



INATBA

International Association
for Trusted Blockchain Applications

Social Impact & Sustainability Working Group Activities 2023

During 2023, the Social Impact & Sustainability Working Group (SISWG) implemented the below mentioned activities.

1. Social Impact & Sustainability Working Group Podcast



Within the Social Impact and Sustainability Working Group (SISWG) at the International Association for Trusted Blockchain Applications (INATBA), our focus is on emphasizing how blockchain and DLT can address significant issues like climate change, poverty, inequality, and food waste in line with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

To showcase this work in a new medium for the group (podcast/broadcasting), we launched a podcast series focused on ReFi and financial inclusion in collaboration with BlockLeaders and Lisa Gibbons.

We published monthly episodes featuring guest speakers from various global projects. Episodes showcased noteworthy blockchain use cases, particularly in the realms of financial inclusion and restorative finance (ReFi). This represents a shift from the traditional financial system, prioritizing the health of ecosystems, communities, and the planet over financial gain. Each episode detailed a project's objectives, challenges, impact measurement, and how interested parties can engage with them.

The INATBA Social Impact and Sustainability Working Group members leading this initiative are Mariana de la Roche and Lorna Hutchman (Blockchain.com), supported by Albi Rodriguez Jaramillo (LACCHAIN – BID) from the INATBA Governmental Advisory Body, and in collaboration with Lisa Gibbons (BlockLeaders).

Title	Overview of the episode
Podcast 1: Wadappt Innovative Nature Financing Solutions And Funding Global Impact – African Region	In this episode we spoke with David Wood, Founder of Wadappt, a blockchain-based smart contract platform that uses innovative financing techniques to allocate substantial amounts of capital directly into conservation efforts in Africa. We explore various biodiversity projects that Wadappt is currently supporting.
Podcast 2: Ethichub – Europe/Us Region	In this episode we spoke with Gabriela Chang, CSO and Co-Founder of EthicHub, a platform to connect small agricultural producers with global lenders and direct buyers. EthicHub is a passionate and ambitious project with a focus on financial inclusion. They truly understand what it is like for farmers on the ground and Gabriela gave us some insights into what it is like to be part of a growing, impactful ecosystem.
Podcast 3: Celo Foundation – Us/Global	In this episode we spoke with Xochitl Cazador, Head of Ecosystem Growth at Celo. Xochitl explains how exactly the Celo Foundation is providing a platform for inclusive finance and Regenerative Finance (ReFi) projects globally as well as how their partnership with IDEO is enabling better access in product design.
Podcast 4: Agros – Latin America	In this episode, we spoke with Cristian Acuna CTO of Agros - an innovative company that pioneers the fusion of rural producer organizations and the digital economy through the use of Blockchain technology. With a Digital Identity securely encrypted, they bridge the gap between rural producers and the many opportunities presented by the digital economy. They give rural producers the power to demonstrate their work digitally worldwide and be proactive in the promotion of their development.
Podcast 5: Erable° – Europe	In this episode, we spoke with Vincent Katchavenda, Founder and CEO of erable°. Vincent explains how erable° revolutionizes future economy investments with innovative assets, reshaping traditional economic value chains by aligning interests, especially with consumers. At erable°, they provide non-dilutive financing and empower businesses in the circular economy to create a community of investor ambassadors, promoting growth and sustainability.

Podcast 6: Esca – Africa	In today's discussion, we explore the initiatives of ESCA, an automated stablecoin savings and payments solution for businesses in emerging markets. Join us as we discuss with Shalom Osiadi, founder @ESCA, how this technology helps businesses operating in currency volatile markets hedge and grow their revenue by autonomously transitioning portions of their revenue to currencies like the US Dollar using stable coins.
Podcast 7: Yeena Tech – Asia	Yenna Tech leases excess lands from farmers and land owners for agricultural activities and finance the cost of operation, material and harvest from a community of investors. This results in increased daily income of local farmers while advising regenerative agriculture activities for food cultivation and fair share of the produce with the farmer/landowner who owns the land or a fixed amount on a yearly basis. Yenna Tech values the farming community. They allow land owners globally to borrow against their land by fractionalizing the land itself.
Podcast 8: Vayana – Asia	Vayana is India's largest supply chain finance platform offering a range of trade credit and trade enablement solutions for all the tiers of supply chains. Vayana connects corporates and their trade ecosystems to provide digital, convenient, and affordable access to credit for their payables and receivables. With its proprietary technology, Vayana has processed over 3 million transactions and offers a zero-change experience to customers. The network today spans 600 cities and 2000+ pin codes in India and extends to 23 countries around the globe. The company is increasingly catering to the smallest of MSMEs in the long tail of the supply chains.

Important to note that during the planning session and the plan document for 2023, the WG planned one project per quarter, for a total of 4 podcasts in 2023, however due to the high interest of participating projects and the partnership with BlockLeader, the WG delivered 8 episodes.

2. LATAM Report



This year we put a spotlight on the use of blockchain and DLT technology within the Latin America region and communities.

