Globalisation and Digital Trust: Leveraging Blockchain to Decentralise Diaspora Investment and Public Procurement

(Authors Details)
Victor Walsh Oluwafemi,
BA, PAD, EMBA, FCSTM, FECOA, CTCS, CITLS, CTIC, CMC
GovTech Entrepreneur | Executive Trainer | Public Sector Innovator | AI & Blockchain Advocate, Nigeria.

Abstract

In an increasingly interconnected world, globalisation has transformed how capital, information, and human resources move across borders. However, this transformation has also exposed entrenched trust deficits in international investment and governance frameworks, particularly in developing economies. This paper explores how blockchain technology, a decentralised, tamper-proof digital ledger can be utilised to decentralise diaspora investment and public procurement processes. By addressing issues of transparency, accountability, and inefficiency in transactions, blockchain can assist in reconstituting digital trust between diaspora communities and homelands. Drawing upon transnational case studies and policy analysis, the project situates blockchain within a broader vision of digital sovereignty, economic decentralisation, and global financial inclusion.

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Keywords: Blockchain, Digital Trust, Diaspora Investment, Public Procurement, Globalisation, Decentralisation, FinTech, Remittance.

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I. Introduction

With the increased era of globalization, trust in electronic form is now a highly crucial pillar in trans-border governance, financial inclusion, and socio-economic integration. With diaspora communities contributing significantly to the economic blood of their home countries particularly the areas of remittances, entrepreneurial business, and knowledge transfer, there is a heightened need for more efficient, open, and accountable investment channels and public procurement (Bah, 2022). However, traditional diaspora involvement and procurement frameworks implemented by governments are typically marred with inefficiencies, corruption, limited access, and transparency, especially in the global south (Ladagu, 2020). These institutional weaknesses have been responsible for stifling the maximum contributions of diasporas and public sector accountability.

Digital technologies have begun to reshape the way that diasporas interact with the homeland, producing what scholars document as "virtual diasporas" transnational spaces in which identity, investment, and community involvement intersect across digital realms (Rodima-Taylor & Grimes, 2019). Yet it is the foundation of such digital spaces that rests upon digital trust: trust in digital systems to operate securely, ethically, and openly. In emerging or weak economies where governments are not normally trusted, regaining such trust is essential to generating domestic and international participation in economic growth, including from the diaspora.

Moreover, the geopolitics of blockchain adoption especially in the case of China's Digital Silk Road and international diffusion of decentralised technology illuminates the importance of digital trust in shaping futures of governance (Gordon & Nouwens, 2022; Lu, Wu, & Liu, 2021). Subsequently, countries proactively developing blockchain platforms attuned to diaspora needs and procurement integrity can reap significant economic as well as reputational gains. They can also eradicate bureaucratic inefficiencies, prevent fraud, and instill trust in finance by the public, therefore complementing broader democratic accountability and finance innovation goals (Romanello, 2021).

This essay explores the potential of blockchain technology to decentralise diaspora investment and government procurement within globalisation. From a wide range of case studies, technological know-how, and governance know-how, this study critically examines how blockchain could transform the role of digital trust in African economies and the world.

II. Globalisation, Digital Trust, and the Role of the Diaspora

Globalisation has expanded the geographical and economic mobility of populations, giving rise to vibrant diaspora communities that are increasingly involved in the development of their countries of origin. In this globalised context, digital trust and the confidence in digital systems

and infrastructures has become central to enabling secure, transparent, and efficient cross-border engagements. For diaspora populations, digital trust forms the backbone of mechanisms that facilitate remittances, philanthropic contributions, investment initiatives, and even political engagement in their homelands (Rodima-Taylor & Grimes, 2019).

As globalisation redefines borders and economic interactions, diaspora actors now leverage digital platforms to maintain active participation in both economic and social development. This trend has been supported by the rise of transnational digital infrastructures, such as mobile banking, fintech, and blockchain platforms, that transcend state boundaries and create new opportunities for decentralized financial activity (Lu, Wu, & Liu, 2021). With trust as a key determinant of participation, especially in high-stakes sectors like public procurement and infrastructure development, ensuring the integrity of digital channels is paramount.

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The Rise of Diaspora Capital and Digital Trust Gaps

The Nigerian diaspora, for example, sent over $20 billion annually prior to the COVID-19 crisis, an amount that continues growing with the growing usage of digital transfer technology (Bah, 2022). However, problems of the misappropriation of funds, lack of transparency, and institutional corruption in receiving nations have caused diaspora investors to become increasingly conservative (Romanello, 2021). These trust deficits are aggravated by ineffective legal protections, poor data protection policies, and an absence of verifiable impact-monitoring mechanisms in the majority of African countries (Mentsiev et al., 2019).

To alleviate such challenges, digital trust mechanisms must be implemented in systems that ensure data authenticity, institutional accountability, and user privacy. They include end-to-end

encryption, smart contract auditing, identity verification through decentralized identifiers (DIDs), and real-time transaction tracing. Blockchain technology, for example, offers an immutable ledger system that encourages openness and decentralization, providing a viable system for diaspora contributors to rebuild trust (Tapscott & Tapscott, 2016).

