

JULY, 2021

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AGNES NSOFWA

An Auditor Turned
Registered Nurse And
Global Health Advocate



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Alaba Ayinuola

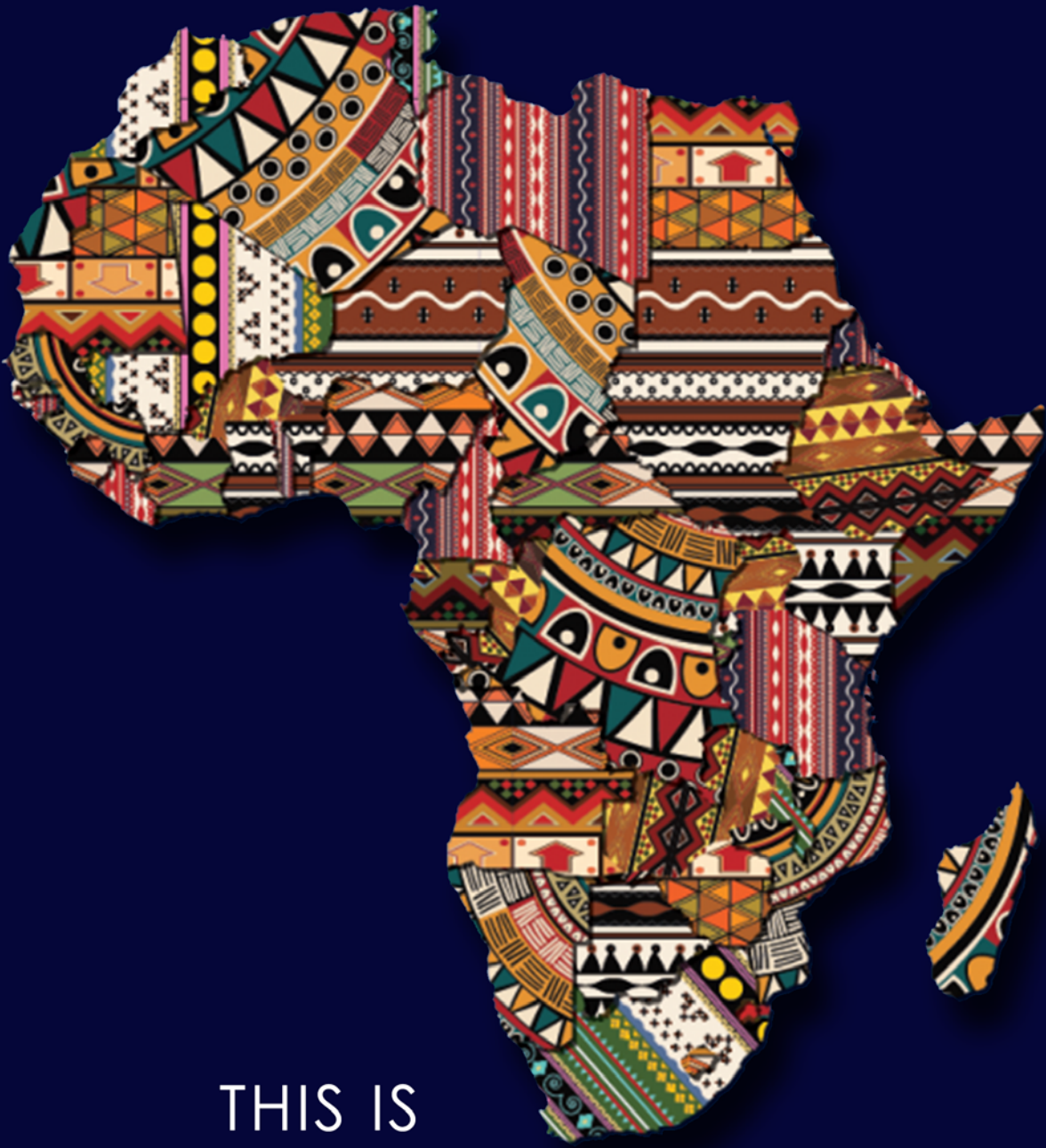
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THIS IS
AFRICA



Founder's Note

Alaba Ayinuola

Founder & CEO (Business Africa Online)

Let me begin this brief note with the remarkable thought of Juliana Rotich, co-founder of Ushahidi, in Kenya, that says, "I am guided each day by these three questions: 'What are you fixing?' 'What are you making?' and 'Who are you helping?'" This thought affirms to a large extent why we do what we do at Business Africa Online (BAO) for the continent of Africa. We wake up daily with this question top in our heart, mind and to-do list of how we enhance and elevate the work of the titans behind the new narrative of a rising Africa. Simply because we recognize we all have a role to play in the Africa that we dream of.

It is with utmost pride I write to you dear African business ecosystem of founders, executives, investors and other stakeholders who daily put in the work and setting the pace for progress for our continent both in Africa and in the diaspora. You are the fuel that energizes our hope and confidence in Africa, as the continent that will eventually determine the future for the world especially in terms of talents, ideas and innovation for a better world. We see immense potential in you and we are driven by the need to see a greater number of success stories that compete globally and lead whatever sector they play in.

Business Africa Online (BAO) with the vision to "Powering the entrepreneurial mindset" is fully committed to your success, and in the famous philosophy of Ubuntu, 'I am because we are'. Like we have done over the past couple of years of establishment, we are committed to the sustainable growth and development of Africa's entrepreneurial and social impact ecosystems through our reporting and rich content of the massive progress by emerging leaders in this space. A journey that began some couple of years ago, have seen its tentacles spreading across the continent and the diaspora.

While we are confident about the future of Africa through your invaluable contribution, we also identify with the challenges you confront daily, from economy to policy, governance, poor infrastructure and global changes, and as a media company, we are not exempted as well, but we have continued to surmount these challenges through the conviction of the "why" behind our vision, why we are doing what we do. Which is simply, if Africa must experience growth and leap into the future with the rest of the world, only Africans can bring about that reality. No foreign investment, governments, NGO or donor can have the best interest of Africa more than Africans.

As I bring this to a close, while a lot has changed in just a couple of years in how we engage the business and social ecosystems in Africa, what has not changed remains our commitment to pushing further every milestone of excellence through insightful and capacity building content for Africa's progress. Thus, we want to keep showcasing African (social) entrepreneurs that are thriving in their own right to inspire others coming behind who may be contemplating throwing in the towel. We invite you to be part of this movement of 'Powering the entrepreneurial mindset'.



AUSTRALIAN SICKLE CELL ADVOCACY INC

PRESENTS

BREAKING THE BARRIERS

— A NEW HORIZON THE FIRST —

SICKLE CELL DISEASE CONFERENCE IN AUSTRALIA

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BLOOD 2021 MEETING

— KEYNOTE SPEAKERS —



DR ANTHEA GREENWAY



PROF BABA INUSA



PROF WALLY SMITH



PROF JOY HO AM

CONSULTANT PAEDIATRIC HAEMATOLOGIST /
HEAD OF CLINICAL HAEMATOLOGY
- ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

CONSULTANT PAEDIATRIC
HAEMOGLOBINOPATHY -
GUYS AND ST. THOMAS NHS FOUNDATION

PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE
VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

AM CLINICAL PROFESSOR
INSTITUTE OF HAEMATOLOGY
ROYAL PRINCE ALBERT HOSPITAL

— VIRTUAL CONFERENCE —

SEPTEMBER 17TH - 18TH, 2021

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rare voices
PARTNERS

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT: [HTTP://ASCACONF.ORG](http://ASCACONF.ORG)

SOMALIA

Fact Sheet

• Laas Geel Caves



Capital
Mogadishu

Mogadishu, locally known as Xamar or Hamar, is the capital and most populous city of Somalia. The city is one of the country's major ports and it is located just north of the Equator on the Indian Ocean. Top sites in the city include the Jazeera beach and Masjidka Isbahaysiga, (Mogadishu Central Mosque).



Population
16,108,138 (2020)¹

Somalia's 2020 population is estimated at **16,108,138** people according to UN data. It ranks number 73 in the list of countries (and dependencies) by population. The population density is 35 per Km². **Median age is 16.7 years.**



Language(s)
• Somali



Currency / GDP
Somali Shilling (SOS)
GDP: 4.72 billion USD (2018)²



Exchange Rate
1\$ = 577.05 SOS³



Top Tourism Sites

- Laas Geel
- Sa'ad ad-Din Island
- Iskushuban
- Lag Badana-Bushbush National Park
- Lamadaya



Busiest Int'l Airport(s)

- Aden Adde International Airport (MGQ)



Major Airline(s)

- Jubba Airways
- Daallo Airlines



Visa Openness Ranking 2019

#14 out of 54⁴

- Visa Free Entry - None
Visa On Arrival - 53 African countries
Visa Before Entry - None



Commodities Traded⁵

Exports

- Sheep and Goats
- Gold
- Bovine
- Insect Resins

Imports

- Rolled Tobacco
- Raw Sugar
- Rice
- Concentrated Milk



Top Trade Partners

Exports

- United Arab Emirates
- Oman
- Saudi Arabia
- Bulgaria

Imports

- United Arab Emirates
- China
- India
- Oman



COVID-19 Health & Safety Tips

1. Wash and disinfect your hands regularly with soap and water or an alcohol based sanitizer.
2. Always wear a mask or face covering when you go out or travel.
3. Adhere to health and safety guidelines.

