

Linux Foundation Networking Project Lifecycle

Introduction

The Linux Foundation Networking umbrella consists of multiple projects. This document describes the lifecycle of those LFN projects.

Each LFN project governs itself. LFN projects may consist of multiple subprojects with their own lifecycles. This document's scope is limited to top-level LFN projects.

Project Lifecycle

LFN projects have a lifecycle. That lifecycle is characterized by Project States and State Transitions.

Project States

Project State	State Summary
none	Project does not exist or exists outside of LFN.
Sandbox	Project is admitted to LFN but does not have direct funding from LFN. The intent is to enable new projects to gain visibility and participate in the LFN with minimal impact on existing projects until they are ready for a subsequent state.
Incubation	Project has matured beyond sandbox and may receive funding (while not impacting TAC projects) but does not yet have a representative on the TAC.
TAC Project	Project is granted TAC representation.
Archived	Project is no longer active.

Project State Transitions

From State	To State	TAC Review	Board Review
none	Sandbox	LFN Entry Review Quarterly Health Rvw	LFN Entry Review
Sandbox	Incubation	Incubation Review	Incubation Review
Incubation	TAC	TAC Admission Review	TAC Admission Rvw
TAC	Incubation	Incubation Reversal Review	
•	Archived	Archival Review	
•	none	LFN Exit Review	LFN Exit Review

Project Reviews

For each review, the project must instantiate the Project Data Template. If the project has already submitted a template for a past review, they can update it (taking in to account any changes to the base template) for the new review.

Additionally, a project must publicly announce their intention to undergo a review at least two weeks prior to the date of the review. The announcement must include a link to the instantiated Project Data Template for the review. The public may comment on the document. The project must engage with comments, answer questions and address feedback.

Reviews must be conducted in a manner that allows a global community to participate. For example, at a time that is amenable to as many stakeholders as possible and using tooling that is generally accessible.

LFN Entry Review

The Board and the TAC both review proposals for new LFN projects.

TAC LFN Entry Review

Review by the TAC for creating new projects under the LFN or admitting existing non-LFN projects into the LFN.

TAC LFN Entry Reviews should happen before, and provide input into, Board LFN Entry Reviews.

Required Information for TAC LFN Admission Review

An up-to-date instantiation of the Project Data Template is required for an LFN Entry Review.

Criteria for TAC LFN Admission Review

Mandatory criteria for successful completion of the LFN Entry Review is documented governance that is clear, complete, and easily and obviously accessible (such as a link from of the project's main page). That governance must minimally specify:

- Project Roles.
- How people come to fill project roles.
- How people are removed from project roles.
- Who currently fills all project roles.
- How disputes are definitively resolved (usually by majority vote).
- How the governance evolves over time.
- What is the top level technical decision making body for the project, analogous to a TSC, to which the TAC should look for interfaces.

Additionally, the review will confirm that the incoming project scope is within scope of the LFN.

Outcome for TAC LFN Admission Review

As an outcome of the TAC's LFN Entry Review, the TAC will provide the following feedback to the LFN Governing Board for use as input to the LFN Board's LFN Entry Review:

- Summary of findings
- Recommendation to accept the project into LFN or not.

Board LFN Entry Review

It is up to the Board to define its own criteria and process of the Board's LFN Entry Review. Such review may include legal, trademark, and license reviews. The TAC strongly

recommends the Board make its LFN Entry Review criteria and process public and accept design input from the public.

Budget Guidance: The TAC recommends that the governing board allocate no funding to Sandbox projects and that those projects cannot use cross-project funding buckets. Sandbox projects should still be able to take advantage of LFN membership that does not require additional funding, such as logo inclusion in marketing materials or attendance at LFN events.

Quarterly Health Review

The TAC should review all projects in the Sandbox state on a quarterly basis. The goal of the quarterly health review is to assist the projects in their participation in LFN and ensure the project's community remains healthy.

Incubation Review

The Board and the TAC both review proposals for projects to advance to the Incubation state.

TAC Incubation Review

TAC Incubation Reviews should happen before, and provide input into, Board Incubation Reviews.

Required Information for TAC Incubation Review

An up-to-date instantiation of the Project Data Template is required for an Incubation Review.

Criteria for Incubation Review

Mandatory criteria for successful completion of the Incubation review is the documented demonstrable progress since induction toward open source best practices. This would include but is not limited to contributor diversity and open governance.

As an additional (non-mandatory) guideline, the project should show demonstrable progress in marketplace adoption. This may be measured by instances of the project in production or the project being embedded in other open source projects.

As part of the Incubation Review, the TAC should identify how the project fits with other LFN projects, including any overlap or harmonization potential.

