

United Nations
Internet Governance Forum



2024 Annual Report:
“The Internet that we Want and Can Trust”

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

The mission of the Dynamic Coalition of the Blockchain Assurance and Standardization (DC-BAS), is to define, propose and share criteria, methodologies, tools, and real use case to build trust in blockchain technology.

As of February 2025, the DC-BAS has a Google-Group¹ Membership of 256 individuals, sharing the belief that blockchains are important because they can be used to create secure and transparent systems, in streamlining the delivery of public services to underserved communities and populations, strengthening transparency and integrity for public services, and ultimately building trust amongst all stakeholders.

As blockchain technology continues to develop, it is likely to have a major impact on the way we live and work. However, notwithstanding the enormous potential of blockchain solutions, many projects fail to meet expectations because of the lack of comprehensive understanding of the knowledge domains, and the discipline present in more mature sectors. Furthermore, there are other challenges associated with the design and implementation of blockchains, including:

- Complexity: Blockchains can be complex to understand and use; and
- Regulation: Blockchains are not yet well-regulated.

The DC-BAS is hosted and supported by the Government Blockchain Association (GBA), a non-profit organization that supports the use of blockchain technology in government. The GBA's mission is to "connect, communicate, and collaborate with government leaders and stakeholders to use blockchain technology to improve public services." More specifically, GBA has established working groups that supports and are aligned with the UN-SG Global Digital Compact goals, including:

- Ensure that everyone has access to the digital world, via GBA's Telecommunication Working Group (i.e., Telcom-Internet-Communications, <https://www.gbaglobal.org/groups/telcom-internet-communications>).
- Promote the use of digital technologies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, via GBA's Sustainable Resources (i.e., Sustainable Environmental Stewardship, <https://gbaglobal.org/groups/sustainable-environmental-stewardship/memb...>).
- Protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in the digital age, via GBA's Trusted Communications Project (<https://gbaglobal.org/blog/2023/04/28/trusted-communications-project>)

¹ https://groups.google.com/g/dc-blockchain_assurance_and_standardization

- Build trust in the digital world, via the GBA Standards working group (Blockchain Maturity Model (BMM) – GBA Global)

1.2 Scope

The scope of work of the DC-BAS includes:

- Blockchain and communication infrastructure (i.e., accessibility and cybersecurity)
- Blockchain and digital identity
- Blockchain for environmental stewardship
- Blockchain and responsible governance (i.e., laws, regulations, standards, assurance)
- Blockchain for delivering public services (i.e., voting, finance, health care, education)
- Blockchain for economic development and investments
- Blockchain and artificial intelligence
- Blockchain for supply-chain

In addition to the sub-areas listed above, in 2024, DC-BAS added the following ones:

- Blockchain and quantum computing
- Decentralized Autonomous Organizations
- Blockchain and energy
- Blockchain and infrastructure (DePIN)
- Blockchain and space
- Blockchain and transportation
- Blockchain and contract management
- Blockchain and education

2 Operations

2.1 Monthly Meetings (held on the third Monday of every month, at 10:00 AM, EST)

The DC-BAS was established in 2023, and its activities throughout the year included a series of monthly meetings dedicated to:

1. Familiarization with the:
 - a. Nature, mission, structure, and operating model of the UN – Internet Governance Forum (UN-IGF), including:
 - i. Charter of the Dynamic Coalitions
 - ii. DC Report – “IGF Dynamic Coalition: Digital Cooperation in Practice”
 - b. Relevant strategies, policies, and initiatives of the United Nations, including:
 - i. The UN Secretary-General:
 1. Strategy on new technologies
 2. Report “Our Common Agenda”
 3. Roadmap for Digital Cooperation
 4. The UN Pact-for-the-Future
 5. The UN Global Digital Compact
 - ii. The World Summit on Information Society (WSIS+20) Roadmap and Review Process (IGF+20)
 - iii. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Digital SDGs
 - iv. The mandate of ITU and its various programs and initiatives
- Preparation for the Village Booth and Workshop Session held in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

2.2 Outreach

The DC-BAS also conducted outreach activities and participated in joint initiatives/sessions with two IGF Dynamic Coalitions on Digital Health.