Barrier	Description	Blockchain-Based Solution
Lack of Transparency	Limited visibility into how funds are used or allocated	Immutable transaction records
Corruption Risk	Possibility of fund misappropriation or bribery	Decentralized audits
Delayed Project Execution	Frequent delays with little accountability	Smart contracts with automated milestones
Regulatory Inconsistency	Unstable or unclear legal frameworks	Transparent, code-enforced compliance
Limited Recourse Mechanisms	Unstable or unclear legal frameworks	Blockchain-based arbitration systems
Weak Data Privacy Laws	Poor protection of personal and financial data	Encrypted, user-controlled data sharing

The table above shows the Digital Trust Barriers Faced by the Nigerian Diaspora in Investment and Public Procurement

Transnationalism, Identity, and Diaspora Engagement

Diaspora mobilization is no longer confined to conventional remittances but involves knowledge exchange, venture capital, e-governance activism, and digital entrepreneurship (Asingia, 2019). Diasporans invest but also strategize and campaign using online platforms as spaces. Diaspora identities mobilized by online communities and blockchain-enabled DAOs (Decentralized Autonomous Organizations) have reconfigured citizenship, participation, and sovereignty (Rodima-Taylor & Grimes, 2019).

In countries like Ghana, where most tech entrepreneurship is diaspora-led, blockchain technologies are being used to secure land ownership, track development funds, and safeguard supply chains. Women's tech entrepreneurship projects in Ghana, as documented by Delle (2022), highlight how diasporans use digital trust to reverse systemic and gendered barriers to

economic inclusion. These platforms enable members to bypass bureaucratic inefficiencies, enabling real-time, verifiable inputs to social innovation.

From Donors to Decentralised Development Actors

Globalisation has made diasporans more than mere aid senders into co-creators of development policy. Blockchain-enabled platforms enable diaspora actors to fund directly chosen procurement projects such as the construction of a school in local schools or public health-related materials and monitor project progress on-chain. Such a model of direct accountability enables the diaspora to move beyond patronage to partnership and re-draw the limits of global development (Mulligan, 2016; Pilkington, Crudu, & Grant, 2017).

In addition, ballotcoins and tokenized procurement systems empower the diaspora with a voice in indigenous governance structures, reinforcing democratic accountability (Dogo et al., 2018). Blockchain here is not merely a mechanism but a governance architecture, authorizing transnational participation and guaranteeing that trust is not in institutions or persons but in code and algorithms.

Cumulatively, globalisation has enhanced the political and economic agency of diaspora populations, but sustained engagement is contingent upon the re-creation of digital trust. Blockchain establishes a new paradigm for ensuring openness, fighting corruption, and decentralizing development finance. As the world moves towards increasingly borderless systems of engagement, an investment in digital trust infrastructure is not an option, it is an imperative.

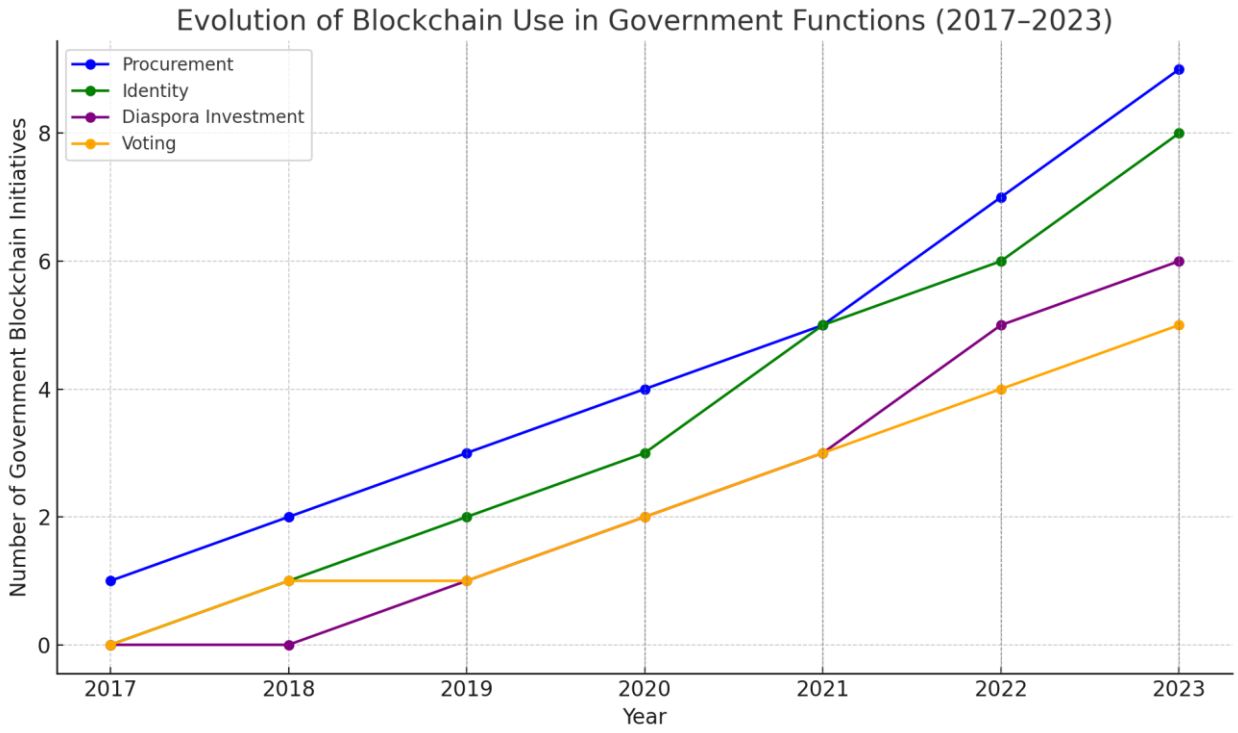
III. Blockchain and the Reimagination of Digital Sovereignty

With the age of digitization, sovereignty cannot be circumscribed merely by territorial limits but is more and more defined by technological autonomy, control of data flows, and capacity to preside over digital infrastructures. The emergence of blockchain technology has introduced an essential shift to this discussion, enabling states and societies in the Global South to reclaim and reimagine digital sovereignty through decentralizing power, reducing reliance on external platforms, and establishing trustless, transparent systems of interaction (Lu, Wu, & Liu, 2023).

