

The Blockchain Times

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Kusama News - March 2022

KUSAMA NEWS - JANUARY 2023

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Parachain Auctions, Technical Upgrades, and Community Developments Mark Busy Month for Polkadot's Canary Network

Blockchain Report

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Parachain Auctions Heat Up Competition

Blockchain Report

The eleventh Kusama parachain auction concluded in early March, with the Kintsugi project securing a coveted slot after raising 200,000 KSM (worth approximately \$3.9 million at the time). Kintsugi aims to bring Bitcoin-backed assets to the Kusama ecosystem, enhancing cross-chain liquidity.

"Winning a parachain slot is a major milestone for Kintsugi. We're excited to bring radically open Bitcoin to Kusama and kickstart liquidity for other parachains," said a Kintsugi spokesperson.

The twelfth auction began immediately after, highlighting the ongoing demand for Kusama's limited parachain slots. Projects vying for slots in March included Mangata X, a decentralized exchange, and Crust Shadow, focused on decentralized storage.

Industry observers noted the fierce competition, with one analyst stating: "The parachain auctions continue to be a key driver of activity and innovation in the Kusama ecosystem. It's creating a vibrant, multi-chain network with diverse capabilities."

Technical Upgrades Enhance Network Capabilities

Technology Reporter

March saw several important technical developments for Kusama. Most notably, the network implemented an upgrade to XCM (Cross-Consensus Messaging), improving interoperability between parachains. This enhancement allows for more seamless asset transfers and communication across the Kusama ecosystem.

Additionally, developers made progress on implementing "asynchronous backing", a feature aimed at significantly boosting network throughput. While still in testing on Kusama, this upgrade is expected to eventually increase transaction processing capacity by up to 10x on both Kusama and Polkadot.

A core Kusama developer commented: "These technical improvements are laying the groundwork for massive scalability. We're pushing the limits of what's possible in a heterogeneous, sharded blockchain network."

Governance and Community Developments

Blockchain Policy Correspondent

Kusama's governance system remained highly active in March, with multiple referenda proposed and voted on by KSM token holders. Notable proposals included adjustments to treasury spending, updates to validator selection algorithms, and debates around future parachain auction structures.

The Kusama community also saw growth in grassroots initiatives. Several new DAOs (Decen-

tralized Autonomous Organizations) launched on Kusama parachains, aiming to coordinate community efforts around specific projects or causes.

"The level of engagement we're seeing from the Kusama community is remarkable," noted a prominent ecosystem contributor. "From governance participation to new DAO formations, there's a real sense of ownership and direction coming from KSM holders."

Looking Forward

Editorial Team

As Polkadot's wild and fast-moving sibling, Kusama enters the second quarter of 2022 poised for further growth and innovation. Whether it's pushing the boundaries of governance models, stress-testing new features, or incubating the next generation of blockchain projects, Kusama continues to live up to its reputation as the canary in the blockchain coal mine.

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

— Blockchain Observer