¹ <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/somalia-population/> ² <https://datacommons.org/place/country/SOM>
³ <https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert/?amount=1&from=USD&to=SOS> ⁴ <https://wtic.org/Research/Economic-Impact/moduleid/704/itemid/14/controller/DownloadRequest/action/QuickDownload>
⁵ <https://ec.world/en/profile/country/ken> ⁶ <https://www.afdb.org/en/documents/2019-visa-openness-index-report>



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Agnes Nsofwa

Global Health Advocate



Biography

Agnes is an advocacy Consultant specialising in helping people set up their Non-for-profits Organisations from scratch. She is a Strategist and Global Health Advocate, the Founder of Australian Sickle Cell Advocacy Inc (ASCA). Through her personal experience as a caregiver to a child born with Sickle Cell Disease (SCD), she founded ASCA, a not-for-profit organisation supporting families impacted by sickle cell disease in Australia. She is also the founder of Amplify Sickle Cell Voices International Inc, a not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to give a voice to people from low resource countries and lower settlement areas sharing their experiences as sickle cell patients, caregivers, or healthcare providers. Through sharing, the aim is to find strategies that can alleviate these issues.

Agnes is also the creator of Sickle Cell Talks with Agnes, a Facebook Live show that brings sickle cell warriors and other stakeholders to share stories and education sessions by healthcare providers to raise awareness about sickle cell disease. A mother of four children, Agnes is a Data Analyst by profession but became a Registered Nurse to understand the hospital system and what their youngest daughter was going through while living with sickle cell disease.

She holds a master's degree in Nursing from the University of Sydney, a bachelor's degree in business from Edith Cowan University and a Diploma in Accounting. After chasing a cure for their daughter in three different States across Australia, their daughter was cured from SCD in 2019, through a Bone Marrow Transplant, 11 years after living with this disease. Their daughter became the first child to get a Bone Marrow Transplant for SCD HbSS at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne.



Can you briefly tell us about yourself and your career journey?

My name is Agnes Nsofwa, an auditor and analyst turned Registered Nurse. For years I worked in the Tax Office as an auditor. After I migrated to Australia and worked in the bank for a few years then due to family reasons, I changed my career to become a Registered Nurse. All these skills have been helpful in my current role as a Quality Assessor, which involves assessing healthcare homes and reviewing their practices using my nursing experience. This requires me to understand auditing skills as well as understanding nursing standards to measure against.

You are the Founder and Executive Director of Australian Sickle Cell Advocacy Inc (ASCA). What motivated you to start the organisation?

Yes, I am.... Australian Sickle Cell Advocacy Inc is a community not for profit organisation supporting people impacted by sickle cell disease in Australia. This organisation is Australia's first charity exclusively dedicated to serving the sickle cell community. My motivation for starting the organisation was to fill the gap that was missing in terms of supporting people impacted by sickle cell disease. For over six years after our daughter was diagnosed with sickle cell anaemia, I felt alone and needed someone to talk to. So, in the

hope of finding out more information about this condition, I went on social media to learn as much information as possible. For me this was a coping mechanism when I felt low about the uncertainty of this severe disease. However, the information I saw did not really help, rather depressing stories about how this disease can affect people.

Hence, I decided to take control and create a Facebook page where I would post positive news. The goal is to post educational information and news that was uplifting. That was six years after our daughter was diagnosed. Three years after managing this Facebook page, with a lot of enquiries on the page, I decided to ask a few friends of mine so that we could come together to create an official not for profit organisation dedicated to all people impacted by sickle cell disease in Australia.

What is Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)? Is Sickle Cell Disease the same as Sickle Cell Anemia?

Sickle Cell Disease is the hereditary disorder in which abnormal Haemoglobin within the Red Blood Cells (RBCs) causes the cells to take on abnormal sickle (crescent) shapes. It is one of the most common genetic

BUSINESS AFRICA ONLINE INTERVIEW



disorders in the world affecting predominantly people from Sub Saharan Africa. There are different types of sickle cell disease, the most common ones include: sickle cell anaemia (SS), Sickle Hemoglobin-C Disease (SC), Sickle Beta-Plus Thalassemia and Sickle Beta-Zero Thalassemia. So, sickle cell anaemia is a type of sickle cell disease.

What part of the body does sickle cell disease affect and the current treatments are available?

Sickle Cell Disease affects all parts of the body as it is impacting the red blood cells which is one of the main components of blood. The main target is the Hemoglobin in the Red Blood Cells which carries oxygen to all parts of the body. Hence you see that all the organs in the body are affected and due to lack of oxygen to the parts of the body, it brings about a lot of complications. Some of which are: Pain episodes

- Infections***
- Anaemia***
- Priapism***
- Strokes***
- Retinopathy***
- Leg ulcers***
- Gallstones***
- Kidney or urinary problems***
- Splenic sequestration***
- Hand-foot syndrome***

Most of the treatment options are only there to treat these complications. The only available cure is a bone marrow transplant. The other available medications are there to help with red blood cells.

Could you briefly share your personal experience and how you were able to manage it?

I am a caregiver to a fabulous girl born with SCD. This is what drove me to start speaking up about the issues affecting people with SCD in Australia. We had to move between three States for us to find the perfect treatment for her. Her complications from SCD were one of those complicated cases such that at the age of 8, she had utilised almost all options available for management of SCD. The only option we were left with was trying a bone marrow transplant and were fortunate to have a matched sibling donor. But this was tricky because this treatment had never been done before in Australia for SCD HbSS.

So, we trusted God and our instincts to go for it, and it paid off. Our daughter is now cured two years after undergoing the BMT, becoming the

BUSINESS AFRICA ONLINE INTERVIEW

first child to undergo a BMT for SCD SS at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne Australia. However, the fight still goes on for over 1000 people still affected by SCD in Australia.

What were the challenges when founding ASCA and the impacts made since inception?

Founding ASCA was organic because we already had a presence on social media (Facebook), but there were and still are challenges because people still fear stigmatisation from talking about SCD. Other significant challenges were that we are a volunteer organisation and must source funds for our activities through sponsorships or grants.

In the time that we have been around, we have achieved a lot of things such as:

Receiving acknowledgement of SCD as a serious chronic condition from our Australian Federal Health Minister, the Honourable Greg Hunt MP on World Sickle cell Day in 2019 and 2020 respectively, for the first time in the Australian History.

Participating in a working group with clinicians to help streamline National Guidelines for SCD patients after we vigorously advocated for this for months.

Being one of the first organisations in the world to create a sickle cell course for healthcare providers as SCD is considered a rare disease in this country.

- Participating in international conferences representing Australia to highlight the prevalence and challenges about SCD in Australia.

- Creating the Amplify Sickle Cell Voices Part Webinar Series, which provides a platform for collaboration, knowledge sharing, advocacy, and education, bringing together global SCD advocates, world-class experts, and physicians. This is the first time in history that sickle cell warriors from all over the world have been able to share ideas in one "room". Partnerships and connections have been formed because of this initiative.

- One of the major actions from this initiative has been the creation of an intercontinental African alliance whose main objective is to influence policy on the continent for the benefit of those living with SCD and help reduce the numbers of those affected through awareness and early intervention methods which will help improve the quality of life of those affected.

- One of our recent best achievements is the approval of our newborn screening application which means that we will get a step closer to help detect SCD early and get children treated as early as possible, helping to start the management of the condition early.

- Another major achievement is the ability to have the first ever sickle cell conference in Australia. We are in the middle of planning this conference which is scheduled for 17th and 18th September 2021.

How does your organisation measure its impact?

We have committed to a 5-year strategic plan, describing the objectives we would like to see from the gaps we have identified. So far, we have been able to tick off a few issues from this plan and we are confident as we go, we will be able to achieve a few more objectives.

What do you think are the challenges in improving health around the globe, especially in emerging economies?

One of the major issues affecting people from the emerging economies is the issue around access to adequate and comprehensive healthcare. It is a

well-known fact with a lot of literature to support that people in developing countries tend to have less access to health services than those in developed countries. I have seen it; I have lived in both settings.

What would you say are the three key global health challenges, and the role of global health to address these challenges?

Going hand in hand with the issue of access, as a result we see the obvious health inequities in these settings. We have lower life expectancy for example, higher rates of mental health issues which are not even highly recognised in the developing countries, we see a lot of deaths that could otherwise be prevented if we were in developed countries. These are just some of the examples.

Another issue is the disparities in the management of covid-19. I think this is currently the highest priority issue that not only is it affecting developing countries but developed countries as well. However as with access to other health issues, we are still seeing that vaccines are not readily available in developing countries. We have countries like the USA who are vaccinating teenagers that are not as vulnerable as the elderly or even healthcare workers in developing countries. Yet again people from not so rich countries always have to come in last.

Also, I have seen especially in this covid-19 era is the inability to invest in health care workers especially in developing countries... again. Right as we speak Zambians in the diaspora are fund-raising to buy medical supplies for Zambian healthcare workers who are dying in numbers during the third wave of covid-19 pandemic. This issue was also experienced in developed countries where we saw healthcare workers dying or being at risk due to less supply of PPE. These people put their lives on the line and so many have died simply because their respective governments were unable to protect them, the world can do better to protect our frontline workers.

What is the future for ASCA and plans for the remaining part of the year 2021?