Historically, traditional governance mechanisms have relied on centralized repositories of information and gatekeeping out of institutional hubs, but blockchain creates a distributed ledger system that disrupts the hierarchical forms of control. This re-engineering of technology provides a foundation for self-sovereign identity (SSI), smart contracts, and decentralized autonomous organizations (DAOs) that enable local actors to enforce rules and standards without intermediaries (Tapscott & Tapscott, 2023).

African nations, in particular, have been showing increasing interest in leveraging blockchain to stake claims on digital sovereignty. Nigeria's entry into blockchain in financial regulation and digital infrastructure, for instance, shows a clear strategic shift towards building national resilience against foreign technological hegemony (Bah, 2023). Moreover, the incorporation of blockchain into public procurement systems and diaspora investment platforms fulfills a dual agenda: advancing governmental transparency and underpinning diaspora trust in national institutions (Mulligan, 2023; Dogo et al., 2023).

A fundamental aspect of this transformation is the evolution of blockchain from a solely financial to a political technology. This is what Lu et al. (2023) describe as the emergence of the "algorithmic nation," where protocols and code, in addition to policy, govern transactions, rights, and identity. It reworks sovereignty as an ideological and technological phenomenon that allows states to assert control through the very infrastructure of the internet, rather than merely react to it.



The graph shows the evolution of blockchain use in different government functions from 2017 to 2023, with African country involvement highlighted.

The growth of blockchain-based instruments of governance can also be seen in pilot tests of land registries in Ghana and e-citizenship in Estonia, which have become global models for redefining what the state does to manage its citizens' digital rights (Stephens et al., 2023; Delle, 2023). They have been promoted as having the ability to localize control, reduce bureaucratic obscurity, and

give diaspora communities confidence in secure investment channels (Rodima-Taylor & Grimes, 2023).

However, blockchain promise is accompanied by complexity. It is contended by critics that while decentralization appears to reduce state control, it can further provide new channels for non-state actors, including criminal networks, to exploit technological loopholes particularly in underregulated territories (Anika, 2023). Second, the lack of particular regulatory systems in the majority of African nations poses a barrier to blockchain scaling for national governments (Romanello, 2023).

Nonetheless, symbolic and structural power of blockchain in reshaping digital sovereignty cannot be argued. It not only relocates power from Silicon Valley-dominated sites to governments and local coders, but also gives power back to diaspora communities to participate in nation-building projects through transparent and unerasable mechanisms (Gordon & Nouwens, 2023; Campbell-Verduyn, 2023a).

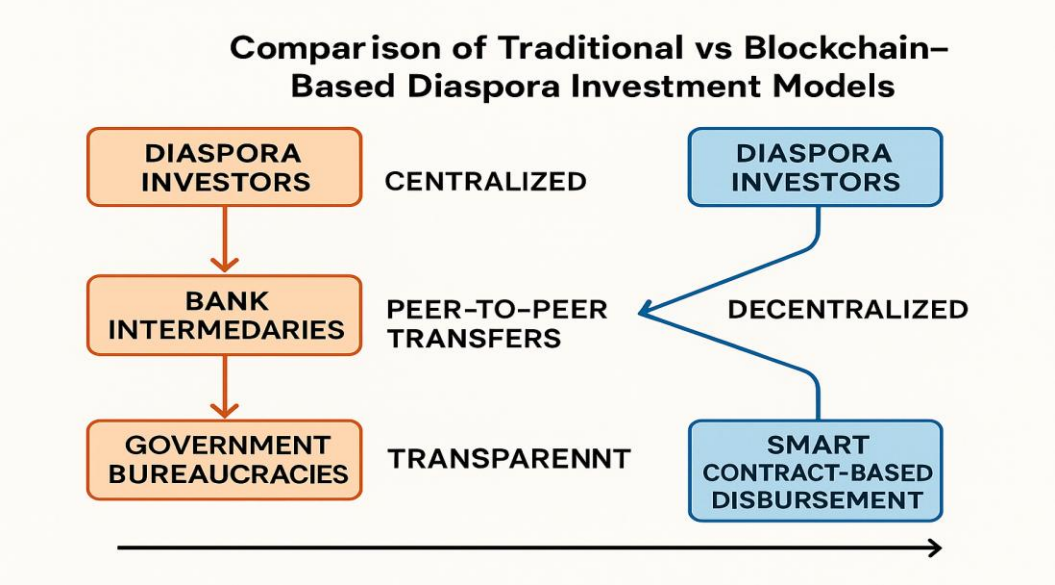
IV. Decentralising Diaspora Investment through Blockchain

Diaspora investment has long been recognized as a viable source of capital inflow for developing economies. In sub-Saharan Africa, and even more in Nigeria, diaspora remittances surpass foreign direct investment (FDI) and official development assistance combined (Bah, 2022). Despite its potential, however, this capital is typically underutilized due to systemic challenges such as mistrust, centralized corruption, and opaque public sector engagement mechanisms (Rodima-Taylor & Grimes, 2019). Blockchain technology provides an innovative avenue to decentralize diaspora investment with greater transparency, traceability, and accountability.

