

3.1.2 Software Communities

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The cornerstone of a DIDO Community is the software, which acts as the engine of the distributed network of peers. Software is responsible for maintaining the ledgers on each node: securely and reliably sending transactions to each of the nodes and mitigating any conflicts that may arise while processing these transactions (e.g., the Double Spend Problem). As a general rule, the software is [Open Source Software \(OSS\)](#), governed by OSS rules for its maintenance and the development of new features.

In some communities, the software extends beyond the core software required to maintain the node within a network of nodes. For example, the Ethereum Foundation includes both the software to maintain the network of nodes and [Smart Contracts](#) to monitor and oversee transactions. However, Smart Contracts themselves may or may not be built, maintained, and supported by the Ethereum Foundation's software team; instead they may be created, maintained and supported by external third parties.

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