Our future looks very bright in terms of meeting our strategic plan objectives. One of the things or challenges that I have personally given myself is to ensure that we have

smaller doses for hydroxy-urea in Australia approved. As much as we have hydroxy-urea in Australia, it has not been approved for use for sickle cell disease in Australia. So, working with relevant authorities, this is something that we aim to accomplish. Once it is approved for use for SCD in Australia, this will pave way for other smaller doses to be registered in Australia.

Of course, another major achievement is the conference that is pretty much done planning. I have sent you the flyer for you to advertise on our behalf. Going forward, this will be an annual event. We hope to have people from around the world join us for the face-to-face event one day, post covid-19



How do you feel as an African in Diaspora making an impact in Australia?

I feel honoured that I can advocate for a condition that predominantly affects people who look like me. This has been a major drive for me because I know just how hard it can be to be recognised in a country where you are the minority. In saying that it has not been an easy road, both in Australia and around the world. However, you push on because failure is not an option.

What is your advice to policymakers and parents on how best to manage the SCD?

I have said this several times, for policymakers especially from less resourced countries: "let us make sickle cell disease a priority public health issue as it is affecting so many people of our own". Over 10 years ago African WHO member countries signed a strategic plan to ensure that SCD was going to be professionally managed. Not all countries are doing this. Countries like Gambia do not even have a sickle cell policy nor hydroxyurea in that country. Because of Amplify Sickle Cell Voices, one of the policy makers promised to work with SCD advocates in that country to ensure that they start working towards creating a policy. Developing countries need to be serious and do their part to manage this condition. We cannot sit back and wait for aid from developed countries for us to manage a condition that is right on our doorstep. There is not much research and even simple monitoring techniques that are cheap enough for a country to afford, are missing. People are suffering, babies below the age of five are dying and it is about time that these countries put their priorities right.

For Parents, trust your instincts, if you believe something is wrong then it is probably wrong. Study your child and know what triggers the SCD crisis. Do not wait or doubt, ensure that you seek treatment right away. If you are not happy about the care your child is receiving, get a second, third or even fourth opinion until you are satisfied. Caring for a child with SCD is not easy but if you have a routine and know the triggers it gets better. Also work in partnerships with the treating doctors. If possible, try to understand the meaning of the blood test results. If you are not sure, ask questions from the doctors to tell you what they mean. Things like measuring the size of the spleen for your child is something that can easily be taught to you. Because if you know how to do this, you can act promptly when your child is having a splenic sequestration crisis, a life-threatening illness complication in children with SCD.

WHAT IS THE END FUND?

The END Fund is the only private, philanthropic initiative dedicated to controlling and eliminating the five most common neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), which affect over 1.5 billion people globally.



VALUE OF TREATMENTS DELIVERED*

\$1.36B

NUMBER OF TREATMENTS*

724M



PEOPLE TREATED IN 2018

MORE THAN

134M



WHERE WE WORKED*

30
COUNTRIES



WE INVEST IN ENDING:



INTESTINAL WORMS Over 1.5 Billion People in Need of Treatment



SCHISTOSOMIASIS 220 Million People in Need of Treatment



LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS 894 Million People in Need of Treatment



TRACHOMA 157 Million People in Need of Treatment



RIVER BLINDNESS 205 Million People in Need of Treatment

* Numbers reflected from 2012-2018.



HOW WE WORK



MISSION

To control and eliminate the most prevalent neglected diseases among the world's poorest and most vulnerable people.

VISION

To ensure people at risk of NTDs can live healthy and prosperous lives.



Women Championing Black Philanthropy: Bio, Career & Impact



Leymah Roberta Gbowee

2011 Nobel Peace Laureate Leymah Roberta Gbowee is a Liberian Peace Activist, Trained Social Worker and Women's Rights Advocate. She is the Founder and current President of the Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa (GPFA). She also currently serves as the Executive Director of the Women, Peace and Security Program at Columbia University's Earth Institute in New York, USA. She is the Co-Founder and former Executive

Director of the Women Peace and Security Network Africa (WIPSEN-A) and a Founding Member and former Liberia Coordinator of Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET). Madam Gbowee currently serves as a Member of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Advocate and alumina for the United Nations (UN) and UN High Level Advisory Board on Mediation. She is a Member of the World Refugee Council (WRC), African Women Leaders Network for Reproductive Health and Family Planning, International Honorary Committee of the Global Biosphere Institute, Aurora Prize Selection Committee and the Hilton Humanitarian Prize Jury. She was appointed by Canadian Prime Minister to serve as a member of the Gender Equality Advisory Council of the G7. She was recently appointed a member of the Higher Committee for Human Fraternity, Abu Dhabi and a trustee of Carnegie Cooperation New York respectively. Madam Gbowee serves on various other boards across the world.

She holds a M.A. in Conflict Transformation from Eastern Mennonite University (Harrisonburg, VA), and a Doctor of Laws (LLD) honoris causa from Rhodes University in South Africa, Dartmouth College USA, Polytechnic University Mozambique and University of Alberta in Canada. After receiving the Barnard College Medal of Distinction, she was named as a Distinguished Fellow in Social Justice and a Visiting Transnational Fellow at the Center for Research and Leadership Studies at Barnard College for the 2013/2014 Academic Year. From 2014 – 2016, She was appointed Distinguished Activist in Residence Union Theological Seminary.

She is married to Mr. Jay Kesselee Fatormah and is the proud mother of Eight (8) wonderful children. Madam Gbowee is a Christian and proudly calls herself a "Daughter of Glorious Jesus".



Ms. Thelma Ekiyor

Ms. Thelma Ekiyor has over 21 years experience working in the development sector, as an Impact Investor, donor, philanthropic advisor, and social entrepreneur. She has experience working in 22 African countries. She has pioneered, founded and led a number of organisations and initiatives

focused on impact investing and women's economic empowerment. In 2020, Ms. Ekiyor was listed as one of the 50 most influential women in the development sector in Africa.

Ms. Ekiyor is currently the Managing Partner SME.ING – Nigeria's Impact Investment Platform, which has set up two impact funds for women entrepreneurs. She is the Co-Founder/Chairperson of Afrigrants Resources and also served as its pioneering CEO. At Afrigrants, she led the establishment of "Market Women's Quick Cash" – A financial inclusion solution to provide micro-loans to women in disadvantaged communities. She also founded the Afrigrants Foundation dedicated to the socio-economic advancement of girls and women. She also led the conceptualization of "The Ebi Fund" – an impact fund for women entrepreneurs. Ms. Ekiyor is also Founder & Co-Convener of The Funding Space – a mentoring and access to finance platform for social entrepreneurs in Africa.

Prior to establishing Afrigrants, Ms. Ekiyor was the pioneer CEO of TY Danjuma Foundation, and grew an endowment of \$100 million. Before that, She served as the Pioneering Executive Director of the West African Civil Society Institute (WACSI), which was established by the George Soros Foundation's Open Society Institute for West Africa. She supervised investments and interventions in 15 countries across West Africa.

Ms. Ekiyor holds an MBA (Entrepreneurship & Innovation) from Imperial College London, UK; a Law Degree (LLB Honours) from University of Buckingham UK. She is also a Fellow of Stanford University, USA. Ms. Ekiyor served as Strategic Policy Adviser to UN Women Nigeria (2017-2019). She is currently a Board Member on ALL ON, the renewable energy impact fund in West Africa established by Shell.

She is on the Advisory Board of The WISE Fund (USA). Ms. Ekiyor has received several awards and citations for her contributions to women's economic empowerment and philanthropy in Africa.

Women Championing Black Philanthropy: Bio, Career & Impact



Dr. Jackie Bouvier Copeland

A social and environmental justice leader, Dr. Jackie Bouvier Copeland is Founder and President/CEO of The Women Invested to Save Earth (WISE) Fund, an innovation enterprise, supporting grassroots Black and Indigenous women

climate change innovators in Africa, Australia, Brazil, the Caribbean, India and the USA. Founder of Black Philanthropy Month, a global campaign to document, celebrate and promote African-descent giving, social investment and venture funding that has reached 18 million people, she also is an award-winning social change visionary, recognized as a HistoryMaker by the US Congress for her innovative civic contributions. Trained as an anthropologist and urban designer, her life mission is to promote the wellness and rights of humanity and the planet that we all share. Visit thewisefund.org for more background.

Other key roles have been COO of the Anita Borg Institute of Women and Technology, where she continues to serve as a senior advisor. She also has served as COO of Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County; CEO of the social equity enterprise, Copeland Carson & Associates; African Women's Development Fund USA executive director; US Bank Private Client Philanthropy Services vice president and managing director; COO of Twin Cities RISE!; and The Philadelphia Foundation's program vice president.

An occasional professor, curator, and blogger, she is a frequently sought after keynote speaker. Her books and articles on a wide range of business ethics and social sector issues are influential in multiple fields. Dr. Copeland serves on the board of advisors of Uncharted Power, a novel alternative energy company founded by Nigerian-American inventor, Jessica O. Matthews.

She is also founder and chair of the Pan-African Women's Philanthropy Network, one of the USA's oldest Diaspora Philanthropy Networks created in 2003 with a coalition from Minneapolis, MN that now has membership from over 30 countries. Among her proudest social justice contributions is the initial design of My Brothers' Keeper, an Obama Administration legacy initiative to advance equality and the life opportunities of low-income US men and boys of color.

