

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST –**  
**BLOCKCHAIN TECHNICAL ADVISER**

*This role is mainly remote*

**A. INTRODUCTION**

The Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) invites submissions of expression of interest from qualified persons to fill the role of **Blockchain Technical Advisor** to support its piloting of a digital EC currency (DXCD).

**B. BACKGROUND**

On 9 March 2018, the ECCB and the Barbados-based FinTech company, Bitt Inc., signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to conduct a pilot project aimed at creating a digital version of the EC currency as well as infrastructure to support digital payments and transfers using blockchain technology. The aim of the pilot is to ascertain the suitability of blockchain technology to help advance economic growth, resilience, competitiveness and financial inclusion in the ECCU consistent with the ECCB's monetary and financial stability objectives

The digital EC currency pilot project is based on a private permissioned blockchain network.

The pilot project, scheduled to commence early 2019, is a research initiative and will cover a period of approximately 16 -18 months. It will provide a safe space in a controlled live environment to issue DXCD and facilitate an informed understanding of its impact on several constructs including:

- a. The ECCU monetary and financial systems;
- b. Circulation of EC currency;
- c. Financial intermediation in a digital environment; and
- d. Know Your Customer (KYC) and Anti-Money Laundering/Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) regulatory compliance.

The ECCB digital currency pilot project supported by blockchain technology will focus on the following components:

- a. Development and issuance of a high-security digital EC currency that is wallet agnostic within the ECCU. The digital EC currency will operate alongside physical EC currency and have near instantaneous, real time processing, with legal settlement finality;
- b. Payments and Transfers - A real time retail payment system to transfer the digital EC currency that can be initiated through digital wallets via one of many channels: smart phones, tablets, and PCs; and
- c. KYC and AML/CFT utilities as part of the digital payments system infrastructure. The goal is to leverage blockchain technology to deliver greater transparency, improve access to information and simplify regulatory reporting on DXCD transactions.

## **C. EXPERTISE AND QUALIFICATION**

### ***Required skills:***

1. Experience in the Financial Services Sector, especially banking/capital markets/working towards innovation/remediation projects.
2. Prior knowledge and experience in Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technology with solid understanding of proof of concept/pilot solutions, business integration technologies, vendor solutions in the market, and architecture trends.
3. Experience or knowledge of Distributed Ledger Technology, Blockchain (including Hyperledger, R3), Smart Contracts and Distributed Applications.
4. Understanding of distributed systems and transactional systems.
5. Familiarity with the Web 3.0 Blockchain technology stack, Off-chain transactions, Blockchain-As-A-Service and other current trends in Distributed Ledger Technology.
6. Prior knowledge and experience with implementing Artificial Intelligence/Regulatory Technology/Emerging Technology solutions in the finance services industry.
7. Familiarity with popular global payment systems such as SWIFT, Paypal, Stripe, Apple Pay, Google Pay, and WeChat Pay.
8. Ability to understand client's needs, expectations, articulate alternative architectures, and trends.

9. Application within a financial services organisation of Blockchain or Distributed Ledger Technology, and the development languages used to do so (for example Solidity, Java, Python, JS) would be desirable.
10. A strong understanding of IT and Cloud Architectures, IT Service Management and IT Operations concepts.
11. Well versed in KYC, AML/CFT regulatory compliance tools and systems.
12. Strong developmental background in digital tokens and digital wallets.
13. A strong practicing interest in the digital currency space.
14. Well versed in blockchain and mobile security issues and controls.
15. Well versed in API security issues and controls.
16. Experience with technical testing frameworks/tools.
17. Extensive experience developing and implementing UI and API test automation in an agile environment.
18. Experience with quality assurance processes (bug tracking/reporting, documentation, black box testing, security testing, non-functional testing, etc.).
19. Superior time management skills.
20. Ability to work independently and remotely in a team-based environment.
21. Interest in performing manual and automated testing.
22. The ingenuity to think of new ways to test and break the product.
23. Strong project management and relationship-building skills.
24. Hands-on experience in managing large, complex multi-faceted IT change programs in an IT organisation preferably in the financial industry, with demonstrated “can-do” attitude.

#### **D. RESPONSIBILITIES**

##### *This role is mainly remote*

The individual will serve as an independent blockchain technical adviser to the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank throughout the duration of its digital EC currency pilot project (estimated duration is 16-18 months).

The individual will support the ECCB pilot project via the following:

### **Project Requirements Audit**

1. Review project requirements and provide technical advice and direction to the ECCB Project Team.

### **Project Management**

1. Support the ECCB Project Team with the oversight and management of the project.
2. Review and provide written assessments of the technical and business approaches proposed by the technology provider.
3. Provide subject matter expertise to ensure that the solutions proposed by the technology provider match the requirements and expectations identified for the pilot project, and adhere to best practices in relation to governance, security, business logic and functionality.
4. Review project timelines, KPIs and milestones and collaborate with the ECCB Project Team and the technology provider in guiding the project roadmap to ensure implementation integrity.
5. Provide governance frameworks for the implementation and testing of the various project components/KPIs.
6. Provide technical guidance to improve testing processes for the front and backend of the platforms, APIs and smart contracts designed for the pilot project.
7. Prepare reports on project progress.

### **Risk Mitigation/ Management**

1. Identify any risks that arise from the proposed technology architecture, implementation and testing of the pilot components and propose mitigating and management strategies.
2. Document bugs and advise the ECCB Project Team to ensure the technology provider addresses them.

### **Communication with Pilot Participants and other Key Stakeholders**

1. Provide guidance and insights to ensure focused and value-added communication between the ECCB Project Team and the technology provider.

2. Advise the ECCB Project Team on engagements with stakeholders across technology and business domains, as well as third party providers.
3. Provide guidance to the ECCB team on responses to queries, questions, and concerns from pilot participants and other key stakeholders including the ECCB Board of Directors.

**E. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:**

Qualified and experienced applicants are invited to submit the following on or before 17 December 2018 at 11:59 Atlantic Standard Time (AST) to [info@eccb-centralbank.org](mailto:info@eccb-centralbank.org) :

- a. Updated Curriculum Vitae (CV);
- b. Cost proposal for the consultancy service;
- c. Letter of application stating suitability (including relevant experience and resources) for the position;
- d. Two (2) professional references;
- e. Current Police Certificate of Good Character.