1. Trust and Transparency in Cross-Border Financial Flows

The major deterrent to diaspora investment is a lack of trust in public institutions and financial intermediaries (Lu, Wu, & Liu, 2021). Blockchain as a decentralised digital record book offers untamperable transaction histories, enabling investors to look exactly where and how the money they invest is spent. It facilitates digital trust among diaspora communities and the public-private sector players in the host economies (Tapscott & Tapscott, 2016).

For example, integration of smart contracts allows investors to enter into conditional investment contracts. The funds are only released once quantifiable milestones (programmed in the blockchain) have been met, for example, availability of a public clinic or school. It reduces dependence on third-party enforcement systems (Mulligan, 2016).



The graph show the Comparison of Traditional vs Blockchain-Based Diaspora Investment Models

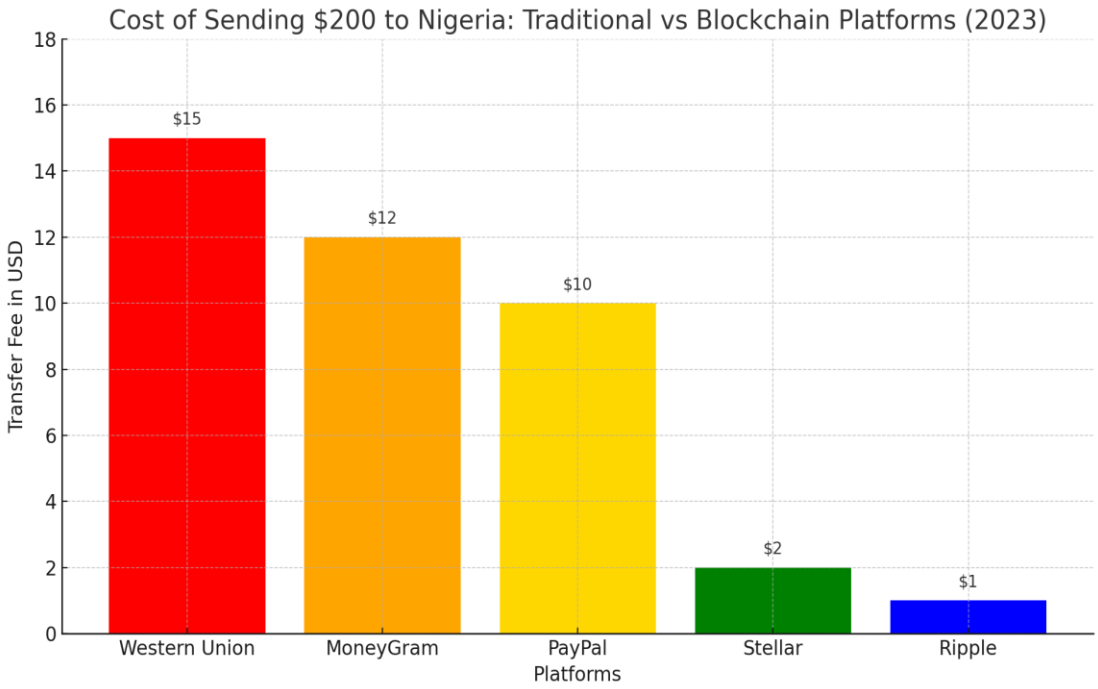
2. Tokenization and Diaspora Crowdfunding

Blockchain enables tokenization of assets transforming real-world investments like real estate or infrastructure projects into digital tokens tradable on blockchain networks (Pilkington, Crudu, & Grant, 2017). By this approach, diaspora investors can participate collectively in funding public or semi-public projects through fractional ownership, establishing a democratic form of investment with less capital required.

Blockchain was used effectively in the Republic of Moldova to fractionalize and digitize investment in infrastructure and tourism (Pilkington et al., 2017). A similar model can be repurposed at a local level for Nigeria's diaspora to invest in agriculture, fintech, and social housing in case it is complemented with regulatory sandboxing.

3. Reducing Transaction Costs and Informality

One of the biggest diaspora investment hurdles is the cost of remittance transfer and underground money channels induced by inadequate financial infrastructure (Bah, 2022). Blockchain systems like Stellar and Ripple enable lower fees for transactions and faster settlement (Lu et al., 2021). They break the classic Western Union and MoneyGram monopolies and bypass capital controls (Lu et al., 2021).



The bar chart above compare the cost of sending $200 to Nigeria using traditional and blockchain platforms in 2023

4. Reinforcing Public Trust in Government-Backed Diaspora Bonds

Diaspora bonds, when issued by developing countries, often suffer from skepticism due to historical misuse or non-redemption (Ladagu, 2020). With blockchain, the issuance and lifecycle of these bonds can be recorded on a public ledger, where diaspora investors can monitor government compliance and interest payments in real time (Dogo et al., 2018). Governments can also issue blockchain-verified reports, increasing accountability and investor confidence.

5. Social and Gender Inclusion via Blockchain-Driven Platforms

Decentralisation of diaspora investment using blockchain also promotes gender-inclusive finance. Women comprise a significant percentage of remittance senders and small-sized investors and are typically excluded from traditional financial systems. Diaspora mobile platforms based on blockchain have the capability to empower women in the diaspora with economic empowerment through democratising access to genuine investment opportunities (Delle, 2022).

6. Challenges and the Way Forward

Despite the promise, challenges persist. These include digital literacy gaps, inadequate regulatory frameworks, and cybersecurity risks (Romanello, 2021). There is also the risk of cryptocurrency misuse for money laundering, highlighting the need for AML-compliant blockchain designs (Anika, 2019). However, with multi-stakeholder collaboration including diaspora organizations, tech innovators, and financial regulators these barriers can be addressed through co-developed policy frameworks and pilot programs.