Jackie holds two master's degrees, one in urban design and the other in cultural anthropology, with a Ph.D. in anthropology all from the University of Pennsylvania. Specializing in the US, Africa and South Asia, her undergraduate degrees are from Georgetown University's liberal arts and foreign service schools in literature and African studies. She also studied African history, culture, languages and religion at Nigeria's University of Ife under Nobel Laureate, Wole Soyinka.



Black Philanthropy Month to
Kick Off Its 10th Anniversary with

2021 Global Summit Series!



Celebrating Black Giving and Advocating Racial Funding Equity Worldwide Supported by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Signature Charity Partner Black Philanthropy Month (BPM) is set to mark its 10th anniversary with the BPM 2021 Global Summit Series, which kicks off August 3, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm EDT, in the U.S. with virtual events continuing in Africa, Brazil, Canada, the Caribbean, and worldwide.

The series will culminate on August 31st with Reunity, an international Black women funders power and wellness summit in collaboration with the Women's Philanthropy Institute at Indiana University.

Featured speakers include: Ford Foundation president Darren Walker; CNN political analyst and former member of South Carolina House of Representatives, **Bakari Sellers**; ABC News senior legal correspondent and co-host of The View, **Sunny Hostin**; Nobel Peace Laureate and founder of Gbowee Peace Foundation, the **Honorable Leymah Gbowee**; and faith leader and activist **Reverend Naomi Tutu**.

Registration is open. Sign up and see the global keynote speaker line-up at:
bit.ly/FundBlackSummit2021.



Dr. Jackie Bouvier Copeland, founder of BPM, Reunity, and Women Invested to Save Earth (WISE) Fund says, ***"Our 10th anniversary is a testament to the tenacity of Black people worldwide. Our resolve is strong to advance our culture of giving and promote fair access to private capital, including philanthropy and venture investment. Economic justice is the last frontier in the Civil and Human Rights Movement. We hope the U.S. and the entire world will join the celebration in August and press on to make equity real, starting by signing the Black Philanthropy Month Global Black Funding Equity Pledge."***

With recognition at the outset from the United Nations as part of its Global Decade for People of African Descent and with proclamations from 30 governmental bodies, BPM has built momentum, having been celebrated by 18 million worldwide across 60 countries since 2011. Valaida Fullwood, creator of The Soul of Philanthropy and a BPM co-architect notes, "BPM has used the power of social media to celebrate the community giving that binds Black culture everywhere, while also calling on the 'powers that be' to institute principles and practices that accelerate funding equity."

The BPM 10th anniversary continues its tradition of using high-impact technology to convene influential Black civic, business, and funding leaders with people from all walks of life to build community and practical action plans for funding equity and impact. BPM co-architect, Tracey Webb, founder of the pioneering giving circle Black Benefactors, emphasizes that "BPM brings together Black and allied leaders of all backgrounds to remind the world that we too are philanthropists and that our giving traditions matter. We need funders from foundations and corporations to see and fund us too."

BPM stands out for the diversity of Black people, worldwide, integral to its leadership and summit series. BPM Africa Chair Thelma Ekiyor, founder and chair of Afrigrants Foundation states, "Even though they manifest differently in the Motherland than in our Diaspora, anti-Black racism and neocolonialism on the continent still pose barriers to funding for effective recovery and development in our communities. We are proud to join with our brothers, sisters, and allies worldwide to celebrate our collective potential and call for Black funding equity. We are fortunate that the Nobel Peace Laureate, the Honorable Leymah Gbowee, is our BPM Africa keynote speaker to inspire a new vision for 21st century Black funding equity."



Reunity – the only global Black women's funders network that inspired BPM and organized its first summit—has played a critical role in advancing the global Black philanthropy movement. Although not always acknowledged or written into the funding field's history, Black women have been at the forefront of Black philanthropy as well as leading calls for racial and gender equity and intersectional funding. Mojubaolu Okome, City University of New York professor and African diaspora giving scholar, asserts "From esusus to the new Black-led venture funds, people of African descent throughout the U.S. and world continue a rich tradition of finance innovation that benefits all of society." Okome, an original Reunity leader, adds, "As Reunity marks its 20th year of Black women's innovation for all, we hope the world will join us as we work to build better from the continuing devastation of the COVID era."

The Reverend Naomi Tutu, faith leader and activist, has long participated in the summits and will return in 2021 with a session on spiritual wellness for women leaders. "When a crisis hits, women are often hit first and hardest, as we give everything we have to care for our families, communities, and the world. Reunity is a time for us to be well, while doing good and to strengthen the global sisterhood as we work to advance humanity in this time of struggle and hope."

Black Philanthropy Month (BPM) is supported by a growing list of sponsors and partners, including our Signature Charity Partner, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital; event talent partner, The b'elle group; Indiana University's Women's Philanthropy Institute at The Lilly School of Philanthropy; and global regional chairs, Foundation for Black Communities (Canada); Afrigrants Foundation (Africa); The Puerto Rico Community Foundation (Caribbean); and The Bãobá Fund (Brazil).

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Elmenus:

Egypt's Leading Food App
Secures **\$10M** Pre-Series
C from Fawry, Luxor Capital
and Marakez



elmenus and Fawry to co-develop innovative solutions for restaurants and customers

Luxor Capital's first investment in the MENA region, previous investments include the biggest food ordering platforms globally, such as Zomato, Deliveryhero and Glovo.

Elmenus, Egypt's biggest food discovery and ordering platform, has secured new funding from three new investors, based in the MENA region and North America. Fawry Group, the renowned digital transformation and e-payment platform is leading the investment from Egypt. The investment follows Fawry's new strategy to take minority stakes in fast-growing, Egyptian, technology businesses. As well as investing, Fawry will work closely with elmenus to develop innovative solutions to benefit restaurants and consumers. Also investing is Marakez, a leading Egyptian real estate developer.

Ashraf Sabry, CEO of Fawry, said: "Fawry is looking forward to its journey with elmenus, working closely with the executive team and entering many ventures together. By this investment, we show our desire to not only be a payment catalyst but to be a strategic partner to elmenus, its customers, restaurants and their riders.

The Egyptian food space has high growth potential, with technology disrupting the status quo, as customers' needs in food service provision rapidly change."

From North America, investment has also been received from New York-based hedge fund, Luxor Capital Group, which has \$11 billion of assets under management. elmenus is its first investment in the MENA region testament to its' growth track record and market opportunity in Egypt. Luxor has a long history of successfully investing in food technology companies around the world.

Amir Allam, CEO of elmenus, commented: "Attracting new investment from Fawry, Luxor Capital and Marakez – following the endorsement of industry veteran, David Buttress, earlier this year – validates elmenus' unique strategy. We are accelerating the adoption of online ordering by users, while enabling restaurants with new verticals – to help them scale. This funding demonstrates the investors' strong belief in our position in Egypt, and our capability to dominate the market."

Elmenus, which now has over 1.5 million monthly users, is the most comprehensive platform for restaurant information and food discovery in Egypt, and its aim is to personalize food recommendations at a dish level. elmenus continues to expand rapidly, and today's announcement follows the investment and board appointment of David Buttress – the former CEO of global food ordering firm, JustEat – announced earlier this year.

By the end of 2021, elmenus expects to empower 12,000 restaurants with new data and tool offerings to help them scale their businesses, across 20 Egyptian cities. Its cutting-edge digital solutions will also drive its existing database of several million users, to switch to online ordering.

How to Invest Safely in Digital Assets:

What Every Investor Must Know Before Investing in Cryptocurrencies

Over the past few years, digital assets such as Bitcoin have seen an astonishing increase in popularity. Much of this can be attributed to the growing list of innovative use cases and benefits offered by these virtual currencies and their underlying blockchain technology. Some of the widespread use cases of popular cryptocurrencies include:

- **Bitcoin** — Access to fast and secure financial services to all users worldwide.

- **Asset-backed tokens** — Grant ownership to a real-world physical assets such as gold and real estate.

- **Ethereum** — Facilitates building and deployment of decentralized applications (DApps).

- **Stablecoins** — Provide stability in a highly volatile crypto asset markets.

- **IOTA** — Powering the future of the Internet of Things (IoT).

Despite some digital currencies offering wide ranging use cases, the majority of people still generally view crypto assets as investment vehicles and stores of value. If simply looking at the statistics, cryptocurrencies have appreciated significantly in price over the last few years and investment in them is very attractive to not only retail investors but even large investment managers like Ark Invest are proponents and publicly traded corporations such as MicroStrategy, Tesla and SpaceX now hold Bitcoin on their balance sheets. Bitcoin, the leading cryptocurrency, has maintained an average growth rate of 87% year-on-year since 2015 — over 100% growth in value was recorded between 2020 – 2021. Thus, it is not uncommon to see people buy bitcoin and wait for it to increase in

value to make profits. As the popularity of digital assets increases and they continue to receive significant attention, more people are increasingly getting exposure into the space. New investors are taking the leap by investing in crypto assets, with a lot of people choosing to buy bitcoin and other crypto assets.

However, just like any other investment, crypto investment poses its own set of risks and challenges — and if not careful, investors can lose their money. Many people are investing in crypto without being knowledgeable on how to keep their investments safe.



How to Invest Safely in Digital Assets:

Before investing in crypto, all investors must have sufficient knowledge on how to keep their investments safe. Take the time to learn the common safety pitfalls and how best to avoid them. Below are the top must-know tips to start investing safely.