Outcome for Incubation Admission Review

As an outcome of the TAC's Incubation Review, the TAC will provide the following feedback to the LFN Governing Board for use as input to the LFN Board's Incubation Review:

- Summary of findings
- Recommendation to accept the project into the Incubation stage or not.

Board Incubation Review

It is up to the Board to define its own criteria and process of the Board's Incubation Review. The TAC strongly recommends the Board make its Incubation Review criteria and process public and accept design input from the public.

Budget Guidance: The TAC recommends to the board that any new Incubation project not erode existing TAC project budgets.

TAC Admission Review

The Board and the TAC both review proposals for projects to advance to the TAC project state.

TAC Admission Review

The TAC Admission Review is intended for the TAC to consider whether an Incubation Project should have a representative on the TAC. It is initiated by a TAC Admission Request from an Incubation Project.

Required Information for TAC Admission Review

An up-to-date instantiation of the Project Data Template is required for a TAC Admission Review.

Criteria for TAC Admission Review

Mandatory criteria for successful completion of the TAC Admission Review are maintenance of the mandatory criteria for LFN Entry and demonstration of adequate project Diversity, a clear statement of how the Project will select its TAC Representative and adherence to the LFN Principles.

The project should also show demonstrable progress in integrating with other LFN projects, participating in cross-LFN initiatives and/or contributing to extending or strengthening the total scope of the LFN.

As an additional (non-mandatory) guideline, the project should show continued progress in marketplace adoption.

Outcome for TAC Admission Review

As an outcome of the TAC Admission Review, the TAC will provide the following feedback to the LFN Governing Board for use as input to the LFN Board's TAC Admission Review:

- Summary of findings
- Recommendation to accept the project into the TAC Project stage or not.

Board TAC Admission Review

It is up to the Board to define its own criteria and process of the Board's TAC Induction Review. The TAC strongly recommends the Board make its TAC Admission Review criteria and process public and accept design input from the public.

Budget Guidance: The TAC recommends to the board that any new TAC project receive funding through the existing board and TAC process for determining budget priorities.

Incubation Reversal Review

A TAC Project may be placed into the Incubation state if the TAC believes (by majority vote) that the project no longer meets the criteria to be a TAC Project or by a majority vote of the Project's TSC to request the project be moved to Incubation state. Prior to TAC initiation of an Incubation Reversal Review of a Project, a good faith effort must be made to contact the Project's TSC and initiate a dialog about the future of the Project.

Criteria for Incubation Reversal Review

Mandatory criteria for moving a TAC project to Incubation State are one of:

- A clear request from the Project to be moved to Incubation.
- Clear evidence of a decrease in project activity causing the project to no longer meet TAC admission criteria, such as project diversity, adherence to LFN principles or overall LFN participation. Additionally, demonstration of a good faith effort by the TAC to contact the Project's TSC and come to a positive resolution.

Outcome for Incubation Reversal Review

The TAC will notify the Board immediately of any decision to move a TAC project back to Incubation state.

Archival Review

A Project may be Archived if it has received no significant commits within the previous 12 months or by a majority vote of the Project's TSC to request the project be Archived. Prior to TAC initiation of an Archival Review of a Project, a good faith effort must be made to contact the Project's TSC and initiate a dialog about the future of the Project.

Criteria for Archival Review

Mandatory criteria for Archiving a project are one of:

- A clear request from the Project to be archived.
- Clear evidence of the project has received no significant commits within the previous 12 months and demonstration of a good faith effort by the TAC to contact the Project's TSC and come to a positive resolution.

Outcome for Archival Review

The TAC will notify the Board immediately of any decision to Archive a project.

LFN Exit Review

A Project may request to leave the LFN by majority vote of its TSC.

Should a project request to leave the LFN, it is the obligation of the TAC to forward that request to the Board immediately upon notification.

The Board may cause a project to exit LFN at their discretion.

Recommendations to Candidate Project

The TAC will provide the following feedback to the candidate projects for all reviews.

- If TAC recommends that the candidate project lifecycle state transition be approved, the TAC will provide recommendations for improving the project.
- If TAC recommends that the candidate project lifecycle state transition not be approved, the TAC will give feedback about which criteria the project did not adequately meet and what changes to the candidate project would be required to change the TAC's recommendation.

Disposition of Existing Projects

As of March 7, 2019, OpenDaylight, OPNFV, FD.io, and ONAP are in state TAC. PNDA, SNAS, and Tungsten Fabric are in state Incubation.

Amendment of Technical Governance

This Technical Governance may be amended by a $2/3$ vote of the TAC subject to approval by the LFN Board.