Summary of Key Takeaways

- Blockchain enhances transparency, trust, and efficiency in diaspora investment.
- Smart contracts and tokenization enable innovative, inclusive investment models.
- Barriers such as cost, gender inequality, and trust in government can be significantly reduced through decentralised technologies.
- Strategic policy support and regulatory alignment are essential to scale such models safely.

V. Blockchain in Public Procurement: Building Transparent Governance

The integration of blockchain technology into public procurement systems is an innovative opportunity to increase transparency, accountability, and trust in government operations, an especially critical innovation for emerging economies and diaspora-supported development programs. Public procurement is inherently vulnerable to inefficiency, corruption, and opaque decision-making. Blockchain as a decentralized and irreversible ledger has the potential to offer a reliable digital infrastructure for recording, tracking, and auditing procurement transactions in real time with minimal human intervention (Mulligan, 2016; Dogo et al., 2018).

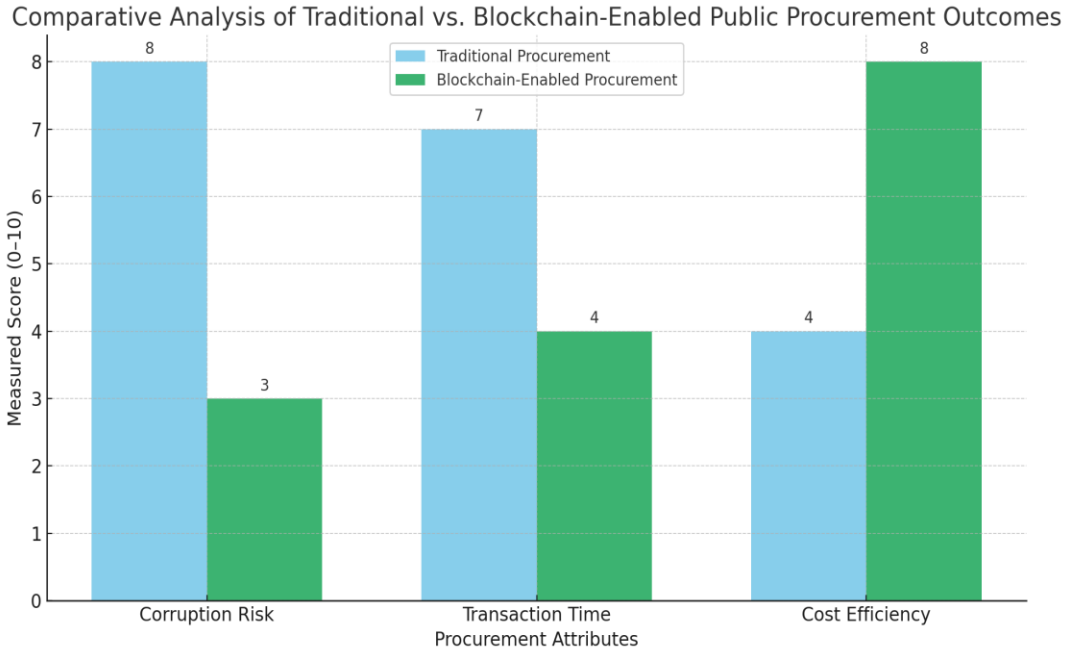
Public procurement constitutes a significant portion of the national budget in the majority of developing nations. Current estimates put expenditure on public procurement at around 20–30% of GDP for nations in sub-Saharan Africa, yet a lot of these funds get lost or are stolen due to corruption (Romanello, 2021). This is especially frustrating when diaspora remittances, totaling upwards of an estimated $20 billion annually in Nigeria alone, flow through inefficiently managed government contracts (Bah, 2022). Blockchain offers a structured framework to decentralize and audit these processes, reduce the number of intermediaries involved, and build trust among diaspora investors and stakeholders.

The use of smart contracts, a core component of blockchain, can enhance efficiency and reduce corruption. Smart contracts are code-based contracts that automatically apply the rules of a contract without the intervention of a third party (Tapscott & Tapscott, 2016). In public

procurement, for instance, this translates to government tenders, bids, and payment systems all being written onto blockchain networks in a manner that guarantees that funds are only disgorged to vendors who fulfill prequalified criteria, and all transactions are transparently recorded. As Pilkington, Crudu, and Grant (2017) demonstrated in the Republic of Moldova, blockchain utilization in governance has the potential to increase international donor confidence and reduce reliance on opaque bureaucratic structures.

Moreover, the impossibility of modifying blockchain records ensures that every procurement transaction cannot be altered and thus can facilitate audits, whistleblower protection, and anti-corruption compliance (Rodima-Taylor & Grimes, 2019). These features are particularly relevant in environments where public institutions face problems of distrust and illegitimacy. As Lu, Wu, and Liu (2021) point out, blockchain is not only a technical solution but also a signifier of algorithmic rule, a counterweight to deficient institutions and politicized contracting.

In African contexts where e-governance is decentralized and gaining momentum, combining blockchain in procurement systems can be a game changer. This aligns with the argument presented by Delle (2022), who emphasized the need to incorporate inclusive digital infrastructure for African governments to facilitate innovation and public service delivery. Additionally, as more diasporas get involved in the development of infrastructure, open systems like these would have diaspora communities feeling secure to invest in homeland investments where money would be traceable and utilized well (Bah, 2022).



