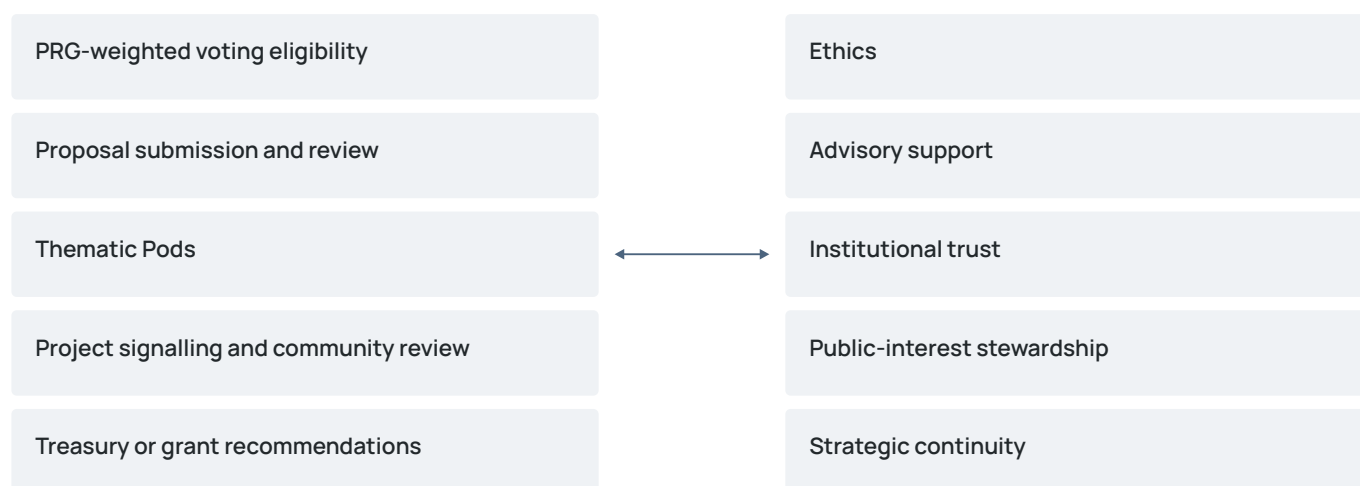
The Foundation may support:

- ethical guidance for platform and protocol development;
- strategic alignment with regenerative principles;
- educational outreach and public-interest programming;
- partnership review and institutional collaboration;
- grant acquisition and cascade funding;
- advisory structures across science, education, law, design, AI, and governance;
- emergency review mechanisms for high-risk proposals;
- and stewardship of long-term mission integrity.

FIGURE 3.9 — FOUNDATION-DAO STEWARDSHIP MODEL

OZEON DAO • PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

OZEON FOUNDATION • STEWARDSHIP



The Foundation can be described as a stewardship body rather than a central authority. Its role is not to override decentralized participation, but to help ensure that Ozeon's governance and technology systems remain aligned with ecological literacy, social equity, responsible innovation, and long-term regenerative value.

3.11 Connected Adjacent Layer: Ozeon Climate Intelligence System

The Ozeon Climate Intelligence System, or OCIS, is being developed as a connected adjacent system within the broader Ozeon ecosystem. It should be distinguished from the core Ozeon platform. The core Ozeon platform focuses on knowledge, participation, publishing, project visibility, funding pathways, open calls, community, blockchain-enabled

contribution, bounties, token utility, and governance. OCIS adds a more specialised intelligence, integrity, evidence, and reporting layer.

OCIS is designed to support:

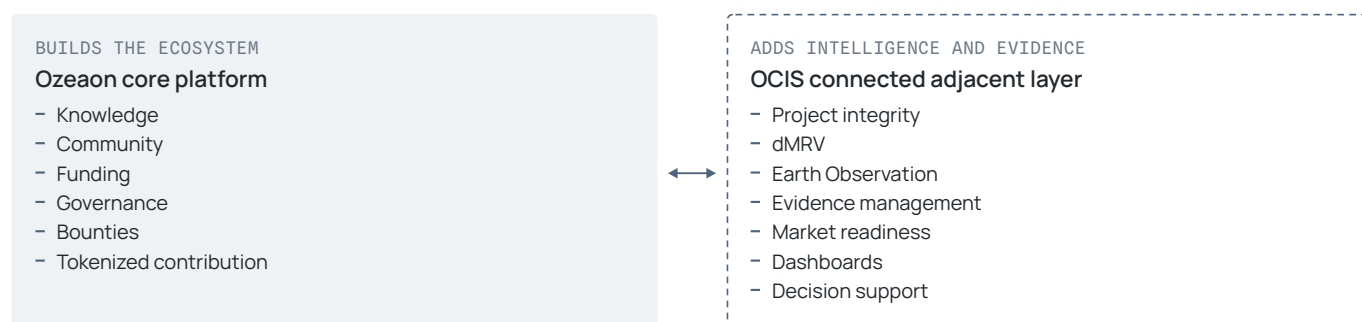
- project integrity assessment;
- climate intelligence and environmental data integration;
- dMRV-aligned monitoring, reporting, and verification workflows;
- project risk and feasibility analysis;
- standardised evidence collection;
- impact reporting;
- Earth Observation and geospatial intelligence;
- environmental market readiness;
- decision-support tools for regenerative initiatives;
- ecological footprint mitigation strategies;
- and company, funder, and project dashboards.

This separation is strategically important. AI, climate intelligence, and verification systems require higher standards of data quality, accountability, scientific validation, transparency, and governance. NIST (2023) emphasises that trustworthy AI systems require validity, reliability, safety, accountability, transparency, privacy protection, and fairness. For Ozeon, this means that OCIS will operate as a specialised system for evidence and intelligence rather than as an unrestricted AI layer embedded into every platform function.

A project does not require DAO endorsement to be listed on Ozeon, to be assessed in OCIS, or to receive ordinary \$OZN-based funding from users, supporters, contributors, funders, or ecosystem participants. DAO endorsement is a separate governance signal. It may support higher visibility, stronger trust signalling, DAO treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support, curated funding rounds, or blockchain-enabled verification pathways, but it should not be treated as a prerequisite for basic project participation, OCIS assessment, or direct \$OZN support.

OCIS and Ozeon are therefore complementary systems. Ozeon builds the participation, funding, governance, knowledge, and token economy. OCIS adds project intelligence, assessment, monitoring, reporting, and evidence infrastructure. Together, they create a pathway from knowledge and contribution toward more accountable regenerative implementation.

FIGURE 3.10 — OZEON BUILDS THE ECOSYSTEM; OCIS ADDS INTELLIGENCE AND EVIDENCE



3.12 Strategic Summary

Ozeon's solution is to build a decentralized infrastructure in which regenerative knowledge, contribution, funding, governance, and verification can reinforce one another. The platform does this by connecting open educational resources, publishing, project support, IP stewardship, bounties, PRG-based reputation, \$OZN utility, DAO participation, Foundation stewardship, and OCIS intelligence into one coherent ecosystem.

The system is designed around a simple but powerful logic:

- knowledge should become action;
- action should become verifiable;
- verified contribution should become reputation;
- reputation should support governance;
- governance should coordinate shared resources;
- resources should accelerate regenerative outcomes.

At the same time, the system preserves open access to project funding and participation. DAO endorsement can create additional trust, visibility, treasury access, or curated support, but it is not required for ordinary \$OZN-based project funding, tipping, bounty payments, or direct user support.

Ozeon is therefore not only a platform. It is a protocol economy for regenerative innovation: a digital infrastructure designed to help people learn, contribute, fund, govern, and build measurable progress toward ecological, social, and intellectual regeneration.

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System Architecture

4.1 Architectural Overview

Ozeon is designed as a modular infrastructure for regenerative innovation, decentralized education, public-good coordination, direct project funding, contribution recognition, and contribution-based governance. The platform architecture combines open science, community-created Articles, DAO-accepted Educational Resources, project infrastructure, regenerative finance, tokenized contribution records, DAO governance, bounties, digital asset provenance, and connected climate-intelligence capabilities within a composable system.

At the product level, Ozeon supports knowledge creation, Article publishing, DAO-based knowledge curation, educational access, project visibility, opportunity discovery, organisational participation, community interaction, direct project funding, bounty coordination, and saved content. At the blockchain level, Ozeon introduces a Solidity-based smart-contract architecture for reputation, utility, governance, funding, staking, bounty coordination, digital asset custody, treasury routing, and supply distribution. Solidity is the primary smart-contract language used across Ethereum-compatible environments, and its compiler supports configuration options such as optimizer settings and the intermediate-representation pipeline through `vialR` (Solidity, n.d.).

The architecture follows five core principles:

1. Contribution before speculation. Governance legitimacy is tied to verified contribution through PRG, not direct purchasing power.
2. Separation of reputation and utility. PRG functions as a non-transferable reputation and governance token, while \$OZN functions as a transferable utility token.
3. Open project funding. Projects do not require DAO endorsement to receive ordinary \$OZN-based funding, tipping, bounty payments, or direct user support.
4. Modular governance. The DAO is not implemented as a single monolithic contract. Governance is split across a voting engine, canonical proposal store, shared module scaffolding, and type-specific proposal modules.
5. Progressive decentralization. Blockchain-enabled governance, staking, bounties, and tokenized participation are designed for staged implementation after core platform utility, adoption, and trust are established.

This design reflects the broader transition from static digital platforms toward programmable coordination infrastructure. Smart contracts provide a means of encoding access rights, payments, escrow, token issuance, role-based permissions, and governance execution into deterministic software systems. However, Ozeon does not treat decentralization as sufficient by itself. The architecture also incorporates access control, pausable emergency mechanisms, role separation, off-chain attestation, Foundation stewardship, and compliance-aware deployment. OpenZeppelin's contract libraries provide widely used patterns for ERC token standards, access control, pausing, and reentrancy protection, which are relevant reference points for this security model (OpenZeppelin, n.d.-a, n.d.-b).

FIGURE 4.1 — OZEAON SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE OVERVIEW



4.2 Core Smart-Contract Domains

Ozean's core smart-contract architecture is organised into eight domains.

These domains are conceptually distinct but interoperable. OCIS is treated separately as a connected adjacent intelligence and evidence system rather than as a core smart-contract domain.

TABLE 4.1 — CORE SMART CONTRACT DOMAINS

DOMAIN	PURPOSE	PRIMARY CONTRACT AREA
Identity and Actor Layer	Defines users, organisations, Pods, actor status, and eligibility	IdentityRegistry
Learning and Knowledge Layer	Records community-created Articles and DAO-accepted Educational Resources	ContentRegistry
Projects and Open Calls Layer	Records projects, opportunities, status fields, and optional governance signals	ProjectRegistry, OpenCallsRegistry
Economic Flow Layer	Handles funding, tipping, rewards, fees, and premium access	Funding, Tipping, PremiumAccess, reward contracts
Token Economy Layer	Separates non-transferable PRG from transferable \$OZN	ProgressToken, OzeanToken
Governance Layer	Coordinates proposals, voting, execution, and module-specific decisions	GovernanceCore, ProposalRegistry, proposal modules
Bounties Layer	Coordinates funded tasks, escrow, submissions, approvals, and payouts	BountyManager
IP-NFT and Custody Layer	Supports tokenized knowledge assets and digital asset custody	NFTVault, NFTPurchaseProposalModule

4.2.1 Identity and Actor Layer

The Identity and Actor Layer defines who can participate in platform actions and how actors are represented across the system. Ozeon distinguishes between individual users, Pods, and organisations. This distinction is important because governance participation, voting caps, group treasuries, project ownership, organisational activity, and eligibility for selected platform functions may differ depending on actor type.

At the smart-contract level, this function is represented by IdentityRegistry, which records actor type, active status, and group membership. Active-actor checks are used by other modules to prevent inactive, unregistered, or invalid actors from accessing protected flows.

This layer supports:

- individual user accounts;
- organisation profiles;
- Pod or group membership;
- verified actor status;
- active/inactive account checks;
- governance eligibility;
- future compliance and identity-related controls.

4.2.2 Learning and Knowledge Layer

The Learning and Knowledge Layer provides the platform's educational infrastructure. In Ozeon, Educational Resources are created by the community through Articles. Community members create Articles, submit them through DAO proposals, and, if accepted, those Articles become approved Educational Resources within the Ozeon knowledge commons.

This means Educational Resources are not treated as a separate top-down content category. They are produced by the community through Articles and become part of the platform's educational layer after DAO acceptance. This structure connects authorship, curation, attribution, learning, contribution recognition, and governance into one knowledge-creation workflow.

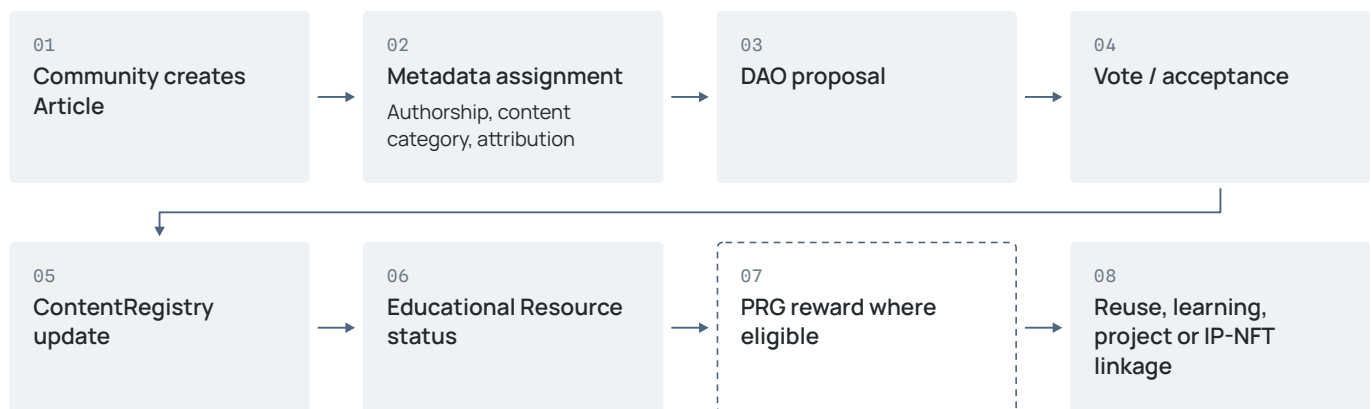
This layer is designed to transform open science, regenerative knowledge, practical experience, research interpretation, and community insight into accessible learning pathways. Community members can create Articles that explain ocean, climate, land, sustainability, regenerative innovation, technology, design, policy, culture, or project-related knowledge. These Articles can then be proposed for DAO acceptance. If accepted, they become approved Educational Resources that can be discovered, cited, discussed, reviewed, translated, curated, linked to projects, and reused across the platform.

At the smart-contract level, ContentRegistry records Article metadata, authorship, content category, approval status, and accepted Educational Resource status. The relevant proposal module handles DAO acceptance of Articles into the knowledge commons. This may be implemented through OERProposalModule, or through a renamed ArticleProposalModule if the repository later separates Article governance more explicitly.

This layer supports:

- community-created Articles;
- DAO proposal submission for Article acceptance;
- DAO-accepted Articles becoming Educational Resources;
- Article metadata;
- authorship and attribution;
- research summaries;
- learning tracks;
- Learn2Earn quiz pathways;
- content approval status;
- PRG rewards where eligible;
- optional IP-NFT linkage;
- reuse, citation, translation, and curation pathways.

FIGURE 4.2 — ARTICLE-TO-EDUCATIONAL-RESOURCE LIFECYCLE



4.2.3 Project and Open Calls Layer

The Project and Open Calls Layer connects knowledge to applied opportunity and implementation. Projects allow users and organisations to publish, develop, fund, and report on regenerative initiatives. Open Calls allow institutions, funders, networks, and ecosystem partners to publish opportunities, challenges, funding calls, accelerator programmes, research calls, fieldwork needs, and mission-aligned invitations for participation.

The inclusion of Open Calls is strategically important because it expands Ozeon from a project and publishing platform into an opportunity-discovery infrastructure. It allows the ecosystem to connect users not only to knowledge and projects, but also to external pathways for funding, collaboration, training, awards, research, and institutional engagement.

At the smart-contract level, ProjectRegistry records project metadata, project status fields, ownership or creator references, and optional trust or governance signals. A project does not require DAO endorsement to be listed, discovered, assessed through OCIS, or funded directly by users through \$OZN-based support. Ordinary project funding is handled through the Economic Flow Layer.

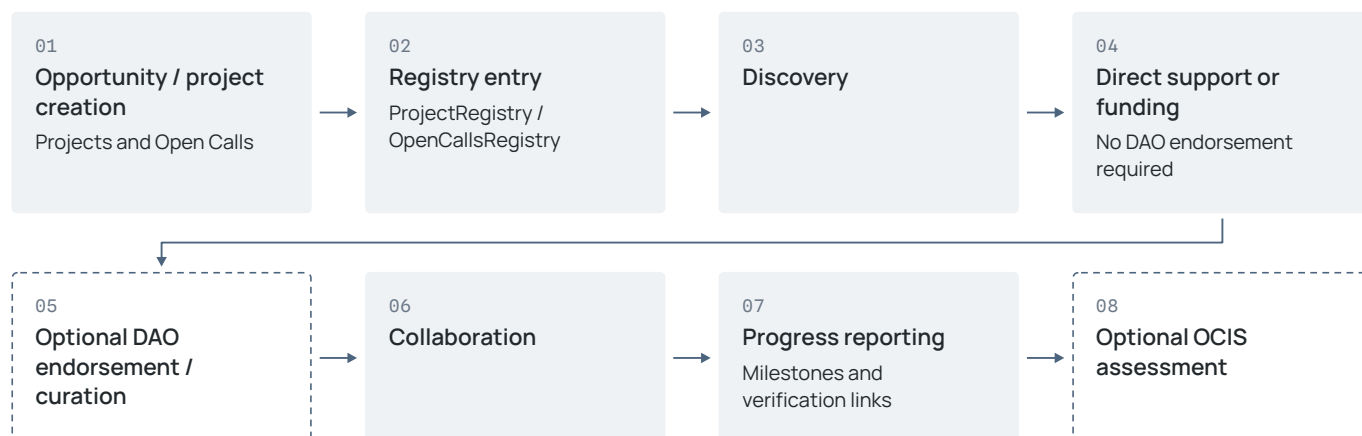
DAO endorsement is a separate governance signal. It may support higher visibility, stronger trust signalling, DAO treasury eligibility, Pod or Foundation-backed support, curated funding rounds, or blockchain-enabled verification pathways. This distinction prevents the governance layer from becoming an unnecessary gatekeeper for ordinary project funding while preserving the DAO's role in curation, treasury allocation, and higher-trust ecosystem decisions.

Open Calls may be implemented through a dedicated OpenCallsRegistry and OpenCallProposalModule, or through an equivalent extension of the existing proposal architecture. Open Calls are a first-class product and governance domain because they connect users to external funding, collaboration, training, research, and institutional opportunities.

This layer supports:

- project creation and metadata;
- project status fields;
- ordinary project listing and discovery;
- direct project funding and user support;
- optional project endorsement or trust signalling;
- Open Calls and opportunity listings;
- proposal-based endorsement, prioritisation, or treasury support for selected projects and opportunities;
- milestone reporting and verification links;
- OCIS-linked project integrity and dMRV workflows.

FIGURE 4.3 — PROJECTS AND OPEN CALLS FLOW



4.2.4 Economic Flow Layer

The Economic Flow Layer handles direct project funding, tipping, pro (or premium) access, reward distribution, platform fees, and payment-linked participation. It is designed to support both ordinary platform utility and contribution-linked reputation issuance.

At the smart-contract level, this layer includes:

- Funding;

- Tipping;
- PremiumAccess;
- Learn2EarnRewards;
- MilestoneRewards;
- PeerReviewRewards;
- PriceOracle;
- PlatformFeeRouter;
- FoundationTreasury.

The Funding contract should be understood as the primary mechanism for ordinary direct project support. Projects do not need DAO endorsement to receive ordinary \$OZN-based funding from users, supporters, contributors, funders, or ecosystem participants. DAO processes apply only to DAO treasury allocations, curated funding rounds, Foundation-backed support, optional project endorsement, or governance-linked verification pathways.

The economic-flow contracts allow Ozeon to assign PRG rewards to meaningful user actions, including project funding, tipping, pro (or premium) content purchases, learning completion, milestone verification, and peer review. The repository design defines a 10 PRG / US\$1 reward model for selected economic activities, using USD-equivalent conversion through PriceOracle.

This layer supports:

- direct \$OZN project funding;
- creator tipping;
- pro (or premium) content access;
- Learn2Earn rewards;
- peer-review rewards;
- milestone rewards;
- platform fees;
- treasury routing;
- fiat/on-chain conversion logic;
- reward claims using signed receipts.

4.2.5 Token Economy Layer

The Token Economy Layer separates non-transferable reputation from transferable utility.

PRG is the non-transferable reputation token. It represents verified contribution, learning, Article creation, DAO-accepted Educational Resources, funding support, peer review, bounty completion, project participation, and governance eligibility. PRG is soulbound by design and cannot be freely transferred between users. This prevents direct market purchase of governance legitimacy. Non-transferable token concepts have been proposed more broadly for representing credentials, affiliations, commitments, and reputation in decentralized systems (Ohlhaber et al., 2022).

\$OZN is the transferable utility token. It is designed for platform payments, direct project funding, tipping, bounties, pro (or premium) access, selected licensing flows, and future digital asset interactions.

At the smart-contract level:

- ProgressToken implements PRG as a non-transferable ERC-20-style reputation token with a maximum supply of 150 billion PRG.
- OzeonToken implements \$OZN as a transferable ERC-20 utility token with a capped maximum supply of 1.5 billion \$OZN.
- Stake links PRG and \$OZN through Proof-of-Progress staking.
- OzeonICO, TokenVesting, and ImpactStakingPool support supply distribution and future capital-alignment mechanisms.

TABLE 4.2 — PRG / \$OZN TOKEN SEPARATION

FEATURE	PRG	\$OZN
Primary function	Reputation, contribution, governance eligibility	Utility, exchange, platform transactions
Transferable	No	Yes
Core standard	Soulbound ERC-20-style token	ERC-20 capped utility token
Supply cap	150 billion PRG	1.5 billion \$OZN
Governance role	Primary governance eligibility and reputation signal	Limited or indirect
Platform transaction role	No	Yes
Direct project funding role	No	Yes
Speculative exposure	Minimized by non-transferability	Present, requiring controls
Cross-token interaction	Staked in Proof of Progress	Minted through PoP staking reserve

4.2.6 Governance Layer

The Governance Layer enables PRG-based participation in platform decision-making. Its purpose is to allow contributors to influence Article acceptance into Educational Resources, curation, protocol parameters, optional project endorsement, Open Calls, bounty finalisation, treasury use, digital asset acquisition, and strategic ecosystem priorities.

Governance should not be presented as a mandatory gate for ordinary project listing, direct \$OZN funding, tipping, or bounty payments. Instead, governance applies where collective judgement is needed: Article acceptance into the knowledge commons, treasury allocation, curated support, protocol changes, optional project endorsement, IP-NFT acquisition, bounty disputes, higher-trust project signalling, and ecosystem-level decision-making.

DAOs are generally understood as blockchain-based systems that enable coordination through rules deployed on blockchain infrastructure, while also raising legal, operational, and governance complexity (Hassan & De Filippi, 2021). Ozeon therefore treats the DAO as a modular socio-technical governance system rather than as an automatic solution to coordination problems.

The repository architecture splits governance into three major components:

1. GovernanceCore — the voting engine;
2. ProposalRegistry — the canonical store for all proposals;
3. Proposal modules — type-specific execution contracts.

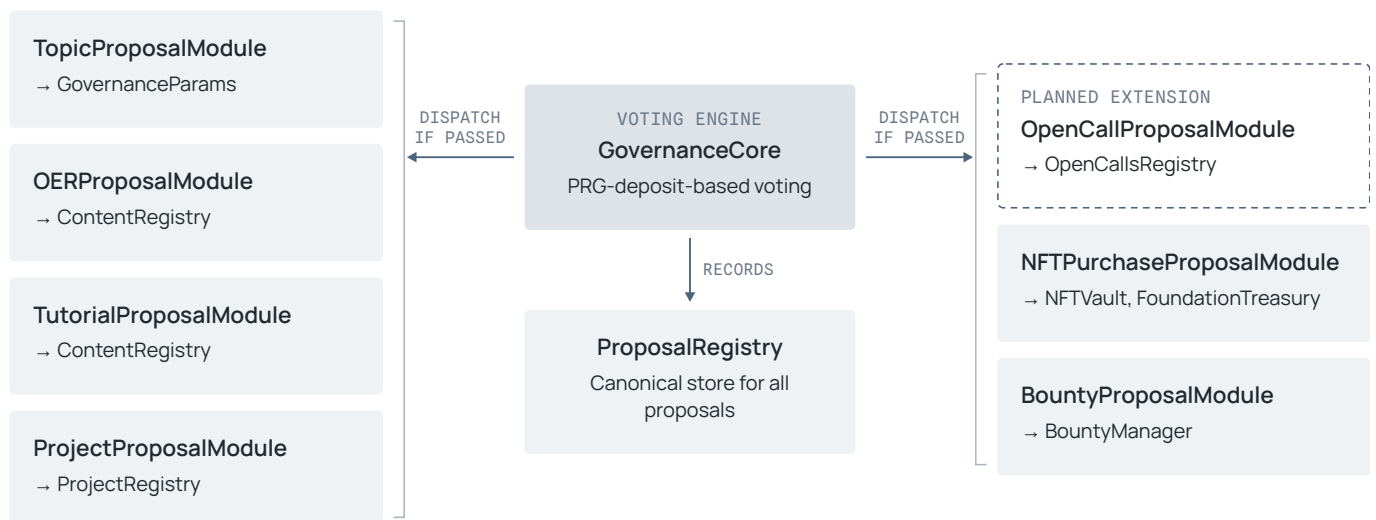
This avoids a “god-contract” architecture and allows modules to be upgraded, replaced, or extended without rewriting the entire governance system.

Governance is PRG-deposit-based rather than snapshot-balance-based. Proposers and voters lock PRG when participating. The system applies actor-based voting caps and a 72-hour refund ladder to reduce spam, discourage low-signal voting, and limit governance dominance.

The governance architecture supports:

- proposal creation;
- PRG deposits;
- capped voting by actor type;
- refund ladder;
- pass/fail resolution;
- module-based execution;
- DAO acceptance of Articles into Educational Resources;
- treasury-linked decisions;
- optional project endorsement;
- Open Calls governance;
- curated funding support;
- bounty payout approval or dispute resolution;
- NFT acquisition;
- protocol parameters.

FIGURE 4.4 — GOVERNANCECORE AND PROPOSALREGISTRY ARCHITECTURE



Proposal modules: type-specific execution contracts

4.2.7 Bounties and Decentralized Work Layer

The Bounties Layer coordinates mission-aligned work through funded tasks. It enables users, organisations, Pods, project teams, funders, and DAO structures to request work, lock funds, validate submissions, pay contributors, and assign PRG-based reputation.

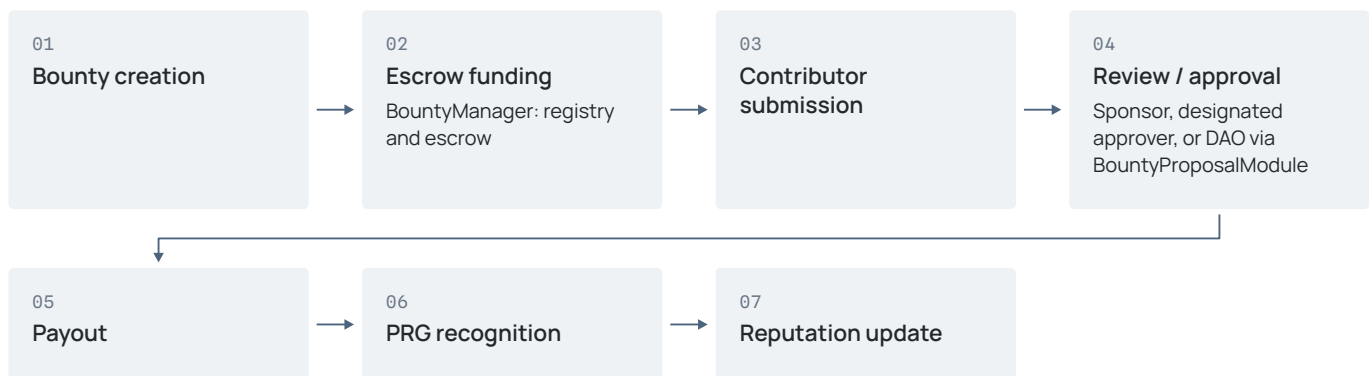
At the smart-contract level, BountyManager combines bounty registry and escrow functionality. This merged design reduces contract fragmentation by unifying bounty records and escrowed funds within one contract.

Bounties may support:

- scientific data collection;
- open peer review;
- research summarisation;
- translation;
- environmental monitoring;
- biodiversity media collection;
- project documentation;
- design or technical prototyping;
- Article improvement;
- Educational Resource review;
- Open Call response support;
- OCIS-related evidence preparation.

Bounty payouts can be authorised by the sponsor, a designated approver, or DAO-linked approval through BountyProposalModule.

FIGURE 4.5 — BOUNTY LIFECYCLE



4.2.8 IP-NFT and Digital Asset Custody Layer

The IP-NFT and Digital Asset Custody Layer enables Ozean to record, acquire, hold, and release tokenized knowledge assets and intellectual property. This supports the platform's role as a decentralized knowledge registry and regenerative innovation commons. Tokenized asset structures have been proposed as a way to represent provenance,

transferability, rights logic, and traceability for intellectual property assets, though legal and technical limitations remain significant (Bamakan et al., 2022).

At the smart-contract level:

- NFTVault holds ERC-721 assets;
- NFTPurchaseProposalModule enables DAO-approved IP-NFT acquisition;
- FoundationTreasury can execute payment for DAO-approved acquisitions;
- accepted Articles, Educational Resources, and project records may be linked to tokenized assets.

This layer supports:

- IP-NFT acquisition;
- ERC-721 custody;
- DAO-approved asset purchases;
- release of assets;
- contributor attribution;
- licensing and reuse pathways;
- long-term knowledge commons development.

4.3 Smart-Contract Repository Architecture

Ozeon's smart-contract repository implements the blockchain layer of the protocol as an end-to-end Solidity system. The repository includes contracts for PRG, \$OZN, Proof-of-Progress staking, governance, proposal modules, economic flows, content registries, bounties, NFT custody, reputation decay, vesting, ICO mechanics, and impact staking.

The implementation uses Solidity and OpenZeppelin-based contract standards. OpenZeppelin Contracts provide widely used implementations and utilities for ERC-20, ERC-721, access control, pausing, and reentrancy protection (OpenZeppelin, n.d.-a, n.d.-b). The internal repository documentation should maintain a current implementation-status table covering contract count, test count, compiler configuration, deployment readiness, audit status, and implemented modules.

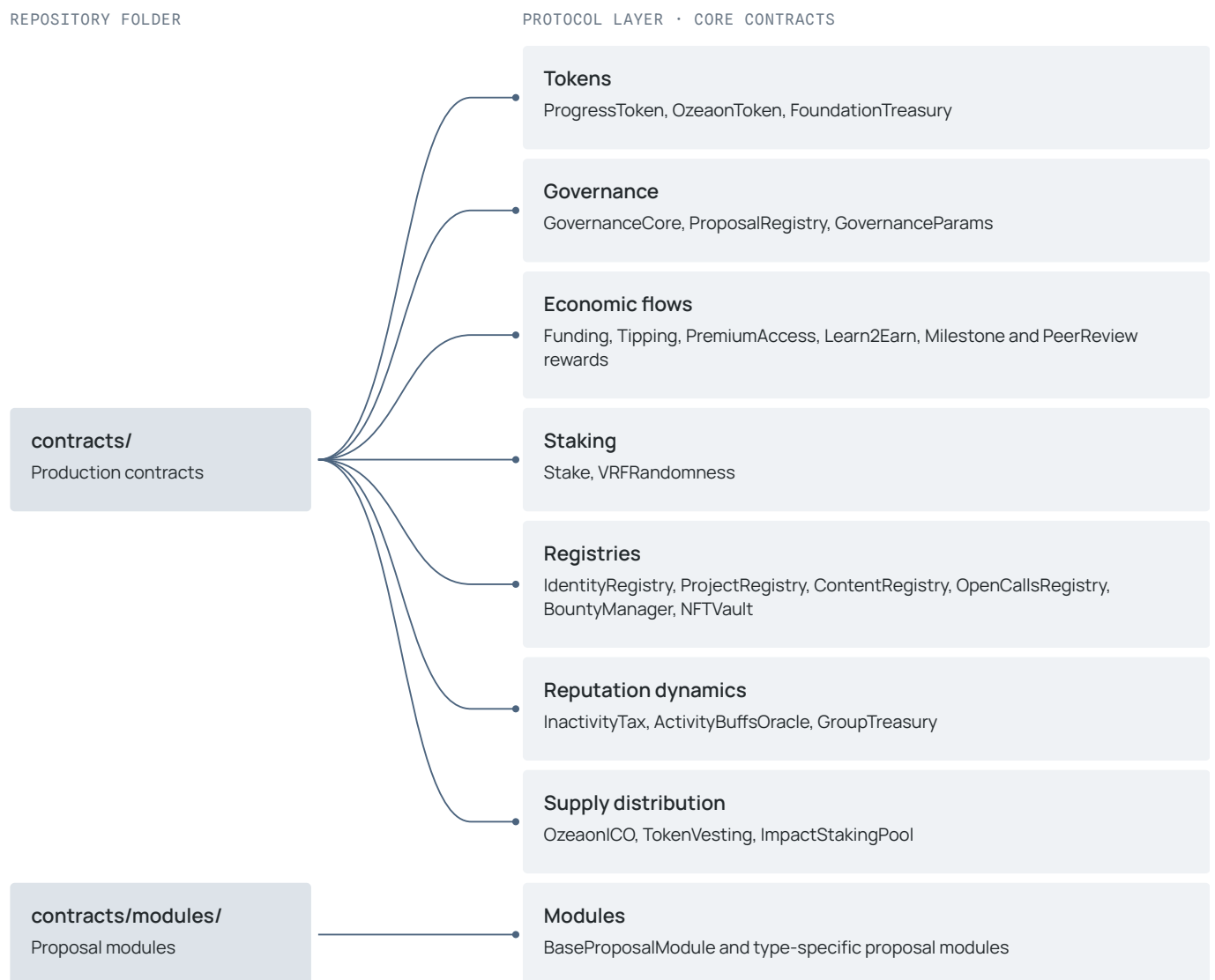
TABLE 4.3 — REPOSITORY IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

SCOPE	STATUS CATEGORY
Tokens: PRG soulbound, \$OZN capped, Foundation layer	Implemented; token supply controls, access permissions and treasury infrastructure developed.
Economic flows: funding, tipping, premium access, signed rewards	Implemented; transaction and reward contracts developed. Fee alignment and integration pending.
DAO core and proposal modules	Implemented; governance engine, seven proposal types, voting limits and approval thresholds developed.
Content, bounty, and NFT registries	Implemented; content approval, bounty escrow and NFT custody contracts developed.
Proof-of-Progress staking and randomness wrapper	Implemented; probabilistic staking and \$OZN minting developed. Production VRF integration pending.

SCOPE	STATUS CATEGORY
PRG decay, activity buffs, group treasuries	Implemented; reputation decay, activity multipliers and group treasury contracts developed.
ICO, vesting, impact staking	Implemented; token distribution, vesting schedules and impact staking contracts developed.
Test suite	89 automated Hardhat tests reported passing; independent security audit pending.

The repository is organised around clear domain separation:

FIGURE 4.6 — REPOSITORY-TO-PROTOCOL MAPPING



Support folders (no protocol layer): contracts/mocks/ · test/ · test/helpers/ · scripts/ · docs/ · legacy/

4.4 Smart-Contract Design Principles

The Solidity architecture follows several explicit design principles.

4.4.1 Two Tokens, Two Purposes

PRG and \$OZN are separated at the storage and lifecycle level. PRG represents soulbound reputation and contribution. \$OZN represents transferable utility. Their lifecycles cross only through Stake, the Proof-of-Progress staking contract.

This separation is central to Ozeon's tokenomic design. PRG protects governance from direct market capture, while \$OZN supports economic circulation across project funding, bounties, tipping, premium access, and selected digital asset interactions.

4.4.2 No God-Contracts

The DAO is decomposed into a thin voting engine, a proposal data layer, shared module scaffolding, and type-specific modules:

- GovernanceCore;
- ProposalRegistry;
- BaseProposalModule;
- domain-specific proposal modules.

This reduces architectural complexity and allows individual modules to evolve without modifying core governance logic.

4.4.3 Operator-Mediated PRG Flows

Because PRG is non-transferable, contracts that need to move PRG must hold OPERATOR_ROLE on ProgressToken. This includes governance, staking, and inactivity tax logic. PRG movement occurs through controlled operator transfer rather than free user-to-user transfer.

4.4.4 One Randomness Interface

Stake depends on VRFRandomness, a pluggable randomness wrapper. The wrapper follows a request-and-fulfil pattern and can later be connected to Chainlink VRF, Pyth Entropy, drand, or another verifiable randomness source without modifying the staking contract. Chainlink VRF is designed to provide smart contracts with random values and cryptographic proof of how those values were determined (Chainlink, n.d.).

4.4.5 Safe Contract Merges

The repository merges logically related contracts when they share storage structure and authority assumptions. Examples include:

- Articles and accepted Educational Resources under ContentRegistry;

- Bounty registry and escrow under BountyManager;
- Pods and organisations under GroupTreasury;
- accepted Articles and related knowledge assets under OERProposalModule.

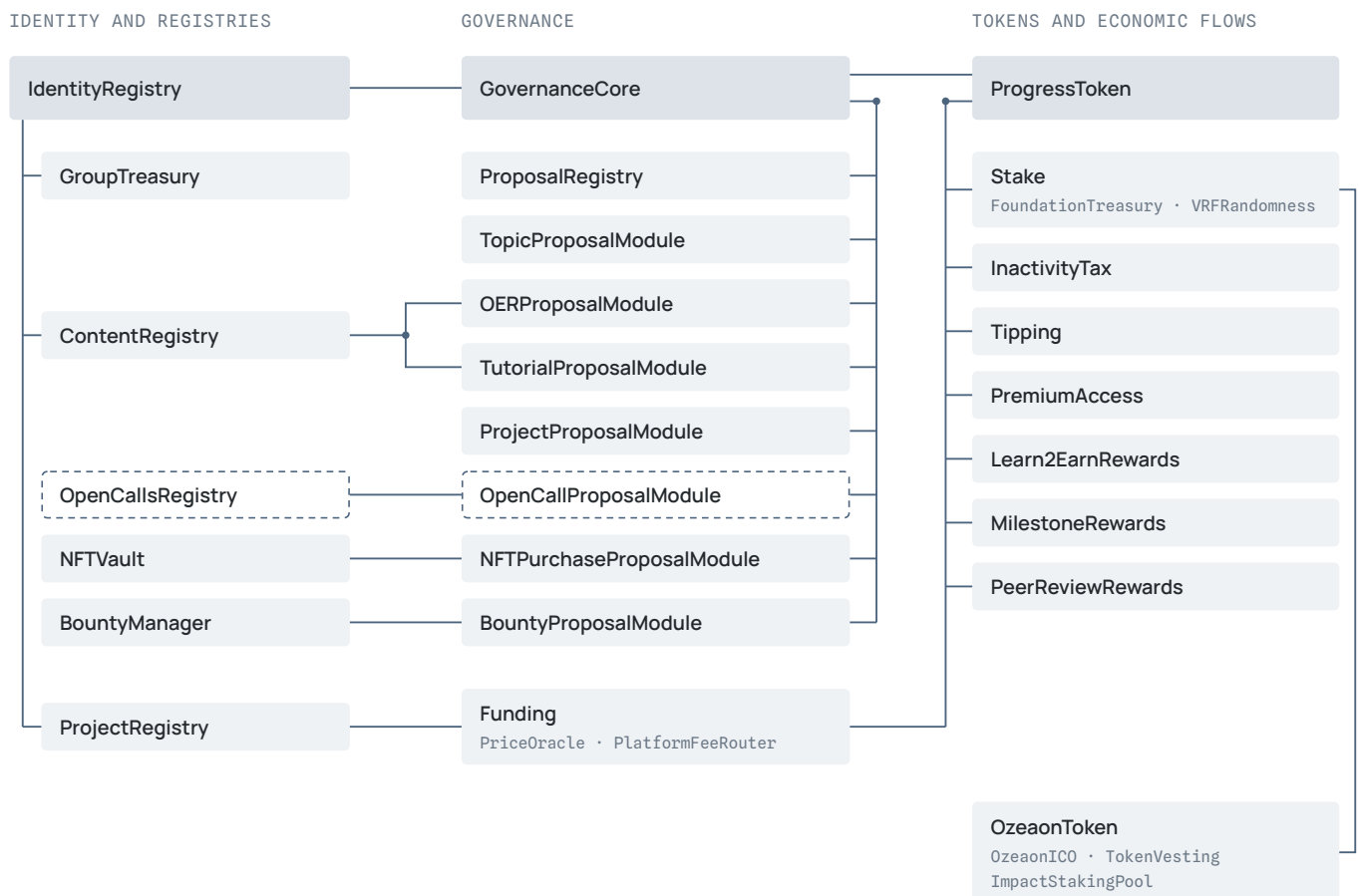
This reduces surface area and simplifies the dependency graph.

4.4.6 Role-Based Access and Pausable Safety

Every major contract uses role-based permissions. Contracts that custody user funds are pausable. OpenZeppelin's AccessControl pattern is designed for role-based permission management, while Pausable and ReentrancyGuard are common emergency and security mechanisms for smart contracts (OpenZeppelin, n.d.-a, n.d.-b).

4.5 High-Level Contract Map

FIGURE 4.7 — HIGH-LEVEL SMART-CONTRACT DEPENDENCY MAP



Lines follow the high-level contract map • dashed = planned extension

If OpenCallsRegistry and OpenCallProposalModule are not implemented yet, they should be treated as planned extensions of the existing module pattern. The white paper treats Open Calls as a first-class architecture domain because they are part of the platform's intended functional architecture.

4.6 Implementation Groups

The repository groups contracts into seven implementation groups. These groups are organisational rather than runtime-isolated: at runtime, the system composes through explicit contract calls, events, role grants, and shared registries.

TABLE 4.4 — CONTRACT IMPLEMENTATION GROUPS

GROUP	THEME	CORE CONTRACTS
1	Tokens and foundation	ProgressToken, OzeonToken, FoundationTreasury, IdentityRegistry, ProjectRegistry, PriceOracle, PlatformFeeRouter, GovernanceParams
2	Economic flows	Funding, Tipping, PremiumAccess, Learn2EarnRewards, MilestoneRewards, PeerReviewRewards
3	DAO core and proposal modules	ProposalRegistry, GovernanceCore, BaseProposalModule, TopicProposalModule, OERProposalModule, TutorialProposalModule, ProjectProposalModule, OpenCallProposalModule, NFTPurchaseProposalModule, BountyProposalModule
4	Registries and custody	ContentRegistry, OpenCallsRegistry, BountyManager, NFTVault
5	Proof of Progress	Stake, VRFRandomness, IRandomnessConsumer
6	Reputation dynamics	InactivityTax, ActivityBuffsOracle, GroupTreasury
7	Supply distribution	OzeonICO, TokenVesting, ImpactStakingPool

Note: If OpenCallProposalModule and OpenCallsRegistry are not yet implemented as separate contracts in the current repository, they are treated as the next formal extension of the existing module pattern. If Open Calls are implemented through an existing generic topic or content proposal route, this will be stated explicitly in the repository documentation.

4.7 Proposal Modules

Ozeon's DAO uses type-specific proposal modules to isolate execution logic by proposal category. This provides cleaner governance semantics and reduces the risk that one module can accidentally modify unrelated parts of the system.

The governance architecture contains seven executable proposal modules, supported by a shared BaseProposalModule. GovernanceCore handles voting, ProposalRegistry stores canonical proposal data, and each proposal module executes type-specific state transitions.

TABLE 4.5 — PROPOSAL MODULES

PROPOSAL MODULE	PURPOSE	PRIMARY TARGET
TopicProposalModule	Governance parameter changes and strategic signalling	GovernanceParams
OERProposalModule	DAO acceptance of community-created Articles into the Educational Resources layer / knowledge commons	ContentRegistry
TutorialProposalModule	Approval or curation of Tutorials and structured learning assets	ContentRegistry
ProjectProposalModule	Optional project endorsement, trust signalling, DAO treasury eligibility, curated support, or governance-linked status updates	ProjectRegistry
OpenCallProposalModule	Approval, endorsement, prioritisation, or treasury support for Open Calls	OpenCallsRegistry

PROPOSAL MODULE	PURPOSE	PRIMARY TARGET
NFTPurchaseProposalModule	DAO-approved acquisition of IP-NFTs or ERC-721 assets	NFTVault, FoundationTreasury
BountyProposalModule	DAO-approved bounty payout, disputed bounty resolution, or bounty finalisation where required	BountyManager

In product terms, users create Articles. In governance terms, accepted Articles become Educational Resources. In contract terms, this acceptance is recorded through ContentRegistry after successful DAO proposal execution.

ProjectProposalModule is not the module required for ordinary project funding. Ordinary project funding and direct \$OZN support will be handled through the Economic Flow Layer. ProjectProposalModule exists for optional endorsement, curation, treasury-linked support, governance signalling, or verification-linked pathways.

4.8 Governance Lifecycle

The DAO governance lifecycle proceeds through five stages.

4.8.1 Proposal Creation

A proposer calls GovernanceCore.propose(...), specifying proposal type, metadata hash, target reference, payload, and voting duration. The proposer locks a PRG deposit through operator-mediated transfer. The proposal is recorded in ProposalRegistry.

4.8.2 Voting

Voters call GovernanceCore.castVote(...) and lock PRG as voting weight. Voting is capped by actor type:

TABLE 4.6 — VOTING CAPS BY ACTOR TYPE

ACTOR TYPE	MAXIMUM PRG PER VOTE
Individual	10 PRG
Pod	20 PRG
Organisation	30 PRG

These caps are intended to prevent excessive concentration of governance influence while preserving the principle that contribution-based reputation should matter.

4.8.3 Refund Ladder

Within a 72-hour window, repeated vote changes are subject to a decreasing refund ladder:

TABLE 4.7 — REFUND LADDER

VOTE COUNT	REFUND
Votes 1–3	100%
Votes 4–6	80%
Votes 7–9	60%
Votes 10+	0%

The ladder is designed to reduce spam, discourage low-conviction vote manipulation, and create an opportunity cost for repeated governance changes.

4.8.4 Resolution

After the voting period ends, any eligible actor can call `resolve(id)`. A proposal passes if at least 85% of cast PRG-weighted votes support it:

$$\text{yesWeight} * 10000 \geq 8500 * (\text{yesWeight} + \text{noWeight})$$

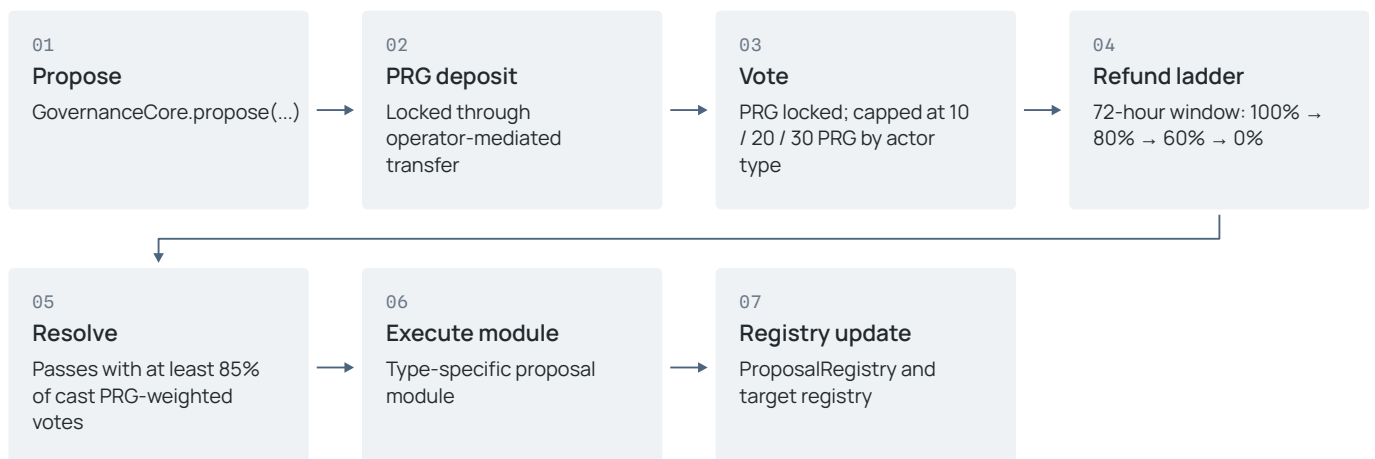
The system does not rely on quorum as its primary anti-spam mechanism. Instead, deposits, caps, and refund mechanics create governance friction.

4.8.5 Execution

If the proposal passes, GovernanceCore dispatches execution to the relevant proposal module. The type-specific module decodes the payload and performs the relevant state transition, such as accepting a community-created Article into the Educational Resources layer, curating structured learning content, recording optional project endorsement, approving or prioritising an Open Call, authorising a DAO-linked bounty payout, purchasing an IP-NFT, or modifying governance parameters.

Ordinary project funding and direct \$OZN support are not executed through ProjectProposalModule; they are handled through the Economic Flow Layer.

FIGURE 4.8 — DAO PROPOSAL LIFECYCLE



4.9 Reputation Dynamics

The Reputation Dynamics Layer is designed to keep PRG meaningful over time. Because PRG represents contribution and governance legitimacy, inactive or abandoned accounts should not indefinitely retain influence without continued participation.

The repository includes:

- InactivityTax;
- ActivityBuffsOracle;
- GroupTreasury.

InactivityTax applies monthly PRG decay after prolonged inactivity:

TABLE 4.8 — INACTIVITY TAX MONTHLY DECAY RATES

INACTIVITY PERIOD	MONTHLY DECAY RATE
Less than 90 days	0%
90–180 days	1%
180–365 days	2%
More than 365 days	4%

ActivityBuffsOracle supports streak tracking and optional reward multipliers. GroupTreasury provides multi-asset treasury functionality keyed by group address, supporting Pods and organisations.

FIGURE 4.9 — PRG EMISSION AND SINK MODEL



4.10 Supply Distribution and Treasury Architecture

The Supply Distribution Layer manages \$OZN sale, vesting, and future impact staking. It includes:

- OzeanICO;
- TokenVesting;
- ImpactStakingPool.

OzeanICO supports a public \$OZN sale with a 150 million \$OZN allocation. TokenVesting supports linear vesting with cliffs for team, partnerships, Foundation reserve, and other scheduled allocations. ImpactStakingPool supports capital-preserving multi-asset staking and tracks time-weighted impact scores.

The Foundation Treasury is a multi-asset vault that can receive ETH and ERC-20 tokens. It can be funded through economic flows, protocol fees, PRG sinks, ICO proceeds, or transfers. Spending authority is controlled by SPENDER_ROLE, which may be granted to governance modules or multisig-controlled operational structures.

4.11 Deployment Architecture

The deployment sequence follows the system's dependency graph. Tokens and foundational registries are deployed first, followed by economic flows, governance contracts, registries, staking, reputation dynamics, and supply-distribution contracts.

TABLE 4.9 — DEPLOYMENT ORDER

ORDER	DEPLOYMENT GROUP	CONTRACTS
1	Tokens and foundation	ProgressToken, OzeanToken, FoundationTreasury, IdentityRegistry, ProjectRegistry, PriceOracle, PlatformFeeRouter, GovernanceParams
2	Economic flows	Funding, Tipping, PremiumAccess, Learn2EarnRewards, MilestoneRewards, PeerReviewRewards
3	DAO and registries	ProposalRegistry, ContentRegistry, OpenCallsRegistry, BountyManager, NFTVault, GovernanceCore
4	Proposal modules	TopicProposalModule, OERProposalModule, TutorialProposalModule, ProjectProposalModule, OpenCallProposalModule, BountyProposalModule, NFTPurchaseProposalModule
5	Proof of Progress	VRFRandomness, Stake
6	Reputation dynamics	InactivityTax, ActivityBuffsOracle, GroupTreasury
7	Supply distribution	OzeanICO, TokenVesting, ImpactStakingPool

Production deployment should use a multisig administrator rather than an externally owned account. Role grants should be executed after deployment, verified through hasRole, and documented in a deployment report. The deployer should renounce default admin privileges after bootstrap if operational control has been transferred to the appropriate multisig or governance-controlled structure.

4.12 Role Matrix and Security Model

Ozeon's contracts use role-based access control to separate responsibilities across governance, treasury, rewards, staking, identity, content approval, randomness fulfilment, and operational safety. Role-based access patterns are common in smart-contract systems where sensitive functions such as minting, pausing, treasury spending, or governance execution must be restricted to authorised accounts or contracts (OpenZeppelin, n.d.-a).

Key roles include:

TABLE 4.10 — FUNCTIONS BY ROLE

ROLE	FUNCTION
DEFAULT_ADMIN_ROLE	Grants and revokes roles
PAUSER_ROLE	Pauses contracts during incidents
EMITTER_ROLE	Mints PRG via approved reward contracts
OPERATOR_ROLE	Moves non-transferable PRG through authorised flows
MINTER_ROLE	Mints \$OZN; held only by Stake
SPENDER_ROLE	Spends from Foundation Treasury
REGISTRAR_ROLE	Registers actors
ENDORSER_ROLE	Records optional project endorsement or trust status
CORE_ROLE	Allows GovernanceCore to write to ProposalRegistry
APPROVER_ROLE	Approves content or bounty payouts
CUSTODIAN_ROLE	Acquires and releases NFTs
CONSUMER_ROLE	Requests randomness
FULLFILLER_ROLE	Fulfil randomness requests
ACTIVITY_REPORTER_ROLE	Reports activity for inactivity and buff logic
DAO_ROLE	Allows DAO-linked group treasury actions
ALLOCATOR_ROLE	Creates vesting schedules or distributes yield

The security model uses several defence-in-depth measures:

- multisig administration;
- separated keeper roles;
- pausable fund-custody contracts;
- role minimisation;
- non-transferable PRG;
- \$OZN capped supply;
- PoP staking sub-cap;
- controlled treasury spending;
- test coverage;
- compiler configuration using `vialR`;
- audit readiness.

FIGURE 4.10 — ROLE-BASED SECURITY MODEL



4.13 Testing and Verification

The repository includes a Hardhat test suite using TypeScript, ethers, and chai matchers. The test suite covers tokens, foundation contracts, price and fee logic, economic flows, signed rewards, governance, staking, reputation decay, ICO, vesting, and impact staking.

The test suite is organised as:

00-tokens.test.ts

01-foundation.test.ts

02-price-fees.test.ts

03-economic-flows.test.ts

04-signed-rewards.test.ts

05-governance.test.ts

06-stake.test.ts

07-decay.test.ts

08-supply.test.ts

Tests use shared fixtures, role identifiers, amount helpers, mock ERC-20 permit tokens, mock Chainlink aggregators, and deterministic VRF fulfilment. The repository uses intermediate-representation compilation where required to manage Solidity compiler stack-depth constraints. Solidity documentation describes `vialR` as a compiler configuration option, and the Solidity optimizer documentation explains that the IR-based pipeline can address code-generation constraints associated with the EVM stack model (Solidity, n.d.).

Before mainnet deployment, the following will be completed:

- full deployment script productionisation;
- testnet deployment;

- contract verification;
- static analysis;
- economic simulation;
- external audit;
- multisig role transfer;
- incident response playbook;
- governance dry runs;
- Open Calls module integration verification.

4.14 Chain Selection and Staged Blockchain Rollout

The blockchain layer is intended to be deployed through a staged rollout after the core web application has established user utility, adoption, content flows, project visibility, Open Calls, and participation infrastructure. This phased approach reduces the risk of launching token mechanics before there is sufficient real user activity to support meaningful contribution-based incentives.

Celo has been identified as a strategically aligned blockchain environment for Ozeon's rollout. Celo's technical documentation describes Celo as an Ethereum Layer 2 ecosystem built using the OP Stack, with fee abstraction that allows gas fees to be paid with ERC-20 tokens (Celo Foundation, n.d.). This is important for Ozeon because participation mechanics must remain low-cost and accessible to a global user base.

The blockchain strategy therefore combines:

- Solidity contracts;
- OpenZeppelin-based contract standards;
- PRG / \$OZN token architecture;
- Proof-of-Progress staking;
- modular DAO governance;
- bounties and content registries;
- Open Calls governance extension;
- direct \$OZN project funding;
- a low-friction blockchain environment suited to real-world user participation.

4.15 OCIS Integration Architecture

OCIS is a connected adjacent system within the broader Ozeon ecosystem. It should not be treated as a core smart-contract domain, nor should it be treated as dependent on DAO endorsement. OCIS provides the project integrity, dMRV, Earth Observation, evidence management, dashboard, and climate-intelligence layer, while Ozeon provides the knowledge, funding, contribution, governance, token, and coordination layer.

The architecture distinguishes four pathways:

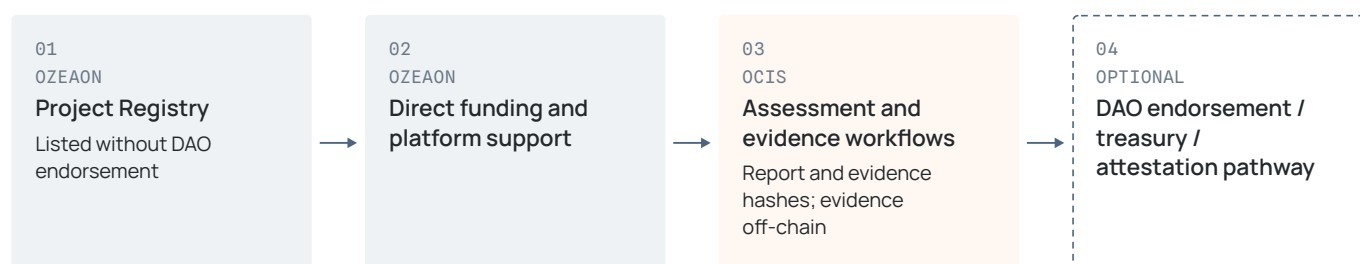
1. Ozeon project listing — a project can be listed and discovered without DAO endorsement.
2. \$OZN project funding — a project can receive ordinary \$OZN funding, tipping, or direct user support without DAO endorsement.
3. OCIS assessment — a project can be assessed or monitored in OCIS without DAO endorsement.
4. DAO endorsement — a separate trust, curation, treasury, or verification-linked signal that may support higher visibility, DAO treasury eligibility, curated funding rounds, Foundation-backed support, or blockchain-enabled verification pathways.

The OCIS integration architecture may use:

- shared project IDs;
- project metadata links;
- report hashes;
- evidence-package hashes;
- OCIS assessment status;
- optional DAO endorsement status;
- public report links;
- off-chain evidence stores;
- future blockchain attestations.

Sensitive environmental data, personal data, commercially confidential project information, and culturally restricted knowledge will not be stored directly on-chain. The blockchain layer will store references, hashes, attestations, and registry status fields where appropriate, while substantive evidence remains in controlled off-chain storage.

FIGURE 4.11 — OZEON-OCIS INTEGRATION ARCHITECTURE



4.16 System Architecture Summary

Ozeon’s system architecture is designed to connect knowledge, contribution, governance, funding, and regenerative action within a single modular ecosystem. The platform layer provides user-facing functionality for Article creation, DAO-accepted Educational Resources, learning, publishing, projects, Open Calls, community, organisations, and direct funding. The smart-contract layer provides programmable infrastructure for reputation, utility, staking, governance, bounties, digital asset custody, treasury flows, and supply distribution. The OCIS layer adds connected project integrity, ecological footprint mitigation strategies, evidence, dMRV, Earth Observation, and climate-intelligence capabilities.

The architecture can be summarised as follows:

Community members create Articles.

>

Articles are submitted through DAO proposals.

>

DAO-accepted Articles become Educational Resources within the Ozeon knowledge commons.

>

Users learn, publish, fund, review, complete bounties, and support projects.

>

Verified actions generate PRG, the non-transferable contribution and reputation token.

>

PRG enables governance eligibility and Proof-of-Progress staking.

>

Proof-of-Progress staking links contribution to \$OZN utility emission.

>

\$OZN circulates through direct project funding, tipping, premium access, bounties, and digital asset flows.

>

DAO modules govern Article acceptance, optional project endorsement, Open Calls, treasury support, bounty disputes, IP-NFT acquisition, and protocol parameters.

>

OCIS supports project integrity, evidence management, dMRV, Earth Observation, dashboards, and climate-intelligence workflows.

>

The Foundation supports mission alignment, ethical oversight, public-interest stewardship, and long-term ecosystem continuity.

This architecture gives Ozeon a technical foundation for a regenerative protocol economy: a system in which community-created knowledge can be proposed, accepted, recognised, reused, governed, funded, and directed toward real-world ecological, social, educational, and economic value.

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Tokenomics

5.1 Overview

Ozeon's tokenomics are designed as a regenerative, contribution-based economic system for coordinating knowledge creation, project funding, decentralized work, governance participation, and public-good contribution. The model is built around a dual-token architecture that separates non-transferable reputation from transferable utility.

The two-token model consists of:

1. Progress / PRG, a non-transferable reputation and contribution token; and
2. \$OZN, a transferable utility token used for platform transactions, direct project funding, tipping, bounties, premium access, and selected ecosystem services.

This separation is central to the architecture. PRG is designed to represent verified contribution, credibility, learning, educational publishing, project support, and governance legitimacy. \$OZN is designed to support economic circulation across the Ozeon platform. By separating reputation from liquidity, Ozeon seeks to avoid a common failure mode of token economies in which governance power, speculative demand, transactional utility, and contributor rewards collapse into a single asset.

The tokenomics model is therefore not designed around speculation as the primary value driver. It is designed around verified participation and regenerative utility. Users earn PRG by learning, creating Articles, having Articles accepted as Educational Resources, contributing to projects, reviewing, funding, tipping, completing bounties, and supporting regenerative work. PRG then enables governance participation and Proof-of-Progress staking. Through Proof-of-Progress staking, PRG can be used to access probabilistic \$OZN minting, linking \$OZN issuance to contribution history rather than passive capital ownership.

This structure reflects the broader design logic of non-transferable reputation systems. Soulbound tokens have been proposed as a way to encode credentials, commitments, affiliations, reputation, and trust relationships in decentralized systems without making them directly tradable (Ohlhaber et al., 2022). Ozeon adapts this principle for regenerative innovation: PRG is not a currency; it is a contribution record.

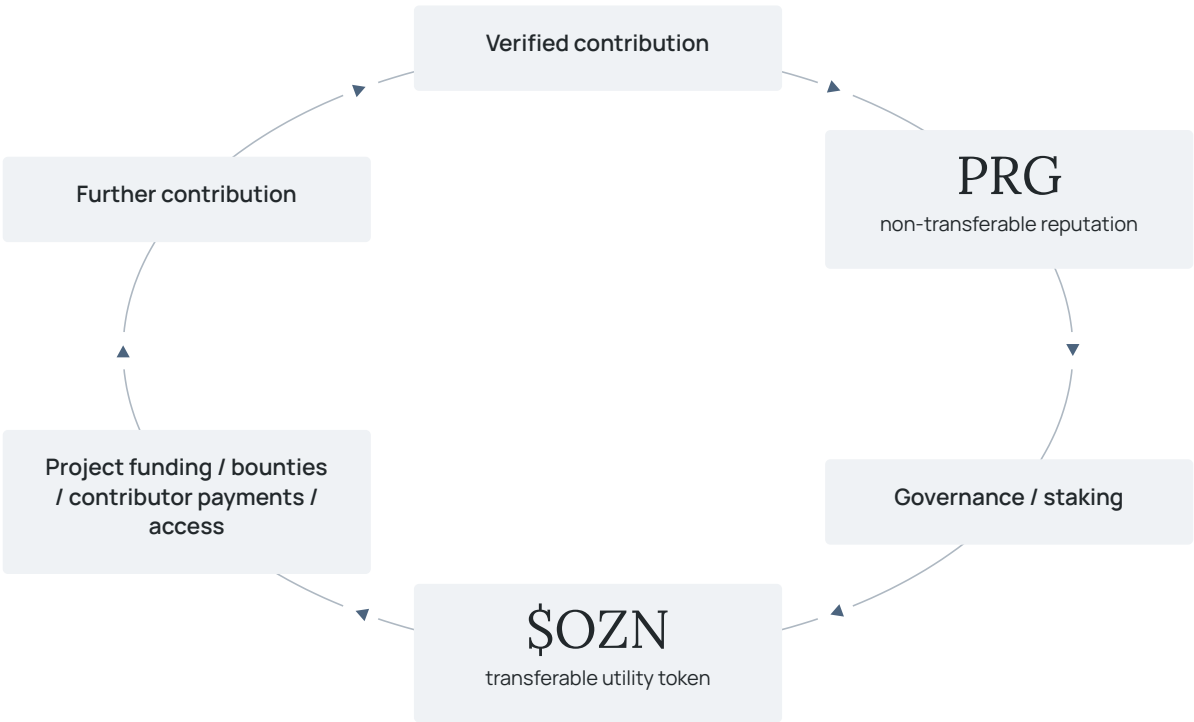
A second purpose of the tokenomics model is to support a regenerative work economy. Environmental monitoring, field documentation, open peer review, community translation, biodiversity media collection, project support, educational writing, citizen-science participation, local ecological knowledge work, and regenerative implementation all require time, skill, coordination, and compensation. If people cannot be paid, or if payment infrastructure cannot reach them, many forms of environmental and regenerative sustainability work will remain underfunded, delayed, or structurally invisible.

For this reason, purchasing and using \$OZN should be understood as participation in a platform utility economy rather than as an investment claim. \$OZN can support the regenerative economy by enabling funders, supporters, organisations, and users to direct value toward projects, contributors, bounties, educational resources, and ecosystem services. Contributors who earn PRG through verified platform actions may later stake that PRG through Proof of Progress to access \$OZN emissions, creating a circular relationship between verified contribution and transferable platform utility.

This design has particular relevance for contributors in the Global South and in low- and middle-income economies. The World Bank's Global Findex 2025 reports that 1.3 billion

adults still lack access to financial services, while about 900 million adults without financial accounts have a mobile phone, including approximately 530 million with smartphones (World Bank Group, 2025a, 2025b). Blockchain-based payment rails and digital wallets do not remove the need for compliance, consumer protection, off-ramp access, digital literacy, taxation review, or local legal safeguards. However, they may provide an additional pathway for some contributors to receive value for verified work where conventional banking, cross-border transfers, grants, or institutional payment systems are inaccessible, slow, expensive, or exclusionary.

FIGURE 5.1 — OZEAON DUAL-TOKEN ECONOMY



5.2 Token Supply Overview

Ozean’s refined token model defines fixed maximum supplies for both PRG and \$OZN.

TABLE 5.1 — TOKEN SUPPLY OVERVIEW

TOKEN	SYMBOL	TYPE	MAXIMUM SUPPLY	TRANSFERABLE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
Progress Token	PRG	Soulbound ERC-20-style reputation token	150,000,000,000 PRG	No	Reputation, governance eligibility, Proof-of-Progress staking
Ozean Token	\$OZN	Transferable ERC-20 utility token	1,500,000,000 \$OZN	Yes	Funding, tipping, bounties, premium access, platform utility, contributor payments

PRG is capped at 150 billion tokens. \$OZN is capped at 1.5 billion tokens. Of the total \$OZN supply, 750 million \$OZN is reserved for Proof-of-Progress staking emissions, while the remaining 750 million \$OZN is allocated across the public ICO, DAO treasury, team and contributors, partnerships, Foundation reserve, liquidity, and operations.

The token contracts are designed using ERC-20-compatible patterns. \$OZN uses capped transferable utility-token logic, while PRG uses custom soulbound transfer restrictions. Capped ERC-20 implementations are common in smart-contract systems where a maximum token supply must be enforced at the contract level (OpenZeppelin, n.d.-a).

5.3 Progress Token / PRG: Soulbound Reputation Layer

Progress, represented by PRG, is Ozean's non-transferable contribution and reputation token. It is earned through verified activity and cannot be bought, sold, transferred, or traded. Its purpose is to represent credibility within the Ozean ecosystem.

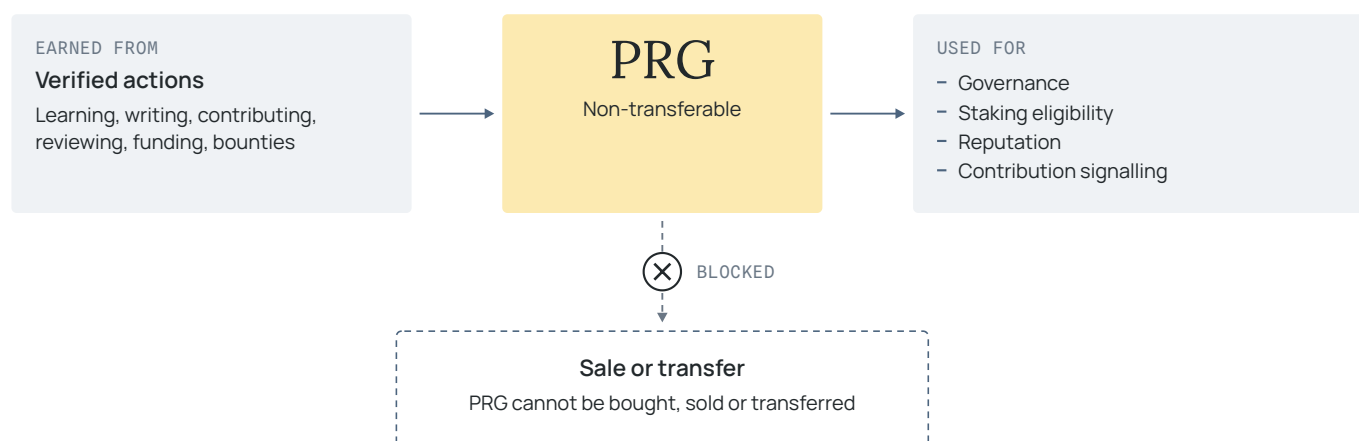
PRG serves four core roles:

1. Reputation signal — PRG indicates that a user has completed verified activity within the platform.
2. Governance eligibility — PRG is used for Progress-weighted DAO participation.
3. Staking requirement — PRG is required to participate in Proof-of-Progress staking.
4. Contribution record — PRG functions as an on-chain record of educational, social, technical, financial-support, and regenerative contribution.

PRG is not designed to function as money. It is designed to function as regenerative legitimacy. A user's PRG balance should indicate that they have learned, written, contributed, supported, reviewed, funded, completed bounties, or helped validate the work of others.

This design prevents direct purchase of governance influence. Because PRG cannot be transferred, users cannot simply buy reputation from another account. They must earn it through platform-recognised actions.

FIGURE 5.2 — PRG AS NON-TRANSFERABLE REPUTATION



5.4 How PRG Is Earned

PRG is issued only through recognised Proof-of-Progress events and platform contribution mechanisms. The refined tokenomics model defines three broad categories of PRG issuance: learning rewards, economic-support rewards, and contribution-based rewards.

5.4.1 Learn2Earn Rewards

Users earn PRG by completing verified learning actions. The baseline model defines:

- 1 PRG per correct quiz answer; and
- +1 PRG to the creator of the DAO-accepted Educational Resource on which the quiz is based.

This creates a dual-sided educational incentive. Learners are rewarded for demonstrating understanding, while resource creators are rewarded when their accepted Articles become Educational Resources that support learning activity.

5.4.2 Funding, Tipping, Bounties, and Premium Purchases

For qualifying economic-support actions, the baseline model defines:

10 PRG per US\$1 equivalent spent

This applies to selected actions such as:

- funding projects;
- tipping creators;
- paying bounties;
- purchasing premium content or tools;
- supporting approved ecosystem services;
- and other economic actions that support the community.

The purpose of this rule is to recognise that supporting the work of others is itself a contribution to the ecosystem. Funding, tipping, bounty payments, and purchasing regenerative knowledge products are not treated as passive transactions; they are treated as participation in the regenerative economy.

5.4.3 Contribution-Based Rewards

Users may also earn PRG for:

- creating Articles that are accepted by the DAO as Educational Resources;
- completing milestone-verified project work;
- providing accepted peer review;
- validating open research outputs;
- participating in scientific or citizen-science data collection;
- completing approved bounties;
- translating or localising knowledge resources;
- contributing to Pods, Open Calls, or governance processes;
- and supporting OCIS-related evidence preparation where eligible.

Contribution-based rewards may be standardised through governance parameters or issued through signed claims by authorised attestors. This allows Ozeon to recognise both

highly structured actions, such as quiz completion, and more complex human-validated contributions, such as peer review, field work, translation, educational writing, or milestone delivery.

