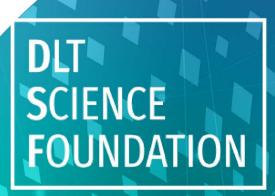




CRYPTO EXCHANGES

EXTRACT FROM CRYPTO 2 CASIS⁰ ECOSYSTEM² REPORT3 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES





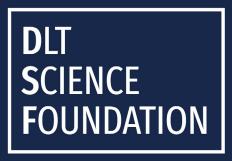


The DLT Science Foundation (DSF) is a non-profit organisation ledger technology (DLT).

Our mission is to help create a more equitable society with the adoption of DLT and other exponential technologies - which starts with fostering a more open and sustainable innovation ecosystem. We foster collaboration and investment in this ecosystem to ensure blockchain technology reaches its full potential.

We continue expanding our robust and growing ecosystem of developers, academic institutions and industry leaders. Alongside our grant program for academic institutions, the foundation is also developing research initiatives, policymaker engagement, and educational partnerships to further our mission.

Visit us to learn more at DLTscience.org



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Building Trust, **Discovering Truth**



Infrastructure.

Michael Zhao | Co-Founder & CEO, Klickl

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Paolo Tasca UCL and DLT Science Foundation

Jiahua **Xu** UCL and DLT Science Foundation

Address: 48th Floor, Almas Tower, Jumeirah Lakes Tower, United Arab Emirates Email: pr@Cryptooasis.ae | Website: www.cryptooasis.ae

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HOW CRYPTO OASIS IS TRANSFORMING THE BLOCKCHAIN LANDSCAPE

Over the last few years, the Blockchain industry has One of the factors contributing to the success of the UAE has emerged as one of the leading destinations for in the UAE, which has been stable, predictable, and Crypto and Blockchain-related businesses. Witnessing this first hand we started referring to the region of Middle to setup operations. The UAE's focus on disruptive East and North Africa to give it an identity of its own as the Crypto Oasis, which has now established itself as a global Blockchain Ecosystem fostering innovation in the of cutting-edge disruption, Dubai is at the heart of UAE.

In its second edition, the Crypto Oasis Ecosystem Report 2023 showcases the significant progress and achievements of the Crypto Oasis in establishing itself as the fastest growing Blockchain Ecosystem globally, with over 1,800 organisations identified as of Q1 2023. In partnership with the DLT Science Foundation and Roland Berger as well as report-in-reports from Venom and Chainalysis, our report highlights the massive surge in institutional and individual adoption in the crypto industry, as well as our contribution and assistance to Blockchain and Web3 organisations in accessing resources and expertise to navigate the complex and presenting at these meetups. We have also hosted rapidly evolving landscape.

witnessed significant growth and evolution, and the Crypto Oasis Ecosystem is the regulatory environment favourable, enabling local and international players technologies positioned it as a modern-day renaissance hub. With AI, the Metaverse and Web3 at the forefront this Ecosystem, epitomising creativity, and innovation essential for progress in the digital space.

> According to the Chainalysis input in our report Crypto currency transactions in the UAE are largely driven by early-adopters looking to make investments, as opposed to everyday citizens who buy Crypto out of necessity in other regions.

> To build Ecosystems within Ecosystems, we built several ventures and IPs that target different aspects of the Industry. Our Web3 Meta-Community, arte, has had over 60 meetups in the past year, with over 120 projects thought leaders in the Web3 industry at more than 13

arte Talks, which take place at the Theatre of Digital Art future by bringing together innovators and entrepreneurs in Madinat Jumeirah every other week. Furthermore, to develop and implement solutions that promote environmental sustainability and social responsibility. we continuously host major players in the Blockchain space like Ethereum, Casper Labs, Dfinity, and Solana for The Green Block focuses on promoting, leading, and fireside chats at Crypto Oasis meetups in DIFC, which connecting this part of the industry to align with the focus on Protocol founders and CEOs. goals of the UAE.

