

How will the Merge Affect the Creative World of NFTs?

The long-awaited Ethereum Merge has just happened! This isn't just an unfolded hype but of course one of the biggest events and the biggest infrastructural change in the crypto world.

This event will allow leading networks for dApps and NFTs to migrate to a more energy-efficient system. It has been a long-time coming.

Several opinions, views, and speculations have been formed about this event which has left a lot of people asking questions such as: what would happen after the merge? What impact will it create? What will happen to their assets?

With NFTs, this is particularly true given that a lot of collectibles and artwork are currently running on Ethereum. So, this brings us to ask questions about how **the merge** will affect NFTs.

Before The Merge

In 2021, as network activity surged—partially, or maybe even mostly, as a result of the meteoric rise of NFTs—the value of ETH (which is necessary to execute transactions)—also increased. Thus, mining grew more lucrative as the value of ETH rose. And as Ethereum's mining activity increased, so did its energy use.

For context, consider that, according to estimations by Digiconomist, the total energy needed annually to secure Ethereum increased from just over 9 TWh at the beginning of 2021 to over 81 TWh at the end of the year and presently stands at around 80 TWh.

Last year, when images of apes brought in millions of dollars and businesses flocked to the NFT market, Ethereum's environmental impact quickly rose to the top of the agenda for critics. Most well-known NFT projects have faced complaints of “killing the planet.”

This is the reason why some companies object to the word "NFT" being used, even when NFTs are sold and created on more environmentally friendly blockchain networks.

The Merge: A Quick Look into it

The Ethereum Foundation reports that the merge will transform the Ethereum blockchain's infrastructure from the current proof-of-work mining model, which needs a lot of decentralized power to process transactions, to a proof-of-stake consensus system, which should consume over 99 percent less energy.

That effectively disproves one of the main criticisms of NFTs, which is a tremendous step forward for Ethereum and especially for NFTs.

Effect of The Merge on NFTs?

So, if you were to ask questions like: what happens to my NFTs now that the merge is here? The straightforward answer is: probably nothing. The freshly improved mainnet of Ethereum will work just fine with your NFTs.

“Users should expect that their NFTs will safely reside on the new Ethereum [proof-of-stake] chain along with their ETH tokens,” confirmed by Johnna Powell, NFT co-head at Ethereum-centric software company, ConsenSys.

NFT environmental impact

One of the core criticisms against NFTs has now been rendered obsolete. This is due to the fact that the environmental impact of Ethereum, the largest network for NFTs, has been effectively eliminated as the blockchain completes the merge.

This upgrade reduces Ethereum’s energy consumption by [more than 99%](#), according to the Ethereum Foundation, citing data from one of crypto’s popular environmental critics.

It's a development that will undoubtedly have a significant impact on NFTs, Ethereum, and the entire crypto sector.

Wrapping Up

Clearly, this is the start of a huge breakthrough that will revolutionize the NFT industry and the ecosystem as a whole.

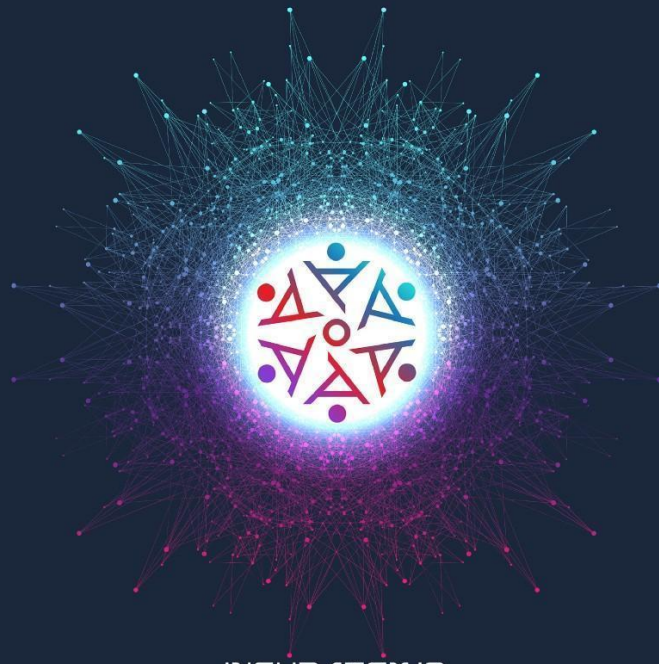
The harmful environmental effects of Ethereum have been successfully eliminated via the Merge. Institutions and companies can now relax knowing that they are a part of a blockchain ecosystem that is environmentally friendly.

About IncubateX

IncubateX is the 1st women-led incubator & NFT launchpad on web3. We specialize in helping innovative projects incorporate web3 infrastructure -mainly NFTs- within their ecosystems while focusing solely on mission-driven projects that make a positive impact IRL.

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