TABLE 5.2 — PRG REWARD SOURCES

ACTIVITY	REWARD LOGIC	VALIDATION PATHWAY
Correct quiz answer	1 PRG	Learn2Earn verification
Educational Resource creator reward	1 PRG per correct learner response	Linked DAO-accepted Educational Resource
Project funding	10 PRG / US\$1 equivalent	Funding contract + price oracle
Creator tipping	10 PRG / US\$1 equivalent	Tipping contract + price oracle
Premium access purchase	10 PRG / US\$1 equivalent	PremiumAccess contract
Bounty completion	Variable	Sponsor, Pod, DAO, or signed attestation
Project milestone	Variable	Milestone verification
Peer review	Variable	PeerReviewRewards claim
Article accepted as Educational Resource	Variable	DAO proposal + ContentRegistry update

5.5 PRG Emissions Adjustment Curve

PRG emissions are designed to adjust dynamically based on how much of the Foundation's PRG treasury has been distributed. Rather than using only a one-directional halving model, Ozean uses a bidirectional emissions ladder.

The emission model has three objectives:

1. reduce PRG issuance as the ecosystem matures;
2. allow emissions to increase again if the Foundation treasury is replenished;
3. prevent emissions from exceeding the original base reward rate.

The base reward rate applies at 50% distribution of the Foundation PRG treasury. As distribution rises above 50%, emissions decrease in controlled steps. As distribution later falls below thresholds, emissions may increase in the reverse direction, but never above the base rate.

TABLE 5.3 — PRG DYNAMIC EMISSIONS LADDER

FOUNDATION PRG DISTRIBUTED	EMISSION CHANGE	REWARD MULTIPLIER
Below 50%	Base rate held	1.00000
50%	Base rate	1.00000
60%	-20%	0.80000
70%	-20%	0.64000
80%	-20%	0.51200
90%	-20%	0.40960
100%	-20%	0.32768

FOUNDATION PRG DISTRIBUTED	EMISSION CHANGE	REWARD MULTIPLIER
Falling below thresholds	+20% per reverse step	Capped at base rate

The decreasing emissions formula can be expressed as:

$$\text{rewardMultiplier} = \text{baseReward} \times 0.8^n$$

where n is the number of upward threshold crossings above 50%.

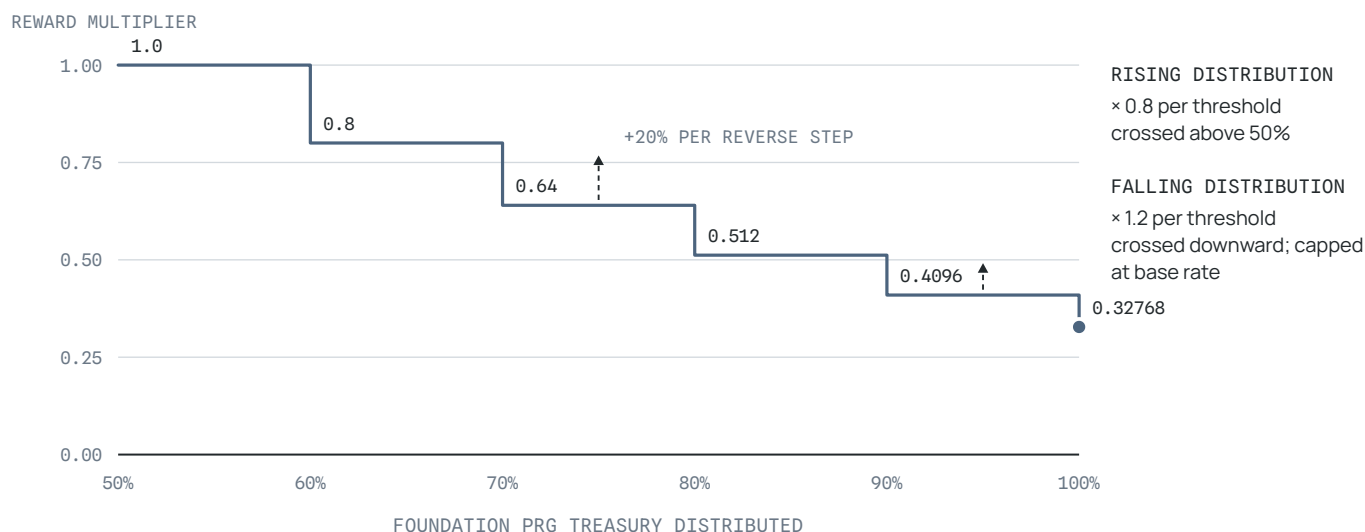
The increasing emissions formula can be expressed as:

$$\text{rewardMultiplier} = \min(\text{baseReward}, \text{currentReward} \times 1.2^m)$$

where m is the number of downward threshold crossings.

This creates an elastic reputation-emission system. PRG issuance decreases as the ecosystem distributes more reputation, but can increase again if PRG flows back to the Foundation Treasury through inactivity tax, staking costs, non-refunded voting deposits, proposal costs, or future governance-approved replenishment mechanisms.

FIGURE 5.3 — PRG EMISSIONS ADJUSTMENT CURVE



5.6 \$OZN: Transferable Utility, Regenerative Labour, and Payment Access

\$OZN is Ozean's transferable utility token. It is used to coordinate economic activity across the platform.

Core \$OZN utility functions include:

- funding regenerative projects;
- tipping creators and contributors;
- paying bounties;

- paying contributors for mission-aligned work;
- accessing pro (or premium) content or tools;
- interacting with tokenized IP and licensing flows;
- supporting DAO treasury activity;
- participating in selected ecosystem services;
- and integration with project integrity, reporting, or OCIS-linked services.

\$OZN is the economic circulation layer of the platform. Unlike PRG, it can be transferred and exchanged. This makes it suitable for payments, bounties, funding, and platform utility, but less suitable as the primary basis for governance legitimacy. For this reason, \$OZN should not directly replace PRG in core governance weighting.

5.6.1 \$OZN as a Regenerative Work Payment Layer

The purpose of \$OZN is not only to enable platform transactions. It is also to create a payment layer for regenerative work. Many environmental and regenerative tasks are necessary but underfunded: biodiversity documentation, citizen-science monitoring, open peer review, research translation, local project reporting, community mobilisation, educational writing, project evidence preparation, data collection, and field-based implementation.

Ozeon's position is that regenerative sustainability work cannot scale through unpaid labour alone. Volunteers, community leaders, early-career researchers, independent contributors, educators, translators, field observers, and local organisers may be motivated by ecological and social purpose, but they still need ways to receive value for their time and work. If these contributors cannot be paid, many important tasks will simply not be completed.

\$OZN addresses this problem by creating a utility-token payment mechanism for:

- bounty rewards;
- contributor payments;
- educational resource incentives;
- project support;
- local data collection;
- translation and localisation;
- field verification;
- citizen-science participation;
- open peer review;
- and other recognised public-good labour.

5.6.2 How Purchasing and Using \$OZN Supports the Regenerative Economy

Purchasing and using \$OZN can support the regenerative economy by increasing the utility-token circulation available for project funding, bounties, contributor payments, platform services, and ecosystem participation. This is not an investment return, profit expectation,

or claim that \$OZN will appreciate in value. The correct definition is functional: \$OZN is the medium through which users, supporters, organisations, and ecosystem participants can direct value toward regenerative projects and contributors.

The model creates the following relationship:

supporters purchase or use \$OZN;

\$OZN circulates through funding, tipping, bounties, and platform services;

contributors are paid for verified work;

verified work may generate PRG;

PRG can enable governance and Proof-of-Progress staking;

Proof-of-Progress staking can emit \$OZN;

\$OZN re-enters the ecosystem as payments, support, bounties, and utility.

This creates a circular regenerative economy. Supporters provide utility-token liquidity. Contributors perform verified work. Verified work generates reputation. Reputation can unlock staking participation. Staking can emit \$OZN. \$OZN then circulates back into the ecosystem as funding, compensation, access, and support.

5.6.3 Payment Access in the Global South and Low- and Middle-Income Economies

The \$OZN utility model also responds to a payment-access problem. Many people who could contribute to environmental monitoring, regenerative project work, education, translation, citizen science, and community coordination live in regions where formal banking access, international transfers, grant access, and institutional payment systems may be limited.

The World Bank's Global Findex 2025 identifies continued gaps in financial access, including 1.3 billion adults without access to financial services, while also reporting high global mobile-phone ownership and significant mobile-phone access among adults without financial accounts (World Bank Group, 2025a, 2025b). This matters for Ozean because many contributors who may struggle to receive conventional cross-border payments may still be able to access digital wallets, mobile-first financial tools, or blockchain-based payment rails, depending on local connectivity, regulation, device access, wallet literacy, and off-ramp availability.

Crypto-asset adoption should not be romanticised or presented as a universal solution. Digital wallets involve risks, including volatility, scams, key loss, regulatory uncertainty, taxation obligations, sanctions exposure, consumer-protection concerns, off-ramp limitations, and unequal access to phones or internet connectivity. However, emerging-market crypto adoption has been associated with use cases such as remittances, stablecoin access, dollar access, and mobile-first finance (Chainalysis, 2025). The OECD similarly notes both the financial-inclusion potential of crypto-assets and the risks related to consumer protection,

market integrity, and financial stability (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development [OECD], 2026).

For Ozeon, the design implication is clear: a regenerative economy needs payment rails that can reach contributors beyond conventional institutional systems. \$OZN is therefore positioned as a utility token that may help contributors receive compensation for verified work, especially where conventional payment infrastructure is slow, costly, inaccessible, or fragmented.

5.6.4 Non-Speculative Utility Token

\$OZN does not guarantee income, employment, profit, appreciation, liquidity, or project success. Holding \$OZN does not create a claim on Ozeon equity, revenue, assets, intellectual property, or future profits. Earning \$OZN through Proof of Progress also does not guarantee that \$OZN will have a particular market value or off-ramp availability.

The intended function of \$OZN is utility. It is designed to support project funding, contributor payments, bounties, tipping, premium access, and ecosystem services. Its contribution to the regenerative economy depends on actual platform use, user participation, verified work, responsible governance, liquidity management, and legal compliance.

5.7 \$OZN Token Distribution

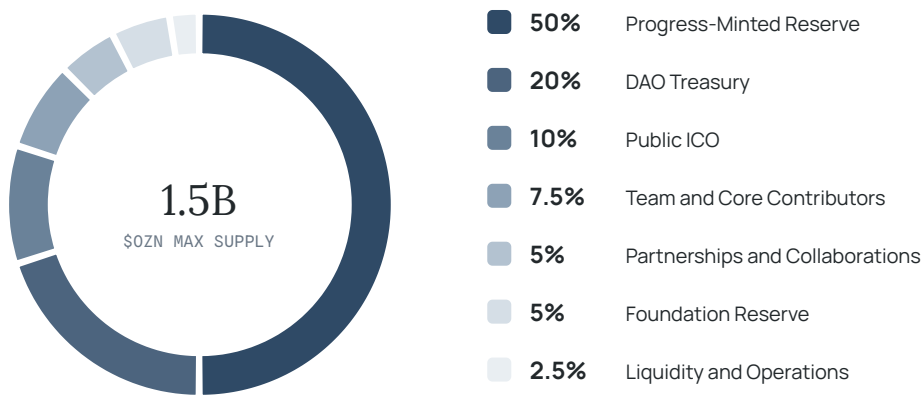
The distribution model defines a maximum \$OZN supply of 1.5 billion tokens.

TABLE 5.4 — \$OZN TOKEN DISTRIBUTION

CATEGORY	ALLOCATION	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
Public ICO	10%	150,000,000 \$OZN	Launch liquidity and early participation
DAO Treasury	20%	300,000,000 \$OZN	Grants, project funding, bounties, ecosystem liquidity
Progress-Minted Reserve	50%	750,000,000 \$OZN	Minted exclusively through PRG staking
Team and Core Contributors	7.5%	112,500,000 \$OZN	Vested over 24–36 months
Partnerships and Collaborations	5%	75,000,000 \$OZN	Strategic alliances across ReFi, DeSci, academia, and ecosystem partners
Foundation Reserve	5%	75,000,000 \$OZN	Ethics, R&D, ecosystem resilience, long-term stability
Liquidity and Operations	2.5%	37,500,000 \$OZN	Exchange liquidity, bridging, operations buffer
Total	100%	1,500,000,000 \$OZN	

This distribution gives Ozeon a large contribution-linked reserve while still allocating supply to launch liquidity, treasury operations, team vesting, partnerships, and long-term Foundation resilience. The key design feature is that half of total \$OZN supply can only enter circulation through Proof-of-Progress staking.

FIGURE 5.4 — \$OZN DISTRIBUTION



5.8 Initial Coin Offering

The public ICO allocates 150 million \$OZN, equal to 10% of total maximum supply. The purpose of the ICO is to bootstrap early platform liquidity, development capacity, regenerative project support, treasury reserves, payment infrastructure, and initial ecosystem participation.

ICO participants gain access to \$OZN as the platform's utility token. They do not receive PRG through purchase, because PRG is non-transferable and must be earned. This distinction is critical: the ICO supports utility-token distribution, not reputation-token distribution.

Purchasing \$OZN through the ICO grants public acquisition access to a utility token intended for platform use. It may help support the regenerative work economy by making \$OZN available for direct project funding, bounties, tipping, contributor payments, pro (or premium) access, and ecosystem services. However, this is not an investment opportunity, financial return, equity participation, or guaranteed impact outcome.

ICO proceeds may support:

- Web3 and platform development;
- early regenerative projects;
- contributor-payment infrastructure;
- bounty and work-layer development;
- treasury reserves;
- liquidity provisioning;
- DAO operations;
- security and audits;
- legal and compliance review;
- and ecosystem launch activity.

The ICO will be presented with appropriate legal and regulatory caution. \$OZN is defined as a planned utility token for platform use, not as an investment contract, equity claim, profit entitlement, or guarantee of financial return. Any public sale, listing, or token distribution will be assessed under relevant regulatory regimes before launch.

5.9 Post-ICO \$OZN Minting

After the initial allocation, additional \$OZN is minted exclusively through Proof-of-Progress staking. This links future \$OZN supply expansion to accumulated PRG, which itself must be earned through verified platform activity.

This creates a supply relationship:

verified contribution -> PRG issuance -> PRG staking -> probabilistic \$OZN minting

The model is intended to prevent \$OZN emissions from being disconnected from ecosystem value creation. \$OZN can not be minted simply because time has passed or because capital has been deposited. It may only be minted through a mechanism that depends on contribution-based reputation.

This is also the mechanism through which contributors who have earned PRG from verified actions may later access \$OZN emissions. In practical terms, a user who contributes to learning, educational publishing, bounties, peer review, project support, or other recognised activity can build PRG. That PRG can then be staked through Proof of Progress. If the user wins a staking round, \$OZN is minted to them. This links transferable utility to verified contribution without making PRG itself tradable.

5.10 Proof-of-Progress Staking

Proof-of-Progress staking is the mechanism through which users stake PRG to participate in probabilistic \$OZN minting rounds.

The mechanism is designed as an application-layer staking and emission protocol. It is not a base-layer blockchain consensus mechanism unless Ozeon later operates its own blockchain network. Instead, it is a contribution-verification, staking, and emissions mechanism that replaces the idea of “mining” within Ozeon’s platform economy.

5.10.1 Staking Requirements

The model defines:

TABLE 5.5 — \$OZN STAKING REQUIREMENTS

PARAMETER	VALUE
Minimum stake	50 PRG
Full probability stake	100 PRG
Reward on win	1 \$OZN
Cost on win	50 PRG
PoP staking reserve	750,000,000 \$OZN

A user must stake a minimum of 50 PRG to participate in the Proof-of-Progress staking mechanism. The base probability of successfully minting \$OZN increases proportionally with the amount of PRG staked, reaching 100% base probability at 100 PRG for a single staking round. Staking more than 100 PRG does not further

increase this base probability, preventing large PRG holders from gaining unlimited probabilistic advantages and supporting more equitable participation across the ecosystem. However, the final probability of successfully minting \$OZN is also influenced by consecutive unsuccessful staking attempts and the proportion of issued PRG held in the Foundation Treasury. These additional variables introduce fairness adjustments and adaptive emissions controls designed to support the long-term sustainability of the \$OZN reserve.

A comprehensive explanation of the staking process, probability calculations, Treasury adjustments and reward distribution mechanisms is provided in the later Proof of Progress Consensus chapter.

5.10.2 Win and Loss Mechanics

If the user wins a round:

1. 1 \$OZN is minted to the user;
2. 50 PRG is transferred from the user to the Foundation Treasury;
3. the user's consecutive-loss counter resets to zero;
4. if the user's remaining staked balance falls below 50 PRG, they are automatically unstaked.

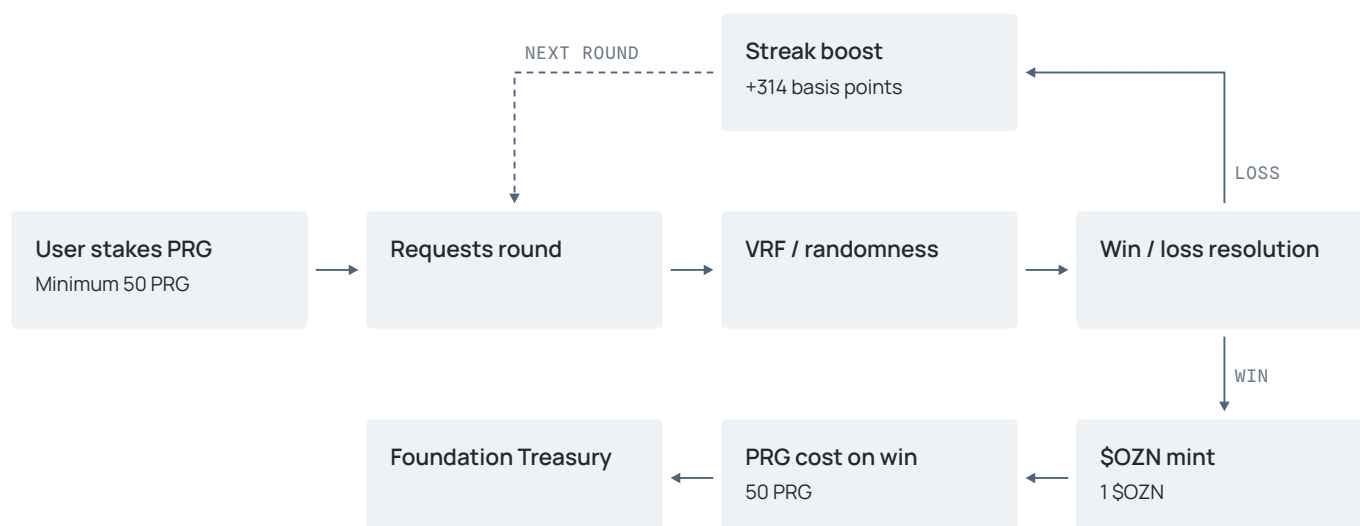
If the user loses a round:

1. no \$OZN is minted;
2. the user's consecutive-loss counter increases by one;
3. the user may play another round.

This mechanism introduces a bounded anti-streak boost, maintains a cost for \$OZN issuance, and routes PRG back into the Foundation Treasury. The design ties \$OZN emission to earned reputation and PRG circulation rather than to passive token staking alone.

Where randomness is implemented on-chain, Ozean will use a verifiable randomness mechanism or equivalent auditable randomness design. Chainlink VRF is one established example of a verifiable randomness system for smart-contract applications (Chainlink, n.d.).

FIGURE 5.5 — PROOF-OF-PROGRESS STAKING FLOW



5.11 DAO Voting Costs and Limits

DAO governance is based on PRG deposits and capped voting. This model is intended to make governance influence costly enough to deter spam, but accessible enough for meaningful contributors.

5.11.1 Proposal Creation Costs

Creating a proposal requires a PRG deposit. The deposit is refunded if the proposal passes and transferred to the Foundation Treasury if the proposal fails.

TABLE 5.6 — PROPOSAL CREATION COSTS

ACTOR TYPE	PROPOSAL DEPOSIT
Individual	100 PRG
Pod	200 PRG
Organisation	300 PRG

5.11.2 Voting Power Limits

Each verified participant may stake PRG up to a capped amount per vote.

TABLE 5.7 — VOTING POWER LIMITS

ACTOR TYPE	MAXIMUM PRG PER VOTE
Individual	10 PRG
Pod	20 PRG
Organisation	30 PRG

These caps reduce the risk that high-PRG actors can dominate governance in a single vote. Influence remains contribution-weighted, but bounded by actor type and repeated-vote costs.

5.11.3 Voting Refund Ladder

Ozeon uses a tiered refund system within a 72-hour user-specific voting window. The refund ladder is designed to encourage early participation while preventing repeated vote manipulation.

TABLE 5.8 — VOTING REFUND LADDER

VOTE ORDER PER USER	REFUND RATE	PRG DESTINATION
Votes 1–3	100%	Full refund to user
Votes 4–6	80%	80% refund; 20% to Foundation Treasury
Votes 7–9	60%	60% refund; 40% to Foundation Treasury
Votes 10+	0%	100% to Foundation Treasury

The refund cycle is calculated per user and per proposal. The user's 72-hour refund window begins when they cast their first vote on a proposal. When the window expires, refund is no longer possible.

Votes cast after the proposal ends are non-refundable. Non-refunded PRG flows to the Foundation Treasury.

5.11.4 Proposal Timing

The governance model defines:

TABLE 5.9 — PROPOSAL TIMING PARAMETERS AND VALUES

PARAMETER	VALUE
Minimum voting period	3 days
Maximum voting period	30 days
Passing threshold	85% YES by PRG-weighted participation

This creates a high-consensus governance threshold. The model is designed to make successful proposals require broad support among active contributors rather than minimal majority approval.

5.12 Project Voting and Group Treasuries

Project-specific voting may be managed by Pods, organisations, or the Foundation. Projects may be proposed by groups, and voting may be limited to members of the relevant group unless the proposal is opened publicly.

Funding may come from the group's own treasury wallet or from DAO-approved treasury allocations. Ordinary \$OZN-based project funding, tipping, and direct user support do not require DAO endorsement. DAO approval is required only where DAO treasury funds, curated funding rounds, Foundation-backed support, or governance-linked project status are involved.

Group treasuries are important because not all decisions should require full DAO participation. A technical Pod, education Pod, regional organisation, or institutional partner may need authority to manage its own treasury, bounties, Open Calls, and project support within defined limits.

5.13 Impact Staking

Impact Staking is a capital-preserving regenerative funding mechanism. Users stake supported crypto-assets, such as ETH, CELO, USDC, \$OZN, or other approved assets. The principal remains intact, while generated yield can be directed toward ecosystem purposes.

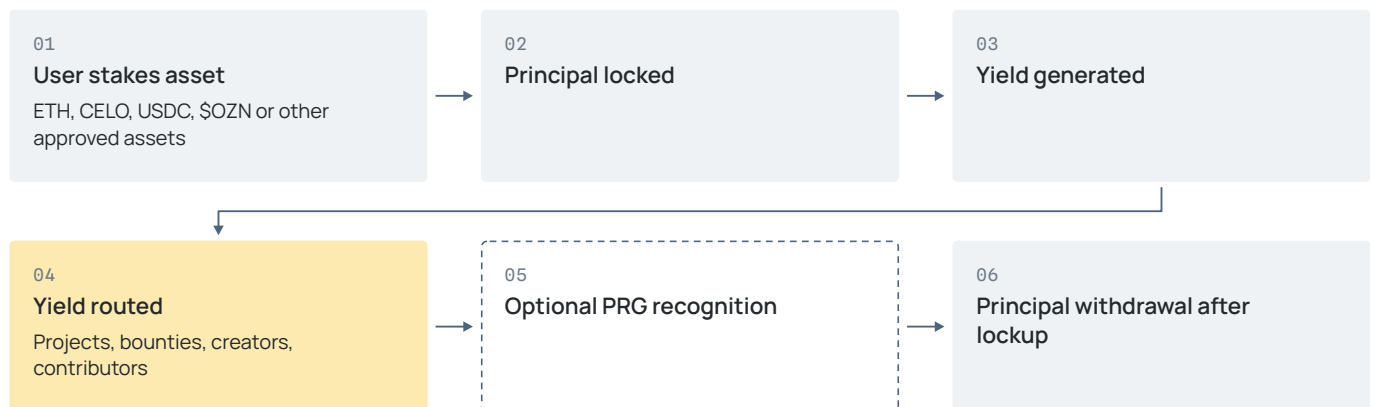
Impact Staking rewards may support:

- regenerative projects;
- bounties;
- creator tipping;
- contributor payments;
- educational campaigns;
- IP-NFT initiatives;
- community grants;
- and Foundation-approved ecosystem priorities.

The purpose of Impact Staking is to transform idle capital into regenerative yield. It allows users, institutions, DAOs, and supporters to contribute to project funding without making a direct donation or permanently giving up principal.

Impact Staking will be implemented with careful risk disclosure. Yield-bearing strategies may involve smart-contract, liquidity, counterparty, protocol, bridge, or market risk depending on how the underlying assets are deployed. This is currently a conceptual mechanism and the actual risk profile of any implemented staking strategy is yet to be defined in later updates.

FIGURE 5.6 — IMPACT STAKING FLOW



5.14 Platform Transaction Fees

Ozean applies transaction fees across selected platform activities. Fees are intended to support platform sustainability, security, moderation, development, infrastructure, contributor-payment systems, treasury resilience, and long-term ecosystem funding.

The standard platform transaction fees are:

TABLE 5.10 — PLATFORM TRANSACTION FEES

ACTIVITY	PLATFORM FEE	PURPOSE
Project funding	5%	Coordination, project scaling, payment infrastructure, verification support, platform sustainability and ecosystem funding
Tipping and donations	9%	Low-friction creator, contributor and project support
Bounty payouts	9%	Task validation, platform security, dispute handling, curation and contributor-payment infrastructure

ACTIVITY	PLATFORM FEE	PURPOSE
Pro (or premium) content access	9%	Content delivery, licensing, review, platform maintenance and creator-support infrastructure
DAO treasury disbursements	0–1%	Optional, governance-configurable treasury administration fee

Project funding carries a 5% platform fee because it requires infrastructure for payment processing, project coordination, evidence management, reporting, integrity safeguards and ecosystem support. This fee helps Ozeon sustain the systems required to connect funders, supporters, project creators and contributors.

Tipping and Support transactions carry a 9% Ozeon platform service fee, reflecting the potentially high volume of small-value transactions associated with direct contributions to creators, educators, project teams and community participants. This fee helps cover the operational and administrative costs of processing and managing numerous individual transactions, while supporting payment infrastructure, platform maintenance, contributor recognition and the continued development of the Ozeon regenerative economy.

Bounty payouts carry a 9% platform fee because bounties require additional coordination infrastructure. This may include task publication, contributor matching, validation, moderation, evidence review, dispute handling, payment processing, anti-abuse controls and reporting.

Pro (or premium) content access carries a 9% platform fee to support content delivery, platform maintenance, licensing infrastructure, review workflows, payment processing and creator-support systems.

Fees are first used to cover essential operational costs, including:

- hosting;
- security;
- moderation;
- development;
- legal and compliance;
- AI and infrastructure costs;
- protocol monitoring;
- payment and wallet infrastructure;
- contributor-payment systems;
- project funding infrastructure;
- bounty coordination;
- and ecosystem maintenance.

Remaining fees may flow to the Foundation Reserve to support long-term ecosystem resilience, Learn2Earn rewards, bounties, regenerative projects, contributor payments, educational campaigns, platform development, and strategic public-good initiatives.

Payment processing fees are charged separately and disclosed transparently before each transaction. Fee rates will remain transparent and visible to users before payment. Any

future changes to platform fees will be governance-configurable within defined limits to prevent arbitrary fee increases and protect user trust.

5.15 PRG Inactivity Tax and Reputation Decay

PRG is intended to represent active contribution. To preserve governance integrity, inactive accounts are subject to gradual PRG reputation decay after defined periods of inactivity.

The purpose of reputation decay is to ensure that governance weight reflects current participation rather than historical accumulation. It protects against dormant accounts retaining excessive long-term influence and helps return unused PRG to the Foundation Treasury for redistribution.

TABLE 5.11 — PRG INACTIVITY TAX

INACTIVITY DURATION	PRG DECAY RATE	PURPOSE
Less than 90 days	0% per month	Active status
90–180 days	1% per month	Light decay / early warning
180–365 days	2% per month	Increased decay
More than 365 days	4% per month	Severe inactivity decay

An account may be considered inactive if it has no verified activity across learning, Article creation, DAO participation, contribution, project work, governance participation, tipping, funding, bounty completion, or other recognised platform actions.

All PRG collected through inactivity tax is transferred to the Foundation Treasury. It may later be redistributed through Learn2Earn rewards, educational bounties, community grants, project rewards, impact-staking recognition, or other governance-approved mechanisms.

If an inactive user returns, decay stops once they complete recognised activity. Previously decayed PRG is not automatically restored, which reduces the risk of gaming. The user can rebuild reputation through new verified contributions.

FIGURE 5.7 — PRG DECAY AND REDISTRIBUTION



5.16 Activity Buffs

Activity Buffs provide positive reinforcement for consistent participation. They complement inactivity decay by rewarding users who maintain learning, contribution, collaboration, funding, or support activity over time.

Activity Buffs may include:

- learning streak multipliers;
- Article creation and educational contribution multipliers;
- contribution streak multipliers;
- monthly consistency bonuses;
- quarterly participation bonuses;
- Pod collaboration multipliers;
- reactivation bonuses for returning users;
- and temporary multipliers for high-priority ecosystem campaigns.

Example multiplier structure:

TABLE 5.12 — EXAMPLE ACTIVITY BUFFS

ACTIVITY PATTERN	EXAMPLE MULTIPLIER
3-day Learn2Earn streak	1.2× PRG
7-day Learn2Earn streak	1.4× PRG
7-day streak plus accepted Article	1.5× PRG
Published content 3 days in a row	1.6× PRG
3 weeks of recurring contribution	1.8× PRG
Major sustained contribution pattern	2.0× PRG

Activity Buffs are governance-tunable and capped to prevent excessive emissions. They will reward consistency without making the system exploitable through low-quality repetitive actions. Quality gates, anti-spam logic, and contribution validation are therefore essential.

5.17 PRG Sources and Sinks

The PRG economy depends on both issuance and sinks.

PRG sources include:

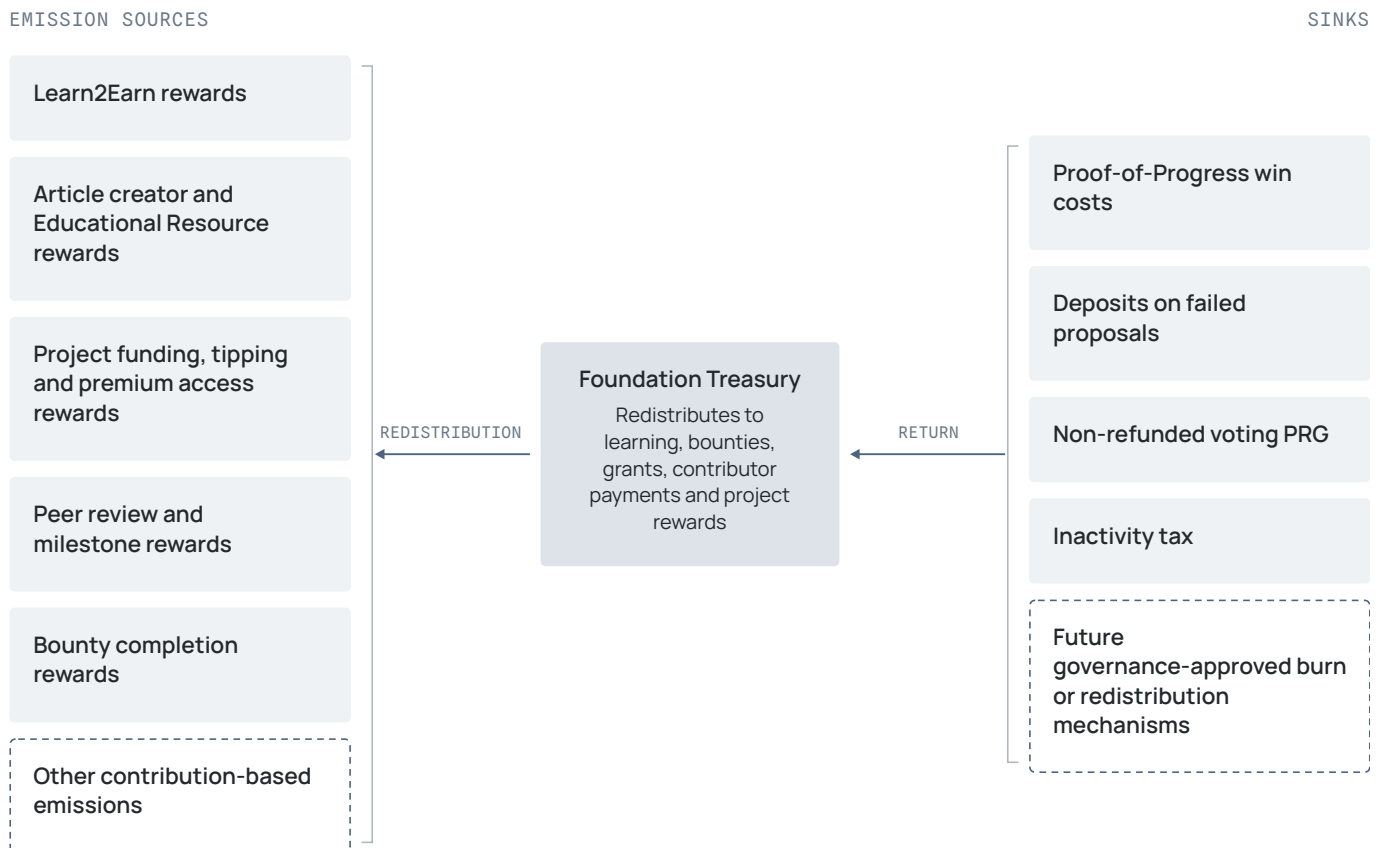
- Learn2Earn rewards;
- Article creator and Educational Resource rewards;
- project funding rewards;
- tipping rewards;
- premium access rewards;
- peer review rewards;

- milestone rewards;
- bounty completion rewards;
- and other contribution-based emissions.

PRG sinks include:

- Proof-of-Progress win costs;
- proposal creation deposits on failed proposals;
- non-refunded voting PRG;
- inactivity tax;
- and future governance-approved burn or redistribution mechanisms.

FIGURE 5.8 — PRG SOURCE-SINK MODEL



This source-sink structure is intended to prevent PRG from becoming a static or permanently accumulated governance asset. PRG should remain active, circulating, and reflective of ongoing contribution.

5.18 \$OZN Sources and Circulation

\$OZN enters circulation through:

1. initial allocation and public ICO;
2. DAO treasury distribution;
3. team and contributor vesting;
4. partnership allocations;

5. Foundation reserve allocations;
6. liquidity and operations allocations;
7. Proof-of-Progress staking emissions.

\$OZN circulates through:

- project funding;
- tipping;
- bounties;
- contributor payments;
- pro (or premium) content;
- IP-NFT and licensing flows;
- platform services;
- treasury operations;
- and future OCIS or project-integrity services.

The \$OZN economy will be monitored through supply, velocity, treasury holdings, staking emissions, fee revenue, active wallets, platform transaction volume, contributor-payment volume, and ecosystem funding activity.

TABLE 5.13 — TOKEN ECONOMY MONITORING METRICS

METRIC	PURPOSE
Circulating \$OZN supply	Tracks liquid supply
PRG total issued	Tracks reputation distribution
PRG active supply	Tracks governance-relevant reputation
PRG decay volume	Tracks inactivity recycling
\$OZN staking emissions	Tracks Proof-of-Progress minting
Treasury \$OZN balance	Tracks ecosystem reserves
Platform transaction volume	Tracks utility demand
Contributor-payment volume	Tracks regenerative labour compensation
Bounty volume	Tracks decentralized work activity
Project funding volume	Tracks regenerative capital flow
Active governance participants	Tracks DAO health

5.19 Anti-Speculation, Inclusion, and Sustainability Controls

Ozeon's tokenomics are designed to reduce speculative capture and align token flows with mission-based utility.

Key controls include:

1. PRG is non-transferable. Reputation cannot be bought.
2. \$OZN has a capped supply. Maximum supply is fixed at 1.5 billion.
3. PoP emissions are reserve-limited. Proof-of-Progress staking can mint only from the 750 million \$OZN reserve.
4. PRG requires verified contribution. Reputation is issued only through recognised platform activity.
5. Governance uses PRG, not direct \$OZN weighting. This reduces direct wealth-based governance capture.
6. Voting has costs and caps. Deposits, actor caps, and refund ladders discourage spam and manipulation.
7. PRG decays through inactivity. Dormant governance power is gradually recycled.
8. Activity Buffs are capped. Positive incentives should not create runaway emissions.
9. Fees are governance-configurable. Platform economics can adapt while remaining transparent.
10. Foundation oversight supports mission alignment. Ethical and strategic stewardship complements DAO governance.
11. \$OZN utility is separated from investment claims. \$OZN should be framed around platform use, contributor payments, project support, bounties, and services, not financial-return expectations.
12. Payment-access design requires safeguards. Wallet access, off-ramps, taxation, consumer protection, sanctions screening, fraud prevention, and local legal review must be considered before implementation.

These controls do not eliminate all economic, regulatory, technical, financial-inclusion, or governance risks. Token systems remain complex and require simulation, audit, monitoring, legal review, user education, compliance safeguards, and iterative governance. However, the architecture is explicitly designed to make contribution, not capital, the primary basis of legitimacy.

5.20 Integration with Impact Layers

The tokenomics model is integrated with Ozean's broader regenerative impact architecture.

PRG supports:

- knowledge reputation;
- Article and Educational Resource recognition;
- learning pathways;
- governance eligibility;
- contribution recognition;
- anti-speculation;
- and Proof-of-Progress staking.

\$OZN supports:

- project funding;
- bounties;
- contributor payments;
- tipping;
- premium content;
- platform transactions;
- IP-NFT interactions;
- treasury coordination;
- and future ecosystem services.

Together, PRG and \$OZN create a regenerative feedback loop:

learning and contribution

>

PRG reputation

>

governance and staking eligibility

>

\$OZN utility

>

funding, bounties, tipping, access, contributor payments

>

more learning, contribution, and regeneration

This model turns knowledge and contribution into a structured economic system. It allows Ozean to recognise public-good labour, support regenerative projects, reward education, coordinate decentralized work, compensate contributors, and create a transparent funding layer for ocean, climate, land, and sustainability innovation.

5.21 Tokenomics Summary

Ozean's tokenomics are built around a simple principle: economic utility should be connected to verified contribution.

PRG records contribution and supports governance legitimacy. \$OZN enables transactions, project funding, contributor payments, bounties, tipping, and platform utility. Proof of Progress links the two through a controlled staking mechanism. Inactivity decay keeps reputation current. Activity Buffs reward consistency. Platform fees support operational sustainability. Impact Staking enables capital-preserving regenerative funding. DAO governance and Foundation stewardship provide oversight.

The result is a token economy designed not merely to circulate value, but to organise participation around regenerative outcomes. Purchasing and using \$OZN can help support this regenerative work economy by enabling value to flow toward projects, contributors, bounties, educational resources, and ecosystem services. However, \$OZN should remain framed as a utility token, not as a promise of income, appreciation, employment, profit, or guaranteed impact.

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Proof of Progress Consensus

6.1 Overview

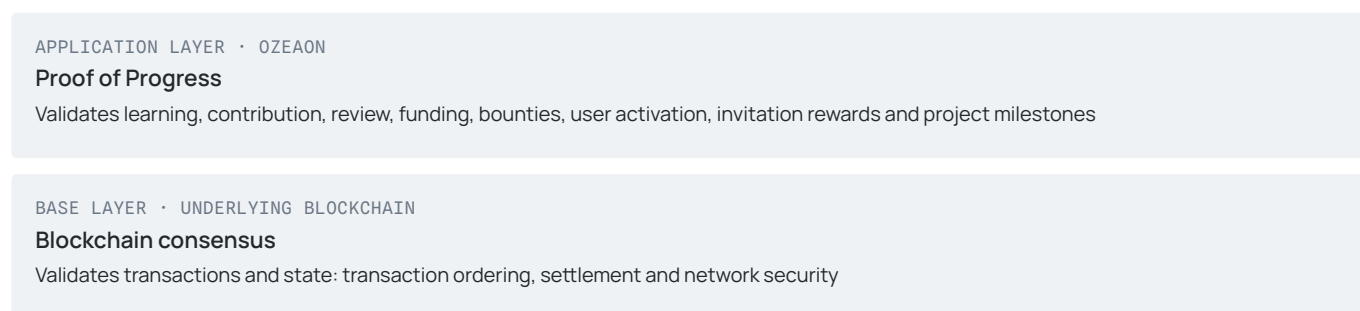
Proof of Progress is Ozeon’s contribution-based consensus and reputation protocol. It is designed to verify meaningful participation in learning, knowledge creation, project development, peer review, funding support, tipping, bounty completion, user activation, invitation-based ecosystem growth, and regenerative work. Its purpose is to convert verified contribution into non-transferable reputation, governance eligibility, and controlled access to \$OZN utility-token emission.

In conventional blockchain systems, consensus mechanisms such as Proof-of-Work and Proof-of-Stake are used to secure networks, validate transactions, and agree on canonical state. Proof-of-Work relies on computational work and energy expenditure, while Proof-of-Stake relies on capital staked by validators. Ethereum’s transition from Proof-of-Work to Proof-of-Stake reduced its energy consumption by approximately 99.95%, demonstrating that blockchain infrastructure can evolve toward lower-energy security models (Ethereum Foundation, n.d.). However, even Proof-of-Stake remains primarily capital-based: network influence is linked to the amount of economic value staked.

Ozeon introduces Proof of Progress as a different form of legitimacy. PoP is not designed to replace the base-layer consensus of the blockchain on which Ozeon is deployed. Instead, it operates as an application-layer contribution consensus mechanism for determining which actions count as meaningful progress inside the Ozeon ecosystem. It validates contribution rather than blocks. It recognises participation rather than capital ownership. It issues reputation rather than tradable governance power.

This distinction is critical. Ozeon relies on the underlying blockchain for transaction ordering, settlement, and network security. Proof of Progress operates above that layer as a socio-technical verification protocol for regenerative contribution.

FIGURE 6.1 — BASE-LAYER CONSENSUS VS PROOF OF PROGRESS



6.2 Definition

Proof of Progress is the protocol through which Ozeon determines whether a user action qualifies as a verified contribution to the ecosystem.

A Proof of Progress event occurs when:

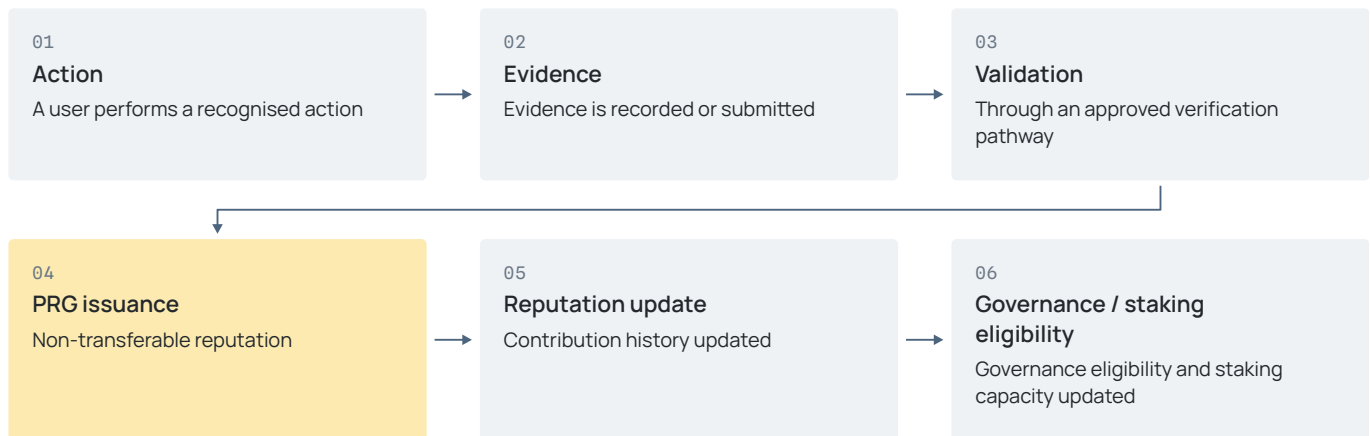
1. a user performs a recognised action;
2. evidence of that action is recorded or submitted;

3. the action is validated through an approved verification pathway;
4. the system issues Progress / PRG as non-transferable reputation;
5. the user's contribution history, governance eligibility, and staking capacity are updated.

In this sense, Proof of Progress is both a verification system and an incentive system. It links contribution to recognition and recognition to governance participation.

The term “consensus” in Proof of Progress should be understood as contribution consensus: agreement by code, community, attestors, Pods, DAO governance, approved verification mechanisms, or platform rules that a contribution is valid and should be recognised. It does not mean that Ozeon is running an independent Layer 1 blockchain consensus protocol.

FIGURE 6.2 — PROOF OF PROGRESS EVENT LIFECYCLE



6.3 Design Rationale

Proof of Progress exists because regenerative systems require a different legitimacy model from conventional financial systems. Climate, ocean, biodiversity, education, and community innovation work often depends on distributed public-good labour that is poorly recognised by existing institutions. People summarise research, translate knowledge, collect field data, review scientific work, support projects, create educational materials, contribute to local ecological action, invite new participants into mission-aligned ecosystems, and coordinate communities without receiving durable reputation or economic recognition.

PoP is designed to make this labour visible, attributable, and verifiable.

The protocol has six design objectives:

1. Reward contribution over speculation. Users earn reputation through action, not token purchasing.
2. Make learning economically meaningful. Educational participation becomes part of a verifiable contribution history.
3. Recognise public-good labour. Peer review, research synthesis, project support, field data collection, translation and local coordination become rewardable actions.
4. Support responsible ecosystem growth. Users may earn PRG for inviting real, verified and active participants into the Ozeon ecosystem.

5. Protect governance legitimacy. DAO influence is tied to earned PRG rather than directly purchasable \$OZN.
6. Link utility-token emission to contribution. \$OZN minting through PoP staking depends on PRG, which must first be earned.

This model aligns with research on non-transferable reputation tokens. Ohlhaber, Weyl, and Buterin (2022) propose that non-transferable “soulbound” tokens can represent commitments, credentials, affiliations, provenance, and trust relationships in decentralized systems. Ozeon adapts this logic to regenerative innovation: PRG represents contribution-based legitimacy within a mission-aligned ecosystem.

6.4 Valid Proof of Progress Events

A Proof of Progress event can be generated through several categories of platform activity. These categories should be treated as governance-configurable and extensible over time.

TABLE 6.1 — PROOF OF PROGRESS EVENT CATEGORIES

EVENT CATEGORY	EXAMPLE ACTIONS	VALIDATION PATHWAY	OUTPUT
Learning	Correct quiz answers, Learn2Earn activity, educational pathway completion	Automated scoring, Learn2Earn verification	PRG reward
Publishing	Articles, tutorials, media, educational resources, research summaries	Content review, DAO/Pod curation, metadata validation	PRG reward, content approval
Peer review	Reviewing research, validating educational content, reviewing project evidence	PeerReviewRewards, Pod review, signed attestation	PRG reward
Project contribution	Milestone delivery, project documentation, field reporting	Milestone verification, sponsor review, DAO/Pod approval	PRG reward
Funding support	Funding projects, tipping creators, supporting bounties, purchasing premium content	Smart-contract payment records, payment records, price oracle	PRG reward
Bounty work	Completing scientific, technical, educational, design, translation, media, or monitoring tasks	Bounty sponsor, approver role, DAO module, signed attestation	PRG reward and possible \$OZN payout
User activation	Verified account setup, profile completion, platform rules acknowledgement, first meaningful action	Account verification, anti-Sybil check, activation milestone validation	PRG reward
Invitation-based ecosystem growth	Inviting a user who verifies, becomes active, and completes meaningful platform activity	Referral tracking, anti-Sybil checks, activation milestones, abuse review	PRG reward to inviter
Governance participation	Proposals, voting, Pod participation, Open Call review	GovernanceCore, ProposalRegistry, module execution	Governance record; possible PRG flow
Future OCIS-linked impact	dMRV evidence, project integrity records, environmental monitoring	OCIS, external data, third-party verification	PRG recognition or project scoring

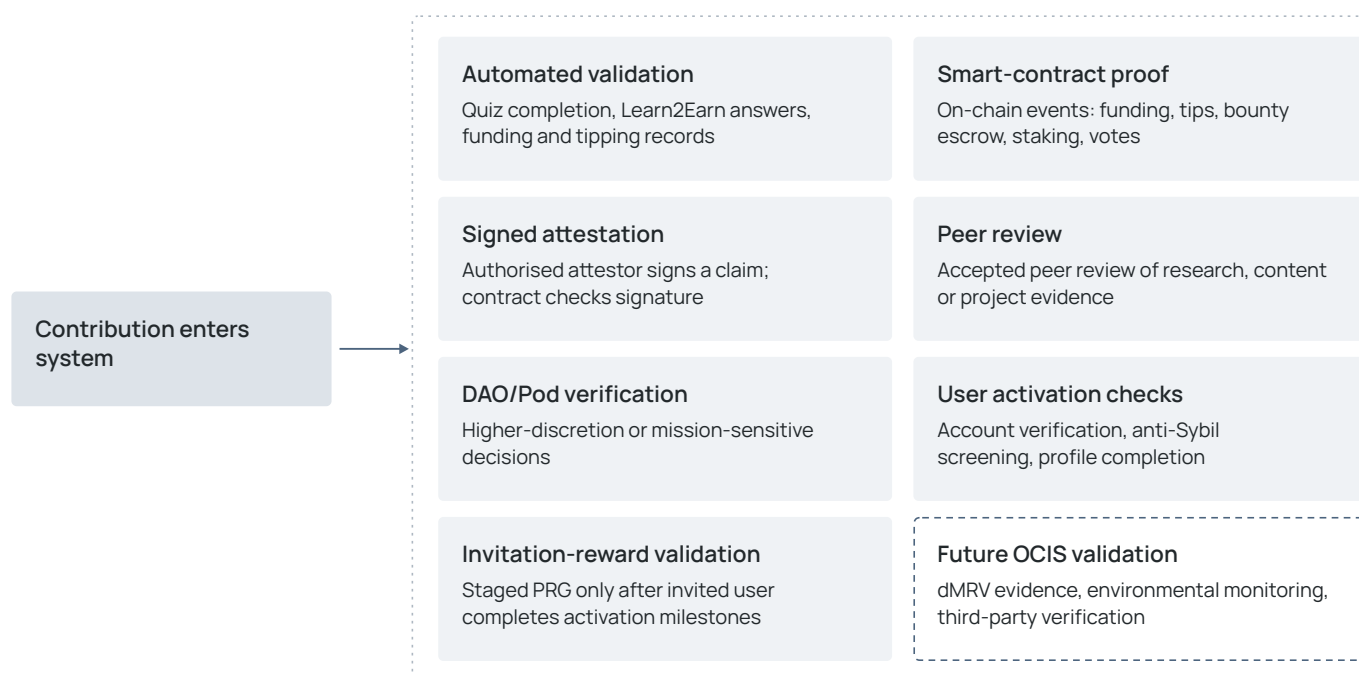
These categories allow Ozeon to recognise both digital and real-world contribution. A quiz answer and a biodiversity field report are not equivalent actions, but both can be treated as evidence-bearing contribution events if they pass the appropriate validation process.

Invitation-based rewards must be treated carefully. A user should not earn PRG simply because another account registers with an invitation link. PRG should be awarded only when the invited user completes activation milestones, demonstrates non-spam participation, and performs meaningful platform activity.

6.5 Validation Pathways

Proof of Progress uses multiple validation pathways rather than a single universal validator. This is necessary because different contribution types require different assurance models. Automated quiz scoring is not the same as peer review. A funding transaction is not the same as a field-monitoring claim. A project milestone is not the same as a tutorial submission. A user invitation is not meaningful unless the invited participant becomes real, verified and active.

FIGURE 6.3 — MULTI-PATH VALIDATION ARCHITECTURE



6.5.1 Automated Validation

Automated validation is used for deterministic or low-discretion events, including:

- quiz completion;
- correct Learn2Earn answers;
- payment-linked PRG rewards;
- funding records;
- tipping records;

- premium access purchases;
- staking events;
- account verification status;
- profile-completion milestones;
- platform rules acknowledgement;
- and replay-protected reward claims.

These events can be validated through smart-contract logic, signed receipts, claim identifiers, price-oracle conversion, platform databases, or account-state records that later trigger on-chain reward issuance.

6.5.2 Smart-Contract Proofs

Smart-contract proofs are used where on-chain events themselves provide evidence of participation. For example, a project funding action, tip, bounty escrow, bounty payout, staking round, governance vote, or premium-content payment can be recorded directly by contract state and events.

This is the strongest validation pathway for actions that are already native to Ozeon's blockchain layer. It minimises subjective review and creates auditable records.

6.5.3 Signed Attestations

Signed attestations are used for actions that require off-chain verification before on-chain reward issuance. Examples include:

- accepted peer review;
- verified project milestones;
- approved educational contribution;
- completed fieldwork;
- manually reviewed bounty work;
- verified partner-programme participation;
- or validated ecosystem-growth contribution.

In these cases, an authorised attester signs a claim. The relevant reward contract checks the signature, verifies that the claim has not already been used, and issues the appropriate PRG reward.

6.5.4 DAO and Pod Verification

DAO and Pod verification are used for higher-discretion or mission-sensitive decisions. These may include:

- approving educational resources;
- endorsing regenerative projects;
- approving Open Calls;

- validating project milestones;
- resolving contested bounty submissions;
- reviewing referral-abuse disputes;
- acquiring IP-NFTs;
- approving governance parameters;
- and reviewing complex or contentious contributions.

Pods allow domain-specific review. For example, an Education Pod may review learning resources, while an Ocean-Climate Pod may assess marine restoration evidence. This supports subsidiarity: decisions should be made as close as possible to the relevant domain of expertise.

6.5.5 User Activation and Invitation Validation

User activation and invitation rewards require a separate validation pathway because they are vulnerable to Sybil farming, duplicate accounts, bot activity, self-referrals, and low-quality user acquisition.

A valid invitation-based Proof of Progress event should require the invited user to complete meaningful activation milestones, such as:

- account verification or anti-Sybil screening;
- profile completion;
- acknowledgement of platform rules, community standards or contribution guidelines;
- first verified Learn2Earn activity;
- first meaningful contribution;
- first Project, Article, bounty, review, funding or support action;
- or sustained activity over a defined minimum period.

The inviter should receive PRG only after the invited user completes the relevant milestone. Rewards should be staged, capped and reversible where fraud is detected.

A suggested validation logic is:

1. inviter generates a referral or invitation link;
2. invited user registers;
3. invited user completes verification or anti-Sybil screening;
4. invited user completes activation milestones;
5. system checks for duplicate accounts, self-referrals, bot activity or coordinated abuse;
6. inviter receives staged PRG reward;
7. reward remains subject to clawback if fraud is later detected.

Invitation validation should not be designed as a simple growth-hacking mechanism. It should reward ecosystem-building only where the invited participant becomes a real, verified and active contributor.

6.5.6 AI-Assisted Review

AI may support validation by helping reviewers analyse submissions, detect duplication, summarise documents, tag metadata, surface risks, and identify low-quality or spam-like content. However, AI should not be the final authority for high-stakes contribution validation.

This follows responsible AI principles. NIST identifies trustworthy AI characteristics including validity, reliability, safety, security, resilience, accountability, transparency, explainability, interpretability, privacy enhancement, and fairness with harmful bias managed (National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST], 2023). UNESCO's Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence similarly emphasises transparency, fairness, environmental sustainability, and human oversight (UNESCO, 2021).

For Ozean, this means AI can assist verification, but final judgement should remain with human reviewers, Pods, DAO processes, or authorised attestors, depending on the contribution type.

6.6 Progress / PRG as the Output of Proof of Progress

The primary output of Proof of Progress is Progress / PRG. PRG is a non-transferable reputation token that records verified contribution within Ozean.

PRG represents:

- proof of learning;
- proof of contribution;
- proof of review;
- proof of support;
- proof of project activity;
- proof of community participation;
- proof of user activation;
- proof of responsible ecosystem growth;
- and proof of regenerative engagement.

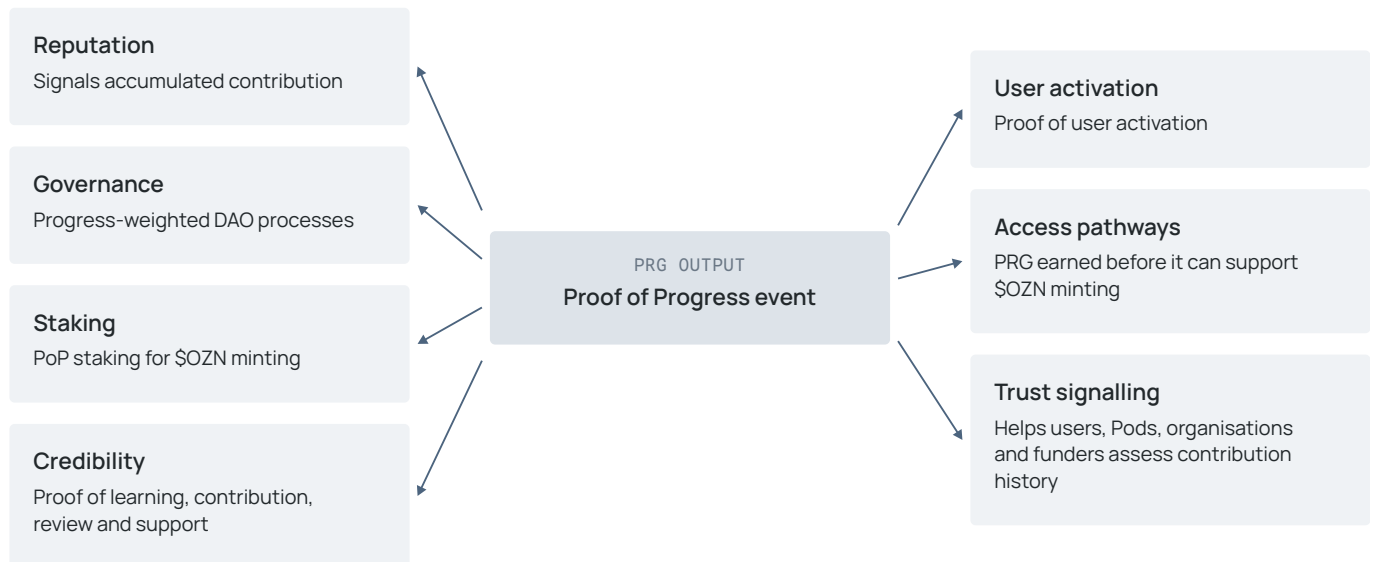
PRG is not a currency. It cannot be bought, sold, or transferred. It is issued only through approved Proof of Progress events and is bound to the contributor's account or wallet.

PRG serves four core functions:

1. Reputation: It signals accumulated contribution.

2. **Governance eligibility:** It allows users to participate in Progress-weighted DAO processes.
3. **Staking input:** It allows users to participate in Proof-of-Progress staking for \$OZN minting.
4. **Trust signal:** It helps other users, Pods, organisations, and funders assess contribution history.

FIGURE 6.4 — PRG OUTPUT AND USE CASES



6.7 Proof of Progress and \$OZN Minting

Proof of Progress connects to \$OZN through the staking layer. Users do not mint \$OZN directly by performing any action. Instead, users earn PRG through verified contribution. PRG may then be staked in the Stake contract to participate in probabilistic \$OZN minting rounds.

The high-level sequence is:

Verified contribution creates a Proof of Progress event.

The Proof of Progress event issues PRG.

The user stakes eligible PRG.

The user enters a Proof-of-Progress staking round.

A randomness-based process resolves the round as a win or loss.

If the user wins, \$OZN is minted to the user.

A defined PRG cost is transferred to the Foundation Treasury.

This creates a separation between contribution recognition and transferable utility emission. PRG records contribution. \$OZN powers utility. PoP staking links the two without allowing \$OZN to become the basis of governance legitimacy.

6.7.1 Staking Parameters

The contract architecture defines the following staking parameters:

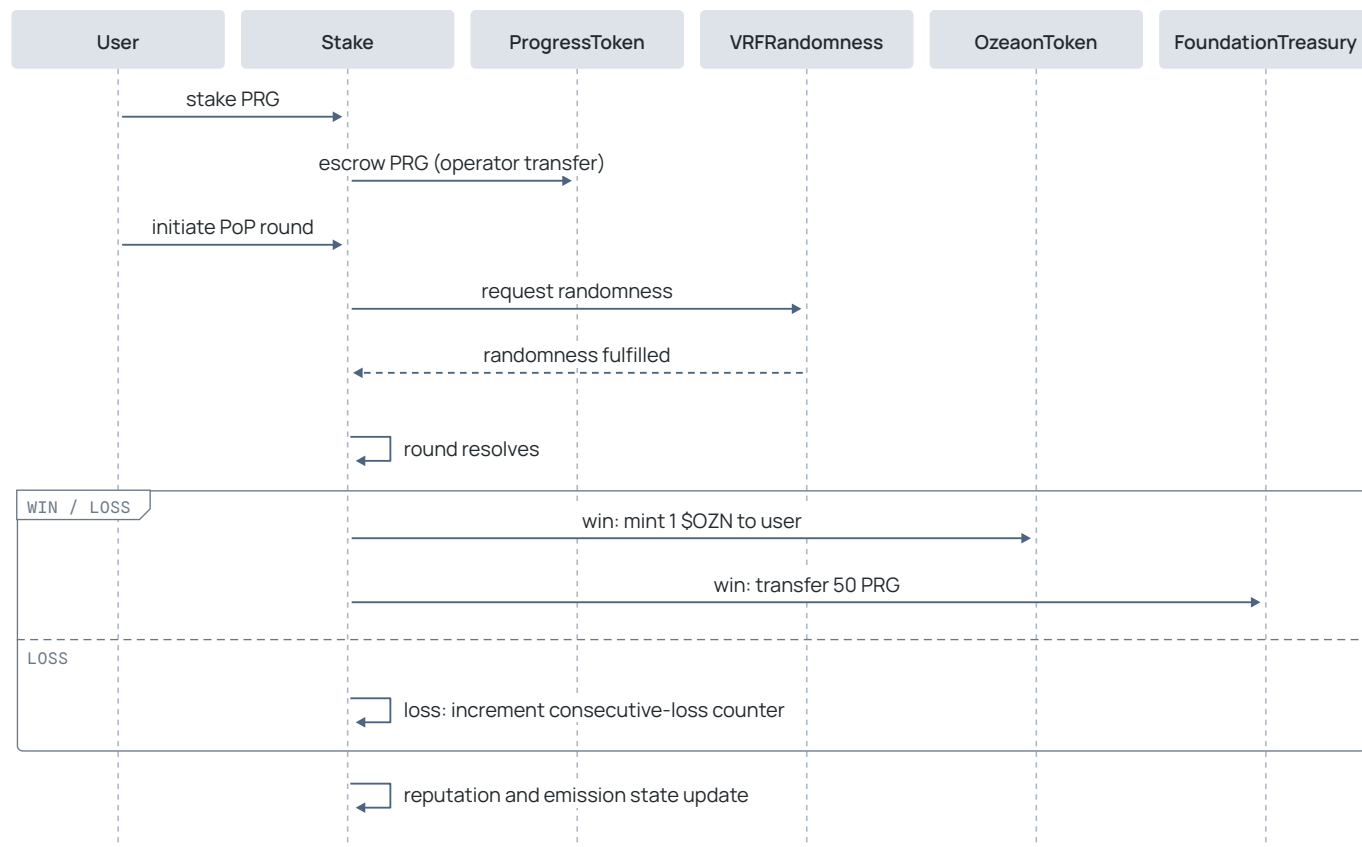
TABLE 6.2 — POP STAKING PARAMETERS

PARAMETER	VALUE
Minimum stake	50 PRG
Full-probability stake	100 PRG
Reward on win	1 \$OZN
Cost on win	50 PRG
Anti-streak boost	314 basis points per consecutive loss
\$OZN PoP staking reserve	750,000,000 \$OZN

6.7.2 Proof-of-Progress Staking Flow

Ozeon’s Proof-of-Progress staking mechanism allows contributors to stake their earned PRG for a probability-based opportunity to mint \$OZN utility tokens. Participants stake a minimum of 50 PRG, with their probability of success determined by the amount staked, consecutive unsuccessful attempts and the proportion of issued PRG held in the Foundation Treasury. Each successful staking round mints 1 \$OZN, with 50 PRG returned to the Foundation Treasury, while unsuccessful attempts increase the participant’s probability of success in subsequent rounds.

FIGURE 6.5 — PROOF-OF-PROGRESS STAKING FLOW



6.7.3 Probability Formula

The Proof-of-Progress (PoP) staking mechanism uses an adaptive probability model that combines three primary factors: the amount of PRG staked, the number of consecutive unsuccessful staking attempts, and the proportion of issued PRG held in the Foundation Treasury.

Together, these factors determine a participant's effective probability of successfully minting \$OZN. The model is designed to reward verified contributions, improve fairness following unsuccessful attempts, and regulate token emissions as participation in the Ozean ecosystem increases.

Base Staking Probability

The initial probability of successfully minting \$OZN is determined by the amount of PRG staked:

$$P_{\text{base}} = \min(1, S / 100)$$

Where:

- P_{base} = Base staking probability.
- S = Amount of PRG staked.

The model establishes a linear probability increase between the minimum staking requirement of 50 PRG and 100 PRG.

A participant staking 50 PRG begins with a 50% base probability, while staking 75 PRG provides a 75% base probability. Staking 100 PRG or more provides a 100% base probability before the adaptive Treasury adjustment is applied.

Consecutive Loss Adjustment

To improve fairness, the protocol incorporates an anti-streak adjustment that increases the probability of success following consecutive unsuccessful staking attempts.

Each unsuccessful attempt increases the participant's staking probability by 314 basis points (3.14 percentage points).

$$P_{\text{staking}} = \min(1, P_{\text{base}} + 0.0314 \times L)$$

Where:

- P_{staking} = Staking probability after the consecutive-loss adjustment.
- L = Number of consecutive unsuccessful staking attempts.
- 0.0314 = Probability increase per consecutive loss.

The consecutive-loss counter resets to zero following a successful minting event.

The adjustment is capped at 100% before the Treasury multiplier is applied. Consequently, consecutive unsuccessful attempts improve the participant's staking probability but do not necessarily guarantee a successful mint.

TABLE 6.3 — PROOF-OF-PROGRESS BASE STAKING PROBABILITY EXAMPLES

PRG STAKED	0 LOSSES	1 LOSS	2 LOSSES	10 LOSSES
50 PRG	50.00%	53.14%	56.28%	81.40%
75 PRG	75.00%	78.14%	81.28%	100.00%
100 PRG	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Note. The probabilities shown represent the initial staking calculation before applying the adaptive PRG Treasury adjustment.

Adaptive PRG Treasury Adjustment

To support long-term sustainability, Ozeon introduces an adaptive probability adjustment linked directly to the distribution of PRG between eligible contributors and the Foundation Treasury. The mechanism is designed around a hypothetical 50-year distribution horizon for the fixed 750 million \$OZN Proof-of-Progress reserve.

As users earn PRG through verified contributions, a greater proportion of issued PRG may enter circulation. This increases the number of potential staking participants and the demand for \$OZN minting.

To regulate this process, the protocol dynamically adjusts minting probability according to the proportion of issued PRG currently held in the Foundation Treasury.

As more PRG enters circulation, the Treasury's share generally decreases, resulting in a lower effective probability of minting \$OZN. Conversely, as PRG returns to the Treasury through successful staking, the Treasury ratio increases, allowing probabilities to recover.

The PRG Treasury Ratio is calculated as:

$$R_{\text{treasury}} = T / (T + C)$$

Where:

- T = Issued PRG currently held in the Foundation Treasury.
- C = Issued PRG circulating outside the Treasury among eligible contributors.
- T + C = Total issued PRG included in the calculation, excluding unissued PRG supply.

The calculation requires a positive total issued PRG balance. Before PRG has been issued, staking remains unavailable.

The Treasury Adjustment Factor is then calculated as:

$$A = 0.20 + (0.80 \times R_{\text{treasury}})$$

This formula establishes a minimum adjustment factor of 20%, with the remaining 80% determined by the proportion of issued PRG held in the Treasury.

The minimum multiplier maintains a non-zero chance of successful minting for eligible participants even when a substantial proportion of issued PRG has entered circulation.

TABLE 6.4 — DAPTIVE PRG TREASURY ADJUSTMENT EXAMPLES

PRG IN TREASURY	PRG IN CIRCULATION	ADJUSTMENT FACTOR	MAXIMUM EFFECTIVE WIN PROBABILITY
80%	20%	0.84	84%
60%	40%	0.68	68%
40%	60%	0.52	52%
20%	80%	0.36	36%
10%	90%	0.28	28%

Note. Maximum effective probability refers to a participant whose staking probability has reached 100% before the Treasury adjustment. These values are illustrative and subject to final tokenomics validation.

Combined Effective Probability Formula

The final probability of successfully minting \$OZN is determined by combining the base staking probability, consecutive-loss adjustment and PRG Treasury Adjustment Factor.

FIGURE 6.6 — EFFECTIVE WIN PROBABILITY EQUATION

EFFECTIVE WIN PROBABILITY

$$P_{\text{effective}} = \min \left(1, \frac{S}{100} + 0.0314 L \right) \times \left(0.20 + 0.80 \times \frac{T}{T+C} \right)$$

Where:

- $P_{\text{effective}}$ = Final probability of successfully minting \$OZN.
- S = Amount of PRG staked.
- L = Number of consecutive unsuccessful staking attempts.
- T = Issued PRG held in the Foundation Treasury.
- C = Issued PRG circulating outside the Treasury among eligible contributors.

The formula combines an individual participant's staking activity with the wider state of the Ozean contribution economy.

A higher PRG stake increases the initial probability of winning, while consecutive unsuccessful attempts increase the participant's probability through the anti-streak mechanism.

However, the final probability is moderated by the proportion of issued PRG held in the Foundation Treasury.

For example, when the Foundation Treasury holds 40% of issued PRG, the maximum effective probability is 52%, even when a participant has staked 100 PRG or reached the maximum initial probability through consecutive unsuccessful attempts.

This ensures that the protocol responds not only to individual contribution but also to the broader circulation and distribution of PRG across the ecosystem.

Illustrative Probability Calculation

Consider a participant staking 75 PRG who has experienced two consecutive unsuccessful attempts, while the Foundation Treasury holds 40% of issued PRG.

Step 1 — Calculate the staking probability

$$P_{\text{staking}} = 0.75 + (2 \times 0.0314)$$

$$P_{\text{staking}} = 81.28\%$$

Step 2 — Calculate the Treasury Adjustment Factor

$$A = 0.20 + (0.80 \times 0.40)$$

$$A = 0.52$$

Step 3 — Calculate the effective probability

$$P_{\text{effective}} = 0.8128 \times 0.52$$

$$P_{\text{effective}} = 42.27\%$$

Therefore, although the participant achieves an initial staking probability of 81.28%, the effective probability of successfully minting \$OZN is approximately 42.27% after the Treasury adjustment.

This example demonstrates how the mechanism combines individual staking behaviour with the wider distribution of PRG to moderate \$OZN emissions.

Long-Term Emissions and the 50-Year Reference Horizon

The adaptive probability model is intended to support the long-term distribution of the fixed 750 million \$OZN Proof-of-Progress reserve.

Ozeon proposes a hypothetical 50-year reference horizon, equivalent to an average distribution of approximately:

- 15 million \$OZN annually.
- 1.25 million \$OZN monthly.
- 41,100 \$OZN daily.

These figures represent reference averages rather than guaranteed or automatically enforced emissions limits.

Unlike a fixed distribution schedule, the adaptive model adjusts the probability of minting \$OZN according to the circulating PRG supply, Foundation Treasury holdings, staking amounts and consecutive unsuccessful attempts.

As more PRG enters circulation through verified contributions, the effective probability of minting \$OZN generally decreases. As PRG returns to the Treasury, the probability may increase.

This creates a dynamic relationship between contribution rewards, staking behaviour, PRG circulation and \$OZN emissions.