Research Exchanges

Cryptocurrency exchanges are platforms that facilitate crypto trades. They allow customers to trade cryptocurrencies for fiat currencies or other crypto assets. Exchanges are the entry point for crypto investment and it is extremely important to choose the right one when entering the market. Currently, there are over 200 listed crypto exchanges available in today's market.

When choosing the right crypto exchange, some fundamental features to watch out for include the location of the exchange and the country's crypto restrictions, ease of use, the exchange services and support, security features, transaction fees, volume, and liquidity, etc.

Make sure you make properly research before choosing an exchange to use. Look into the exchange's history, check whether it has any history of security and financial breaches. Get reviews on the exchange from the community and seek the advice of experienced investors.

Beware of fake crypto exchange platforms. It is recommended to stick to reputable and recognized exchanges. For fast and secure crypto transactions, check out reputable global crypto exchange platforms such as Remitano.

The platform features a host of interesting options that enables smooth crypto transactions. Users can buy bitcoin in South Africa through the peer-to-peer channel, swap with other cryptos, make extra income by investing using the Remitano invest option, and much more.

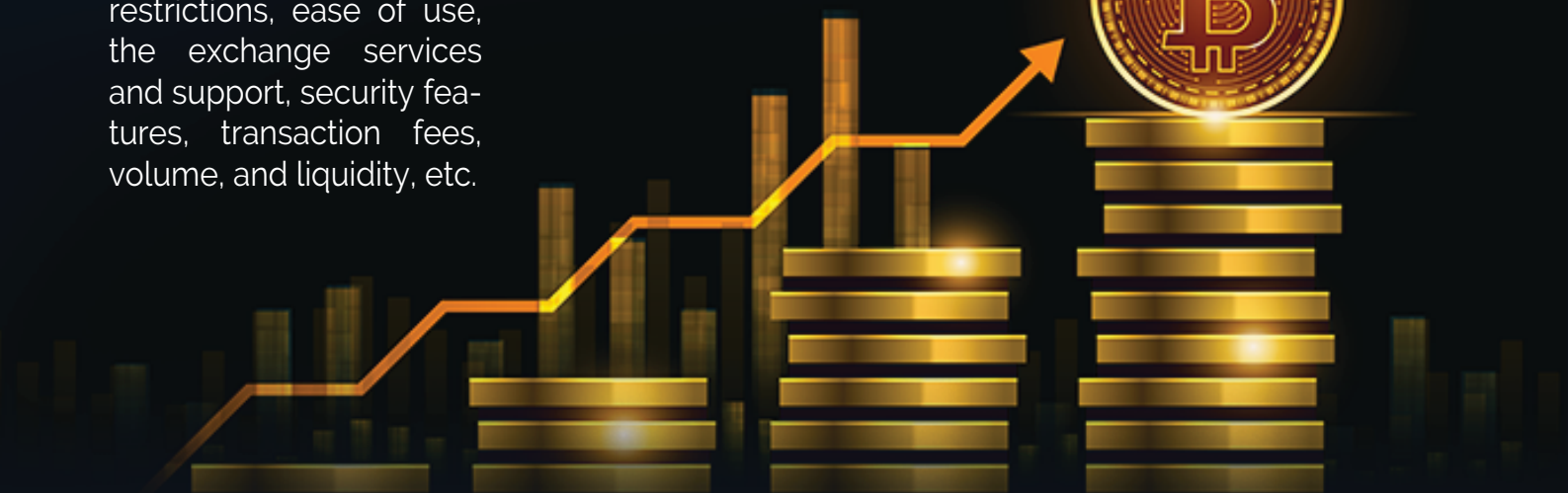
Remitano – the global peer-to-peer marketplace is also currently developing its native token, RENE, to improve the quality of

services delivered to customers, reduce transaction fees and ensure secure and swift transactions. While RENE is still in the development phase, Remitano has provided an amazing opportunity for old and new Remitano users to earn FREE RENE.

Understand the Project

Before diving into a crypto investment, it is highly advisable to take time to understand the crypto asset you are planning to invest your money in. Cryptocurrency projects, just like any other business project aim to solve relevant problems. Crypto projects with sound fundamentals, clear use cases, and realistic goals are likely to thrive in the future. Those types of project are good prospects and have potential to provide a good return on investment.

Carry out detailed and in-depth research on any crypto project before investing in it. Read the project whitepaper, understand its use cases, check what the



How to Invest Safely in Digital Assets:

community is saying about the project — this will give you an idea of the issues or highlight strengths and weaknesses. Check the project's development activity, the exchanges that the crypto token is listed on to ensure its market is liquid, check the total coin supply, circulating supply, and market capitalization, etc.

Avoid investing based on hype and never invest based on FOMO (fear of missing out). This is no substitute for proper research and sensible assessment of risk potential and an understanding of what you are investing in.

Choose the Right Wallet

So, you have decided on the crypto asset you wish to invest in and you have chosen the right exchange to make the purchase. The next thing is to transfer your holding to a secure wallet for safe storage. Knowing the right crypto wallet is one of the most important steps to guarantee safety on one crypto investment. After you learn how to buy bitcoin, you have to store it in a secure wallet, otherwise, you risk losing your investment to digital theft.

Choosing the right crypto wallet can be a daunting task. There are hundreds of crypto wallets in the market — each with its security features and unique level of safety. The category of wallets available

includes hot wallets, cold wallets, software wallets, and hardware wallets.

Choosing a safe and secure wallet is very important and should not be overlooked. Make sure you properly research when deciding on the type of wallet to store your crypto coins. Make sure you know the difference between each category of wallets available, understand their strengths and weaknesses before choosing the most appropriate one for you.

Consider such things as - Is the wallet easy to use? Does it have a backup feature? What are the security features? Is the wallet provider transparent on how they operate? And lastly, is the wallet or provider reputa-

ble? All these are fundamental questions to seek answers to before choosing a wallet.

Also, ensure you are protecting yourself from online theft by safeguarding your wallet key and password. Safeguard your wallet by incorporating a two-factor authentication system. Beware of scam mining platforms, fake giveaways, shady ICOs and many other scams. All these make you vulnerable and put you at risk of losing your investment.

Diversify Your Investment

Investment 101 — diversify your investment portfolio. This does not only hold true when it comes to crypto



How to Invest Safely in Digital Assets:

investments but all other asset types.

Cryptocurrencies are inherently volatile, and there is always a potential for a market downturn. This makes diversification a good investment strategy in crypto. By spreading your investment, you are not only allowing yourself to profit on multiple fronts but also reducing the risk of losing all your money if a particular asset becomes unfavourable.

There are over 1000 crypto projects available in the market – each offering their own unique crypto token. You don't necessarily need to only buy Bitcoin but can also purchase other assets such as Ethereum. Do not put all your eggs in one basket! Instead, hedge your bets through diversification. This will help mitigate the risk of digital currency investing.

Do ensure you do in-depth and detailed research on the assets you wish to invest in. With proper fundamental and technical analysis, you can find some good crypto projects with great prospects.

Understand Your Risk Tolerance

While there is no definite rule on the amount to invest in cryptocurrency, it is recommended that you always invest what you can afford to lose. In crypto investment, you win some and lose some. With this in mind, always invest within your limits. Understand your risk tolerance and invest accordingly.

By allocating investments in alignment with your risk tolerance, you are potentially mitigating losses.

What is the future of crypto trading in South Africa? Find out if crypto will gain more popularity or be subjected to stricter regulations by the South African government.



Cloud Storage vs. Cloud Computing:

What's the Difference?

Cloud storage and cloud computing have become fairly ubiquitous terms. The chances are that if you've done any sort of remote correspondence over the last few years, you have probably come across these terms countless times. Even if you don't fully understand the concept, you are probably engaging in some sort of cloud storage, file sharing, or computing. Cloud technology has become such an important part of modern computing, to have no experience with it is incredibly doubtful.

What is "The Cloud?"

Before delving deeper into the differences between cloud storage and cloud computing, let's make sure we know exactly what we mean when referring to "the cloud."

The cloud, ominous and mysterious as it may sound, refers to a remote server system where a user's or business' data is stored. If you own an Apple product, you have probably been prompted endlessly to set up your iCloud account. This service allows you to back up files, such as photos, music, and documents, on Apple's proprietary server. This takes a lot of the heavy lifting off of your personal computer, creates backups of your files if any system failure occurs, and makes your files available through any computer with an internet connection.

The Difference Between Cloud Storage and Cloud Computing

Now that we have a better idea of what the cloud is, we can look at what cloud storage and cloud computing are and how they are different.

What is Cloud Storage?

Cloud storage is the computing process in which files are stored remotely on a network of external servers. By doing this, cloud storage allows users

to accomplish various things that would otherwise be impossible, one of which is cloud file sharing.

If you run a business where the bulk of your employees are working remotely or even just involved in some manner of correspondence that necessitates the swift transfer of files, being able to store and access important documents from wherever you are is a huge convenience. Essentially, your office becomes anywhere you can access the internet. Another reason you might consider cloud storage is if you are dealing with high traffic and large file sizes. Your resident computing infrastructure may be unable to cope with such demand. And the cost and upkeep of additional on-premise equipment, not to mention the toll of an expanded IT team on your payroll, may prompt you to look for the best cloud storage providers to implement a hybrid cloud solution.



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By outsourcing some of your storage to a cloud provider, you can rest assured (in most cases) that your data is in good hands. These providers, be they Apple, Google, Carbonite, Bitcasa, etc., devote vast amounts of resources to making sure your data is safe from system failures as well as hacking.