Another recent initiative launched at the Crypto Oasis Additionally, the Crypto Oasis has served as the Ecosystem night in March 2023 is the Crypto Oasis Ecosystem partner at events in the region, including the Games Guild. The objective of this initiative is to build Future Blockchain Summit, Superverse, Dubai Metaverse Assembly, and Art Dubai, among others. Crypto Oasis an ecosystem for the gaming industry in Web3. With partners like Epic, Unity and QORPO Gaming Studios and is also a Web3 Ecosystem partner at the Dubai Fintech support from major players in the Ecosystem like Polygon Summit, where this second iteration of the Crypto Oasis we have been able to launch with 18 founding members Ecosystem Report is launched. from all over the globe. The initiative currently in its growth phase will be building on the thought leadership In conclusion, the Crypto Oasis Ecosystem Report 2023 of its members and promoting cross-collaboraton and highlights the incredible progress and achievements partnerships between industry players. of the Crypto Oasis in establishing itself as a leading

Blockchain Ecosystem globally. The report showcases the To build on the success of previous ventures and massive growth and adoption of Blockchain and Web3 Ecosystems, we are launching a new initiative in technologies, as well as Crypto Oasis commitment to commitment to the UAE's COP28 initiative. The new supporting the development and success of Blockchain initiative, called The Green Block, is an Ecosystem for and Web3 entrepreneurs and organisations. With its the ESG part of Web3 that aims to foster a sustainable vibrant community, favorable regulatory environment,







Faisal Zaidi Co-Founder, Crypto Oasis





PROJECTS & STARTUPS



CRYPTO **EXCHANGES**

A Cryptocurrency exchange is an interface that allows individuals to buy, sell, and trade Cryptocurrencies using fiat currencies or other forms of digital assets. Since Bitcoin's inception in 2009, the Cryptocurrency market has exponentially grown with a total market capitalisation of over \$2tn and thousands of Cryptocurrencies in circulation.

A Cryptocurrency exchange plays a crucial role in the Crypto Ecosystem by streamlining the growth and adoption of Cryptocurrencies, facilitating price discovery, and enabling the flow of capital into the market. It also promotes the greater implementation of Blockchain technology by providing a gateway for individuals to access and use Cryptocurrencies.

Another key benefit of a Cryptocurrency exchange is the ability to provide greater financial inclusion and access to financial services, particularly in regions with limited access to traditional banking services. In the Middle East, where there is a large unbanked population, Cryptocurrency exchanges have the potential to play a transformative role in the financial landscape.

Recently, Cryptocurrency exchanges have observed the emergence of Decentralised exchanges that do not rely on a Centralised intermediary and function on the Blockchain networks. This has the potential to further increase transparency and security in Cryptocurrency trading and reduce the risk of hacking and fraud.