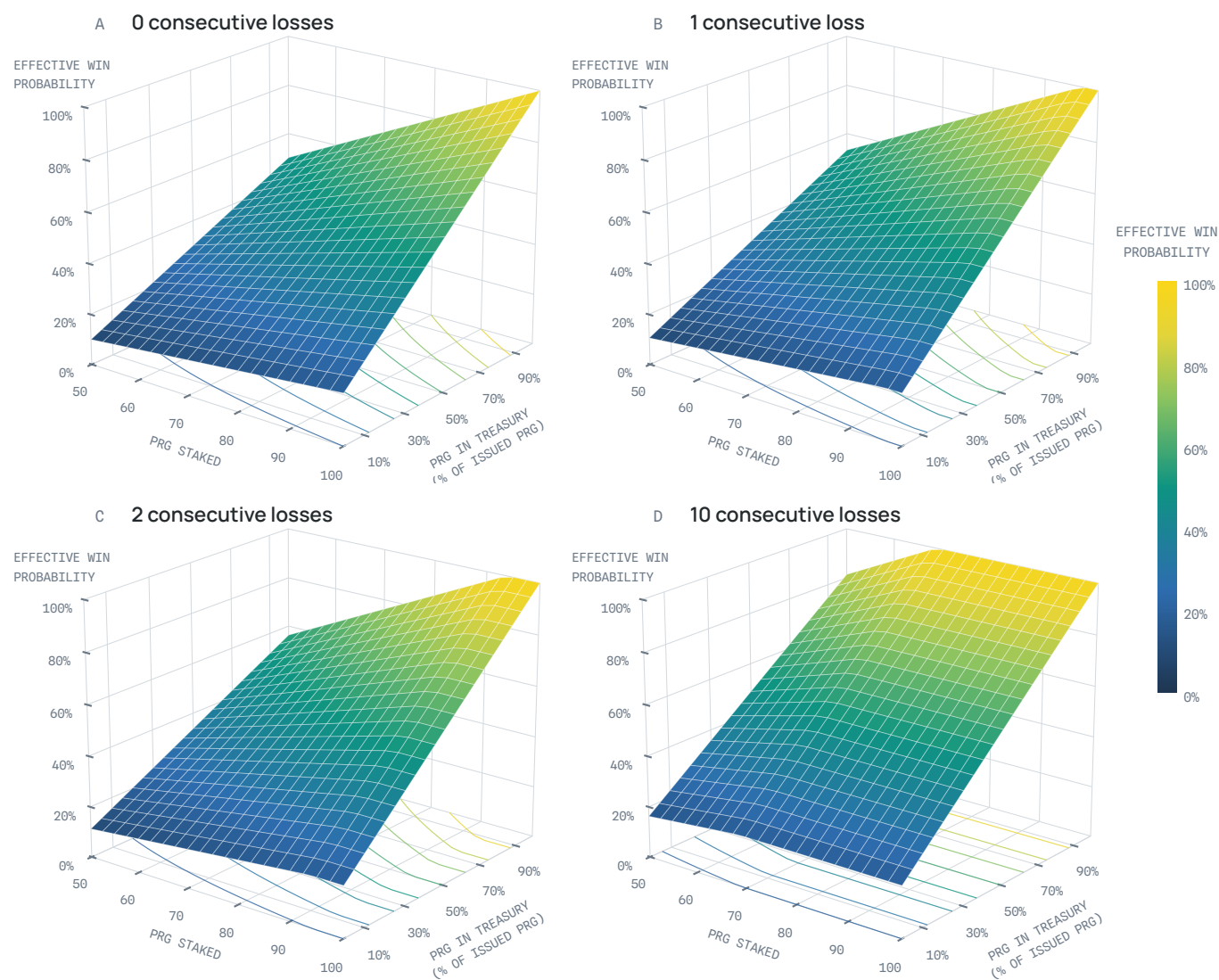
The 50-year horizon is an initial planning reference rather than a guaranteed depletion date. Actual emissions will depend on the number and frequency of staking attempts, participant activity and Treasury conditions. The reserve may therefore be depleted earlier or remain available beyond the reference horizon.

To support the intended distribution period, Ozeon may introduce supplementary safeguards, including staking frequency limits and maximum emissions allowances per period. These controls would be informed by tokenomics simulations and subject to technical validation and governance approval.

Visualising the Adaptive Probability Model

The interaction between PRG staked, consecutive losses, Treasury-held PRG and effective minting probability can be represented through a series of three-dimensional probability surfaces.

FIGURE 6.7 — ADAPTIVE PROOF-OF-PROGRESS PROBABILITY SURFACES



Four three-dimensional probability surfaces illustrating the combined effects of PRG staked, the proportion of issued PRG held in the Foundation Treasury, and consecutive unsuccessful staking attempts on the effective probability of minting \$OZN. The surfaces represent 0, 1, 2 and 10 consecutive losses.

The probability surfaces illustrate how the Proof-of-Progress mechanism responds to both individual staking behaviour and ecosystem-wide PRG distribution.

As the amount of PRG staked increases, or as unsuccessful staking attempts accumulate, the participant's initial probability of minting \$OZN rises.

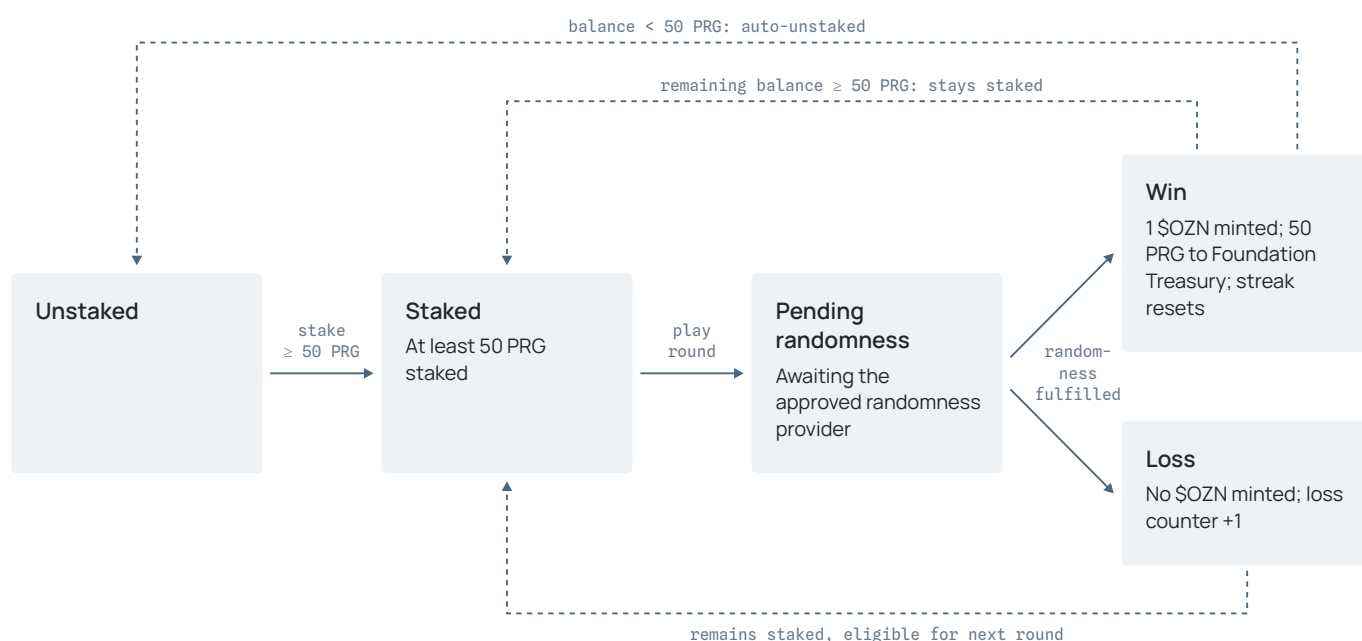
However, as more issued PRG enters circulation and the Treasury-held proportion decreases, the effective probability is moderated.

Through this adaptive approach, Ozeon seeks to balance contributor incentives, fairness and responsible token distribution, supporting the long-term availability of Proof-of-Progress rewards as the regenerative economy develops.

6.8 The PoP Staking State Machine

Proof-of-Progress staking can be represented as a simple state machine.

FIGURE 6.8 — POP STAKING STATE MACHINE



The user begins in an unstaked state.

The user stakes at least 50 PRG.

The user enters the staked state.

The user plays a staking round.

The system enters a pending-randomness state.

Randomness is fulfilled by the approved randomness provider or wrapper.

The round resolves as either a win or a loss.

If the round resolves as a win:

- 1 \$OZN is minted to the user;
- 50 PRG is transferred to the Foundation Treasury;

- the user's loss streak resets to zero;
- the user remains staked if their remaining PRG balance is at least 50 PRG;
- the user is automatically unstaked if their remaining staked balance falls below 50 PRG.

If the round resolves as a loss:

- no \$OZN is minted;
- the user's consecutive-loss counter increases by one;
- the user remains staked;
- the user remains eligible for the next round.

This state machine ensures that \$OZN minting is gated by staked PRG, randomness, and round resolution. It also ensures that PRG circulates back to the Foundation Treasury when \$OZN is minted.

6.9 Randomness and Fairness

The PoP staking mechanism uses randomness to resolve probabilistic minting rounds. The current architecture includes a VRFRandomness wrapper with a request-and-fulfil flow. This wrapper is intentionally pluggable, allowing future integration with providers such as Chainlink VRF, Pyth Entropy, drand, or another randomness source.

Chainlink VRF is a common verifiable randomness architecture for smart contracts. Its model allows contracts to request randomness and receive a callback response that can be used in application logic (Chainlink, n.d.). Ozean's wrapper design allows the staking contract to remain stable even if the randomness provider changes.

Randomness is important because it prevents predictable or deterministic exploitation of \$OZN minting rounds. However, randomness alone is insufficient. The system also needs:

- minimum stake requirements;
- capped probability;
- replay protection;
- role-restricted randomness fulfilment;
- event logging;
- monitoring;
- pausable emergency controls;
- and audit review.

6.10 Milestone-Based Proof of Progress

For project-based contributions, Proof of Progress can be connected to milestone verification. This is especially important for regenerative projects where meaningful progress may occur outside the platform and require evidence.

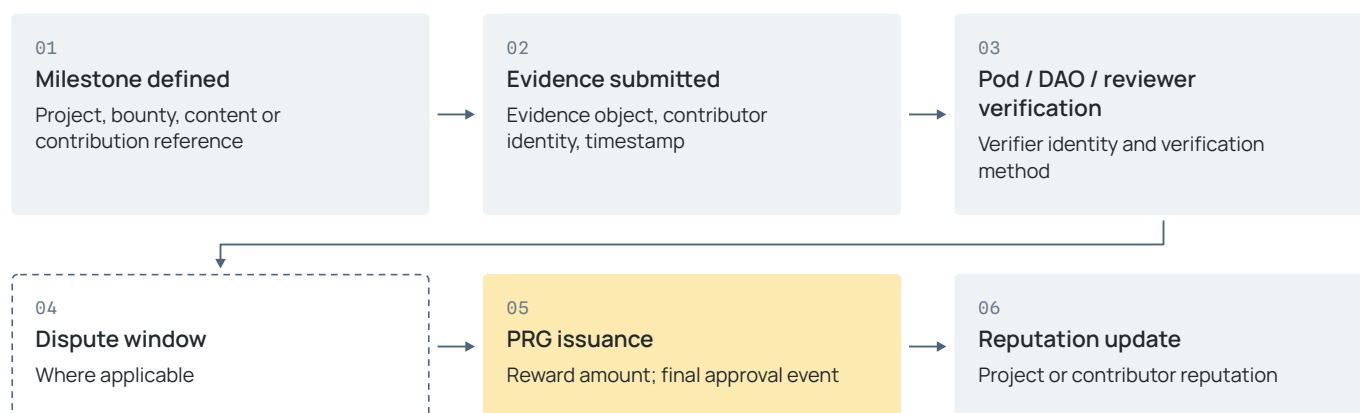
Milestones may include:

- publication of a project report;
- completion of a restoration activity;
- delivery of an educational programme;
- submission of biodiversity data;
- completion of a prototype;
- completion of an Open Call deliverable;
- production of a verified dataset;
- completion of an accepted Article, Tutorial, Media item, or Educational Resource;
- or successful completion of a funded bounty.

A milestone-based Proof of Progress event can include:

1. project, bounty, content, or contribution reference;
2. contributor identity;
3. evidence object;
4. timestamp;
5. reviewer or verifier identity;
6. verification method;
7. reward amount;
8. dispute window, where applicable;
9. final approval event.

FIGURE 6.9 — MILESTONE-BASED POP VERIFICATION



Future OCIS integration may strengthen milestone validation by linking project records to environmental data, dMRV-aligned reporting, remote sensing, field observations, or third-party verification. Until those systems are fully developed, Ozeon distinguishes between verified platform contribution and verified environmental impact.

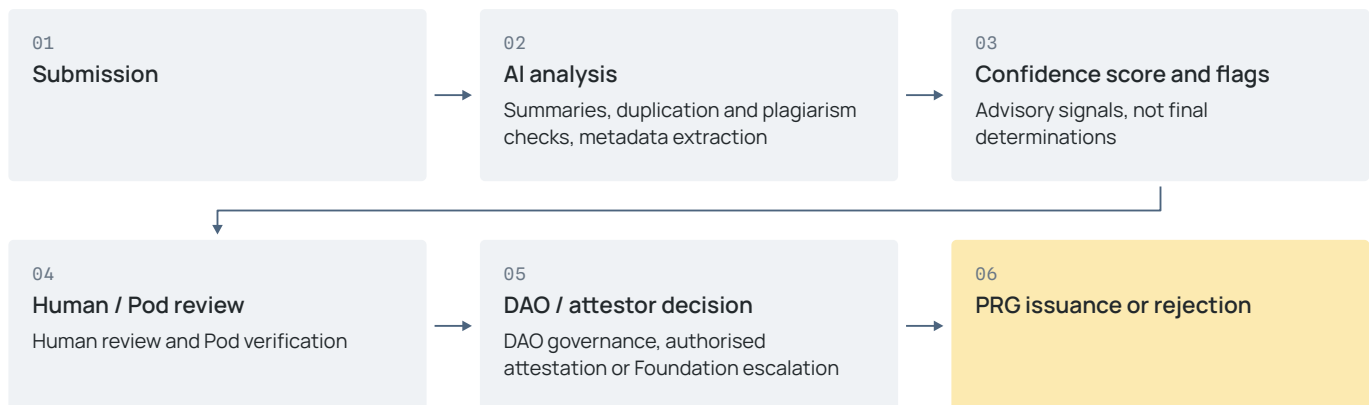
6.11 AI-Assisted Verification and Human Oversight

AI-assisted verification supports scalability but must be constrained by governance and ethics. Ozean may use AI tools to help reviewers:

- summarise submitted materials;
- identify duplicate or low-quality content;
- detect plagiarism or repetitive AI-generated submissions;
- extract metadata;
- compare submissions against existing resources;
- surface evidence gaps;
- flag possible scientific or ethical issues;
- identify suspicious referral patterns;
- identify possible bounty farming or circular tipping;
- recommend reviewers or Pods;
- and generate decision-support summaries.

AI outputs should be treated as advisory signals, not final determinations. All high-impact validation decisions remain subject to human review, Pod verification, DAO governance, authorised attestation, or Foundation escalation procedures.

FIGURE 6.10 — AI-ASSISTED VERIFICATION WITH HUMAN OVERSIGHT



The system will maintain:

- explainability of AI-generated recommendations;
- citation and evidence trails;
- reviewer accountability;
- bias monitoring;
- privacy safeguards;
- environmental-cost awareness;
- appeal or dispute mechanisms;
- and human oversight for all contested or high-stakes validation decisions.

This aligns with the NIST AI Risk Management Framework, which emphasises accountable, transparent, explainable, privacy-enhanced, and fair AI systems (NIST, 2023), and with

UNESCO's ethical AI principles of transparency, fairness, environmental sustainability, and human oversight (UNESCO, 2021).

6.12 Governance and Foundation Oversight

Proof of Progress requires governance because contribution categories, reward rates, validation methods, invitation-reward rules, anti-fraud thresholds, and risk controls will evolve over time. The DAO, Pods, and Foundation each play different roles.

The DAO and Pods may review:

- educational content;
- scientific submissions;
- project milestones;
- environmental claims;
- bounty deliverables;
- peer review quality;
- disputed invitation rewards;
- platform development and top proposals;
- and domain-specific evidence.

The Ozean Foundation may support:

- ethical oversight;
- scientific advisory review;
- emergency review pathways;
- partnership vetting;
- compliance escalation;
- AI governance;
- referral-farming investigations where needed;
- eligible Proof of Progress event types;
- PRG reward parameters;
- proposal-module logic;
- bounty categories;
- invitation reward caps;
- referral abuse controls;
- content inclusion rules;
- Open Call validation rules;
- staking parameters where governance-tunable;
- dispute procedures;
- and treasury-linked incentives.
- and public-interest stewardship.

The Foundation should be positioned as a stewardship and escalation body rather than a routine override authority. Its role is to preserve mission integrity, ethical safeguards, and legal accountability while allowing normal governance to occur through DAO and Pod processes.

6.13 Anti-Fraud and Quality Controls

Proof of Progress requires strong anti-fraud controls because any reward system can be gamed. The main risks include low-quality submissions, duplicate content, Sybil attacks, collusive voting, fake project milestones, circular tipping, bounty farming, referral farming, AI-generated spam, and oracle/attestor compromise.

Ozeon will implement defence-in-depth controls.

TABLE 6.5 — POP RISK AND CONTROL MATRIX

RISK	DESCRIPTION	CONTROL
Sybil farming	Users create many accounts to farm PRG	Identity checks, rate limits, wallet analysis, staged PRG activation
Referral farming	Users invite fake, duplicate, inactive or low-quality accounts for PRG	Anti-Sybil checks, activation milestones, reward caps, delayed release, clawback
Self-referrals	Users create accounts to refer themselves	Device, wallet, identity and behavioural analysis; self-referral prohibition
AI-spam submissions	Users submit low-quality AI-generated content	AI detection, human review, quality thresholds, reviewer accountability
Duplicate content	Reposting existing resources for rewards	Similarity checks, metadata comparison, citation requirements
Collusive voting	Groups coordinate low-quality approvals	Voting caps, deposits, reviewer rotation, dispute windows
Circular tipping	Users tip each other to farm PRG	Anomaly detection, reward caps, relationship analysis
Fake milestones	Projects submit unverifiable progress claims	Evidence requirements, DAO & Pod review, third-party verification
Bounty farming	Users submit low-quality or repetitive bounty outputs	Milestone review, sponsor approval, dispute resolution, quality scoring
Attestor compromise	Oracle or signer issues invalid claims	Key separation, multisig attestation, revocation, monitoring
Randomness manipulation	Minting rounds are manipulated	Verifiable randomness, role restriction, audit, monitoring
Governance spam	Excessive proposals or votes	PRG deposits, refund ladder, proposal costs
Dormant influence	Inactive accounts retain governance power	PRG inactivity tax and reputation decay

The protocol will also support dispute windows, appeals, audit trails, reviewer reputation, and penalties for malicious validation.

6.14 Proof of Progress Design Principles

Proof of Progress is grounded in the following principles.

6.14.1 Contribution Over Capital

Legitimacy should be earned through learning, creating, reviewing, supporting, funding, inviting real users, and building, not through purchasing governance power.

6.14.2 Reputation Before Utility

PRG must be earned before it can support \$OZN minting. This ensures that utility-token emission is connected to contribution history.

6.14.3 Activation Before Invitation Rewards

Invitation rewards require meaningful invited-user activation. Registration alone is not sufficient. The invited user should verify, complete basic platform-readiness steps, engage with learning or contribution, and remain active before the inviter receives the full PRG reward.

6.14.4 Human and Machine Verification

Automated systems can verify deterministic actions. AI can assist with scale. Humans, Pods, and DAO processes remain essential for judgement, context, ethics, and contested cases.

6.14.5 Measurable and Auditable Progress

Each valid contribution should leave an auditable trail: who contributed, what was submitted, how it was validated, and what reward was issued.

6.14.6 Anti-Speculation by Design

PRG cannot be bought or sold. \$OZN emission is constrained. Governance is contribution-weighted. This protects the system from direct financial capture.

6.14.7 Regenerative Alignment

The system should reward actions that strengthen Ozeon's mission: open knowledge, ocean and climate action, regenerative innovation, public-good contribution, fair participation, ecosystem growth, and ecological literacy.

7.15 Why Proof of Progress Matters

Proof of Progress reframes consensus as agreement about meaningful contribution. In most blockchain systems, consensus determines the state of a ledger. In Ozeon, Proof of Progress determines the legitimacy of participation within a regenerative knowledge economy.

This matters because the transition to regenerative systems requires more than capital. It requires learning, trust, contribution, coordination, review, experimentation, user

activation, and sustained participation. These forms of labour are often invisible in conventional economic systems. PoP makes them visible.

In Ozean:

- learning becomes reputation;
- contribution becomes governance eligibility;
- responsible ecosystem growth becomes recognisable;
- reputation enables utility-token access;
- utility supports further regenerative work;
- and verified progress becomes the basis of ecosystem legitimacy.

Proof of Progress therefore functions as the ethical and economic core of Ozean's protocol economy. It ensures that value is not minted from energy consumption, passive ownership, speculation, or empty user acquisition alone, but from verified participation in the regeneration of knowledge, communities, ecosystems, and shared futures.

References:

1. Chainlink. (n.d.). *Chainlink VRF v2.5*. Chainlink Documentation.
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Initial Coin Offering: Regenerative Token Launch Model

7.1 Overview

The Ozeon Initial Coin Offering is designed as a Regenerative Token Launch Framework rather than a conventional speculative token sale. Its purpose is to distribute a limited allocation of \$OZN to early ecosystem participants, establish initial platform utility, support early liquidity, fund Web3 development, seed regenerative project activity, create contributor-payment pathways, support the core team's operating runway, and provide the financial foundation for Ozeon's long-term protocol economy.

The ICO is intentionally constrained. Only 10% of the total \$OZN supply is made available through the public launch process. This conservative allocation is designed to support fair access while avoiding excessive early token distribution, reducing speculative pressure, and preserving long-term emission integrity. The majority of \$OZN supply remains reserved for Proof-of-Progress staking, DAO treasury activity, Foundation stewardship, long-term vesting, partnerships, ecosystem liquidity, and future platform growth.

The ICO should be understood as the initial distribution of a transferable utility token. It does not distribute Progress / PRG. PRG cannot be purchased, transferred, or sold. PRG must be earned through verified learning, Article creation, DAO-accepted Educational Resources, contribution, funding support, project work, peer review, bounty completion, governance participation, invitation-based activation rewards, or other recognised Proof-of-Progress events. This separation is essential to Ozeon's anti-speculation and governance-integrity model.

Affordability is a core design principle of the Ozeon token launch. The ICO is structured so that students, educators, researchers, creators, early-career professionals, grassroots contributors, climate communities, and regenerative project supporters can participate without requiring large capital commitments. The purpose is not to concentrate \$OZN among a small number of large purchasers, but to establish a broad, mission-aligned user base that can use \$OZN inside the platform economy.

The ICO also supports a deeper regenerative labour and payment-access thesis. Environmental monitoring, biodiversity documentation, project reporting, field evidence, educational writing, open peer review, local ecological knowledge work, translation, citizen science, and community coordination cannot scale indefinitely through unpaid labour. If contributors cannot be paid, many forms of environmental and regenerative sustainability work will not be completed, even where motivation and ecological need are high.

\$OZN is therefore designed as a platform utility token that can help route value toward Projects, project creators, contributors, bounties, Educational Resources, and recognised public-good labour. Purchasing, holding and using \$OZN can strengthen the practical utility, liquidity and circulation of the token inside the Ozeon economy. This may help project creators and contributors who earn \$OZN through verified platform activity, bounty completion, project work, and Proof-of-Progress staking to access usable value for their work.

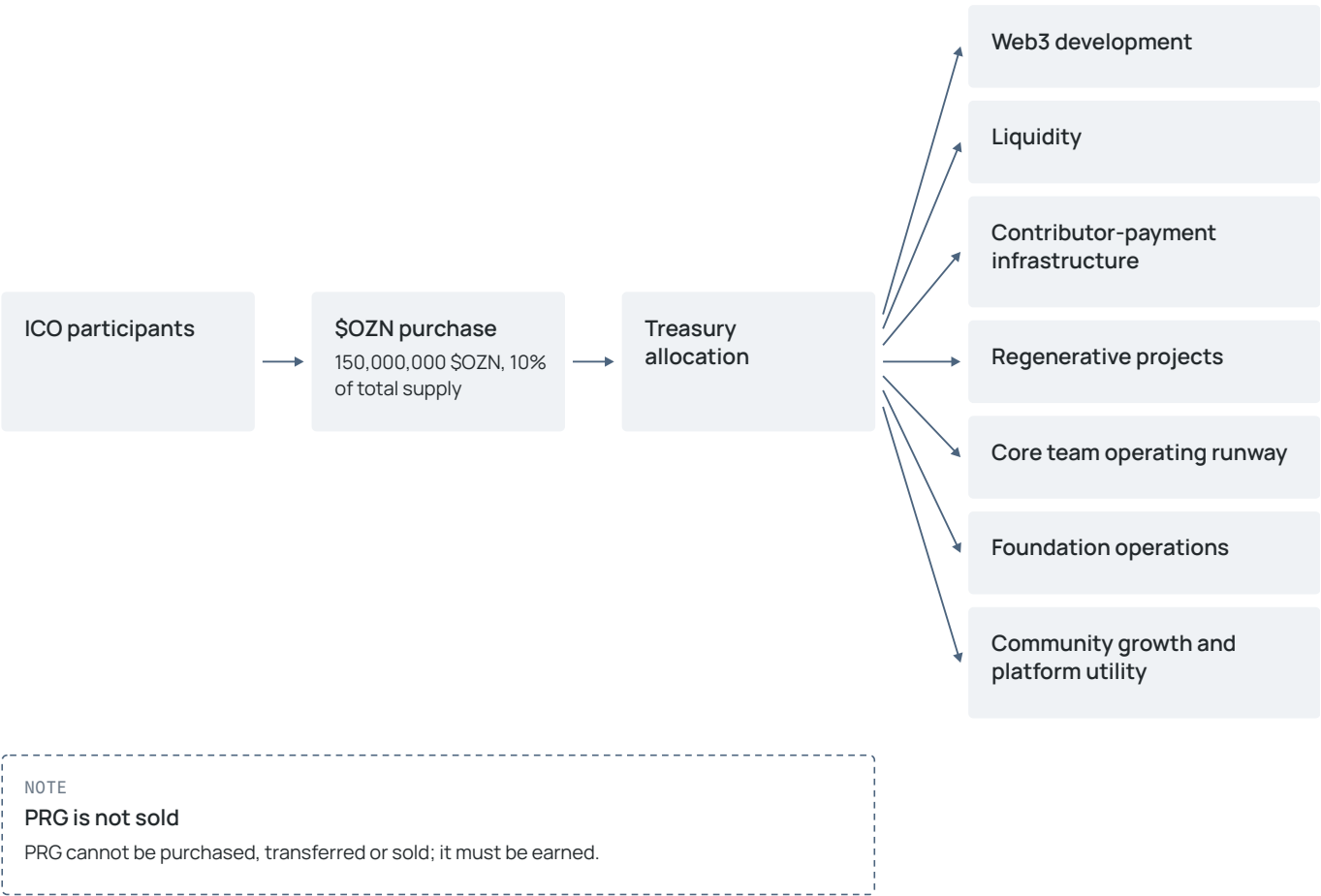
This should not be framed as a guarantee that \$OZN will increase in market price or generate financial returns. The intended logic is functional rather than speculative: the more \$OZN is used for real platform activity, the more useful it becomes as a payment, funding and coordination layer for regenerative work. A stronger \$OZN utility economy can support project creators, contributors and communities by making \$OZN more usable

for Project funding, contributor payments, bounties, tipping, premium access, platform services and ecosystem participation.

This payment-access function is especially relevant for contributors in the Global South and in low- and middle-income economies. Many potential contributors may face barriers to conventional banking, cross-border payments, institutional employment, or grant funding, while mobile-first financial tools and digital wallets may provide alternative payment access in some contexts. The World Bank’s Global Findex 2025 reports that approximately 1.3 billion adults remain without financial accounts, while around 900 million adults without accounts have a mobile phone, including approximately 530 million with smartphones (World Bank Group, 2025a, 2025b). This does not remove the need for legal compliance, consumer protection, identity safeguards, off-ramp planning, taxation review, wallet safety, sanctions screening, and local regulatory analysis. However, it establishes an important design principle: a regenerative economy requires payment rails capable of reaching the people doing the work.

This ICO section should also be read in light of evolving crypto-asset regulation. In the European Union, the Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation establishes a harmonised framework for crypto-asset issuance, public offers, admission to trading, and crypto-asset service providers, including disclosure obligations for crypto-asset white papers (European Union, 2023; European Securities and Markets Authority [ESMA], n.d.). Ozean’s ICO will therefore be structured with legal review, jurisdictional assessment, consumer-risk disclosures, anti-money-laundering controls, marketing controls, sanctions screening, and regulatory classification analysis before launch.

FIGURE 7.1 — REGENERATIVE ICO MODEL



7.2 Objectives of the ICO

The Ozeon ICO has nine primary objectives.

7.2.1 Enable Broad and Affordable Participation

The ICO is designed to make \$OZN accessible to a wide global user base. Token pricing is intentionally low, fixed, and transparent. Ozeon should support small-ticket participation where legally and technically feasible, including micro-purchase options through approved payment rails, stablecoin payments, and future fiat on-ramp integrations.

This supports the principle that the launch of Ozeon's utility economy should not be limited to wealthy purchasers or institutional actors. The platform's long-term strength depends on distributed participation across learners, contributors, educators, researchers, communities, project supporters, and regenerative project builders.

7.2.2 Fund Web3 Development and Protocol Infrastructure

ICO proceeds are primarily intended to support the technical development of Ozeon's Web3 infrastructure. This includes the systems required to make Ozeon's token economy, DAO governance, Proof of Progress protocol, treasury controls, utility-token flows, contributor-payment mechanisms, and interoperable platform architecture secure, usable, audit-able, and scalable.

Priority Web3 development areas include:

- smart-contract design, development, testing and deployment;
- \$OZN token contract deployment;
- PRG issuance and accounting logic;
- Proof of Progress staking architecture;
- DAO governance contracts;
- proposal modules;
- treasury contracts;
- vesting and timelock contracts;
- multisig treasury infrastructure;
- token distribution infrastructure;
- security audits;
- wallet integration;
- payment and utility flows;
- contributor-payment infrastructure;
- bounty payment infrastructure;
- tokenized IP and IP-NFT infrastructure;
- blockchain indexing, dashboards and transparency tooling;
- testnet and mainnet deployment;
- developer operations;

- protocol monitoring;
- and interoperability integrations.

This ensures that the ICO is directly connected to infrastructure delivery rather than abstract token issuance.

7.2.3 Support Core Team Compensation and Operating Runway

The ICO should also provide the operating runway required for the Ozeon core team to build, coordinate, launch and maintain the platform responsibly. Ozeon cannot deliver a global regenerative coordination system, token economy, DAO, contribution infrastructure, Project funding layer, contributor-payment mechanisms, educational ecosystem and protocol integrations without compensating the people doing the work.

Core team compensation should be treated as operational runway, not private extraction. Salaries, contractor payments, founder compensation and operating expenses should be reasonable, budgeted, documented and reported through treasury transparency processes. Any use of ICO proceeds for compensation should be linked to defined responsibilities, platform delivery, governance obligations, product development, community growth, ecosystem support, legal compliance and long-term protocol stewardship.

Eligible team and operating costs may include:

- founder and core team compensation;
- product management;
- Web3 engineering coordination;
- design, brand and user experience work;
- community and partnership operations;
- contractor payments;
- research, writing and educational development;
- administration;
- finance and accounting;
- software subscriptions;
- legal and professional services;
- justified travel for fundraising, partnerships, events or ecosystem development;
- and operational expenses required to deliver the platform.

This creates a transparent distinction between compensation required to build the ecosystem and speculative or extractive treasury use. Ozeon will not present team compensation as a private windfall. It should be presented as a necessary operating cost required to deliver the public-good and protocol infrastructure described in this white paper.

7.2.4 Strengthen \$OZN Utility, Circulation and Regenerative Work Access

A central objective of the ICO is to establish \$OZN as a utility layer for regenerative work. Purchasing, holding and using \$OZN can help strengthen the Ozeon regenerative economy by increasing the circulation, liquidity and practical utility of the token used for Project funding, bounty payments, contributor rewards, tipping, premium access and ecosystem services.

This matters because many project creators, contributors and community participants may earn \$OZN indirectly through verified platform activity. They may earn PRG through learning, Article creation, DAO-accepted Educational Resources, peer review, project support, bounty completion, field work, user invitation activation, or other recognised contributions, and may later stake PRG through Proof of Progress to access \$OZN emissions.

A more active \$OZN utility economy can therefore make earned \$OZN more useful for the people doing regenerative work. When supporters, funders, organisations and ecosystem participants purchase and use \$OZN inside the platform, they help create the economic demand and payment circulation needed to fund Projects, compensate contributors, support bounty work, and reward verified public-good labour.

\$OZN purchasers are not promised profit, appreciation, yield, employment, income, project success, liquidity, or guaranteed impact. The intended logic is functional: \$OZN provides a medium through which users, supporters, organisations, funders and ecosystem participants can direct value toward regenerative activity.

The regenerative work economy includes:

- bounty payments;
- contributor payments;
- creator tipping;
- Project support;
- Educational Resource incentives;
- local data collection;
- translation and localisation;
- field reporting;
- citizen-science participation;
- open peer review;
- project evidence preparation;
- media, tutorial and Article development;
- invitation-based ecosystem growth;
- and other recognised public-good labour.

The economic logic can be summarised as follows:

Supporters purchase, hold or use \$OZN. ---> This increases \$OZN circulation and practical utility inside the platform economy. ---> \$OZN is used for Project funding, tipping, bounties, services and contributor payments. ---> Contributors and project creators receive usable platform value for recognised work. ---> Verified work may generate PRG. ---> PRG

can enable governance and Proof-of-Progress staking. ---> Proof-of-Progress staking can emit \$OZN. ---> \$OZN re-enters the ecosystem as payments, Project support, bounties and platform utility.

This creates a circular contribution economy. Supporters provide initial utility-token circulation. Contributors perform useful work. Verified work generates reputation. Reputation can unlock staking participation. Staking can emit \$OZN. \$OZN then circulates back into the ecosystem as compensation, Project support, bounties, access and utility.

7.2.5 Fund Regenerative Projects and Public-Good Activity

A major portion of ICO proceeds should be reserved for funding Projects and public-good activity across the Ozean ecosystem. The ICO should therefore function not only as a token launch, but as an early funding mechanism for regenerative implementation.

Eligible uses may include:

- Project grants;
- early Project funding pools;
- ordinary Project support;
- curated Project funding rounds;
- DAO Endorsed Project support where applicable;
- scientific and educational bounties;
- citizen-science initiatives;
- Learn2Earn subsidies;
- Article and Educational Resource grants;
- Media and Tutorial development grants;
- contributor-payment pools;
- community-led climate, ocean and land-regeneration initiatives;
- early field-data and project-evidence support;
- IP-NFT validation and knowledge commons acquisition;
- and future OCIS-readiness support for eligible Projects.

The objective is to make the ICO a practical source of capital for regenerative work, not only a platform-capitalisation event. Ordinary Project funding and direct user support does not require DAO endorsement. DAO endorsement may support higher visibility, curated funding, DAO treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support, or verification-linked pathways, but it should not function as a universal gatekeeper for \$OZN-based project support.

7.2.6 Establish Initial \$OZN Utility and Liquidity

The ICO establishes an initial circulating supply of \$OZN for use across the platform. This supports:

- Project funding;
- tipping;

- bounty payments;
- contributor payments;
- premium access;
- tokenized IP interactions;
- selected platform payments;
- early ecosystem payments;
- liquidity pools;
- bridging;
- and interoperability with selected ReFi, DeSci and DEX ecosystems.

Liquidity will be introduced carefully and transparently.

7.2.7 Establish Foundation Treasury Stewardship

The ICO establishes the first major treasury-management responsibility for the Ozeon Foundation. The Foundation is intended to act as the steward of the \$OZN and PRG treasuries, subject to published treasury policies, legal review, DAO oversight mechanisms, multisig controls, reporting obligations, and progressive decentralisation.

The Foundation's treasury role is not to privately own or extract value from the ecosystem. Its role is to safeguard, allocate, report and administer treasury resources in alignment with Ozeon's mission, governance rules, tokenomics and legal obligations.

Foundation stewardship covers two distinct treasury systems.

\$OZN Treasury — transferable utility-token reserves, ecosystem funding, Project funding, contributor compensation, liquidity, operations and platform utility.

PRG Treasury — non-transferable reputation-token reserves, governance deposits, contribution accounting, activation allocations, invitation rewards and Proof-of-Progress-related flows.

The Foundation may steward treasury resources before full DAO maturity, but treasury use will progressively become more transparent, governed and auditable as Ozeon moves into more mature governance phases.

7.2.8 Distribute \$OZN Fairly to Early Supporters

The ICO is designed to create a distributed base of early users, supporters, educators, researchers, contributors, funders and aligned institutions. Participation can be capped where necessary to prevent whale concentration and to support broad access.

Fair distribution is central to Ozeon's credibility. The ICO should avoid preferential private discounts that undermine public trust or create asymmetric early-exit opportunities.

7.2.9 Protect Against Extractive Speculation

The ICO is structured to reinforce Ozeon's anti-speculation principles:

- no PRG is sold;
- \$OZN supply is capped;
- post-ICO \$OZN minting is limited to Proof-of-Progress staking;
- team and advisor allocations are vested;
- ICO phases use fixed pricing rather than auction or bonding-curve mechanics;
- treasury use is disclosed through transparency reporting;
- team compensation is budgeted, documented and connected to delivery responsibilities;
- platform value is tied to utility, contribution, contributor payments and ecosystem activity rather than hype;
- and public-facing materials avoid price predictions, guaranteed returns, guaranteed income, or investment-return language.

TABLE 7.1 — ICO OBJECTIVES AND CONTROLS

OBJECTIVE	MECHANISM	RISK ADDRESSED	IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENT
Broad and affordable participation	Low, fixed, transparent pricing; small-ticket purchases	Launch limited to wealthy or institutional purchasers	Approved payment rails, stablecoins, future fiat on-ramps
Fund Web3 development	Proceeds for smart contracts, audits, DAO and treasury contracts	Abstract token issuance	Security audits; testnet and mainnet deployment
Core team operating runway	Budgeted team and operating costs	Private extraction	Reasonable, documented and reported compensation
\$OZN utility and work access	\$OZN for Project funding, bounties, tipping, contributor payments	Investment or profit framing	No promise of profit, yield or liquidity
Fund regenerative Projects	Project grants, funding pools, bounties	ICO as capitalisation only	Ordinary Project funding without DAO endorsement
Initial utility and liquidity	Initial circulating \$OZN supply	Excessive early liquidity, opaque market-making	Careful, transparent liquidity introduction
Foundation treasury stewardship	Foundation stewards \$OZN and PRG treasuries	Private ownership or extraction	Treasury policies, multisig, reporting, DAO oversight
Fair distribution	Participation caps	Whale concentration; private discounts	No insider discounts below Phase 1 price
Protect against speculation	No PRG sold; capped supply; fixed phased pricing; vesting	Extractive speculation	Transparency reporting; no price predictions or return language

7.3 ICO Structure

The ICO allocates 150,000,000 \$OZN, equal to 10% of the total 1,500,000,000 \$OZN supply.

TABLE 7.2 — ICO PARAMETERS

PARAMETER	REFINED AFFORDABLE MODEL
Token name	Ozean Token
Ticker	\$OZN
Token standard	ERC-20
Total \$OZN supply cap	1,500,000,000 \$OZN

PARAMETER	REFINED AFFORDABLE MODEL
ICO allocation	150,000,000 \$OZN
ICO allocation percentage	10% of total supply
Sale model	Fixed-price phased sale
Price range	US\$0.01–US\$0.04 per \$OZN
PRG sold in ICO	No
Accepted payment assets	To be confirmed subject to legal, banking, payment-provider, AML/KYC and sanctions-screening review
Small-purchase access	Intended, subject to payment-provider and regulatory feasibility
Public participant vesting	Phase-dependent optional lockups
Team/advisor vesting	24–36 months minimum
Primary utility after launch	Funding, tipping, bounties, contributor payments, premium access, platform services, selected IP-NFT interactions

ICO tokens are intended to be usable within the Ozeon platform from launch, subject to applicable lockups, jurisdictional restrictions, technical readiness, regulatory requirements and platform availability.

7.4 Sale Phases and Affordable Pricing

Ozeon uses a three-phase fixed-price ICO model. The purpose of tiered pricing is to recognise early participation while maintaining pricing transparency and avoiding algorithmic hype mechanics. There is no auction, bonding curve, or automatic market-driven price escalation.

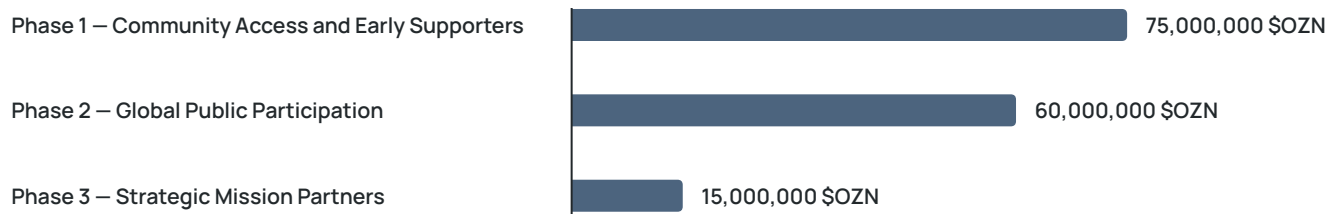
The pricing structure is deliberately affordable. It's low implied fully diluted valuation, improves accessibility, reduces speculative pressure, and aligns the launch with Ozeon's public-good mission.

TABLE 7.3 — AFFORDABLE ICO SALE PHASES

PHASE	ALLOCATION	\$OZN AMOUNT	PRICE	ACCESS	LOCKUP
Phase 1 — Community Access and Early Supporters	5%	75,000,000 \$OZN	US\$0.01	Contributors, educators, early users, collaborators, grassroots supporters, early partners	Optional 3–6 months
Phase 2 — Global Public Participation	4%	60,000,000 \$OZN	US\$0.02	Public participants subject to eligibility and jurisdictional review	Optional 0–3 months
Phase 3 — Strategic Mission Partners	1%	15,000,000 \$OZN	US\$0.04	Universities, research institutions, climate organisations, aligned funds, ecosystem partners	Optional 3–6 months

The pricing model is designed to be inclusive rather than extractive. A Phase 1 price of US\$0.01 per \$OZN allows very small purchasers to participate meaningfully. A Phase 2 price of US\$0.02 keeps public access affordable. A Phase 3 price of US\$0.04 remains accessible while recognising the stronger institutional and strategic value of later participation.

CHART 7.1 — ICO ALLOCATION BY PHASE



7.5 Implied Valuation Range

The ICO pricing model creates a low and credible, implied fully diluted valuation range.

TABLE 7.4 — IMPLIED FULLY DILUTED VALUATION BY ICO PRICE

ICO PRICE	IMPLIED FULLY DILUTED VALUATION
US\$0.01	US\$15,000,000
US\$0.02	US\$30,000,000
US\$0.04	US\$60,000,000

This valuation range is aligned with Ozean's positioning as an early-stage impact and Web3 infrastructure project. It supports accessibility, reduces pressure for immediate speculative appreciation, and leaves more room for value creation to be driven by real adoption, platform utility, contributor activity and ecosystem development.

The implied valuation table should not be used as a price target, investment forecast or statement of expected market value. It is included only to explain the arithmetic relationship between fixed ICO prices and total maximum token supply.

7.6 Total Raise Projection

Based on the allocation and pricing structure, the ICO would raise approximately US\$2.55 million if all three phases are fully subscribed.

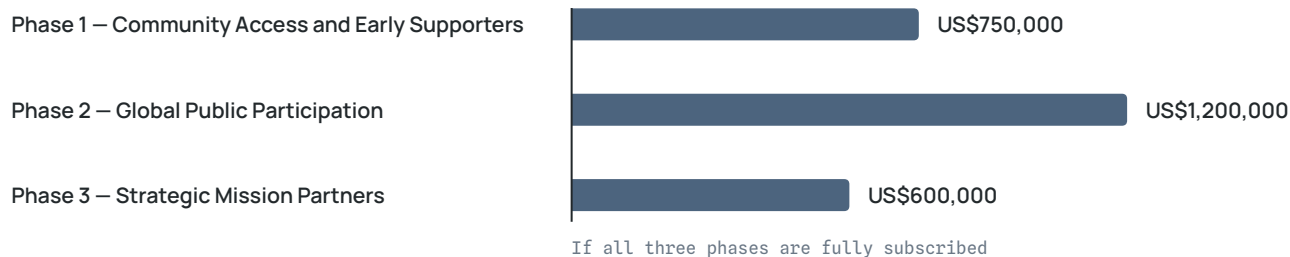
TABLE 7.5 — AFFORDABLE ICO RAISE PROJECTION

PHASE	TOKENS SOLD	PRICE	CAPITAL RAISED
Phase 1 — Community Access and Early Supporters	75,000,000 \$OZN	US\$0.01	US\$750,000
Phase 2 — Global Public Participation	60,000,000 \$OZN	US\$0.02	US\$1,200,000
Phase 3 — Strategic Mission Partners	15,000,000 \$OZN	US\$0.04	US\$600,000
Total	150,000,000 \$OZN		US\$2,550,000

This funding level is modest, but it is well aligned with broad access, early-stage credibility, and Ozean's regenerative values. It provides meaningful capital for development, audits, payment infrastructure, contributor-payment systems, community growth, liquidity

planning, team operating runway and early regenerative initiatives while avoiding the perception of an over-priced token launch.

CHART 7.2 — CAPITAL RAISED BY ICO PHASE



7.7 Small-Purchaser Access and Participation Caps

Affordability requires more than a low token price. Ozean will also design the ICO so that small purchasers are not crowded out by large buyers.

The ICO may therefore include:

- a minimum purchase size low enough for broad participation, subject to payment-provider constraints;
- a small-purchaser priority window during Phase 1;
- wallet-level or identity-level purchase caps;
- anti-Sybil screening;
- jurisdiction-specific eligibility controls;
- no insider discounts below the public Phase 1 price;
- and transparent disclosure of any unsold allocation.

A possible participation model is:

TABLE 7.6 — SUGGESTED PARTICIPATION CAPS

PARTICIPANT TYPE	SUGGESTED ACCESS PRINCIPLE	PURPOSE
Small public participants	Low minimum purchase size; priority access window	Ensures accessibility
Standard public participants	Moderate wallet or identity cap	Prevents concentration
Strategic partners	Larger allocation permitted with lockup	Supports long-term institutional alignment
Team and advisors	No ICO discount; separate vesting schedule	Prevents insider advantage

These caps will be finalised only after legal, technical and compliance review. The objective is to prevent whale concentration while keeping the sale accessible to ordinary users.

7.8 Use of ICO Funds

ICO proceeds are intended to fund the infrastructure, people, operations and ecosystem activity required to bring Ozeon's protocol economy into use. The ICO will therefore support not only Web3 development and regenerative Projects, but also the core team salaries, contractor compensation and operating expenses required to deliver the platform responsibly.

This use-of-funds structure reflects the practical reality that Ozeon cannot build and maintain a global regenerative coordination platform without compensating the people doing the work. Core team members, developers, designers, researchers, community leads, operational staff and contributors require income, tools, software, administration, legal support and working capacity. If the team cannot sustain itself, the platform, DAO, token infrastructure, Project funding systems and contributor-payment mechanisms cannot be delivered.

Team compensation will be treated as operational runway, not private extraction. Salaries, contractor payments and founder compensation will be reasonable, budgeted, documented and reported through treasury transparency processes. Any use of ICO proceeds for compensation will be linked to defined responsibilities, delivery milestones, governance obligations, platform development, ecosystem growth and long-term protocol stewardship.

TABLE 7.7 — USE OF ICO PROCEEDS

USE OF FUNDS	ALLOCATION	APPROXIMATE AMOUNT IF FULLY SUBSCRIBED	PURPOSE
Web3 development and security	35%	US\$892,500	Smart contracts, \$OZN, PRG, DAO, Proof of Progress, treasury contracts, staking, audits, wallet integration, dashboards, interoperability and protocol engineering
Regenerative Project and contributor funding	25%	US\$637,500	Project grants, ordinary Project support, curated Project support, bounties, citizen science, Learn2Earn subsidies, Article and Educational Resource grants, Media, Tutorials, contributor payments and early field evidence support
Core team salaries, contractors and operating expenses	20%	US\$510,000	Founder and core team compensation, contractor payments, operational runway, product management, administration, software, professional services, justified travel and delivery capacity
Liquidity, payment rails and interoperability	8%	US\$204,000	Carefully managed liquidity, payment infrastructure, bridging, fiat/crypto rails, wallet infrastructure, off-ramp planning and ecosystem integrations
Marketing, community growth and main launch event	7%	US\$178,500	Educational campaigns, community growth, ambassador programmes, public communications, ecosystem growth, partner activations and the main Ozeon launch event
Legal, compliance, Foundation governance and treasury administration	5%	US\$127,500	Legal review, MiCA and jurisdictional analysis, AML/KYC setup, sanctions screening, treasury reporting, governance administration, audit coordination and Foundation stewardship

This allocation directs approximately 60% of ICO proceeds toward Web3 development and direct Project, contributor and public-good funding, while reserving 20% for the team salaries, contractor costs and operating expenses required to deliver the platform. This

balance recognises that regenerative infrastructure requires both mission-aligned funding and a financially sustainable team.

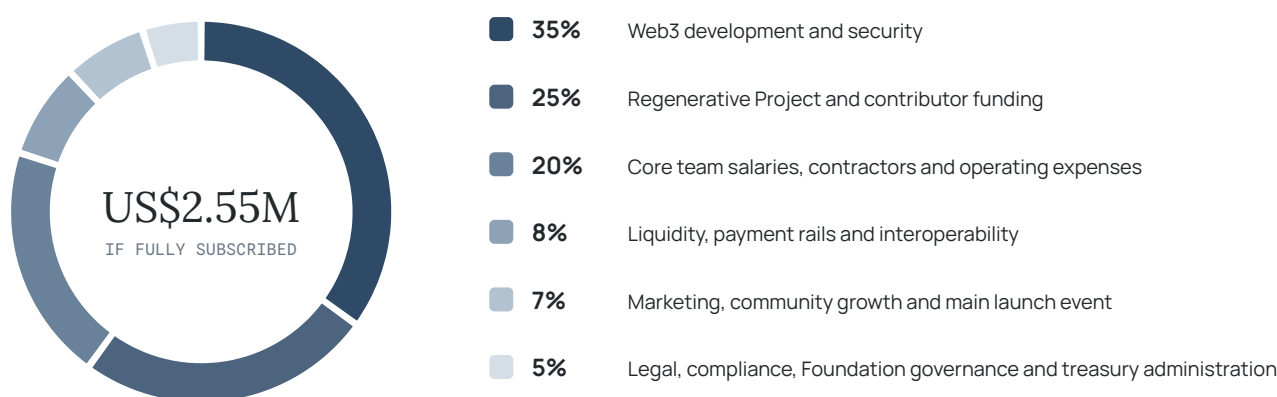
The core team compensation allocation will be governed by clear internal controls. These may include:

- written compensation policies;
- reasonable salary bands;
- contractor agreements;
- conflict-of-interest disclosure;
- founder compensation disclosure where appropriate;
- budget approvals;
- expense documentation;
- treasury reporting;
- and periodic review by the Foundation, advisors, or DAO oversight structures as governance matures.

The marketing and launch allocation should be used carefully. The main launch event should not be treated as a speculative token-promotion event. It should be framed as an ecosystem launch, public education moment, institutional partnership opportunity and regenerative innovation showcase.

If the ICO is only partially subscribed, the same allocation percentages may apply unless the Foundation, DAO governance process and legal advisors approve a revised allocation plan. In a partial-subscription scenario, priority will be given to essential development, compliance, security, core operating runway and the minimum Project/contributor funding required to demonstrate real platform utility.

FIGURE 7.2 — USE OF ICO FUNDS



7.9 Foundation Stewardship of the \$OZN and PRG Treasuries

The Ozeon Foundation is intended to act as the steward of the ecosystem's \$OZN and PRG treasuries. This stewardship role is essential during the early stages of the protocol, before DAO governance, Pods, treasury dashboards and smart-contract-based controls reach full maturity.

Foundation stewardship should be understood as a fiduciary, ethical and operational responsibility. The Foundation does not treat treasury assets as private company revenue. Instead, it administers treasury resources for ecosystem development, Web3 infrastructure, regenerative Project funding, contributor incentives, governance operations, core operating runway, long-term protocol sustainability and mission-aligned public-good activity.

7.9.1 \$OZN Treasury Stewardship

The \$OZN treasury includes transferable utility-token reserves used to support the Ozeon ecosystem.

The \$OZN treasury may support:

- DAO treasury allocations;
- Project funding pools;
- bounty funding;
- contributor incentives;
- core team operating runway;
- contractor compensation;
- liquidity and bridging;
- ecosystem grants;
- partner integrations;
- Foundation reserve functions;
- vesting schedules;
- tokenized IP acquisition;
- platform operations;
- and OCIS-related ecosystem support where approved.

The \$OZN treasury should be managed through:

- multisig wallets;
- role-based treasury permissions;
- public wallet disclosure where appropriate;
- vesting and timelock contracts;
- budget approvals;
- spending policies;
- compensation policies;

- conflict-of-interest rules;
- liquidity controls;
- quarterly treasury reports;
- and later DAO oversight.

7.9.2 PRG Treasury Stewardship

The PRG treasury is fundamentally different from the \$OZN treasury. PRG is non-transferable and cannot be sold, traded, purchased or used as a speculative asset. It exists to represent verified contribution, reputation and governance eligibility.

The PRG treasury may include:

- PRG returned from failed proposal deposits;
- PRG collected through governance anti-spam mechanisms;
- PRG transferred through Proof-of-Progress win-cost mechanics;
- PRG reserved for verified-user activation;
- PRG reserved for Learn2Earn pathways;
- PRG reserved for invitation-based activation rewards;
- PRG reserved for Article and Educational Resource incentives;
- PRG reserved for validated Project, Bounty, review or governance participation;
- and PRG held for protocol balancing and contribution-accounting purposes.

The Foundation's role in relation to PRG is not financial management in the conventional sense. It is contribution-integrity stewardship. The Foundation should ensure that PRG issuance, deduction, recycling and treasury accumulation remain aligned with Ozeon's governance rules and anti-speculation principles.

7.9.3 Treasury Governance Principles

Both the \$OZN and PRG treasuries should be governed by the following principles:

- mission alignment;
- transparency;
- legal compliance;
- public-good orientation;
- anti-speculation;
- anti-capture;
- auditability;
- prudent reserve management;
- contributor protection;
- fair and documented compensation;
- conflict-of-interest disclosure;
- progressive decentralisation;

- and clear separation between Foundation stewardship and private ownership.

7.9.4 Transparency Reporting

The Foundation will publish periodic treasury reports covering:

- ICO proceeds received;
- \$OZN treasury balances;
- PRG treasury balances;
- Project funding allocations;
- contributor-payment allocations;
- core team compensation allocation;
- contractor and operating expenses;
- Web3 development expenditure;
- liquidity commitments;
- marketing and launch-event expenditure;
- grants and bounty allocations;
- legal and compliance costs;
- treasury wallet addresses where appropriate;
- outstanding commitments;
- vesting schedules;
- and material treasury decisions.

Transparency reporting is essential to maintain trust between token purchasers, contributors, Projects, DAO members, funders and the wider Ozean ecosystem.

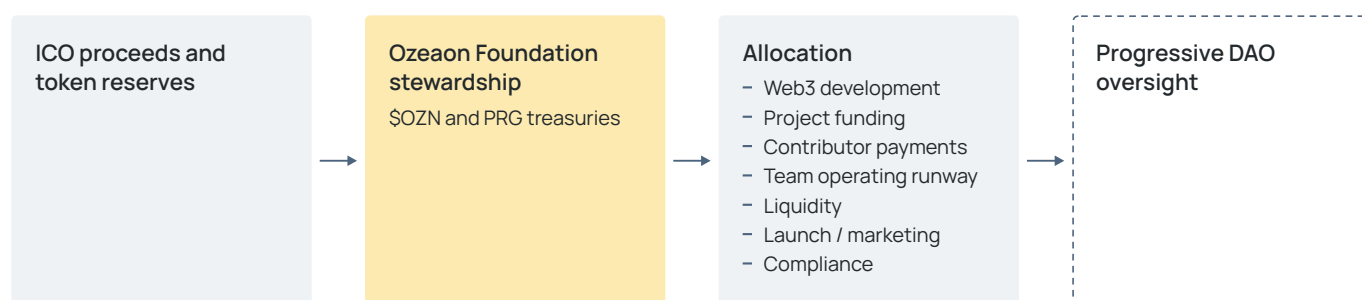
7.9.5 Progressive DAO Oversight

In early phases, the Foundation may hold primary responsibility for treasury stewardship because the DAO and smart-contract governance systems are not yet mature. As Ozean moves into more mature governance phases, treasury governance should progressively move toward:

- DAO proposal review;
- Pod recommendations;
- multisig execution controls;
- public treasury dashboards;
- timelocked treasury actions;
- audited smart contracts;
- community reporting;
- compensation transparency standards;
- and defined DAO authority over selected treasury categories.

This creates a transition from Foundation-led stewardship to more mature community-governed treasury oversight.

FIGURE 7.3 — FOUNDATION TREASURY STEWARDSHIP MODEL



7.10 Buyer Protections and Launch Integrity

The ICO incorporates buyer-protection and market-integrity mechanisms designed to reduce speculation, insider advantage, governance capture and consumer-risk asymmetry.

7.10.1 No PRG Purchases

PRG cannot be purchased in the ICO or any subsequent sale. This protects governance legitimacy by ensuring that reputation is earned through verified contribution.

7.10.2 Fixed \$OZN Supply Cap

\$OZN has a fixed maximum supply of 1.5 billion tokens. No \$OZN will be minted outside the defined supply architecture: initial allocations, ICO distribution, vesting, treasury allocations and Proof-of-Progress staking emissions.

7.10.3 Proof-of-Progress Emission Constraint

Post-ICO \$OZN emissions are limited by the 750 million \$OZN Proof-of-Progress staking reserve. This links future emissions to PRG staking and therefore to accumulated platform contribution.

7.10.4 Team and Advisor Vesting

Team, advisor and contributor allocations should vest over a minimum of 24–36 months. Vesting reduces early sell pressure and aligns insiders with long-term platform development.

7.10.5 Phase-Based Lockups

ICO lockups should be used to support market stability:

- optional 3–6 month lockups for Phase 1 participants;

- optional 0–3 month lockups for Phase 2 participants;
- optional 3–6 month lockups for Phase 3 strategic partners.

Lockups will be clearly disclosed before purchase and implemented through auditable vesting or timelock contracts where applicable.

7.10.6 Participation Caps

Sale participation can include wallet-level, identity-level or jurisdiction-specific caps where legally and technically feasible. These controls reduce whale concentration and support broader distribution.

7.10.8 Transparency Reporting

Ozeon will publish periodic treasury reports as outlined above in section 7.9.4.

TABLE 7.8 — ICO BUYER PROTECTION MATRIX

RISK	MITIGATION	IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM
Governance capture	PRG cannot be purchased	PRG remains non-transferable and contribution-earned
Whale concentration	Participation caps	Wallet, identity or jurisdictional caps
Early dumping	Lockups and vesting	Phase-based lockups and vesting contracts
Insider advantage	No hidden discounts	Public disclosure of all pricing and allocations
Treasury opacity	Transparency reporting	Public dashboards and quarterly reports
Compensation misuse	Compensation controls	Salary policies, budget approvals and treasury reporting
Regulatory risk	Legal review	MiCA, AML/KYC, tax and jurisdictional analysis
Speculative marketing	No price projections	Utility-based communication only
Contributor-payment risk	Clear eligibility and reporting	Bounty, grant and payment policies
Payment-access risk	Wallet and compliance safeguards	Sanctions screening, off-ramp planning and user education
Referral farming	Activation-based invitation rewards	Anti-Sybil checks, caps, delayed release and clawback rules

7.11 Verified User PRG Bootstrap Allocation

Ozeon will introduce a verified-user PRG bootstrap allocation to help new users begin participating in the ecosystem. This is structured carefully to avoid undermining PRG's role as earned reputation.

The model is not an unconditional PRG airdrop. Instead, Ozeon will reserve up to 1,000 PRG per verified user as a staged activation pathway that is unlocked through verified platform actions. Ozeon does not require a formal onboarding module for this process. PRG is instead unlocked through ordinary platform activation, learning activity and meaningful contribution.

The staged activation pathway may include:

- account verification or anti-Sybil check;

- profile completion;
- acknowledgement of platform rules, community standards or contribution guidelines;
- first verified learning activity;
- first Article, contribution, Project support or bounty action;
- staged release of PRG across milestones;
- governance restrictions until the user completes required activation thresholds;
- no transferability;
- no sale;
- no immediate full \$OZN staking eligibility until activation requirements are met.

TABLE 7.9 — VERIFIED USER PRG BOOTSTRAP PATHWAY

STAGE	ACTION	PRG UNLOCKED	RESTRICTIONS
1	Verified account setup	100 PRG	Not stakeable; limited governance eligibility
2	Profile completion and platform rules acknowledgement	150 PRG	Not stakeable until Stage 4
3	Complete first Learn2Earn activity	250 PRG	Governance participation limited
4	Complete first meaningful contribution	250 PRG	Partial staking eligibility enabled
5	Complete first review, bounty, funding, Article, or Project action	250 PRG	Full normal PRG status
Total		1,000 PRG	

This approach gives verified users a starting path without converting PRG into a free governance asset. It preserves the principle that Progress must represent action, not mere registration. Users do not need to complete a formal onboarding module. Instead, they unlock PRG by verifying their account, completing basic platform-readiness steps, engaging with learning activity, and making meaningful contributions.

7.11.1 Invitation and User Activation Rewards

Ozeon may also allocate PRG rewards for users who invite new participants to the platform. This should be treated as an Invite-to-Earn or ecosystem growth contribution mechanism, not as a simple referral bonus for account creation.

The purpose of invitation rewards is to recognise users who help grow the Ozeon community by bringing in real, verified and active participants. A user should not receive PRG merely because another account registers with an invitation link. PRG should be awarded only when the invited user completes meaningful activation steps.

Invitation rewards may therefore be based on:

- the invited user completing account verification or anti-Sybil checks;
- the invited user completing profile setup;
- the invited user acknowledging platform rules, community standards or contribution guidelines;

- the invited user completing a first Learn2Earn activity;
- the invited user making a first meaningful contribution;
- the invited user submitting or supporting a Project, Article, bounty, review, funding action or other recognised platform activity;
- the invited user remaining active for a minimum period;
- and the absence of fraud, duplicate accounts, bot activity or coordinated abuse.

A suggested invitation reward model is:

TABLE 7.10 — INVITE-TO-EARN PRG REWARD PATHWAY

INVITED USER MILESTONE	PRG REWARD TO INVITER	CONDITION
Invited user verifies account	25 PRG	Anti-Sybil check completed
Invited user completes profile setup and rules acknowledgement	25 PRG	Basic platform-readiness step completed
Invited user completes first Learn2Earn activity	50 PRG	Verified learning activity completed
Invited user completes first meaningful contribution	100 PRG	Article, bounty, review, Project support, funding action or recognised contribution completed
Invited user remains active for 30 days	100 PRG	Sustained non-spam participation confirmed
Maximum per activated invited user	300 PRG	Subject to caps and abuse controls

Invitation rewards will be capped to prevent excessive PRG emissions or referral farming.

Controls may include:

- maximum referral rewards per user per month;
- maximum referral rewards per user per year;
- no rewards for self-referrals;
- no rewards for duplicate, bot or coordinated accounts;
- delayed release until the invited user completes activation milestones;
- clawback or reversal if fraud is detected;
- reduced or cancelled rewards for low-quality or inactive invited accounts;
- higher rewards only for meaningful activation, not registration alone;
- governance-adjustable referral parameters;
- and compliance review before any invitation reward is linked to \$OZN or other transferable value.

A possible cap structure is:

TABLE 7.11 — INVITATION REWARD CAPS

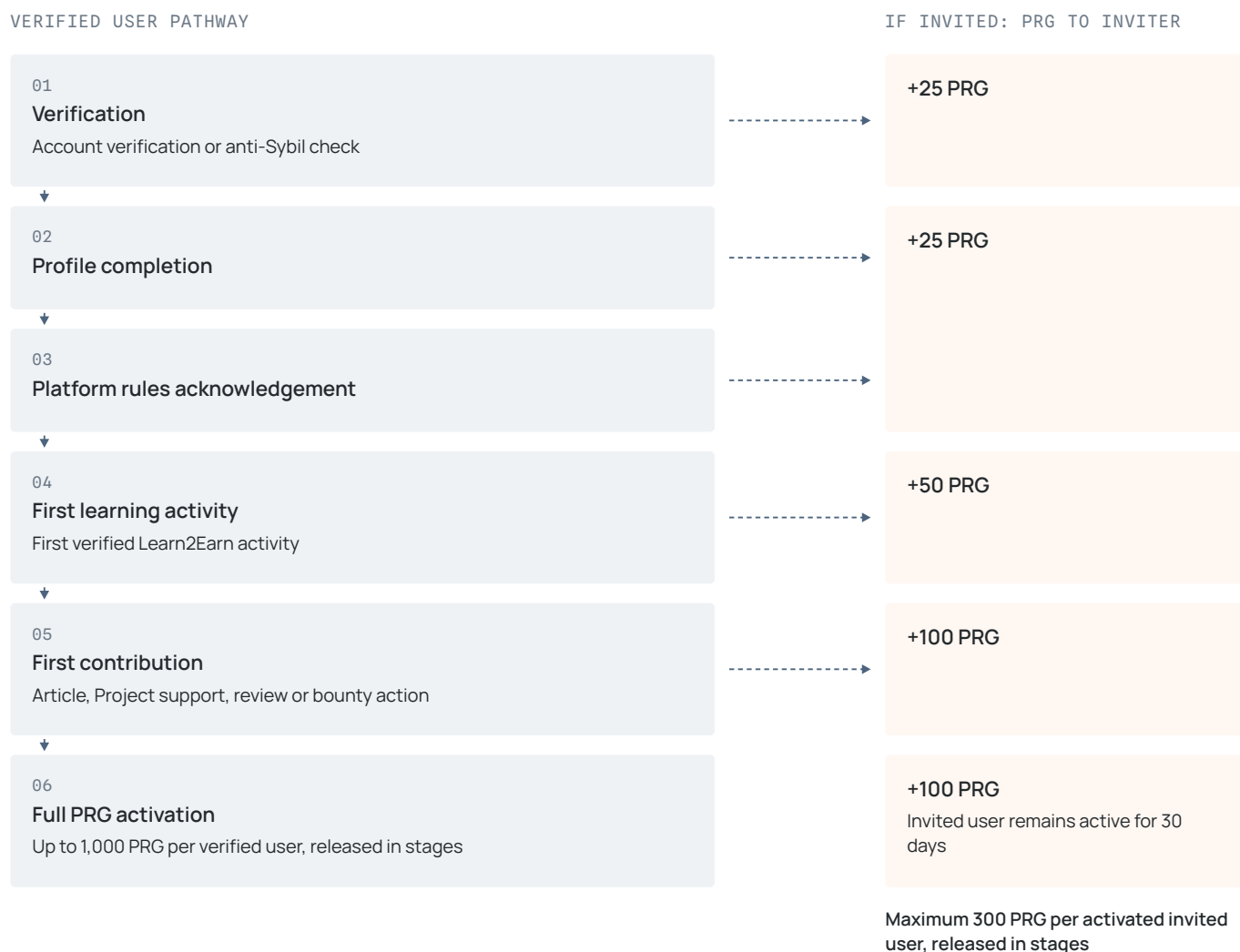
CAP TYPE	SUGGESTED LIMIT	PURPOSE
Maximum activated referrals per user per month	10 users	Prevents short-term farming
Maximum referral PRG per user per month	1,500 PRG	Limits emission concentration
Maximum referral PRG per user per year	10,000 PRG	Prevents long-term capture
Minimum invited-user activation period	30 days	Rewards real users, not signups

CAP TYPE	SUGGESTED LIMIT	PURPOSE
Referral reward release	Staged	Prevents instant extraction

Invitation rewards should not become the dominant way to earn PRG. Ozeon's reputation economy should remain centred on learning, Article creation, Educational Resource development, Project support, peer review, bounties, governance participation and regenerative work. Invitations are valuable because they help grow the ecosystem, but they should remain secondary to verified contribution.

Invitation rewards will also remain PRG-based unless legal and regulatory review confirms that a transferable-token referral programme is appropriate. Direct \$OZN referral payments may create additional consumer-protection, financial-promotion, tax, AML/KYC or platform-abuse risks. For this reason, the initial invitation system will reward ecosystem growth through non-transferable PRG, not automatic \$OZN payments.

FIGURE 7.4 — VERIFIED USER AND INVITATION BOOTSTRAP PATHWAY



7.12 Payment Access, Global Inclusion and Contributor Safeguards

The ICO and \$OZN utility model are designed with financial inclusion in mind. Many contributors who can support environmental and regenerative work may not have reliable access to institutional funding, international banking, low-cost cross-border payments, or conventional grant systems. This is particularly relevant in parts of the Global South and in low- and middle-income economies.

\$OZN may provide an additional payment pathway for contributors who can access digital wallets but face barriers to conventional payment systems. In the Ozeon context, this is especially relevant for:

- citizen-science contributors;
- field-data collectors;
- translators;
- community educators;
- biodiversity media contributors;
- local ecological knowledge contributors;
- project reporters;
- open peer reviewers;
- bounty workers;
- project creators;
- and early-stage regenerative project teams.

However, payment access must not be romanticised. Crypto-asset payments introduce risks that must be addressed before launch, including:

- wallet security;
- private-key loss;
- scams and phishing;
- price volatility;
- off-ramp limitations;
- consumer-protection issues;
- tax obligations;
- sanctions and wallet-screening requirements;
- local regulatory restrictions;
- data protection requirements;
- and unequal access to phones, internet connectivity or digital literacy.

Ozeon therefore treats \$OZN as an optional platform utility and payment mechanism, not as a universal replacement for fiat payments, grants, banking or public funding. Where possible, Ozeon will support multiple payment pathways, including fiat, stablecoin-compatible rails where lawful, \$OZN, and locally appropriate alternatives.

The design principle is clear: regenerative work requires payment infrastructure that can reach contributors. If contributors cannot be paid for environmental monitoring, education, project support, research translation, field evidence, local organising or biodiversity documentation, many of these tasks will not be completed. The ICO can therefore help establish the token, wallet, compliance and treasury infrastructure required to make contributor compensation materially possible.

7.13 Regulatory and Compliance Considerations

The ICO must be developed with formal legal advice before public launch. The following issues require review:

- whether \$OZN is classified as a crypto-asset, utility token, financial instrument, e-money token, asset-referenced token, or other regulated instrument;
- whether the offer falls under MiCA or another framework in the EU;
- whether any public offer, marketing, or exchange admission requires a compliant crypto-asset white paper;
- whether the issuer, offeror, or service providers require authorisation or notification;
- whether consumer risk disclosures are sufficient;
- AML/KYC requirements;
- jurisdictional restrictions;
- sanctions screening;
- advertising and financial-promotion rules;
- tax treatment;
- custody and transfer mechanics;
- wallet-screening obligations;
- contributor-payment compliance;
- referral-reward compliance;
- team-compensation disclosure requirements;
- and secondary-market listing implications.

MiCA creates a harmonised EU framework for crypto-assets not already covered by existing financial-services legislation and includes rules for issuers, offerors, admission to trading and crypto-asset service providers (European Union, 2023; ESMA, n.d.). Ozeon therefore avoids language suggesting guaranteed returns, expected price appreciation, investment profit, guaranteed income, employment entitlement, or investor rights.

Participants will be described as users, supporters, contributors, purchasers, or ecosystem participants, depending on the relevant legal advice. Where the word “investor” is used in business-development materials, it will be separated from the token-purchaser role unless legal counsel confirms the correct classification.

7.14 ICO Launch Readiness Requirements

Before launch, Ozeon will complete the following:

- smart-contract audit;
- token contract verification;
- ICO contract testing;
- treasury multisig setup;
- vesting contract deployment;
- liquidity plan;
- jurisdictional legal opinion;
- MiCA classification analysis;
- Singapore legal review if the Singapore entity participates in issuance or proceeds management;
- AML/KYC process selection;
- sanctions and wallet-screening process;
- participant terms and risk disclosures;
- payment-provider review;
- fiat/crypto on-ramp and off-ramp review;
- contributor-payment policy;
- bounty-payment policy;
- referral and invitation reward policy;
- team compensation and expense policy;
- wallet-security guidance;
- data protection review;
- tax review;
- incident-response plan;
- public transparency dashboard;
- and post-sale reporting framework.

TABLE 7.12 — ICO LAUNCH READINESS CHECKLIST

WORKSTREAM	REQUIRED OUTPUT
Smart contracts	Smart-contract audit; token contract verification; ICO contract testing
Treasury and tokens	Treasury multisig setup; vesting contract deployment; liquidity plan
Legal and regulatory	Jurisdictional legal opinion; MiCA classification analysis; Singapore legal review if the Singapore entity participates in issuance or proceeds management
Compliance	AML/KYC process selection; sanctions and wallet-screening process; participant terms and risk disclosures
Payments	Payment-provider review; fiat/crypto on-ramp and off-ramp review
Policies	Contributor-payment, bounty-payment, referral and invitation reward, team compensation and expense policies
Security and data	Wallet-security guidance; data protection review; tax review; incident-response plan
Transparency	Public transparency dashboard; post-sale reporting framework

7.15 ICO Summary

The Ozean ICO is designed to establish the initial \$OZN utility economy while protecting the integrity of PRG-based governance. It distributes only 10% of total \$OZN supply, uses low fixed phased pricing, applies lockups where appropriate, prohibits PRG sale, funds platform and regenerative development, supports contributor-payment infrastructure, provides core team operating runway, and introduces transparency commitments for treasury management.