What is Cloud Computing?

Cloud computing comes in several different forms, ranging from the everyday to the very complex. In its simplest terms, cloud computing allows users to access and use a cloud hosting provider's software services. It takes data that is already stored in the cloud and enables certified users to access and manipulate that data from wherever they are.

Think, for example, a shared document on Google Docs. The software used as the medium for the data is hosted by Google, as it is not stored in the users' computers, and data can be added, removed, changed, and tracked in real-time. This allows for greater collaboration and transparency between users. This form of cloud computing is called software as a Service (SaaS).

Cloud computing also comes in the form of workflow management apps like AirSend. AirSend, and its competitors, provide an interface for real-time communication between individuals in a company. It allows file sharing, cloud storage, general and private chat, video and audio calls, and software integration.

In COVID, where users are predominately operating remotely, cloud computing has experienced a considerable increase in popularity. Using standard software that interconnects everyone involved in a project, individual users can collaborate and communicate in real-time. It has drastically reduced the need for people to be in the same room as one another.

Another form of cloud computing is concerned with harnessing a remote computing system's processing power or specialized applications. For example, a company that is inundated with a vast amount of data may purchase the services of a cloud computing provider to process the raw data into whatever form they need. This takes the load off their local computing infrastructure, which may not handle such a massive influx of information.



The Difference in Cost Between Cloud Storage and Cloud Computing

Comparing the cost of cloud storage to the cost of cloud computing is tricky because there are so many different services provided through cloud technology, and the degree to which they are offered varies based on each client's needs.

Cloud storage allows you to only pay for what you need, whether five terabytes or 5 petabytes. The critical thing to remember about cloud storage costs is that it is a passive service. One does not have to actively engage with cloud storage for it to provide any benefit. By simply storing your data safely and making it retrievable when needed, cloud storage fulfills its duties.

The same does not go for cloud computing. Cloud computing is only worth the money put into it if its services are being used. In cases where you are utilizing another system's processing speed for raw data rendering, you often pay for a small time frame of maybe a few hours. This situation should be pretty self-explanatory. However, for services with monthly subscription fees, if cloud computing applications go overlooked, you will be hemorrhaging money for no reason.

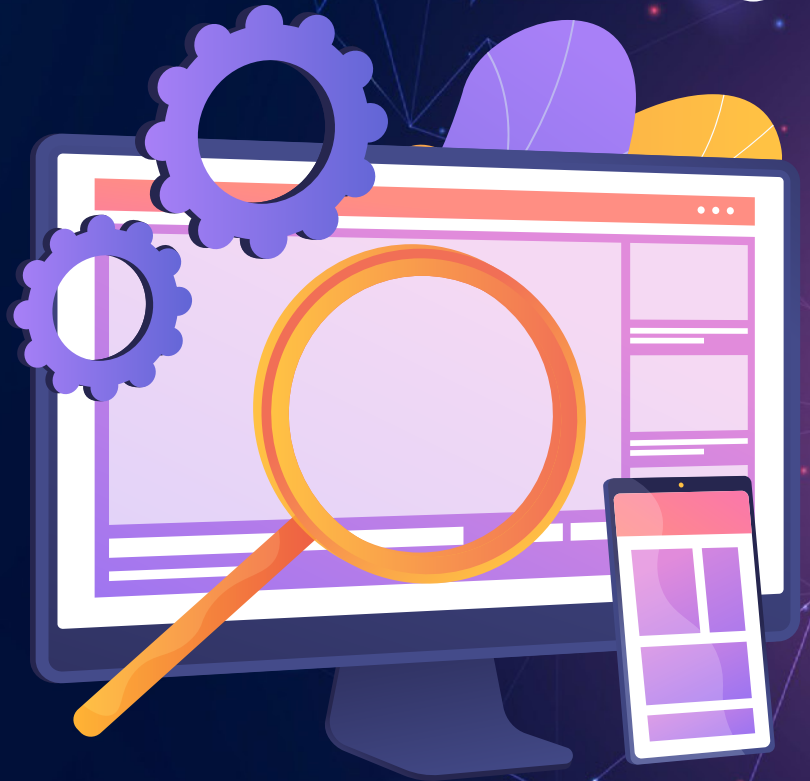
For cloud storage and cloud computing, one must also look at the costs they are offsetting. By employing a cloud server to store data, you are reducing the costs of keeping and maintaining local servers. As with cloud computing, you may occasionally need the processing power of a highly sophisticated computer system but not on a regular basis. In this sense, while still costing a fair bit, cloud storage and computing are far less expensive than housing and expanding local systems.

The Future is Cloud

Cloud storage and cloud computing are ubiquitous in today's business world, but the degree to which they are used is another question. At their most rudimentary levels, their cost is either free or negligible, and they offer great convenience to both the personal user and small businesses. However, as needs increase, cloud services such as cloud storage, cloud computing, and cloud file sharing become more costly and serve a greater purpose in the makeup of a well-functioning company.



What is website caching?



H

ave you ever noticed that when you frequently visit a website it loads a lot faster than the first time? That is due to a little something called caching. Caching is the process of storing copies of website files into a temporary storage location (called a cache), so that future requests for that data can be

loaded faster. Web browsers such as Google Chrome or Firefox and the webserver make a cache to ensure the website performs faster.

If you're implementing caching properly your website visitors will not only love the faster experience but this improved performance comes with improved conversions.

A conversion for example is an online sale, a booking confirmation, a lead generation request or a general enquiry, depending on the website and what they're selling.

Let us dive into the two types of Web Caching:

1. Browser Caching

rowser caching, (also called client-side caching), is where the web browser application performs caching processes.

When you visit a website, the web browser doesn't just need to retrieve all the content on the page that you are seeing, like images and text, it also needs to download other things, such as Javascript files, CSS (Cascading Style Sheets), fonts, etc.

Browser caching works in a clever way by storing many of these resources / files for a time period (which can be configured) so that they don't need to be downloaded again when someone visits your website for a subsequent time.

This means that the first time someone visits a website it will be slightly slower (we're talking seconds here) as the web browser is requesting and downloading these needed resources.

2. Server Caching

Websites and web applications are hosted on servers. On these servers, we can also take advantage of technologies and settings to set up server caching.

Server caching is another technique to make your website or web application faster.

In a nutshell, this is how it works: when website visitors request to view a specific page on a website, the webserver then processes this request. After the first request is completed by any user, the server will then remember this request so that next time it gets the same request it can deliver the same result or data to the website and much faster.

Benefits of caching

The clear benefit of caching is that we're able to provide users with a faster loading website and provide the user with a great user experience (quick loading time). This applies to websites that are loaded both on desktop devices and mobile devices. Another big benefit that many people overlook or aren't aware of is that search engines such as Google and Bing also give preference to websites that load really quickly when it comes to ranking higher Search Engine Results Pages. The improved speed contributes to the improved SEO score of your website. This can be crucial to obtaining higher traffic to your website and ultimately better conversions and more money to your bottom line.

Is caching effective?

People often question the effectiveness of caching and if it should be implemented on their website.

The aim of caching is to speed up your website and reduce load speeds, for both your website visitors and search engines. This is a clear advantage and therefore definitely effective. The shaved offloading time can have a direct impact on your website's performance, especially with heavy traffic loads and improve your SEO rankings. It's important to remember, caching needs to be implemented correctly and properly for it to be effective. Applying caching rules on the web browser or implementing caching technology on the server in the wrong way can also be counterproductive and detrimental to your website and business. Only experienced web developers should be trusted with the implementation of caching solutions on websites and web applications.

Is there a downside to caching?

If the website goes through a lot of changes then there is a chance that the user will see the old version instead of the updates. With client-side caching the browser might load an old version of the CSS, Javascript or images.

What we do to get around this is to append a query string after the filename which is normally used to pass extra information to pages. So this tricks the browser in thinking that it's a different file and loads it.

For example:

`/css/style.css?v=2`

Anything after the question mark is the query string. Putting any random text after it would work as long as the end URL looks different:

So `"/css/style.css"` is not the same as `"/css/style.css?v=2"` and the browser will load the updated `style.css` file. Alternatively, the user will have to do a cache refresh (ctrl+f5 on windows) or wait for the cache to eventually expire.

Server-side caching all depends on how it's implemented and where it's stored. It might take a script to clear the cache, deleting a folder on the file server or clearing a database table. If the website is on a CDN then you have to use that service's control panel to force each endpoint to update with the latest files and clear the cache.

When should caching NOT be used?

There's no reason not to use client-side caching because why redownload the assets if it's going to remain the same?

Server-side validation on the other hand means you have dynamic content and you want to be careful what exactly you cache. You could be caching complex statistics and graph data that only change once a month. This could take several minutes to generate, which you don't want your user to wait for, caching this makes sense.

But what if that data is updated frequently then caching the end result is not an option because some users will see the outdated results. In this scenario, caching isn't the solution and you'll have to find a different way to present this to the user.

We've seen in different projects that we've taken over that many inexperienced developers rely on server-side caching far too much. This is because they can't efficiently write queries and source code to solve the problems, but turn to caching the data on the server to make it load faster (but not correctly).

But what if my content changes?

We know what you may be thinking: caching has many benefits to make my website load in a super-fast response time, but what if I have caching enabled and I publish new items or my content changes, then what?