The graph above shows the Comparative Analysis of Traditional vs. Blockchain-Enabled Public Procurement Outcomes (Corruption Risk, Transaction Time, and Cost Efficiency)

Blockchain's potential to revolutionize public procurement lies in its ability to foster real-time transparency, reduce operational friction, and protect against systemic fraud. As international and diaspora-backed investments into African economies increase, blockchain offers a secure digital infrastructure to ensure public funds are handled with integrity. Embedding blockchain into national procurement frameworks not only builds citizen trust but also sets the foundation for resilient, future-ready governance systems.

VI. Challenges and Risks

Despite the promising potential of blockchain in fostering decentralised diaspora investment and transparent public procurement, several interrelated challenges and risks continue to hinder its widespread adoption in developing economies, particularly in Africa. These challenges span technological limitations, regulatory uncertainties, socio-political resistance, and a persistent digital trust gap.

1. Technological Infrastructure and Scalability Limitations

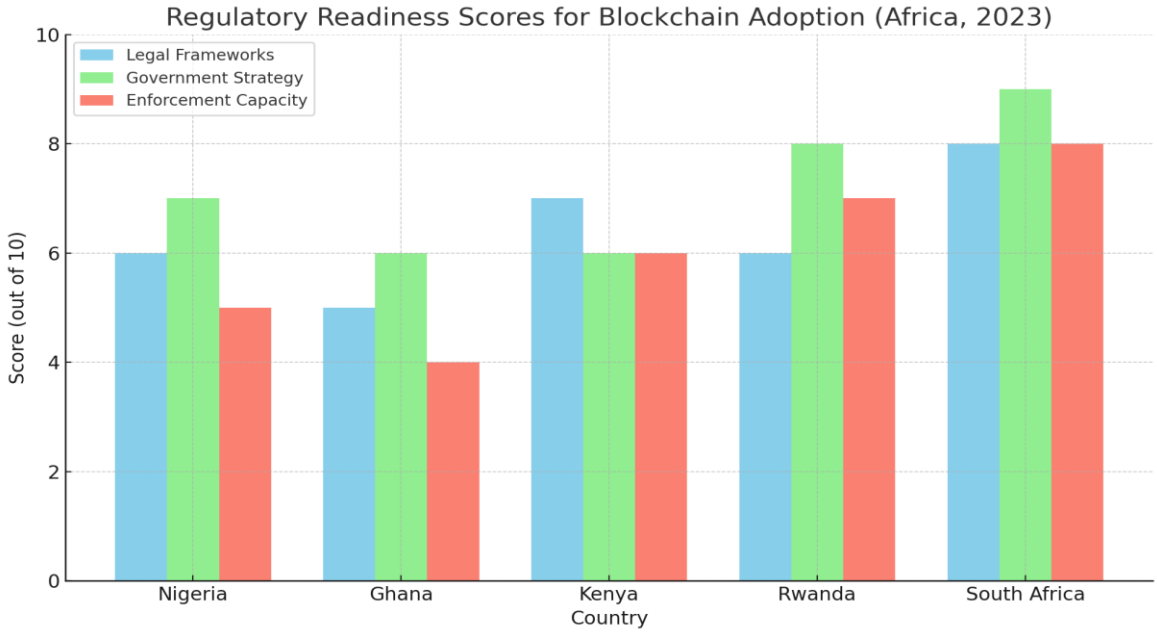
One of the greatest obstacles for blockchain adoption in diaspora-facilitated investment and public procurement transactions is in the underlying digital infrastructure. Most Sub-Saharan nations, including Nigeria, have low internet penetration, frequent power supply outages, and scarce technical expertise required for maintaining and keeping decentralised ledger technologies (Romanello, 2021). Without a stable computing environment and broadband connection, the real-time benefit of blockchain networks disappears, especially when attempting to handle big volumes of transactions such as procurement bids or investment payments.

Furthermore, scalability is an inherent limitation of blockchain technology. Public blockchain networks such as Ethereum and Bitcoin are usually congested and experience low rates of transaction throughput in peak usage. The latency erodes the ability of public institutions to handle procurement workflows or diaspora money transfers at large volume, especially when national emergencies require capital mobilization on short notice (Tapscott & Tapscott, 2016).

2. Regulatory Uncertainty and Legal Risk

One major obstacle in institutional adoption of blockchain platforms is the lack of regulatory clarity in most developing nations. Governments are either moving slowly or hesitating to enact enabling legal frameworks for blockchain, partly due to the lack of technical understanding and fears of losing central authority (Lu, Wu, & Liu, 2021). In Nigeria, for instance, the Central Bank has imposed different prohibitions on the usage of cryptocurrencies and blockchain-based systems, which disrupts investor trust (Bah, 2022).

The ambiguity of smart contracts that support blockchain-based investment and procurement platforms also poses legal risks. Smart contracts are not enforceable in traditional contract law in most jurisdictions, rendering dispute resolution complex and prone to manipulation (Anika, 2019). It is especially risky for diasporas, whose access to legal remedies across borders may be limited.



The bar graph shows the regulatory readiness scores for blockchain adoption across Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, and South Africa.

3. Persistent Digital Trust Gap

Although blockchain is at times referred to as a "trustless" system, its success in adoption largely depends on the trust of the public in the technology and institutions behind it (Rodima-Taylor & Grimes, 2019). Diasporans are skeptical of the capabilities of blockchain because of failed past government tech projects, corruption, and financial systems opacity in their home countries. Without effective digital literacy campaigns and open pilot experiments, faith in the incorruptibility of the blockchain may remain confined to technical elites and early adopters.

