Building blockchain products for UNICEF. How to get involved.

Devcon, Bogota 11th Oct 2022
UNICEF has been experimenting with Ethereum and blockchain technologies for years
Since 2014, the VF has provided early-stage funding and support to frontier technology solutions that benefit children and the world.
Goal for the new cohort

1st COHORT
- Digital certificates & badges
- Supply chain
- Digital prescriptions
- Transparent funding
- Impact investing

2nd COHORT
- Remittances, humanitarian cash transfers and community currency
- Loan and investment services for unserved communities
- Decentralised decision-making tools

Looking Forward
- Platforms to automate decisions, and payments
- Solutions to improve accountability and tracking of financial flows and service delivery
- Create new economies and marketplaces
- Empower young people with skills to engage with crypto
In October 2019, UNICEF launched the CryptoFund, allowing UNICEF to receive, hold, and disburse cryptocurrency - a first for the UN.

Through the CryptoFund, we can help build successful digital solutions into digital public goods, to ensure fair, equitable, and open access to these tools for human development on a global scale.
Exploring blockchain-based cash transfers for UNICEF

Blockchain for Cash Transfers can help:
• Cut operational costs and increasing efficiencies through faster and cheaper distribution, real-time reporting, easier auditing
• Increase donor and public trust through real-time tracking/verifiability
• Increase security, safety, and inclusion for vulnerable populations

Why now?
• UNICEF is being approached by large-value Cryptocurrency donors keen on supporting programs directly impacting children
• OOI strategic direction is to bring in frontier technology applications to large scale UNICEF programme priorities at country offices

Rumsan (Nepal) have developed Rahat, a blockchain-based digital cash and voucher assistance (CVA) management system.

With UNICEF Nepal, Rumsan are now prototyping their platform to provide Unconditional Cash Transfer to 1500 households in rural Nepal.
Giga

UNICEF is the world’s leading agency for children. ITU is the UN’s specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICT). Together we are working to connect every young person to the internet.

As the only Named Initiative for Connectivity in the Secretary-General’s Digital Cooperation Strategy and the Common Agenda, Giga is uniquely equipped to:

1. **Map** previously unmapped schools, and monitor connectivity in real-time using open-source AI/ML
2. **Finance** connectivity projects using the most capital efficient solutions available
3. **Connect** students and teachers to the internet and empowered learning solutions
With the launch of Giga in late 2019, UNICEF and ITU set a goal of providing connectivity to every school in the world.

We’re on our way.

1.8M+ schools mapped across 41 countries and all viewable on the Project Connect platform

14 partners joined

19 countries joined
to connect over 86,000 schools and more than 25.8 million students and teachers

5,300+ prototype schools connected
by Giga partners: Kenya, Sierra Leone, Kazakhstan, Brazil, OECS … and more soon

$210M+ funding mobilized
to countries and UNICEF Country Offices to accelerate connectivity
## Gigacounts

A platform to automatically manage contracts and pay providers based on performance.

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- **Gigacounts**
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## Connectivity credits

A global marketplace for connectivity where schools that are currently priced out of the market could be connected using government incentives.
**Patchwork Kingdoms**
A data-driven NFT collection to help raise funds for Giga (700k++ USD raised)

**NFT2**
The world's most comprehensive decentralized database of school data, using NFTs.

**Staking**
Creating an impact investing product using ethereum staking to pay for school connectivity.
Rome wasn't built in a day. And neither are these products. Want to help us build?

“The digital revolution must be a benefit to all school children. I ask states to ensure that students and teaching establishments be better connected. Our Giga initiative aims at putting all schools online.”

ANTONIO GUTERRES
UN Secretary-General at the 77th UN General Assembly, 19 September 2022
How you can help?

1. If you are a dev, PM or similar interested in joining our team, keep an eye on our openings and Apply!

2. If you are an established company that wants to support the development of our products
   • Become a vendor
   • Become a partner

3. If you are a startup, keep an eye for are new call for Climate tech solutions and Apply for up to $100K in funding and tech assistance!