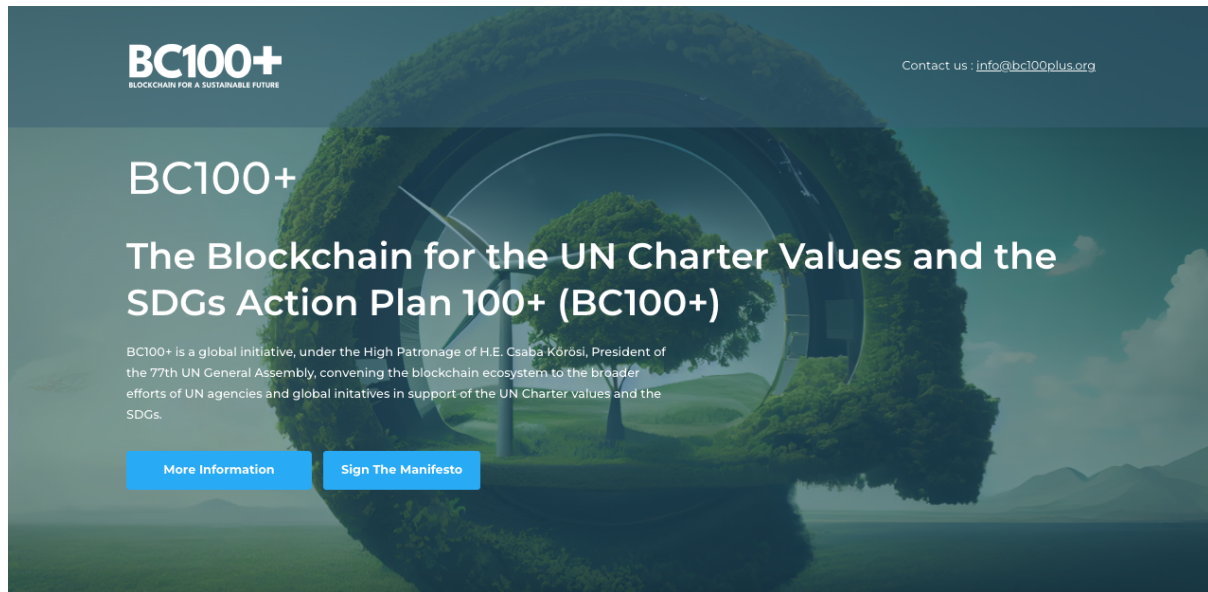
With research spanning 12 months, "Blockchain for Sustainable Impact: Unveiling Latin America's Innovations" report was a collaborative effort by members of the INATBA Social Impact and Sustainability Working Group (Blockchain.com, ClimateCoin, IOTA, NYALA), the INATBA Governmental Advisory Board member LACChain, and PositiveBlockchain.

Within the pages of this extensive report lies a deep dive into the terrain of sustainability, conservation, and social impact in Latin America (LATAM) and the Caribbean. In a region celebrated for its unmatched biodiversity and untapped innovation potential, this report acts as a guiding beacon, steering us toward a future defined by global solutions.

Critical regions and initiatives that mold the sustainability narrative take center stage in the report, emphasizing the necessity of grasping LATAM's projects comprehensively. The report handpicks gems from the PositiveBlockchain and LACChain databases, recognizing the vast array of initiatives demanding attention within the region.

Read the full report here
<https://inatba.org/reports/mapping-latams-impactful-initiatives-for-a-sustainable-future/>

3. BC100+



In 2023, the BC100+ Steering Committee, under the Blockchain for Europe initiative, implemented several impactful activities, key highlights include:

- **BC100+ Manifesto and Website Launch:** In June, we launched the BC100+ website (<https://bc100plus.org/>), serving as the digital home for our manifesto and a platform for organizations to join as signatories. The site also hosts various reports and patronage from the President of the 77th United Nations General Assembly.
- **Growing Signatories:** Organizations across different sectors are encouraged to join BC100+ via a form on our website. The Steering Committee meticulously reviews applications monthly, ensuring a comprehensive evaluation. As of December 31st, 45 projects have been approved, with their logos featured on our website.
- **Awareness and Advocacy Efforts:** Our members have actively participated in several key events, both online and onsite, to promote BC100+ and attract potential member organizations. Highlights include presentations at the Ecological Benefit Framework group, Office of the 77th UNGA President, Women in Tech Global Conference 2023, Web3 Summit, and more.
- **Media and Communications:** A notable achievement was the production of a video by EUBOF, INATBA, IOTA, and PositiveBlockchain. This video features various industry experts and leaders discussing the importance of blockchain for sustainable development. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2td_5M1LdKk&t=2s
- **Working Groups and Community Engagement:** We've established specialized working groups to enhance efficiency and leverage our diverse expertise. The Community Engagement group has already outlined a

comprehensive strategy for involving signatories, set to commence by the end of September.