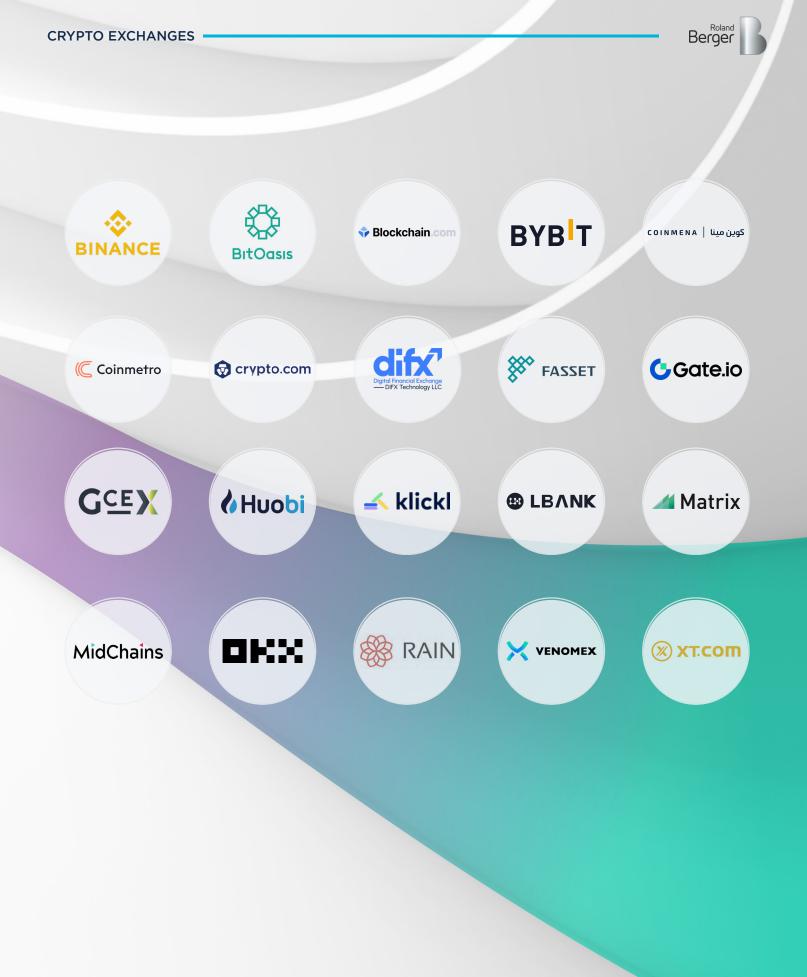
619 Total Number of Crypto Exchanges

\$1.19Tn Highest Daily Marketcap in Q1 2023 (Coinmarketcap)

10.21Bn 24h Volume (Binance)

\$109.8Bn Highest 24h Volume in Q1 2023

(Coinmarketcan)







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650

EMPLOYEES UAE

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Dubai, DWTC

LOCATION

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120

EMPLOYEES UAE

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Dubai, DSO LOCATION

DIFX

<u>ۍ</u> **BINANCE**

BitOasis

💠 Blockchain.c

Token Ticker: BNB

Binance is one of the world's leading Blockchain and Cryptocurrency infrastructure provider with a financial product suite that includes the largest digital asset exchange by volume. Trusted by millions worldwide, the Binance platform is dedicated to increasing the freedom of money for users, and features an unmatched portfolio of Crypto products and offerings, including: trading and finance, education, data and research, social good, investment and incubation, decentralisation and infrastructure solutions.

BitOasis

Binance

Token Ticker: N/A

Based in Dubai, BitOasis is one of the MENA region's first home grown Cryptocurrency exchange for BitCoin and +65 Cryptocurrencies. BitOasis clients can trade using local currencies like AED and SAR. Founded in 2015, BitOasis is trusted by traders, institutions, and authorities across the region and the world.

Blockchain.com

— Token Ticker: N/A Blockchain.com is connecting the world to the future of finance. They are one of the fastest





کوین مینا | С О і N М Е N А

Coinmetro

— Token Ticker: N/A

Token Ticker: N/A

CoinMENA

CoinMetro

Token Ticker: N/A

Bybit is a Cryptocurrency exchange established in March 2018 that offers a professional platform where Crypto traders can find an ultra-fast matching engine, excellent customer service and multilingual community support. Bybit is a proud partner of Formula One racing team, Oracle Red Bull Racing, E-sports teams NAVI, Astralis, Alliance, Virtus.pro and Oracle Red Bull Racing E-sports, and association football (soccer) teams Borussia Dortmund and Avispa Fukuoka.

securely, as well as deposit and withdraw in their local currency.

growing Crypto companies, helping millions across the globe - from single individuals to

the largest institutions - have an easy and safe way to buy, sell and store Cryptocurrency.









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CAN A WELL REGULATED CRYPTO SPACE BE ON **THE HORIZON?**

Since the creation of Bitcoin in 2009, the Crypto and Cryptocurrencies in different jurisdictions, and the Blockchain market has grown significantly, including absence of a unified and consistent global framework diverse financial products and services. Various has created some confusion for regulators and Crypto tokens with novel features, new investment projects alike. opportunities, unique lending and borrowing alternatives. and unprecedented fundraising But this isn't a case to put down the regulators solutions are just a few of the innovative changes that because there have been steps taken by global we have witnessed over the past 15 years. We have and regional regulators to create the necessary seen numerous Blockchain innovations like NFTs, foundation needed for digital assets to thrive. If we Decentralised Autonomous Organizations, ICOs were to take a closer look at the UAE for example, etc have become important mediums of personal we see an openness and acceptance to Blockchain and emerging technologies. Moreover, what we see wealth and a broad range of Cryptocurrencyin the region is the drive to spearhead itself as the related businesses have emerged to serve the Cryptocurrency sector. These include businesses that world capital for emerging technologies. The past are directly involved in Cryptocurrency trading and two years alone has seen them become a magnet development, such as Cryptocurrency exchanges and for the Crypto and Web3 ventures from all across the world. As early as 2018, the Abu Dhabi Global Cryptocurrency "mining" operations, as well as those that provide ancillary services to or are otherwise Market (ADGM) was one of the first jurisdictions to indirectly involved with the Cryptocurrency markets have made foundational guidelines for virtual asset and participants, including, but not limited to, firms in trading and investment in conjunction with the FSRA the retail, banking, gaming, and computing sectors. Similarly, the recent regulations released by Dubai's Virtual Asset Regulatory Authority (VARA), have Together, these concepts of Centralised Finance (CeFi) and Decentralised Finance (DeFi) have built on the principles of economic sustainability and attracted a new generation of investor mentality cross-border financial security.