The final affordable model is:

- Total \$OZN supply: 1,500,000,000 \$OZN
- ICO allocation: 150,000,000 \$OZN
- ICO percentage: 10% of total supply
- ICO price range: US\$0.01–US\$0.04 per \$OZN
- Phase 1 price: US\$0.01
- Phase 2 price: US\$0.02
- Phase 3 price: US\$0.04
- Total projected raise if fully subscribed: US\$2.55 million
- PRG sold: 0
- Post-ICO \$OZN minting: Proof-of-Progress staking only
- Governance legitimacy: PRG-based, not \$OZN-purchased
- Core team salaries, contractors and operating expenses: 20% of ICO proceeds
- Regenerative Project and contributor funding: 25% of ICO proceeds
- Web3 development and security: 35% of ICO proceeds

The ICO is not a speculative token event, but as the launch of Ozean's accessible utility economy: a mechanism for funding open science, regenerative Projects, contributor payments, decentralized learning, bounties, Articles, Educational Resources, core platform delivery, user activation, and global coordination around ocean, climate, land and sustainability innovation.

Purchasing, holding and using \$OZN can help support this regenerative work economy by enabling value to flow toward Projects, project creators, contributors, bounties, Educational Resources, ecosystem services and platform utility. A stronger \$OZN utility economy may make earned \$OZN more useful for those who receive it through verified contribution and PRG staking. However, \$OZN remains as a utility token, not as a promise of income, appreciation, employment, profit, financial return, liquidity or guaranteed impact.

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Governance Model

8.1 Overview

Ozeon is governed through a contribution-weighted governance system designed to align decision-making authority with verified participation, rather than capital ownership alone. The governance model combines a decentralized autonomous organization, Progress-based voting, modular proposal types, specialised working groups known as Pods, Foundation stewardship, and technical safeguards for secure protocol evolution.

At the centre of this model is the Ozeon DAO. The DAO enables contributors, educators, researchers, project builders, funders, reviewers, organisations, and community participants to shape the evolution of the platform through structured proposals and Progress-weighted voting.

Progress / PRG is the governance-relevant reputation token of the Ozeon ecosystem. PRG is non-transferable and must be earned through verified contribution. This means governance participation is connected to learning, Article to Educational Resource acceptance, project work, peer review, funding support, tipping, bounty completion, invitation-based activation rewards, and other recognised Proof of Progress events. This structure distinguishes Ozeon from conventional token governance models where voting power is often directly proportional to transferable token holdings.

DAOs have been described as blockchain-based systems that enable people to coordinate and govern shared resources through rules deployed on distributed infrastructure (Hassan & De Filippi, 2021). However, token-based governance systems can also reproduce plutocratic dynamics when voting power is determined mainly by liquid token ownership (Buterin, 2021). Ozeon's governance model responds to this risk by separating transferable utility from non-transferable governance reputation: \$OZN powers platform utility, while PRG anchors governance legitimacy.

Governance in Ozeon does not mean that every platform activity requires DAO approval. Project creation, ordinary Project funding, tipping, donations, bounty participation, pro (or premium) content purchases, and general platform participation can occur without DAO endorsement. DAO governance provides additional legitimacy, curation, treasury eligibility, parameter control, and dispute resolution where needed. This preserves open participation while allowing the DAO to govern higher-trust, higher-impact, or treasury-linked decisions.

FIGURE 8.1 — OZEAON GOVERNANCE MODEL



8.2 Governance Principles

Ozean's governance model is based on eight principles.

8.2.1 Contribution-Weighted Legitimacy

Governance power should be earned through meaningful contribution. PRG is awarded through verified participation, not purchased on the open market. This allows Ozean to recognise users who learn, create, support, review, fund, build, invite active participants, and coordinate regenerative work.

8.2.2 Separation of Utility and Governance

\$OZN is a transferable utility token. PRG is a non-transferable reputation and governance token. This separation reduces the risk that governance can be captured directly through market purchases of \$OZN.

8.2.3 Open Participation with Optional DAO Endorsement

Ozean remains open to project creators, contributors, funders, educators, learners and organisations. DAO endorsement is not required for ordinary platform participation, Project creation, ordinary Project funding, tipping, donations, or general \$OZN-based support.

DAO endorsement is a higher-trust governance signal. It may support visibility, credibility, curated funding, DAO treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support, or verification-linked pathways. It should not become a universal gatekeeper for participation.

8.2.4 Modular Governance Execution

Ozeon does not use a single generic proposal type for all decisions. Instead, governance is structured around specific proposal modules. Each module governs a distinct platform function, such as project endorsement, Open Call endorsement, Article review approval, Educational Resource inclusion, bounty validation, platform fee adjustment, invitation-reward parameter updates, or IP-NFT acquisition.

8.2.5 Domain-Specific Stewardship

Specialised Pods allow domain experts and active contributors to coordinate work in areas such as education, tokenomics, open science, ocean-climate systems, bounties, AI ethics, project evaluation, user activation, partnership review, and treasury management.

8.2.6 Transparent and Auditable Decision-Making

Governance actions will be visible, traceable, and auditable. Proposal metadata, voting records, deposits, refunds, execution events, treasury movements, fee settings, compensation categories, referral-reward parameters, and material policy changes will be recorded in ways that allow users to understand how decisions were made.

8.2.7 Responsible Treasury and Compensation Governance

Ozeon's governance model must allow the platform to pay the people required to build and operate it. Core team salaries, contractor payments, founder compensation, operating expenses, and professional services may be funded through approved treasury allocations or ICO proceeds, but they should be governed through clear budgets, transparency reporting, conflict-of-interest policies, and Foundation or DAO oversight as governance matures.

Team compensation should be treated as operational runway, not private extraction.

8.2.8 Progressive Decentralization

Ozeon's governance should decentralize progressively as the platform matures. Early governance may require stronger Foundation stewardship, operational safeguards, and expert review. Over time, more authority can move toward DAO and Pod structures as participation, tooling, legal clarity, and security maturity increase.

TABLE 8.1 — GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES AND DESIGN IMPLICATIONS

PRINCIPLE	DESIGN MECHANISM	RISK ADDRESSED
Contribution-weighted legitimacy	PRG awarded through verified participation	Governance power purchased on the open market
Separation of utility and governance	\$OZN transferable utility; PRG non-transferable reputation	Governance captured through market purchases of \$OZN
Open participation with optional DAO endorsement	DAO endorsement as a higher-trust signal, not required for ordinary participation	DAO becoming a universal gatekeeper for participation
Modular governance execution	Specific proposal modules for each platform function	Overloading one "god contract" with all governance logic
Domain-specific stewardship	Specialised Pods of domain experts and active contributors	Full DAO reviewing every domain-specific decision
Transparent and auditable decision-making	Proposal metadata, voting records, deposits, refunds, execution events and treasury movements recorded	Users unable to understand how decisions were made
Responsible treasury and compensation governance	Clear budgets, transparency reporting, conflict-of-interest policies, Foundation or DAO oversight	Team compensation as private extraction
Progressive decentralization	Stronger early Foundation stewardship; authority moves toward DAO and Pods over time	Decentralizing before participation, tooling, legal clarity and security mature

8.3 Governance Architecture

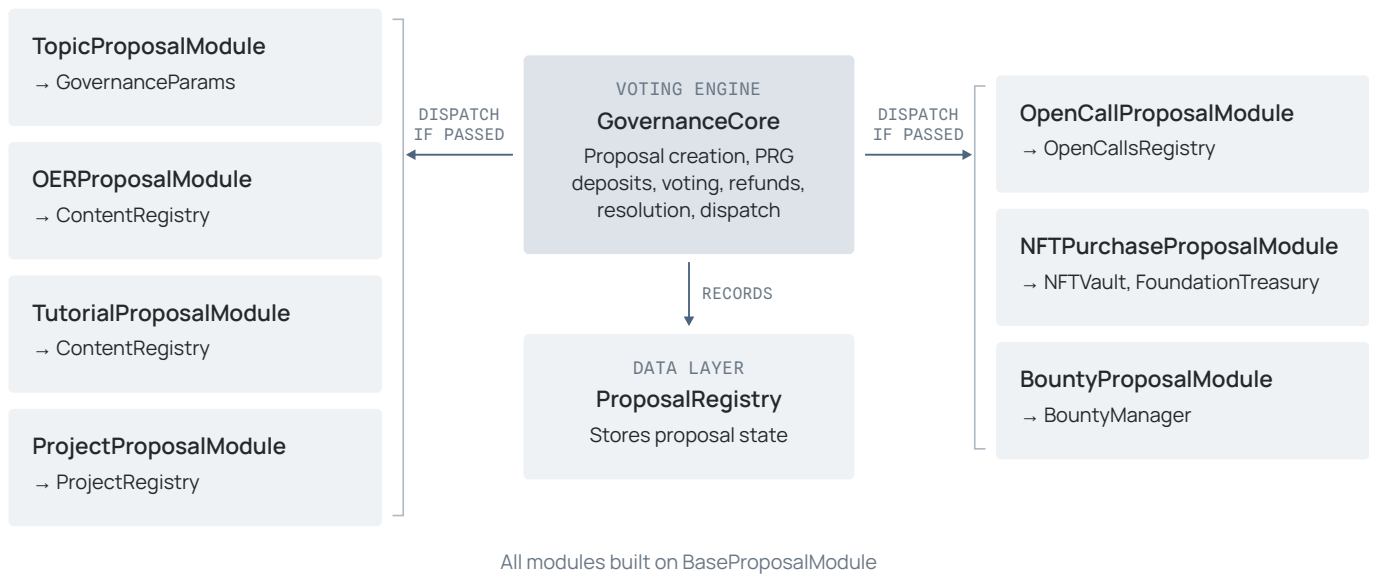
Ozeon's governance architecture is composed of five interacting elements:

1. Progress / PRG — the non-transferable reputation token used for governance eligibility and voting;
2. GovernanceCore — the voting engine for proposals;
3. ProposalRegistry — the canonical proposal data layer;
4. Proposal Modules — type-specific contracts or execution pathways for each proposal category;
5. Pods and Foundation Stewardship — social and institutional structures that support domain review, ethics, strategy, operations, compensation oversight, and operational continuity.

At the smart-contract layer, this design separates voting from execution. GovernanceCore manages proposal creation, PRG deposits, voting, refund logic, resolution, and dispatch. ProposalRegistry stores proposal state. Type-specific modules define what happens when a proposal passes.

This architecture reduces the risk of overloading one "god contract" with all governance logic. It also allows proposal types to be extended or upgraded more safely over time. Modular governance follows established smart-contract design logic: clear access boundaries, separation of concerns, explicit roles, and auditable execution pathways.

FIGURE 8.2 — GOVERNANCECORE, PROPOSALREGISTRY, AND PROPOSAL MODULES



8.4 Shared Rules for DAO Proposals

All Ozean proposal types share a common governance mechanic. What differs is the execution logic attached to each proposal type.

Shared proposal rules include:

- proposal creation requires a PRG deposit;
- the deposit amount depends on actor type;
- voting uses PRG;
- voting power is capped by actor type;
- proposals pass when YES votes reach at least 85% of cast PRG-weighted participation;
- voting duration is between 5 and 30 days;
- a 72-hour per-user refund cycle applies;
- failed proposal deposits flow to the Foundation Treasury;
- non-refunded voting PRG flows to the Foundation Treasury;
- proposal execution is routed through the relevant proposal module.

These shared rules make governance understandable for users and maintainable for developers. Users do not need to learn a different voting system for every proposal type. Developers can maintain a single voting core while extending the platform through modular execution contracts.

TABLE 8.2 — SHARED DAO PROPOSAL RULES

GOVERNANCE PARAMETER	RULE
Proposal deposit	Required in PRG
Deposit refund	Refunded if proposal passes

GOVERNANCE PARAMETER	RULE
Failed proposal deposit	Sent to Foundation Treasury
Voting token	PRG
Transferable governance token	No
Passing threshold	85% YES of cast PRG-weighted participation
Voting duration	5–30 days
Refund cycle	72-hour per-user cycle
Voting caps	Individual, Pod, and Organisation caps
Execution	Type-specific proposal module

8.5 Proposal Creation Costs

Creating a proposal requires a PRG deposit. The deposit is intended to deter spam, ensure proposer commitment, and create a cost for low-quality or bad-faith governance activity.

TABLE 8.3 — PROPOSAL CREATION COSTS

ACTOR TYPE	PROPOSAL CREATION DEPOSIT
Individual	100 PRG
Pod	200 PRG
Organisation	300 PRG

If a proposal passes, the proposer’s deposit is refunded. If the proposal fails, the deposit flows to the Foundation Treasury. This mechanism helps recycle governance friction into the ecosystem.

8.6 Voting Power Limits

Voting uses PRG, but each vote is capped by actor type. This prevents any single actor from deploying unlimited PRG weight in one vote while preserving contribution-weighted influence.

TABLE 8.4 — VOTING POWER LIMITS

ACTOR TYPE	MAXIMUM PRG PER VOTE
Individual	10 PRG
Pod	20 PRG
Organisation	30 PRG

The cap system supports participation without allowing high-PRG accounts to dominate instantly. It also reflects Ozean’s multi-actor structure, where individuals, Pods, and organisations may have different governance functions.

8.7 Voting Refund Ladder

Ozean uses a tiered PRG refund ladder within a 72-hour per-user window. The refund ladder encourages early participation while discouraging repeated manipulative vote changes.

TABLE 8.5 — 72-HOUR VOTING REFUND LADDER

VOTE ORDER PER USER	REFUND RATE	PRG DESTINATION
Votes 1–3	100%	Full refund to user
Votes 4–6	80%	80% refund to user; 20% to Foundation Treasury
Votes 7–9	60%	60% refund to user; 40% to Foundation Treasury
Votes 10+	0%	100% to Foundation Treasury

The refund cycle is calculated per user and per proposal. It begins when the user casts their first vote on a proposal. When the 72-hour window expires, the user cannot refund their vote. Votes cast after the proposal ends are non-refundable.

This design creates a governance cost structure that is more resistant to spam than free voting, while remaining accessible to active contributors.

FIGURE 8.3 — GOVERNANCE VOTING FLOW



8.8 Delegation

Ozean may support delegated voting, allowing users to delegate their voting power to trusted community members, Pods, or domain-specific delegates. Delegation can improve participation when users lack time or expertise to evaluate every proposal.

However, delegation also carries governance risks. Research on DAO governance indicates that delegation can concentrate influence and may amplify visibility bias if the same prominent delegates receive disproportionate voting power. Ozean should therefore treat delegation as an optional feature with safeguards, not as a default replacement for direct participation.

Delegation safeguards may include:

- transparent delegate profiles;
- delegate voting histories;
- topic-specific delegation;
- revocable delegation;
- capped delegated voting power;
- conflict-of-interest disclosures;
- inactivity rules for delegates;
- and periodic delegate review.

TABLE 8.6 — DELEGATION SAFEGUARDS

RISK	SAFEGUARD	IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM
Influence concentration	Capped delegated voting power	Cap on the PRG weight a delegate can cast, alongside per-vote caps by actor type
Influence concentration	Revocable delegation	Delegator can withdraw delegation at any time
Visibility bias	Transparent delegate profiles	Public delegate profile on the platform
Visibility bias	Topic-specific delegation	Delegation set per topic or domain, not globally
Opaque delegate behaviour	Delegate voting histories	Delegate votes kept in public voting records
Conflicts of interest	Conflict-of-interest disclosures	Disclosure required before acting as a delegate
Inactive delegates	Inactivity rules for delegates	Delegation lapses after a defined period without voting
Unaccountable delegates	Periodic delegate review	Scheduled review of delegate activity and conduct

8.9 DAO Proposal Types

Ozeon's DAO uses distinct proposal types to govern different platform functions. This modular proposal architecture makes governance clearer for users and safer for developers. Each proposal type has a specific purpose, target system, and execution outcome.

The proposal types are:

1. Topic Proposals;
2. Project Proposals;
3. Open Call Proposals;
4. Article Proposals;
5. Media Proposals;
6. Tutorial Proposals;
7. NFT Proposals;
8. Bounty Proposals.

TABLE 8.7 — DAO PROPOSAL TYPES SUMMARY

PROPOSAL TYPE	PRIMARY FUNCTION	PRIMARY SYSTEM AFFECTED
Topic	Governance and system rules	GovernanceParams, policies, Pods, treasury settings, Dev requests, Educational Resources
Project	Project credibility and endorsement	ProjectRegistry
Open Call	Opportunity credibility and endorsement	OpenCallsRegistry or Open Calls module
Article	Written knowledge curation	ContentRegistry / Educational Resources
Media	Multimedia knowledge curation	ContentRegistry / Educational Resources
Tutorial	Structured learning endorsement	ContentRegistry / Learn2Earn
NFT	Treasury asset acquisition	NFTVault and FoundationTreasury
Bounty	Work validation and payout oversight	BountyManager

8.10 Topic Proposals

Purpose

Topic Proposals govern general platform rules, system parameters, policies, platform development requests and strategic governance decisions. They are the broadest proposal type and are used for decisions that do not fit into a more specific module.

Examples

Topic Proposals may be used to:

- modify PRG reward parameters;
- adjust emissions settings;
- change proposal thresholds;
- create, merge, or dissolve Pods;
- introduce new platform features;
- adopt ethical or scientific guidelines;
- approve platform-wide policy frameworks;
- update governance parameters;
- approve or modify invitation-reward rules;
- approve or modify referral-abuse controls;
- introduce new proposal modules;
- introduce new Educational Resource structures
- change treasury operating rules;

Execution Outcome

When a Topic Proposal passes:

- the relevant system parameter may be updated;
- a governance policy may become binding;
- a Pod may be created or dissolved;
- a framework may be adopted;
- invitation-reward parameters may be changed;
- or an operational direction may be recorded for implementation.

Topic Proposals form the core general-governance layer of Ozeon.

8.11 Project Proposals

Purpose

Project Proposals allow the DAO to endorse projects on Ozeon. Project creation remains open and does not require DAO approval. A project can exist independently on the platform without endorsement. DAO endorsement adds a credibility layer for projects that have been reviewed by the community.

A project does not require DAO endorsement to receive ordinary \$OZN-based Project funding, tipping, donations, or direct user support. DAO endorsement is a separate governance signal that may support visibility, credibility, DAO treasury eligibility, curated funding, Foundation-backed support, or verification-linked pathways.

Examples

Project Proposals may relate to:

- regenerative aquaculture or agriculture initiatives;
- marine restoration projects;
- biodiversity monitoring programmes;
- product and innovation;
- research and development;
- climate education pilots;
- biomaterials projects;
- circular economy initiatives;
- citizen-science programmes;
- social empowerment or community resilience projects.

Execution Outcome

When a Project Proposal passes:

- the project receives a DAO Endorsed badge;
- its credibility and visibility may increase;
- it may become eligible for curated funding opportunities;
- it may become eligible for DAO treasury support where separately approved;
- it may become eligible for Foundation-backed support where applicable;
- it may be surfaced in curated project areas;
- and the endorsement is recorded in the ProjectRegistry.

When a Project Proposal fails:

- the Project is not DAO endorsed;
- it may still proceed independently if it meets normal platform standards;
- DAO feedback may inform improvements;
- and the proposer may revise and resubmit.

Important: DAO endorsement does not automatically allocate funding. Funding must occur through separate mechanisms, such as direct user support, Project funding, tipping, bounties, group treasuries, curated funding rounds, Foundation-backed allocations, or treasury proposals.

8.12 Open Call Proposals

Purpose

Open Call Proposals allow verified organisations, partners, or ecosystem actors to submit opportunities for DAO endorsement. These opportunities may include grants, research calls, innovation challenges, accelerator programmes, fellowships, procurement calls, field-work requests, or mission-aligned collaborations.

Open Calls are important because they connect Ozeon's knowledge and project ecosystem to external opportunity pathways. They allow users to discover not only content and projects, but also funding, collaboration, learning, and implementation opportunities.

Examples

Open Call Proposals may include:

- a funding call for ocean regeneration projects;
- a research collaboration call;
- a climate innovation challenge;
- a citizen-science data collection campaign;
- an educational-content grant;
- a biodiversity monitoring opportunity;
- a fellowship or accelerator programme;
- a university-led challenge;

- or an employment opportunity.

Execution Outcome

When an Open Call Proposal passes:

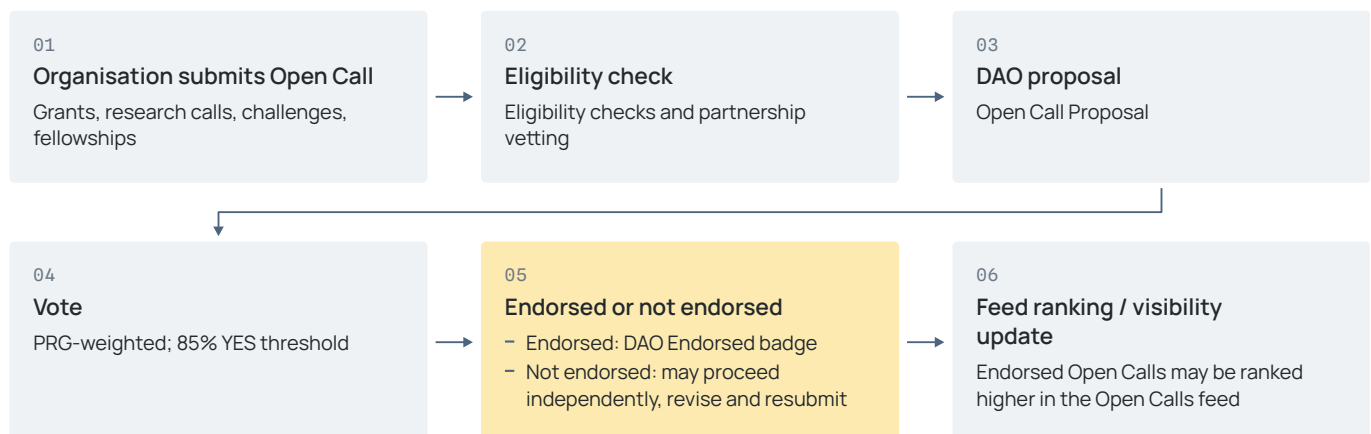
- the Open Call receives a DAO Endorsed badge;
- it may be ranked higher in the Open Calls feed;
- it may become eligible for platform promotion;
- it may attract stronger and higher-quality applicants;
- it may be linked to bounties, projects, Articles, Tutorials, or learning pathways;
- and its endorsement may be publicly visible depending on privacy and publication settings.

When an Open Call Proposal fails:

- the Open Call is not DAO endorsed;
- it may still proceed independently if it meets normal platform standards;
- DAO feedback may inform improvements;
- and the proposer may revise and resubmit.

These proposals help ensure that opportunities on Ozean are credible, transparent, well-structured, and aligned with the platform's regenerative mission.

FIGURE 8.5 — OPEN CALL GOVERNANCE FLOW



8.13 Article Proposals

Purpose

Article Proposals determine whether written content is accepted into Ozean's Educational Resources and knowledge commons.

Users may create Articles as part of ordinary platform participation. DAO approval is required only when an Article is proposed for recognition as an approved Educational

Resource, knowledge commons asset, Learn2Earn-linked resource, or higher-trust educational asset.

Examples

Article Proposals may include:

- research summaries;
- scientific explainers;
- policy analyses;
- technical articles;
- design essays;
- field reports;
- project logs;
- open science resources;
- intellectual property disclosures;
- educational or informational articles.

Execution Outcome

When an Article Proposal passes:

- the Article is marked DAO Approved;
- it may be included in Educational Resources;
- it may become an approved knowledge asset within the Ozeon knowledge commons;
- it may become eligible for Learn2Earn activity or quiz development;
- the author may receive PRG rewards;
- the Article may receive stronger discoverability;
- optional IP-NFT or licensing pathways may become available where appropriate;
- and the approval is recorded in the ContentRegistry.

When an Article Proposal fails:

- DAO feedback may inform improvements;
- and the proposer may revise and resubmit.

These proposals protect the quality and credibility of written knowledge in the Educational Resources while allowing community-led curation.

8.14 Media Proposals

Purpose

Media Proposals govern the inclusion of non-text educational and knowledge assets.

Examples

Media Proposals may include:

- videos;
- infographics;
- podcasts;
- diagrams;
- data visualisations;
- maps;
- animations;
- recorded lectures;
- interviews;
- field media;
- music or sound-based educational works.

Execution Outcome

When a Media Proposal passes:

- the media asset is marked DAO Approved;
- it may be included in the Educational Resources library;
- it may be used in learning tracks or quizzes;
- the creator may receive PRG rewards;
- optional IP-NFT or licensing pathways may become available where appropriate;
- and the approval is recorded in the ContentRegistry.

When a Media Proposal fails:

- DAO feedback may inform improvements;
- and the proposer may revise and resubmit.

Media Proposals allow Ozeon to treat knowledge as multimodal rather than purely textual.

8.15 Tutorial Proposals

Purpose

Tutorial Proposals approve structured learning content, courses, instructional pathways, and practical skill-building resources.

Examples

Tutorial Proposals may include:

- training materials;
- course series;
- instructional guides;
- regenerative practice tutorials;
- biomaterials processes;
- technical prototyping lessons;
- DIY sustainability guides;
- field-method protocols;
- community education resources.

Execution Outcome

When a Tutorial Proposal passes:

- the tutorial is DAO Endorsed or DAO Approved;
- it may be included in structured learning pathways;
- it may be linked to Learn2Earn quizzes or activities;
- it may support premium or token-gated access where appropriate;
- the creator may receive PRG rewards;
- and the tutorial is recorded in the ContentRegistry.

When a Tutorial Proposal fails:

- DAO feedback may inform improvements;
- and the proposer may revise and resubmit.

Tutorial Proposals govern how users learn practical skills and move from knowledge access into contribution.

8.16 NFT Proposals

Purpose

NFT Proposals allow the DAO or Pods to decide whether Ozean or the associated Pod should acquire NFTs or IP-NFTs for the knowledge commons, treasury, or ecosystem development.

Examples

NFT Proposals may include acquiring:

- research IP;
- educational assets;
- open-source innovation assets;
- biomaterial designs;

- datasets;
- creative works;
- instructional media;
- regenerative technology blueprints;
- cultural or artistic works linked to ocean and climate education.

Execution Outcome

When an NFT Proposal passes:

- treasury funds are used to acquire the NFT or IP-NFT;
- the asset may be transferred into the NFTVault;
- the asset becomes part of Ozeon's holdings or knowledge commons;
- licensing or access terms may be recorded;
- and future revenue or access rights may be managed according to DAO-approved terms.

When an NFT Proposal fails:

- DAO feedback may inform improvements;
- and the proposer may revise and resubmit.

These proposals govern how Ozeon allocates capital into knowledge assets, intellectual property, and digital public-good infrastructure.

8.17 Bounty Proposals

Purpose

Bounty Proposals manage the lifecycle of bounties, including approval, validation, payout, and completion.

Ordinary bounty participation may occur through platform bounty workflows. DAO or Pod involvement is especially important where the bounty is mission-sensitive, publicly funded, treasury-funded, disputed, high-value, or linked to scientific, educational, project-integrity, or public-good claims.

Examples

Bounty Proposals may relate to:

- scientific data collection;
- peer review;
- research summaries;
- translation;
- tutorial creation;

- environmental monitoring;
- biodiversity documentation;
- software or design tasks;
- Open Call support work;
- project verification;
- field reporting.

Execution Outcome

When a Bounty Proposal passes:

- a bounty may be approved;
- completed work may be validated;
- payments may be released;
- contributors may receive PRG recognition;
- the bounty may be finalised;
- and the payout is recorded in the BountyManager.

When a Bounty Proposal fails:

- DAO feedback may inform improvements;
- and the proposer may revise and resubmit.

Bounty Proposals ensure that decentralized work is validated fairly and transparently.

FIGURE 8.6 — BOUNTY PROPOSAL LIFECYCLE



8.18 Why Proposal Types Are Separated

Ozeon separates proposal types because each proposal category affects a different part of the platform and requires different execution logic. A content proposal should not execute the same logic as a treasury asset acquisition. A bounty payout should not be governed through the same execution path as a Topic Proposal. An Open Call endorsement should not be confused with a Project endorsement. A platform feature request should not be confused with a Project endorsement or Article approval.

This separation provides five benefits:

1. Clearer user experience. Users understand what they are voting on and what will happen if it passes.

2. Cleaner developer architecture. Each module has a defined purpose and target contract.
3. Better auditability. Security reviewers can assess each proposal pathway separately.
4. Reduced execution risk. Proposal payloads are scoped to specific functions.
5. Scalable governance. New proposal modules can be added as Ozeon grows.

TABLE 8.8 — PROPOSAL TYPE SEPARATION LOGIC

PROPOSAL TYPE	FUNCTION	EXECUTION LAYER
Topic	Platform rules, requests and parameters	GovernanceParams / policy layer
Project	Project credibility	ProjectRegistry
Open Call	Opportunity credibility	OpenCallsRegistry / Open Calls module
Article	Written knowledge curation	ContentRegistry
Media	Multimedia curation	ContentRegistry
Tutorial	Learning pathways	ContentRegistry / Learn2Earn
NFT	Treasury asset acquisition	NFTVault / FoundationTreasury
Bounty	Work validation and payouts	BountyManager

The voting system remains unified, while execution remains modular.

8.19 Pods: Working Groups for Domain Governance

Pods are specialised working groups within the Ozeon governance system. They allow the DAO to decentralize responsibility, distribute expertise, and scale operational capacity without requiring the full DAO to review every domain-specific decision.

Pods may be created, modified, merged, or dissolved through governance. Each Pod should have a clear mandate, scope of authority, operating budget where applicable, reporting requirements, and accountability mechanism.

Examples of Pods include:

Education and Learning Pod

Curates educational resources, reviews Articles, Tutorials and Media, supports learning pathways, validates Learn2Earn content, and supports accessibility standards.

Innovation Pod

Reviews innovation assets, IP-NFTs, open-source designs, biomaterial concepts, and regenerative technology contributions.

Ocean-Climate Nexus Pod

Focuses on ocean health, blue carbon, marine science, coastal resilience, ocean literacy, and marine restoration.

Bounties Pod

Designs bounty categories, reviews bounty submissions, supports task validation, and recommends payout standards.

AI Ethics and Climate Intelligence Pod

Reviews AI-related systems, scientific data workflows, OCIS-related proposals, model governance, data ethics, and responsible AI safeguards.

Open Calls and Partnerships Pod

Reviews Open Calls, evaluates partner opportunities, coordinates external challenges, and supports mission-aligned institutional collaboration.

User Activation and Community Growth Pod

Reviews user activation pathways, invitation reward parameters, community growth quality, referral-abuse risks, and ecosystem participation standards.

Pods are not independent sovereign entities. They operate within DAO-approved mandates and remain accountable to the broader governance system.

8.20 Ozeon Foundation Stewardship

The Ozeon Foundation provides ethical, strategic, educational, and institutional stewardship for the ecosystem. It is designed to support long-term mission alignment, public-interest governance, scientific integrity, responsible technology development, and transdisciplinary collaboration.

The Foundation is not intended to replace DAO governance. Its role is to provide coherence, continuity, and escalation pathways where decentralized governance alone may be insufficient.

The Foundation may:

- issue non-binding guidance on critical proposals;
- support governance education and capacity building;
- convene expert panels;
- steward ethical review processes;
- coordinate public-interest grants;
- support regulatory and legal review;

- vet strategic partnerships;
- support AI and data governance;
- support compensation and treasury transparency standards;
- review high-risk referral or invitation-reward abuse;
- represent Ozeon in global sustainability, education, and ocean-science contexts;
- and preserve the platform’s regenerative mission.

The Foundation’s role aligns with the wider governance challenge described by Elinor Ostrom: commons governance requires rules, monitoring, conflict-resolution mechanisms, graduated sanctions, and institutional arrangements that fit the community and resource being governed (Ostrom, 1990). Ozeon’s DAO governs platform participation, while the Foundation helps protect the integrity of the wider commons.

FIGURE 8.8 — DAO–FOUNDATION STEWARDSHIP MODEL



8.21 Governance Security

Ozeon’s governance model includes security controls designed to protect against spam, capture, malicious proposals, unsafe execution, treasury misuse, referral farming, compensation abuse, and operational failure.

Security mechanisms include:

- PRG proposal deposits;
- voting caps by actor type;
- 72-hour refund ladder;
- 85% YES threshold;
- role-based execution;
- modular proposal contracts;
- treasury-spending restrictions;
- compensation-policy controls;
- multisig administration;
- pausable contracts;
- timelocks for high-impact decisions;
- emergency review procedures;
- public logs and dashboards;

- audit readiness;
- referral-abuse monitoring;
- and Foundation escalation for existential risks.

OpenZeppelin’s governance documentation describes timelocks as mechanisms that introduce delays between proposal approval and execution, allowing time for review before high-impact actions take effect (OpenZeppelin, n.d.). Ozeon should use comparable delay mechanisms for protocol upgrades, treasury reallocation, emission changes, and high-risk governance actions.

TABLE 8.9 — GOVERNANCE RISK AND CONTROL MATRIX

RISK	DESCRIPTION	CONTROL
Proposal spam	Low-quality or malicious proposals overwhelm governance	PRG deposits, proposal requirements
Vote manipulation	Repeated voting or signalling manipulation	Refund ladder, voting caps
Governance capture	Large actors dominate decision-making	Non-transferable PRG, vote caps, delegation safeguards
Treasury attack	Malicious proposal redirects funds	Module restrictions, timelocks, multisig, emergency review
Compensation misuse	Treasury funds are used for unreasonable or undocumented compensation	Compensation policy, budget approval, reporting, conflict disclosure
Low participation	DAO decisions made by too few users	Education, notifications, delegation, quorum options
Delegation concentration	Too much power accumulates in a few delegates	Delegation caps, transparency, revocability
Malicious content approval	Low-quality content enters Educational Resources	Pod review, DAO voting, dispute windows
Bounty abuse	Fake or low-quality work receives payment	Sponsor review, Pod validation, evidence requirements
Referral farming	Users invite fake, duplicate or inactive accounts for PRG	Anti-Sybil checks, activation milestones, caps, clawback
Open Call misuse	Low-quality or extractive opportunities gain endorsement	Eligibility checks, DAO review, partnership vetting
AI governance risk	AI influences decisions without accountability	Human oversight, Foundation review, NIST-aligned controls

8.22 Emergency Review and Veto Constraints

Ozeon may require an emergency review mechanism for existential risks, such as smart-contract exploits, treasury compromise, malicious governance capture, unlawful content, severe ethical breaches, major referral-abuse attacks, or serious payment-system abuse. However, any emergency mechanism must be carefully constrained to avoid undermining DAO legitimacy.

Emergency powers should be:

- narrowly defined;
- publicly disclosed;

- time-limited;
- subject to multisig or Foundation oversight;
- documented after use;
- reviewable by the DAO;
- and restricted to exceptional cases.

The Foundation may trigger emergency ethical, compliance, treasury, compensation, referral-abuse, or security review, but it should not become a routine override authority. The purpose of emergency review is to protect the commons, not to centralise control.

8.23 Fork-Safe and Commons-Preserving Architecture

Ozeon preserves the ability for public-good knowledge to remain accessible even if governance becomes misaligned. Where legally and ethically appropriate, open educational resources, public metadata, public proposal records, public project records, public fee records, public treasury reports, and open knowledge assets should be portable.

A fork-safe architecture supports:

- data export;
- open-source components;
- public governance logs;
- content provenance;
- IP-NFT records;
- public fee and treasury transparency;
- and continuity of the knowledge commons.

This reinforces the principle that Ozeon is not only a platform, but a stewarded commons for regenerative knowledge and coordination.

8.24 Participatory Legitimacy

Ozeon's governance model is not only a technical system. It is a mechanism for building participatory legitimacy. The goal is to ensure that those who shape the platform are those who contribute to its knowledge, projects, communities, funding flows, user growth, and regenerative mission.

Ozeon's governance philosophy can be summarised as follows:

Education creates capability.

Contribution creates reputation.

Responsible ecosystem growth strengthens participation.

Reputation creates governance eligibility.

Governance directs resources.

Resources support regeneration.

Regeneration strengthens the commons.

This creates a feedback loop between learning, contribution, trust, governance, funding, and impact.

8.25 Governance Summary

Ozeon's governance model combines Progress-based voting, modular DAO proposal types, Pods, Foundation stewardship, and smart-contract security controls. It governs:

- platform rules and evolution;
- Project endorsement;
- Open Call endorsement;
- Article approval and Educational Resource inclusion;
- written and multimedia knowledge inclusion;
- tutorials and structured learning;
- IP-NFT acquisition;
- bounty validation and payout;
- treasury allocation;
- invitation reward parameters;
- referral-abuse controls;
- emissions and protocol parameters;
- and the broader ethical direction of the ecosystem.

By separating voting from execution and aligning each proposal type with a specific platform function, Ozeon creates a governance system that is transparent, modular, auditable, scalable, and aligned with regenerative principles.

The aim is not governance for its own sake. The aim is to create a system in which legitimacy flows from verified contribution, and collective intelligence can be directed toward open knowledge, public-good coordination, fair compensation, responsible ecosystem growth, and ecological regeneration.

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Tokenized IP Layer

9.1 Overview

Ozeon’s Tokenized IP Layer is designed to transform knowledge assets into verifiable, attributable, licensable, and community-governed digital objects. Its purpose is to support the circulation of regenerative knowledge while preserving creator attribution, metadata integrity, licensing clarity, provenance, contribution history, and long-term public-good value.

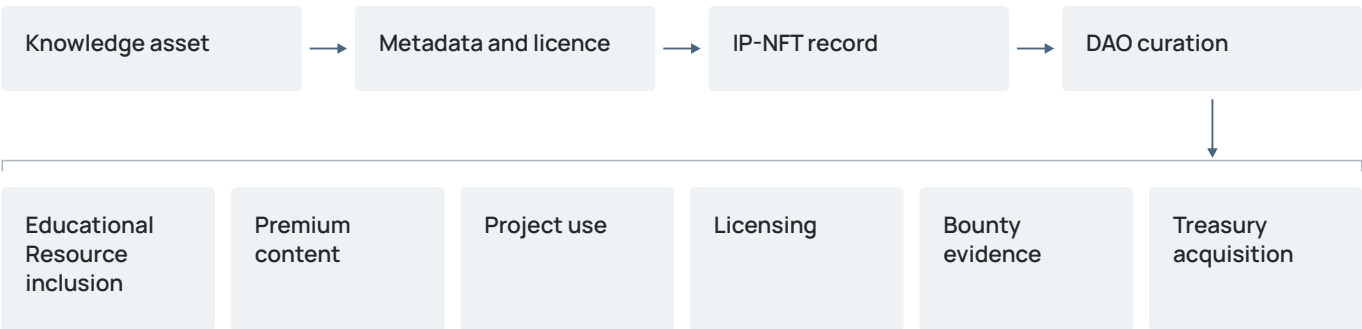
The layer is built around the concept of the IP-NFT: an intellectual property-linked non-fungible token that represents a specific knowledge asset, contribution, dataset, design, methodology, Article, Educational Resource, Tutorial, Media item, creative work, or regenerative innovation. Within Ozeon, IP-NFTs are not intended to function as speculative collectibles. They are designed as programmable records of authorship, provenance, access conditions, licensing terms, version history, attribution, and possible economic rights.

This distinction is critical. Tokenizing an asset does not automatically transfer copyright, patent rights, database rights, moral rights, or commercial exploitation rights. WIPO notes that most NFTs do not involve a transfer of rights unless the seller explicitly offers such a transfer and the applicable legal formalities are satisfied (World Intellectual Property Organization [WIPO], 2021). Eurojust similarly states that an NFT is not the same as the underlying artwork and does not automatically transfer copyrights (Eurojust, 2023). Therefore, Ozeon’s Tokenized IP Layer must combine smart-contract logic with explicit licensing, legal terms, metadata standards, and governance review.

The purpose of tokenization in Ozeon is not enclosure. It is structured stewardship. Tokenization helps ensure that knowledge can be shared, discovered, reused, cited, governed, funded, licensed, and attributed without severing it from its creators, contributors, communities, or ecological context.

The Tokenized IP Layer also supports Ozeon’s wider regenerative work economy. Articles, Media, Tutorials, datasets, project outputs, research summaries, field reports and creative educational works may become part of a rights-aware knowledge economy where creators and contributors can receive attribution, PRG recognition, \$OZN payments, licensing revenue, bounty payments, premium content income, or DAO-supported acquisition where appropriate.

FIGURE 9.1 — TOKENIZED IP LAYER OVERVIEW



9.2 What Is an IP-NFT?

An IP-NFT is a unique, metadata-rich digital asset that links a token record to an underlying intellectual or creative asset. The token may reference content, rights documentation, licensing terms, authorship records, provenance, revenue-sharing logic, access permissions, or governance rules.

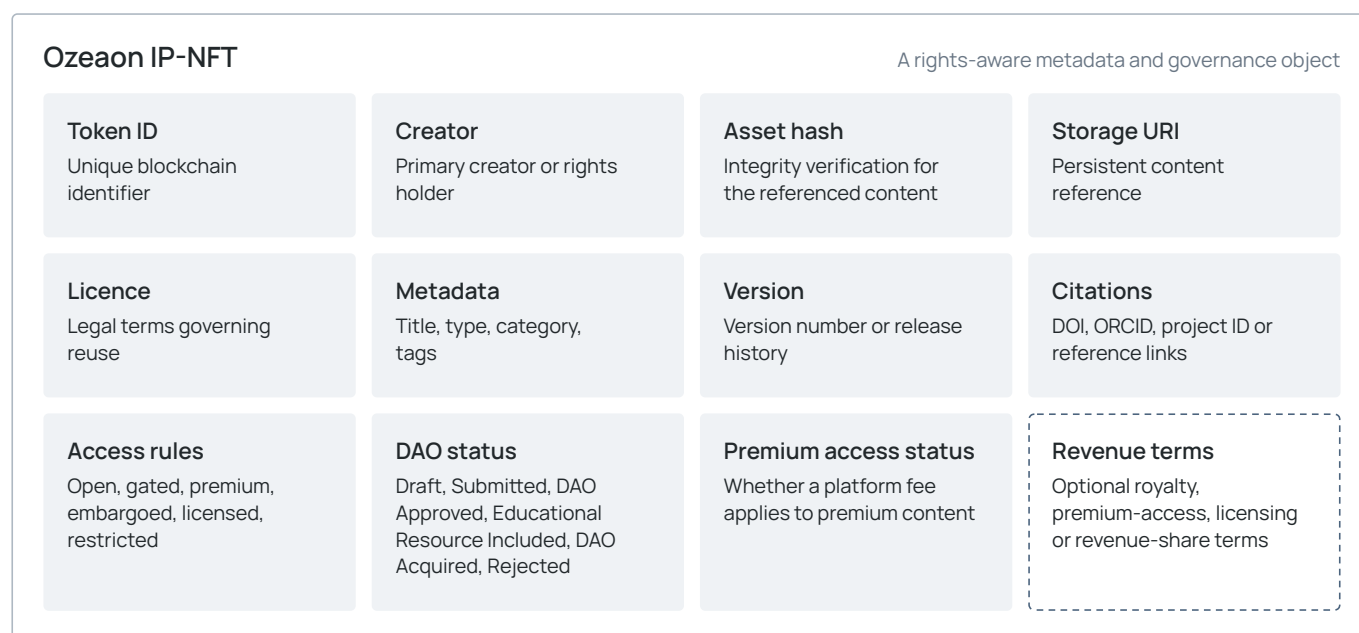
In decentralized science, IP-NFTs have been used to connect blockchain records with legal agreements that represent rights over research outputs, datasets, patents, or sponsored research arrangements. Molecule describes IP-NFTs as a structure that combines legal contracts with smart contracts, allowing intellectual property and research data to be represented and governed through blockchain-based infrastructure (Molecule, 2022, 2023). Academic research has also explored NFTs as a potential mechanism for representing patents and intellectual property assets, while emphasising challenges around legal enforceability, rights management, interoperability, and real-world adoption (Bamakan et al., 2022).

For Ozean, an IP-NFT may represent one or more of the following:

- authorship and provenance;
- contribution history;
- content metadata;
- licensing conditions;
- permitted uses;
- attribution requirements;
- version history;
- citations and derivatives;
- governance status;
- access conditions;
- premium content status;
- revenue-share logic;
- contributor-payment logic;
- bounty-deliverable status;
- or DAO acquisition status.

An IP-NFT should therefore be understood as a rights-aware metadata and governance object, not merely a tokenized file.

FIGURE 9.2 — ANATOMY OF AN OZEAON IP-NFT



9.3 Legal Architecture: Tokenization Is Not Automatic IP Transfer

The legal architecture of the Tokenized IP Layer must distinguish between four separate things:

1. the token;
2. the underlying asset;
3. the legal rights attached to the asset;
4. the platform status assigned by Ozean governance.

Owning a token does not necessarily mean owning the underlying intellectual property. It may only mean owning a blockchain record that points to a file, metadata object, licence, or contractual arrangement. Copyright, patent, trademark, database rights, trade secrets, moral rights, and community knowledge rights may remain with the original creator, institution, employer, community, or rights holder unless validly assigned or licensed.

Accordingly, every Ozean IP-NFT should include or reference a clear legal rights layer. This may include:

- licence type;
- copyright holder;
- author or creator;
- contributor roles;
- permitted uses;
- prohibited uses;
- commercial-use permissions;

- derivative-work permissions;
- attribution requirements;
- revenue-share terms;
- premium access terms;
- jurisdictional terms;
- revocation or termination rules;
- moral rights reservations;
- community consent conditions;
- and dispute-resolution procedures.

WIPO has argued that blockchain and smart contracts could support IP agreements such as licences and enable real-time payment flows to rights holders (WIPO, 2018). However, this potential depends on clear legal drafting and enforceable rights terms. Ozeon should therefore avoid implying that smart contracts alone create, transfer, or perfect legal ownership.

TABLE 9.1 — TOKEN, ASSET, RIGHTS, AND GOVERNANCE DISTINCTION

LAYER	WHAT IT REPRESENTS	EXAMPLE	LEGAL IMPLICATION
Token layer	Blockchain record	ERC-721 token ID	Proves token ownership or custody
Asset layer	Referenced content	Article, Tutorial, dataset, report, design file, Media item	Requires persistent storage and integrity checks
Rights layer	Legal permissions and restrictions	CC BY, CC0, custom licence, assignment, revenue-share agreement	Determines what users may legally do with the asset
Governance layer	Ozeon platform status	DAO Approved, Educational Resource Included, DAO Acquired, Premium Content	Determines platform treatment, not external legal ownership by itself

9.4 What Can Be Tokenized?

Ozeon allows a wide range of intellectual, educational, scientific, creative, and regenerative assets to be tokenized as IP-NFTs, subject to rights verification and platform standards.

Eligible asset types may include:

9.4.1 Scientific and Research Outputs

- research papers;
- preprints;
- scientific summaries;
- field reports;
- policy briefs;
- environmental assessments;

- lab protocols;
- ecological surveys;
- biodiversity observations;
- citizen-science datasets;
- and research posters or presentations.

9.4.2 Articles and Educational Assets

- Articles;
- DAO-accepted Educational Resources;
- tutorials;
- course materials;
- instructional videos;
- quizzes;
- learning pathways;
- teacher guides;
- workshop materials;
- field methods;
- and multilingual educational content.

Within Ozeon, an Article may be created by a user as ordinary platform content. If the Article is submitted through a DAO proposal and accepted, it may become an Educational Resource or approved knowledge asset within the Ozeon knowledge commons. IP-NFT linkage may support attribution, licensing, versioning, citation, premium access, or creator compensation.

9.4.3 Regenerative Design and Innovation Assets

- climate technology designs;
- regenerative systems designs;
- aquaculture methods;
- algae bioreactor concepts;
- biomaterial recipes;
- circular design methods;
- open hardware schematics;
- fabrication guides;
- restoration protocols;
- and zero-waste infrastructure designs.

9.4.4 Creative, Media and Cultural Assets

- videos;
- infographics;

- diagrams;
- podcasts;
- maps;
- animations;
- visual artworks;
- educational music or sound works;
- storytelling assets;
- documentary media;
- data visualisations;
- and speculative design materials.

9.4.5 Project, Bounty and Field Evidence

- project reports;
- project milestone evidence;
- bounty deliverables;
- field documentation;
- environmental monitoring outputs;
- biodiversity media;
- project designs;
- community reports;
- peer-review records;
- translation outputs;
- and Open Call deliverables.

9.4.6 Intellectual Property and Pre-IP Disclosures

- patentable concepts;
- pre-patent disclosures;
- technical invention records;
- design disclosures;
- research and development documentation;
- innovation notebooks;
- and DAO-held or jointly developed IP records.

TABLE 9.2 — ELIGIBLE IP-NFT ASSET TYPES

ASSET TYPE	EXAMPLES	LICENCE OPTIONS	REVIEW PATHWAY	PLATFORM USE
Scientific and research outputs	Research papers, preprints, field reports, lab protocols, citizen-science datasets	Creative Commons; custom research agreements	DAO, Pod or Foundation review	Educational Resources, project evidence, licensing
Articles and educational assets	Articles, tutorials, course materials, quizzes, learning pathways	Creative Commons	Article, Media or Tutorial Proposal; Education and Learning Pod	Educational Resources, Learn2Earn, premium content
Regenerative design and innovation assets	Climate technology designs, biomaterial recipes, open hardware schematics	Open-source and open hardware licences	Innovation Pod	Licensing, DAO acquisition
Creative, media and cultural assets	Videos, infographics, podcasts, maps, data visualisations	Creative Commons; community and cultural licences	Media Proposal; Education and Learning Pod	Educational Resources, premium content
Project, bounty and field evidence	Project milestone evidence, bounty deliverables, peer-review records	Creative Commons; custom agreements	Bounty Proposal; Bounties Pod	Project and bounty evidence
IP and pre-IP disclosures	Patentable concepts, pre-patent disclosures, innovation notebooks	Custom research and IP agreements	Innovation Pod; legal review	Licensing, DAO acquisition

9.5 Metadata and Storage Requirements

The value of an IP-NFT depends heavily on the quality and persistence of its metadata and underlying asset reference. NFT systems often rely on off-chain storage pointers, which can create asset fragility if files become unavailable, duplicated, modified, or disconnected from the token. Research on NFT-to-asset connection fragility found that off-chain asset links can be unreliable in practice, including cases of inaccessible or duplicated assets (Wang et al., 2022). Ozeon must therefore design IP-NFT storage with persistence, redundancy, and integrity in mind.

Each Ozeon IP-NFT should include or reference the following metadata:

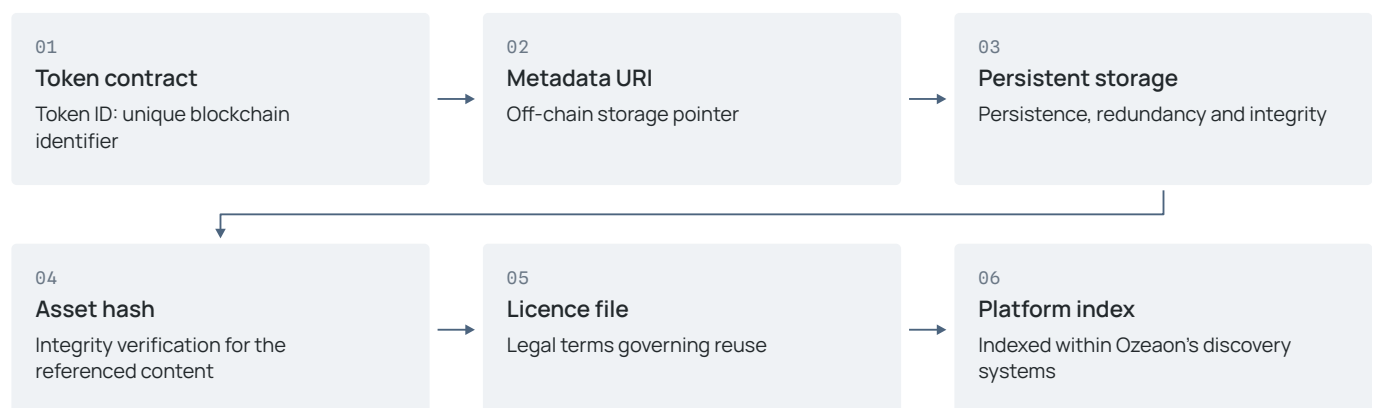
TABLE 9.3 — MINIMUM IP-NFT METADATA SCHEMA

METADATA FIELD	PURPOSE
Token ID	Unique blockchain identifier
Asset title	Human-readable title
Asset type	Article, Educational Resource, Tutorial, dataset, design, Media item, report, patent disclosure, etc.
Creator / author	Primary creator or rights holder
Contributors	Additional authors, reviewers, collaborators, funders, translators, bounty workers, or communities
Wallet / account references	On-chain attribution and platform identity linkage
Asset hash	Integrity verification for the referenced content
Storage URI	Persistent content reference

METADATA FIELD	PURPOSE
Licence	Legal terms governing reuse
Rights holder	Entity or individual holding relevant rights
Version	Version number or release history
Creation date	Original creation timestamp
Mint date	Tokenization timestamp
Citation metadata	DOI, ORCID, project ID, article ID, bounty ID, or reference links where applicable
Categories and tags	Discoverability and search
SDG / impact alignment	Optional impact classification
DAO status	Draft, Submitted, DAO Approved, Educational Resource Included, DAO Acquired, Rejected
Access status	Open, gated, premium, embargoed, licensed, restricted
Derivative permissions	Whether remixing or derivative works are allowed
Revenue terms	Optional royalty, premium-access, licensing or revenue-share terms
Platform fee status	Whether a platform fee applies to access, sale, licensing, or premium content
Cultural or ethical conditions	Consent, community protocols, sensitive knowledge flags
Dispute status	Active dispute, resolved, revoked, restricted, archived, or under review

The metadata schema should align with FAIR principles wherever possible. Wilkinson et al. (2016) define FAIR as making research objects findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable. For Ozeon, FAIR metadata is essential because tokenized knowledge should be discoverable by users, usable by projects, interoperable with learning systems, and reusable under clearly defined licences.

FIGURE 9.3 — IP-NFT METADATA AND STORAGE ARCHITECTURE



9.6 Licensing Framework

Ozeon's Tokenized IP Layer will support a flexible licensing system. Tokenization does not require exclusivity or commercialisation. A creator may tokenize an asset while keeping it open, placing it in the public domain, requiring attribution, restricting commercial use, permitting remixing, assigning rights under a custom agreement, or making the asset available through premium access.

Supported licensing pathways may include:

9.6.1 Creative Commons Licences

Creative Commons licences allow creators to retain copyright while granting defined permissions for use and reuse. CC BY permits reuse with attribution, while CC0 allows creators to waive copyright and database rights to the fullest extent legally possible (Creative Commons, n.d.-a, n.d.-b).

Possible options include:

- CC0;
- CC BY;
- CC BY-SA;
- CC BY-NC;
- CC BY-NC-SA;
- CC BY-ND;
- CC BY-NC-ND.

9.6.2 Open-Source and Open Hardware Licences

For software, hardware, and technical designs, Ozeon may support:

- MIT;
- Apache 2.0;
- GNU GPL;
- CERN Open Hardware Licence;
- TAPR Open Hardware Licence;
- OSHWA-aligned documentation standards.

9.6.3 Custom Research and IP Agreements

For research assets, pre-patent disclosures, biomaterials, datasets, or institutional collaborations, custom agreements may be required. These may cover:

- sponsored research;
- commercial licensing;
- non-commercial use;

- research-use-only rights;
- joint ownership;
- revenue sharing;
- publication rights;
- patent filing strategy;
- confidentiality restrictions;
- and institutional approvals.

9.6.4 Community and Cultural Licences

Some knowledge may involve Indigenous, local, ecological, cultural, or community-held knowledge. This requires special treatment. Open access should not become extractive access. The Tokenized IP Layer should support:

- consent-based access;
- community-approved licensing;
- restricted visibility;
- cultural sensitivity tags;
- non-commercial use conditions;
- benefit-sharing requirements;
- and review by relevant community representatives or ethics bodies.

9.6.5 Premium Content and Paid Access Terms

Ozeon may allow creators to make selected assets available as pro (or premium) content. Premium content may include Tutorials, Media, Articles, datasets, practical guides, field methods, design assets, or other knowledge products where paid access is appropriate and lawful.

Premium content does not remove the need for explicit licensing. Users should understand whether they are purchasing:

- access only;
- a limited personal-use licence;
- a commercial-use licence;
- a downloadable copy;
- a right to reuse or remix;
- or another defined permission.

Premium content access is subject to the applicable Ozeon platform fee. Under the current fee model, pro (or premium) content access carries a 9% platform fee. This fee supports content delivery, platform maintenance, licensing infrastructure, payment processing, review workflows, creator-support systems, and ecosystem sustainability.

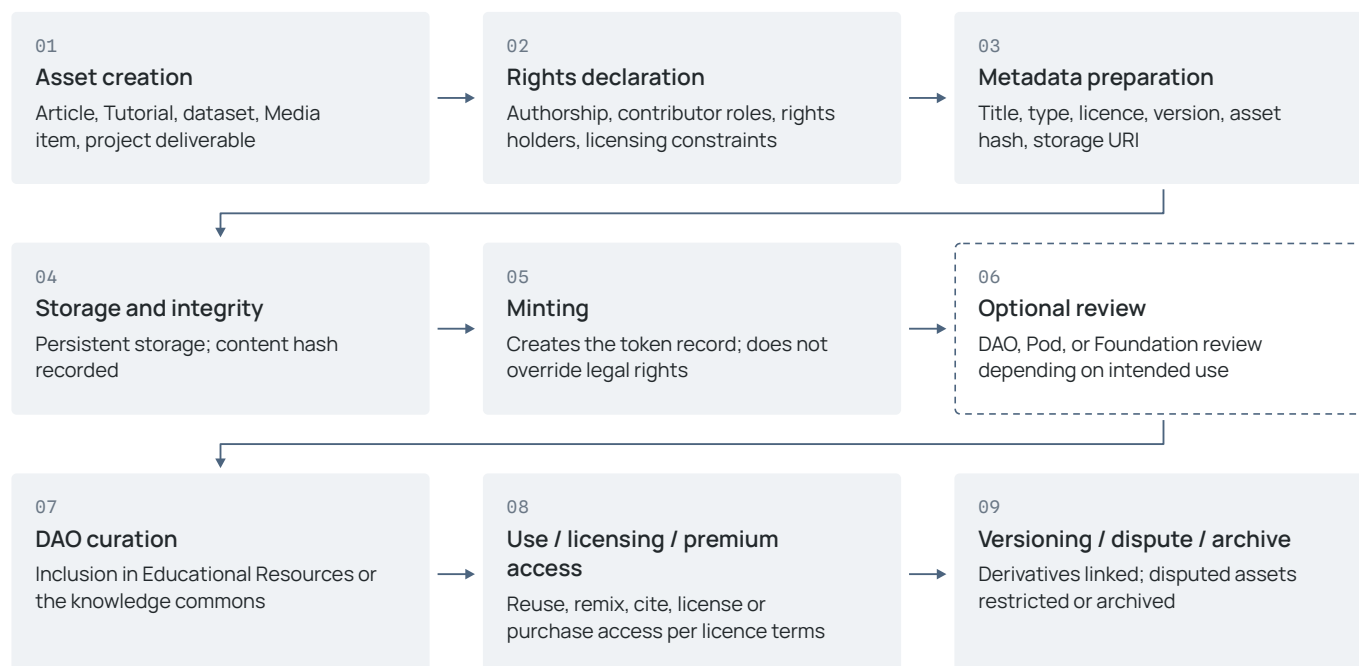
TABLE 9.4 — LICENSING OPTIONS AND USE CASES

LICENCE TYPE	OPTIONS	TERMS STATED	USE CASE
Creative Commons licences	CC0, CC BY, CC BY-SA, CC BY-NC, CC BY-NC-SA, CC BY-ND, CC BY-NC-ND	Creator retains copyright and grants defined permissions; CC BY permits reuse with attribution; CC0 waives copyright and database rights	Assets kept open, in the public domain, or under attribution, non-commercial or remix conditions
Open-source and open hardware licences	MIT, Apache 2.0, GNU GPL, CERN Open Hardware Licence, TAPR Open Hardware Licence, OSHWA-aligned documentation	Per the selected licence	Software, hardware and technical designs
Custom research and IP agreements	Sponsored research, commercial licensing, non-commercial use, research-use-only rights, joint ownership, revenue sharing	Negotiated; may cover publication rights, patent filing, confidentiality and institutional approvals	Research assets, pre-patent disclosures, biomaterials, datasets, institutional collaborations
Community and cultural licences	Consent-based access, community-approved licensing, restricted visibility, cultural sensitivity tags	Non-commercial use conditions; benefit-sharing; review by community representatives or ethics bodies	Indigenous, local, ecological, cultural or community-held knowledge
Premium content and paid access terms	Access only, limited personal-use licence, commercial-use licence, downloadable copy, right to reuse or remix	Explicit licence still required; 5% platform fee on premium content access	Tutorials, Media, Articles, datasets, practical guides, field methods, design assets

9.7 IP-NFT Lifecycle

The IP-NFT lifecycle defines how a knowledge asset moves from creation to tokenization, curation, use, and possible governance.

FIGURE 9.4 — OZEAON IP-NFT LIFECYCLE



9.7.1 Asset Creation

A user, organisation, Pod, project team, research group, bounty contributor, creator, or educator creates a knowledge asset, such as an Article, Tutorial, dataset, field protocol, biomaterial recipe, research output, Media item, or project deliverable.

9.7.2 Rights Declaration

The creator declares ownership, authorship, contributor roles, rights holders, funding sources, institutional obligations, licensing constraints, and any community or ethical conditions.

9.7.3 Metadata Preparation

The asset is assigned metadata, including title, type, category, tags, licence, creator, contributors, version, asset hash, storage URI, access status, fee status, and platform references.

9.7.4 Storage and Integrity

The underlying file or dataset is stored using persistent storage infrastructure. The system records a content hash to verify that the referenced asset has not been altered.

9.7.5 Minting

An IP-NFT is minted to the creator, contributor group, DAO treasury, project wallet, bounty recipient, organisation, or other authorised rights holder. Minting creates the token record but does not by itself override legal rights.

9.7.6 Review and Curation

The asset may be submitted for DAO, Pod, or Foundation review depending on its intended use. Review may assess quality, originality, relevance, rights clarity, licensing suitability, ethical conditions, and alignment with Ozeon's mission.

DAO review is not required for every IP-NFT. A creator may hold an IP-NFT privately or use it as an attribution and provenance record without seeking DAO approval. DAO review is required only where the creator seeks DAO approval, Educational Resource inclusion, DAO acquisition, curated visibility, treasury support, or another governance-linked status.

9.7.7 Inclusion in Knowledge Commons

If approved, the IP-NFT may be included in Educational Resources, learning pathways, project records, Open Calls, bounties, platform-curated libraries, or the wider knowledge commons.

9.7.8 Licensing, Reuse and Premium Access

Users may reuse, remix, cite, purchase access to, license, or build upon the asset according to its licence and rights terms. Where paid access is used, the asset should clearly disclose access conditions, user rights, creator payment logic, and applicable platform fees.

9.7.9 Versioning and Derivatives

Updates, translations, adaptations, or derivative works may be linked to the original IP-NFT through version history and derivative metadata.

9.7.10 Dispute, Revocation, or Archive

If a rights dispute, plagiarism claim, ethical concern, licensing breach, cultural sensitivity issue, or payment dispute arises, the IP-NFT may be flagged, reviewed, restricted, archived, or removed from curated platform areas. The blockchain record may remain immutable, but platform visibility, endorsement, premium access, and DAO status can be revoked or restricted.

9.8 DAO Curation and Knowledge Commons

IP-NFTs may be held privately, shared openly, submitted to the knowledge commons, purchased by the DAO, Foundation, a Pod or Organisation, linked to projects, used as premium content, or attached as evidence in bounties and milestones.

The DAO's role is not to approve all tokenized knowledge. Instead, the DAO governs which assets receive platform recognition, Educational Resource inclusion, DAO acquisition, curated visibility, or treasury support.

Post-minting pathways include:

9.8.1 Creator-Held IP-NFTs

The creator retains the IP-NFT and uses it as proof of authorship, contribution, research output, project capability, or licensing status.

9.8.2 Article-to-Educational-Resource Submission

A creator may submit an Article through a DAO proposal for inclusion in Ozean's Educational Resources or knowledge commons. If the Article is accepted, it may become an approved Educational Resource, support Learn2Earn activity, generate PRG recognition, and become eligible for stronger discoverability or optional IP-NFT linkage.

9.8.3 Media and Tutorial Submission

Media assets and Tutorials may be submitted for DAO or Pod review where the creator seeks inclusion in Educational Resources, structured learning pathways, Learn2Earn activities, curated libraries, or premium content pathways.

9.8.4 DAO Acquisition

The DAO may vote to acquire high-value IP-NFTs for the knowledge commons using treasury-held \$OZN or other approved assets. Purchased assets may be held in the NFTVault.

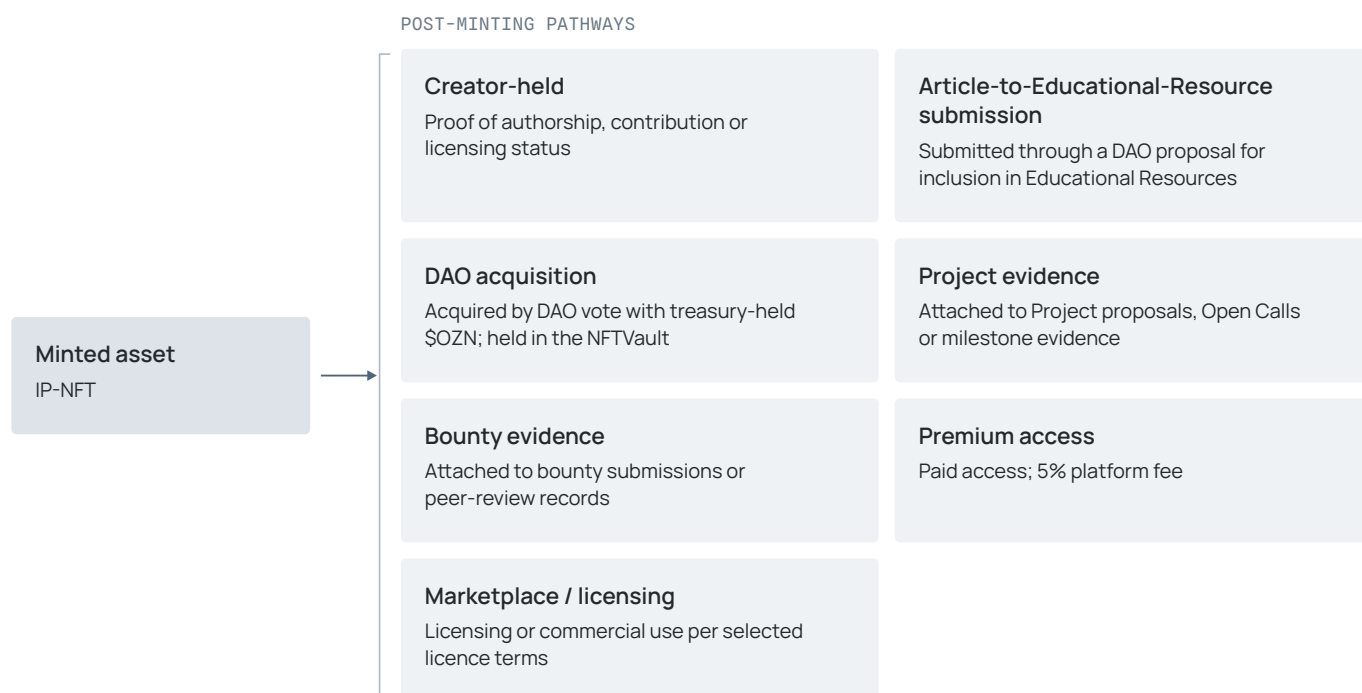
9.8.5 Project and Bounty Evidence

IP-NFTs may be attached to Project proposals, Open Calls, bounty submissions, milestone evidence, or peer-review records as proof of contribution, originality, delivery, or rights ownership.

9.8.6 Licensed, Premium, or Commercial Use

Creators may make IP-NFT-linked assets available for licensing, commercial use, paid access, or premium content access according to the selected licence terms. Pro (or premium) content access currently carries a 9% platform fee.

FIGURE 9.5 — DAO CURATION PATHWAYS FOR IP-NFTS



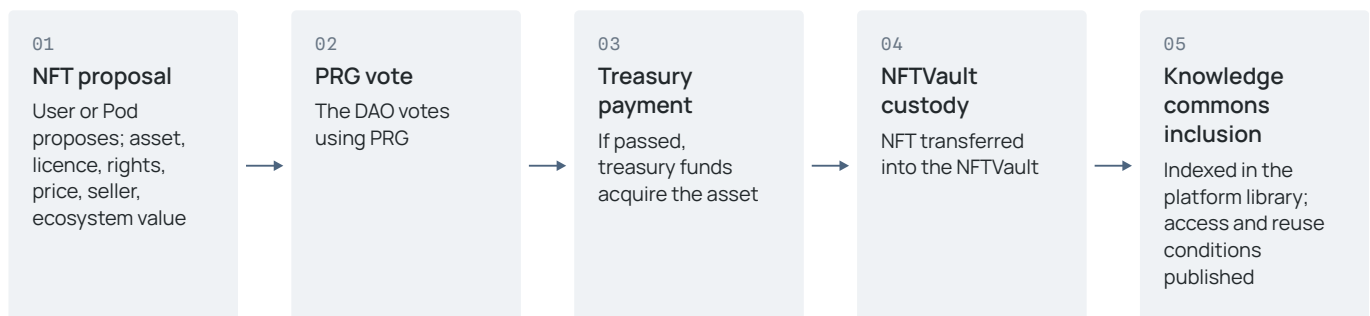
9.9 NFTVault and Treasury Acquisition

Ozeon's smart-contract architecture includes an NFTVault for ERC-721 custody and an NFTPurchaseProposalModule for DAO-approved acquisition of IP-NFTs or other tokenized knowledge assets.

The acquisition process may follow this logic:

1. a user or Pod proposes acquisition of an IP-NFT;
2. proposal metadata describes the asset, licence, rights, price, seller, and expected ecosystem value;
3. the DAO votes using PRG;
4. if the proposal passes, treasury funds are used to acquire the asset;
5. the NFT is transferred into the NFTVault;
6. the asset is indexed in the appropriate platform library;
7. access and reuse conditions are published.

FIGURE 9.6 — DAO IP-NFT ACQUISITION FLOW



This system allows the DAO to acquire and steward knowledge assets that are strategically important to the Ozeon ecosystem.

DAO acquisition should not imply that all rights are automatically transferred unless the acquisition agreement explicitly states that rights have been assigned or licensed. The acquisition should specify whether the DAO is acquiring the token only, a licence, a revenue interest, access rights, or full legal rights where lawful and properly documented.

9.10 Creator Earnings, Platform Fees and Revenue Flows

The Tokenized IP Layer can support creator and contributor compensation through premium content, licensing, DAO acquisition, bounty payments, and project-related use.

Potential revenue or payment flows include:

- pro (or premium) content purchases;
- paid access to Tutorials, Media, Articles, datasets or guides;
- licensing payments;
- DAO acquisition payments;

- bounty payments;
- project milestone payments;
- revenue-share distributions where legally appropriate;
- contributor payments for educational or research outputs;
- and future tokenized IP licensing flows.

The current platform fee model applies as follows where relevant:

ACTIVITY	PLATFORM FEE
Project funding	5%
Tipping and donations	9%
Bounties	9%
Premium content	9%

For the Tokenized IP Layer, the most directly relevant fee is the 9% pro (or premium) content fee. Bounty-linked IP outputs may also be subject to the 9% bounty fee where the asset is produced as part of a bounty. Direct tips or donations to creators are subject to the 9% tipping and donations fee. Project-related funding remains subject to the 5% Project funding fee.

Fees will be disclosed clearly before payment. Users should understand how much goes to the creator, contributor, project, DAO treasury, Foundation, or platform infrastructure. Ozeon will avoid hidden fees, unclear revenue-share structures, or confusing language that makes users believe they are purchasing legal IP rights when they are only purchasing access.

9.11 Optional Fractionalization: IP Tokens

As an advanced feature, Ozeon may support fractionalized IP structures through IP Tokens, or IPTs. IPTs would be fungible ERC-20-style tokens representing defined rights, revenue shares, governance participation, or economic interests linked to a specific IP-NFT or IP asset pool.

Fractionalization may support:

- collaborative ownership;
- multi-contributor attribution;
- shared licensing revenue;
- research funding;
- DAO co-ownership;
- project-based IP development;
- and community-aligned commercialisation.

