



Smart Dubai Case Study: Blockchain for Government in the UAE

In the quest to make Dubai, the happiest city on Earth, his Highness Sheikh Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum took the Smart Dubai initiative.

Blockchain Powering the City of the Future

Smart Dubai promises to make Dubai the happiest city on the planet. The strategy seeks the participation of multiple stakeholders from the city - parents, visitors, residents, business owners. The goal towards Smart City implementation would leverage a number of technological solutions like AI, IoT & Blockchain to sustain the three strategic pillars of international leadership, industry creation, and government efficiency.

By joining hands with the non-government sector and government partners, Smart Dubai was an initiative to empower, promote and establish an advanced, safe and disruption free residential experience for the citizens and visitors.

To achieve its strategic objectives, Smart Dubai aims to develop a smart economy through valuable partnerships resulting in Smart Living, Smart Environment, Smart Mobility and Smart Citizens resulting in sustained economic development.

Goal

Dubai aspires to become the "first city fully powered by blockchain by 2021". The Dubai Blockchain 2020 Mandate, driven forward by the Smart Dubai Office, lays out a roadmap for the introduction and implementation of blockchain technology in Dubai. Its goals are inclusive of reaching 100% efficiency in applicable government services, enabling blockchain powered ecosystems for businesses and startups. The ultimate goal lies in becoming a Global Blockchain influencer.

Enterprise Ethereum Solution

The government of Dubai issued an RFP and from the wide range of feasible candidates, a blockchain company was selected as a blockchain partner. It just took 2 months from the point of ideation to perform a high-end analysis with government agencies, IT teams, business process owners to touch down on the primary requirements. It was decided on the first use cases: medical, real estate, energy etc. The blockchain company also conducted a thorough analysis of the fundamental infrastructural need required to support the blockchain criteria. The analysis led to the creation of a Blockchain Platform for the Service Architecture. A simultaneous case for a blockchain based digital identity was also developed.

Results Achieved

Blockchain Platform as a Service:

As a prototyping solution, a Blockchain Platform as a Service was developed in partnership with a telecom company of Dubai to allow all government entities the leverage to build on a decentralized framework on the basis of their business needs. The BPaaS is a completely managed, scalable and secured platform with cost advantage model revolving around pay as you go system. BPaaS has got official recognition from the government to become one of the front line partners offering support for government entities and prototyping initiatives.

The Smart City University:

The Smart City University was developed in close cooperation with the Dubai Future Foundation. It is a blockchain driven decentralized learning portal which supports the advancement of digital skills. Smart City University pledges to increase the percentage of digitally skilled talent in the UAE to 10% within 2020. This can only be achieved by bypassing the conventional route followed by traditional institutions. Individuals have the freedom to create their personalized educational paths which

includes relevant reading materials, hands on work projects, digital conferences, online workshops which help in digital certifications.