Will these new changes not be cached and therefore not unseen to website visitors?

Caching systems that are set up properly are able to deal with these types of scenarios. Not only does caching systems consist of ways to store data for speedy display but they

are also capable of emptying the cache when certain criteria are met. The cache can then be regenerated once the cache has been emptied.

Last but not least...

Caching is a very sophisticated technology that increases the speed at which your website or web application can load, without requiring additional processing power.

Implementation of caching can be tricky and needs to be done properly. Once done it will result in faster load times and reduce the strain on your server. A faster website or web app means that your users will love browsing around and Search

Engines will also appreciate this loading speed, giving you a boost on your SEO score.



Developments in competition law in post-pandemic Africa

With the growth of economies across Africa, competition law has remained one of the key drivers for effective market participation, consumer protection and fair business practices. However, the global pandemic introduced new challenges for competition authorities in Africa and abroad, with each enforcer pursuing the most beneficial enforcement method for its national or regional jurisdiction.

According to Lerisha Naidu, Partner in Baker McKenzie's Competition & Antitrust Practice in Johannesburg, "These efforts were aimed at curbing the persistence of unjustified price hikes, anti-competitive cooperation between competitors and other harmful business practices that sought to undermine competition. In addition to the urgent responses to the unprecedented impacts of the global COVID-19 crisis, competition authorities in countries and regions across Africa continued to introduce new laws and amend existing legislation as a sign of the rapidly increasing

prioritisation of competition law enforcement on the continent."

COVID-19 Responses

Competition authorities across the continent had already established strategies for maintaining competition and limiting instances of customer exploitation in their respective countries by early March 2020.

"Competition authorities in Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria and South Africa reacted quickly to pandemic impacts by introducing new guidelines and regulations," noted Angelo Tzarevski, a senior associate in Baker McKenzie's Competition Practice in Johannesburg.

Amendments to existing laws

Various jurisdictions have recently strengthened their competition law regimes by way of amendments to



the existing legislation or by introducing entirely new laws to facilitate their enforcement efforts.

"For example, Botswana's Competition Act came into force at the end of 2018. Kenya recently introduced a host of new laws, guidelines and rules that relate to buyer power, the valuation of assets in merger transactions, block exemption of certain mergers from notification, merger thresholds and filing fees, market definition, and new guidelines for the determination of administrative penalties. Ghana's Draft Competition Bill is currently before parliament awaiting passage into law, and Egypt and Mauritius amended their competition legislation by introducing or giving effect to new provisions and regulations. In South Africa, price discrimination and buyer power provisions that were previously introduced by the Competition Amendment Act have since come into effect. Regulations were also issued to facilitate the interpretation and application of these provisions," said Tzarevski.

In addition to country-specific regulation, a number of regional competition regulators in Africa are impacting domestic markets. Such regulators include the West African Economic Monetary Union (WAEMU), the East African Community (EAC), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC). While not a regional regulator, the African Competition Forum, an association of African competition agencies, promotes competition policy awareness in Africa and the adoption of competition policies and laws. The Forum also facilitates regular contact between authorities, creating a platform for the sharing of best practice and domestic competition trends.

"African competition law continues to develop at a rapid pace, boosted by the implementation of protective strategies necessary during the peak of the pandemic. An increasing number of jurisdictions have adopted laws and regulations, established authorities, secured membership to regional antitrust regimes and ramped-up enforcement of suspected violations of

prevailing competition laws at both domestic and regional levels.

As such, organisations transacting across borders in Africa must ensure they are compliant with a myriad of local and intersecting regional competition laws to avoid facing the wrath of the continent's competition authorities. Access to standardised, cross-border information on the latest competition law developments in Africa has become essential for those transacting in the region," added Naidu.

Baker McKenzie recently produced a comprehensive guide covering the latest developments in African competition law in 25 countries across the continent – An Overview of Competition & Antitrust Regulations and Developments in Africa: 2021

By Angela Matthewson for Baker McKenzie Johannesburg





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Rethinking African Leadership:

Right resources, Wrong leaders

How possible is it that the continent with the most of the world's natural resources, hardworking labour force and favourable climate conditions could have earned the title of being labeled poor and be reduced to beggars than those that have less resources? The scenario that Africa has created of being rich but not prosperous has presented a paradox whose puzzle needs a careful consideration to spot the missing link to enable Africa retain its rightful title, "The prosperous land of opportunity." Since the management of resources and the driving of the development agenda falls mainly on leaders, the attainment of real meaningful development can best be achieved when there is in place the right leaders who are selfless and put the interests of their countries and continent above their own. With many African countries having attained independence decades ago,

what type of leaders should be put in place to change the African Narrative?

Development focused leaders

Over 20% of current African leaders have been in power for over 20 years and seem to have run out of ideas of what to do differently. They instead usually maintain the status quo of running affairs despite shifts in various development fundamentals. This trend has resulted in rampant corruption, political instability and economic stagnation because the leaders become preoccupied with how retain power and silence challengers at the expense of development. Most African countries are engulfed in discussing political issues and other non-development essential matters that have painted their countries black, thus affecting local investor confidence. For a country to be able to produce enough for exports, it must be able to focus on producing more than local demand and create a suitable environment for the each sector to thrive. However, African countries have focused their efforts on political issues and planning how to win the next election instead of what milestone to achieve. This derails efforts to work towards real development. African countries have nicely drawn up development plans with well elaborated visions and objectives but the challenge has been implementation. Therefore, Africa needs leaders who are focused and determined to develop it.

Local solution believers

Speaking at the UN general Assembly in 1984, former president of Burkina Faso, Thomas Sankara argued that „it was time for men of Africa to come to their senses and turn to their societies to develop solutions that will be credible even at the international level. Leaders must carry out profound changes so that they free themselves from the foreign domination and exploitation that lead only to failure of the countries. Africa needs leaders who believe in local solutions and will advocate advancing these solutions.

Not leaders who always parade problems before advanced countries, seeking for aid and solutions like beggars who are helpless. Statistics have shown that, while Africa receives help in various sectors, it loses more. The Health Poverty Action report research found that while about \$134 billion flows in Africa in each year largely in form of loans, foreign investment and aid, over \$192 billion is taken out in profits made by foreign companies, tax evasion and in costs of adapting to

climate change which results into a net loss of about \$58 billion annually. For how long will African leaders seek foreign help when they can believe and try local solutions suggested by their people? It is interesting to note that while it is the responsibility of leaders to improve the living conditions of their people and provide better health facilities, a number of African leaders would rather seek medical care from advanced countries.

Unsurprisingly, a number of African leaders have died in foreign countries while seeking treatment and this point to the fact that they do not believe in their medical facilities. Africa needs leaders who will eat, drink, work, rejoice and face problems together with their people and make a difference together. It is not enough to build hospitals that leaders themselves fail to go to or have schools which they cannot send their children. Therefore, Africa needs leaders who will inspire confidence in their people and be open to listen and support local solutions.



Accommodative leaders

The leaders that Africa needed at the time of independence achieved their aspirations and gained the freedom that they sought. But times and challenges have since changed and African problems are no longer about seeking independence and therefore, Africa needs leaders that can read the time and accommodate change. The problem of having long serving leaders has been that they want to use the development mechanisms that worked decades ago and apply it in today's world. Knowledge and technology have advanced; populations have grown and therefore needs have increased and changed. Africa needs leaders who will collaborate to develop it. The ideal African leader is one that will upscale the interests of Africa first and work with others to maximise the African potential in trade, resources and prosperity. What is worrying about Africa is the fact that it trades more with countries outside the continent than among member countries.

Africa also needs leaders who accommodate the views of the youths who are creative, energetic, and innovative and not view them as a threat. Youths are usually updated with latest changes that should be incorporated in the development matrix of today's world and therefore, they should not be side-lined with an out-dated proverb "youths are the leaders of tomorrow" when the future and tomorrow is now.

Indeed, despite the abundant availability of needed resources for development, Africa's current situation can largely be blamed on leaders it has had. Leadership mindset change is therefore needed now than ever before.

- ***Nchimunya Muvwende-Zambia*** (Economist)



Don't Complain, be Responsive

Finding a solution to problems in the midst of uncertainty is one trait that has been said to be possessed by entrepreneurs and successful business people. It is for this reason that a number of developed countries have a lot of problem solvers who in the end generate income for themselves and their countries which then contributes to their development. However, in Africa, it is common to find people complaining over various challenges with no attempt to find solutions instead of seeing some of these challenges as an opportunity to create wealth for themselves and their countries.

Zambia has in the recent past intensified the promotion of "buy local" in order to influence local production and consumption. To supplement this, bans on importation of agricultural produce have been enforced but due to non-response to meeting the needed supply, the measures ended up being reversed. For Example, in 2017, Zambia banned the importation of agricultural produce which included tomatoes, onions, carrots, mangoes, potatoes, pineapples, lemons and watermelons and the then Permanent Secretary, Mr. Julius Shawa argued that the ban was necessitated by the need to protect the local market from cheaply imported produce following complaints from local farmers whose business was negatively impacted by the importation.

A counter argument was raised by the chain stores that cited inconsistency in supply and compromised quality of produce by local farmers as a reason for import preference. These arguments should have been taken on as a challenge by local farmers so that they produce better quality and expand their production to an extent of exceeding local demand. Unfortunately, the measure was later relaxed but in February 2021, another ban had to be imposed on Onions and Potatoes with the same arguments but there was a huge outcry of shortages of the commodities but the question that remains unanswered is, have the local farmers failed to seize the opportunity created? It could have taken only a few months to produce more and create sustainable supply and quench the deficit but complaints seem to outweigh this.

