



**BLOCKCHAIN  
FOR SOCIAL IMPACT**

# What is Blockchain and why does it matter?

In August 2016, the World Economic Forum called Blockchain a "mega-trend" that will shape society over the next decade. For the first time, a technology offers a real opportunity to directly connect underserved and unbanked people to essential goods and services and eliminate waste and fraud.

## QUICK FACTS:



**65.3 MILLION**  
**REFUGEES**  
IN THE WORLD



**30% AMOUNT** OF OFFICIAL  
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE  
(ODA) MONEY LOST EACH YEAR



**2 BILLION UNBANKED PEOPLE**  
IN THE WORLD

## NEEDS:

While the private sector has created powerful self-scaling networks (e.g., Facebook), the government has struggled to grow citizen services. Two things in particular account for this:

- Governments must secure and preserve trust in their transaction systems (e.g., voting, payments, deeds). This means expensive, protected, centralized systems.
- Secure government services require highly skilled people, distributed across the country.

## SOLUTIONS:

Blockchain enables the creation of large-scale government or society-wide transactions systems that do not require centralized systems or large numbers of intermediaries. Here's how:

- Blockchain is a system that builds security into every transaction, making it tamper proof without ongoing security effort.
- Blockchain runs "smart contracts" that embed rules into the electronic transaction (like using an ATM) – no intermediaries, no tellers, no delays.

“Blockchain is the single most disruptive technology for the international development sector as we understand it today. Abt Associates and other blockchain evangelists are beginning to capitalize on the technology to solve some of the world’s most pressing problems.”

*Jane Thomason, CEO, Abt Associates Australia*



## Abt Associates’ Blockchain for Social Impact

Abt’s Blockchain for Social Impact is an initiative to advance game-changing automated services in the developing world. Today we are focused on:

- **Financial Inclusion** – to provide a major lever for lifting people out of poverty and improving financial transparency, a key factor in reducing waste and corruption
- **Legal Identity** – to provide people with a secure way to connect with the formal economy, health care, government services or schools
- **Global Health Security** – to improve coordination of healthcare services and launch mechanisms for: health vouchers; portable and personal health records; improved supply chains; and e-health solutions
- **Economy** – to solve problems of land ownership, supply chain governance and food distribution
- **Climate and Energy** – to strengthen transparency in climate finance reporting, monitor effectiveness of climate finance, simplify settlements and reduce intermediaries and funding delays

*Abt has the in-country knowledge, government relationships and resources to rapidly scale up the impact of Blockchain applications.*

# Pilots in Papua New Guinea

Abt is working with the government and the Central Bank of Papua New Guinea to address issues of identity and financial inclusion.

In Papua New Guinea (PNG), 85% of the population is unbanked. Birth registration is under 25%. Mobile phone penetration is about 50%. Access to electricity is 20%. These factors make PNG an ideal place to benefit from Blockchain solutions.

The Central Bank Governor, Loi Bakani, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Australian Government-funded PNG Governance Facility (managed by Abt). The government is exploring Blockchain to provide legal identity and financial inclusion for the unbanked population.

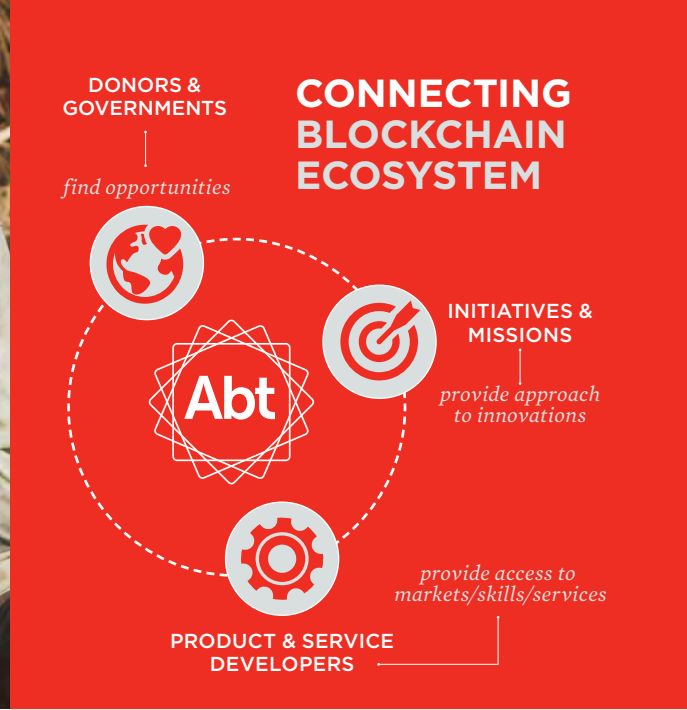
Blockchain holds the “potential for PNG to leapfrog... to a new world economy.”<sup>1</sup>

*Loi Bakani, Governor, PNG Central Bank*

## WHY PAPUA NEW GUINEA NEEDS BLOCKCHAIN:



<sup>1</sup> <http://postcourier.com.pg/png-central-bank-signs-mou-launch-blockchain-technology/>



## Abt as a Connector and Incubator

Abt is connecting the Blockchain ecosystem to generate a shared vision for success, negotiate differences between government and technology cultures, and ensure the coordinated delivery of disparate services needed to improve the lives of millions of people.

Abt worked with the Government of Indonesia on the Australian-funded Governance program to hold a Blockchain Seminar. Startups that have developed Blockchain solutions for the poor were connected with the Government to address issues around identity and financial inclusion. Abt has the in-country knowledge, government relationships, and resources to rapidly scale up the impact of Blockchain applications.

### WE WORK WITH:

- **Donors and Governments:** as a trusted broker who can find opportunities for effective system change, frame the complete strategy for introducing and scaling technology change, identify necessary global and local talent, and directly manage stakeholder engagement, risks and governance changes.
- **Product and Service Developers:** as a business partner who, in exchange for shared investment, can provide access to new markets, broker mutually agreeable relationships with governments and donors and fill gaps in partner skills or services.
- **Initiatives and Missions:** as a service owner, who can provide a low-risk approach to innovation that organizes a broad range of necessary skill sets from diverse industries, runs a proven method for turning inexpensive experimentation into fully functional automated services and orchestrates comprehensive system strengthening.



**BOLD  
THINKERS  
DRIVING  
REAL-WORLD  
IMPACT**

## About Abt Associates

Abt Associates is a mission-driven, global leader in research and program implementation in the fields of **health, social and environmental policy, and international development**. Known for its rigorous approach to solving complex challenges, Abt Associates is regularly ranked as one of the top 20 global research firms and one of the top 40 international development innovators. The company has multiple offices in the U.S. and program offices in more than 60 countries.

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### SELECT CLIENTS

- USAID
  - DFID
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### LEARN MORE

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We are always looking for new and innovative ways to leverage Blockchain for social impact. If you are interested in learning more or want to join our conversation, contact us at <http://www.abtassociates.com/Blockchain>

**abtassociates.com**