However, fractionalized IP introduces additional legal and regulatory complexity. IPTs may create securities, investment, revenue-sharing, collective-investment, tax, or consumer-protection issues depending on their design and jurisdiction. Therefore, IPTs should be optional, case-specific, and activated only through legal review and DAO approval.

TABLE 9.5 — IPT USE CASES AND RISKS

IPT USE CASE	POTENTIAL BENEFIT	KEY RISK	REQUIRED SAFEGUARD
Collaborative ownership	Recognises multiple contributors	Ownership disputes	Contributor agreements
Royalty sharing	Distributes licensing revenue	Securities/regulatory risk	Legal review and disclosures
Research funding	Funds early-stage R&D	Expectation of profit	Jurisdictional analysis
DAO co-ownership	Allows collective stewardship	Governance complexity	DAO-approved terms
Project IP pool	Links project outputs to contributors	Rights fragmentation	Clear rights registry

Molecule’s IPT model demonstrates how IP-NFTs can be extended into tokenized IP pools and shared funding structures, but these models require strong legal and compliance design (Molecule, 2023). Ozean therefore treats IPTs as a later-stage mechanism rather than a default feature.

9.12 Open Licensing and Discovery

The Tokenized IP Layer will make regenerative knowledge findable, usable, and shareable. Each tokenized contribution will be indexed within Ozean’s discovery systems and connected to categories, tags, topics, licensing terms, contributor profiles, related projects, learning pathways, Open Calls, bounties, and pro (or premium) access status.

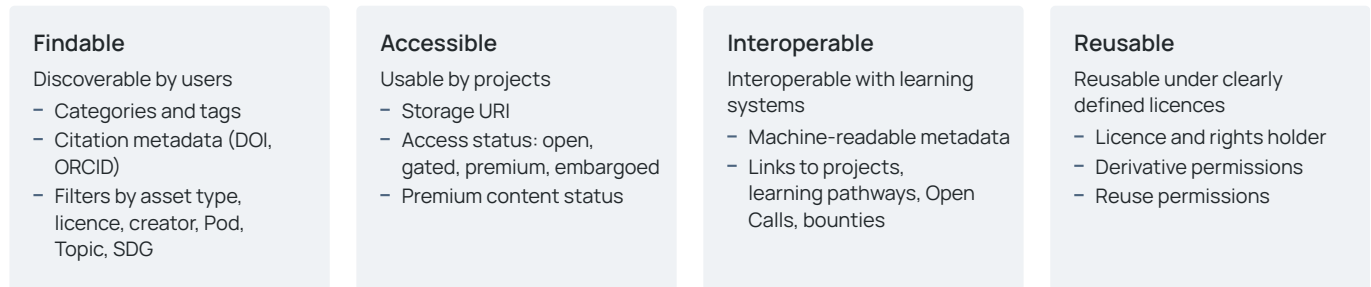
Discovery should support filtering by:

- asset type;
- licence type;
- creator;
- organisation;
- Pod;
- Project;
- Topic;
- Sustainable Development Goal;
- ecosystem;
- geography;
- language;
- access level;

- DAO status;
- Educational Resource status;
- premium content status;
- and reuse permissions.

Open licensing and structured metadata allow Ozeon to support a knowledge economy that is both accessible and rights-aware. The goal is not to make all knowledge unrestricted. The goal is to make rights and reuse conditions explicit, machine-readable, and governable.

FIGURE 9.7 — FAIR DISCOVERY MODEL FOR TOKENIZED KNOWLEDGE



9.13 Indigenous, Local, and Sensitive Knowledge

Not all knowledge should be treated as universally open. Indigenous, local, cultural, ecological, sacred, community-held, or sensitive environmental knowledge may require specific consent and governance structures.

Ozeon will therefore support sensitive-knowledge controls, including:

- restricted minting pathways;
- community consent requirements;
- attribution protocols;
- benefit-sharing terms;
- non-commercial or no-derivative conditions;
- culturally specific access restrictions;
- redaction of sensitive location data;
- ethical review;
- and dispute mechanisms.

This is especially important for biodiversity data, species-location data, community protocols, traditional ecological knowledge, cultural artefacts, and knowledge that could be exploited commercially or environmentally if published without safeguards.

The Tokenized IP Layer will therefore distinguish between open science and extractive openness. Open knowledge must be balanced with consent, stewardship, and justice.

9.14 Integration With Ozeon Modules

The Tokenized IP Layer interoperates with several Ozeon modules.

TABLE 9.6 — IP-NFT INTEGRATION ACROSS OZEON

OZEON MODULE	IP-NFT ROLE
Educational Resources	Stores approved educational and scientific assets
Articles	Links written content to provenance, licensing and optional Educational Resource submission
Media	Links videos, diagrams, podcasts, music, sound works and visuals to creator records
Tutorials	Links structured learning content to creator attribution, premium access and reuse rights
Pro (or Premium) Content	Supports paid access, creator compensation and licensing clarity
Projects	Attaches deliverables, reports, datasets and designs to Project records
Bounties	Provides evidence of completed work and output ownership
Open Calls	Allows opportunity outputs or submissions to be tokenized and tracked
DAO Governance	Approves inclusion, acquisition, disputes, licensing policy and curation status
NFTVault	Holds DAO-acquired IP-NFTs
Foundation Treasury	Funds strategic acquisition or public-good licensing
OCIS	Future linkage to project reports, environmental data and verification outputs

This integration allows tokenized knowledge to move through the ecosystem: from learning to project work, from bounties to validation, from DAO acquisition to public-good access, from premium content to creator income, and from individual contribution to collective stewardship.

9.15 Risk and Control Framework

The Tokenized IP Layer introduces important risks that must be controlled.

TABLE 9.7 — TOKENIZED IP RISK AND CONTROL MATRIX

RISK	DESCRIPTION	CONTROL
False ownership claim	User mints content they do not own	Rights declaration, dispute process, reviewer checks
Copyright confusion	Buyer assumes token ownership grants IP rights	Explicit licensing, rights metadata, legal disclaimers
Plagiarism	Copied content is tokenized	Similarity detection, citation requirements, takedown process
Metadata loss	Token points to inaccessible asset	Persistent storage, content hashes, redundancy
Pro (or premium) access confusion	User believes paid access grants ownership or commercial rights	Clear access terms, licence display and purchase disclosure

RISK	DESCRIPTION	CONTROL
Cultural extraction	Sensitive knowledge is tokenized without consent	Community review, restricted access, ethical safeguards
Licence incompatibility	Asset is reused under conflicting terms	Licence compatibility checks
Speculative misuse	IP-NFTs become purely speculative assets	OER-first design, utility framing, DAO curation
Regulatory risk	IPTs create investment-like rights	Legal review, case-by-case activation
Privacy risk	Datasets include personal or sensitive data	Privacy screening, anonymisation, restricted access
Environmental data risk	Sensitive species/location data is exposed	Redaction, access controls, risk classification
Fee opacity	Users do not understand platform fees or creator revenue	Upfront fee disclosure and transaction receipts
Bounty ownership dispute	Bounty output ownership is unclear	Bounty terms, contributor agreements and IP assignment/licensing rules

These controls are necessary because tokenization can amplify both benefits and harms. Ozeon's IP layer is therefore designed for stewardship, not unrestricted extraction.

9.16 Tokenized IP Summary

Ozeon's Tokenized IP Layer turns knowledge assets into verifiable, attributable, licensable, and community-governed digital objects. IP-NFTs allow creators to preserve attribution, define licensing terms, link knowledge to Projects and Bounties, participate in Educational Resource curation, offer pro or premium content, receive creator compensation, and contribute to a regenerative knowledge commons.

The layer is built around a clear principle:

Tokenization should not enclose knowledge.

It should preserve attribution, clarify rights, enable reuse, support creator compensation, and strengthen public-good stewardship.

By combining IP-NFTs, metadata standards, licensing logic, DAO curation, NFTVault custody, premium content infrastructure, open discovery, platform fee transparency, and ethical safeguards, Ozeon creates infrastructure for a knowledge economy that is open where possible, protected where necessary, and regenerative by design.

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dMRV

Integration

10.1 Overview

Ozeon's Digital Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification integration is designed to strengthen the credibility of regenerative Projects by connecting Project activity to structured evidence, environmental data, reporting workflows, integrity scoring, funding activity, verification records, and blockchain-enabled attestations.

This capability is delivered through the Ozeon Climate Intelligence System, or OCIS, which is being developed as an adjacent but connected intelligence and integrity platform. The core Ozeon platform supports knowledge access, Articles, Educational Resources, Projects, Open Calls, community participation, Project funding, tipping, donations, governance, bounties, pro or premium content and visibility. OCIS provides the deeper integrity, intelligence, assessment, reporting, funding and dMRV-aligned service layer for Projects that meet OCIS eligibility requirements.

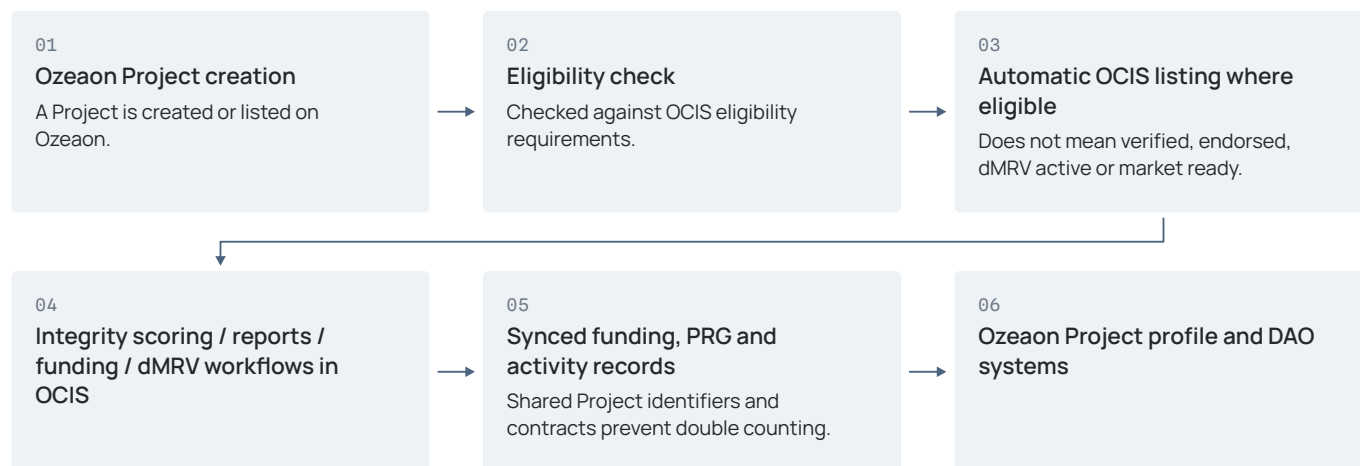
Projects created on Ozeon may be listed automatically on OCIS if they meet the eligibility requirements of the OCIS system. This does not mean that every Ozeon Project is verified, endorsed, dMRV active, or market ready. It means that eligible Projects can become visible inside OCIS so that companies, funders, creators, project teams and other approved users can access them for integrity scoring, Project assessment, dMRV reporting, funding, evidence review, portfolio analysis or related climate-intelligence workflows.

Project creation, publication, discovery, ordinary Project funding, tipping, donations, bounty participation, direct \$OZN-based support and OCIS assessment do not require DAO endorsement. DAO endorsement is a separate governance signal. It may support higher credibility, curated visibility, DAO treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support, blockchain-enabled verification pathways, or higher-assurance dMRV workflows.

OCIS and Ozeon will operate through a shared platform architecture, shared Project identifiers and the same blockchain network and contract system where blockchain functionality is used. This prevents duplicate accounting, duplicate PRG issuance, duplicate funding records, double counting of Project activity, and inconsistent status claims across the two systems.

Ozeon's position is cautious: dMRV can improve evidence quality, but it does not automatically prove ecological impact, issue credits, or replace external verification. Blockchain can make selected records tamper-evident, but environmental claims still require data quality, methodology alignment, scientific interpretation, governance, and, where required, third-party verification.

FIGURE 10.1 — OZEON-OCIS INTEGRATED PROJECT FLOW



10.2 What dMRV Means in the Ozeon Ecosystem

dMRV refers to the digital monitoring, reporting and verification of real-world environmental, climate, ecological or social-impact outcomes. It uses digital tools to collect evidence, analyse Project performance, structure reports, support verification and create auditable records.

In Ozeon and OCIS, dMRV has five main functions:

1. **Monitoring** — collecting evidence about Project activity and environmental conditions.
2. **Reporting** — converting evidence into structured Project reports.
3. **Verification support** — helping reviewers assess whether claims are credible against evidence and methodology.
4. **Attestation** — anchoring selected hashes, timestamps, reports or milestones on-chain where eligible.
5. **Disclosure** — returning appropriate public summaries or evidence records to Ozeon Project pages, OCIS dashboards, funders, companies, creators or DAO processes.

dMRV does not mean that all claims are automatically verified by blockchain. Blockchain can timestamp and anchor records, but it cannot independently prove ecological outcomes. Real verification requires evidence quality, scientific interpretation, methodology alignment, human review and, where relevant, independent third-party verification.

TABLE 10.1 — MONITORING, REPORTING, VERIFICATION, FUNDING AND BLOCKCHAIN ATTESTATION

COMPONENT	FUNCTION	OZEON / OCIS ROLE
Monitoring	Collects evidence about Project activity and environmental conditions	OCIS data ingestion, field data, remote sensing, sensors, Project updates
Reporting	Converts evidence into structured reports	OCIS weekly, monthly, milestone, public-summary and final reports
Integrity scoring	Assesses Project readiness, risks, evidence quality and claim credibility	OCIS Project Integrity Scoring

COMPONENT	FUNCTION	OZEAON / OCIS ROLE
Funding	Allows users, companies, funders or creators to support eligible Projects	Ozeon and OCIS funding records sync through shared contracts
Verification support	Reviews whether claims are credible against evidence and methodology	OCIS-supported review, Pod review, external verification where appropriate
Blockchain attestation	Creates tamper-evident records of selected claims, hashes, reports or milestones	Smart-contract attestations for eligible OCIS-approved pathways
Public disclosure	Communicates selected progress or evidence to users, funders, companies and the DAO	Ozeon Project pages, OCIS dashboards, downloadable reports, public summaries

10.3 Project Access and OCIS Status Labels

Ozeon distinguishes between open platform participation, automatic OCIS listing, OCIS assessment, OCIS funding activity, DAO endorsement, OCIS reporting, blockchain attestation, third-party verification and registry certification. These are related but not equivalent.

A Project does not require DAO endorsement to be listed on Ozeon, to be automatically listed on OCIS where eligible, to receive ordinary Project funding, to receive tips or donations, to participate in bounties, to be assessed in OCIS, or to receive funding through OCIS.

DAO endorsement is a separate governance signal. It may support higher credibility, curated funding, DAO treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support, or blockchain-enabled verification pathways. It should not be treated as the universal gateway to Project funding or OCIS assessment.

OCIS assessment will not be described as formal verification unless a specific verification process has occurred. OCIS can assess, score, report, monitor, package evidence, support funding and support verification readiness. It will not be issuing formal verification, certification, carbon credits, biodiversity credits, nature credits, blue carbon credits, or registry-approved claims unless those claims are reviewed and approved by the relevant external authority.

TABLE 10.2 — PROJECT ACCESS AND OCIS STATUS LABELS

STATUS LABEL	MEANING	WHO SUPPORTS IT	WHAT IT DOES NOT MEAN
Listed Project	Project is listed on Ozeon and can be discovered, updated, funded, tipped, donated to, or supported through bounties	Project team / Ozeon platform	Does not mean DAO endorsed, OCIS assessed, verified, or certified
OCIS Eligible	Project meets minimum criteria to appear in OCIS	OCIS eligibility rules	Does not mean OCIS has assessed or approved the Project
OCIS Listed	Project is visible in OCIS for eligible users to view, assess, score, fund, or generate reports	Ozeon / OCIS system	Does not mean verified, DAO endorsed, dMRV active, or certified
Funding Active	Project can receive ordinary funding, tips, donations, or other user support through Ozeon or OCIS	Users, funders, supporters, companies, creators	Does not require DAO endorsement and does not imply impact verification

STATUS LABEL	MEANING	WHO SUPPORTS IT	WHAT IT DOES NOT MEAN
OCIS Integrity Score Available	A user can run or view an OCIS integrity score for the Project, subject to access permissions	OCIS	Does not mean verified or certified
OCIS Assessed	OCIS has completed an assessment, such as an integrity score, evidence review, risk analysis or preliminary report	OCIS team / system	Does not mean DAO endorsed, third-party verified, registry certified, or credit-generating
OCIS Reporting Active	Project has an active OCIS reporting workflow, such as weekly, monthly, milestone or final reports	OCIS team / Project team	Does not necessarily mean blockchain attestation or external verification
OCIS dMRV Active	Project has an active dMRV-aligned workflow with baseline, monitoring plan, evidence collection, reporting and review	OCIS team, with possible oversight / Project team	Does not mean formal credit issuance or registry certification
DAO Endorsed	Project has passed Ozeon DAO review and receives a governance-based credibility signal	DAO	Does not automatically provide funding, dMRV activation, verification or certification
OCIS Attested	Selected report, milestone or evidence package has been anchored on-chain through a hash, timestamp or attestation record	OCIS + smart contracts	Does not prove ecological impact by itself and does not replace third-party verification
Third-Party Verified	Independent verifier has reviewed the relevant evidence or claim	External verifier	Does not automatically mean registry certification or credit issuance
Registry-Certified	A recognised registry or standards body has certified the claim or issued an approved credit/certificate	Registry / standard body	Applies only where formally issued under the relevant methodology
Market-Ready Evidence Package	Project has evidence organised for possible submission to funders, verifiers, registries, buyers or environmental markets	OCIS / Project team	Does not guarantee acceptance, certification, sale or credit issuance

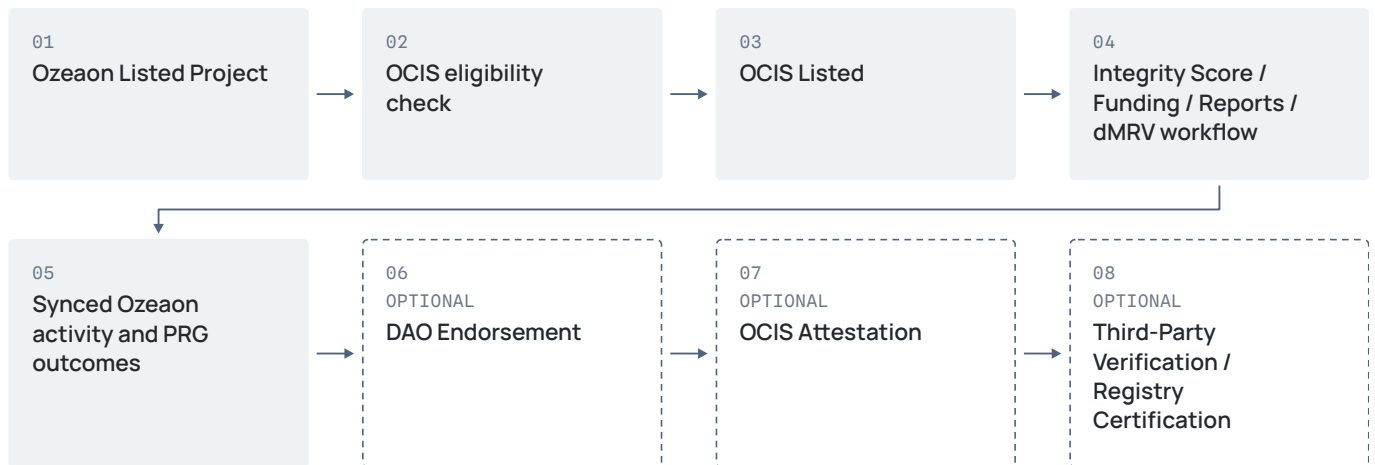
The most important terminology rule is that “OCIS Assessed” should not be called “OCIS Verified.” Assessment means OCIS has reviewed, scored, analysed or structured evidence. Verification means a stronger process has occurred, usually involving defined methodology, reviewer authority, assurance standards or independent third-party review.

A correct platform pathway is therefore:

1. Project is listed on Ozeon.
2. Project is checked against OCIS eligibility requirements.
3. If eligible, Project may be automatically listed on OCIS.
4. Companies, funders, creators or approved users may access the Project in OCIS.
5. Users may run integrity scores, request reports, fund Projects, support dMRV workflows or purchase premium reports where available.
6. OCIS actions synchronise back to Ozeon Project records, funding records and activity histories.
7. Funding and eligible platform activity generate PRG outcomes according to the same platform rules as ordinary Ozeon activity.

8. DAO endorsement remains optional and provides an additional governance credibility signal.
9. Higher-assurance dMRV, blockchain attestation and external verification pathways require additional review.

FIGURE 10.2 — OZEAON-OCIS PROJECT STATUS PATHWAY



10.4 Why OCIS Is Separated but Synchronized

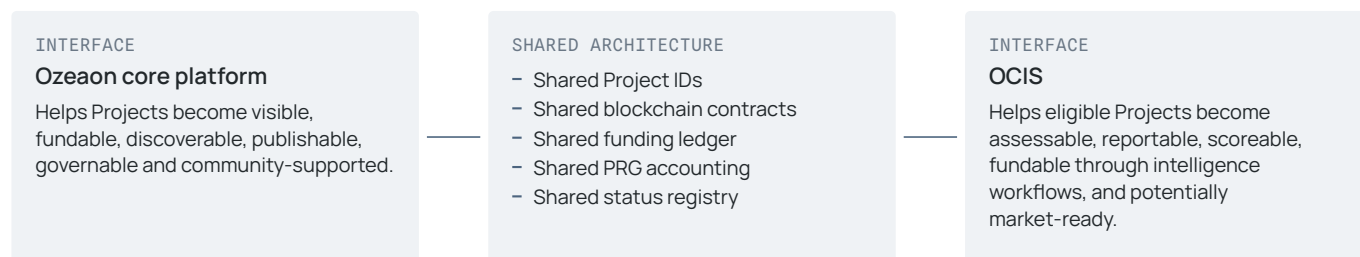
OCIS is architecturally separate from the core Ozean platform because integrity scoring, dMRV reporting, environmental data workflows and company-facing assessment tools require specialised infrastructure. However, OCIS does not function as an isolated system. It remains synchronised with Ozean through shared Project identifiers, shared user or organisation references, shared blockchain contracts, shared funding records and shared contribution logic.

This separation-with-synchronisation supports:

- specialised climate-intelligence and integrity tooling;
- automated OCIS listing for eligible Projects;
- Project discovery by companies, funders and creators;
- funding through either Ozean or OCIS without duplicate records;
- shared PRG outcomes for eligible activity;
- shared \$OZN utility and payment flows;
- consistent Project status labels;
- prevention of double counting;
- prevention of duplicate PRG issuance;
- prevention of duplicate funding claims;
- and clearer regulatory positioning.

The core platform helps Projects become visible, fundable, discoverable, publishable, governable and community-supported. OCIS helps eligible Projects become assessable, reportable, scoreable, fundable through intelligence workflows, and potentially market-ready.

FIGURE 10.3 — CORE PLATFORM AND OCIS SYNCHRONISATION



10.5 dMRV Data Sources and Technologies

OCIS integrates multiple technical inputs depending on Project type, ecosystem, methodology, geography and reporting need.

Some dMRV inputs include:

10.5.1 Remote Sensing and Satellite Data

Remote sensing may support monitoring of land cover, vegetation, coastline change, algal bloom conditions, reforestation progress, wetland extent, surface water, fire risk, soil moisture proxies, land-use change and other geospatial variables.

10.5.2 GIS and Spatial Analysis

GIS workflows can map Project boundaries, baselines, buffer zones, marine areas, ecological corridors, land-use changes, restoration plots and risk zones. Spatial records are important for preventing double counting and establishing Project-specific claims.

10.5.3 IoT Sensors and Field Devices

IoT sensors may collect environmental data such as temperature, salinity, pH, water quality, air quality, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, soil moisture or other site-specific indicators. Sensor data requires calibration, maintenance, quality control, tamper-resistance and responsible data management.

10.5.4 Field Evidence and Citizen Science

Projects may submit photos, videos, field notes, survey forms, biodiversity observations, water samples, soil tests, community reports, geotagged media, interviews or local monitoring records.

10.5.5 Machine Learning and Data Analytics

Machine learning may support pattern detection, anomaly identification, ocean- and land-cover classification, trend analysis, risk scoring, report generation or evidence review. AI outputs must remain explainable, auditable and subject to human or expert oversight.

10.5.6 Third-Party Verification and Methodology Review

External verification providers, scientific partners, auditors or standards-aligned reviewers may assess whether a Project's claims are credible. dMRV should not replace third-party verification where formal certification is required.

10.5.7 Blockchain Attestations

Blockchain records can store hashes, timestamps, milestone attestations, report references, verification events and contributor records. Raw environmental datasets should usually remain off-chain because of file size, privacy, cost and update requirements.

10.6 OCIS Workflow

The OCIS workflow should follow a staged process.

10.6.1 Ozeon Project Creation and OCIS Eligibility Check

A Project is first created or listed on Ozeon. The system then checks whether the Project meets OCIS eligibility requirements. Eligibility may depend on category, location data, Project type, evidence needs, funding status, reporting suitability, environmental relevance, public visibility, consent, and minimum metadata completeness.

If the Project meets OCIS eligibility requirements, it can be automatically listed in OCIS.

10.6.2 OCIS Listing and Access

Once listed in OCIS, the Project may be accessed by users, including companies, funders, creators, Project teams, reviewers, institutions, or ecosystem participants. Depending on permissions and service level, these users may:

- run Project Integrity Scores;
- request dMRV reports;
- view evidence summaries;
- fund the Project;
- support bounties;
- purchase premium reports or evidence packs;
- compare Projects across a portfolio;
- assess Project risk;
- or prepare market-readiness workflows.

10.6.3 Integrity Scoring and Assessment

OCIS may generate a Project Integrity Score or assessment based on available Project data, evidence quality, location specificity, methodology fit, reporting readiness, risk factors, claimed outcomes, funding history, Project updates and other relevant indicators.

An OCIS Integrity Score is an assessment tool, not a certification. It acts as decision support for users, funders, companies and Project teams.

10.6.4 Funding Through OCIS

Projects listed in OCIS may receive funding through OCIS where funding functionality is enabled. Funding through OCIS communicates with Ozeon's Project funding records and use the same blockchain network and contracts where blockchain functionality is used.

This prevents:

- duplicate Project funding records;
- double counting of support;
- duplicate PRG rewards;
- inconsistent donor or funder histories;
- duplicate Project contribution records;
- and conflicting treasury or reporting data.

Project funding through OCIS produces the same platform activity consequences as equivalent Project funding through Ozeon, including applicable transaction fees, PRG recognition where eligible, Project activity records, funding history updates and treasury records.

10.6.5 Baseline and Monitoring Plan

Where a Project enters a dMRV or reporting workflow, the Project team submits or confirms baseline information. This may include Project location, boundaries, baseline environmental conditions, objectives, target metrics, implementation plan, expected outcomes, timeline, stakeholders, risks, data limitations, consent conditions and evidence sources.

OCIS may then develop or validate a monitoring plan defining what will be measured, how often data will be collected, which tools will be used, who is responsible for reporting, what quality controls apply, how evidence will be stored, what data is public or restricted, and what triggers milestone review.

10.6.6 Data Collection, Reporting and Review

Data may be collected through APIs, Project uploads, field forms, Earth Observation sources, remote sensing, sensor feeds, third-party datasets, verified partner inputs or community reporting. OCIS ingests the data and applies validation, formatting, quality-control checks, anomaly detection, metadata tagging and evidence classification.

OCIS may generate weekly progress reports, monthly dMRV reports, milestone reports, anomaly reports, end-of-project reports, public summary reports, funder reports, company reports and market-readiness evidence packages.

10.6.7 Blockchain Attestation

Once a report or milestone is validated and approved for blockchain-enabled recording, selected metadata may be anchored on-chain. This may include report hashes, Project identifiers, milestone identifiers, timestamps, verifier records, evidence package hashes, report URIs, claim categories, disclosure levels, assessment, attestation and verification status.

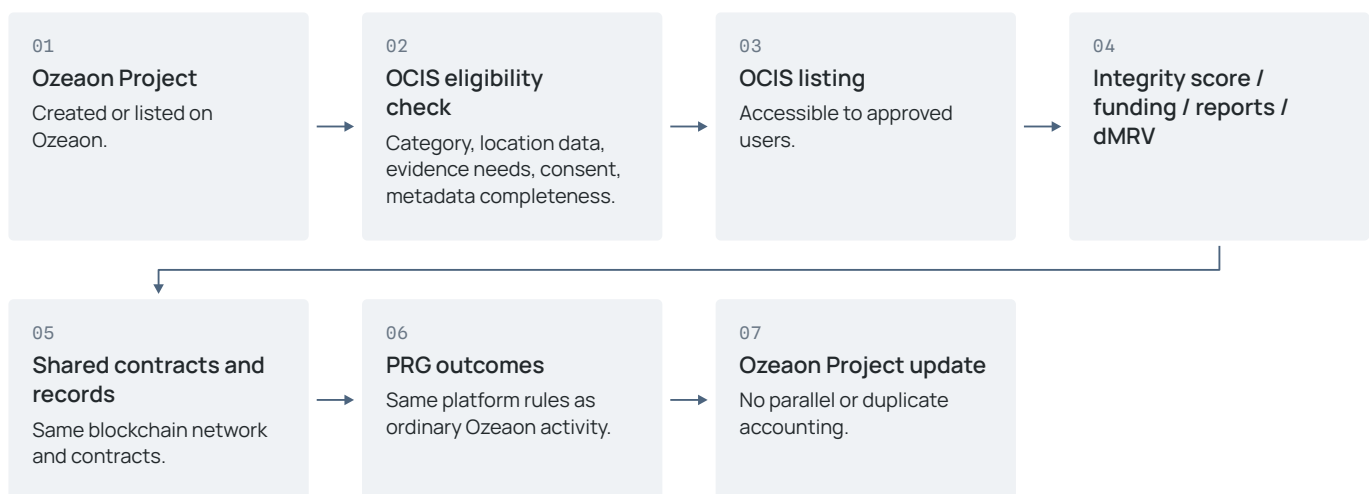
10.6.8 Feedback to Ozeon

OCIS actions feed back into Ozeon. These may include:

- Project funding records;
- tipping or donation records;
- bounty activity;
- pro or premium report purchases;
- integrity score status;
- reporting status;
- PRG-recognised activity;
- Project updates;
- public evidence summaries;
- on-chain attestations;
- and DAO-relevant evidence.

This allows OCIS activity to strengthen the Ozeon Project record without creating parallel or duplicate accounting systems.

FIGURE 10.4 — OCIS WORKFLOW



10.7 Shared Blockchain Architecture and No Double Counting

Ozeon and OCIS should use the same blockchain network and contract architecture for Project funding, PRG recognition, bounty records, pro or premium content access, attestations and relevant activity records. The purpose is to ensure that platform activity is counted once and recognised consistently across both interfaces.

The shared architecture should include:

1. Shared Project identifiers connecting Ozeon Project records to OCIS records.
2. Shared funding contracts so Project funding through Ozeon and OCIS updates the same funding ledger.
3. Shared PRG accounting so eligible activity generates PRG once, not separately in each interface.
4. Shared bounty records so bounty work connected to OCIS evidence is not duplicated.
5. Shared attestation records for report hashes, milestone hashes and evidence-package hashes.
6. Shared status registry for Listed, OCIS Listed, OCIS Assessed, DAO Endorsed, Reporting Active, dMRV Active, OCIS Attested, Third-Party Verified and Registry-Certified statuses.
7. Shared fee logic for Project funding, tipping and donations, bounties and pro or premium content.
8. Shared audit trails so funders, companies, creators, contributors and DAO participants can understand what happened and when.

This architecture prevents double counting of Project funding, environmental claims, PRG rewards, bounties, user activity, funding history, treasury records and evidence attestations.

TABLE 10.4 — SHARED OZEON-OCIS CONTRACT LOGIC

SHARED FUNCTION	PURPOSE	DOUBLE-COUNTING RISK AVOIDED
Project ID	Links the same Project across Ozeon and OCIS	Duplicate Project records
Funding ledger	Records funding from Ozeon and OCIS in one place	Duplicate funding totals
PRG accounting	Issues PRG for eligible activity once	Duplicate PRG rewards
Bounty registry	Tracks bounty activity and payouts	Duplicate bounty claims
Fee logic	Applies correct platform fees across both systems	Fee inconsistency
Status registry	Maintains consistent public labels	Conflicting Project status
Attestation registry	Stores hashes and evidence references	Duplicate or contradictory attestations
Activity history	Records user, funder and contributor actions	Fragmented contribution records

10.8 Milestone Assurance Levels

For eligible Projects using OCIS, dMRV can support milestone validation. Milestones may be linked to Project funding, bounty payouts, PRG recognition, company reporting, public updates or market-readiness preparation.

Milestone validation must be proportional to the claim. A public update may require lighter evidence. A funding release may require stronger evidence. A blockchain-attested milestone requires stronger review. A market-facing environmental claim may require methodology-aligned verification and third-party review.

TABLE 10.5 — MILESTONE ASSURANCE LEVELS

ASSURANCE LEVEL	SUITABLE FOR	EVIDENCE REQUIRED	VERIFICATION PATHWAY
Level 1 — Platform update	General Project progress	Narrative update, media, basic metadata	Project team + community visibility
Level 2 — OCIS Assessed milestone	Internal review, funder confidence, preliminary reporting	Evidence package, timeline, Project data	OCIS review
Level 3 — DAO Endorsed milestone	Curated funding, PRG recognition, DAO decision support	Evidence package, Project data, review notes	Pod or DAO review
Level 4 — OCIS dMRV Active milestone	dMRV-linked reporting and blockchain attestation	Baseline, monitoring data, report, evidence hash	OCIS review + blockchain attestation
Level 5 — Market-ready evidence	Carbon, biodiversity, blue carbon, nature-finance readiness	Methodology-aligned data, external review, documentation	OCIS + third-party verifier / registry pathway

10.9 Reports, Premium Access and Public Dashboards

OCIS may generate multiple reporting outputs. Not all reports need to be public. Reports should be classified by audience, sensitivity, service level and claim type.

TABLE 10.6 — OCIS REPORT TYPES

REPORT TYPE	FREQUENCY	AUDIENCE	PURPOSE
Integrity score	On request or periodically	Project team, companies, funders, creators, general users and public	Project risk and readiness assessment
Weekly progress report	Weekly	Project team, funders, optional public summary	Operational tracking
Monthly dMRV report	Monthly	Project team, funders, DAO, public summary where appropriate	Structured monitoring and reporting
Milestone report	Event-based	DAO, funders, reviewers	Funding or PRG decision support
Anomaly report	Event-based	Project team, OCIS reviewers	Identify unusual patterns or data gaps
End-of-project report	Project close	Public, funders, DAO, institutions, optional public summary and general users	Final outcome documentation
Market-readiness package	As needed	Project team, verifier, registry, funder	Evidence preparation for external standards

REPORT TYPE	FREQUENCY	AUDIENCE	PURPOSE
Pro or premium report or data product	As needed	Approved purchasers, funders, companies, institutions	Paid access to enhanced reporting, analysis or Project intelligence

Pro or premium reports, enhanced dashboards, company portfolio summaries, downloadable evidence packs or advanced OCIS outputs may be treated as pro or premium content or platform services where legally appropriate. Under Ozeon's current fee model, Pro or premium Content carries a 9% platform fee.

Public dashboards may aggregate Project progress by region, ecosystem, SDG, Project type, biome, funding source, Project status, verification status, impact category and reporting level.

Public dashboards should avoid exposing sensitive location data, personal data, culturally sensitive knowledge, commercially confidential information or information that could create ecological harm.

10.10 Standards and Interoperability

OCIS is designed to interoperate with recognised standards, registries and integrity frameworks where appropriate. However, Ozeon avoids claiming automatic compliance, certification, credit issuance or registry approval unless formally achieved.

Relevant alignment targets may include:

- Verra;
- Gold Standard;
- ICVCM Core Carbon Principles;
- EU MRV principles;
- ISO 14064-aligned greenhouse gas accounting;
- IPCC guidance where applicable;
- Regen Network;
- Open Forest Protocol;
- GainForest;
- Toucan Protocol;
- decentralized oracle networks;
- and future biodiversity, nature-credit and blue-carbon frameworks.

For Ozeon, these frameworks are reference points. OCIS may prepare evidence and reporting packages that are easier to align with external standards, but external certification remains subject to the rules of the relevant registry, methodology, validation/verification body or regulator.

TABLE 10.7 — EXTERNAL STANDARDS AND OCIS ALIGNMENT

FRAMEWORK	RELEVANCE	OCIS USE	LIMITATION
Verra; Gold Standard; ICVCM Core Carbon Principles; EU MRV principles; ISO 14064-aligned greenhouse gas accounting; IPCC guidance where applicable; Regen Network; Open Forest Protocol; GainForest; Toucan Protocol; decentralized oracle networks; future biodiversity, nature-credit and blue-carbon frameworks	Reference points and alignment targets for interoperability with recognised standards, registries and integrity frameworks	Prepare evidence and reporting packages that are easier to align with external standards	External certification remains subject to the relevant registry, methodology, validation/verification body or regulator; no claim of automatic compliance, certification, credit issuance or registry approval

10.11 Governance, Roles, Fees and Token Links

dMRV governance requires clear role separation.

The DAO may endorse Projects, approve DAO-linked dMRV policies, approve dMRV-related funding where DAO treasury funds are used, review public reports, govern eligible Project categories, approve strategic dMRV partnerships and use OCIS reports in funding or governance decisions.

The DAO is not required for ordinary Project funding, Project listing, direct user support, tipping, donations, automatic OCIS listing, OCIS funding, OCIS integrity scoring or preliminary OCIS assessment.

Relevant Pods may review Project evidence, support milestone validation, evaluate domain-specific claims, recommend monitoring metrics, assess Open Calls linked to dMRV, review disputed reports and support bounty validation where dMRV evidence is involved.

The Ozean Foundation and the AI Centre of Excellence (AI CoE) may provide ethical oversight, support scientific advisory review, vet institutional partnerships, review high-risk environmental claims, support compliance and legal review, review sensitive data risks and ensure that dMRV claims do not become misleading or extractive.

The OCIS team or operating entity may perform Project intake, run eligibility checks, manage automatic OCIS listing, conduct preliminary assessment, generate integrity scores, develop monitoring plans, ingest data, generate reports, prepare evidence packages, coordinate technical review, process OCIS-based funding activity and support blockchain-enabled attestations where required or approved.

Relationship to PRG, \$OZN, Funding, Bounties and Fees

OCIS actions can generate Ozean activity outcomes where they correspond to recognised platform actions. These outcomes should use the same contracts, ledgers and accounting logic as equivalent actions on Ozean.

Examples include:

- Project funding through OCIS generating Project funding records and eligible PRG recognition;

- bounty payments through OCIS generating bounty records and eligible PRG recognition;
- pro or premium OCIS reports generating premium content activity records;
- Project evidence contributions generating contribution history;
- OCIS-linked reviews generating review records where approved;
- on-chain attestations generating tamper-evident evidence records;
- and dMRV-related activity informing DAO or Pod review where relevant.

\$OZN may be used to pay for OCIS services, fund Project milestones, pay bounties, purchase pro or premium reports, support verification workflows or compensate contributors for evidence-related work.

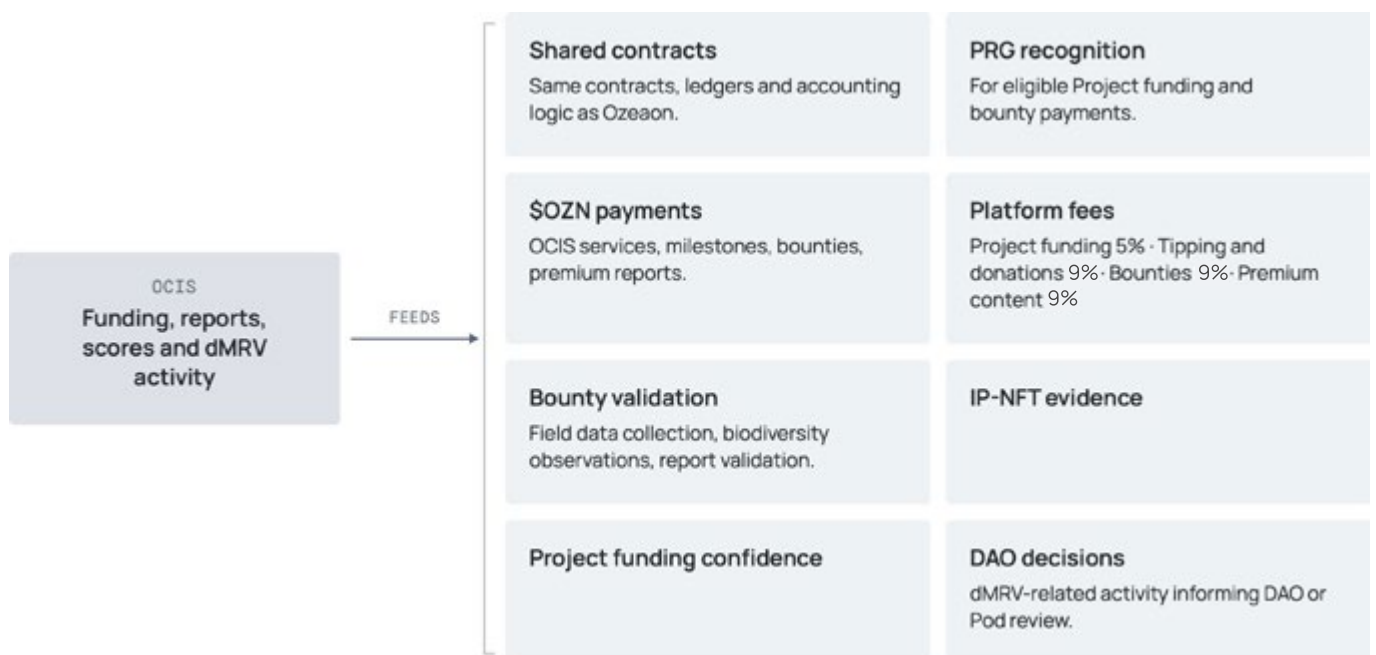
The following platform fees apply where relevant:

ACTIVITY	PLATFORM FEE
Project funding	5%
Tipping and donations	9%
Bounties	9%
Pro or Premium content	9%

These fees may apply to OCIS-linked activity depending on the transaction type. Project funding through OCIS carries the Project funding fee. Tips, support or donations to a Project or contributor carry the tipping and donations fee. Bounty payments for field data collection, biodiversity observations or report validation carry the Bounty fee. Pro or premium OCIS reports, enhanced evidence packs, dashboards, pro or premium educational content carry the Pro or Premium Content fee.

Fees will be disclosed before payment. Users should understand what portion supports the Project, contributor, bounty worker, creator, platform, Foundation or service infrastructure.

FIGURE 10.5 — OCIS LINKS TO TOKEN AND WORK LAYERS



10.12 Market-Readiness and Environmental Claims Integrity

OCIS may help eligible Projects prepare for carbon, biodiversity, nature, blue carbon or broader environmental finance pathways.

OCIS can support:

- integrity scoring;
- evidence packaging;
- baseline definition;
- monitoring plan development;
- methodology mapping;
- earth observation;
- report generation;
- Project risk analysis;
- data quality checks;
- claim traceability;
- verifier preparation;
- and market-readiness assessment.

OCIS does not claim to issue carbon credits, biodiversity credits, nature credits, blue carbon credits or environmental certificates unless it becomes formally authorised to do so or works through an approved registry and methodology.

Ozeon should distinguish between:

- platform visibility;
- automatic OCIS listing;
- ordinary Project funding;
- OCIS integrity scoring;
- OCIS assessment;
- DAO endorsement;
- OCIS dMRV reporting;
- blockchain attestation;
- third-party verification;
- registry certification;
- and market-issued environmental credits.

These are related but not equivalent.

TABLE 10.8 — IMPACT CLAIM INTEGRITY LEVELS

CLAIM LEVEL	MEANING	WHO SUPPORTS IT
Platform visibility	Project is listed and visible on Ozeon	Project team / platform

CLAIM LEVEL	MEANING	WHO SUPPORTS IT
OCIS Listed	Project is eligible and visible in OCIS	Ozeon / OCIS system
Ordinary funding claim	Project can receive ordinary user support, funding, tips or donations	Users, funders, supporters
OCIS integrity score	Project has received an OCIS risk, readiness or integrity score	OCIS
OCIS assessed claim	Project has been assessed or reviewed through OCIS	OCIS
DAO Endorsed claim	Project reviewed and endorsed by Ozeon governance	DAO
OCIS Reported claim	Project has structured evidence and OCIS reporting	OCIS
OCIS Attested claim	Report or milestone has blockchain-attested evidence hash	OCIS + smart contracts
Third-party verified claim	External verifier has reviewed evidence	Independent verifier
Registry-certified claim	Credit or certificate issued under approved methodology	Registry / standard body

10.13 Risk and Control Framework

dMRV systems can improve integrity, but they also create risks. Poor data, weak methodology, misleading dashboards, overreliance on AI, sensitive data exposure, unclear claim categories, duplicate accounting or false environmental claims can damage trust.

TABLE 10.9 — DMRV RISK AND CONTROL MATRIX

RISK	DESCRIPTION	CONTROL
False impact claims	Project overstates outcomes	Baseline review, evidence standards, verifier review
Data manipulation	Submitted evidence is altered or selectively reported	Content hashes, audit trails, anomaly detection
Sensor error	IoT devices produce inaccurate data	Calibration, maintenance logs, redundancy
Remote-sensing uncertainty	Satellite data misclassifies ecological change	Ground truthing, confidence intervals, expert review
Double counting	Same outcome, funding activity or contribution is counted multiple times	Shared Project IDs, shared contracts, shared funding ledger, claim identifiers
Duplicate PRG issuance	Ozeon and OCIS both reward the same action separately	Shared PRG accounting and replay protection
Duplicate funding records	Funding through OCIS and Ozeon is recorded inconsistently	Shared funding contracts and transaction ledger
Sensitive data exposure	Species, community, cultural or personal data is exposed	Redaction, access controls, privacy review
AI overreach	Models produce false confidence	Human review, explainability, quality assurance
Oracle compromise	Data feed or attester is manipulated	Multi-source validation, role separation, monitoring

RISK	DESCRIPTION	CONTROL
Greenwashing	Reports are used for misleading marketing	Claim taxonomy, disclosure rules, Foundation review
Regulatory misclassification	Reports are treated as certified credits without approval	Legal review, registry distinction, careful language
DAO endorsement confusion	Users assume endorsement means formal verification	Clear claim levels and disclosure
OCIS assessment confusion	Users assume preliminary assessment equals verified impact	Status labels and report disclaimers
Fee opacity	Users do not understand platform fees on funding, bounties or reports	Upfront fee disclosure and transaction receipts

10.14 Strategic Importance and Summary

dMRV is strategically important because it moves Ozeon beyond visibility and participation into evidence-based accountability. OCIS extends this by allowing eligible Ozeon Projects to become accessible for companies, funders, creators and Project teams who need integrity scoring, reports, funding pathways, portfolio insight and dMRV-aligned workflows.

OCIS supports Ozeon by:

- making eligible Ozeon Projects accessible inside OCIS automatically;
- allowing companies, funders and creators to run Project Integrity Scores;
- enabling OCIS-based funding that synchronises with Ozeon;
- improving Project integrity;
- increasing funder confidence;
- strengthening DAO decision-making;
- supporting milestone-based accountability;
- enabling higher-quality Project reporting;
- creating premium service opportunities;
- supporting contributor and bounty workflows;
- preparing eligible Projects for environmental market pathways;
- improving company and institutional reporting;
- and differentiating Ozeon from platforms that only provide visibility or crowdfunding.

The model can be summarised as follows:

Ozeon lists and supports Projects.

Eligible Projects are automatically listed in OCIS.

Companies, funders, creators and approved users can access eligible Projects in OCIS.

OCIS users can run integrity scores, company ecological footprint and mitigation strategies, request reports, fund Projects, support bounties, purchase pro (or premium) reports or initiate dMRV workflows where available.

OCIS actions communicate back to Ozeon.

Funding and eligible activity generate ordinary Ozeon platform outcomes, including PRG recognition where applicable.

The same blockchain network and contracts are used to prevent double counting, duplicate funding records, duplicate PRG issuance and inconsistent Project claims.

DAO endorsement remains optional and provides a higher-trust governance signal.

Higher-assurance dMRV, blockchain attestation and external verification pathways require additional review.

Advanced Projects may move toward external verification or market-readiness pathways.

This architecture gives Ozeon a credible pathway from participation to accountability. The core platform builds the ecosystem. OCIS adds the intelligence, integrity, reporting, funding analysis, verification support and market-readiness layer.

References:

1. European Commission. (n.d.). *Monitoring, reporting and verification under the EU Emissions Trading System*.
2. Gold Standard. (2024). *Digital Measurement, Reporting and Verification pilot programme*.
3. Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market. (n.d.). *The Core Carbon Principles*.
4. Verra. (2022). *Digital MRV Working Group: Invitation to apply*.
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6. World Bank. (2022). *What you need to know about the measurement, reporting and verification of carbon credits*.
7. World Bank. (2022). *Digital monitoring, reporting, and verification systems and their application in future carbon markets*.

Platform Use Cases

11.1 Overview

Ozeon is designed as a modular platform for regenerative innovation, open science, education, project visibility, opportunity discovery, funding coordination, decentralized work, creator participation, contribution-based governance, and climate-intelligence integration. Its use cases span ocean regeneration, land-based ecological restoration, open education, decentralized science, social empowerment, institutional collaboration, regenerative entrepreneurship, public storytelling, art, design and media production, applied learning, and OCIS-enabled project integrity infrastructure.

The platform's core use-case logic is based on a simple sequence:

- knowledge becomes discoverable;
- resources and articles make knowledge accessible;
- tutorials turn knowledge into practice;
- projects become visible;
- eligible projects become accessible through OCIS;
- opportunities become actionable;
- contributions become recognised;
- funding becomes more transparent;
- governance becomes contribution-weighted;
- and selected project activity can move into deeper integrity scoring, dMRV reporting, funding, attestation, and market-readiness workflows.

Ozeon is not designed as a single-function platform. It connects multiple participation layers:

- Educational Resources for structured regenerative knowledge, open learning pathways, and curated knowledge access;
- Articles for research summaries, analysis, field reports, project logs, intellectual property disclosures, policy commentary, and educational writing;
- Media for videos, podcasts, visualisations, diagrams, animations, field recordings, interviews, documentaries, image-based knowledge, and multi-media storytelling;
- Tutorials for practical instruction, skill-building, how-to guides, training materials, regenerative methods, applied learning, and step-by-step implementation;
- Projects for real-world initiatives, regenerative implementation, funding, collaboration, and public progress updates;
- Open Calls for grants, challenges, collaborations, fellowships, research opportunities, fieldwork requests, internships, competitions, and ecosystem invitations;
- Organisations for institutional, collective, NGO, DAO, university, company, and partner participation;
- Innovation Network for discovery, profiles, community activity, relationship-building, and ecosystem coordination;

- Pods for specialised working groups, domain review, curation, governance, and collaborative stewardship;
- Bounties for decentralized work, citizen science, task-based contribution, peer review, translation, design support, and field validation;
- DAO governance for curation, endorsement, funding decisions, treasury activity, platform evolution, and protocol stewardship;
- Progress / PRG for non-transferable contribution recognition, reputation, governance eligibility, and Proof-of-Progress participation;
- \$OZN for platform utility, payments, bounties, funding, tipping, premium access, and selected ecosystem services;
- IP-NFTs for tokenized attribution, provenance, licensing, reusable knowledge, and digital stewardship;
- and OCIS, the connected climate-intelligence, project-integrity, funding, scoring, reporting, and dMRV layer for eligible Projects.

Eligible Projects created on Ozeon may be automatically listed in OCIS where they satisfy OCIS eligibility requirements. Once listed, they can be accessed by companies, funders, creators, project teams and approved users to run Project Integrity Scores, request dMRV reports, support funding, purchase pro or premium reports, review evidence, or initiate deeper climate-intelligence workflows. OCIS actions communicate back to Ozeon so that funding, bounties, PRG recognition, Project activity, reporting status and on-chain attestations remain part of a shared platform record.

Ozeon and OCIS use the same blockchain network and contract architecture where blockchain functionality is used. This creates a single source of truth for Project identifiers, funding records, PRG outcomes, bounty records, fees, premium content activity, evidence attestations and status labels. The purpose is to prevent duplicate accounting, duplicate PRG issuance, duplicate Project funding records, inconsistent claims, and double counting of activity across the two systems.

The following use cases demonstrate how different actors can participate in Ozeon and how the platform connects education, media, applied learning, funding, collaboration, governance, project integrity and verification support into one regenerative ecosystem.

FIGURE 11.1 — OZEON USE-CASE ECOSYSTEM



11.2 Ocean-Based Regeneration and Blue Innovation

Ozeon's ocean use case is foundational to its mission. Ozeon is endorsed as a UN Ocean Decade Project, Action 10.7, under the Early Career Ocean Professionals Programme. The endorsement strengthens the project's positioning as infrastructure that can connect ocean knowledge, education, participation, and practical action. Ozeon's strategic alignment is particularly relevant to Ocean Decade priorities around sustainable ocean economies, community resilience, skills and knowledge access, and changing humanity's relationship with the ocean.

Ozeon can support ocean-based regeneration by helping marine researchers, coastal communities, early-career ocean professionals, educators, media creators, funders, citizen scientists, companies, and innovation teams connect through one shared digital environment.

11.2.1 Use-Case Activities

Ocean-focused users may use Ozeon to:

- publish marine science Articles, research summaries, educational explainers, field reports, and policy analyses;
- create Educational Resources on ocean literacy, marine biodiversity, blue carbon, aquaculture, coastal resilience, marine biotechnology, ocean governance, and climate adaptation;
- publish Media such as ocean documentaries, field recordings, maps, interviews, visualisations, animations, podcasts, and explanatory diagrams;
- create Tutorials on reef monitoring, water sampling, coastal restoration, seaweed cultivation, citizen-science observation, marine data collection, or ocean literacy education;
- launch Projects focused on marine restoration, coastal monitoring, regenerative aquaculture, citizen science, ocean education, blue innovation, or marine conservation;
- have eligible Projects automatically listed in OCIS for integrity scoring, funder review, company access, reports, or dMRV-related workflows;
- respond to Open Calls for marine research, fieldwork, funding, fellowships, innovation challenges, grants, or institutional collaborations;
- post Bounties for research summaries, data collection, translation, monitoring tasks, field observations, visualisation, educational media, or scientific review;
- tokenize marine protocols, datasets, reports, visualisations, tutorial methods, media assets, or restoration methods as IP-NFTs;
- use DAO governance to endorse credible Projects, Open Calls, Educational Resources, Media, Tutorials, and strategic ecosystem initiatives;
- and use OCIS, where eligible, to support Project Integrity Scores, reports, dMRV workflows, funding confidence, and market-readiness preparation.

11.2.2 Example Use Cases

Coastal Restoration Project. A coastal community launches a Project to restore a degraded wetland. The Project page describes goals, location, milestones, partners, funding needs, and evidence requirements. Supporters fund the Project in fiat or \$OZN. If the Project meets OCIS eligibility requirements, it is automatically listed in OCIS, where funders, companies or creators can run an integrity score, request reports, support funding, or initiate deeper evidence workflows.

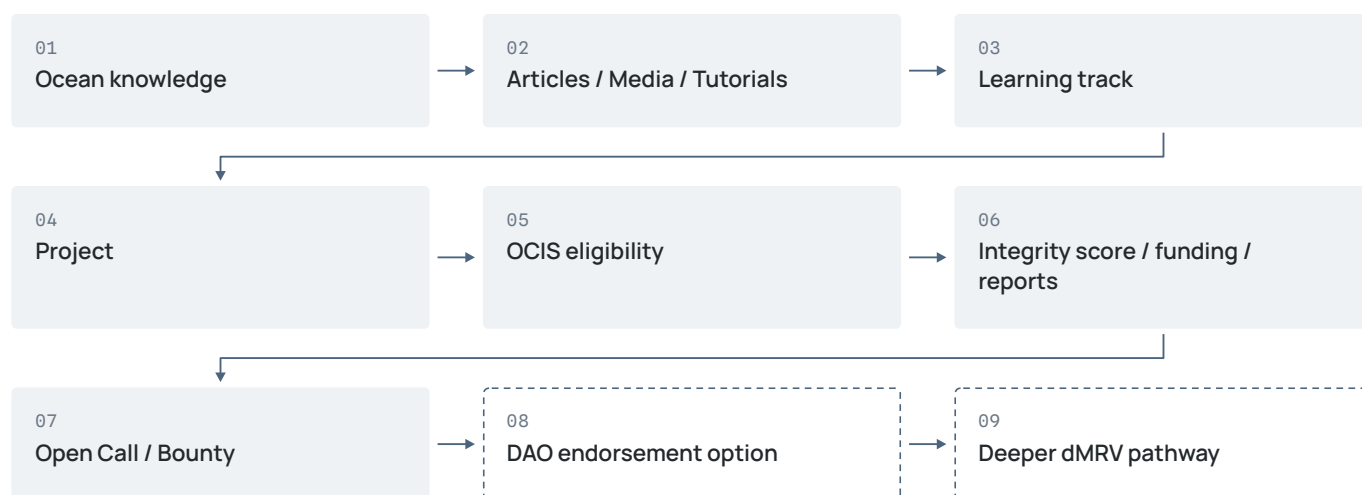
Blue Carbon Knowledge Track. Marine researchers and educators publish Articles, Media, and Tutorials explaining blue carbon science. The content is reviewed through DAO or Pod processes and becomes part of an ocean learning track. Learners complete quizzes and earn PRG.

Citizen Science Bounty. A Pod creates a bounty asking divers, students, fishers, and coastal communities to submit geotagged observations of marine biodiversity or pollution. Contributors receive \$OZN payments and PRG recognition when submissions are accepted.

Ocean Media and Storytelling Campaign. A filmmaker, marine scientist, and coastal youth group collaborate on a short video series explaining ocean acidification, coral bleaching, and community-led restoration. The Media is published on Ozeon, linked to Educational Resources, and used in Learn2Earn pathways.

OCIS-Linked Marine Evidence Workflow. An eligible mangrove restoration Project appears in OCIS. A company runs a Project Integrity Score, funds a milestone, and later purchases an OCIS report. The funding and activity records synchronise back to Ozeon and generate eligible PRG outcomes through the shared platform contracts.

FIGURE 11.2 — OCEAN REGENERATION USE-CASE FLOW



11.3 Land-Based Regeneration, Food Systems, and Bioregional Innovation

Ozeon also supports land-based regenerative practices across agriculture, food systems, bioregional design, soil health, biodiversity, agroecology, biomaterials, circular economy, community resilience, and land restoration. This use case is

important because climate, ocean, land, and food systems are interconnected. Regeneration cannot be treated only as a marine issue or a carbon issue.

Land-based practitioners may include farmers, agroecologists, permaculture designers, Indigenous and local knowledge holders, soil scientists, biomaterial designers, circular economy innovators, community organisations, educators, media creators, project builders, funders, companies and institutions.

11.3.1 Use-Case Activities

Land-based users may use Ozean to:

- publish Articles on soil regeneration, agroecology, composting, biodiversity, local food systems, seed sovereignty, circular design, and bioregional resilience;
- create Educational Resources on land stewardship, regenerative agriculture, food justice, ecological design, biomaterials, and community resilience;
- publish Media such as field videos, maps, farm interviews, diagrams, infographics, restoration footage, and visual explainers;
- create Tutorials on composting, food forests, biofertilisers, natural pest management, water retention, seed saving, soil testing, biomaterial fabrication, and low-carbon construction;
- launch Projects for rewilding, agroforestry, regenerative agriculture, urban greening, food justice, soil carbon, circular materials, or local resilience;
- have eligible Projects automatically listed in OCIS for assessment, reports, Project Integrity Scores, funder review, or company portfolio analysis;
- create Open Calls for local collaborators, field sites, research partners, funders, educators, or volunteers;
- tokenize regenerative methods, biomaterial recipes, open hardware, farming tools, diagrams, or low-carbon construction techniques as IP-NFTs;
- post Bounties for field data collection, translation, design documentation, testing, prototype feedback, visualisation, or ecological monitoring;
- and connect eligible Projects to OCIS project integrity, reporting, funding and dMRV support where appropriate.

11.3.2 Example Use Cases

Regenerative Farm Project. A farmer or cooperative publishes a Project for a soil regeneration pilot. The Project includes baseline conditions, proposed methods, photos, local context, and funding needs. Supporters can contribute, researchers can collaborate, and educators can build Articles, Media, and Tutorials around the Project. If eligible, the Project appears in OCIS for integrity scoring and reporting.

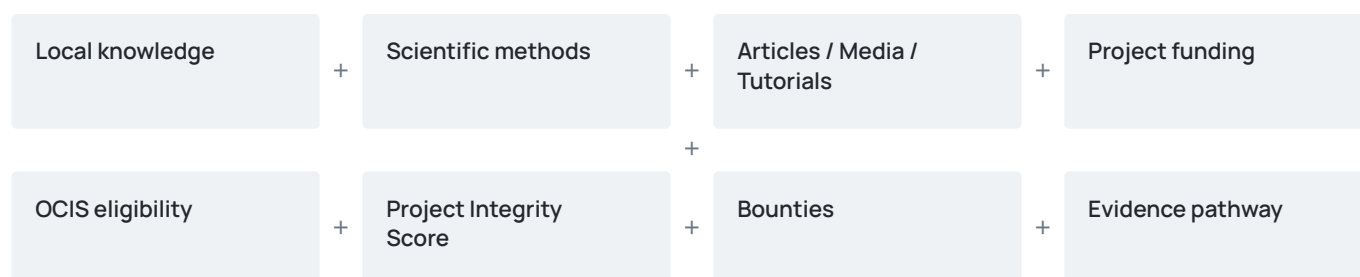
Biomaterials Knowledge Commons. Designers publish biomaterial recipes, fabrication guides, testing results, instructional videos, and process diagrams. IP-NFTs preserve attribution and licensing terms. Tutorials support applied learning, while Bounties fund testing, translation, and documentation.

Bioregional Open Call. A local organisation creates an Open Call for climate adaptation Projects in a specific region. The DAO may endorse the Open Call, increasing visibility and applicant quality.

Soil Health Tutorial Series. A soil scientist and educator create a Tutorial sequence explaining soil testing, compost application, and field monitoring. Learners complete quizzes, earn PRG, and can later contribute to local Projects or Bounties.

OCIS-Enabled Land Restoration Assessment. A funder discovers an eligible rewilding Project in OCIS, runs an integrity score, compares it with other Projects, and funds a reporting milestone. The transaction updates the shared Ozeon funding ledger and generates eligible PRG recognition through the same platform logic.

FIGURE 11.3 — LAND REGENERATION USE CASE



11.4 Decentralized Education and Lifelong Learning

Education is one of Ozeon’s core use cases. UNESCO’s Recommendation on Open Educational Resources supports openly licensed learning materials that can be used, adapted, and redistributed, while UNESCO’s Recommendation on Open Science frames scientific knowledge as something that should be more openly available, accessible, and reusable. Ozeon applies these principles to regenerative knowledge by connecting education to participation, contribution, and implementation.

The platform treats education not as passive content consumption, but as a pathway into contribution. Learners can move from reading to watching, from watching to practising, from practising to publishing, from publishing to project participation, and from project participation to governance.

11.4.1 Use-Case Activities

Learners and educators may use Ozeon to:

- access Educational Resources across ocean, climate, land, health, biotechnology, biomaterials, circular design, economy, law, culture, and social empowerment;
- read Articles that translate scientific, technical, policy, and project knowledge into accessible formats;
- watch or listen to Media such as lectures, animations, podcasts, documentaries, interviews, diagrams, maps, and field recordings;

- follow Tutorials that provide step-by-step practical guidance, applied methods, field protocols, design processes, or regenerative techniques;
- complete Learn2Earn quizzes and earn PRG;
- build personalised learning tracks;
- publish tutorials, diagrams, videos, explainers, and course materials;
- translate complex science into accessible formats;
- respond to educational Open Calls;
- join Pods focused on learning, curation, accessibility, and curriculum development;
- receive tips or bounty payments for educational contributions;
- and build a visible reputation through Progress.

11.4.2 Example Use Cases

Student Learning Pathway. A student enters Ozeon through an ocean literacy track, reads Educational Resources, watches Media, follows a Tutorial, answers quizzes, earns PRG, joins a Project, and contributes to a biodiversity data bounty.

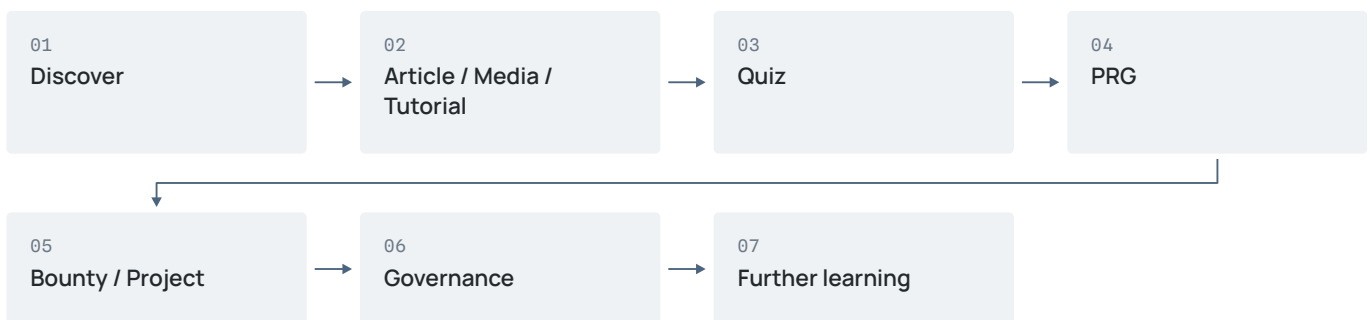
Educator Publishing Pathway. A teacher or lecturer publishes a Tutorial series on regenerative design. The content is reviewed, added to Educational Resources, linked to quizzes, supported by explanatory Media, and potentially tokenized as an IP-NFT.

Multilingual Science Translation. A community contributor translates a technical Article into a local language, adds an illustrated explainer, and creates a short Media asset for wider access. The translation is reviewed and rewarded with PRG or \$OZN through a Bounty.

Skills-to-Action Track. A user completes a learning sequence on wetland restoration, follows a field Tutorial, joins a related Project, and later submits monitoring evidence through a Bounty.

The World Economic Forum’s *Future of Jobs Report 2025* identifies technological change, the green transition, and skills transformation as major drivers of workforce change through 2030. Ozeon’s education use case directly responds to this need by connecting learning to real-world contribution and recognised participation.

FIGURE 11.4 — LEARNING-TO-CONTRIBUTION PATHWAY



11.5 Media and Multimodal Knowledge

Media is a first-class participation layer in Ozeon. Not all knowledge is best communicated through written Articles or formal Educational Resources. Many users learn through video, audio, image, diagram, animation, conversation, documentary, field recording, or visual explanation. Media allows complex climate, ocean, land, and sustainability knowledge to become more accessible, emotionally resonant, culturally relevant, and publicly engaging.

Ozeon's business plan positions the Innovation Network as the connective tissue that allows Educational Resources, Articles, Projects, Open Calls, Media, Tutorials, NFTs, and Bounties to interact as part of one living ecosystem. Media is therefore not a peripheral content type. It is part of the knowledge infrastructure of the platform.

11.5.1 Use-Case Activities

Media creators may use Ozeon to:

- publish videos, podcasts, interviews, diagrams, maps, animations, visualisations, photo essays, documentary clips, field recordings, and educational media;
- convert technical Articles into visual or audio explainers;
- create public communication assets for Projects, Open Calls, Bounties, and OCIS-visible Project pages;
- collaborate with researchers, educators, communities, and project teams;
- submit Media for DAO or Pod review;
- link Media to Educational Resources and Learn2Earn tracks;
- tokenize Media assets as IP-NFTs with clear licensing and attribution;
- receive tips, Bounty payments, or PRG recognition for accepted work;
- and support public understanding of ecological, scientific, and regenerative topics.

11.5.2 Example Use Cases

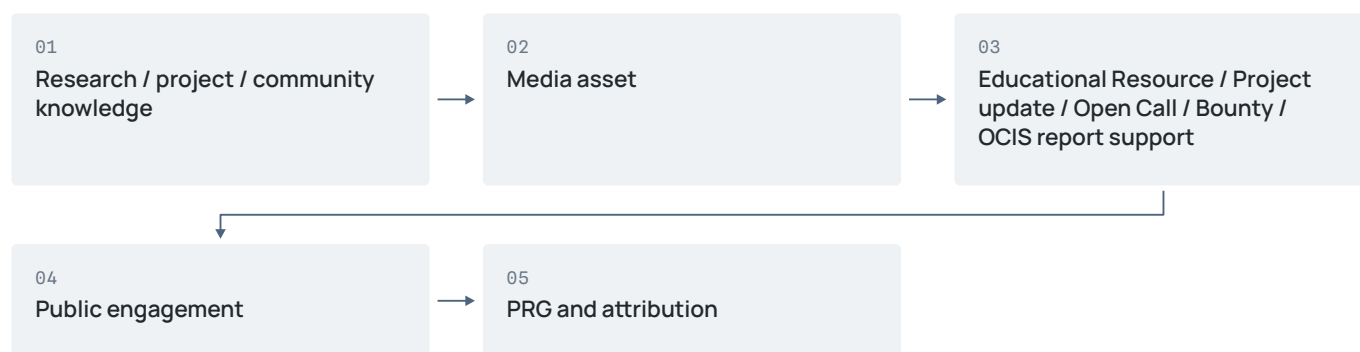
Scientific Visualisation. A designer creates an animated visualisation explaining ocean heat uptake and marine ecosystem stress. The Media is linked to Educational Resources and used in a climate literacy track.

Podcast Interview Series. A researcher and storyteller create a podcast series interviewing regenerative practitioners, Indigenous knowledge holders, marine scientists, and climate educators. Episodes are indexed by theme and linked to Articles, Projects, and Open Calls.

Project Documentation Media. A restoration Project publishes field videos, interviews, and progress footage to build public trust and communicate milestones. If the Project is listed in OCIS, selected media may support integrity review or public reporting.

Data Storytelling Bounty. A Pod posts a Bounty for infographics explaining biodiversity data. Designers submit work and receive \$OZN and PRG after validation.

FIGURE 11.5 — MEDIA KNOWLEDGE FLOW



11.6 Tutorials and Applied Learning

Tutorials are a first-class participation layer in Ozean because regenerative knowledge must become practical. Articles explain. Media communicates. Educational Resources structure learning. Tutorials help users act.

Tutorials support applied education by turning methods, tools, practices, field protocols, design processes, and regenerative techniques into step-by-step learning experiences. They are especially important for users who want to move from awareness into practical contribution.

Ozean's business plan describes Tutorials as a practical and commercially valuable learning layer that helps users learn by doing, teach by sharing, and strengthen regenerative innovation through practical action.

11.6.1 Use-Case Activities

Tutorial creators may use Ozean to:

- publish step-by-step instructional content;
- create practical guides for regenerative agriculture, marine monitoring, biomaterials, citizen science, data collection, restoration, circular design, climate education, or community organising;
- group Tutorials into structured learning sequences;
- link Tutorials to Learn2Earn quizzes;
- attach diagrams, videos, datasets, templates, tool lists, safety notes, and field protocols;
- make Tutorials free, premium, sponsored, token-gated, or bounty-supported depending on platform rules;
- submit Tutorials for DAO or Pod endorsement;
- tokenize Tutorial methods, templates, designs, or process documentation as IP-NFTs;

- receive tips, Bounty payments, premium access revenue, or PRG recognition;
- and connect Tutorials to Projects, Open Calls, Bounties, and OCIS evidence workflows where relevant.

11.6.2 Example Use Cases

Marine Monitoring Tutorial. A marine scientist publishes a Tutorial explaining how to collect coastal water-quality samples. Learners complete the Tutorial, answer a quiz, earn PRG, and contribute to a Project or Bounty.

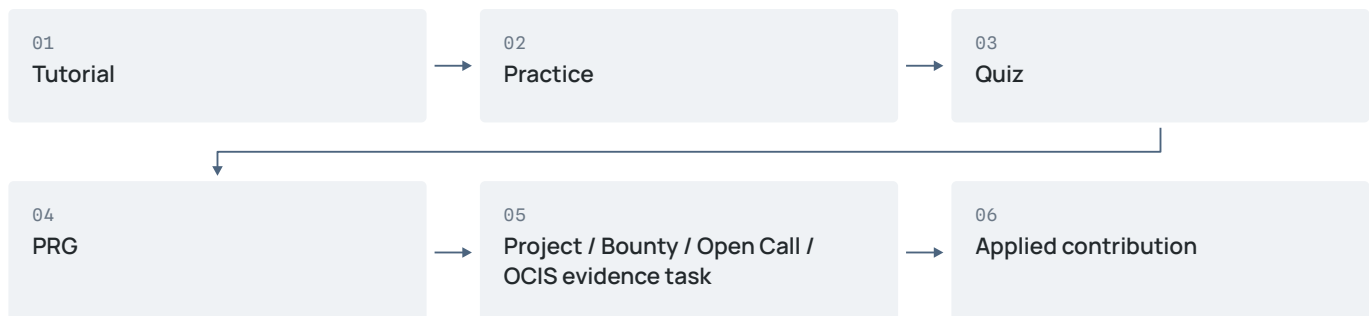
Biomaterials Workshop. A designer publishes a Tutorial on algae-based biomaterials, including recipe, process images, safety notes, and test results. The Tutorial is linked to a Project and tokenized as an IP-NFT.