given the community a much-needed framework to further grow the digital space and bring forth These efforts are indeed one of the many reasons the much awaited era of Web3. However, with this why Blockchain firms across the globe are setting up their presence within the country. This innovative adoption comes a long list of questions regarding mindset is also echoed in the various Governmental customer protection concerns, operational & regulatory framework, AML policies and more. We Ecosystems and venture funds like Hub71 with their have seen different regulatory bodies in major new \$2bn Hub71+ Digital Assets initiative designed to economic regions try to categorize Crypto tokens, develop and grow the Web3 startups and Blockchain the tax regulations, but the lack of clear rules for technologies in the capital



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PROJECTS & STARTUPS

≼ klickl

LBΛNK

Matrix

🛞 RAIN

The openness to new financial models is also reflected through the Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates (CBUAE) latest plans to launch a national CBDC to improve cross-border payments and drive development for domestic payments. Additionally, the country has also shown keen interest in the Metaverse side of Web3 with Dubai publishing its Dubai Metaverse Strategy in mid-July of 2022, in an ambitious effort to support more than 40,000 virtual jobs by 2030.

In conclusion, the growth and potential of virtual assets within the UAE are undeniable. As the global industry continues to evolve and disrupt traditional financial systems, the UAE has positioned itself as a leader in the development and regulation of virtual assets. Through the efforts of prominent regulators and Government-backed initiatives, the country has created a framework that fosters innovation and economic sustainability while ensuring crossborder financial security. The recent launch of the Dubai Metaverse Strategy further highlights the

country's commitment to exploring the full potential of Web3 technologies. With such initiatives, the UAE is poised to become a hub for Blockchain firms and startups, and a leading example for the rest of the world to follow. So as we continue to innovate and build the industry, the robust and consistent rules that are currently being laid out will truly make UAE a leading example for the rest of the world



Token Ticker: N/A

regulated exchange unicorn in Asia.

MidChains

Klickl

Token Ticker: N/A

Token Ticker: N/A

Blockchain space.

LBank

Matrix

— Token Ticker: N/A

MidChains

OKX

Token Ticker: N/A

engaging platform that empowers every individual to explore the world of Crypto.

Rain

Token Ticker: N/A

Crypto.com

— Token Ticker: CRO

Founded in 2016, Crypto.com today serves over 10mn customers with one of the world's fastest growing Crypto apps, along with the Crypto.com Visa Card - one of the world's largest Crypto card programs - the Crypto.com Exchange and Crypto.com DeFi Wallet. Recently launched, Crypto.com NFT is the premier platform for collecting and trading NFTs, carefully curated from the worlds of art, design, entertainment and sports.



DIFX — Token Ticker: **DIFX**

DIFX is a fully insured cross-asset trading platform. This platform was created as a Blockchain-based Cryptocurrency exchange to bring significant and lasting change to financial markets. This Ecosystem offers an all-in-one solution for digital currency; made to trade, invest, and stake.





crypto.com

— DIFX Technology LL







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22

EMPLOYEES UAE

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Abu Dhabi, ADGM

LOCATION

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EMPLOYEES UAE

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Dubai. DMCC

LOCATION

FASSET

— Token Ticker: N/A

Fasset

Fasset is a Cryptocurrency exchange operating in the Middle East and GCC regions. It is a Cryptocurrency exchange seeking to create sustainable investment structures and help people from developing nations gain financial access through leveraging the technologies of Blockchain and Cryptocurrencies.

