

The Blockchain Times

“All the Crypto News That’s Fit to Print”

Kusama News - May 2023

KUSAMA NEWS - JANUARY 2023

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Canary Network Sees Governance Upgrades, Parachain Growth, and Technical Innovations

Blockchain Policy Correspondent

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Governance Overhaul Takes Center Stage

Blockchain Policy Correspondent

The most notable development in May was the implementation of Kusama OpenGov, a major upgrade to the network's governance system. This new model, which had been in development for months, aims to increase decentralization and community participation in decision-making processes.

"Kusama OpenGov represents a paradigm shift in how blockchain networks can be governed," said Dr. Gavin Wood, founder of Polkadot and Kusama. "By removing centralized committees and simplifying the proposal process, we're empowering every KSM holder to have a direct say in the network's future."

Key features of Kusama OpenGov include:

- Removal of the council and technical committee
- Introduction of multiple specialized tracks for

different types of proposals

- Faster referendum cycles, allowing for more agile decision-making
- Adaptive quorum biasing to balance between avoiding capture and allowing for lower-turnout decisions on less critical issues

The Kusama community embraced the new system, with a surge in governance participation observed in the latter half of May. Several high-impact proposals were submitted and debated, including adjustments to parachain slot durations and updates to the treasury spending mechanism.

Parachain Ecosystem Expansion Continues

Blockchain Report

May saw the successful conclusion of the 24th batch of parachain slot auctions on Kusama. Notable winners included:

- Picasso (PICA), a cross-chain DeFi hub
- Genshiro (GENS), a multi-chain DeFi platform
- Mangata X (MGX), a DEX focused on capital efficiency

These new additions brought the total number of active parachains on Kusama to 42, showcasing the network's growing diversity and capabilities.

"The continued interest in Kusama parachain slots demonstrates the value proposition of our canary network," commented Sophia Chen, Head of Ecosystem Development at Web3 Foundation. "Projects are recognizing the benefits of battle-testing their systems on Kusama before potential deployment on Polkadot."

Technical Innovations and Network Performance

Technology Reporter

Kusama's role as a bleeding-edge testbed for Polkadot was evident in May, with several technical upgrades deployed and stress-tested on the network.

One significant development was the implementation of asynchronous backing, a parachain scalability solution aimed at reducing block times and increasing throughput. Early results showed promising improvements, with some parachains reporting up to 50% faster block times.

Additionally, the Kusama relay chain saw enhancements to its consensus mechanism, further improving its resilience against potential attacks and network disruptions.

Looking Forward

Editorial Team

As Kusama continues to push the boundaries of blockchain technology and governance, it remains a crucial platform for experimentation and innovation in the cryptocurrency space. The developments seen in May 2023 have set the stage for an exciting and transformative period ahead, both for Kusama and the broader Polkadot ecosystem.

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

— Blockchain Observer