

The Blockchain Times

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Kusama News - July 2023

KUSAMA NEWS - JANUARY 2023

Kusama Network Update: July 2023 Edition

Headline: Kusama Ecosystem Thrives with Governance Overhaul, Hackathons, and Technological Advancements

In a bustling month for the Kusama network, July 2023 has seen significant developments across governance, community engagement, and technological progress. The "canary network" of Polkadot continues to push boundaries in the blockchain space, cementing its position as a hotbed for innovation and experimentation.

Governance Revolution: OpenGov Takes Flight

Blockchain Policy Correspondent

The most notable development this month has been the successful implementation of Polkadot OpenGov on Kusama. This new governance model, voted in by the community in late 2022, has now been fully integrated, marking a significant shift in how the network operates. OpenGov eliminates the need for a council or committee, simplifying the process and allowing for more tracks and proposals to be considered simultaneously. This change is expected to enhance decentralization and community participation in decision-making processes.

According to a statement from the Web3 Foundation, "The transition to OpenGov represents a major milestone in Kusama's evolution, empowering token holders to have a more direct say in the network's future."

Hackathons Fuel Innovation

Web3 Analyst

July has been a month of intense developer activity, with multiple hackathons taking center stage. The Kusama & Polkadot Prodigy Hackathon 2023, which began on May 1st, concluded its judging period in mid-July. This event, focused on Eastern European countries but open to developers worldwide, aimed to promote Substrate

technology and attract more talent to the Kusama ecosystem.

Additionally, the "Mega Web3 DotSama Bootcathons" initiative, approved through a community referendum, kicked off its series of regional hackathons. These events, spread across multiple cities in Mexico, are designed to educate students about Kusama and Polkadot, with the winners advancing to a main hackathon event. The initiative, spearheaded by Web3 Group, aims to nurture future developers and adopters of the DotSama ecosystem.

Technological Advancements

Technology Reporter

Kusama continues to serve as a testing ground for cutting-edge blockchain technology. This month saw progress on several fronts:

- Asynchronous Backing:** Parity Technologies has been working on major optimizations to the parachain consensus protocol, with Kusama serving as the initial testing environment.
- ZK Primitives:** Discussions have begun about bringing zero-knowledge primitives to Kusama, potentially opening up new avenues for privacy-preserving applications.
- Parachain Development:** Several parachain projects have made significant strides, leveraging Kusama's flexible environment to refine their offerings before potential deployment on Polkadot.

Market Performance and Ecosystem Growth

Blockchain Report

Despite the broader crypto market volatility, Kusama's native token, KSM, has shown resilience. While still down from its all-time high, KSM has maintained steady trading volumes, reflecting ongoing interest in the network.

The ecosystem has continued to expand, with

new projects launching on Kusama parachains. Notable among these is the consideration of bringing privacy-focused applications to the network, potentially positioning Kusama as a hub for "cypherpunk" initiatives.

Looking Forward

Editorial Team

As Kusama continues to evolve, July 2023 has demonstrated the network's commitment to innovation, community governance, and technological advancement. With its new governance model in place and a series of successful developer initiatives, Kusama is well-positioned to continue its role as the cutting-edge "canary network" for the Polkadot ecosystem.

The coming months promise further excitement, with ongoing technological developments and community-driven initiatives set to shape the future of this dynamic blockchain platform. As one community member aptly put it, "Kusama is not just a testnet; it's a playground for the future of decentralized technology."

"Kusama continues to serve as the innovation hub for the Polkadot ecosystem, embracing chaos to drive blockchain evolution forward."

— Blockchain Observer