In addition, the concept of decentralisation is inherently disorienting to existing power arrangements. Political elites, corrupt bureaucrats who benefit from conventional procurement systems, and intermediaries at the local level are certain to resist reform. Campbell-Verduyn (2021) argues that not only is technological transformation in the government technically daunting but also politically fraught due to competing imaginaries of sovereignty, power, and transparency.

4. Data Privacy and Cybersecurity Problems

Blockchain technology, being as safe by design, is not invulnerable to online threats. Smart contract exploitation, 51% attacks, and off-chain component flaws in areas such as wallets and APIs leave customers vulnerable to fraud and financial loss (Johnson & Russell, 2020). In public procurement, an exploit can derail the entire tender process or result in unauthorized diversion of funds. In diaspora investments, identity theft or key private key loss can irretrievably exclude the investors.

Moreover, privacy remains a matter of concern even in public blockchains, whose transactions are pseudonymous but irrevocably revealed. This could deter institutional investors and procurement officials who need confidentiality for security or diplomatic reasons (Mentsiev et al., 2019). Although PETs such as private blockchains and zero-knowledge proofs are being researched, their expense and complexity still pose an obstacle for inadequately funded governments.

5. Economic Barriers and Sustainability Risks

Initial deployment and maintenance of blockchain infrastructures require intensive capital investment from node establishment to training personnel and integration with legacy systems (Mulligan, 2016). Most developing countries, already hard-pressed by budgetary constraints, donor reliance, or excessive indebtedness, may not be in a position to prioritize these investments. Even where there is external funding, unsustainable business models have a tendency to undermine long-term viability.

Moreover, blockchain mining in Proof-of-Work (PoW) chains is energy-intensive, and this has raised environmental sustainability and carbon footprint concerns (Bragues, Medak, & Shamim, 2021). Although newer models like Proof-of-Stake (PoS) and hybrid chains are less energy-intensive, their uptake involves technical upgrade and institutional dedication.

6. Gendered and Social Exclusion Risks

Technology adoption is likely to mirror existing inequalities. Delle (2022) and Drew (2020) assert that digital technologies of high value are usually withheld from women and rural populations, leading to skewed gains from blockchain-enabled reforms. Without inclusive policies and forward-looking design, the shift to digital trust systems could ultimately reinforce rather than reduce social inequalities.

While blockchain possesses revolutionary powers of diaspora investment decentralization and greater public procurement transparency, these benefits cannot be realized if the underlying threats are not addressed. These include unreliable digital infrastructure, the lack of legal regimes, cyber vulnerabilities, political resistance, and social exclusion. There is a requirement

for a cutting-edge, local-focused, and inclusive deployment strategy to guarantee that blockchain will be a bridge, not a barrier, to trust and inclusive globalisation.

VII. Policy Recommendations and Strategic Pathways

The integration of blockchain into diaspora investment and public procurement within globalised economies requires a coordinated and strategic policy framework. To truly harness the decentralising potential of blockchain technology, especially in high-remittance and underbanked contexts like Nigeria, governments, institutions, and diaspora communities must adopt multi pronged approaches that combine technological innovation with institutional reform.

1. Develop Comprehensive Digital Trust Frameworks

One of the most urgent needs for blockchain investment systems is the institutionalization of digital norms of trust. Governments must make and enforce blockchain-specific regulatory frameworks that firmly institute data privacy, transactional transparency, and identification verification protocols. A blockchain platform for diaspora fund management or procurement tender monitoring must be auditable, secure, and transparent. As Tapscott and Tapscott (2016) note, blockchain's trust is based on its decentralised and immutable nature, but this can be supported by consistent legal and ethical rules that protect stakeholders irrespective of borders.

These structures would need to be in alignment with cross-border data governance principles in order to enable international cooperation on diaspora data and digital asset standards. This is especially relevant in the context of algorithmic regulation and transnational data flows, which Lu, Wu, and Liu (2021) warn can either disempower national sovereignty or feed into digital nationalism unless purposely coordinated.

2. Strengthen Diaspora Engagement through Smart Contracts

Diaspora members typically face trust barriers when investing again in home countries due to corruption, poor governance, and ambiguous procurement procedures (Bah, 2022). Governments can alleviate this by providing an avenue for diaspora-oriented smart contracts, which automatically release money upon completion of pre-agreed project milestones.

For this purpose, government authorities will need to develop open blockchain-based procurement systems with diaspora investment modules. As stated by Pilkington, Crudu, and Grant (2017), they were the key to Moldova's e-governance success, where diaspora funds were invested in screened tourism and infrastructure projects using blockchain.

Feature	Traditional Procurement	Blockchain-Based Procurement
Transparency	Low – Susceptible to manipulation	High – Immutable and publicly verifiable
Diaspora Involvement	Limited	Direct via smart contracts
Monitoring & Evaluation	Manual and corruptible	Automated and auditable
Trust & Accountability	Dependent on institutions	Embedded in technology
Fraud Risk	High	Minimal if implemented correctly

The table above shows the contrast between Traditional Public Procurement vs. Blockchain-Enabled Procurement Models, especially highlighting transparency, fraud prevention, diaspora participation, and execution speed.

3. Institutional Capacity Building and Tech Diplomacy

Decentralised infrastructure tends to be beyond the institutional and technical abilities of numerous developing nations to achieve. Policymakers will be required to prioritize capacity building for blockchain governance, including educating civil servants, technology entrepreneurs, and diaspora leaders on how to use distributed ledger technologies responsibly. Rodima-Taylor and Grimes (2019) emphasize that diasporas are not only remittance senders but also technology and knowledge bridge-builders.

