The Blockchain Times

Kusama News - March 2021

KUSAMA NEWS - JANUARY 2023

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Experimental Network Sees Surge in Development and Price Ahead of Major Milestone

Technology Reporter

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Technical Advancements Pave Way for Parachains

Blockchain Report

Throughout March, the Kusama development team worked diligently to finalize the infrastructure needed to support parachains - the specialized blockchains that will connect to Kusama's main relay chain. This included extensive testing and auditing of the parachain code, as well as upgrades to improve scalability and interoperability.

"We're in the final stages of preparation for parachain auctions," said Gavin Wood, founder of Polkadot and Kusama, in a developer update. "The core functionality is in place and performing well in our testnets. Barring any major issues uncovered in the final audits, we expect to be ready to launch auctions on Kusama within weeks."

The successful deployment of parachains will mark a major technical achievement, allowing multiple blockchain networks to operate in parallel while maintaining shared security through Kusama's relay chain. This sharded multichain architecture aims to solve long-standing scalability and interoperability challenges faced by many blockchain platforms.

Projects Gear Up for Parachain Auctions

Blockchain Report

As the launch of parachain auctions drew closer, numerous projects began positioning themselves to secure one of the coveted parachain slots. Teams worked to refine their technology, build community support, and accumulate KSM tokens needed to participate in the auction process.

Acala Network, a decentralized finance (DeFi) hub for Polkadot, made headlines when it won the first parachain slot auction on Polkadot's Rococo testnet on March 26. This successful test run on Rococo is seen as a dress rehearsal for the upcoming Kusama auctions.

"Winning the Rococo auction validates our technology and approach," said Bette Chen, co-founder of Acala. "We're now fully focused on our Kusama deployment and building support for our upcoming crowdloan campaign."

Other notable projects preparing for Kusama parachain auctions include Karura (Acala's Kusama deployment), Moonriver (Moonbeam's Kusama counterpart), and Shiden Network (a smart contract platform). These teams spent March refining their technology, engaging with the community, and outlining plans for their respective crowdloan campaigns.

Governance and Community Developments

Blockchain Policy Correspondent

March also saw increased governance activity on Kusama as the community debated and voted on various proposals. Notable referenda included adjustments to validator election parameters and updates to the treasury system.

The Kusama Council, an elected body that helps guide the network's development, welcomed several new members in March following a round of elections. This injection of fresh perspectives is expected to bring new ideas and energy to Kusama's governance process.

Community engagement reached new heights, with several virtual events and hackathons organized throughout the month. The "Build on Kusama" hackathon, sponsored by the Web3 Foundation, attracted hundreds of developers and resulted in dozens of innovative projects built on Kusama's technology stack.

Looking Forward

Editorial Team

For now, all eyes remain on Kusama - the canary network poised to take flight into a new era of blockchain scalability and interoperability.

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

— Blockchain Observer