



Amsterdam Blockchain Lab

We aim to contribute to the realization of ethical values in digital systems using blockchain technology.

We believe that

- In its ideal form, blockchains, and distributed ledger technologies in general, should have intrinsic technical qualities such as decentralization, transparency, immutability, pseudonymity, verifiability and security
- These qualities hold the promise of realizing ethical values that will be increasingly important in the digital world of tomorrow
- Critical ethical values are improvement of trust among anonymous peers, privacy, personal (data) sovereignty, open innovation, economic balance in open markets, borderless organization and trade by diminishing central points of failure
- We need guidelines for establishing these intrinsic technical qualities
- Technical qualities are a means to an end. We acknowledge that the realization of blockchain-driven applications involves a roadmap in which a certain degree of pragmatism is needed
- Blockchain is not a stand-alone technology, it is always part of a broader technology stack
- Blockchain, mainly public blockchain, is disrupting governance models. This triggers many questions about the future of governance models and power structures
- The world needs leadership on what are ethical blockchain technologies and governance models
- Amsterdam should physically host this leadership. The Netherlands is known for innovation (currently 2nd in the Global Innovation Index) and our 'poldermodel' is a great base for providing ethical leadership
- Ethical leadership requires real-life experimentation and an open consortium with business, government, research, investors and civil society that is able to take risks and experiment
- We lack reliable insights into the impact of blockchain and distributed economies

We serve

- Governments, organisations and companies that want to use our services to build a more ethical world. We validate ethical objectives of our clients against our design principles. Our clients pay for the services we provide.

- In domains like food, medical, fashion, beauty and education
- We don't work on assignments and projects that harm the world and its people.
- We believe and practice transparency. Our decisions are transparent and will use tools like Aragon. We are open source
- On a non-exclusivity basis. Members are free to pursue other projects outside the Lab. We have an operational office

We are

- A collective of complementary parties based in Amsterdam, working jointly on an ethical agenda to solve global pressing problems
- Inclusive and open to complimentary members
- Open and honest in argumentation, pure reasoning based on clear definitions upfront
- Not a religious or political organisation, we take an ethical stance by solving problems on project basis

Founding members are

- Tech companies: The Fork, Triple, Statebox
- Thinktank: FreedomLab
- Research: ACE Incubator, Centre for Mathematics and Computer Science
- Associations: Amsterdam Economic Board
- Education: BlockchainTalks
- Spaces: Blockdam, Meet Berlage

Supporting members are

- Tech companies: Ledger Leopard
- Research: UvA, VU, TU Delft, Wageningen UR
- Ethical companies: Jake
- Associations: Dutch Blockchain Coalition, De Waag
- Education: Singularity
- NGOs: FairFood
- Spaces: B Amsterdam