Community Composting Guide. A local organisation creates a Tutorial for building and maintaining a neighbourhood composting system. The Tutorial is translated into multiple languages and used by other communities.

Grant Application Tutorial. An NGO creates a practical Tutorial on how to respond to an Open Call, including budgeting, impact framing, and evidence preparation.

OCIS Evidence Tutorial. A Project team creates a Tutorial explaining how local contributors should collect field evidence, photos, or water samples for an OCIS-linked reporting workflow.

FIGURE 11.6 — TUTORIAL-TO-ACTION PATHWAY



11.7 Decentralized Science and Open Research

Ozeon supports decentralized science by providing infrastructure for open research publication, peer review, public access, attribution, funding, media translation, tutorial creation, and project-based collaboration. This use case is especially relevant for early-career researchers, independent scientists, citizen scientists, research collectives, universities, NGOs, companies, and transdisciplinary teams.

Traditional research systems can be slow, siloed, inaccessible, and poorly connected to implementation. Ozeon helps researchers move from publication to participation by connecting research outputs to Articles, Educational Resources, Media, Tutorials, Projects, Open Calls, Bounties, IP-NFTs, DAO review, and OCIS-supported assessment or reporting.

11.7.1 Use-Case Activities

Researchers may use Ozeon to:

- publish open research summaries, preprints, field reports, methodologies, datasets, or project logs;
- make research outputs more accessible through Articles and Educational Resources;
- translate findings into Media such as diagrams, interviews, animations, visualisations, and explainers;
- create Tutorials based on research methods, field protocols, analysis workflows, or citizen-science methods;
- request peer review, data analysis, visualisation, translation, literature review, or media production through Bounties;
- tokenize research outputs, datasets, diagrams, Tutorials, and protocols as IP-NFTs;
- respond to Open Calls from institutions, foundations, programmes, and research networks;
- form Pods around research themes;
- collaborate with artists, designers, engineers, communities, companies, and project teams;
- support OCIS assessment and reporting workflows with research evidence where appropriate;
- and use Ozeon as a public visibility layer for applied research.

11.7.2 Example Use Cases

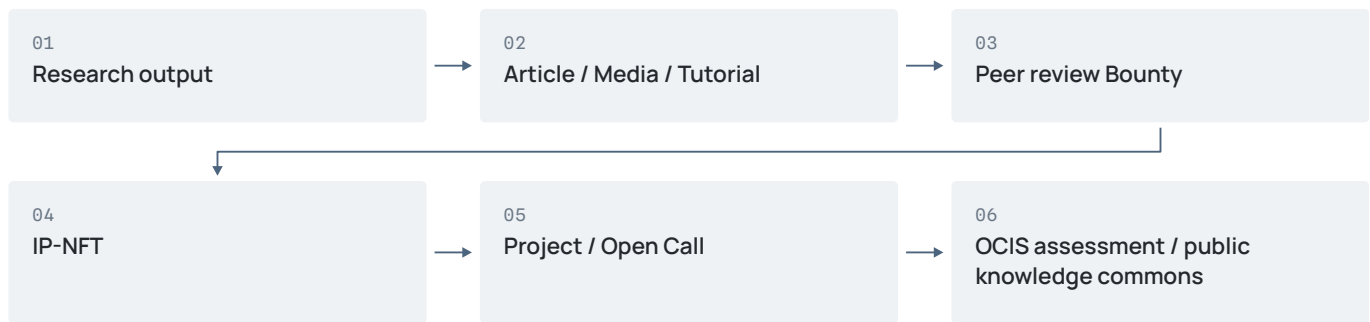
Open Research Project. A group of early-career researchers launches a Project to study coastal microplastic pollution. The Project uses Ozeon to recruit collaborators, publish field methods, post data-analysis Bounties, create Media explainers, and build public Educational Resources. If eligible, it is automatically listed in OCIS for Project assessment and reporting support.

Peer Review Bounty. An author posts a Bounty requesting expert review of a climate adaptation Article. Reviewers are compensated in \$OZN and recognised with PRG after validation.

Research-to-Implementation Pathway. A scientific paper is summarised as an Article, converted into an Educational Resource, explained through Media, translated into a Tutorial, used to inform a Project, and later referenced in a DAO-endorsed Open Call or OCIS evidence workflow.

Citizen-Science Method Tutorial. A researcher publishes a Tutorial that teaches non-specialists how to collect biodiversity observations. The Tutorial supports a field Bounty and a local restoration Project.

FIGURE 11.7 — OPEN RESEARCH USE CASE



11.8 Open Calls and Opportunity Discovery

Open Calls are a major practical use case for Ozean. They transform the platform from a place where users only publish or browse knowledge into a coordination layer where opportunities become visible and actionable.

Open Calls are a structured environment for grants, fellowships, accelerator programmes, residencies, challenges, research collaborations, competitions, jobs, consultancies, training opportunities, calls for content, and other mission-aligned invitations. Open Calls are a way to move users from learning and visibility into practical next steps.

11.8.1 Use-Case Activities

Organisations, networks, companies and institutions may use Open Calls to publish:

- grants;
- fellowships;
- accelerator programmes;
- research calls;
- citizen-science campaigns;
- project challenges;
- procurement opportunities;
- design competitions;
- fieldwork opportunities;
- volunteer calls;
- educational content requests;
- media commissions;
- tutorial creation requests;
- dMRV evidence requests;
- OCIS reporting partnerships.

Users may use Open Calls to:

- discover funding and collaboration opportunities;

- apply to relevant programmes;
- connect Open Calls to Projects, Articles, Media, Tutorials, Bounties, or OCIS-visible Projects;
- respond with proposals, submissions, portfolios, or project pages;
- form teams around opportunities;
- and build reputation through successful participation.

11.8.2 Example Use Cases

Grant Discovery. A small marine restoration team finds an Open Call for ocean innovation funding and uses its Ozeon Project profile, Articles, Media, funding history and OCIS status to strengthen its application.

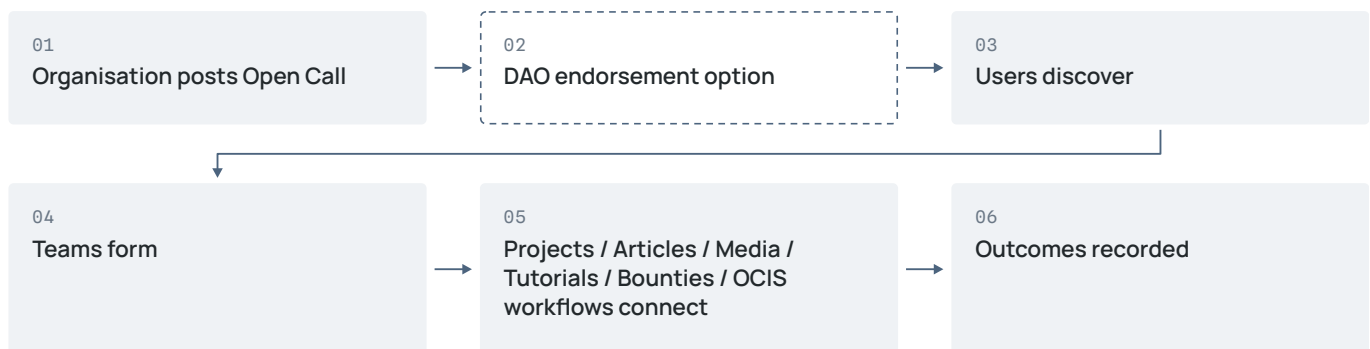
Institutional Challenge. A university posts an Open Call for student-led climate innovation Projects. Students form teams, publish Project pages, submit ideas, create Media explainers, and receive PRG recognition for verified participation.

DAO-Endorsed Opportunity. A climate organisation submits an Open Call for ecosystem restoration proposals. The DAO endorses the Open Call, increasing its visibility and credibility.

Media Commission Open Call. A Foundation partner posts an Open Call for short educational videos explaining blue carbon, circular design, or citizen science.

OCIS Reporting Open Call. A funding organisation posts an Open Call for Projects that are eligible for OCIS integrity scoring and monthly reporting. Applicants submit Ozeon Project pages, and eligible Projects are accessible in OCIS for assessment.

FIGURE 11.8 — OPEN CALLS USE CASE



11.9 Bounties and Decentralized Work

Bounties allow Ozeon to coordinate work without requiring every contributor to be formally employed by a Project or institution. They are a practical mechanism for sourcing scientific, educational, technical, creative, media-based, tutorial-based, and field-based contributions.

Bounties are a structured marketplace for mission-aligned tasks, requests, and collaborative contributions. It emphasises their role in converting passive participation into directed

contribution and enabling tasks such as peer review, research assistance, data collection, fact-checking, translation, content editing, tutorial expansion, video subtitling, design support, field validation, local knowledge contribution, and technical collaboration.

11.9.1 Use-Case Activities

Users may use Bounties to:

- request research summaries;
- commission peer review;
- translate educational materials;
- collect biodiversity or site specific observations;
- clean datasets;
- create illustrations or visualisations;
- produce media assets;
- subtitle videos;
- edit podcasts;
- design diagrams;
- expand Tutorials;
- review project evidence;
- support Open Call applications;
- design prototypes;
- validate field reports;
- document local knowledge;
- produce OCIS-ready evidence;
- validate dMRV data inputs;
- support Project Integrity Score preparation;
- and complete project-specific tasks.

Bounty completion can result in:

- \$OZN payment;
- PRG recognition;
- IP-NFT creation for completed outputs;
- Project milestone support;
- OCIS evidence support;
- Media or Tutorial publication;
- or DAO/Pod validation.

11.9.2 Example Use Cases

Science Communication Bounty. A researcher posts a Bounty to turn a technical paper into a plain-language Article, infographic, and short video. Contributors complete the work, receive \$OZN, and earn PRG after review.

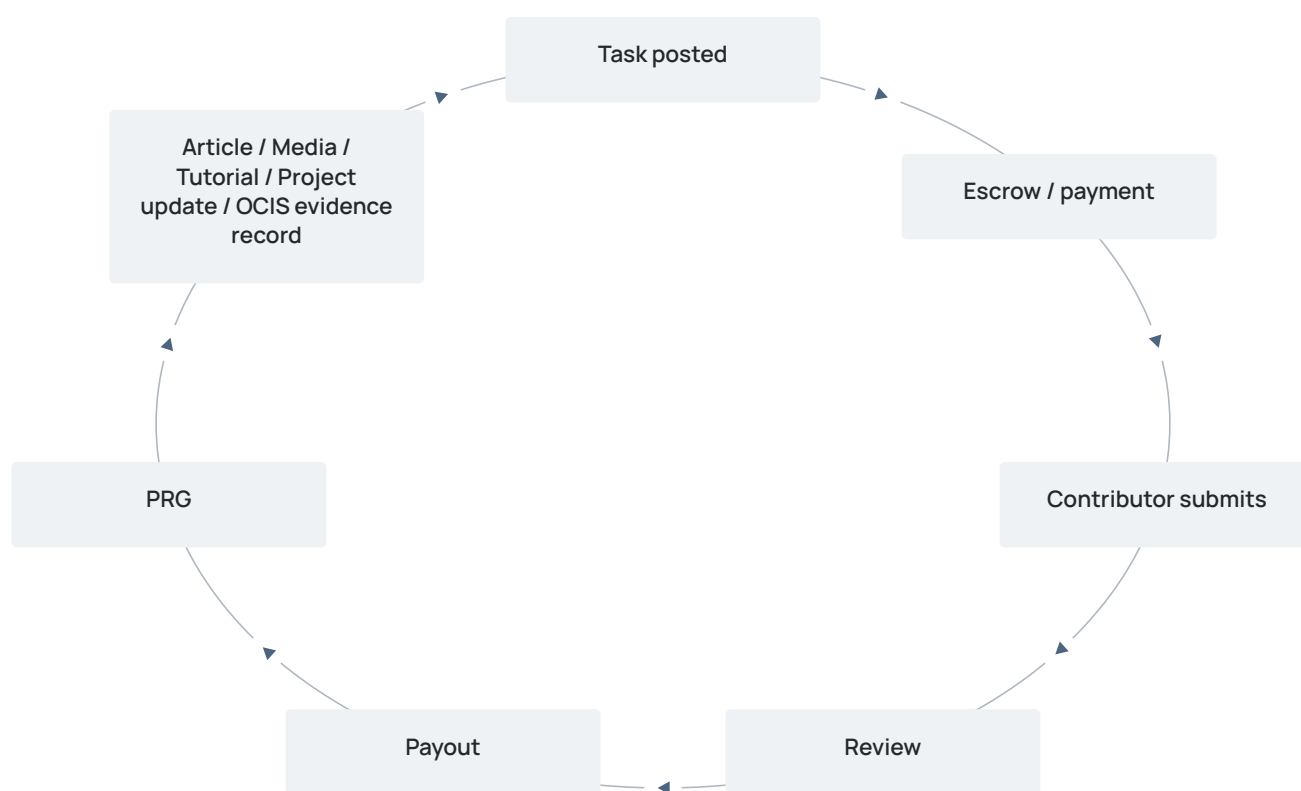
Tutorial Expansion Bounty. A Pod posts a Bounty asking contributors to expand a basic composting guide into a full step-by-step Tutorial with diagrams, photos, and safety notes.

Field Data Bounty. A Project asks local contributors to collect water-quality observations or photos of restoration progress. Submissions are reviewed and used for Project updates or OCIS reporting.

OCIS Evidence Bounty. A Project listed in OCIS posts a Bounty for biodiversity observations, remote-sensing annotation, water sampling, or milestone evidence. Accepted work updates the shared activity record and generates eligible PRG recognition through the same platform logic.

Open Call Support Bounty. An organisation posts a Bounty for proposal review, translation, budget preparation, or media material related to an external grant opportunity.

FIGURE 11.9 — BOUNTY WORK CYCLE



11.10 Social Empowerment and Just Transition

Ozeon is designed to support social empowerment as part of ecological regeneration. Innovation does not only happen in laboratories, universities, or venture-backed companies. It also happens in communities, villages, coastal regions, farms, classrooms, cooperatives, cultural spaces, and grassroots movements.

This use case recognises that many valuable contributions are not formal scientific papers or venture-scale Projects. They may include local ecological knowledge,

translation, mentoring, community coordination, storytelling, cultural practice, youth education, place-based stewardship, mutual aid, media documentation, and practical community training.

11.10.1 Use-Case Activities

Community users may use Ozeon to:

- publish local knowledge and project stories;
- create community education resources;
- publish Media that documents local environmental conditions, cultural knowledge, or community-led action;
- create Tutorials for local adaptation, restoration, food systems, repair, resilience, or community organising;
- translate materials into local languages;
- launch grassroots Projects;
- form Pods or cooperative groups;
- apply for Open Calls;
- receive microgrants, Project funding, tips or support;
- post local needs as Bounties;
- document community-led restoration;
- have eligible Projects listed in OCIS for funder visibility or reporting support;
- and earn PRG for non-financial contribution.

11.10.2 Safeguards

This use case requires careful safeguards. Ozeon ensures that community and Indigenous knowledge is not extracted without consent. Sensitive knowledge is governed through appropriate access rules, community consent, attribution, benefit-sharing, cultural review, restricted visibility, and ethical stewardship.

OCIS-related evidence workflows also avoid exposing sensitive community data, precise ecological locations, culturally restricted knowledge, personal data, or information that could create harm if made public.

11.10.3 Example Use Cases

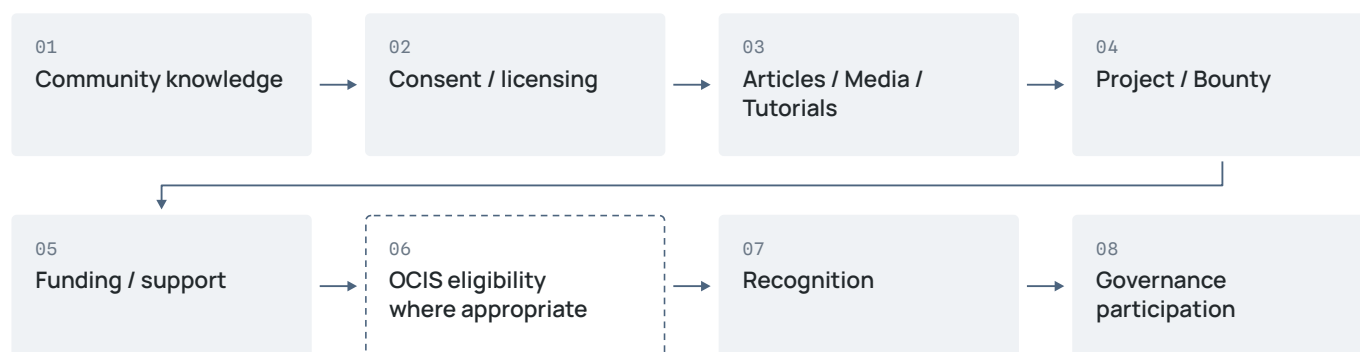
Community Climate Education. A youth group creates Educational Resources, Media, and Tutorials on local climate risks, translates them into a regional language, and earns PRG through verified learning and publishing.

Traditional Knowledge Stewardship. A community shares selected ecological practices under a community-approved licence, with restricted reuse and clear attribution.

Frontline Microgrant. A local organiser publishes a Project for community resilience work. Supporters fund the Project, and the team shares updates through Articles, Media, Project logs, and, where eligible, OCIS reporting.

Community Tutorial Library. A grassroots organisation creates Tutorials for rainwater harvesting, urban gardening, mangrove planting, or local disaster preparedness.

FIGURE 11.10 — JUST TRANSITION USE CASE



11.11 Institutional Integration

Ozeon is designed to interface with universities, NGOs, research labs, foundations, public-sector bodies, accelerators, DAOs, mission-driven organisations, corporate sustainability teams, funders and companies. Institutions can use Ozeon to publish knowledge, host Open Calls, create and endorse Projects, create learning pathways, coordinate Bounties, publish Media, produce Tutorials, fund Projects, and engage with contributors.

The EU Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030” aims to protect and restore marine and freshwater ecosystems and biodiversity, prevent and eliminate pollution, and make the blue economy climate-neutral and circular. This type of mission-oriented framework shows the importance of platforms that can connect research, innovation, ecosystem restoration, public participation, education, opportunity discovery, funding pathways, and reporting infrastructure.

11.11.1 Use-Case Activities

Institutions may use Ozeon to:

- publish open educational content, toolkits, datasets, and research summaries;
- publish Media such as lectures, interviews, field recordings, animations, and public explainers;
- create Tutorials and training materials;
- create verified Organisation profiles;
- host Open Calls for grants, fellowships, challenges, research collaboration, internships, or content creation;
- launch student, research or community Projects;
- create Bounties for internships, fieldwork, translation, research support, video production, tutorial development, or evidence collection;
- curate learning tracks;
- sponsor Educational Resources;
- support Projects through funding, tipping, donations or bounties;

- access eligible Projects in OCIS for integrity scores, reports, portfolio review, funding analysis or dMRV workflows;
- acquire or license IP-NFTs;
- and partner with Ozeon or OCIS for project-integrity and climate-intelligence workflows.

11.11.2 Example Use Cases

University Learning Track. A university publishes an ocean literacy learning track using Ozeon Educational Resources, Media, Tutorials, and Learn2Earn quizzes. Students earn PRG for participation.

NGO Open Call. An NGO creates an Open Call for local climate adaptation Projects. Applicants submit Projects through Ozeon, and the DAO can endorse high-quality opportunities.

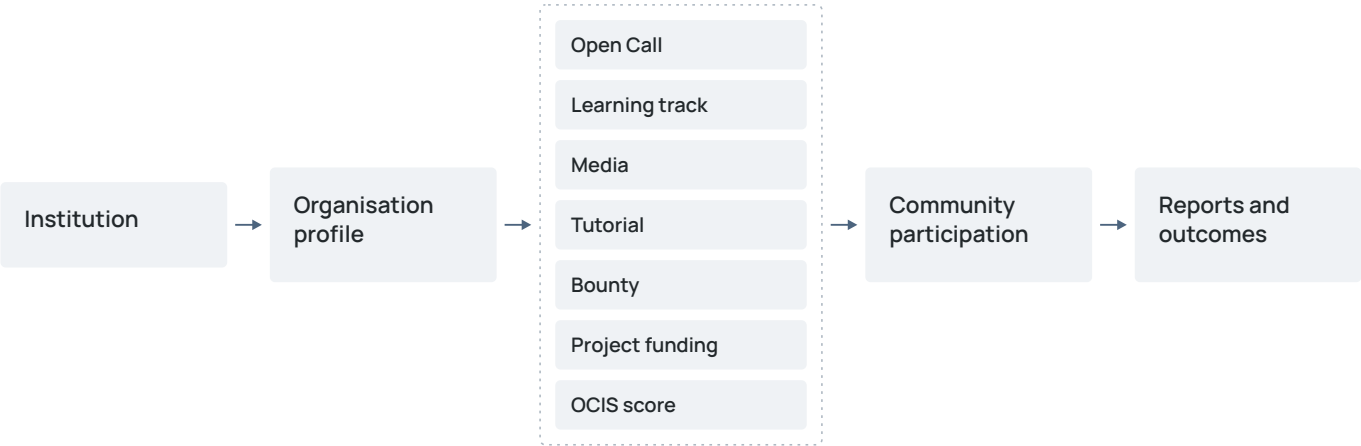
Research Lab Collaboration. A lab publishes a dataset, posts a Bounty for analysis, creates a visual explainer, and links outputs to Articles, IP-NFTs, Project updates and OCIS evidence workflows.

Foundation Grant Pipeline. A foundation uses Ozeon to discover Projects, reviews DAO endorsement where available, and uses OCIS to run integrity scores, compare Projects, fund eligible Projects, and review reporting outputs.

Corporate Sustainability Portfolio. A company accesses OCIS to access ecological footprint and mitigation strategies, review eligible Ozeon Projects, run Project Integrity Scores, fund selected Projects, purchase pro or premium reports, and track Project updates through shared Ozeon–OCIS records.

Institutional Media Library. A university or NGO publishes a library of lectures, documentary clips, and instructional videos that support Educational Resources and Tutorials.

FIGURE 11.11 — INSTITUTIONAL INTEGRATION USE CASE



11.12 Regenerative Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Ozeon supports innovators, project builders, startup founders, biomaterial designers, open-source technologists, regenerative entrepreneurs, climate solution teams, and early-stage venture builders. These users need visibility, collaborators, early validation, funding, feedback, documentation, instructional content, media communication, credibility and evidence pathways.

11.12.1 Use-Case Activities

Innovators may use Ozeon to:

- publish Project pages;
- document prototypes through Articles and project logs;
- publish Media explaining prototypes, field tests, product concepts, or system designs;
- publish Tutorials that teach others how to replicate, test, adapt, or improve a method;
- post Bounties for design, testing, translation, modelling, media production, tutorial development, or field validation;
- tokenize design files, blueprints, methods, reports, Media, or Tutorials as IP-NFTs;
- find collaborators through the Innovation Network;
- respond to Open Calls;
- receive tips, funding, or community support;
- build Progress-based reputation;
- have eligible Projects automatically listed in OCIS;
- use OCIS to access Project Integrity Scores, reporting tools, funder review, or market-readiness workflows;
- and connect Project activity across Ozeon and OCIS through shared contracts and activity records.

11.12.2 Example Use Cases

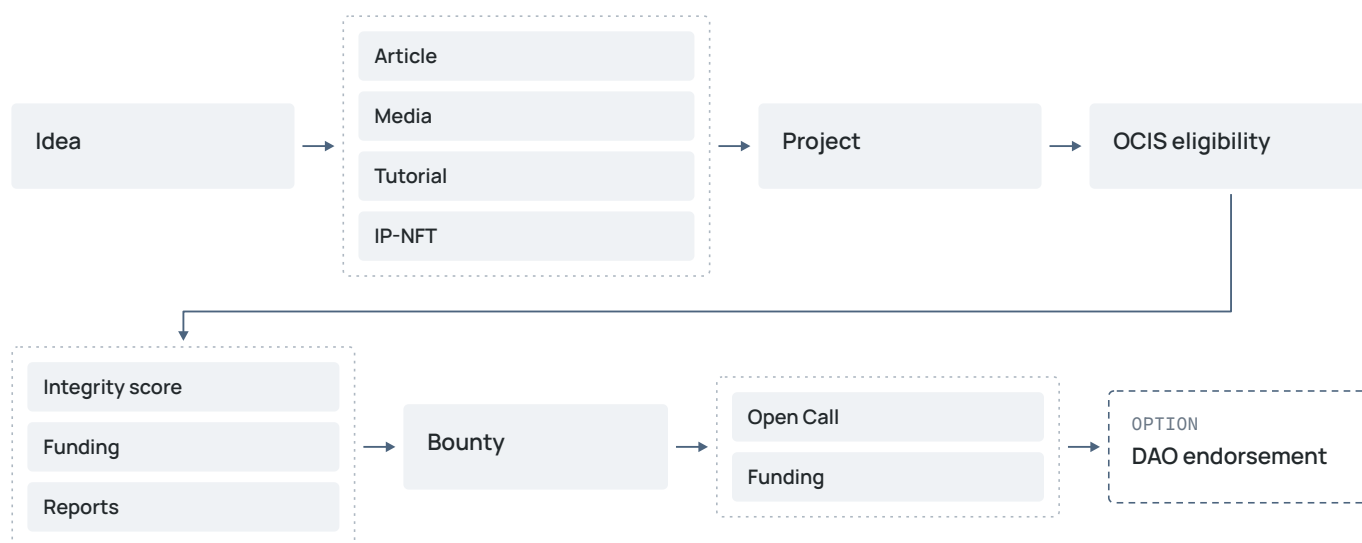
Biomaterial Startup. A biomaterial designer publishes open testing protocols, posts a Bounty for material testing, tokenizes a recipe as an IP-NFT, creates a Tutorial, and launches a Project for pilot funding.

Circular Economy Pilot. A local team creates a Project to turn waste streams into educational tools or construction materials. Funders support the Project through \$OZN or fiat, and the team publishes milestone updates through Articles and Media.

Regenerative Aquaculture Innovation. An entrepreneur creates a Project for restorative aquaculture, links it to research resources, publishes explanatory Media, creates a practical Tutorial, applies to relevant Open Calls, and uses OCIS to prepare integrity reporting where eligible.

Prototype Documentation Bounty. A founder posts a Bounty requesting diagrams, video editing, and technical explanation for a regenerative design prototype.

FIGURE 11.12 — INNOVATION-TO-IMPLEMENTATION USE CASE



11.13 Funders, Donors, Companies, and Impact-Aligned Capital

Ozeon provides a discovery and trust layer for funders, donors, philanthropic actors, DAO treasuries, grantmakers, climate funds, corporate sustainability teams, companies and institutions seeking credible regenerative Projects and knowledge initiatives.

Funders often face information asymmetry. They need to assess Project credibility, team capacity, evidence quality, communication quality, reporting reliability, funding history, governance signals and impact potential. Ozeon helps reduce this friction by creating structured Project pages, governance signals, public updates, Articles, Media, Tutorials, Open Calls, Bounties, and OCIS-linked assessment pathways.

OCIS extends this use case by allowing companies, funders, creators and approved users to access eligible Ozeon Projects, assess their ecological footprint and receive a mitigation strategy, run Project Integrity Scores, request reports, fund Projects, purchase pro or premium outputs, and support dMRV workflows. Funding through OCIS communicates back to Ozeon and uses the shared platform architecture so that PRG outcomes, funding records, activity histories and fees are handled consistently.

11.13.1 Use-Case Activities

Funders, donors and companies may use Ozeon and OCIS to:

- browse Projects by theme, region, SDG, ecosystem, funding need, OCIS status, DAO status, or reporting level;
- identify DAO Endorsed Projects where available;
- review Articles, Media, Tutorials, and Project updates to understand a team's work;

- support Projects using fiat or \$OZN where available;
- fund Projects through Ozeon or OCIS;
- assess their ecological footprint;
- run Project Integrity Scores in OCIS;
- request OCIS reports or premium evidence packs;
- fund Bounties tied to research, education, field data, media production, tutorial development, reporting, or Project milestones;
- create Open Calls for grant programmes or challenge funds;
- review public Project updates and reports;
- recognise contributors through tipping;
- and use OCIS outputs to assess eligible Projects.

11.13.2 Example Use Cases

Philanthropic Project Discovery. A donor searches for ocean literacy Projects, reviews DAO endorsement status where available, reads project logs, watches project Media, runs an OCIS integrity score where eligible, and funds a community education initiative.

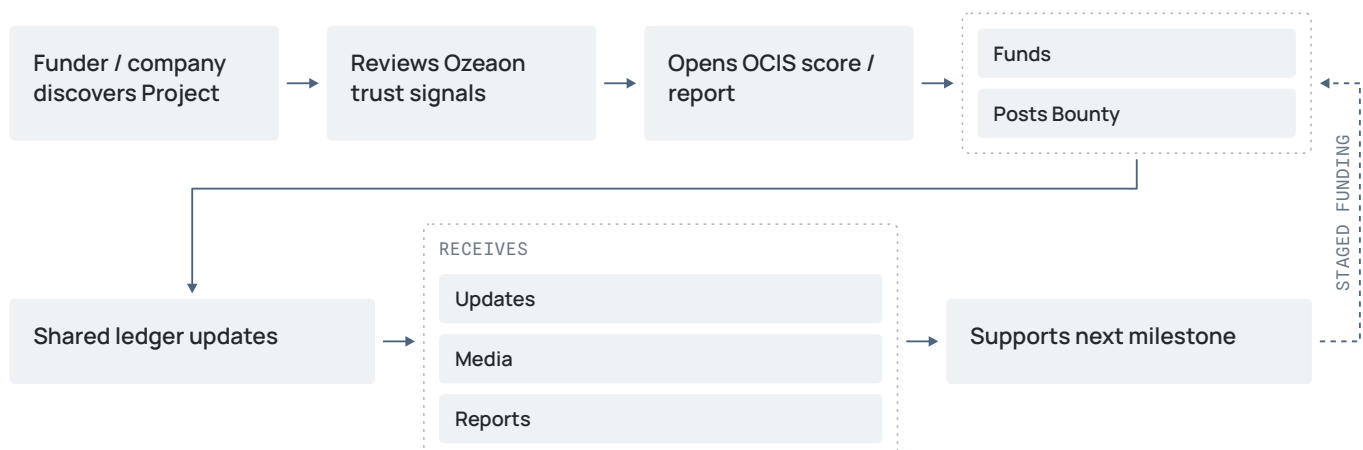
DAO Treasury Collaboration. A ReFi DAO posts an Open Call seeking biodiversity monitoring Projects and uses Ozeon to coordinate applications, Bounties, educational outputs, and payouts.

Milestone-Based Support. A funder releases staged funding based on Project funding rounds and updates, bounty completion, Media evidence, Tutorial delivery, or OCIS-supported reports.

Education Sponsorship. A funder sponsors a set of Tutorials and Media explainers on blue carbon, regenerative aquaculture, or community climate adaptation.

Company Project Portfolio. A company accesses OCIS to compare eligible Ozeon Projects, run Project Integrity Scores, fund selected Projects, purchase reports, and monitor updates for internal sustainability or impact-aligned reporting. Funding activity synchronises with Ozeon and generates eligible PRG outcomes through the shared platform rules.

FIGURE 11.13 — FUNDER AND COMPANY USE CASE



11.14 Art, Design, Culture, and Storytelling

Ozeon recognises that ecological transformation is not only scientific or technical. It is also cultural, visual, emotional, narrative, symbolic, and experiential. Artists, designers, filmmakers, writers, musicians, illustrators, speculative designers, educators, and media creators can help translate complex environmental knowledge into formats that people understand, remember, and act upon.

Ozeon identifies artists and storytellers as a key group motivated by environmental storytelling, bridging science and culture, gaining visibility, tokenizing creative work, collaborating with researchers, and amplifying ocean narratives.

11.14.1 Use-Case Activities

Creative contributors may use Ozeon to:

- publish environmental storytelling, articles, animations, visuals, music, maps, diagrams, documentary clips, podcasts, speculative design work, or educational media;
- translate scientific knowledge into accessible Media and cultural narratives;
- create educational Media for learning tracks;
- create Tutorials on creative science communication, ecological design, biomaterials, public engagement, or community storytelling;
- collaborate with researchers and communities;
- mint creative outputs as IP-NFTs with clear licensing;
- receive tips, Bounty payments, Project funding, or premium access revenue;
- support campaigns and Open Calls;
- create Media for OCIS-visible Projects, reports, public updates or evidence summaries;
- and participate in Pods focused on culture, design, Media, education, or public engagement.

11.14.2 Example Use Cases

Ocean Literacy Animation. A filmmaker creates an educational animation about ocean acidification. The Media is reviewed, added to Educational Resources, and linked to a Learn2Earn activity.

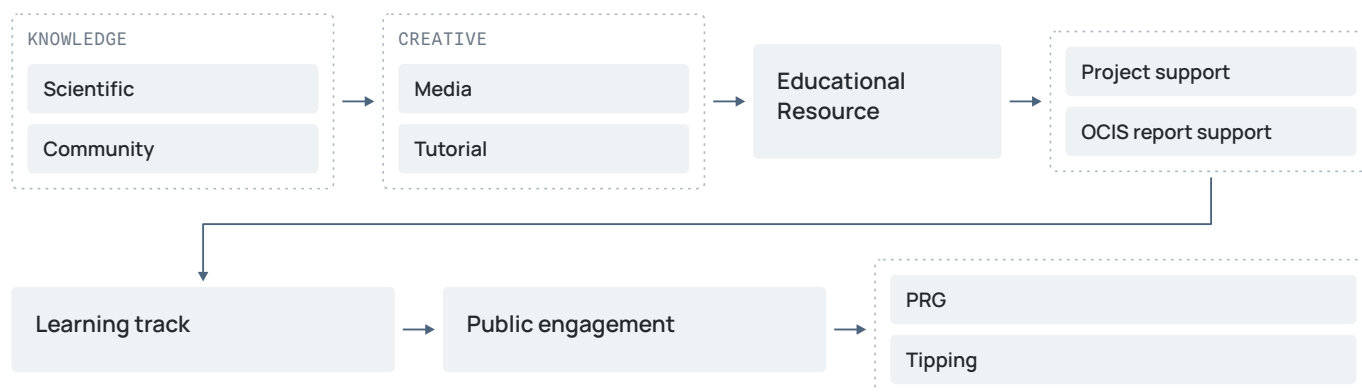
Data Storytelling Bounty. A Pod posts a Bounty for infographics explaining biodiversity data. Designers submit work and receive \$OZN and PRG after validation.

Cultural Knowledge Project. Artists collaborate with a coastal community to document local ocean relationships, using careful licensing, consent controls, and community-approved visibility.

Creative Tutorial Series. A designer creates Tutorials teaching users how to visualise climate data, create educational diagrams, or communicate ecological systems through accessible visuals.

OCIS Evidence Storytelling. A creator helps a Project turn OCIS reports, field evidence and Project updates into accessible public Media, while maintaining clear distinctions between storytelling, assessment, verification and certification.

FIGURE 11.14 — CREATIVE TRANSLATION USE CASE



11.15 OCIS-Enabled Project Integrity, Funding, and dMRV Use Cases

Eligible Projects created on Ozeon may be automatically listed in OCIS if they satisfy OCIS eligibility requirements. This allows companies, funders, creators, Project teams and approved users to access Projects in OCIS, run integrity scores, generate or purchase reports, fund Projects, support Bounties, assess portfolios, and initiate dMRV workflows.

OCIS actions communicate back to Ozeon. Funding, bounty activity, premium content purchases, PRG-recognised activity, Project updates, reporting status and blockchain attestations should use the same blockchain network and contract logic where applicable. This prevents double counting, duplicate PRG issuance, duplicate funding records, inconsistent Project claims and fragmented contribution histories.

DAO endorsement remains optional and separate. It provides a higher-trust governance signal and may support curated visibility, DAO treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support or higher-assurance verification pathways. However, DAO endorsement is not required for automatic OCIS listing, ordinary Project funding, OCIS integrity scoring, OCIS reports or OCIS-based funding where those activities are otherwise permitted.

11.15.1 Use-Case Activities

OCIS-enabled use cases may include:

- automatic OCIS listing for eligible Ozeon Projects;
- Project Integrity Scores;
- company, funder and creator access to eligible Projects;
- ecological footprint analysis and mitigation strategies;
- Project funding through OCIS;
- dMRV-aligned monitoring plans;

- baseline documentation;
- weekly and monthly reports;
- end-of-project reports;
- premium reports or evidence packs;
- evidence package creation;
- Project risk assessment;
- environmental data integration;
- milestone reporting;
- blockchain-attested report hashes where approved;
- funder-facing dashboards;
- company portfolio dashboards;
- shared funding and PRG records;
- shared bounty and contributor records;
- and market-readiness support for carbon, nature, biodiversity, or blue carbon pathways.

11.15.2 Example Use Cases

Automatic OCIS Listing. A Project is created on Ozeon. The system checks whether it satisfies OCIS eligibility requirements. If eligible, it appears in OCIS, where companies, funders and creators can access it for integrity scoring, reports or funding.

Company Integrity Review. A company reviewing potential nature-positive Projects opens OCIS, filters eligible Ozeon Projects, runs a Project Integrity Score, compares risk indicators, and funds a selected Project. The funding record synchronises back to Ozeon.

Creator-Led Evidence Campaign. A creator finds an OCIS-listed Project and produces Media that explains the Project's goals, field context and evidence needs. The Media is published on Ozeon and may support Project visibility, funding confidence and public education.

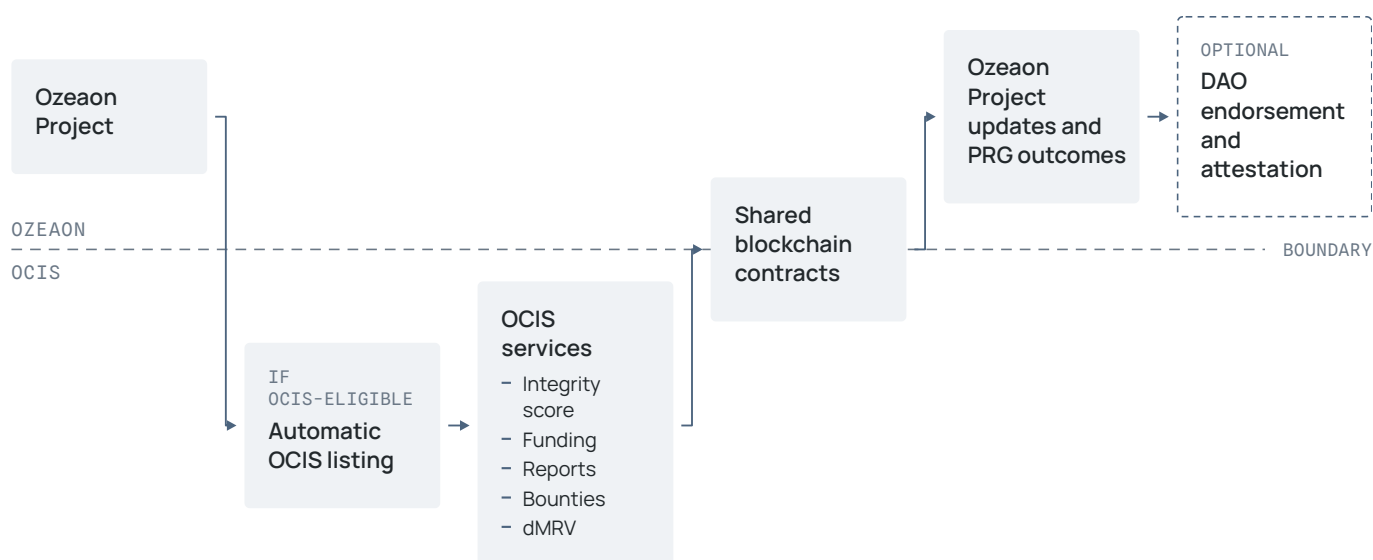
Funder dMRV Report Request. A funder supports a regenerative agriculture Project and requests an OCIS monthly report. The report is generated through OCIS, while the funding and activity record updates the Ozeon Project profile.

Bounty-Linked Field Evidence. An OCIS-listed Project posts a Bounty for water sampling, biodiversity observations or geotagged photos. Contributors submit evidence, receive \$OZN where accepted, and earn PRG recognition according to the same platform rules.

Shared Contract Accounting. A Project receives funding through OCIS and later receives additional support through its Ozeon Project page. Both transactions update the same Project funding ledger, apply the correct platform fees, and avoid duplicate PRG rewards.

DAO-Endorsed dMRV Pathway. A Project that already has an OCIS Integrity Score later applies for DAO endorsement. If endorsed and evidence-ready, it may become eligible for higher-assurance dMRV workflows, blockchain attestations or market-readiness pathways.

FIGURE 11.15 — OCIS USE CASE BOUNDARY AND SYNCHRONISATION



11.16 User Persona Mapping

Ozeon’s current persona work identifies multiple stakeholder groups, including sustainability researchers, educators and knowledge creators, innovators and project builders, funders and donors, community leaders, learners and citizen scientists, artists and storytellers, institutions, companies, and Web3/DeSci builders. These personas map directly onto the platform’s modular use cases.

TABLE 11.1 — USE CASES BY USER PERSONA

USER PERSONA	PRIMARY NEEDS	OZEON / OCIS MODULES USED
Sustainability researchers	Publish research, collaborate, increase visibility, find funding, translate research into impact	Articles, Educational Resources, Media, Tutorials, Projects, Open Calls, Bounties, IP-NFTs, OCIS assessment
Educators and knowledge creators	Create learning content, reach learners, track engagement, support practical learning	Educational Resources, Tutorials, Media, Learn2Earn, Articles, IP-NFTs
Innovators and project builders	Launch Projects, find collaborators, access funding, document progress, explain prototypes, build credibility	Projects, Articles, Media, Tutorials, Open Calls, Bounties, Innovation Network, OCIS
Funders and donors	Discover credible Projects, reduce greenwashing risk, track outcomes, support capacity-building	Projects, DAO endorsement, Open Calls, Bounties, Media updates, OCIS scores, reports, funding records
Companies	Find credible Projects, assess integrity, fund Projects, review reports, compare portfolios	OCIS, Projects, reports, dashboards, Project funding, premium evidence packs
Community leaders and advocates	Share local knowledge, mobilise support, access visibility, preserve cultural context	Articles, Media, Tutorials, Projects, Bounties, Pods, Open Calls, OCIS where appropriate
Learners and citizen scientists	Learn, gain recognition, build skills, contribute to real Projects	Educational Resources, Media, Tutorials, Learn2Earn, Projects, Bounties, PRG

USER PERSONA	PRIMARY NEEDS	OZEAON / OCIS MODULES USED
Artists and storytellers	Translate science into culture and engagement, collaborate with researchers, publish media	Media, Articles, Tutorials, IP-NFTs, Bounties, Educational Resources, OCIS-linked Project communication
Institutions	Publish knowledge, host opportunities, coordinate programmes, engage students and communities	Organisations, Open Calls, Projects, Educational Resources, Articles, Media, Tutorials, Bounties, OCIS
Web3 and DeSci builders	Contribute tooling, DAO design, IP-NFT systems, token infrastructure, open science mechanisms	DAO governance, IP-NFTs, Bounties, Projects, Pods, \$OZN, PRG, shared Ozeon-OCIS contracts

11.17 Platform Use-Case Summary

Ozeon's use cases are unified by one core function: turning knowledge, opportunity, creativity, practical instruction, Project activity, funding and contribution into coordinated regenerative action.

Across all domains, Ozeon enables users to:

- learn through Educational Resources;
- publish research, analysis, and project knowledge through Articles;
- communicate and translate knowledge through Media;
- build practical capability through Tutorials;
- act through Projects;
- make eligible Projects accessible through OCIS;
- discover pathways through Open Calls;
- coordinate through Organisations, Pods, and the Innovation Network;
- earn recognition through PRG;
- exchange value through \$OZN;
- complete work through Bounties;
- govern through the DAO;
- steward knowledge through IP-NFTs;
- run Project Integrity Scores and reports through OCIS;
- fund Projects through Ozeon or OCIS;
- and connect Project funding, activity records, PRG outcomes, bounties, reports and attestations through shared blockchain contracts.

This makes Ozeon a shared digital commons for regenerative innovation: a platform where ocean, climate, land, education, media, tutorials, culture, science, funding, integrity scoring, dMRV, and governance can be connected through verifiable participation.

The OCIS integration strengthens this model by making eligible Projects accessible to companies, funders, creators and Project teams for assessment, funding, reporting and market-readiness support. By using shared contracts, shared Project identifiers, shared activity records and shared PRG accounting, Ozeon and OCIS can operate as connected

interfaces without double counting Project activity or fragmenting the regenerative economy.

References:

1. European Commission. (2023). *EU Mission "Restore our Ocean and Waters" by 2030*.
2. UNESCO. (2019). *Recommendation on Open Educational Resources*.
3. UNESCO. (2021). *Recommendation on Open Science*.
4. UNESCO-IOC. (2021–2030). *UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development*.
5. World Economic Forum. (2025). *The Future of Jobs Report 2025*.

Identity Verification, Compliance & Trust Framework

12.1 Overview

Ozeon's Identity Verification, Compliance and Trust Framework is designed to protect the integrity of the platform while preserving open access to regenerative knowledge, education, publishing, Media, Tutorials, Projects, Open Calls, Bounties, DAO governance, community participation, and OCIS-enabled project integrity services.

The framework combines:

- tiered user verification;
- KYB verification for organisations;
- KYP verification for Pods;
- optional community-attested verification pathways;
- inclusive document flexibility for users without conventional identity documents;
- AML/CTF screening for higher-risk financial and crypto-asset activity;
- sanctions, politically exposed person, adverse-media and wallet-risk screening where required;
- GDPR, UK GDPR and Singapore PDPA-aligned data protection;
- Indigenous Data Sovereignty and CARE-aligned safeguards where relevant;
- minimal data collection and no unnecessary surveillance;
- shared Ozeon–OCIS identity and permission logic where appropriate;
- and clear separation between platform trust verification and regulated financial compliance.

This framework exists because Ozeon supports different forms of participation with different risk profiles. A learner reading an Educational Resource should not be required to complete identity verification. A creator publishing a Tutorial should not face the same compliance burden as a user withdrawing funds, receiving high-value Project funding, managing a treasury wallet, participating in a token sale, or accessing regulated financial flows.

Verification should therefore be proportional, risk-based, inclusive, and privacy-preserving.

The framework is designed around one core principle:

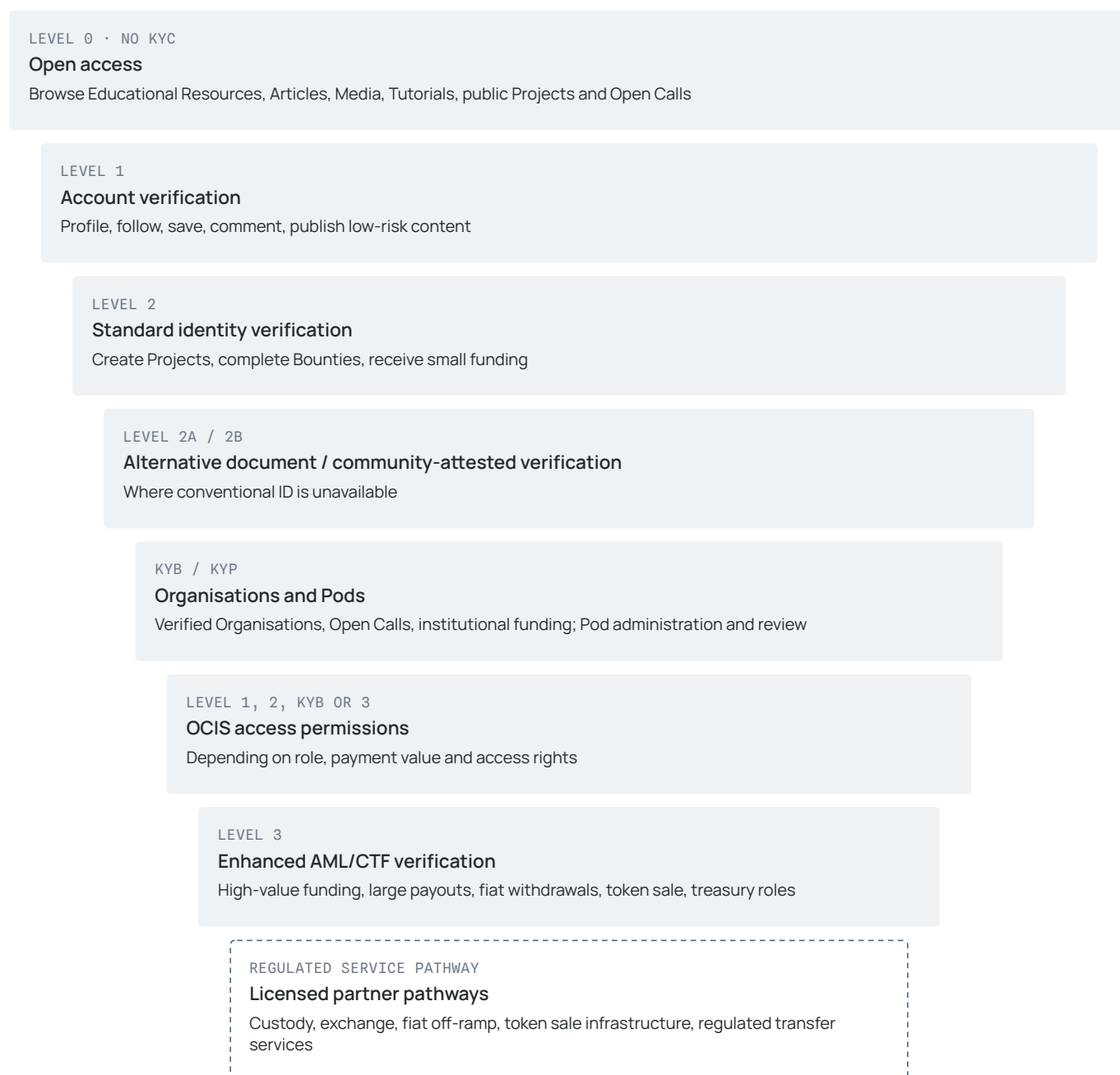
- Open knowledge should remain universally accessible.
- Higher-risk financial, governance, treasury, OCIS funding, payout, verification-sensitive and regulated activities require stronger trust controls.
- Verification must be proportionate, culturally aware, privacy-preserving and legally compliant.

OCIS introduces an additional trust layer because eligible Ozeon Projects may be automatically listed in OCIS. Companies, funders, creators, Project teams and approved users may use OCIS to run Project Integrity Scores, request reports, fund Projects, access pro or premium evidence products, support Bounties, or initiate dMRV-aligned workflows. These

activities use shared Ozeon–OCIS Project identifiers, shared permission logic, shared blockchain contracts where applicable, and shared PRG accounting to prevent duplicate funding records, duplicate PRG issuance, inconsistent Project status labels, and double counting of activity.

The regulatory environment is increasingly formalised. In the European Union, MiCA establishes uniform rules for crypto-assets, crypto-asset offers, admission to trading and crypto-asset service providers. In Estonia, from 1 July 2026 crypto-asset services may only be provided by companies authorised by Finantsinspeksioon or another EEA supervisory authority. Singapore’s Digital Token Service Provider regulations commenced on 30 June 2025, and the UK’s new cryptoasset regime is scheduled to start on 25 October 2027. Ozeon should therefore treat token sale activity, regulated crypto-asset services, fiat ramps, custody, exchange, transfer, wallet services, financial promotions, Travel Rule obligations and payment flows as legal-review areas requiring licensed partners or authorisation where applicable.

FIGURE 12.1 — OZEON TRUST AND VERIFICATION ARCHITECTURE



12.2 Design Principles

Ozeon's identity and compliance architecture is grounded in nine principles.

12.2.1 Proportionality

Verification requirements increase only when user activity creates higher risk. Low-risk learning, reading, watching, browsing, and public discovery remain open. Higher-risk actions such as Project funding, payouts, fiat withdrawals, treasury management, token sale participation, regulated crypto-asset flows, high-value OCIS funding, or institutional disbursement require stronger verification.

12.2.2 Universal Knowledge Access

Users worldwide should be able to access public Educational Resources, Articles, Media, Tutorials, Projects, Open Calls, and public Project information without identity verification. This preserves Ozeon's function as a knowledge commons.

12.2.3 Accessibility and Inclusion

Identity systems should not exclude users simply because they lack a passport, formal address, conventional bank account, driver's licence, or standard institutional affiliation. Ozeon should support flexible verification pathways where legally and operationally possible, especially for contributors in remote, under-banked, low-documentation, Indigenous, community-based, or Global South contexts.

12.2.4 Cultural Safety and Data Sovereignty

Ozeon recognises that identity, legitimacy, authorship, and authority may be validated through community, customary, territorial, cultural, cooperative, institutional, or Indigenous governance systems. Where Indigenous or community-held knowledge is involved, the framework should be informed by the CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance: Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility, and Ethics.

12.2.5 Regulatory Alignment

Ozeon's verification architecture should remain compatible with:

- MiCA and EU crypto-asset rules;
- Estonian MiCA implementation and Finantsinspektsioon supervision;
- EU AML/CTF and Transfer of Funds / Travel Rule requirements;
- Singapore's Payment Services Act and digital token service provider framework;
- MAS AML/CFT expectations for relevant digital token services;

- the UK Money Laundering Regulations and cryptoasset Travel Rule obligations;
- the UK cryptoasset financial promotions regime;
- and future UK cryptoasset authorisation requirements.

12.2.6 Data Minimalism

Ozeon collect only the personal data necessary for the relevant purpose. Identity, verification, OCIS access, funding and payout workflows should be designed around purpose limitation, data minimisation, storage limitation, security, accountability and clear user rights.

12.2.7 No Sensitive Identity Data On-Chain

Identity documents, biometric data, home addresses, community attestations, AML screening results, source-of-funds information and culturally sensitive evidence will not be stored directly on-chain. Blockchain stores only privacy-preserving attestations, hashes, timestamps, badge states, status references or verification proofs where necessary.

12.2.8 Shared Ozeon–OCIS Trust Logic

Ozeon and OCIS use shared identity, permission, funding and PRG logic where platform activity crosses both systems. A user, Organisation, Pod, Project or funder are not treated as two unrelated actors simply because an action occurs in OCIS instead of the core Ozeon interface.

Shared trust logic prevents:

- duplicate Project funding records;
- duplicate PRG issuance;
- duplicate Bounty records;
- conflicting Project status labels;
- duplicate identity checks where not necessary;
- inconsistent transaction fee treatment;
- and double counting of Project support or environmental claims.

12.2.9 Clear Status Language

Ozeon avoids misleading status labels. OCIS Assessed will not be called OCIS Verified. Assessment means OCIS has reviewed, scored, analysed or structured Project evidence. Verification means a stronger process has occurred, usually involving defined methodology, reviewer authority, assurance standards or independent third-party review.

12.3 Participation Risk Levels

Ozeon distinguishes between open participation, account participation, verified contributor participation, OCIS access, Organisation participation, Pod participation, enhanced financial participation and regulated-service participation.

TABLE 12.1 — PARTICIPATION RISK LEVELS

RISK LEVEL	EXAMPLE ACTIVITIES	VERIFICATION REQUIREMENT
Open access	Browse Educational Resources, read Articles, watch Media, view Tutorials, explore public Projects and Open Calls	No KYC
Public OCIS visibility	View public OCIS status labels, public Project summaries, public dashboards or public report summaries	No KYC unless access controls apply
Account participation	Create profile, follow users, save content, comment, publish low-risk content	Level 1 account verification
Contributor participation	Create Projects, complete Bounties, receive small funding, obtain verified badge	Level 2 identity or accepted alternative pathway
OCIS user participation	Run Project Integrity Scores, request reports, purchase pro or premium reports, fund Projects through OCIS or access controlled OCIS dashboards	Level 1, Level 2, KYB or Level 3 depending on role, payment value and access rights
Alternative verification participation	Use non-standard documents or community-attested evidence where conventional ID is unavailable	Level 2A or Level 2B alternative pathway
Organisation participation	Verified Organisation profile, Open Calls, institutional funding, OCIS portfolio access, programme coordination	KYB or approved organisation verification
Pod participation	Pod administration, curation, review, domain governance	KYP
High-risk financial activity	High-value Project funding, high-value OCIS funding, large payouts, fiat withdrawals, token sale participation, treasury roles, regulated crypto flows	Level 3 enhanced verification
Regulated service pathway	Custody, exchange, fiat off-ramp, token sale infrastructure, regulated transfer services	Licensed partner or authorisation required

12.4 Verification Tiers

12.4.1 Level 0 — Universal Access: No KYC

No account or identity verification is required for:

- browsing public Educational Resources;
- reading public Articles;
- watching public Media;
- viewing public Tutorials;
- exploring public Projects;
- viewing public Open Calls;

- reading public Project updates;
- viewing public OCIS status labels where available;
- viewing public OCIS report summaries where available;
- and learning from public resources.

This is Ozeon's open-access baseline. Knowledge access should not depend on passports, bank accounts, formal addresses, government ID, or crypto wallets.

12.4.2 Level 1 — Basic Account Verification

Level 1 is basic account verification. It is not full KYC. Users must verify that they are over the age of 18 to create an account.

Required for:

- creating a user profile;
- following or connecting with users;
- saving or bookmarking content;
- publishing basic Articles;
- creating basic Projects;
- publishing Media;
- publishing Tutorials;
- commenting or participating socially where enabled;
- applying to low-risk Open Calls;
- accessing low-risk OCIS user functions where enabled;
- and receiving platform notifications.

Information collected may include:

- email or phone;
- name or chosen display name;
- region or country;
- optional photo;
- short bio;
- optional community, organisation or institutional affiliation;
- optional wallet connection.

Level 1 does not require government identity documents.

12.4.3 Level 2 — Standard Identity Verification

Level 2 is required where a user's activity affects funding, trust, governance, public credibility, monetisation, Project integrity or other users' resources.

Required for:

- creating Projects that seek funding;
- receiving small or medium Project payouts;
- receiving tips or financial support;
- completing paid Bounties;
- selling or licensing IP-NFT-linked work;
- receiving creator payments above defined thresholds;
- obtaining an Individual Verified Badge;
- joining or administering Pods;
- participating in higher-trust governance roles;
- acting as a Project lead for OCIS-listed Projects where required;
- and accessing selected contributor pathways.

Level 2 verification may include:

- legal name where required;
- date of birth where legally required;
- country of residence;
- government ID where available;
- liveness or anti-impersonation check;
- sanctions screening;
- PEP and adverse-media screening where risk-based;
- wallet screening where crypto flows are involved;
- and proof of address where required by payment, payout or compliance partners.

Ozeon may implement Level 2 through one or more qualified identity-verification providers, subject to vendor due diligence, data-processing agreements, GDPR compliance, PDPA compliance, subprocessor review, security review, retention controls, accessibility testing, bias review, and jurisdictional assessment.

12.4.4 Level 2A — Alternative Document Verification

Where conventional government ID is unavailable or inappropriate, Ozeon may support alternative document verification, subject to legal review and provider capability.

Accepted evidence may include:

- birth certificate;
- student ID;
- local school or university letter;
- clinic or health card;
- local municipality letter;
- refugee or asylum document;
- national voter registration card;

- local employment record;
- cooperative membership record;
- NGO or civil society organisation letter;
- research institution confirmation;
- local academic supervisor verification;
- community organisation letter;
- or other context-specific documents suitable to the user's region and risk tier.

This pathway is intended to support users in low-documentation, remote, underbanked or structurally excluded contexts. It is treated as a valid platform trust pathway where legally appropriate, but it may not be sufficient for all regulated financial flows.

12.4.5 Level 2B — Community-Attested Verification

Community-attested verification is an optional pathway for users whose identity, role, affiliation or legitimacy is best established through community, customary, cooperative, local, institutional, Indigenous or civil-society systems.

This pathway may use:

- community-issued letters;
- cooperative or association confirmation;
- local governance confirmation;
- Indigenous council or customary authority confirmation where relevant;
- NGO or CSO confirmation;
- research institution confirmation;
- Project lead attestation;
- community organisation endorsement;
- or a vetted Trust Anchor attestation.

Community-attested verification may support:

- Project creation;
- Individual Verified Badge;
- low or medium funding eligibility;
- Bounty participation;
- Pod participation;
- community knowledge contribution;
- local Project legitimacy;
- and OCIS Project lead or contributor legitimacy where appropriate.

However, community-attested verification is not a blanket substitute for statutory KYC. For high-value regulated transactions, token sale participation, fiat withdrawals, treasury authority, regulated crypto transfers, or regulated partner requirements, additional checks may still be required.

12.4.6 Level 3 — Enhanced Verification

Level 3 is required for higher-risk activity.

Required for:

- large Project funding;
- high-value OCIS funding;
- high-value Bounty payments;
- large crypto transactions where Ozeon or a partner provides a regulated service;
- fiat withdrawals;
- token sale participation;
- treasury management roles;
- DAO budget allocations;
- Organisation administrators with financial authority;
- institutional Project leadership;
- custody, escrow or disbursement authority;
- access to sensitive OCIS financial or portfolio functions where required;
- and activities triggering AML/CTF, sanctions, Travel Rule or source-of-funds obligations.

Level 3 may include:

- all relevant Level 2 checks;
- enhanced proof of address where available;
- sanctions screening;
- PEP screening;
- adverse-media screening;
- wallet-risk screening;
- source-of-funds declaration;
- source-of-wealth declaration where required;
- transaction purpose;
- manual compliance review;
- and jurisdiction-specific legal assessment.

12.4.7 Inclusive Level 3 Disbursement Alternatives

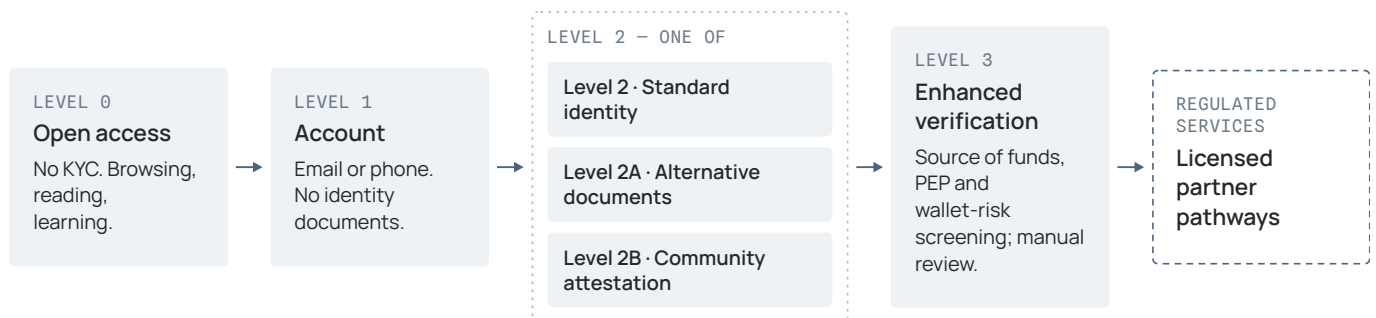
Where a user or Project cannot meet conventional banking requirements, Ozeon avoids automatic exclusion where legally possible. Alternative disbursement routes may include:

- escrow and staged release;
- regulated payment partners;
- mobile money partners where available;

- NGO or institutional intermediaries;
- cooperative treasuries;
- community custodians;
- university or research institution custodians;
- Project escrow;
- or legally compliant non-custodial on-chain disbursement.

These pathways must still comply with sanctions controls, AML/CTF obligations, Travel Rule requirements where applicable, local payment rules, tax obligations and licensed partner requirements.

FIGURE 12.2 — TIERED VERIFICATION MODEL



12.5 Inclusive Access Pathways

Inclusive access is not a separate compliance system. It is a complementary design layer within Ozean's broader risk-based verification framework.

Ozean may support inclusive access pathways for users who face barriers such as:

- limited formal documentation;
- no formal address;
- no bank account;
- remote geography;
- low bandwidth;
- shared devices;
- informal community documentation;
- student or youth status;
- refugee or displacement status;
- community-based identity systems;
- or reduced access to conventional digital-finance infrastructure.

Ozean's response should be practical rather than symbolic. The platform aims to support:

- low-friction access for low-risk participation;
- asynchronous upload rather than live-only verification where possible;
- manual review fallback;

- multilingual support over time;
- alternative document pathways;
- Trust Anchor attestations;
- community organisation verification;
- mobile-friendly verification;
- lightweight account recovery;
- and culturally safe appeals.

The purpose is to reduce unnecessary exclusion while maintaining legal and financial integrity.

TABLE 12.2 — INCLUSIVE VERIFICATION PATHWAYS

USER CONTEXT	POSSIBLE VERIFICATION PATHWAY	SUITABLE FOR	LIMITATIONS
Has standard ID	Level 2 standard identity verification	Projects, Bounties, badges, payouts	Enhanced checks may still apply for high value
Has no passport or driver's licence	Alternative documents	Projects, low/medium payouts, verified badge	Depends on jurisdiction and provider capability
Has no formal address	Community letter, local authority letter, institution letter	Platform trust and lower-risk flows	May not satisfy some banking requirements
Community-based legitimacy	Trust Anchor or community attestation	Projects, Pods, knowledge contribution, local legitimacy	Not always sufficient for regulated flows
No bank account	Mobile money, partner disbursement, escrow, on-chain route where legal	Payout access and micro-grants	Requires compliance review
Low bandwidth	Image upload, asynchronous verification, manual review	Identity submission	Slower processing
Shared device	Account security prompts, manual review, recovery safeguards	Account access	Higher fraud risk controls needed

12.6 Trust Anchor System

The Trust Anchor System is an optional community-based identity and legitimacy pathway. It enables inclusive participation without requiring every user to rely solely on government-issued documentation.

Trust Anchors are recognised individuals or organisations with cultural authority, institutional legitimacy, professional standing, or community trust.

Trust Anchors may include:

- community organisations;
- local NGOs or civil-society organisations;
- cooperatives;
- local governance bodies;
- universities;

- research institutions;
- verified Project leads;
- community foundations;
- Indigenous councils or customary authorities where relevant;
- or other recognised local authorities.

12.6.1 Trust Anchor Functions

Trust Anchors may:

- confirm that a user is known to a community;
- confirm that a contributor belongs to or represents a community;
- confirm local Project legitimacy;
- confirm contributor involvement;
- support identity verification where documents are unavailable;
- support ethical review of local or community knowledge submissions;
- support OCIS Project legitimacy checks where appropriate;
- and validate community consent where applicable.

12.6.2 Trust Anchor Vetting

Trust Anchors must themselves be vetted and monitored. Vetting may include:

- identity or organisational verification;
- legitimacy review;
- community references;
- conflict-of-interest declaration;
- scope of authority;
- geographic or community scope;
- annual review;
- complaint process;
- and revocation rules.

12.6.3 Trust Anchor Attestations

A Trust Anchor attestation should include:

- Trust Anchor identity;
- attested user identity or role;
- basis of attestation;
- community or institutional context;
- scope of attestation;
- date and expiry;

- consent record;
- dispute pathway;
- restrictions on use;
- and whether the attestation is suitable for platform participation only or for higher-trust functions.

12.6.4 Trust Anchor Limits

Trust Anchor verification can support platform trust, inclusion and legitimacy. It may not be sufficient alone for regulated financial services.

Trust Anchor verification may support:

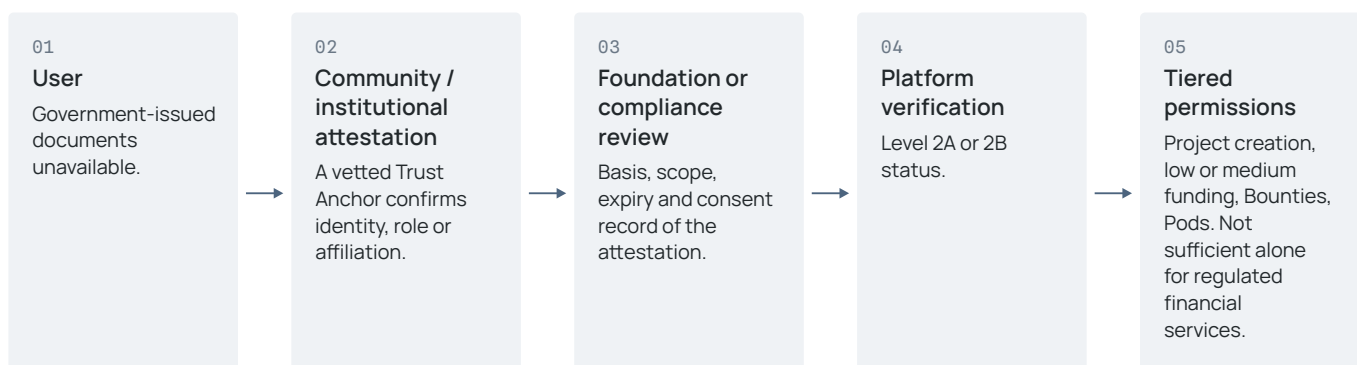
- Level 2A or Level 2B verification;
- Project creation;
- low or medium funding eligibility;
- Bounty participation;
- community knowledge contribution;
- Pod participation;
- OCIS Project legitimacy where appropriate;
- and Individual Verified Badge where appropriate.

It may not be sufficient alone for:

- high-value fiat withdrawals;
- regulated token sale participation;
- regulated crypto transfers;
- treasury management roles;
- large institutional funding;
- high-value OCIS funding;
- or activities where law, a licensed partner or payment provider requires statutory KYC.

This distinction protects both inclusion and compliance.

FIGURE 12.3 — TRUST ANCHOR VERIFICATION MODEL



12.7 KYB for Organisations

Organisations that wish to operate as Verified Organisations, host Open Calls, receive larger funding, sponsor Bounties, access institutional OCIS functions, manage Project funds, fund Projects through OCIS, or participate in institutional governance must complete KYB or an approved organisational legitimacy pathway.

Standard KYB may apply to:

- companies;
- universities;
- NGOs;
- foundations;
- research labs;
- DAOs with legal wrappers;
- cooperatives;
- public-sector partners;
- accelerators;
- institutional funders;
- and corporate sustainability teams using OCIS.

Standard KYB may include:

- legal name;
- registration number;
- jurisdiction;
- registered address;
- governing documents;
- proof of authority for the applicant;
- director or officer information;
- UBO information where applicable;
- sanctions and adverse-media screening;
- payment or bank account verification where relevant;
- and wallet screening where crypto flows or treasury activity are involved.

12.7.1 Community and Non-Standard Organisation Verification

Not all legitimate organisations are registered corporations. Ozean supports flexible organisational verification for community organisations, cooperatives, grassroots groups, Indigenous governance bodies where relevant, mutual aid groups and local ecological stewardship groups.

Accepted evidence may include:

- community charter;
- cooperative records;

- NGO or CSO certification;
- local authority letter;
- research partner confirmation;
- community protocol;
- Trust Anchor attestation;
- institutional partner confirmation;
- or Foundation review.

A Verified Organisation badge indicates that the organisation has passed an identity or legitimacy review. It should not imply that every claim, Project, Open Call, OCIS report, environmental claim or impact statement from that organisation is automatically endorsed.

TABLE 12.3 — ORGANISATION VERIFICATION PATHWAYS

ORGANISATION TYPE	STANDARD EVIDENCE	ALTERNATIVE EVIDENCE	NOTES
Registered company	Registry extract, directors, UBOs, authority letter	N/A	Standard KYB
University or research institution	Institutional proof, authorised representative	Department letter, supervisor confirmation	Role verification required
NGO / nonprofit	Registration, board/officer records	Partner confirmation, donor confirmation	Risk-based review
Cooperative	Registration, member governance docs	Local authority or Trust Anchor attestation	Community governance review
Community organisation	Registration where available	Community charter, local references, partner confirmation	Funding limits may apply
Indigenous or traditional authority	May not have corporate registry	Council letter, community protocol, customary authority confirmation	Cultural safety review
DAO or Web3 collective	Legal wrapper docs, multisig signers	Governance records, signer verification	Wallet and treasury controls required
Company using OCIS	Company registry, authorised representative, payment details	Parent-company or institutional confirmation where appropriate	KYB and access controls may apply

12.8 KYP for Pods

Pods are Ozeon's decentralised working groups. They may curate content, review Projects, assess Open Calls, coordinate Bounties, steward Educational Resources, review Media and Tutorials, support DAO governance, and support domain-specific OCIS review where appropriate.

Because Pods are not always legal entities, they require a Know Your Pod framework.