- Best-in-class Criteria and Flagship Feasibility Labs: The Best-in-class working group, led by PositiveBlockchain, has initiated the development of criteria to identify top-tier projects in the blockchain for sustainability space. The Flagship Feasibility Labs group, led by EPE, focuses on exploring the practical application of these projects.
- COP28: we were present in different online panels and presentations. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G0bJCjagY8o&t=202s>
- Launched a recurrent newsletter <https://www.linkedin.com/company/bc100plus/>

In summary, 2023 has been a year of significant growth and outreach for the BC100+ initiative, with a strong focus on increasing our signatory base, raising awareness, and enhancing community engagement in the blockchain for the sustainability sector.

The full report of the progress and activities of BC100+ can be found here: <https://inatba.org/reports/bc100-initiative-progress-report-building-a-sustainable-blockchain-future/>

4. EU Manifesto

Four leading blockchain advocacy groups in the European Union – the European Crypto Initiative, INATBA, Blockchain for Europe, and the European Blockchain Association – released a collaborative manifesto during the Blockchain for Industry Conference, organised by the EU Commission's DG GROW. The timing is crucial considering the upcoming elections and political changes Europe will undergo in the year 2024.



Read and sign the manifesto here:
<https://pact.social/m/kizl6kcym7w8yaabd4elagu1aiocz9p4qjd9h6e3tdmmhwotltw3gmntwqeys3>



5. ESMA's RTS Consultation

The WG collaborated with Adan, EUCI and EBA on the response to the consultation on the draft RTS on the content, methodologies, and presentation of sustainability indicators on adverse impacts on the climate and the environment proposed by the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA)

Our key request was to ensure that the future sustainability indicators are designed to be applicable across all consensus mechanisms. This approach is essential for fostering transparency, comparability, and accountability within the crypto-asset sector. While we can draw inspiration from existing frameworks like CSRD and SFDR, it's crucial to emphasise that a simple copy-and-paste approach won't work. We must consider the unique characteristics of blockchain and conduct a thorough feasibility assessment before implementing these indicators. It's imperative that we develop methodologies that issuers and CASPs can realistically and effectively implement.

The significance of conducting a feasibility study to ascertain the practicality of these regulations in the crypto space is a must. We understand that for any regulation to be effective, it must be implementable and realistic within the crypto industry's unique ecosystem.

Full response here: <https://europeanblockchainassociation.org/2023/12/15/11343/>



6. Events

- Alternative Finance Forum 2023 - Open and Decentralized Finance - April 26th, 2023 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_NCgKFJjyE (Minute2:36:05)
- Blockchain4Climate & Blockchain4SDGs Networking Event Brussels 31 Jan 2023 https://youtu.be/9IC7_eFD2fU
- European Blockchain Convention - Barcelona 2023 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yX4-eUxbmJ8&feature=youtu.be>
- Positive blockchain 5 anniversary- (1:26.00) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rf9S55Zwn-l&t=1750s>
- Blockchain Talks: Blockchain for a sustainable future Istanbul - University https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u_Kf_Q8_0lA
- Blockchance23 Keynote on Blockchain for sustainability https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=Yd8bu_2758A
- Blockchance23 Panel discussion on Supply Chain <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tbbzaq3LZ2g>
- Presentation at UNAOC <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3lcSqxFVhw>
- Cop28 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G0bJCjaqY8o&t=202s>
- Panel COP28 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gSoB4_X9ng
- Digital Blockchain Week - Blockchain Chronicles: Safeguarding Cultural Heritage & Tokenizing Tradition https://inatba.org/events/blockchain-cultural-heritage/#:~:text=ver%2D7.3%2Cvc_responsive-,Blockchain%20Chronicles%3A%20Safeguarding%20Cultural%20Heritage%20%26%20Tokenizing%20Tradition,of%20our%20shared%20cultural%20heritage.

7. Awards and recognitions

AIBC event - Innovations Award 2023 for contributions to the field of Emerging Tech	European Commission - DG Fisma - Call for tenders FISMA/2023/OP/0005 Developing a methodology and sustainability standards for mitigating the environmental impact of crypto-assets
In November 2023, Laura Kajtazi accepted an award on behalf of Mariana de la Roche during the AIBC Europe International Summit in Malta. Mariana, who has been a INATB Board Member since 2023 and Co-Chair of the Social Impact and Sustainability Working Group since 2021, was honoured with the prestigious European award by AIBC for her contributions to the field of Emerging Technology. 	"1.4.1.3. Sources of information To achieve its objectives, the study should build, among others, on the latest research in the field of distributed ledger technology and crypto-assets, including applied research and current market practice, the relevant policy documents of the European Commission and the European Supervisory Authorities, as well as other European and international initiatives. It should follow work of the European Blockchain Observatory Forum (EUBOF), International Association of Trusted Blockchain Applications (INATBA), various relevant work streams of European (e.g., CEN) and international standard developing organisations (e.g., ISO, ITU), international organisations such as the OECD and the World Bank, as well as specialised research institutions.