Preparing for AfCFTA

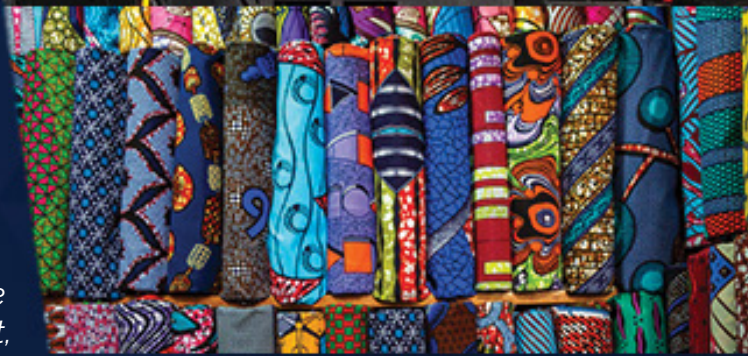
54 out of the 55 African Union member states have signed up for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) which will be considered the world's largest single market of 1.2 billion people and a cumulative Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of over \$3.4 trillion. The treaty aims to boost intra-Africa trade by lowering or removing tariffs, provide free access to the market and market information and the elimination of trade barriers that have for a long time hindered progress in trade. As a result of this free market, countries will have a variety of goods and services, access cheaper

Raw materials and companies will have increased market access hence leading to higher profitability which benefits the country as a whole.

While it is true that the AfCFTA will be beneficial for many, it is not everyone who stands to benefit. Some of the companies will be forced out of the market due to being exposed to stiffer competition and this will result in employment and productivity loss. Statistics show that over 50% of Africa's cumulative GDP is contributed by Egypt, Nigeria and South Africa, while Africa's six sovereign island nations collectively contribute just 1%. What this implies is that, for companies in the various countries that will not improve on their quality and increase productivity, they will end up complaining and be wiped out of the market.

Before all the countries ratify the trade agreement and it becomes fully operational, it is time that individuals and companies identify the opportunities, utilise them and stand to benefit. If the current shortfalls in the country lead only to complaints and no response from prospective suppliers, it means that when the AfCFTA is completely in force, more challenges are to be faced in terms of employment,

productivity and income for individuals and companies because the upcoming competitions will be difficult to win should proactive measure not be taken up.



Supporting local

The emergence of the corona pandemic showed countries that they cannot always depend on supplies of other countries because they can reach a dead end as evidenced in the supply chain disruptions but must instead look at local solutions at every available opportunity.

Buying and supporting local business helps to create a thriving local economy by maximising their potential and increasing their market share when compared to non-locally owned businesses. Many studies have revealed that money spent on local businesses stays in the local economy and continue to strengthen the economy base of the locals. The argument against supporting local businesses has been that they are usually of low quality and often have erratic suppliers. But this challenge is both ways, in that, when infant companies are not supported from the onset, how do you expect them to grow and produce more? In like manner, there is no justification in supporting local companies that consistently produce low quality and do less in constant quality improvement. The deal then is, local companies should be supported by all and at the same time, the companies and individual who supply should work on producing high standard goods and services that are competitive. Some studies have shown that the most effective "buy local" campaigns are those which involve the coalition of hundreds of businesses and the citizens in supporting each other and prevent foreign chains from displacing local companies. When local companies are supported and helped to grow and at the same time, the companies strive to produce at their best, the country stands to benefit when new markets are created like in the continental free trade area which has signed for.

Complaining will not help anyone but seizing and utilising the opportunities will help boost productivity, create employment, reduce poverty and contribute to economic growth. Remember, to be forewarned is to be forearmed, hence the need to always look beyond the challenge and explore the opportunities created.

By **Nchimunya Muvwende** (Economist)

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5 INDICATORS TO CONSIDER WHEN MAKING LONG-TERM CRYPTO INVESTMENT DECISIONS

Are you wondering whether you should buy bitcoin and either hold the digital asset in your portfolio short or long-term? Well, regardless of the position you decide to take, it's best to get some direction by utilizing technical analysis and fundamental analysis tools.

Cryptocurrency trading indicators work if not exactly but almost the same way as traditional tradable asset indicators. Whether you want to trade crypto, forex, stocks, or even other assets or commodities, you should get some sense of direction from these indicators before you invest. Without technical analysis and proper study of the fundamentals, you will be trading out of ignorance and wishful thinking. And this is not something anyone wants to do using their hard-earned money. The crypto market is highly volatile, with many unpredictable outcomes due to different variables.

In today's post, we'll show you some of the most important and top five indicators to check before choosing a long-term position. Find out how to carry out Technical analysis as a beginner.

Market Capitalization

Simply put, market capitalization is the metric used to measure the relative size of a cryptocurrency. It is calculated by multiplying the current price of a particular coin or token with the total number of the same coin in circulation. As of the time of writing this article, the crypto market share is over 1 trillion US dollars. With Bitcoin having a dominant figure of just above US\$1 trillion, Ethereum at around \$200 billion, and over \$50 billion being shared among other cryptocurrencies.

What you need to understand is that the larger the market cap volume the lesser the volatility. What this means is a large market cap shows dominance, which is a good indicator for choosing a long position. Take for instance Bitcoin with a market cap of \$1 trillion which is more than 70% of the entire crypto market size. This indicates that one could buy bitcoin as a long-term investment. However, as a long-term investor, you will want to avoid projects with a very small or low market cap volume. This is because cryptocurrencies with

low market caps could be subject to pump and dump schemes, and result in you losing your hard-earned money. You should target projects with say at least a \$10 billion dollar market share. Based on market cap share, one could pick Ethereum in one's portfolio for a long position.

Utility and User Base

Before choosing a long position, one of the other things or indicators that you want to check is the utility of any particular cryptocurrency. You should research the usefulness of cryptocurrency, and the robustness of the community that backs it. A good project should have a strong community. Ethereum is the second-largest cryptocurrency by market capitalization and has a solid community and use-case. It allows smart contracts and developers to build decentralized applications (dApps) on its blockchain. Another great example of a cryptocurrency with good utility and a decent size community is Cardano. Cardano has been dubbed as the "third generation" of blockchains after Bitcoin and Ethereum. It is created to solve scalability, interoperability, and sustainability. Litecoin, Binance coin (BNB) are also great examples of cryptocurrencies that have good use-cases and active communities. You can buy these crypto-assets on Remitano P2P exchanges for long-term investment.



Future and Ongoing Projects

This should be a no-brainer, right? Well, not an easy indicator to look out for. Before choosing a long position, you want to know the underlying technology that is driving the crypto currency.

The future of the coins listed above is bright and strong. Why? These cryptocurrencies have strong developers and communities. Bugs are being fixed regularly, contributors and more people are joining the projects. The more contributors, developers, and people

joining the project, the more valuable it becomes. Continuous research in order to augment the blockchain technologies powering cryptocurrency projects and support the ongoing development is crucial. Ethereum for example is moving from its proof-of-work (PoW) to a proof-of-stake consensus mechanism with Ethereum 2.0. This is going to improve scalability and speed of the network. The new EIP 1559 is going to solve the long due problem of high Ethereum network gas fees and also improve the user experience. Projects and developments like this have arguably played a significant role in the recent spike of Ethereum's price.

The crypto world is an exciting one, and hence positive and exciting developments often lead to adoption. So, before you choose a long position you want to have all these boxes checked and ticked.

Volume and Transaction

Trading volume is the number and value of trades of a particular coin at a particular time. For example, if Tom sells 2 BTC at the rate of 20K USD for each, then the volume of the transaction is simply 40K USD or 2BTC.

A coin's trade volume helps to clarify two things - it helps to checkmate sudden rise and fall in market price, and it's also a good indicator that the coin is being actively traded.

South Africa ranks as the 10th biggest country in terms of bitcoin trading volume, thanks to P2P and spot crypto exchanges available in the country.

So far in 2021, the Ethereum network has been able to process more than a million transactions per day, surpassing the number of people that buy bitcoin.

Simply, an increase in volume should be seen or accompanied by a rising market which is an indication of solid buyer interest. According to a poll by CoinDesk on Twitter, 38% of traders say Volume is a crypto indicator they can't do without. 30% voted for RSI, 23% for Moving Average, and 9% others. This means that Volume is one indicator you can only ignore at your peril.

What Problem is the Project Solving?

Just like every other business that you know, a good crypto project should be solving a particular problem. Bitcoin is created to disrupt the traditional financial world by eliminating the intermediary between two parties when sending funds.

Before you choose a long position for any cryptocurrency, you need to evaluate the teams behind it, you need to know the project's mission and vision. That's not all, you need to understand the roadmap and how plausible it is to accomplish. Reading the project White paper will reveal much of what you need to know about the coin.

You do not want to invest in any crypto project that is not transparent enough with all these. You should only focus on projects that have value and their purpose. Also, you need to understand whether the token is a utility token, security token, transaction token, or platform token? Carefully studying and evaluating the indicators mentioned in this article would prevent even the average investors from making bad decisions. Traders seeking long-term positions can buy Bitcoin, Ethereum, and Cardano to start with because they are heavily traded, and have stood the test of time.

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