Naweed Akram's article, “Building a Real-World MAUI App: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly,” offers a developer's candid perspective on using .NET MAUI for mobile app development. He reflects on his experience transitioning from Xamarin Forms to MAUI, noting that many previously essential third-party libraries or custom frameworks were rendered obsolete by MAUI's built-in features. These native features have simplified the development process, especially in areas like managing platform-specific settings (app identifiers, version control, splash screens, etc.) within a single project. This reduces the need for writing separate code for each platform, making development more efficient.

Akram highlights **image management** as a significant improvement in MAUI. Previously, he encountered issues with third-party libraries, like Resizetizer.NT, but found MAUI’s image handling to be much more reliable and streamlined across different platforms. Similarly, MAUI’s integration with **System.Text.Json** allowed him to eliminate the need for the commonly used Newtonsoft JSON library, further simplifying his project dependencies.

One of the biggest takeaways is how MAUI integrates **dependency injection (DI)** and supports the **MVVM** (Model-View-ViewModel) pattern through the .NET Community Toolkit, which enabled him to clean up a lot of the clutter in his codebase. Previously, Akram had used Prism for DI and MVVM, but with MAUI's built-in features, he found these frameworks unnecessary, resulting in more maintainable and scalable code.

Despite the numerous positives, Akram doesn't shy away from the **challenges** he faced. For example, he ran into some bugs with the core framework, such as issues with layered grids and problems with frame opacity. While these issues were frustrating, Akram emphasizes that most of them had already been reported and workarounds were available, which allowed him to proceed with development.

In conclusion, Akram sees **MAUI as a big step forward** from Xamarin Forms, especially for developers already immersed in the .NET ecosystem. He acknowledges some early growing pains but is optimistic about MAUI’s future, particularly as the framework continues to evolve and refine its offerings.

For a detailed read of his experience, you can find the full article

Akram, N., *Building a Real-World MAUI App – The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*. Available at: <https://blogs.xgenoapps.com> [Accessed 15 October 2024].