KYP requirements include:

- at least two verified Pod administrators;
- Pod administrators verified through Level 2, Level 2A or Level 2B;
- Level 3 verification for administrators with treasury authority;

- Pod charter;
- purpose statement;
- governance statement;
- conflict-of-interest policy;
- member admission process;
- moderation rules;
- dispute process;
- safety and ethics commitment;
- wallet or treasury controls where applicable;
- OCIS review scope where applicable;
- and reporting obligations.

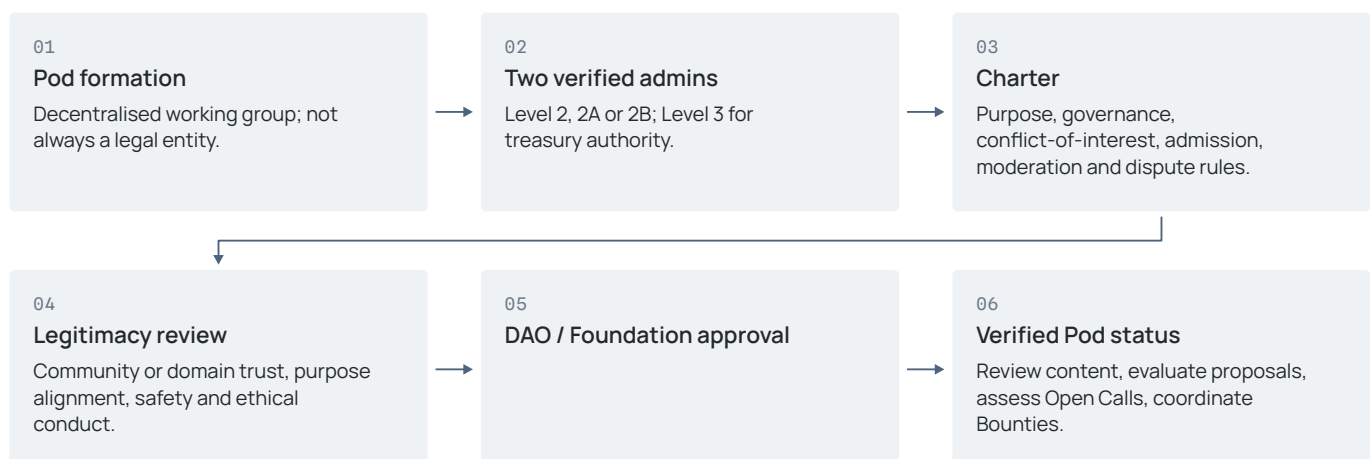
A Verified Pod must demonstrate:

- social legitimacy;
- community or domain trust;
- purpose alignment;
- safety and ethical conduct;
- and at least two verified members through an accepted pathway.

Verified Pods may:

- manage Project categories;
- participate in DAO working groups;
- evaluate proposals;
- review Articles, Media, Tutorials and Educational Resources;
- assess Open Calls;
- coordinate Bounties;
- support OCIS evidence review where approved;
- steward ecosystem development;
- and support domain governance.

FIGURE 12.4 — KYP VERIFICATION FLOW



12.9 Verified Badges and Trust Signals

Ozeon's badges and status labels should clearly communicate what has been verified, assessed, endorsed, listed or attested.

TABLE 12.4 — OZEON TRUST BADGES AND STATUS LABEL

BADGE / STATUS	ACCEPTED VERIFICATION OR STATUS PATHWAY	MEANING	DOES NOT MEAN
Account Verified	Email or phone	Basic account integrity	Legal identity verified
Individual Verified	Level 2 standard, alternative document, or community-at-tested pathway	User completed accepted identity or platform trust verification	User's content is automatically approved
Community Attested	Trust Anchor, community document, NGO/cooperative/institutional letter	Community-based identity or legitimacy reviewed	Full statutory KYC for all regulated flows
Organisation Verified	KYB or approved organisation verification	Organisation legitimacy reviewed	All organisational claims are endorsed
Pod Verified	KYP	Pod has verified admins and approved charter	Pod is a legal entity
Listed Project	Project created and visible on Ozeon	Project can be discovered and supported	DAO endorsed, OCIS assessed, verified, or certified
OCIS Eligible	Project meets minimum OCIS eligibility rules	Project may be listed in OCIS	Project has been assessed, endorsed, verified, or certified
OCIS Listed	Project is visible in OCIS for eligible users	Project can be accessed for scoring, reports, funding or review where enabled	Verification or impact certification
OCIS Integrity Score Available	OCIS score can be run or viewed according to permissions	Project can be assessed using OCIS scoring logic	Formal verification or certification
OCIS Assessed	OCIS assessment, score, evidence review or preliminary report completed	Project has been assessed by OCIS	DAO endorsement, third-party verification, registry certification or credit issuance
OCIS Reporting Active	Project has active reporting workflow	OCIS reports are being generated	Formal external verification
OCIS dMRV Active	Project has an active dMRV-aligned workflow	Baseline, monitoring, reporting and review workflow active	Credit issuance, registry certification or independent verification
DAO Endorsed Project	DAO proposal passed	Project has governance endorsement	Project has completed OCIS dMRV or external verification
OCIS Attested	Selected report, milestone or evidence package anchored on-chain	Tamper-evident record exists for selected evidence	Blockchain proves ecological impact by itself
Third-Party Verified	Independent verifier reviewed the relevant evidence or claim	External verification has occurred	Registry certification or credit issuance unless separately issued

BADGE / STATUS	ACCEPTED VERIFICATION OR STATUS PATHWAY	MEANING	DOES NOT MEAN
Registry-Certified	Recognised registry or standards body issued certification or credit	Registry-level certification exists	Applies to unrelated claims or wider platform status
Content DAO Approved	DAO/Pod review	Article, Media, Tutorial or Resource approved for platform inclusion	Scientific certainty or institutional endorsement

Clear badge definitions are essential to avoid misleading users.

The key terminology rule is:

OCIS Assessed is not the same as OCIS Verified.

Ozeon avoids using “OCIS Verified Project” unless a clearly defined verification process has occurred and the label is legally reviewed. For most cases, the safer and more accurate terms are OCIS Listed, OCIS Assessed, OCIS Reporting Active, OCIS dMRV Active, or OCIS Attested.

12.10 Banking, Payout and Access Challenges

Lack of banking access should not prevent participation in Ozeon where compliant alternatives are available.

Users without bank accounts may still be able to:

- earn PRG;
- publish Articles, Media and Tutorials;
- complete Learn2Earn activities;
- participate in DAO governance where eligible;
- hold IP-NFTs;
- receive \$OZN through non-custodial wallets where permitted;
- receive Bounty payments through approved crypto or partner routes;
- participate through community custodial wallets;
- receive crypto micro-grants where legal and appropriate;
- receive disbursements through approved local partners;
- or participate in OCIS-linked evidence and reporting workflows where access rules allow.

Potential compatible disbursement routes include:

- mobile money wallets;
- Celo-compatible micro-payments;
- community custodial wallets;
- on-chain stablecoins where legal;

- NGO partners;
- cooperative treasuries;
- research institution custodians;
- local fiscal sponsors;
- and peer-to-peer disbursement partners where compliant.

However, payment and crypto flows must still respect sanctions, AML/CTF, Travel Rule, local payment rules, tax obligations and licensed partner requirements. The inclusive design goal is not to bypass compliance, but to prevent unnecessary exclusion.

TABLE 12.5 — INCLUSIVE PAYOUT ALTERNATIVES

USER BARRIER	POSSIBLE PATHWAY	COMPLIANCE SAFEGUARD
No bank account	Mobile money, NGO partner, cooperative treasury	Partner due diligence
No formal address	Local letter, institution letter, Trust Anchor attestation	Risk-based verification
No government ID	Alternative document or community-attested pathway	Activity limits and enhanced review for higher value
Shared device	Account security prompts and recovery safeguards	Fraud monitoring
Low bandwidth	Image upload, delayed review, manual fallback	Slower processing
No fiat access	On-chain wallet or stablecoin route where legal	Wallet screening and sanctions checks
High-value funding	Escrow, institutional custodian, partner disbursement	Level 3 and legal review

12.11 AML, CTF, Sanctions and Travel Rule Controls

Ozeon's AML/CTF controls will be risk-based and proportional. They apply strongly to financial and regulated activities while avoiding unnecessary surveillance of ordinary learning, publishing, Media, Tutorials and community participation.

AML/CTF controls may include:

- identity verification;
- sanctions screening;
- PEP screening;
- adverse-media screening;
- wallet screening;
- transaction monitoring;
- source-of-funds checks;
- source-of-wealth checks for higher-risk cases;
- jurisdictional risk assessment;
- suspicious activity review;
- manual compliance escalation;
- and Travel Rule information flows where crypto-asset transfers fall within scope.

TABLE 12.6 — KYC AND AML REQUIREMENTS BY USE CASE

ACTION	VERIFICATION PATH	NOTES
View public content	None	Universal access
Read Articles	None	Universal access
Watch Media	None	Universal access
View Tutorials	None	Universal access
View public Projects	None	Universal access
View public OCIS status labels or public summaries	None or account access depending on sensitivity	Public-only data
Post basic content	Level 1	No government ID required
Publish substantial Articles, Media or Tutorials	Level 1 or Level 2 depending on monetisation and visibility	Risk-based
Create Projects seeking funding	Level 2, Level 2A or Level 2B	Alternative documents may be accepted where appropriate
Project automatically listed in OCIS	Project eligibility check; Project lead verification depends on use case	OCIS listing is not verification
Run OCIS Integrity Score	Level 1, Level 2 or KYB depending on access, payment and data sensitivity	Companies and institutional users may require KYB
Purchase OCIS premium report	Account verification plus payment-provider controls; KYB for organisations where appropriate	Premium content fee may apply
Fund Project through Ozeon	Risk-based payer controls; recipient verification where required	Project funding fee applies
Fund Project through OCIS	Same funding controls as Ozeon; shared ledger	Prevent duplicate funding records
Receive small funding	Level 2, Level 2A or Level 2B	Risk-based limits apply
Large funding	Level 3	Escrow or partner disbursement where needed
DAO voting	Level 1–3 depending on proposal type and role	PRG-based eligibility
Sell or license IP-NFT-linked work	Level 2	Higher value may require Level 3
Withdraw crypto	Level 2 or Level 3 depending on value and provider rules	Wallet screening may apply
Fiat withdrawals	Level 3	Local or regulated partner may handle
Individual Verified Badge	Level 2, Level 2A or Level 2B	Community attestations may be accepted
Organisation Verified Badge	KYB or approved organisation verification	Standard and non-standard organisations supported
Verified Pod	KYP	Requires verified admins and governance scope
Treasury role	Level 3	Enhanced controls and conflict review
Token sale participation	Level 3 / regulated partner process	Legal eligibility and KYC/AML required

12.12 Jurisdictional Regulatory Positioning

12.12.1 European Union and Estonia

MiCA regulates crypto-asset public offers, admission to trading and crypto-asset service providers in the EU. ESMA describes MiCA as a uniform EU market framework for crypto-assets. In Estonia, Finantsinspeksioon states that from 1 July 2026 crypto-asset services may only be provided by companies authorised by Finantsinspeksioon or another EEA supervisory authority.

Design implications for Ozeon:

- Ozeon will not provide regulated crypto-asset services in Estonia or the EU unless authorised or operating through an authorised EEA crypto-asset service provider;
- token sale activity requires MiCA legal review;
- public \$OZN materials always avoid misleading investment-return language;
- fiat ramps, custody, exchange, transfer and wallet services can be provided through licensed partners where required;
- identity workflows will support Travel Rule obligations where applicable;
- and GDPR applies to personal data processing in the EU.

12.12.2 Singapore

Singapore's Digital Token Service Provider Regulations 2025 came into operation on 30 June 2025. MAS has also clarified the scope of the DTSP regime and licensing implications for relevant services involving digital payment tokens or tokens of capital market products.

Design implications for Ozeon:

- if the Singapore entity provides digital token services, Singapore legal review is required;
- digital payment token service activities may require licensing or regulated partner support;
- MAS AML/CFT requirements may apply to relevant digital payment token services;
- Singapore PDPA obligations apply to relevant personal data processing;
- and cross-border services from Singapore to overseas customers must be assessed under the relevant framework.

12.12.3 United Kingdom

The FCA states that the application period for the new UK cryptoasset regime runs from 30 September 2026 to 28 February 2027 and that the new regime starts on 25 October 2027. UK-facing cryptoasset financial promotions and relevant AML controls already require careful compliance review.

Design implications for Ozeon:

- Ozeon will not actively market \$OZN or crypto-related services to UK consumers unless communications comply with UK financial promotion rules;
- UK-facing cryptoasset services may require FCA registration, authorisation or approved communication routes;
- Travel Rule obligations apply to relevant cryptoasset transfer activity;
- and UK GDPR applies where Ozeon processes personal data in a UK context.

TABLE 12.7 — JURISDICTIONAL REGULATORY DESIGN MAP

JURISDICTION	MAIN RELEVANCE	OZEON DESIGN RESPONSE
EU	MiCA, Travel Rule, AML/CTF, GDPR	White paper review, CASP partner strategy, GDPR-by-design
Estonia	MiCA authorisation through Finantsinspektsioon	No Estonian crypto-asset services without authorisation or EEA-authorised partner
Singapore	Payment Services Act, DTSP framework, MAS AML/CFT, PDPA	Singapore legal review, licensed partner strategy, PDPA controls
UK	FCA financial promotions, Travel Rule, incoming cryptoasset regime, UK GDPR	No active UK crypto marketing without compliant route; prepare for authorisation boundary

12.13 Data Protection and Privacy

Identity verification requires strong privacy controls.

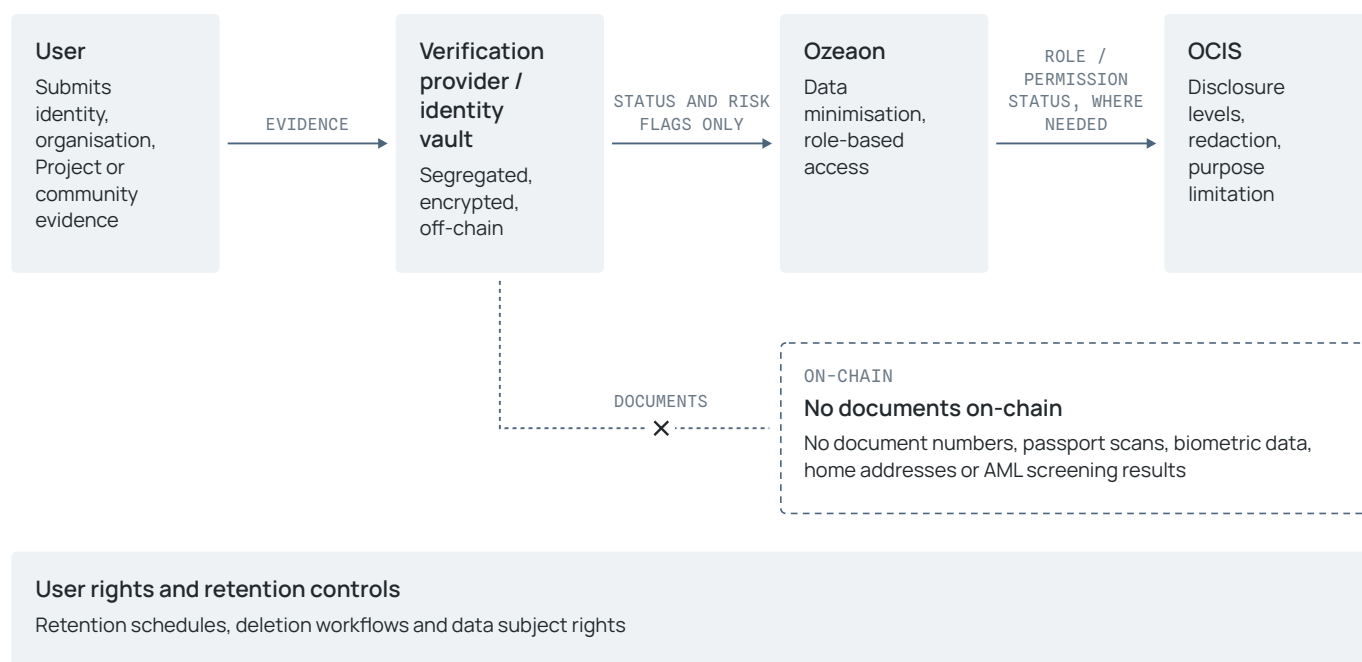
Ozeon will implement:

- clear privacy notices;
- explicit purpose statements;
- consent where appropriate;
- lawful basis assessment;
- data minimisation;
- role-based access;
- encryption at rest and in transit;
- secure vendor processing agreements;
- identity data segregation;
- retention schedules;
- deletion workflows where legally possible;
- data subject rights workflows;
- breach response procedures;
- cross-border transfer safeguards;
- DPIAs for higher-risk processing;
- and strict limits on reuse of identity data.

Identity data will not be monetised, sold, used for behavioural advertising or repurposed for unrelated profiling.

OCIS introduces additional privacy considerations. Project evidence, geospatial data, company portfolio information, Project funding records, premium reports and dMRV outputs may include sensitive ecological, commercial, cultural, personal or community information. Ozean and OCIS therefore uses disclosure levels, access permissions, redaction, role-based access and purpose limitation for OCIS records.

FIGURE 12.5 — PRIVACY-PRESERVING VERIFICATION ARCHITECTURE



12.14 Ethical and Cultural Governance Layer

The Ozean Foundation supervises identity-related ethics, cultural safety and community trust systems.

The Foundation may oversee:

- Trust Anchor accreditation;
- community dispute processes;
- identity-related appeals;
- periodic Trust Anchor review;
- cultural liaison pathways;
- community consent standards;
- Indigenous data governance safeguards where relevant;
- bias monitoring in identity verification systems;
- sensitive OCIS evidence review where relevant;
- and transparency reporting.

12.14.1 Data Sovereignty

Where Indigenous or community-held data is involved, Ozeon respects collective data rights, community context, consent and appropriate control over how data is used. CARE-aligned governance requires attention to collective benefit, authority to control, responsibility and ethics.

12.14.2 Consent-Based Identity

Government ID should not be forced where it is culturally inappropriate, politically unsafe or structurally unavailable, unless required by law for a specific regulated activity.

12.14.3 Non-Extractive Verification

Ozeon will not collect identity information beyond what is necessary for the relevant purpose. Community documents and Trust Anchor attestations should not become extractive datasets.

12.14.4 Algorithmic Harm Review

Identity verification systems can produce false negatives because of image quality, lighting, skin tone, facial markings, traditional attire, age, disability, internet quality or document type. Ozeon will monitor false rejection rates, offer manual review and provide appeal pathways.

12.14.5 FPIC Where Relevant

Where Indigenous communities, knowledge, land, cultural materials or community-held data are involved, Ozeon applies Free, Prior and Informed Consent principles where relevant. This is especially important where Projects, OCIS reports, biodiversity data, location data, cultural knowledge or environmental evidence may affect community rights or visibility.

12.15 On-Chain Identity and Attestation Design

Ozeon may use on-chain or platform-visible attestations to represent verification status, but these will avoid exposing personal data.

Permissible status indicators may include:

- Account Verified;
- Individual Verified;
- Community Attested;
- Organisation Verified;
- Pod Verified;
- Listed Project;

- OCIS Eligible;
- OCIS Listed;
- OCIS Assessed;
- OCIS Reporting Active;
- OCIS dMRV Active;
- DAO Endorsed Project;
- OCIS Attested;
- Third-Party Verified;
- Registry-Certified;
- Contributor Badge;
- and role-based governance eligibility.

On-chain records do not include:

- identity document numbers;
- passport scans;
- biometric data;
- home addresses;
- Trust Anchor evidence details;
- legal names unless explicitly public and necessary;
- sensitive community information;
- AML screening results;
- source-of-funds information;
- private OCIS evidence;
- precise sensitive ecological locations;
- or confidential company portfolio data.

The optimal structure is:

off-chain identity, organisation, Project or community evidence

>

verification provider / Trust Anchor / Foundation / OCIS eligibility review

>

internal verification or eligibility status

>

privacy-preserving badge, status label or attestation

>

platform permission, OCIS access or governance eligibility

Future development may include decentralised identifiers, verifiable credentials, soulbound reputation badges, zero-knowledge proofs and selective disclosure.

12.16 Compliance Operations

Ozeon maintains an internal compliance operating model even where regulated services are delegated to licensed partners.

The operating model will include:

- compliance owner;
- data protection owner;
- Trust Anchor steward;
- vendor-management process;
- KYC/KYB escalation process;
- OCIS access and status review process;
- sanctions screening process;
- AML/CTF policy;
- wallet risk monitoring where applicable;
- suspicious activity escalation process;
- user appeal process;
- data retention schedule;
- jurisdictional risk register;
- Foundation ethics review;
- legal review calendar;
- and shared Ozeon–OCIS audit controls.

TABLE 12.8 — COMPLIANCE OPERATING MODEL

FUNCTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Compliance owner	Oversees KYC/KYB, AML/CTF and regulated partner coordination
Data protection owner	Oversees GDPR, UK GDPR, PDPA and privacy rights
Trust Anchor steward	Manages Trust Anchor approval, review and disputes
Vendor manager	Reviews verification, payment, wallet and AML providers
DAO liaison	Coordinates governance-related verification rules
OCIS trust liaison	Coordinates OCIS access, Project status labels, assessment permissions and evidence sensitivity
Foundation ethics review	Reviews cultural, community and sensitive identity issues
Legal counsel	Reviews MiCA, Estonia, Singapore, UK, token sale, OCIS funding and payment implications

12.17 Appeals, Disputes and Review

Identity and trust decisions affect participation. Ozeon will therefore provide appeal and dispute mechanisms.

Users will be able to:

- understand why verification was requested;
- know which data is required;
- see verification status;
- correct inaccurate data;
- appeal failed verification;
- request human review;
- challenge badge removal;
- request review of Trust Anchor decisions;
- request review of OCIS status labels where appropriate;
- dispute incorrect Project, funding or PRG activity records;
- request deletion where legally permitted;
- and receive culturally safe support where identity pathways involve community status or sensitive identity contexts.

Trust Anchors, Organisations and Pods will be subject to review and possible removal if they abuse authority, submit false attestations, discriminate, fail review, or breach trust policies.

OCIS status labels may also be appealable or reviewable where they materially affect Project visibility, funding confidence, company access, funder decisions or Project credibility.

12.18 Implementation Roadmap

Phase 1 — Universal Access and Account Integrity

- Level 0 and Level 1 access;
- email or phone verification;
- basic abuse prevention;
- public access to learning, Articles, Media and Tutorials;
- no broad KYC for browsing or learning;
- public Project access;
- public OCIS status visibility where appropriate.

Phase 2 — Verified Contributors and Alternative Documentation

- Level 2 standard verification;
- alternative document pathway;
- community-attested pathway;
- Individual Verified Badge;
- Project creation controls;
- Bounty payout checks;

- creator monetisation checks;
- Project lead verification for funded Projects;
- OCIS Project access controls where required.

Phase 3 — Organisations, Pods and Trust Anchors

- KYB for organisations;
- non-standard organisation verification;
- KYP for Pods;
- Trust Anchor policy;
- Trust Anchor vetting;
- periodic revalidation;
- community dispute pathways;
- Organisation access to OCIS where appropriate;
- company and funder access rules for OCIS dashboards, Project scores and premium reports.

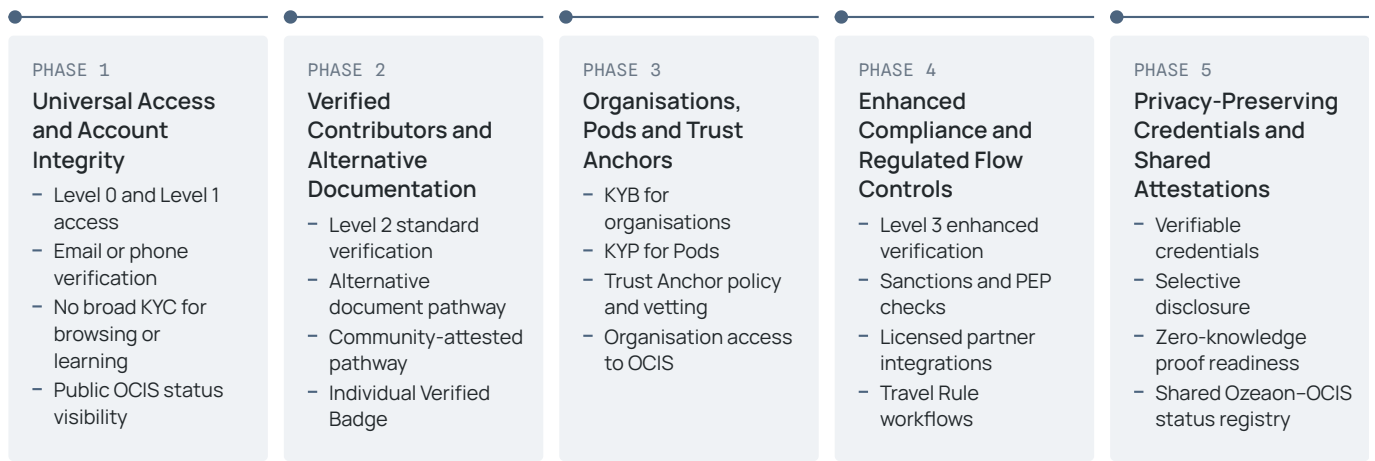
Phase 4 — Enhanced Compliance and Regulated Flow Controls

- Level 3 enhanced verification;
- wallet screening;
- sanctions and PEP checks;
- source-of-funds review;
- licensed partner integrations;
- Travel Rule workflows where required;
- token sale compliance architecture;
- high-value OCIS funding controls;
- shared Ozeon–OCIS funding ledger and PRG replay protection.

Phase 5 — Privacy-Preserving Credentials and Shared Attestations

- decentralised identity compatibility;
- verifiable credentials;
- selective disclosure;
- zero-knowledge proof readiness;
- privacy-preserving reputation attestations;
- community-controlled credential models where appropriate;
- privacy-preserving OCIS status attestations;
- shared Ozeon–OCIS status registry.

FIGURE 12.6 — INCLUSIVE VERIFICATION IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP



12.19 Identity Verification Summary

Ozeon’s Identity Verification, Compliance and Trust Framework is designed to balance openness, safety, inclusion, regulatory alignment, project integrity and cultural awareness.

The model can be summarised as:

No KYC for open learning.

Light account verification for basic participation.

Standard Level 2 verification for Projects, Bounties, badges and contributor trust.

Alternative document pathways for users without conventional ID.

Community-attested verification where local legitimacy is better established through trusted organisations or community authorities.

KYB for Organisations.

KYP for Pods.

Risk-based access controls for OCIS users, companies, funders, creators and Project teams.

Enhanced verification for high-value, treasury, fiat, token sale, OCIS funding and regulated flows.

Licensed partners where regulated crypto-asset or payment services are required.

No sensitive identity data stored on-chain.

No private OCIS evidence stored on-chain.

The system supports:

- global accessibility;
- regulatory compliance;

- privacy-preserving trust;
- flexible documentation;
- community legitimacy where appropriate;
- cultural safety;
- protection for funders, creators and Project teams;
- responsible OCIS access;
- shared Project, funding and PRG accounting across Ozeon and OCIS;
- equitable participation in regenerative innovation;
- and alignment with Ozeon’s public-good, ocean-climate and open-science mission.

The result is a trust infrastructure that is not merely defensive or regulatory. It is part of Ozeon’s regenerative design: a compliance and identity framework that supports open knowledge, responsible participation, financial integrity, community legitimacy, OCIS-enabled project integrity and responsible decentralisation.

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Bounties and Decentralized Work Layer

13.1 Overview

Ozeon's Bounties layer is designed to turn regenerative work into clear, fundable, verifiable tasks. While Projects represent broader initiatives, Bounties represent specific work packages: a research summary, translation, data-cleaning task, Tutorial, field observation, diagram, peer review, software feature, Media asset, project validation task, OCIS evidence task, or citizen-science contribution.

Bounties are Ozeon's decentralized work mechanism. They allow individuals, Projects, Pods, Organisations, funders, researchers, educators, companies, creators and community groups to request specific contributions and reward contributors when work is completed and accepted.

The Bounties layer is also connected to OCIS. Eligible Projects listed in OCIS may generate Bounties for field evidence, Project Integrity Score preparation, baseline data collection, monitoring support, report translation, geotagged media, biodiversity observations, dMRV-readiness tasks, and evidence review. These Bounties communicate back to Ozeon through the same Bounty Registry, Project identifiers, funding ledger, PRG accounting and blockchain contracts where applicable.

The long-term design goal is broader than an internal task board. Ozeon's Bounties system is intended to become an interoperable, multi-platform work layer. Bounties created on Ozeon or linked to OCIS will eventually be exportable, cross-postable, and discoverable across external platforms where users already search for tasks, quests, funding opportunities, creative commissions, research work, citizen-science work, or crypto-native rewards.

The Bounties layer therefore has three stages of development:

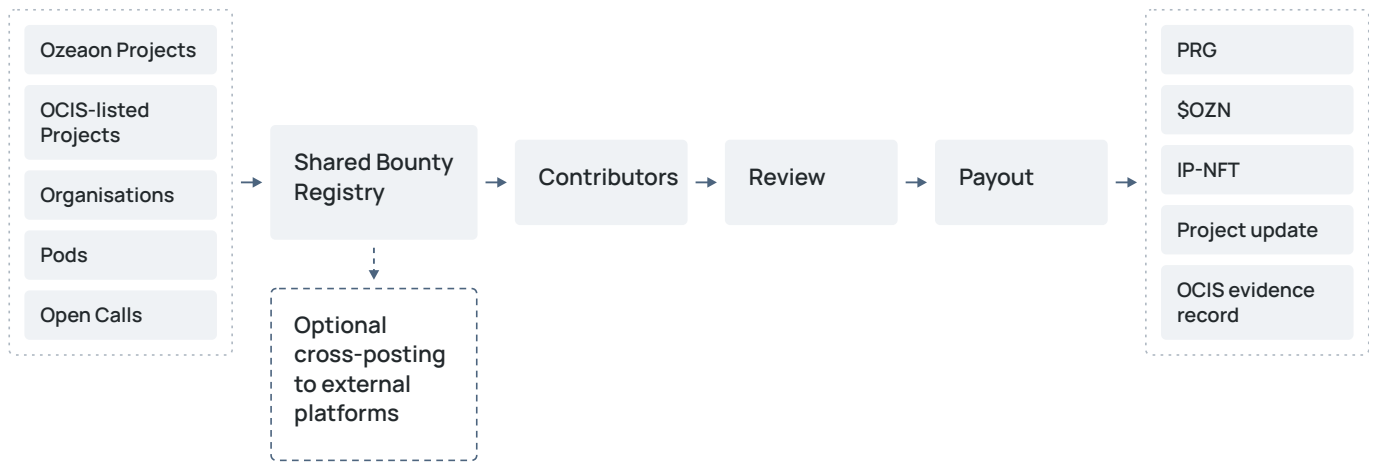
Ozeon-native Bounties;

interoperable cross-posting to external platforms;

and a future standalone Bounty app connected back to Ozeon, OCIS, and the wider ecosystem.

The future standalone Bounty app would serve bounty collectors, bounty hunters, citizen scientists, creators, researchers, reviewers, translators, educators, field contributors, data workers and task-based workers who want a dedicated interface for discovering and completing mission-aligned work.

FIGURE 13.1 — OZEAON BOUNTIES ARCHITECTURE



13.2 Strategic Purpose

Bounties are important because regenerative work is often distributed, specialised, and underfunded. Many valuable tasks are too small for grants, too specific for employment, and too urgent for traditional procurement. Yet these tasks are essential for moving knowledge into action.

Examples include:

- translating a marine science Article into a local language;
- summarising a paper for non-specialist users;
- creating a Tutorial from a field method;
- producing an infographic for an Educational Resource;
- collecting biodiversity observations;
- reviewing a Project proposal;
- validating a dataset;
- editing a Project video;
- designing a biomaterial diagram;
- preparing an Open Call application;
- documenting restoration progress;
- preparing baseline data for OCIS;
- supporting a Project Integrity Score;
- collecting evidence for an OCIS report;
- testing an open-source method;
- or converting research into applied learning content.

Ozean Bounties allow this work to be structured, rewarded, reviewed, and connected to larger platform systems.

Bounties strengthen Ozean by:

- converting passive users into active contributors;
- helping Projects find collaborators;
- helping OCIS-listed Projects collect evidence and prepare reports;
- helping Organisations source mission-aligned work;
- supporting creators and educators;
- rewarding peer review and scientific labour;
- enabling citizen science;
- increasing the utility of \$OZN;
- generating PRG for verified contribution;
- creating evidence for Project milestones;
- producing outputs that can become Articles, Media, Tutorials, datasets, IP-NFTs or OCIS evidence packages;
- supporting DAO and Pod-based coordination;
- and helping funders, companies and Project teams convert funding into measurable work.

13.3 What Can Be Posted as a Bounty?

Ozeon Bounties may cover multiple types of regenerative work.

TABLE 13.1 — BOUNTY CATEGORIES

BOUNTY CATEGORY	EXAMPLE TASKS	OUTPUT TYPE
Research	literature review, paper summary, dataset review, citation mapping	Article, report, dataset, bibliography
Peer review	review Article, Project, Open Call, Tutorial, dataset or method	review record, rating, comment, recommendation
Translation	translate Article, Media subtitles, Tutorial, Project page or report	translated content
Education	create quiz, learning resource, explainer, glossary or curriculum material	Educational Resource
Media	video edit, podcast edit, infographic, animation, diagram, field recording	Media asset
Tutorials	step-by-step guide, field protocol, how-to method, safety notes	Tutorial
Citizen science	field observation, species report, water sample, photo evidence	evidence package
Project support	milestone review, impact narrative, budget support, grant application help	Project document
Open Calls	application review, proposal draft, eligibility research	application package
Design and prototyping	visual design, biomaterial test, schematic, CAD file, UX support	design file or prototype
Software and data	bug fix, dashboard, data cleaning, script, integration	code or dataset
Governance	proposal review, policy draft, risk analysis, Pod support	governance document
OCIS readiness	baseline data preparation, monitoring plan support, evidence structuring	OCIS-ready evidence package

BOUNTY CATEGORY	EXAMPLE TASKS	OUTPUT TYPE
OCIS reporting	field data, report translation, evidence review, geotagged media, dashboard support	OCIS report input
dMRV support	biodiversity observation, water sampling, remote-sensing annotation, field verification support	dMRV-aligned evidence

13.4 Bounty Creation

Bounties may be created by:

- individual users;
- Project teams;
- OCIS-listed Project teams;
- Organisations;
- Pods;
- DAO governance;
- funders;
- companies;
- educators;
- researchers;
- Open Call hosts;
- OCIS users where permitted;
- or the Ozean Foundation.

Each Bounty includes:

- title;
- description;
- creator;
- linked Project, OCIS Project, Organisation, Pod or Open Call where applicable;
- category;
- required output;
- acceptance criteria;
- deadline;
- reward amount;
- reward currency;
- eligibility requirements;
- verification requirements;
- review pathway;
- licence requirements;
- IP ownership terms;

- safety requirements;
- data sensitivity level where relevant;
- OCIS evidence requirements where relevant;
- and dispute process.

Bounty rewards may include:

- fiat payment;
- \$OZN payment;
- PRG recognition;
- non-monetary badge;
- Project credit;
- OCIS evidence credit;
- IP-NFT attribution;
- co-authorship;
- institutional recognition;
- or a combination of the above.

FIGURE 13.2 — BOUNTY CREATION FLOW



13.5 Bounty Completion Lifecycle

The standard Bounty lifecycle should be structured, transparent, and reviewable.

Bounty created

>

Bounty funded or escrowed

>

Contributor applies or claims task

>

Work submitted

>
 Review by creator, Pod, DAO, Project team, Organisation or OCIS reviewer where relevant
 >
 Accepted, revised or rejected
 >
 Reward released
 >
 PRG issued where eligible
 >
 Output linked to Project, Article, Media, Tutorial, Open Call, IP-NFT, OCIS evidence record or Project update

This lifecycle protects both bounty creators and contributors. Creators receive clearer deliverables. Contributors receive clearer expectations and stronger payment confidence.

13.6 Review and Validation

Bounties require a review mechanism. Different bounty types require different levels of assurance.

TABLE 13.2 — BOUNTY REVIEW PATHWAYS

BOUNTY TYPE	REVIEW PATHWAY	EXAMPLE
Simple task	Creator review	Subtitle correction, small translation
Educational task	Creator + Education Pod	Quiz, Tutorial, explainer
Research task	Creator + peer reviewer or Research Pod	Literature review, paper summary
Media task	Creator + Media/Tutorials Pod	Video, animation, infographic
Project milestone task	Project team + Pod review	Restoration update, data package
DAO-funded task	Pod + DAO review	Treasury-funded research or public-good output
OCIS readiness task	Project team + OCIS readiness review	Baseline evidence package
OCIS reporting task	Project team + OCIS review	Field evidence, report input, monitoring evidence
dMRV-related task	OCIS review + Pod/Foundation review where needed	Biodiversity data, water sampling, geotagged evidence

Validation may result in:

- accepted;
- accepted with revision;
- rejected;
- disputed;
- escalated to Pod review;
- escalated to OCIS review;

- escalated to DAO review;
- escalated to Foundation review;
- or archived.

13.7 Payment, Escrow, Fees and Rewards

Ozeon Bounties may support multiple reward structures.

Potential reward types include:

- fixed reward;
- milestone-based reward;
- split reward;
- winner-takes-all reward;
- multi-contributor reward;
- recurring reward;
- review-based reward;
- DAO-matched reward;
- company-funded reward;
- OCIS-linked reward;
- and Project-linked payout.

Payments may be made in:

- fiat;
- \$OZN;
- stablecoins where legally supported;
- partner-supported payment methods;
- or non-monetary recognition such as PRG, badges, attribution, and IP-NFT credit.

Escrow may be used where appropriate. For larger or higher-risk Bounties, funds may be held until the required work is accepted. For small, low-risk Bounties, simpler payout flows may be used.

Bounty payments carry Ozeon's standard 9% Bounty platform fee. This fee supports task validation, platform security, dispute handling, moderation, review infrastructure, payment processing, contributor-payment systems and ecosystem sustainability.

Where Bounties are linked to OCIS, the same fee logic applies unless a legally reviewed service agreement or enterprise contract defines different terms. OCIS-linked Bounties will not create duplicate fees, duplicate reward records or duplicate PRG outcomes across Ozeon and OCIS.

The current platform fee model is:

ACTIVITY	PLATFORM FEE
Project funding	5%
Tipping and donations	9%
Bounties	9%
Premium content	9%

Reward logic will remain legally reviewed, especially where contributors are paid across borders, receive crypto-assets, participate in regulated payment flows, or interact with OCIS-related evidence workflows that may affect funding, reporting or environmental claims.

13.8 PRG Recognition

Bounties are one of the most important sources of verifiable contribution in the Ozeon ecosystem.

Accepted Bounty work may generate PRG when the contribution is:

- completed;
- reviewed;
- accepted;
- attributable;
- non-duplicative;
- and aligned with platform rules.

PRG reflects the quality, difficulty, relevance, and verified completion of the work. It should not be awarded merely for claiming a Bounty or submitting low-quality work.

Bounty-related PRG may support:

- contributor reputation;
- governance eligibility;
- Pod participation;
- Proof-of-Progress participation;
- profile credibility;
- contributor discovery;
- OCIS evidence-contributor records where relevant;
- and future work eligibility.

Where Bounties are connected to OCIS, PRG should be issued through the same shared PRG accounting logic used across Ozeon. A contributor will not receive duplicate PRG because the same Bounty appears in Ozeon, OCIS, a future Bounty app, or an external cross-posting platform.

13.9 Relationship to \$OZN

\$OZN may become a core payment and coordination asset for the Bounties system. It may be used to:

- fund Bounties;
- pay contributors;
- tip reviewers;
- support Project tasks;
- reward Media and Tutorial outputs;
- fund citizen-science tasks;
- support DAO-funded work;
- support OCIS evidence tasks;
- pay for report-related fieldwork where appropriate;
- and incentivise public-good contributions.

However, \$OZN is a utility token, not an investment product. Bounty payments should be linked to completed work, platform utility, and contribution value.

13.10 IP, Licensing and Bounty Outputs

Bounty outputs often create intellectual property. Ozeon must define ownership and licensing clearly before work begins.

Each Bounty should specify:

- who owns the output;
- whether the output is open access;
- whether the contributor retains copyright;
- whether the creator receives a licence;
- whether the output can be used commercially;
- whether attribution is required;
- whether the output can become an Educational Resource;
- whether it can be tokenized as an IP-NFT;
- whether co-authorship applies;
- whether the output is linked to a Project, Organisation or OCIS record;
- whether the output contains sensitive data;
- and whether the output can be used for reporting, integrity scoring or dMRV support.

Bounty outputs may become:

- Articles;

- Media;
- Tutorials;
- Educational Resources;
- Project evidence;
- OCIS evidence packages;
- datasets;
- diagrams;
- software;
- Open Call application materials;
- IP-NFTs;
- report inputs;
- or dMRV-readiness evidence.

TABLE 13.3 — BOUNTY OUTPUT RIGHTS MATRIX

OUTPUT TYPE	DEFAULT TREATMENT	POSSIBLE IP-NFT USE
Article or research summary	Contributor attributed; licence defined by Bounty	Yes
Media asset	Creator attributed; usage licence required	Yes
Tutorial	Contributor attributed; reuse terms defined	Yes
Dataset	Access, privacy and reuse terms required	Yes, if appropriate
Project evidence	Linked to Project record; sensitive data controlled	Usually evidence-linked
OCIS evidence package	Linked to OCIS and Project record; disclosure level defined	Evidence-linked where appropriate
Software	Open-source or custom licence required	Possible
Design file	Contributor attribution and usage rights required	Yes
Field observation	Contributor credited where appropriate; sensitive data controlled	Usually evidence-linked

13.11 Shared Ozeon–OCIS Bounty Registry

The Ozeon Bounty Registry functions as the canonical source of truth for Bounties created within the ecosystem. This includes Bounties created on Ozeon, Bounties linked to OCIS-listed Projects, Bounties surfaced through a future standalone Bounty app, and Bounties cross-posted to external platforms.

The shared registry will retain:

- original Bounty ID;
- creator;
- linked Project ID;
- linked OCIS Project ID where applicable;

- linked Organisation or Pod;
- reward amount;
- reward currency;
- platform fee;
- acceptance criteria;
- deadline;
- external posting locations;
- submission records;
- review status;
- payout status;
- contributor identity or wallet;
- licensing terms;
- dispute status;
- PRG eligibility;
- output links;
- OCIS evidence status where applicable;
- and attestation status where applicable.

This ensures that external distribution, OCIS workflows and future app interfaces do not fragment accountability.

A simplified registry model may include:

REGISTRY FIELD	PURPOSE
bountyId	Canonical Ozean Bounty identifier
creatorId	Identifies Bounty creator
linkedProjectId	Links Bounty to Ozean Project
linkedOcisProjectId	Links Bounty to OCIS Project record where applicable
linkedOrganisationId	Links Bounty to Organisation
linkedPodId	Links Bounty to Pod
category	Defines Bounty type
rewardAmount	Defines payment amount
rewardCurrency	Defines payment currency
platformFee	Records applicable fee
escrowStatus	Tracks whether funds are escrowed
externalPostStatus	Tracks external distribution
externalPlatformLinks	Lists cross-posted locations
submissionStatus	Tracks contributor submissions
reviewStatus	Tracks review result
payoutStatus	Tracks payment status

REGISTRY FIELD	PURPOSE
prgStatus	Tracks PRG eligibility and issuance
ipTerms	Records IP and licence terms
ocisEvidenceStatus	Tracks OCIS evidence link where relevant
disputeStatus	Tracks disputes

13.12 Shared Contracts and No Double Counting

Ozeon, OCIS and the future Bounty app will use shared Bounty records, shared payment logic and shared PRG accounting where blockchain functionality is used. The goal is to ensure that one completed task is counted once, paid once, reviewed once where appropriate, and recognised consistently across the ecosystem.

This avoids:

- duplicate Bounty records;
- duplicate contributor claims;
- duplicate payouts;
- duplicate PRG issuance;
- duplicate Project evidence records;
- duplicate OCIS evidence records;
- duplicate platform fees;
- conflicting review outcomes;
- and fragmented contributor histories.

TABLE 13.4 — SHARED BOUNTY ACCOUNTING CONTROLS

CONTROL	PURPOSE	RISK ADDRESSED
Canonical Bounty ID	One identifier across Ozeon, OCIS, Bounty app and external links	Duplicate Bounty records
Shared Project ID	Links task to the same Project across systems	Fragmented Project evidence
Shared OCIS Project ID	Links task to OCIS evidence workflows	Duplicate OCIS evidence records
Shared payout record	Tracks payment once	Duplicate payouts
Shared PRG replay protection	Prevents duplicate PRG issuance	PRG farming
Shared fee logic	Applies correct 5% Bounty fee	Fee inconsistency
Shared review status	Maintains one accepted/rejected/disputed state	Conflicting review outcomes
Shared contributor history	Records work in one profile	Fragmented reputation

13.13 Interoperability and Cross-Posting

A key long-term feature of Ozeon Bounties is interoperability. Bounties should not remain trapped inside one platform interface. Where technically and legally feasible, Ozeon will support cross-posting, syndication, export, and integration with external task, bounty, grant, quest, and crypto-native platforms.

This may include:

- web3 bounty platforms;
- DAO work platforms;
- quest and activation platforms;
- grant discovery systems;
- creator platforms;
- social distribution channels;
- crypto-native community platforms;
- citizen-science platforms;
- research collaboration platforms;
- and task marketplaces.

The purpose of cross-posting is to increase visibility, attract contributors, and help Ozeon Projects, OCIS-listed Projects and Organisations reach bounty collectors and task-based contributors wherever they already participate.

External distribution must remain controlled. The Ozeon Bounty Registry remains the canonical source of truth. External platforms may increase reach, but they should not replace Ozeon's review, payout, PRG, safety, compliance or evidence-accounting logic.

13.14 External Platform Posting and High-Traffic Distribution

Ozeon may eventually support posting or syndicating selected Bounties to external platforms, including high-traffic crypto-native environments, provided the integration is legal, technically feasible, ethically aligned, and consistent with each external platform's terms.

Ozeon should treat external posting as a controlled distribution function, not a blanket endorsement of external platform behaviour.

Ozeon should only cross-post Bounties externally when the Bounty:

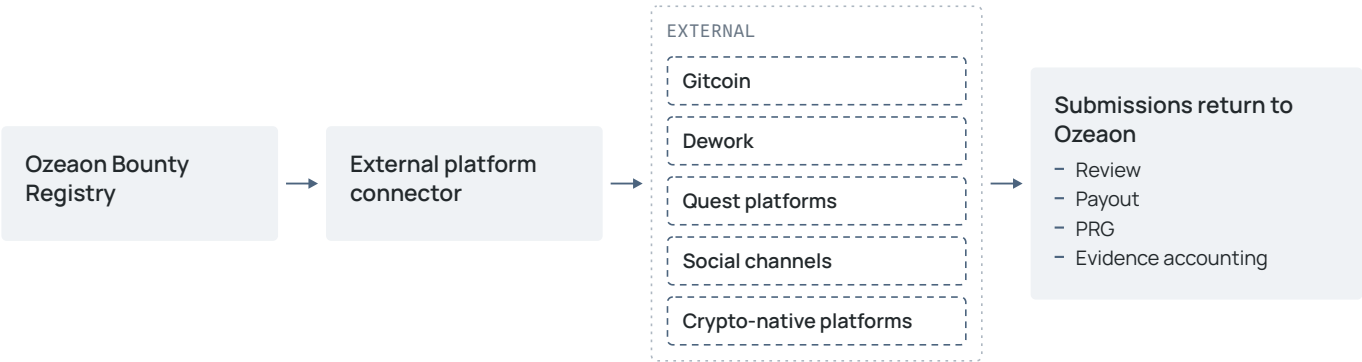
- is mission-aligned;
- has clear deliverables;
- has lawful and safe completion criteria;
- does not incentivise harm, humiliation, harassment, exploitation, dangerous stunts, market manipulation, illegal activity, misinformation, or environmental damage;

- has defined IP and licensing terms;
- complies with the receiving platform’s rules;
- complies with Ozeon’s safety and moderation policy;
- uses the Ozeon Bounty Registry as the canonical record;
- and can be tracked back to the Ozeon ecosystem for review, payout, PRG and dispute handling.

Cross-posting may occur through:

- platform APIs;
- manual syndication;
- partner integrations;
- exportable bounty metadata;
- link previews;
- social cards;
- wallet-connected task links;
- or future interoperability protocols.

FIGURE 13.3 — BOUNTY CROSS-POSTING MODEL



13.15 Bounty Interoperability Standard

Ozeon will develop a portable Bounty metadata standard that allows Bounties to be shared across platforms without losing context.

TABLE 13.5 — PORTABLE BOUNTY METADATA SCHEMA

METADATA FIELD	PURPOSE
Bounty ID	Canonical Ozeon identifier
Title	Human-readable task title
Summary	Short public description
Category	Research, Media, Tutorial, Citizen Science, Project Support, OCIS Readiness, etc.
Creator	User, Project, OCIS Project, Organisation or Pod
Reward	Amount and currency

METADATA FIELD	PURPOSE
Platform fee	Applicable Ozeon fee
Deadline	Submission date
Eligibility	Who can participate
Verification level	KYC/account/trust requirement
Output required	File, report, data, media, tutorial, code, evidence
Acceptance criteria	Review standard
Licence	IP and reuse terms
Safety flags	Restrictions and prohibited outputs
Data sensitivity	Public, restricted, private, sensitive ecological, cultural or personal data
External platforms	Where the Bounty is cross-posted
Canonical URL	Link back to Ozeon
Submission URL	Where contributors submit
Review pathway	Creator, Pod, DAO, Project, Organisation, OCIS
Payout status	Pending, escrowed, paid, disputed
PRG status	Eligible, issued, not eligible
OCIS evidence status	Applicable where linked to OCIS workflows

This metadata standard allows Ozeon to preserve trust, attribution and review quality even when work is distributed across external platforms.

13.16 Future Standalone Bounty App

As the Bounties system grows, Ozeon may develop a dedicated Bounty app as an adjunct layer connected to the main platform and OCIS.

This app would be designed for:

- bounty hunters;
- bounty collectors;
- citizen scientists;
- translators;
- researchers;
- peer reviewers;
- media creators;
- tutorial creators;
- designers;
- field contributors;
- data workers;

- educators;
- software contributors;
- OCIS evidence contributors;
- and other task-based contributors.

The app would not replace the main Ozeon platform or OCIS. Instead, it would provide a focused interface for discovering, claiming, completing and tracking Bounties across Ozeon, OCIS and external platforms.

13.16.1 Bounty App Functions

The future Bounty app may include:

- personalised Bounty feed;
- filters by category, reward, deadline, geography, skill, verification level and Project type;
- OCIS evidence task filters;
- cross-platform Bounty discovery;
- wallet connection;
- user profile and contribution history;
- PRG and \$OZN reward tracking;
- task submission tools;
- field evidence upload;
- mobile-first citizen-science capture;
- geotagged submission support;
- low-bandwidth mode;
- notification system;
- reputation and badge dashboard;
- contributor portfolio;
- dispute tracking;
- saved Bounty lists;
- and OCIS evidence contribution status.

13.16.2 Relationship to Main Ozeon Platform and OCIS

The Bounty app remains connected to Ozeon and OCIS through:

- shared user identity;
- shared PRG reputation;
- shared \$OZN utility;
- shared Project records;
- shared OCIS Project records where applicable;
- shared Organisation records;

- shared Bounty Registry;
- shared IP-NFT system;
- shared DAO and Pod review pathways;
- shared OCIS review pathways;
- shared compliance controls;
- and shared payout and fee logic.

The main Ozeon platform remains the ecosystem layer. OCIS remains the intelligence and integrity layer. The Bounty app becomes the execution layer for task-based contributors.

FIGURE 13.4 — OZEON BOUNTY APP RELATIONSHIP



13.17 Bounty Hunters and Contributor Profiles

The Bounty app can help users build portable contribution profiles.

A contributor profile may show:

- completed Bounties;
- accepted outputs;
- PRG earned;
- \$OZN earned;
- categories of expertise;
- reviews received;
- dispute history;
- IP-NFT-linked outputs;
- Project contributions;
- OCIS evidence contributions where applicable;
- language skills;
- field skills;
- verification status;
- and preferred task types.

This gives contributors a visible record of work that can support future opportunities, funding, collaborations, governance roles, OCIS evidence roles, and reputation.

13.18 Safety, Ethics and Moderation

Bounties can create powerful incentives. They can also create risks. Ozean must therefore design Bounties with stronger ethical controls than general-purpose task platforms.

Prohibited or restricted Bounties should include tasks involving:

- physical harm;
- humiliation;
- harassment;
- hate speech;
- illegal activity;
- financial manipulation;
- market manipulation;
- misinformation;
- deceptive environmental claims;
- non-consensual media;
- unsafe fieldwork;
- exploitation of vulnerable people;
- doxxing;
- surveillance;
- wildlife harm;
- ecological damage;
- cultural extraction;
- sensitive data exposure;
- unsafe experiments;
- or misleading OCIS / dMRV evidence.

External platform cross-posting must also respect these safety rules. Ozean will not allow cross-posting to bypass its own standards.

TABLE 13.6 — BOUNTY RISK AND CONTROL MATRIX

RISK	DESCRIPTION	CONTROL
Unsafe tasks	Bounties incentivise physical danger or harmful behaviour	Prohibited task policy, pre-review
Exploitation	Low rewards induce vulnerable users to perform degrading work	Fairness review, minimum standards, moderation
Misinformation	Bounties reward false claims or low-quality content	Review pathway, citation rules
Greenwashing	Bounties generate misleading impact claims	Evidence standards, OCIS/Pod review where relevant

RISK	DESCRIPTION	CONTROL
IP disputes	Output ownership unclear	Licence terms before posting
Payment disputes	Contributor and creator disagree on completion	Escrow, review, dispute process
Spam	Low-quality submissions flood the system	Eligibility rules, PRG cost, moderation
Duplicate rewards	Same Bounty completed or claimed through multiple interfaces	Shared Bounty Registry and PRG replay protection
External platform risk	Cross-posted Bounties inherit harmful external dynamics	Allowlist, safety policy, canonical registry
Regulatory risk	Crypto rewards trigger compliance obligations	KYC/AML, licensed partners, value thresholds
Cultural harm	Local or Indigenous knowledge extracted without consent	Consent, Trust Anchor review, restricted access
Sensitive evidence exposure	OCIS-related Bounties reveal species, community, location or personal data	Disclosure levels, redaction, access controls

13.19 Governance of Bounties

Bounties will be governed through a mix of platform rules, Pod review, DAO oversight, OCIS review where relevant, and Foundation ethics review.

13.19.1 Platform-Level Rules

Ozeon defines baseline rules for safety, legality, prohibited content, payout structure, dispute processes, contributor eligibility, fees, Bounty metadata and contributor rights.

13.19.2 Pod Review

Pods may review Bounties in their domain. For example:

- Education Pod reviews learning-related Bounties;
- Media and Tutorials Pod reviews content production Bounties;
- Bounties Pod reviews marketplace quality;
- Ocean-Climate Nexus Pod reviews environmental science Bounties;
- Tokenomics and Treasury Pod reviews reward structures;
- AI Ethics and Climate Intelligence Pod reviews AI-related or OCIS-adjacent Bounties.

13.19.3 OCIS Review

OCIS review may apply where a Bounty contributes to Project Integrity Scores, OCIS reports, evidence packages, monitoring workflows, dMRV readiness, environmental claims, company dashboards or market-readiness preparation.

OCIS review may assess:

- evidence quality;
- metadata completeness;
- geospatial relevance;
- data sensitivity;
- claim relevance;
- monitoring suitability;
- report usability;
- and whether the output can be used safely in OCIS workflows.

13.19.4 DAO Oversight

DAO governance may approve large Bounty pools, treasury-funded Bounties, public-good Bounty rounds, cross-platform Bounty campaigns, and Bounty policy updates.

DAO endorsement is not required for ordinary Bounty creation or OCIS-linked task activity unless the Bounty uses DAO treasury funds, affects DAO governance, supports a DAO-linked verification pathway, or falls within a governance-controlled category.

13.19.5 Foundation Review

The Ozean Foundation may intervene where Bounties raise ethical, legal, safety, Indigenous data, cultural knowledge, environmental integrity, sensitive evidence or reputational concerns.

13.20 OCIS and dMRV-Related Bounties

Bounties may support OCIS and dMRV workflows for eligible Ozean Projects listed in OCIS. DAO endorsement is not required for all OCIS-related Bounties. However, stronger review may be required where a Bounty contributes to higher-assurance reporting, blockchain attestation, DAO-linked verification, market-readiness evidence, or external verification pathways.

Examples include:

- baseline data collection;
- field photo submission;
- water-quality sampling;
- biodiversity observations;
- geospatial annotation;
- restoration progress evidence;
- sensor maintenance records;

- local stakeholder interviews;
- data cleaning;
- Project report translation;
- milestone evidence review;
- Project Integrity Score preparation;
- company report support;
- public dashboard support;
- and environmental evidence packaging.

These Bounties should be reviewed carefully because they may contribute to Project evidence, Project funding confidence, company reporting, OCIS dashboards, dMRV outputs or environmental claims.

OCIS-related Bounties will have stronger controls for:

- verification;
- metadata;
- privacy;
- quality;
- geospatial accuracy;
- disclosure levels;
- sensitive ecological data;
- community consent;
- and double-count prevention.

13.21 Strategic Importance

The Bounties layer is strategically important because it allows Ozeon to become a work coordination network, not only a publishing platform.

It supports:

- decentralized work;
- contributor earnings;
- citizen science;
- educational production;
- Project validation;
- OCIS evidence creation;
- Media creation;
- Tutorial creation;
- public-good research;
- regenerative innovation;
- DAO coordination;

- company and funder engagement;
- Project Integrity Score preparation;
- and cross-platform visibility.

The future standalone Bounty app strengthens this further by giving task-based contributors a dedicated interface for discovering and completing work. Interoperability then expands Ozeon's reach beyond its own platform, allowing Bounties to move into the wider web3, creator, research and regenerative finance ecosystem while retaining Ozeon's shared Registry, PRG accounting, Project links, OCIS evidence links and safety controls.

The strategic logic is:

- Projects create work.
- OCIS-listed Projects create evidence needs.
- Organisations create opportunities.
- Companies and funders create demand for credible reporting.
- Pods define needs.
- Funders supply rewards.
- Contributors complete tasks.
- Bounties verify output.
- PRG recognises contribution.
- \$OZN enables payment.
- IP-NFTs preserve attribution.
- OCIS records evidence where relevant.
- The Bounty app expands participation.
- Cross-posting expands reach.
- Shared contracts prevent double counting.

13.22 Bounties Summary

Ozeon's Bounties layer converts regenerative needs into actionable work. It creates a structured system for requesting, funding, completing, reviewing, rewarding and attributing mission-aligned tasks.

In its first form, Bounties operate inside Ozeon. In its interoperable form, Bounties can be cross-posted to external platforms where technically and legally appropriate. In its OCIS-linked form, Bounties support Project Integrity Scores, evidence collection, reporting, field validation, dMRV readiness and market-readiness workflows. In its mature form, the Bounties system can become a standalone adjunct app for bounty hunters and task-based contributors, while remaining connected to the main Ozeon platform and OCIS through shared identity, PRG, \$OZN, Projects, OCIS Projects, Organisations, Pods, IP-NFTs, governance and compliance controls.

Bounties therefore become one of Ozeon's most practical mechanisms for turning knowledge into action:

A Project needs help.

A Bounty defines the task.

A contributor completes the work.

A reviewer validates the output.

A reward is released.

PRG records contribution.

The output strengthens the commons.

OCIS can use eligible outputs for evidence and reporting.

Shared contracts prevent duplicate accounting.

References:

1. Dework. (2026). *Web3-native project management with token payments, credentialing and bounties.*
2. Gitcoin. (2026). *Bounties.*
3. Layer3. (2026). *Builder: Create activations, distribute rewards and drive real usage.*
4. Pump.fun. (2026). *Go.fun Terms.*
5. Wired. (2026). *Pump.fun's Bounties Platform Is a Black Hole of Circular Gifting.*

Roadmap

14.1 Overview

Ozeon's roadmap is structured as a staged development pathway for building a global regenerative innovation ecosystem in a disciplined, testable, and legally cautious way. The roadmap does not attempt to launch every long-term feature at once. It moves from platform readiness and monetisation, through trust and scale infrastructure, into community engagement, token economy implementation, on-chain integration, and OCIS-enabled climate intelligence.

The current product roadmap describes Ozeon's development runway as a living list of features, beginning with what finishes the current phase and then showing the shape of what comes next. It also assigns effort indicators to roadmap items, allowing the team to understand the scale of the work ahead.

The roadmap should now be understood through five main development layers:

1. Core Ozeon platform development — publishing, Projects, Organisations, Open Calls, payments, search, moderation, accessibility, and user participation;
2. Trust, safety and operational scale — compliance tooling, moderation queues, GDPR workflows, admin systems, security, localisation, and user activation;
3. Community and engagement infrastructure — Educational Resources, organisation verification, paid subscriptions, recommendations, messaging, notifications, events, and deeper participation tools;
4. Token economy and governance implementation — PRG accounting, Learn2Earn rewards, DAO Pods, progress-weighted governance, treasury systems, signed claims, \$OZN infrastructure, wallets, audits, ICO readiness, and Proof of Progress staking;
5. OCIS integration — climate intelligence, Project Integrity Scoring, company tools, dMRV reporting, Earth Observation, funding synchronisation, evidence libraries, and later blockchain-enabled contribution records.

OCIS is a parallel, connected product track. It is being developed as a climate intelligence and project integrity platform that interoperates with the Ozeon platform. Ozeon remains the canonical home and funding record for Ozeon-created Projects, while OCIS provides assessment, scoring, reporting, funding, company-facing dashboards, and dMRV-aligned intelligence services.

The strategic logic is:

Build the usable platform.

Stabilise trust, payments, moderation and compliance.

Expand community, education and engagement.

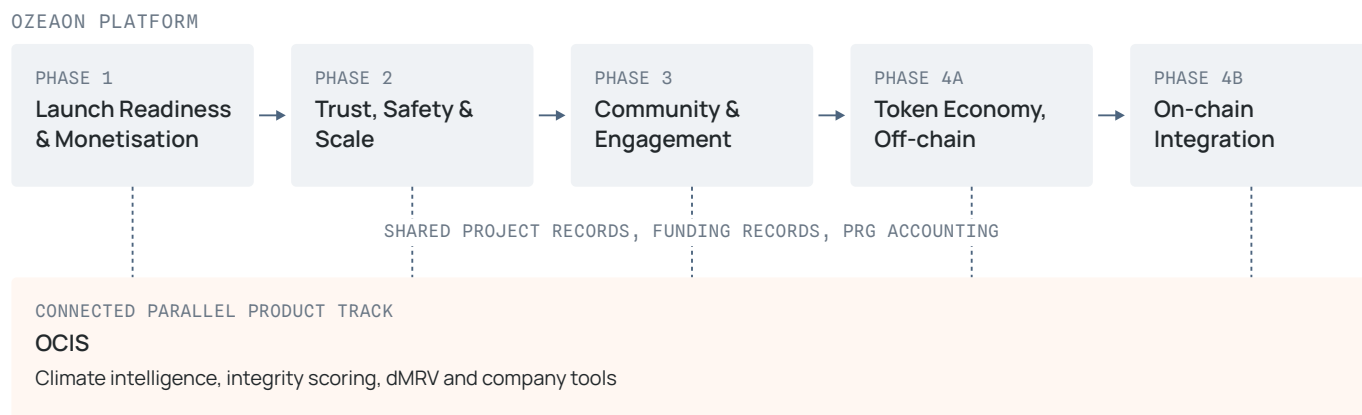
Develop OCIS as the connected intelligence and integrity layer.

Implement the token economy safely.

Move token utility and governance on-chain only after legal, custody, audit and regulatory gates are satisfied.

Use shared Project records, funding records, PRG accounting and blockchain contracts where applicable to avoid duplicate accounting and double counting.

FIGURE 14.1 — OZEAON DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP OVERVIEW



14.2 Roadmap Structure and Source Alignment

The roadmap combines three planning sources:

1. The live product roadmap maintained by the development team, which lists feature items, dependencies, phase sequencing and effort indicators;
2. The Ozeon development estimate, which groups the full Ozeon platform scope into Phases 1–4 across approximately 13 months and 54 items;
3. The OCIS Statement of Work, which defines the OCIS Phase 1 build scope, deferred OCIS capabilities, dashboard structure, funding synchronisation, dMRV reporting, Earth Observation integrations and acceptance criteria.

The live roadmap uses effort sizes as planning indicators: S, M, L, XL and XXL. The roadmap maps these to approximate work scales of two, three, six, twelve and twenty weeks respectively. These are effort indicators, not necessarily elapsed calendar time, because multiple workstreams may operate in parallel.

The same estimate divides the roadmap into:

- Phase 1 — Launch Readiness & Monetisation;
- Phase 2 — Trust, Safety & Scale;
- Phase 3 — Community & Engagement;
- Phase 4a — Token Economy, Off-chain;
- Phase 4b — On-chain Integration.

The OCIS Statement of Work defines a separate OCIS Phase 1 scope. It includes Project submission and Ozeon Project linking, multi-party Project Integrity Scoring, Earth Observation mapping using NASA POWER and Copernicus / WEkEO, dMRV reporting, direct

fiat funding with Ozeon funding synchronisation, company footprint tools, company dashboards, individual funder dashboards, admin tools and PDF exports.

This creates a dual-track roadmap:

Ozeon platform roadmap: builds the ecosystem, participation, funding, governance and token economy.

OCIS roadmap: builds the intelligence, integrity, company, funding, dMRV and evidence-reporting layer connected to Ozeon.

14.3 Phase 1 — Launch Readiness and Monetisation

Purpose

Phase 1 focuses on launch readiness, compliance foundations, payment infrastructure, funding flows and early monetisation. The objective is to make the current platform operationally safer, commercially usable, and ready for broader public participation.

This phase is not yet the full token economy. It is the phase where Ozeon strengthens the core product and introduces fiat-based platform economics through Stripe, Project funding, tipping and paywalls.

The development estimate describes Phase 1 as “Launch readiness & monetisation,” with scope highlights including legal pages, cookie consent, compliance audit support, content versioning, article reviews, forms rework, feed filters, notifications, content retention and restoration, Organisation ownership transfer, Stripe integration, Project funding, tipping and paywalls.

Core Objectives

Phase 1 objectives include:

- complete legal pages, privacy pages, cookie policy and cookie consent;
- strengthen compliance readiness;
- improve content versioning and edit history;
- implement structured Article review;
- improve forms and platform user experience;
- improve feed filters and discovery;
- launch the first notifications release;
- implement content retention and restoration logic;
- support Organisation ownership transfer;
- implement Stripe infrastructure;
- enable Project funding;
- enable tipping;

- enable optional paywalls or premium content access;
- introduce clear fee handling across funding, tipping and premium content;
- prepare payment event retention for later PRG backfill;
- and establish the commercial rails required before \$OZN utility is introduced.

Core Feature Scope

Phase 1 includes:

- Terms of Service, Privacy Policy and Cookie Policy pages;
- cookie consent modal;
- compliance audit support;
- content versioning and edit history;
- Article reviews;
- forms visual and UX rework;
- in-feed Article and Project filters;
- first-release notifications;
- content retention and restoration;
- Organisation ownership transfer;
- Stripe integration;
- Stripe Connect account setup for eligible payout recipients;
- payment method storage, SCA / 3DS flows, refunds, chargebacks and disputes;
- Project funding;
- creator tipping;
- optional content paywalls;
- receipts and contribution history;
- platform fee capture;
- and payment records that can later support PRG accounting.

The live roadmap describes Stripe integration as the underlying payment infrastructure that tipping, funding and paywalls sit on top of. It includes webhook ingestion, idempotent event handling, payment-method storage, SCA / 3DS flows, Stripe Connect setup for payout recipients, refunds, chargebacks, dispute handling, platform fee take at source, tax and receipt surfaces, currency handling and founding-member fee exemptions.

Project funding is built on top of that Stripe infrastructure and includes funding goals, progress display, contribution records, one-off and recurring flows, payout release, refund policy, receipts, public funder lists and event retention for later PRG backfill.

Fee Alignment

The product roadmap page currently contains older fee values for some implementation items. For the white paper, the canonical fee model should remain:

ACTIVITY	PLATFORM FEE
Project funding	5%
Tipping and donations	9%
Bounties	9%
Premium content	9%
DAO treasury disbursements	0–1%, governance-configurable

Any roadmap or implementation note showing different fee rates should be treated as outdated and reconciled before implementation. The platform fee engine should support governance-configurable fee rates within bounded limits, but the current white-paper baseline is fixed at the rates above.

Excluded from Phase 1

Phase 1 excludes:

- full DAO governance;
- PRG staking;
- \$OZN on-chain funding;
- public ICO functionality;
- wallet and custody layer;
- Proof-of-Progress staking;
- full Bounty marketplace;
- IP-NFT minting;
- full OCIS integration into blockchain records;
- and full DAO-linked token economy execution.

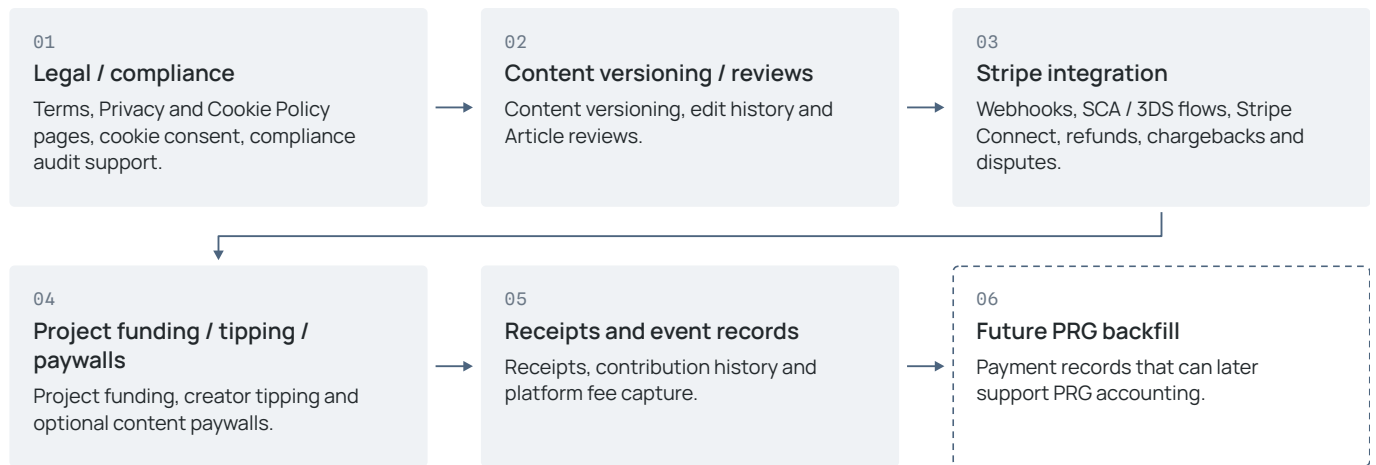
Success Criteria

Phase 1 is successful if:

- the platform has legally reviewed public-facing policy surfaces;
- payment infrastructure is functional and auditable;
- Project funding works through fiat payment rails;
- tipping and premium content access are usable;
- payment records can later support PRG accounting;
- content editing and review workflows are safer;
- basic notifications improve user engagement;

- platform operations can manage refunds, disputes and moderation;
- and Ozeon has a stable commercial foundation for later token and governance layers.

FIGURE 14.2 — PHASE 1 LAUNCH READINESS AND MONETISATION



14.4 Phase 2 — Trust, Safety and Scale

Purpose

Phase 2 strengthens the platform’s trust, safety, compliance, accessibility, discovery and operational capacity. It prepares Ozeon to scale beyond early adopters by adding the systems needed for moderation, discovery, international participation, secure usage, user invitations and admin operations.

The development estimate describes Phase 2 as “Trust, safety & scale,” with scope highlights including Open Calls, DSA reporting and moderation queue, user invites, rate limiting and monitoring, security hardening, WCAG 2.2 AA, SEO and metadata, GDPR self-serve, admin and back-office console, search and internationalisation.

Core Objectives

Phase 2 objectives include:

- launch Open Calls as an opportunity-discovery layer;
- support organisation-run calls for proposals;
- implement content reporting and moderation queues;
- support Digital Services Act-related notice-and-action workflows where applicable;
- introduce user-to-user invites with abuse limits;
- strengthen rate limiting and monitoring;
- harden security across public and account surfaces;
- improve accessibility toward WCAG 2.2 AA;
- implement SEO and metadata infrastructure;

- implement GDPR self-serve export and erasure endpoints;
- build admin and back-office tooling;
- implement global search;
- introduce internationalisation and localisation foundations;
- and prepare Ozeon for global community growth.