Gate.io Gate.io Gate.io

— Token Ticker: **GT**

Gate.io's mission is to serve the Blockchain industry by providing secure and reliable products & services to consumers and companies around the world. Transparency, security & integrity are their main values. The "Gate Ecosystem" consists of Gate.io, Wallet.io, HipoDeFi and Gatechain, all of which were created to provide users with a secure, simple and fair trading platform as well as the ability to safeguard assets and trading information.



Huobi

— Token Ticker: N/A

GCEX is an advanced digital asset and currencies technology solution for institutional and professional clients. Headquartered in London, GCEX part of the GC Group was established in 2018 in response to demand for regulated and compliant exposure to the digital asset market.



Huobi

GCEX

X) XT.COM

— Token Ticker: **HT**

Token Ticker: N/A

— Token Ticker: **XT**

Founded in 2013, Huobi Group is a Blockchain company with a mission to accelerate the digital economy through breakthrough innovations in core Blockchain technologies. Huobi Group's has operations across multiple sectors, including enterprise and public Blockchains, digital assets trading, Cryptocurrency wallets, and industry research, reaching tens of millions of users in over 170 countries.



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Venomex

XT.com

Venomex Limited is a Multilateral Trading Facility and Custodian, based in Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) and has received financial services permission from the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of ADGM. As a virtual asset MTF and Custodian, Venomex Limited aims to be a preferred venue for virtual assets (Cryptos) listing, trading, settlement and custody and will offer a fully integrated Ecosystem to institutional, HNI and retail investors.

XT.com Exchange was established in 2018 and registered in the Sevchelles. Its operating

headquarters is located in Dubai. It has operation centres in Singapore, Seoul and other

countries and regions, and its business covers the world. XT.com is a comprehensive trading platform that supports 500+ currencies and 800 trading pairs. It has a rich

variety of transactions such as currency transactions, leveraged transactions, OTC

transactions, contract transactions, and credit card purchases.





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Klickl

NAVIGATING THE CRYPTO FRONTIER: INSIGHTS ON THE ESSENTIAL ROLE OF REGULATED VIRTUAL ASSET CUSTODY & PAYMENT INFRASTRUCTURE.

financial inclusivity.

digital asset Ecosystem.

The ever-growing number of cyber threats and hacks targeting the Crypto industry underscores the need for a secure environment to store digital assets. A regulated virtual asset custody solution adheres to strict regulatory standards and implements advanced security measures, bolstering trust among investors and institutions.

Compliance with custody regulations is essential for businesses in the industry. By meeting regulatory requirements, custodians can avoid potential legal issues and ensure the seamless operation of their services. For instance, Klickl, a company I am closely associated with, has obtained in-principle approval from the Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) to offer digital asset services, demonstrating its commitment to regulatory compliance and security.

Regulated virtual asset custody plays a vital role in driving institutional adoption of digital assets. Institutional investors, such as hedge funds and pension funds, require a secure and compliant environment to enter the market. A regulated custody solution, like the one offered by Klickl, can help bridge the gap between traditional finance and the digital asset space.

One of the major challenges in the digital asset and payment space is becoming a regulated global player. It is often more practical to establish a strong regional presence and comply with local regulations first, then seek global partners in other jurisdictions to build a cohesive network effect. This strategy allows companies to navigate the complex regulatory landscape while expanding their reach and impact. Klickl, for example, focuses on being a regional leader in the Middle East while collaborating with global partners to create a connected Ecosystem.

A payment infrastructure that connects fiat and Crypto enables users to easily access and engage with digital assets. By providing a seamless on-ramp and off-ramp







A comprehensive payment infrastructure that connects the

traditional financial system with the digital asset space can

help promote financial inclusion. This enables unbanked and

underbanked populations to access financial services and

participate in the global economy. As Klickl continues to

develop its payment solutions, it aims to contribute to this

As the industry continues to evolve, I expect regulated

virtual asset custody and a robust payment infrastructure

connecting fiat and Crypto to play an increasingly important

role in shaping the future of digital assets and their impact

on our global economy. With companies like Klickl at the

forefront, we can anticipate a more secure and accessible

Michael Zhao Co-Founder & CEO, Klickl



4 Subscription

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