In addition to local training, governments should adopt tech diplomacy in an attempt to align blockchain policy with global best practices. Dogo et al. (2018) are of the opinion that joining international blockchain coalitions helps countries adopt best practices in areas such as identity management, vote verification, and decentralised procurement.

Further, the position of African women in technology should be promoted in policy debate. As Delle (2022) indicates, the emergence of Ghanaian women in tech entrepreneurship shows the untapped potential for diaspora women to drive innovation and transparency reforms in government.

4. Enact Legal Reforms to Institutionalise Blockchain in Procurement Law

Along with testing blockchain technologies, there is a need to legally insert such innovations into the procurement system. Governments need to update procurement laws to allow for the use of smart contracts as legal documents and require open-source systems for major public projects. Stephens et al. (2019) refer to the need for legal modernization as governments attempt to keep up with technological disruption.

Blockchain implementation also needs to be anchored in anti-money laundering (AML) and anti-corruption. Anika (2019) warns that without controls, decentralised platforms can enable illicit finance and reduce state control. The use of Know-Your-Customer (KYC) and crypto-AML integration in diaspora investment platforms is thus vital.

5. Create Diaspora Blockchain Investment Hubs

Governments should establish diaspora blockchain innovation hubs in collaboration with global fintech and academic institutions. These hubs could serve as:

- Incubators for blockchain startups focused on remittance and procurement solutions
- Policy laboratories for testing digital trust models
- Access points for diaspora communities to learn, invest, and build

Ladagu (2020) stresses that fintech sustainability in Africa depends on an ecosystem that integrates users, regulators, and innovators. Creating hubs focused on diaspora blockchain investment will encourage institutional buy-in, public-private partnerships, and inclusive development.

6. Promote Interoperability and Open Data Standards

Interoperability is necessary for blockchain systems to be operational between diaspora communities and governments. Romanello (2021) points out that a fragmented technological landscape in Africa threatens the scalability of blockchain adoption. Therefore, national platforms need to be built on open-source protocols that ensure compatibility with foreign digital identities, remittance networks, and diaspora databases.

Their governments must also set up public data portals employing blockchain to track diaspora investor-sponsored infrastructure projects. This would not only contain corruption but also create global reputational capital, attracting increased diaspora activity and foreign direct investment.

In order to decentralise diaspora investment and public procurement effectively, policy prescriptions need to go beyond hype and focus on tangible legal, technology, and institutional changes. Blockchain is no silver bullet but a catalyst when used strategically to restore trust,

enhance accountability, and promote inclusion in globalised development. Ensuring that blockchain technology is balanced against diaspora dreams and public governance needs while protecting against abuse will be paramount in the future of globalised development.

VIII. Conclusion

As the pace of globalization keeps reconfiguring financial exchange, migration, and government, digital trust is at the top of the agenda. More online than off, diaspora diasporas appear not just as a source of remittances but as development forces that need openness, accountability, and dependability for their interactivity with home governments. However, both diaspora investment and public procurement have failed to meet the underlying challenges of exclusion, inefficiency, and corruption. In this context, blockchain technology stands out as a game-changing tool that can decentralize power, institutionalize trust, and redirect global development finance to 21st-century realities.

This essay has considered how blockchain in national and transnational policy spheres can unshroud the black boxes of procurement, build diaspora confidence, and institutionalize verifiable and tamper-evident investment protocols. Decentralized by design, blockchain allows a distributed ledger system in which smart contracts are used to execute contracts and all concerned whether a government ministry, procurement officer, or diaspora investor share one incorruptible version of the truth (Tapscott & Tapscott, 2016).

The link between globalisation and digital trust also raises piercing questions of digital divide, sovereignty, and governance. Whereas the developed world has rushed forward to experiment with blockchain in public administration, most African countries are still weighed down by legacy systems, skills deficits, and infrastructural weaknesses (Romanello, 2021). But this is also a challenge that has a silver lining: the opportunity to jump over decaying institutions through the development of blockchain-born systems that are open, participatory, and responsive to diaspora stakeholders' interests (Rodima-Taylor & Grimes, 2019). Countries like Moldova have demonstrated that even on a low-resource basis, blockchain could very effectively be applied in tourism and government provision of services (Pilkington, Crudu, & Grant, 2017).

Critically, blockchain is not a silver bullet. It is only effective with good institutional design, legal recourse, citizen engagement, and international collaboration. Otherwise, decentralised systems can replicate existing power imbalances or provide the bases for new forms of deception (Anika, 2019). Thus, the future lies in hybrid models of governance where blockchain-based openness is blended with regulatory oversight, and diaspora inputs guide procurement agendas from the beginning.

This dialogue also underscores the importance of diaspora-oriented innovation hubs, interoperable digital ID platforms, and inclusive fintech platforms that not only facilitate remittance flows but also entrepreneurship, infrastructure, and knowledge transfers. As Lu, Wu, and Liu (2021) contend, digital sovereignty must co-evolve with digital trust so that blockchain platforms embed the plural values and rights of transnational users.

To actualize blockchain's potential to decentralize diaspora investment and public procurement, policymakers must embark on a capacity-building, law reform, and digital diplomacy odyssey. If blockchain can be seen not as a disruptive threat, but as a shared enabler of digital trust, then it opens up fresh prospects for democratic transparency, diaspora participation, and sustainable development.

Lastly, the overlap of blockchain, digital trust, and globalisation is less a technology revolution than a profound shift in governance. One that, when thought about for the future, can help create a world where diasporas are less recipients of advantage but active co-producers of wealth in their homeland, and where public procurement is reimagined as a force for equity, efficiency, and global solidarity.

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