

Blockchain Bond

Introduction

M. Coskun Cangöz, Manager, Government Debt and Risk Management, World Bank Treasury

Speakers

Andrea Dore, Head of Funding, World Bank Treasury Paul Snaith, Manager, Treasury Operations Capital Markets, World Bank Treasury Markus Stix, Managing Director, Austrian Treasury

Moderator

Mats Filipsson, Senior Financial Officer, Financial Advisory & Banking, World Bank Treasury

Agenda

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Participants are requested to connect to the conference call to ensure a prompt start at 9am.

9:00 - 9:05 a.m. Welcome and introduction

Coskun Cangoz, Manager, Government Debt and Risk Management, World Bank Treasury

9:05 – 9:20 a.m. Recent involvement of the Blockchain Bond

Andrea Dore, Head of Funding, Capital Markets Department, World Bank Treasury

9:20 - 9:50 a.m. Background on the Blockchain Bond, bond-i

Paul Snaith, Manager, Treasury Operations Capital Markets, World Bank Treasury

9:50 – 10:00 a.m. Austria's Blockchain experience at government bond auctions

Markus Stix, Managing Director, Austrian Treasury

10:00 - 10:25 a.m. Q&A session

10:25 - 10:30 a.m. Wrap-up and closing

Mats Filipsson, Senior Financial Officer, World Bank Treasury



M. Coskun CangözManagerGovernment Debt and Risk ManagementWorld Bank Treasury



Andrea Dore
Head of Funding
Capital Markets Department
World Bank Treasury

World Bank's Global Blockchain Bond

bond-i Transaction Overview



On August 23, 2018, the World Bank issued the world's first legally binding bond operated on a global blockchain platform throughout its life cycle. The bonds are created, registered, allocated, and transferred on the platform.

The Process

- The World Bank launches bond-i on a private permissioned blockchain platform.
- Pre-authorized investors use their authentication key and enter bids onto the platform through the web-interface
- The World Bank observes book-building in realtime
- Pricing is finalized
- Investors update their bids, supported by direct communication with the World Bank enabled through an online communication function
- Investors see their own bids and allocation in real time
- The register is based on the blockchain ledger and held by CBA in Sydney
- Cash settlement is "off-chain"





Paul Snaith

Manager

Treasury Operations Capital Markets

World Bank Treasury

World Bank Global Blockchain Bond

Benefits



Using blockchain for bond issuance has the **potential to streamline processes** among numerous debt capital market intermediaries and agents. This **can help simplify raising capital and trading securities, improve operational efficiencies**, and **enhance regulatory oversight**.

Key benefits of bond-*i* include:

- **Learning:** Learning opportunity for the World Bank not only for capital market development purposes, but also to harness the potential of disruptive technologies in areas such as land administration, supply chain management, health, education, cross-border payments, and carbon market-trading.
- Efficiency: A single, verifiable and continuous source of information through the distributed ledger eliminates reconciliation
- **Transparency:** Increased real-time information for investors and issuers.
- **Automation:** Smart contracts apply rules, then automate and streamline processes.
- Auditing and reporting:* Automated reporting improves reporting for investors, issuers and regulators. The immutable, append-only platform gives a single, common source of truth.





^{*} Transactions with an added regulator node, would have additional transparency as the regulator could also directly see all activity on the platform, in real-time.







Markus Stix
Managing Director Austrian Treasury
DMO Republic of Austria





Blockchain technology at government bond auctions

- October 2, 2018: Start of blockchain application to notarize reports related to the auction of Austrian government bonds (dual-tap amounting to EUR 1.15 billion)
- Motivation: improvement of process by which auction data can be authenticated by auction participants
- Primary dealers can now check authenticity/integrity of their reports by calculating hashes of ADAS reports (Austrian Direct Auction System) and compare them with the hashes stored by OeKB (=auction system provider) in the blockchain
- Only hashes are stored in the blockchain, not actual auction data (security reasons).
- The auction procedure remained fully unchanged using existing high security standards. Auction participants were not required to adapt their IT systems
- This blockchain-based validation process will from now on be used in every upcoming Austrian government bond auction. Further improvements are already planned (e.g. online verification-tool for auction participants).
- This additional layer of security helps to underpin confidence and trust in the auction process, and further strengthens the good standing of Austria on the capital markets. It contributes to the goal of the Austrian government to engage in pioneering innovation activities in the FinTech area.

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