3 2024 IGF Annual Meeting (Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)

3.1 Outcome

The DC-BAS participated in the 2024 IGF Annual Meeting held in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, both in-person as well as virtually. The Coalition managed a physical booth in Riyadh and a virtual one online remotely managed by a dedicated team.

Six representatives of the DC-BAS were on-site during the entire duration of the Riyadh event, and numerous other members of the Coalition joined the virtual activities based on a daily schedule of events and discussions on various topics. Furthermore, the DC-BAS Virtual Booth contained a series of pre-recorded short message and presentations, made available during the entire duration of the event, with contact details for support follow-ups and networking.

The main outcome of the Riyadh event was the presentation of blockchain solutions and experience gained by the DC-BAS members in:

1. Blockchain Maturity Assessments

- Focus on digital health and digital identity solutions

- Policy discussion on inclusive and secure blockchain deployment

2. Blockchain Security Risks

- Emphasis on quantum computing impact
- Policy considerations for addressing quantum security risks

3. AI and Blockchain Integration

- Examination of challenges posed by AI adoption
- Discussion on leveraging blockchain to address AI-related risks

4. Global Wellness Initiative

- Presentation of a healthcare project integrating blockchain, AI, and diagnostics
- Emphasis on inclusivity and sustainability in global health

The session addressed the following key policy questions:

The session addressed several policy questions aligned with the IGF's vision:

1. How can stakeholders support blockchain-based solutions for digital health and identity while adhering to principles of inclusivity, privacy, and human rights?
2. What multi-stakeholder approaches can address quantum security risks to blockchain systems?
3. How can policy frameworks be developed to maximize benefits and mitigate risks of AI-blockchain synergies?

4 2025 Plan

Taking input for the outcome of the 2024 session, the DC-BAS identified several initiatives for a “Call to Action” during 2025, building on the lessons learned, defined as follows:

- Increase collaboration with other Dynamic Coalitions, organizing “Inter-Sessional” online events (i.e., webinars on shared areas of interest).
- Pilot new platforms for supporting DC-BAS to operate as a Decentralized Autonomous Organization.
- Provide more details about opportunities for training and awareness on the Blockchain Maturity Model and the corresponding assessment methodology.
- Continue to share lessons learned and best practices.
- Involve key stakeholders and interested new parties in the periodic meetings of the IGF-BAS.
- Collect input/requirements/suggestions from representatives of multi-stakeholder groups.
- Develop and validate additional sector-specific supplements.

- Simulate assessments and share results.

4.1 Decentralized Autonomous Governance Pilot

4.1.1 Purpose

To strengthen the accountability and transparency of the DC-BAS decision-making process and operations, the Co-Leaders of the Coalition established a Decentralized Autonomous Organization (DAO), and conducted a pilot project with the purpose of demonstrating to all stakeholders how decentralized systems can be used for trusted governance in accordance with SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions).

4.1.2 Open Global Archive

The DC-BAS used a DAO for managing the access and availability of all relevant documents and communications, developing a framework of principles to be offered as an example and/or template for all the other IG-Dynamic Coalitions to follow, using as a baseline of “three opens”: open archives, open lists, open membership. In this regard, a set of guidelines outlining basic conduct on individual DC mailing lists, as well as on the general list, were compiled during the course of 2024, and its preliminary results were presented at the 2024 IGF session in Riyadh. Accordingly, the DC-BAS tested:

- a. A communication forum using decentralized autonomous technology to operationalize the UN IGF Code of Conduct²; and
- b. A decentralized autonomous voting system to support the voting of nominations, proposals, amendments, and other relevant decisions related to the activities of the Coalition.

5 Publications

The full list of documents, guidance, models, etc., co-authored by the DC-BAS members and published on the web site of the Government Blockchain Association, is available at the following link:

<https://gbaglobal.org/blockchain-maturity-model/supplements/>

² <https://intgovforum.org/en/about#igf-code-of-conduct>