Core Feature Scope

Phase 2 includes:

- Open Calls;
- report action on Articles, Projects, comments and profiles;
- report reason taxonomy;
- moderation queue and action log;
- outcome notices and appeal routes;
- personal invite links;
- invite acceptance flow and signup binding;
- invite quota and abuse limits;
- rate limiting and monitoring;
- Sentry or equivalent error monitoring;
- action auditing;
- security hardening;
- Cloudflare or bot-protection tooling where appropriate;
- WCAG 2.2 AA accessibility audit and remediation;
- SEO metadata, sitemap and social sharing metadata;
- GDPR export and erasure workflows;
- admin and back-office console;
- global search;
- localisation and translation infrastructure;
- language preference handling;
- and localisation hooks for email and notification templates.

The roadmap positions Open Calls as organisation-run calls for proposals, with the DAO endorsement flow coming later in the token economy phase.

Content reporting and moderation are placed early because user-facing reporting and moderation actions are needed before the platform scales. The roadmap frames this as a notice-and-action route for flagging illegal or harmful content.

Internationalisation and localisation are treated as foundational rather than a late retrofit, because Ozeon is intended to operate as a global platform and because translation pathways later connect to PRG recognition.

Excluded from Phase 2

Phase 2 excludes:

- full DAO governance;
- on-chain \$OZN;
- public ICO;
- Proof-of-Progress staking;
- full Bounty app;
- full IP-NFT minting;
- and full OCIS blockchain contribution records.

Success Criteria

Phase 2 is successful if:

- Open Calls are usable by Organisations;
- users can report problematic content through structured workflows;
- moderation and appeal workflows are operational;
- the platform is safer against spam, bots and abuse;
- accessibility improves across shipped surfaces;
- users can export and erase data where legally required;
- admin teams can manage users, content, payments and entitlements;
- search improves discovery across the platform;
- localisation infrastructure exists before global scaling;
- and the platform is operationally mature enough for deeper community and token layers.

FIGURE 14.3 — PHASE 2 TRUST, SAFETY AND SCALE



14.5 Phase 3 — Community and Engagement

Purpose

Phase 3 expands Ozeon's community, education, organisation, recommendation and engagement infrastructure. This is the phase where Ozeon becomes more than a publishing and funding platform. It becomes a richer community ecosystem for learning, discovery, organisation verification, communication, events, recommendations and long-term participation.

The development estimate describes Phase 3 as "Community & engagement," with scope highlights including Educational Resources, transactional email, category filters, Indigenous Knowledge Hub, notes and bookmarks, connections and blocking, privacy settings, organisation verification and subscriptions, reactions, recommendation engine, events, messaging and a second notifications pass.

Core Objectives

Phase 3 objectives include:

- launch Educational Resources as a curated learning library;
- connect Educational Resources to categories, subcategories, subject pages and citations;
- implement transactional email and delivery infrastructure;
- introduce global sidebar category filters;
- develop an Indigenous Knowledge Hub with protocol-gated visibility and stewardship roles;
- introduce notes and bookmarks;
- re-enable connections and blocking;
- strengthen privacy settings;
- implement Organisation verification and paid Organisation subscriptions;
- add Article reactions;
- build a recommendation and ranking engine;
- introduce Events;
- introduce messaging;
- expand notifications with settings, grouping, quick actions, payment and review notifications;
- and deepen user engagement across the platform.

Educational Resources Scope

The current product roadmap places Educational Resources in Phase 3 and describes them as a Foundation-curated learning library with categories, subcategories, subject pages, references and quizzes, with DAO-driven inclusion coming later in Phase 4.

The white paper treats this as a staged implementation pathway:

- first, Foundation or core-team curation may seed the Educational Resources library;
- later, the DAO-driven inclusion queue allows community-submitted Articles and resources to enter the knowledge commons through governance approval;
- once accepted, Articles may become Educational Resources or approved knowledge assets;
- Learn2Earn rewards should wait until quizzes and anti-cheat controls are ready.

This preserves the platform's long-term Article-to-Educational-Resource model while recognising that early curation may need to begin before DAO systems are fully live.

Organisation Verification and Paid Subscriptions

The roadmap combines Organisation verification with paid Organisation subscriptions. Verification is the tier that Organisations pay for, making it one of the first logical recurring revenue generators on the platform. The feature includes verification application, review and badge granting; subscription plans and pricing tiers; recurring Stripe billing; entitlement gating; and billing surfaces with invoices.

Organisation subscriptions are not investment products or token entitlements. They are platform service subscriptions connected to verification, visibility, access, credibility, or Organisation-level tooling.

Recommendation and Ranking Engine

The roadmap includes a Recommendation and ranking engine as a major initiative. This engine ranks what users see across feeds and discovery surfaces, using engagement signals, social graph signals, cold-start handling, permission-aware filtering and caching.

This engine will be designed with safeguards against manipulation, spam, popularity capture, referral abuse and extractive growth dynamics.

Excluded from Phase 3

Phase 3 excludes:

- full on-chain token deployment;
- ICO execution;
- Proof-of-Progress staking;
- full on-chain DAO execution;
- \$OZN rails;
- full OCIS blockchain contribution records;

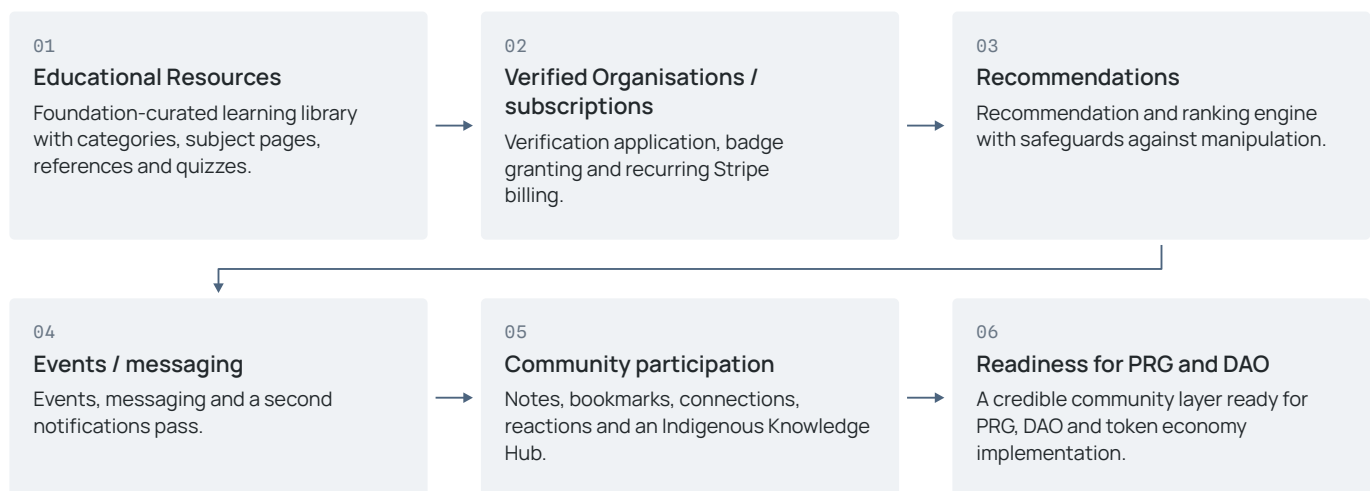
- and formal environmental verification or certification.

Success Criteria

Phase 3 is successful if:

- users engage with Educational Resources;
- Organisations can become verified and subscribe to paid tiers;
- users can save, organise, message and interact more deeply;
- recommendations improve discovery without undermining quality;
- communication and notification infrastructure supports platform activity;
- Indigenous and community knowledge safeguards begin to take functional form;
- and Ozeon has a credible community layer ready for PRG, DAO and token economy implementation.

FIGURE 14.4 — PHASE 3 COMMUNITY AND ENGAGEMENT



14.6 Phase 4a — Token Economy, Off-chain

Purpose

Phase 4a introduces the off-chain foundations of Ozeon’s token economy before on-chain token execution. This is a critical risk-control phase. It allows Ozeon to model token parameters, test PRG accounting, establish treasury ledgers, implement signed claims, prepare DAO Pods, build progress-weighted governance, and validate Learn2Earn rewards before liquid token infrastructure goes live.

The development estimate describes Phase 4a as “Token economy (off-chain),” including tokenomics simulation, regulatory and custody support, attestation and signed claims, treasury accounting, PRG contribution ledger, quizzes, Learn2Earn, DAO Pods, governance and inclusion queue on the existing voting contract, and Open Calls DAO endorsement.

Core Objectives

Phase 4a objectives include:

- model tokenomics before smart-contract implementation;
- identify and close self-dealing or PRG farming loops;
- review regulatory and custody implications;
- define wallet and custody requirements before on-chain build;
- implement attestation and signed-claim infrastructure;
- create treasury accounting and disbursement workflows;
- build the PRG contribution ledger;
- implement quiz infrastructure;
- implement Learn2Earn rewards;
- create DAO Pods;
- implement progress-weighted governance;
- implement DAO-driven Educational Resource inclusion;
- implement DAO endorsement for Open Calls;
- prepare for eventual on-chain integration;
- and reconcile implementation parameters with the white paper.

Tokenomics Simulation and Parameter Review

The roadmap identifies tokenomics simulation as a required gate before contracts are written. It specifically notes the need to model the PRG emissions ladder, \$OZN mint rate from Proof of Progress, self-dealing risks, Sybil resistance, activity caps, inactivity decay and revised parameter tables.

This is important because PRG is not only a reputation token. It becomes a gateway into \$OZN emissions through Proof of Progress. Any flaw in PRG issuance, farming limits, signed claims, tipping rewards, bounty rewards or Learn2Earn rewards could later affect \$OZN minting.

Therefore, Phase 4a should require:

- emissions simulation;
- PRG reward audit;
- anti-farming analysis;
- contribution category review;
- staking parameter review;
- treasury recycling review;
- fee logic review;
- and legal review before on-chain implementation.

Regulatory and Custody Assessment

The roadmap treats regulatory and custody assessment as a legal gate rather than a normal development task. It covers external counsel across operating jurisdictions, MiCA classification of \$OZN and PRG, FCA implications, securities treatment of the ICO and founding-member PRG grants, custodial versus self-custody decisions, KYC / AML obligations, provider selection and review of public claims.

This phase will not be bypassed. The custody decision affects user experience, compliance burden, wallet architecture, risk exposure, onboarding friction, and whether Ozeon can support non-custodial, custodial or hybrid wallet models.

PRG Contribution Ledger

The PRG contribution ledger is an off-chain authority for non-transferable Progress accounting before or alongside future smart-contract integration. The roadmap describes it as wiring balances and earning events into existing platform activity, including publishing, reviews, Open Calls, funding and tipping. It also includes emissions ladder logic, inactivity decay, treasury recycling, signed claims, backfill decisions, anti-farming limits, founding-member PRG grants and reconciliation against the white paper supply tables.

The white paper treats this as a major governance and economic milestone. PRG may remain off-chain at first because it is non-transferable. What matters is that the ledger is auditable, replay-protected, abuse-resistant and later compatible with Proof-of-Progress staking.

Learn2Earn Rewards

Learn2Earn should not pay PRG until quiz infrastructure, answer verification and anti-cheat controls are ready. The roadmap separates quizzes from Educational Resources because quizzes are the earning event that Learn2Earn pays against. It describes Learn2Earn rewards as 1 PRG per correct answer and +1 PRG to the resource creator, subject to answer-verification hardening, per-user and per-resource caps, retake rules, streak multiplier integration and creator earnings visibility.

This sequencing is correct. Learn2Earn is an educational reward mechanism, but it is also a token-emission surface. It should be designed with anti-farming controls from the beginning.

DAO Pods and Progress-Weighted Governance

DAO Pods and progress-weighted governance are implemented after the PRG ledger because PRG provides the weight and legitimacy behind participation. The roadmap describes DAO Pods as covering Pod creation, membership, roles, proposal lifecycle, visibility, Pod treasuries, Pod-level Bounty and Open Call authority, and founding-member community space.

Progress-weighted governance then introduces proposal deposits, vote caps, the 72-hour refund ladder, the 85% passing threshold, proposal timing windows, deposit forfeiture routing and quorum handling.

DAO-Driven Inclusion and Open Call Endorsement

The DAO-driven inclusion queue moves Educational Resource inclusion from internal curation toward progress-weighted governance approval. This supports Ozeon's long-term model in which community-created Articles and resources can become approved Educational Resources or knowledge commons assets through DAO processes.

Open Calls DAO endorsement similarly moves Open Call endorsement from organisation-run endorsement toward governance-approved endorsement. This gives the DAO a role in opportunity credibility without requiring the DAO to approve every Open Call or every Project.

Excluded from Phase 4a

Phase 4a excludes:

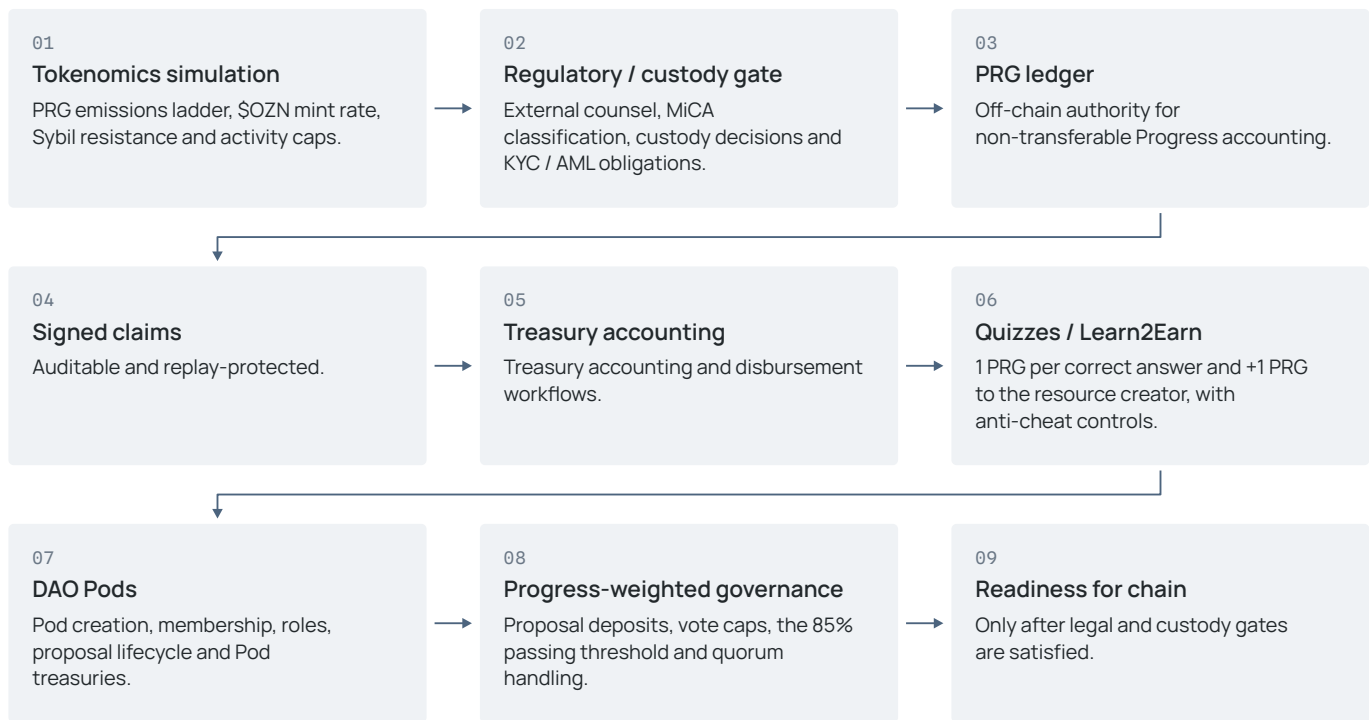
- live public ICO execution;
- full wallet deployment;
- \$OZN public rails;
- Proof-of-Progress staking with real minting;
- mainnet token launch;
- and features requiring final custody, regulatory and audit sign-off.

Success Criteria

Phase 4a is successful if:

- PRG can be tracked in a reliable off-chain ledger;
- tokenomics have been simulated and revised where needed;
- Sybil and self-dealing risks are understood and mitigated;
- Learn2Earn rewards are protected against farming;
- signed claims are auditable and replay-protected;
- treasury accounting is operational;
- DAO Pods and progress-weighted governance can operate safely;
- Educational Resource inclusion can move toward DAO approval;
- Open Calls can receive DAO endorsement;
- and Ozeon is ready to begin on-chain integration only after legal and custody gates are satisfied.

FIGURE 14.5 — PHASE 4A TOKEN ECONOMY OFF-CHAIN



14.7 Phase 4b — On-chain Integration

Purpose

Phase 4b introduces Ozean's on-chain infrastructure. This is where wallets, custody decisions, \$OZN contracts, external audit, ICO mechanics, fiat on-ramp, Proof-of-Progress staking, \$OZN funding and tipping rails, Bounty payouts and platform fee engine can move into production.

The development estimate describes Phase 4b as "On-chain integration," including wallet and custody, integration of existing contracts with indexing and ledger reconciliation, ICO and fiat on-ramp, Proof-of-Progress staking, \$OZN funding and tipping rails, and the platform fee engine.

The indicative timeline notes that Phase 4b starts once the legal opinion on custody and token issuance is in place.

Core Objectives

Phase 4b objectives include:

- implement wallet and custody architecture based on legal assessment;
- implement account binding and recovery flows;
- implement gas abstraction or sponsored transactions where appropriate;
- deploy \$OZN contracts after external audit;
- implement treasury multisig and signer policy;

- implement indexing and ledger reconciliation;
- implement ICO and fiat on-ramp where legally permitted;
- implement Proof-of-Progress staking;
- implement \$OZN funding, tipping and Bounty payout rails;
- implement price oracle logic for PRG reward conversion;
- implement platform fee engine;
- support fee revenue reporting;
- and reconcile on-chain events against off-chain Ozean and OCIS records.

Wallet and Custody Layer

The roadmap frames the wallet and custody layer as dependent on the regulatory and custody assessment. It includes custodial versus self-custody implementation, wallet provisioning, account binding, key management, recovery, gas abstraction, transaction state handling, chain and RPC provider selection, failover and security review.

This phase will not proceed without legal, compliance and security input. Wallet architecture affects everything: user access, custody risk, KYC/AML obligations, recovery expectations, transaction failure handling and user safety.

\$OZN Contracts and External Audit

The roadmap describes the \$OZN contract work as a capped ERC-20 implementation, treasury multisig, indexer, reorg handling, reconciliation against the platform ledger, deployment strategy, emergency pause strategy, external audit and remediation cycle. It also notes that external audit is mandatory and may require repeated review after changes.

This aligns with Ozean's token design. \$OZN should not be deployed publicly without:

- reviewed token contract logic;
- capped supply controls;
- treasury custody policy;
- emergency pause or mitigation procedures;
- indexer and reconciliation tooling;
- external audit;
- audit remediation;
- legal review;
- and deployment governance.

Public ICO and Fiat On-Ramp

The roadmap treats the public ICO and fiat on-ramp as a legal item covering token sale mechanics, exchange liquidity, third-party on-ramp, KYC surface, vesting

schedules, jurisdiction gating and restricted-territory handling. It also states that the ICO is a liquidity event rather than the mechanism that pays for all prior work.

This remains central to the white paper. The ICO is not a speculative investment opportunity. It is a utility-token distribution event subject to legal review, jurisdictional controls, KYC/AML where required, and consumer-protection safeguards.

Proof-of-Progress Staking

Proof-of-Progress staking is one of the highest-risk components in the architecture because the off-chain contribution ledger becomes the minting authority for a liquid asset. The roadmap includes staking rounds, minimum 50 PRG, full probability at 100 PRG, verifiable randomness, consecutive-loss boost at 314 basis points per loss, minting from the 750 million \$OZN reserve, PRG cost routing to Foundation Treasury, auto-unstake logic and hardening of the ledger-to-minting pathway.

This means Proof-of-Progress staking should be launched only after:

- PRG ledger integrity is proven;
- Learn2Earn and contribution rewards are anti-farmed;
- signed claims are secure;
- replay protection is implemented;
- staking probability has been tested;
- randomness integration is reviewed;
- emissions limits are enforced;
- and contracts have been audited.

\$OZN Funding and Tipping Rails

The roadmap includes \$OZN payment flows on Projects, Articles and Open Calls, with price oracles for PRG reward conversion, dual fiat and \$OZN UX, failure and retry handling, reconciliation against fiat rails and Bounty payouts in \$OZN.

This will be integrated with Ozean's fixed fee model and PRG accounting rules. Funding through fiat, \$OZN or OCIS should not generate duplicate records.

Platform Fee Engine

The platform fee engine should implement governance-configurable fee rates with bounded limits and reporting. The canonical model is:

- Project funding: 5%;
- tipping and donations: 9%;
- Bounties: 9%;
- premium content: 9%;
- DAO treasury disbursements: 0–1%, governance-configurable.

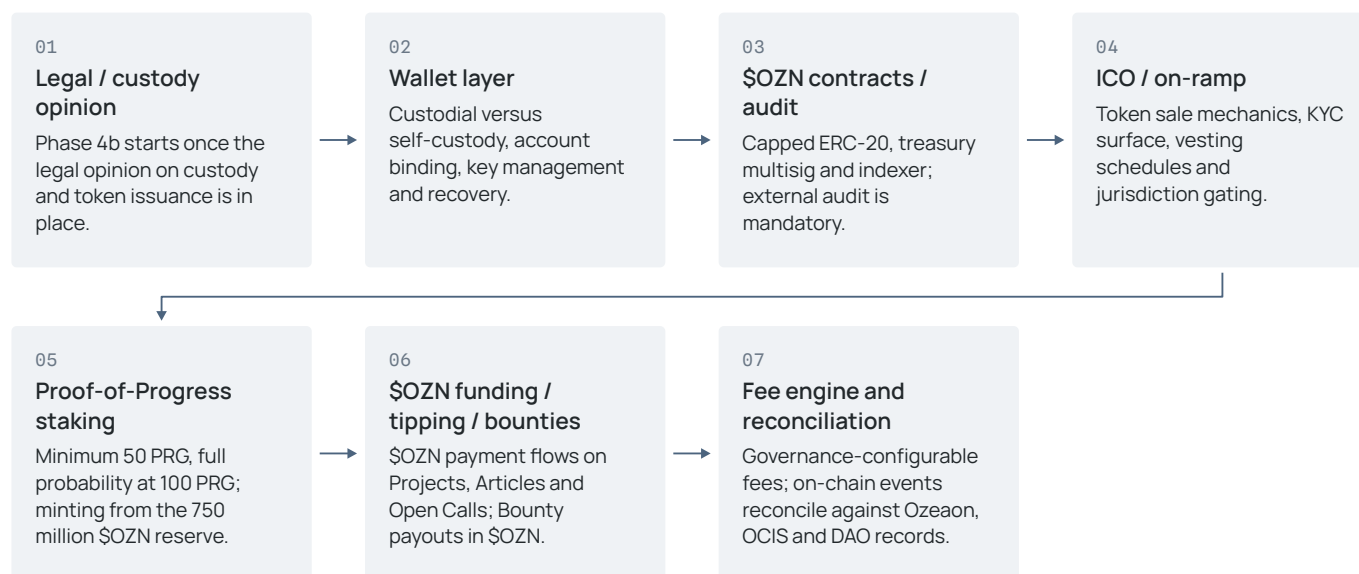
Fee changes should require governance or approved administrative controls, depending on maturity, and must be transparent to users before payment.

Success Criteria

Phase 4b is successful if:

- wallet architecture is legally reviewed and implemented;
- \$OZN contracts are externally audited;
- \$OZN indexing and reconciliation work reliably;
- treasury multisig and signer policies are operational;
- ICO mechanics are legally reviewed and jurisdiction-gated;
- Proof-of-Progress staking works without uncontrolled emissions;
- fiat and \$OZN rails reconcile correctly;
- Bounty payouts can occur in \$OZN where legally supported;
- platform fees are transparent and correctly applied;
- and on-chain events reconcile against Ozeon, OCIS and DAO records.

FIGURE 14.6 — PHASE 4B ON-CHAIN INTEGRATION



14.8 OCIS Parallel Track — Climate Intelligence, Integrity and dMRV

Purpose

OCIS is the Ozeon Climate Intelligence System. It is a connected climate intelligence, Project integrity, dMRV, Earth Observation, funding and evidence platform. It is a separate but connected product track with its own Statement of Work, development scope and acceptance criteria.

The OCIS Statement of Work defines OCIS as a climate intelligence, Project integrity, digital Monitoring, Reporting and Verification, Earth Observation, funding and impact evidence platform connected to the wider Ozean ecosystem.

OCIS is designed to allow Project creators, companies, individual funders and platform administrators to assess Project credibility, monitor environmental conditions, generate reports, fund Projects, track evidence and interact with blockchain-enabled contribution and DAO mechanisms where later supported.

OCIS Phase 1 Scope

The OCIS Statement of Work distinguishes between OCIS Phase 1, which is the committed scope for the engagement, and later deferred phases.

OCIS Phase 1 includes:

- Project submission and Ozean Project linking;
- Project Integrity Scoring;
- multi-party scoring;
- Earth Observation mapping against NASA POWER and Copernicus / WEkEO;
- dMRV monitoring and reporting;
- on-demand environmental data refresh;
- direct Project funding by fiat payment;
- Ozean funding synchronisation;
- Company Ecological Footprint Scoring;
- Company Mitigation Strategy;
- Project Creator Dashboard;
- Company Dashboard;
- Individual Funder Dashboard;
- Admin Dashboard;
- and PDF export for core reports.

OCIS Deferred Capabilities

The OCIS Statement of Work defers several capabilities to later phases. These include:

- cryptocurrency funding;
- blockchain-enabled contribution layer;
- Progress Token rewards;
- DAO interoperability;
- Climate Intelligence chatbot;
- AI Footprint Calculator;
- additional Earth Observation data sources beyond the two Phase 1 sources;
- automated scheduled daily environmental data polling;

- CSV report export;
- secondary report types;
- and full subscription plan and billing management.

This deferral is important. The white paper does not imply that all OCIS capabilities are live in the first OCIS release. OCIS Phase 1 is a strong intelligence and reporting platform, but blockchain contribution records, DAO interoperability and cryptocurrency funding are later-stage capabilities.

OCIS User Groups

OCIS supports four user groups:

- Project Creators;
- Companies;
- Individual Funders;
- Ozeon Administrators.

Project creators can find their Ozeon Projects on OCIS, link Projects, submit Projects to the OCIS Map, run Project Integrity Scoring, activate dMRV monitoring where relevant, generate reports, share dMRV updates back to Ozeon, receive funding through OCIS where fundable through Ozeon, and later receive Progress recognition for funding-related activity where supported.

Companies can assess their footprint, receive mitigation strategies, review Project Integrity Reports, run their own Project Integrity Scores where permitted, fund Projects directly through OCIS, build funded Project portfolios, receive reports and evidence records, and export ESG evidence.

Individual funders can browse fundable Projects, review Project Integrity Scores and reports, run their own scores where permitted, review dMRV reports, fund Projects, receive receipts, build portfolios, export evidence records, and track funded Projects.

OCIS Project Source Logic

OCIS supports two Project source types:

1. Ozeon-connected Projects — Projects created on Ozeon that are discoverable through OCIS;
2. OCIS-submitted Projects — Projects submitted directly to the OCIS Map for mapping, integrity scoring and dMRV analysis.

The Statement of Work states that Ozeon remains the canonical home for Ozeon-created Projects. Funding-enabled Project records must be connected to Ozeon to avoid duplicate or conflicting funding data.

OCIS Integrity and Compliance Boundary

OCIS must clearly distinguish between Project-submitted information, AI-generated assessment, dMRV monitoring, public environmental data, reported outcomes, verified outcomes, funding support, formal certification, ESG evidence and legal compliance. It must not imply that a Project is formally verified, carbon-certified, ESG-compliant or investment-grade unless that status is supported by appropriate third-party verification, recognised standards and legal review.

This means the roadmap should describe OCIS as an intelligence, integrity and evidence-support layer, not as an accredited verifier or credit issuer.

OCIS Success Criteria

OCIS Phase 1 is successful if it can:

- allow users to find or submit Projects;
- link Ozeon Projects into OCIS;
- run multi-party Project Integrity Scoring;
- generate Project Integrity Reports;
- activate dMRV for eligible Projects;
- map Project locations;
- connect mapped Projects to NASA POWER and Copernicus / WEkEO;
- generate weekly, monthly and end-of-project reports on demand;
- share relevant reports back to Ozeon as Project Updates;
- allow companies to complete Ecological Footprint Scoring;
- generate mitigation strategies;
- recommend Ozeon Projects for companies to fund;
- allow individuals and companies to fund Projects through OCIS by fiat payment;
- synchronise OCIS funding with Ozeon funding records;
- restrict AI-assisted and full platform functionality according to subscription status;
- and export core reports as PDFs.

FIGURE 14.7 — OCIS PARALLEL PRODUCT TRACK



14.9 Ozeon–OCIS Synchronisation and No Double Counting

A central roadmap requirement is that Ozeon and OCIS must operate as connected systems without creating duplicate activity records.

Ozeon should remain the canonical home for Ozeon-created Projects and the canonical funding record for Ozeon-connected Projects. OCIS may provide scoring, assessment, reports, evidence, dashboards and funding interfaces, but funding and contribution records must synchronise back to Ozeon where relevant.

The shared architecture will prevent:

- duplicate Project records;
- duplicate funding records;
- duplicate PRG issuance;
- duplicate Bounty records;
- duplicate evidence packages;
- duplicate Project updates;
- inconsistent Project status labels;
- conflicting funding totals;
- and double counting of environmental claims.

The synchronisation model should include:

SHARED OBJECT	PURPOSE
Ozeon Project ID	Canonical Project identity on Ozeon
OCIS Project ID	OCIS-side Project record for assessment and reporting
Funding transaction ID	Shared funding record across OCIS and Ozeon

SHARED OBJECT	PURPOSE
Funder ID	Records individual or company support
Company ID	Links company funding and evidence portfolios
Payment status	Prevents failed, refunded or duplicated payments being counted
PRG event ID	Prevents duplicate PRG issuance
Report ID	Links OCIS reports to Ozeon Project Updates
Evidence package hash	Supports tamper-evident evidence where applicable
Sync status	Records whether OCIS and Ozeon records are reconciled

This synchronisation layer is essential because OCIS funding and Ozeon funding must not behave as separate economies. They are different interfaces connected to the same regenerative coordination system.

14.11 Governance and Foundation Stewardship Across Phases

Governance and Foundation stewardship mature progressively across the roadmap.

Phase 1

The Foundation and core team support legal readiness, policy surfaces, payment controls, moderation standards, Project funding rules, fee disclosure, user protection and ethical launch readiness.

Phase 2

The Foundation supports trust and safety, moderation policy, accessibility, privacy, GDPR workflows, Open Call standards, invite abuse controls, admin processes and global participation readiness.

Phase 3

The Foundation supports Educational Resource quality, Indigenous Knowledge Hub safeguards, Organisation verification, paid Organisation subscriptions, recommendations, community health, messaging safety and public engagement.

Phase 4a

DAO structures, Pods, PRG accounting and progress-weighted governance begin to mature. The Foundation supports ethics, treasury oversight, legal review, anti-farming controls, tokenomics simulation, signed-claim integrity and governance education.

Phase 4b

The Foundation supports legal and custody oversight, treasury controls, audit readiness, emergency procedures, public token communication safeguards, ICO governance, wallet safety and platform fee transparency.

OCIS Track

The Foundation supports OCIS ethics, AI governance, Project integrity policy, dMRV methodology development, sensitive data safeguards, company-facing evidence standards, reporting disclaimers, research partnerships and market-readiness boundaries.

The OCIS Statement of Work also assigns Ozeon an AI Centre of Excellence responsible for dMRV workflows, Project Integrity Scoring, Ecological Footprint Scoring and company recommendation logic.

14.12 Roadmap Summary Table

TABLE 14.1 — OZEAON DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP

TRACK / PHASE	PRIMARY FOCUS	CORE DELIVERABLES	DEFERRED / DEPENDENT ITEMS
Pre-roadmap / alpha	Existing shipped and early platform foundations	Mobile responsiveness, Articles and Projects foundations, comments, early moderation, alpha badges, initial launch preparation	Full payments, DAO, token economy, OCIS
Phase 1 — Launch Readiness and Monetisation	Legal readiness, payments, Project funding and early monetisation	Legal pages, cookie consent, compliance support, content versioning, Article reviews, forms, feed filters, notifications, Stripe integration, Project funding, tipping, paywalls	PRG staking, DAO, \$OZN rails, ICO, Bounties, IP-NFTs
Phase 2 — Trust, Safety and Scale	Platform safety, compliance, discovery and scale infrastructure	Open Calls, content reporting, moderation queue, invites, rate limiting, security hardening, accessibility, SEO, GDPR self-serve, admin console, search, localisation	Full DAO endorsement, token economy, on-chain rails
Phase 3 — Community and Engagement	Learning, Organisations, subscriptions and community depth	Educational Resources, transactional email, category filters, Indigenous Knowledge Hub, notes, bookmarks, privacy, Organisation verification and paid subscriptions, reactions, recommendation engine, events, messaging, notifications second pass	Full PRG rewards, DAO inclusion queue, \$OZN on-chain utility
Phase 4a — Token Economy Off-chain	PRG, governance and token economy preparation	Tokenomics simulation, regulatory and custody assessment, signed claims, treasury accounting, PRG ledger, quizzes, Learn2Earn, DAO Pods, progress-weighted governance, DAO inclusion queue, Open Calls DAO endorsement	Wallets, ICO, Proof-of-Progress staking, \$OZN rails

TRACK / PHASE	PRIMARY FOCUS	CORE DELIVERABLES	DEFERRED / DEPENDENT ITEMS
Phase 4b — On-chain Integration	Wallets, \$OZN, ICO, staking and token rails	Wallet and custody layer, \$OZN contracts, audit, ICO and fiat on-ramp, Proof-of-Progress staking, \$OZN funding and tipping rails, Bounty payouts, platform fee engine	Requires legal opinion, custody decision, audit and jurisdictional gating
OCIS Phase 1 — Parallel Track	Climate intelligence, integrity scoring, dMRV and company tools	OCIS web app, Project linking, multi-party scoring, Earth Observation, dMRV reports, company footprint tools, mitigation strategy, dashboards, direct fiat funding, Ozeon funding sync, PDF exports	Crypto funding, block-chain contribution layer, PRG rewards, DAO interoperability, chatbot, AI Footprint Calculator, CSV exports, extra Earth Observation sources
OCIS later phases	Blockchain-enabled contribution and advanced intelligence	Crypto funding, blockchain contribution records, Progress rewards, DAO interoperability, chatbot, AI Footprint Calculator, expanded data sources, CSV exports	Requires Ozeon block-chain, DAO and reputation infrastructure

14.13 Strategic Dependencies

The roadmap contains several critical dependencies.

Payments Before Token Utility

Fiat payment rails, Stripe infrastructure, Project funding, tipping and paywalls come before \$OZN rails. This allows Ozeon to validate real payment flows before adding token complexity.

Trust and Safety Before Scale

Content reporting, moderation, GDPR workflows, accessibility, admin tooling, security and localisation are required before large-scale user growth.

Educational Resources Before Learn2Earn

Educational Resources and quizzes must exist before Learn2Earn rewards can be safely introduced. Quiz anti-cheat controls must be implemented before PRG rewards are attached.

PRG Ledger Before Governance and Staking

DAO voting and Proof-of-Progress staking require reliable PRG accounting. The PRG ledger must be auditable, abuse-resistant and replay-protected before it can support governance or \$OZN emission.

Regulatory Assessment Before Wallets and ICO

Wallet architecture, custody model, ICO mechanics, fiat on-ramp and public token flows depend on legal, regulatory and custody assessment.

External Audit Before \$OZN Launch

\$OZN contracts and staking mechanisms should not go live without external audit, remediation and deployment review.

Ozeon API Before OCIS Synchronisation

OCIS Phase 1 assumes Ozeon will provide API access sufficient to support Project linking and funding synchronisation.

Blockchain Infrastructure Before OCIS Progress and DAO Interoperability

OCIS Progress Token rewards and DAO interoperability depend on Ozeon's blockchain, DAO and reputation infrastructure. The OCIS Statement of Work states that before later phases introducing Progress Tokens and DAO interoperability are commissioned, Ozeon must make available the blockchain, DAO and reputation infrastructure those features connect to.

14.14 Strategic Summary

Ozeon's roadmap is designed to build trust before complexity.

The platform begins with legal readiness, payments, Article publishing, Project funding, tipping and monetisation.

It then strengthens trust, safety, compliance, admin tooling, accessibility, search and localisation.

It expands into Educational Resources, Organisation verification, community engagement, subscriptions, events, messaging and recommendations.

It then implements PRG, Learn2Earn, DAO Pods, progress-weighted governance, treasury accounting, signed claims and off-chain token economy infrastructure.

Only after that does Ozeon move into wallets, \$OZN contracts, external audit, ICO mechanics, Proof-of-Progress staking, token payment rails and the platform fee engine.

OCIS develops as a connected parallel track: it allows Ozeon-connected Projects to be assessed, scored, mapped, monitored, reported on and funded through a climate intelligence system that synchronises back to Ozeon.

This sequencing matters.

A DAO without contribution records has weak legitimacy.

A token without platform utility is speculative.

PRG without anti-farming controls can undermine the token economy.

Proof-of-Progress staking without a reliable PRG ledger can create emission risk.

OCIS without Ozeon funding synchronisation can create duplicate records.

A Project Integrity Score without clear disclaimers can be mistaken for verification.

A roadmap without legal, compliance and audit gates can create unnecessary regulatory exposure.

The roadmap therefore follows a more realistic development logic:

Build the platform.

Enable payments.

Harden trust and safety.

Expand community and learning.

Implement off-chain PRG and governance.

Gate token launch behind legal review and audit.

Launch on-chain utility only when ready.

Develop OCIS as the connected intelligence and integrity layer.

Synchronise funding, evidence, reports, PRG and Project records across Ozeon and OCIS.

This makes Ozeon's roadmap not only a technical delivery plan, but a staged strategy for building credible regenerative infrastructure.

Conclusion

15.1 A New Infrastructure for Verified Regeneration

The challenges of this century are not only technical. Climate instability, biodiversity loss, ocean degradation, knowledge inequality, fragmented funding systems and institutional inertia all reveal a deeper coordination problem. The world does not simply need more isolated solutions. It needs better systems for discovering knowledge, recognising contribution, funding credible work, verifying progress and governing shared resources.

Ozeon is built to address this coordination gap.

It is designed as regenerative innovation infrastructure for the ocean-climate-land nexus: a platform where knowledge can become actionable, Projects can become visible, Open Calls can become accessible, contributions can become recognised, and communities can govern shared resources through transparent, contribution-weighted mechanisms.

Ozeon does not treat regeneration as a single sector. It treats regeneration as a system of learning, publishing, building, funding, verifying and governing across disciplines. Scientific research, Indigenous and local knowledge, Educational Resources, practical Tutorials, Media, design methods, field evidence, Open Calls, Project work, Bounties, decentralized governance and climate intelligence all become part of one shared ecosystem.

15.2 From Knowledge to Action

At its core, Ozeon is a platform for turning knowledge into action.

Educational Resources make regenerative knowledge easier to discover and learn from. Articles allow users to publish research summaries, Project logs, field insights, policy analysis, intellectual property disclosures and educational writing. Media helps translate complex ideas into visual, audio, narrative and cultural forms. Tutorials turn knowledge into practical skills. Projects give real-world initiatives a visible place to organise, seek support, publish updates and build credibility. Open Calls connect users to grants, fellowships, challenges, research opportunities, fieldwork and collaboration pathways. Bounties turn specific needs into clear, fundable tasks.

Together, these layers create a participation pathway:

- learn;
- publish;
- explain;
- teach;
- build;
- fund;
- contribute;
- verify;

- govern;
- and regenerate.

This is the foundation of Ozeon's platform logic. Users are not only readers or donors. They are learners, creators, reviewers, funders, Project builders, educators, Media makers, researchers, community stewards, DAO participants, Bounty contributors and contributors to a shared knowledge commons.

15.3 Contribution-Based Trust

Ozeon's governance and token architecture are designed to separate contribution-based legitimacy from transferable utility.

Progress / PRG is the non-transferable reputation and contribution token of the ecosystem. It recognises learning, Article creation, Educational Resource acceptance, peer review, Project support, bounty completion, funding activity, governance participation, invitation-based activation rewards and other verified contributions. Because PRG cannot simply be bought on the open market, it provides a stronger basis for governance eligibility and contribution-weighted reputation than conventional token voting alone.

\$OZN is the transferable utility token of the Ozeon ecosystem. It supports platform utility, Project funding, tipping, donations, Bounty rewards, Premium Content access, selected ecosystem services and future blockchain-enabled platform activity. By separating PRG from \$OZN, Ozeon reduces the risk that governance legitimacy becomes determined purely by capital ownership.

Proof of Progress provides the mechanism that connects contribution to recognition. It is not intended to replace the base-layer consensus of the blockchain on which Ozeon is deployed. Instead, it functions as Ozeon's application-layer contribution-verification and reputation protocol: a way of determining which actions count as meaningful progress within the platform.

Through this model, Ozeon creates a regenerative loop:

- learning creates capability;
- capability enables contribution;
- contribution earns reputation;
- reputation enables governance;
- governance allocates attention and resources;
- resources support regenerative action;
- verified action strengthens the commons.

15.4 Governance, Knowledge and Digital Stewardship

Ozeon's DAO is designed to govern more than token parameters. It governs the platform's knowledge, credibility, coordination and shared resources.

Through modular proposal types, the DAO can support decisions related to platform rules, Project endorsement, Open Call endorsement, Article inclusion, Media approval, Tutorial approval, NFT/IP-NFT acquisition and Bounty validation. This proposal architecture keeps governance understandable for users and maintainable for developers. Voting remains unified, while execution remains modular.

DAO endorsement is not required for ordinary platform participation. Projects can be created, listed, funded, tipped, supported and, where eligible, accessed through OCIS without first receiving DAO endorsement. DAO endorsement is a separate governance signal that may support stronger credibility, curated visibility, DAO treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support, or higher-assurance verification pathways.

Pods provide a further layer of domain-specific stewardship. They allow specialised working groups to support education, ocean-climate systems, Open Calls, Media, Tutorials, Bounties, tokenomics, treasury policy, AI ethics, community activation and OCIS-related review where appropriate.

The Tokenized IP Layer extends this governance logic to knowledge assets. IP-NFTs allow creators, researchers, educators, designers, communities and organisations to preserve attribution, define licensing terms, track provenance and contribute to a rights-aware knowledge commons. Tokenization is not used to enclose knowledge. It is used to make knowledge more traceable, attributable, reusable and governable.

15.5 OCIS and the Future of Evidence-Based Integrity

Ozeon's development includes OCIS, the Ozeon Climate Intelligence System, as a connected climate intelligence, Project integrity, funding, reporting and dMRV platform. OCIS is not simply a generic feature inside the core platform. It is an adjacent but interoperable system that extends Ozeon's Project layer into assessment, scoring, Earth Observation, reporting, company dashboards, funder tools and evidence-based decision support.

Eligible Projects created on Ozeon may be discoverable and assessable through OCIS. Companies, funders, creators, Project teams and approved users may use OCIS to run Project Integrity Scores, request reports, fund Projects, review evidence, assess portfolios, or initiate dMRV-aligned workflows where appropriate. OCIS-generated scores, reports, funding records and contribution data synchronise with Ozeon where relevant, while Ozeon remains the canonical home and funding record for Ozeon-created Projects.

This distinction is important. Ozeon creates the participation ecosystem. OCIS provides the deeper intelligence, evidence, reporting and integrity layer. The two systems should remain synchronised through shared Project identifiers, shared funding records, shared PRG accounting, shared Bounty records and shared blockchain contracts where applicable.

The goal is not to claim that blockchain alone verifies regeneration. Real-world impact requires data, context, scientific interpretation, community review, methodology alignment, third-party verification where necessary and honest reporting. Blockchain can strengthen transparency and auditability, but it cannot replace ecological reality. Ozeon's approach is therefore evidence-based, staged and integrity-oriented.

OCIS is not defined as issuing carbon credits, biodiversity credits, blue carbon credits, nature credits, formal verification, ESG compliance or investment-grade certification unless such status is supported by appropriate third-party verification, recognised standards and legal review.

15.6 A Regenerative Digital Commons

As Ozeon grows, it can become more than a platform. It can become movement infrastructure for regenerative knowledge, education, funding, work coordination, governance and climate intelligence.

It can function as:

- a decentralized research and education commons;
- a platform for Articles, Media, Tutorials, Projects, Open Calls and Bounties;
- a coordination layer for regenerative innovation;
- a contribution-based reputation system;
- a governance environment for community-led decision-making;
- a tokenized IP and digital stewardship layer;
- a discovery system for funders, institutions, creators, researchers, companies and Project teams;
- and, through OCIS, an integrity, assessment, reporting and dMRV pathway for eligible Projects.

The significance of Ozeon lies in the way these components reinforce one another. Education is connected to contribution. Contribution is connected to recognition. Recognition is connected to governance. Governance is connected to funding and stewardship. Funding is connected to Projects. Projects can produce evidence. Evidence can support trust. Trust can strengthen future participation.

The platform therefore creates a practical pathway from knowledge to action, and from action to accountable regeneration.

15.7 Final Statement

Ozeon is built on the belief that regeneration requires more than good intentions. It requires infrastructure.

It requires systems that make knowledge accessible, contribution visible, funding accountable, governance participatory and impact evidence more trustworthy. It requires tools that can support scientists and students, educators and artists, communities and institutions, funders and Project builders, technologists and traditional knowledge holders.

In an age of fragmented knowledge and accelerating ecological risk, Ozeon offers a different foundation: not one based on extraction, speculation or institutional gatekeeping, but on verified progress, shared intelligence, open participation and the ethics of regeneration.

The future Ozeon seeks to build is not only digital. It is ecological, educational, cultural, scientific and civic.

A platform for learning.

A system for contribution.

A commons for regenerative knowledge.

A pathway from participation to evidence-based impact.

Together, we regenerate.

Glossary

Account Verification

A basic verification step used to confirm that a user account is linked to a valid email address, phone number, wallet, or other account credential. Account verification is not the same as full legal identity verification.

Adverse Media Screening

A compliance process used to identify whether an individual or organisation has been associated with negative public reports, criminal allegations, sanctions-related concerns, fraud, corruption, financial crime, or other risk indicators.

AI Centre of Excellence / AI CoE

Ozeon's internal or designated expert group responsible for supporting the quality, consistency and governance of AI-enabled outputs, including Project Integrity Scoring, dMRV workflows, Ecological Footprint Scoring, company recommendation logic, evidence review and climate-intelligence methods.

AI Climate Intelligence

The use of artificial intelligence to support climate, ocean, land, biodiversity and sustainability-related knowledge work. In Ozeon, AI is treated as a support layer for research navigation, summarisation, Project assessment, knowledge discovery, OCIS workflows and decision support. AI outputs should not be treated as formal verification, legal advice, financial advice or certification.

AML

Anti-Money Laundering. A set of laws, policies, procedures and controls designed to prevent money laundering, terrorist financing, sanctions evasion, fraud and other financial crimes.

Article

A written content item published on Ozeon. Articles may include research summaries, field reports, policy analysis, Project updates, educational writing, intellectual property disclosures,

design essays or knowledge contributions. Articles may be submitted through DAO or Pod review for acceptance as Educational Resources or approved knowledge assets.

Article Proposal

A DAO proposal type used to determine whether an Article should be accepted into Ozeon's Educational Resources, knowledge commons, Learn2Earn pathways or higher-trust educational layer.

Attestation

A formal statement or record confirming that something has occurred, has been reviewed, or has been timestamped. In blockchain systems, attestations may record report hashes, milestone confirmations, identity status, Project status, contribution events, governance outcomes or evidence references.

Biodiversity Credit

A financial or digital instrument intended to represent measurable positive outcomes for biodiversity. Biodiversity credits are an emerging market and require careful methodology, verification, governance and safeguards to avoid misleading claims.

Blockchain

A distributed digital ledger that records transactions or data across a network. Blockchains are designed to make selected records tamper-resistant, transparent and auditable.

Blockchain Attestation

A blockchain-based record confirming that a specific claim, report, milestone, status or evidence package has been timestamped or referenced on-chain. Blockchain attestations do not automatically prove real-world impact. They make selected evidence trails more auditable.

Blue Carbon

Carbon stored in coastal and marine ecosystems such as mangroves, seagrasses, salt marshes, tidal wetlands and other ocean-linked habitats. Blue carbon Projects may support climate mitigation, biodiversity, coastal resilience and ecosystem restoration.

Bounty

A task posted on Ozeon with a defined request, reward and completion criteria. Bounties can support peer review, translation, field data collection, Media production, Tutorial creation, research summaries, design work, Project validation, OCIS evidence preparation, dMRV-readiness tasks or other mission-aligned contributions.

Bounty App

A future standalone or adjunct application connected to Ozeon and OCIS that may help contributors discover, claim, complete and track Bounties. The Bounty app would remain connected to Ozeon through shared identity, PRG, \$OZN, Project records, Bounty records, OCIS evidence links, governance and compliance controls.

Bounty Registry

The canonical record of Bounties created within the Ozeon ecosystem. The Bounty Registry should track Bounty ID, creator, linked Project, linked OCIS Project where applicable, reward, currency, review status, payout status, PRG eligibility, licensing terms, dispute status, evidence status and external cross-posting links.

CARE Principles

A data governance framework focused on Indigenous Data Governance. CARE stands for Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility and Ethics. CARE complements FAIR by emphasising people, rights, power and community governance.

CASP

Crypto-Asset Service Provider. Under MiCA, a CASP is an entity that provides regulated crypto-asset services such as custody, exchange, transfer, order execution, placement, advice or portfolio management.

Celo

A blockchain ecosystem designed for mobile-first, low-cost and accessible financial applications. Ozeon's blockchain planning references Celo because of its usability, low transaction costs and alignment with public-good and regenerative finance use cases.

Climate Intelligence

Structured analysis, data and decision support related to climate, ecosystems, environmental risk, Project feasibility, restoration potential, company footprint, mitigation strategy and impact reporting. In Ozeon, deeper climate intelligence is associated with OCIS.

Community Attestation

A verification method in which a trusted community organisation, local authority, cooperative, research institution, Project lead, Trust Anchor or culturally recognised body confirms a person's identity, role, affiliation or local legitimacy.

Content DAO Approved

A platform trust status indicating that an Article, Media item, Tutorial, Educational Resource or other content item has passed a DAO or Pod review process. It does not necessarily mean scientific certainty, formal verification or institutional endorsement.

Contributor

A user who adds value to Ozeon by publishing, reviewing, teaching, translating, funding, creating Media, completing Bounties, supporting Projects, participating in governance, contributing evidence, building Tutorials, inviting active users or contributing to the knowledge commons.

Crypto-Asset

A digital representation of value or rights that can be transferred and stored electronically using distributed ledger technology or similar technology.

CTF

Counter-Terrorist Financing. A set of legal and compliance controls designed to prevent funds, assets or services from being used to support terrorism or sanctioned organisations.

DAO

Decentralized Autonomous Organization. A governance structure where members coordinate and make decisions through digital voting, smart contracts, token-based or reputation-based participation and transparent proposal systems.

DAO Endorsed Project

A Project that has passed Ozean DAO review and received governance endorsement. DAO endorsement signals higher community confidence, but does not automatically mean funding, dMRV activation, third-party verification, registry certification, credit issuance or guaranteed success.

DAO Governance

The process by which Ozean users participate in platform decision-making through proposals, voting, Pods, treasury controls, curation, endorsement, protocol updates, platform rules and governance parameters.

DAO Treasury

A pool of funds or assets governed by DAO rules. In Ozean, treasury resources may support ecosystem development, Project funding, Bounties, knowledge commons acquisition, operations, contributors, treasury reserves and other approved uses.

DAO Treasury Disbursement Fee

An optional governance-configurable fee that may apply to DAO treasury disbursements. In Ozean's current fee model, this is expected to be between 0% and 1%, subject to governance rules and legal review.

DAO-Accepted Article

An Article that has passed the relevant DAO or Pod review pathway and has been accepted into Ozean's Educational Resources, knowledge commons, Learn2Earn pathways or approved knowledge assets.

DeSci

Decentralized Science. A movement that applies open science, blockchain, decentralized governance, token incentives, open publishing and community funding to scientific research and knowledge production.

dMRV

Digital Monitoring, Reporting and Verification. A digital approach to collecting, structuring, reporting and supporting verification of environmental or social-impact data. dMRV may involve remote sensing, sensors, field data, geospatial analysis, reports, third-party review and blockchain attestations.

DID

Decentralized Identifier. A digital identity standard that allows users, organisations or entities to control identifiers without relying entirely on centralised identity providers.

Digital Commons

A shared digital resource or infrastructure governed for public benefit. Ozean uses this concept to describe open knowledge, regenerative education, Project infrastructure, shared governance, public-good coordination and community-governed resources.

Digital Token Service Provider

A regulatory category used in Singapore for certain entities providing digital token services. Depending on the activity, licensing, AML/CFT controls and MAS requirements may apply.

Direct Project Funding

Funding provided directly to a Project through Ozean or OCIS. Direct Project funding does not require DAO endorsement unless the funding source, treasury mechanism or verification pathway separately requires governance approval.

Double Counting

The risk that the same funding contribution, PRG reward, Project activity, Bounty output, evidence package, environmental outcome or claim is recorded more than once. Ozean and OCIS should use shared identifiers, shared ledgers and replay protection to prevent double counting.

Dual-Token Economy

Ozean's economic model using two distinct token types: PRG, a non-transferable contribution and reputation token, and \$OZN, a transferable utility token.

Earth Observation

The collection of information about Earth's physical, chemical, biological and human systems using satellites, aircraft, drones, sensors and ground-based monitoring.

ECOP

Early Career Ocean Professional. A term used in the ocean science and policy community for people in the early stages of ocean-related careers, including researchers, practitioners, educators, policy workers and community leaders.

Ecological Footprint Score

An OCIS-supported assessment of a company's ecological impact across areas such as carbon, energy, water use, land use, biodiversity, ocean and waterway impact, materials, waste, logistics, supply chain, circularity and reporting readiness. It is a decision-support output, not a formal certification.

Educational Resources

Structured learning resources on Ozean that make regenerative knowledge easier to understand, access and apply. Educational Resources may include DAO-accepted Articles, Media, Tutorials, quizzes, diagrams, learning tracks and curated knowledge pathways.

End-of-Project Report

An OCIS report type that summarises a Project's final monitoring period, evidence, reported outcomes, progress against objectives, limitations, lessons learned and final dMRV summary.

Endorsed Project

A Project that has received DAO endorsement after review. Endorsed Projects may receive higher visibility, credibility, curated funding eligibility or future eligibility for selected higher-assurance pathways, but endorsement does not equal verification or certification.

ESG

Environmental, Social and Governance. A framework used by institutions, companies, investors and organisations to evaluate sustainability, social responsibility and governance practices.

Evidence Package

A structured bundle of information supporting a Project update, milestone, report, integrity assessment, Bounty output, dMRV workflow or external verification process. Evidence packages may include documents, photos, geospatial data, field notes, sensor records, reports, hashes and metadata.

FAIR Principles

A data stewardship framework stating that data and research objects should be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable.

FCA

Financial Conduct Authority. The UK regulator responsible for financial markets and firms, including cryptoasset financial promotions and relevant cryptoasset regulation.

Fiat

Government-issued currency such as euros, pounds, US dollars, Australian dollars or Singapore dollars.

Finantsinspektsioon

The Estonian Financial Supervision and Resolution Authority. It supervises financial markets and, under MiCA, relevant crypto-asset service provider activity in Estonia.

FPIC

Free, Prior and Informed Consent. A principle used in relation to Indigenous Peoples and community rights, requiring consent to be given freely, before an activity begins and with adequate information.

Fractionalization

The process of dividing economic, governance, usage or revenue rights associated with an asset into smaller units. In tokenized IP, fractionalization may involve IPTs or similar structures representing shared rights or revenue interests.

Funding Active

A status indicating that a Project can receive ordinary Project funding, tips, donations or other user support through Ozeon or OCIS. Funding Active does not require DAO endorsement and does not imply verified impact.

GDPR

General Data Protection Regulation. The European Union's primary data protection law, governing how personal data is collected, processed, stored, transferred and deleted.

GIS

Geographic Information System. A system for mapping, analysing and visualising geospatial data such as Project boundaries, ecosystems, land cover, restoration areas and environmental change.

Greenwashing

The act of making misleading, exaggerated or unsupported environmental claims. Ozeon's Project integrity, DAO review, status labels and OCIS workflows are designed to reduce greenwashing risk.

Identity Verification

The process of confirming that a user, organisation, Pod, Project representative, funder or community actor is who they claim to be, or has the legitimacy they claim to have.

Impact Claim

A statement that a Project, product, organisation, report or action has produced a specific environmental, social, educational or regenerative outcome.

Impact Integrity

The credibility and reliability of impact claims. Impact integrity depends on evidence quality, methodology, transparency, data governance, verification, reporting boundaries and honest communication.

Indigenous Data Sovereignty

The right of Indigenous Peoples and communities to govern data about their peoples, territories, knowledge, resources and cultural systems.

Individual Funder

An individual user who funds Projects through Ozean or OCIS in a personal capacity. Individual Funders may receive receipts, contribution records, PRG recognition where eligible and access to relevant Project reports or evidence outputs.

Innovation Network

Ozean's community and discovery layer connecting users, Projects, Organisations, funders, researchers, educators, creators, contributors and ecosystem participants.

Integrity Score

A shorthand term for OCIS Project Integrity Score. It refers to a structured assessment of a Project's credibility, evidence quality, risk, feasibility and readiness. It is not formal verification or certification.

IP-NFT

Intellectual Property Non-Fungible Token. A tokenized record linked to a knowledge asset, research output, design, dataset, Tutorial, Media item, protocol or creative work. In Ozean, IP-NFTs support provenance, attribution, licensing and stewardship. They do not automatically transfer legal IP rights unless supported by valid legal agreements.

IPT

IP Token. A possible future token representing fractional rights, revenue sharing or governance interests linked to an IP-NFT or intellectual property asset. IPTs may create legal and regulatory complexity and should be treated as an advanced feature.

IoT

Internet of Things. A network of physical devices or sensors connected to digital systems. In dMRV, IoT devices may monitor soil, water, air, biodiversity, energy or environmental conditions.

KYC

Know Your Customer. A compliance process used to verify the identity of individuals, especially in financial, crypto-asset, payment or higher-risk transactions.

KYB

Know Your Business. A verification process used to confirm the identity, legitimacy, ownership, control and authority of organisations.

KYP

Know Your Pod. Ozean's verification process for Pods, ensuring they have verified administrators, a clear charter, defined scope, governance rules and accountability mechanisms.

Learn2Earn

A learning model where users earn recognition, reputation or rewards for completing educational tasks, quizzes or learning pathways. In Ozean, Learn2Earn is linked primarily to PRG.

Liveness Check

A verification method used to confirm that a real person is present during identity verification, rather than a static image, fake document or impersonation attempt.

Market-Ready Evidence Package

An evidence package organised for possible submission to funders, verifiers, registries, buyers or environmental markets. A Market-Ready Evidence Package does not guarantee acceptance, certification, sale, credit issuance or third-party verification.

MAS

Monetary Authority of Singapore. Singapore's central bank and financial regulator, responsible for regulating payment services, digital payment token services and relevant financial activities.

Media

A first-class Ozeon content layer for videos, podcasts, interviews, documentaries, diagrams, animations, visualisations, maps, field recordings, images and other multimedia knowledge formats.

Media Proposal

A DAO proposal type used to determine whether a Media item should be accepted into Educational Resources, learning pathways, curated libraries, DAO-approved content or other recognised knowledge assets.

MiCA

Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation. The European Union's regulatory framework for crypto-assets, crypto-asset issuers, public offers and crypto-asset service providers.

Milestone

A defined step or achievement within a Project. Milestones may be used for funding releases, Project updates, dMRV reports, Bounty validation, OCIS reports, DAO review or evidence records.

Minting

The creation of a new token on a blockchain. In Ozeon, minting may refer to PRG issuance, \$OZN generation through Proof of Progress, or NFT/IP-NFT creation.

Monthly dMRV Report

An OCIS report type that provides a broader monitoring and progress summary for a Project over a monthly reporting period, including trends, activity summaries, evidence, data gaps, risks and recommendations.

Multisig

Multi-signature wallet. A wallet that requires multiple authorised signatures before a transaction can be executed. Multisigs are commonly used for treasury security.

Nature Credit

An emerging form of environmental credit intended to represent positive outcomes for nature, ecosystems, biodiversity or ecological restoration.

NFT

Non-Fungible Token. A unique blockchain token representing a distinct digital item, asset, record or set of rights. NFTs differ from fungible tokens because each NFT is individually identifiable.

NFTVault

A smart-contract or treasury structure used to hold NFTs or IP-NFTs acquired or governed by the DAO.

OCIS

Ozeon Climate Intelligence System. A connected climate intelligence, Project integrity, funding, reporting and dMRV platform linked to the wider Ozeon ecosystem. OCIS supports Project Integrity Scoring, Earth Observation, environmental data integration, dMRV reports, company tools, funder dashboards, evidence packages, Project funding and market-readiness support.

Eligible Ozeon Projects may be discoverable and assessable through OCIS without first receiving DAO endorsement, provided they meet OCIS eligibility requirements. DAO endorsement remains a separate governance signal and may support higher-assurance pathways, curated visibility, DAO treasury eligibility, Foundation-backed support or blockchain-enabled verification workflows.

OCIS Assessed

A status indicating that OCIS has completed an assessment, such as an integrity score, evidence review, risk analysis or preliminary report. OCIS Assessed does not mean DAO endorsed, third-party verified, registry certified or credit-generating.

OCIS Attested

A status indicating that a selected report, milestone or evidence package has been anchored on-chain through a hash, timestamp or attestation record. OCIS Attested does not prove ecological impact by itself and does not replace third-party verification.

OCIS dMRV Active

A status indicating that a Project has an active dMRV-aligned workflow with baseline, monitoring plan, evidence collection, reporting and review. OCIS dMRV Active does not mean formal credit issuance, registry certification or independent verification.

OCIS Eligible

A status indicating that a Project meets minimum criteria to appear in OCIS. OCIS Eligible does not mean the Project has been assessed, endorsed, verified or certified.

OCIS Evidence Record

A structured record within OCIS that links evidence to a Project, report, milestone, score, Bounty or dMRV workflow. Evidence records may include metadata, documents, hashes, geospatial references, uploaded files, public summaries or restricted evidence.

OCIS Funding

Funding initiated through OCIS for an Ozean-connected Project. OCIS funding must synchronise with Ozean funding records to avoid duplicate funding records, conflicting funding totals or duplicate PRG recognition.

OCIS Integrity Score Available

A status indicating that a user can run or view an OCIS Integrity Score for a Project, subject to access permissions and service availability. It does not mean verified or certified.

OCIS Listed

A status indicating that a Project is visible in OCIS for eligible users to view, assess, score, fund, review or generate reports where enabled. OCIS Listed does not mean verified, DAO endorsed, dMRV active or certified.

OCIS Reporting Active

A status indicating that a Project has an active OCIS reporting workflow, such as weekly, monthly, milestone or end-of-project reporting. It does not necessarily mean blockchain attestation or external verification.

OER

Open Educational Resources. Teaching, learning and research materials that are openly licensed or otherwise made available for free use, adaptation and sharing.

On-Chain

Data, transactions or records stored directly on a blockchain.

Off-Chain

Data, evidence, documents, files or processes stored outside the blockchain. Off-chain storage is often used for large files, personal data, reports, documents, private evidence and sensitive information.

Open Call

A structured opportunity listing on Ozean. Open Calls may include grants, fellowships, challenges, research calls, internships, fieldwork opportunities, competitions, content requests, Bounties or collaboration invitations.

Open Call Proposal

A DAO proposal type used to endorse an Open Call. DAO endorsement may increase credibility, visibility and trust, but is not necessarily required for every Open Call to exist on the platform.

Open Science

A movement to make scientific knowledge, data, publications, methods, tools and collaboration more open, accessible, transparent and reusable.

Oracle

A system that provides external data to smart contracts. In dMRV, oracles may support verified data inputs, timestamps, environmental metrics or third-party attestations.

Organisation Profile

A verified or unverified profile for an institution, NGO, company, DAO, university, cooperative, foundation, public body or community organisation using Ozeon.

PDPA

Personal Data Protection Act. Singapore's main personal data protection law, governing how organisations collect, use, disclose and protect personal data.

PEP

Politically Exposed Person. A person who holds, or has held, a prominent public function and may present higher bribery, corruption or financial-crime risk under AML rules.

Platform Fee

A transaction fee charged by Ozeon on selected platform activity. The current model is: Project funding 5%, tipping and donations 3%, Bounties 5%, Premium Content 5%, and optional DAO treasury disbursements at 0–1%.

Pod

A decentralised working group within Ozeon. Pods may support curation, proposal review, Open Calls, Projects, Media, Tutorials, Bounties, tokenomics, treasury review, education, ethics, user activation, community growth or OCIS-related work.

PoP

Proof of Progress. Ozeon's application-layer contribution-verification and reputation protocol. It links verified contribution to PRG recognition, governance eligibility and selected \$OZN minting pathways.

Premium Content

Paid or restricted-access content on Ozeon, such as selected Articles, Media, Tutorials, reports, evidence packs or creator materials. Premium Content access currently carries a 5% platform fee.

Progress / PRG

Ozeon's non-transferable contribution and reputation token. PRG reflects verified learning, Article creation, Educational Resource acceptance, peer review, governance participation, Project support, funding activity, Bounty completion, invitation-based activation rewards or other recognised activity.

Project

A real-world initiative published on Ozeon. Projects may relate to research, restoration, education, innovation, conservation, volunteering, social impact, regenerative business or community action.

Project Funding

A funding transaction supporting a Project through Ozeon or OCIS. Project funding currently carries a 5% platform fee. Project funding does not require DAO endorsement unless a separate treasury, governance or verification pathway requires it.

Project Integrity Report

An OCIS-generated report explaining a Project's integrity score, strengths, weaknesses, risks, feasibility, evidence quality, delivery readiness, funding logic, missing information and recommended improvements.

Project Integrity Score

An OCIS-supported assessment of a Project's credibility, feasibility, evidence quality, risks, completeness and likelihood of success. It is an assessment and decision-support tool, not formal verification or certification.

Project Proposal

A DAO proposal type used to decide whether a Project should receive DAO endorsement. Project Proposals do not determine whether a Project can exist, be listed or receive ordinary Project funding.

Proof of Address

A document or verification method used to confirm where a person or organisation is located or resident. It may be required for higher-level KYC or payment compliance.

Proposal

A formal DAO governance item submitted for review and voting. Ozean proposals may relate to Projects, Open Calls, Topics, Articles, Media, Tutorials, Bounties, NFTs, treasury actions, platform rules or protocol changes.

Proposal Registry

A system or smart contract that records DAO proposals, metadata, status, voting results and execution pathways.

PRG Contribution Ledger

A ledger that records PRG balances, earning events and contribution history. It may operate off-chain before or alongside blockchain integration and should be auditable, replay-protected and resistant to farming.

PRG Refund Ladder

A mechanism that refunds or partially refunds PRG used for governance voting depending on voting frequency or participation rules. It

is designed to reduce spam while preserving participation.

Proof-of-Progress Staking

A staking mechanism through which eligible PRG may be staked to participate in controlled \$OZN minting rounds. Proof-of-Progress staking links transferable utility-token access to verified contribution history.

Quadratic Grants

A funding mechanism where community support is amplified by matching funds, usually in a way that gives more weight to the number of contributors than to the size of a few large donations.

ReFi

Regenerative Finance. A movement and design field focused on using financial, digital, blockchain and community systems to support ecological regeneration, climate action, social benefit and public goods.

Regenerative Innovation

Innovation that aims to restore, renew or strengthen ecological, social, cultural and economic systems rather than merely reducing harm.

Registry-Certified

A status indicating that a recognised registry or standards body has certified a claim or issued an approved credit or certificate under a relevant methodology. Registry-Certified applies only where formally issued.

Remote Sensing

The collection of information about the Earth from satellites, drones, aircraft or other remote instruments. It can support monitoring of forests, wetlands, coastlines, vegetation, water, land use and ecosystem change.

Sanctions Screening

A compliance process used to check whether a person, organisation, wallet or transaction is associated with sanctioned individuals, entities, jurisdictions or activities.

SDGs

Sustainable Development Goals. A set of 17 global goals adopted by the United Nations to address poverty, inequality, climate change, health, education, biodiversity, peace and sustainable development.

Shared Contracts

Smart contracts or platform contract systems used across Ozeon, OCIS and related interfaces to maintain consistent records for Project funding, PRG recognition, Bounties, fees, attestations and activity histories. Shared contracts help prevent duplicate accounting and double counting.

Shared Funding Ledger

A shared funding record used to ensure that funding through Ozeon and OCIS updates the same Project funding history. This prevents duplicate funding totals and conflicting Project records.

Smart Contract

Code deployed on a blockchain that executes predefined rules. In Ozeon, smart contracts may support tokens, proposals, governance, staking, treasury activity, attestations, Bounties, Project funding and NFT/IP-NFT functions.

Source of Funds

Information showing where money or assets used in a specific transaction came from.

Source of Wealth

Information explaining how a person or organisation accumulated their overall wealth or assets.

This is usually required only in enhanced due diligence contexts.

Soulbound Token

A non-transferable token linked to identity, reputation or credentials. PRG is conceptually similar because it is designed to represent earned contribution rather than market-purchased value.

Staking

Locking or committing tokens into a protocol for a defined purpose. In Ozeon, PRG staking may support Proof-of-Progress mechanisms and selected \$OZN minting logic.

Status Label

A public or internal platform label communicating a Project, content, user, Organisation, Pod or OCIS state. Examples include Listed Project, Funding Active, OCIS Listed, OCIS Assessed, DAO Endorsed, OCIS Attested, Third-Party Verified and Registry-Certified.

Timelock

A smart-contract mechanism that delays execution of a proposal or transaction, allowing users to review actions before they take effect.

Tipping and Donations

Direct support provided to creators, contributors, Projects or organisations. Tipping and donations currently carry a 3% platform fee.

Tokenomics

The design of a token system, including supply, allocation, incentives, utility, emissions, staking, rewards, treasury flows and governance relationships.

Token Sale

A process through which tokens are offered to eligible purchasers or participants. Token sales may trigger securities, crypto-asset, financial

promotion, AML, tax and consumer-protection obligations depending on jurisdiction.

Topic Proposal

A DAO proposal type used to change platform rules, governance parameters, fee settings, treasury policies, reward parameters, Pod structures or other system-wide decisions.

Transaction Monitoring

A compliance process used to detect suspicious financial or crypto-asset activity based on transaction size, frequency, counterparties, jurisdictions, wallet behaviour or other risk indicators.

Transferable Token

A token that can be sent, sold, exchanged or transferred between users. \$OZN is Ozean's transferable utility token.

Travel Rule

A regulatory requirement requiring certain information about originators and beneficiaries to accompany qualifying crypto-asset or funds transfers.

Trust Anchor

A vetted person or organisation that can provide community, institutional, local or cultural attestation for identity, role, legitimacy or community context.

Trust Badge

A visible platform signal showing that a user, Organisation, Pod, Project, content item or verification status has passed a defined review or verification pathway.

Tutorial

A first-class Ozean content layer for practical instruction, skill-building, methods, field protocols, how-to guides, regenerative practices, training materials and applied learning sequences.

Tutorial Proposal

A DAO proposal type used to determine whether a Tutorial should be accepted into Educational Resources, structured learning pathways, Learn2Earn activities or curated platform libraries.

UBO

Ultimate Beneficial Owner. The person or people who ultimately own or control an organisation.

UNDRIP

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. An international declaration recognising Indigenous Peoples' rights, including self-determination, culture, lands, resources and free, prior and informed consent in relevant contexts.

Utility Token

A token designed for use within a platform or ecosystem rather than as an ownership claim or investment product. \$OZN is designed as Ozean's utility token.

Verifiable Credential

A digital credential that can be cryptographically verified. It may be used for identity, education, reputation, membership, qualifications, contribution history or platform roles.

Wallet

A digital tool that allows a user to store, receive, send or manage crypto-assets and blockchain-based credentials.

Wallet Screening

A compliance process used to assess whether a crypto wallet is associated with sanctions, illicit finance, high-risk activity, fraud, scams, mixers, darknet markets or other flagged behaviours.

Web3

A broad term for internet systems using block-chain, tokens, decentralized identity, smart contracts, DAOs and user-owned digital assets.

Weekly dMRV Report

An OCIS report type summarising monitoring activity over a seven-day period, including Project name, reporting period, location, environmental conditions, key metric changes, activities, uploaded evidence, risks, anomalies and recommended next actions.

Zero-Knowledge Proof

A cryptographic method allowing one party to prove that something is true without revealing the underlying information. Zero-knowledge proofs may support privacy-preserving identity and compliance in future systems.

\$OZN

Ozeon's transferable utility token. \$OZN is intended for platform utility, payments, Bounties, tipping, Project support, Premium Content access, selected ecosystem services and future blockchain-enabled platform activity.

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