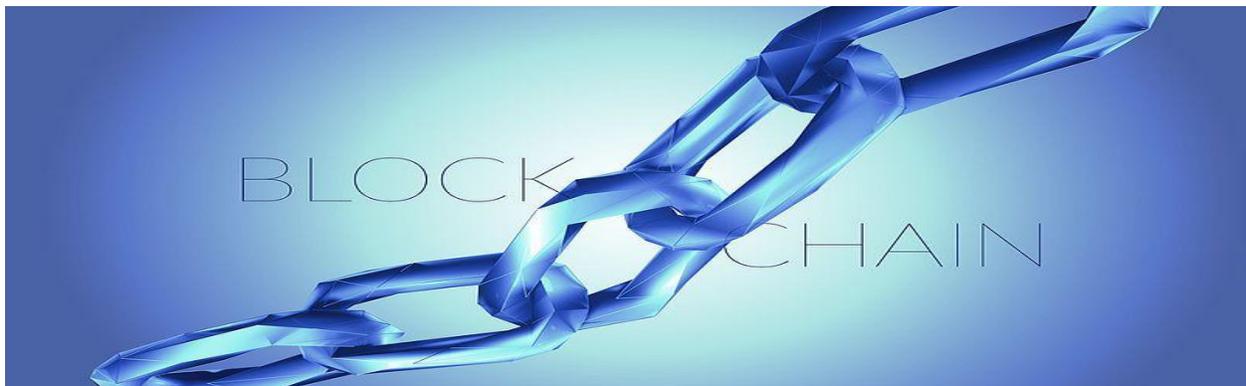




GBA

The State of Government Blockchain March 2018

GBA is committed to helping individuals and organizations understand, implement and benefit from blockchain technologies.



[For more information, please go to www.gbaglobal.org](http://www.gbaglobal.org)

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Message from the President



The past few months have seen a tidal wave of blockchain activity all around the world. Governments are exploring blockchain legislation in places like



New York, Tennessee, Vermont, Wyoming and countries like Australia, Canada, France, Spain, and the United States. International organizations like the European Union and NATO have all been in touch with GBA to support their understanding and response to developments in this rapidly advancing field. New use cases are emerging every day including using the blockchain to

enable governments to manage software licenses, appropriate, execute and track budgets with smart contracts and even using blockchain technologies to reduce illegal gun violence. Almost every day, it seems like the GBA is getting involved with some existing and new group of stakeholders, organizations, initiatives, projects and use cases to support the mission of governments around the world.

Most of these people have probably never even heard of the GBA and have no idea of the value and support we could bring to their efforts. Honestly, sometimes it feels like the train has left the station and we are running to catch up. I think to a degree, we are. So, in the next few pages, we will do our best to share some of the things that we are doing to catch up to this fast-moving train. I hope that you get a lot out of this month's newsletter and find ways that you can jump on the train and get to your destination. Enjoy the ride!



Gerard Dache
President
Government Blockchain Association

Inside the GBA

New Members

GBA welcomes an ever-increasing flow of new professional and corporate members. We are seeing many more government leaders join the organization along with all sizes of corporate members. These include blockchain industry leaders such as Guardtime, [One World Identity](#), [Consensys](#), [CALIBRE](#) and SAIC. These companies are working with the GBA and government change agents to bring transformative technology to government.

GBA Core Staff Expansion

The GBA has added and continues to add several new associates to the back-office staff to handle member relations, support, training, and student chapters. You may hear from some new people, but we all speak with one voice. We are all passionate about helping our members succeed in the blockchain space.

GBA Events

GBA Leadership Call

On February 9th, the GBA had three global leadership calls to allow chapter and working group leaders from around the world to hear from the GBA Core Team (Gerard, James, Jonathan, and Robert) about accomplishments and plans going forward. The Core Team had a chance to hear questions, comments and concerns from global chapter and working group leaders. We discussed future plans for technology, business processes, service offerings, finances and organizational governance. Presentations, minutes, and discussions regarding the call can be viewed in these locations:

- GBA Chapter Leadership: <https://gbaglobal.org/groups/chapter-leaders>
- Working Group Leadership: <https://gbaglobal.org/groups/working-group-leaders>

Government Blockchain Consultant Series

The GBA is launching a suite of classes that make up the GBA Consultant Series. The courses include:

- Blockchain Foundations
- Blockchain and Cryptocurrency Rules and Regulations
- Blockchain Solution Architecture
- Managing Blockchain Projects
- Leading Through Disruptive Paradigm Shifts

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Completing all courses and passing a test results in a Government Blockchain Consulting Certification. Now, all [GBA courses are available through the GSA eBUY program](#). For more information about the consulting suite, please go to the [Certified Government Blockchain Curriculum](#) webpage.

Government Blockchain Leadership Summit (May 1-2 - Washington, DC)

This event is not intended to be like every other conference. We want to connect people in government with organizations that have solutions. We are not just hosting an event and selling tickets. We are focused on making a difference. For additional details, please visit: <https://gbaglobal.org/event/government-blockchain-leadership-forum-2>

European Blockchain Leadership Summit (October 2018 - London)

The London/Paris chapter of the GBA is planning a European summit in 2018. A team of 25 volunteers has gathered in London to focus on content and sponsors while the Paris team focuses on venue and logistic details. The summit will feature 7 working group themes and will be happening during one day in early October 2018, (the 4th or the 11th). Please contact [Tommy Jamet](#) for additional details.

Tools, Technology & Branding

GBA New Logo - Branding, Campaign and Website

The GBA has rolled out a new logo and branding. We selected this design because the GBA is a global organization and we wanted it to be more inclusive of the international communities. During the past month we have made significant changes to our website and the backend infrastructure. While we are very excited about the new capabilities that our new infrastructure will allow, the roll out was not without glitches.

Some of you may have had a problem with the permanent redirect from the old URL (www.governmentblockchain.org) to the new URL www.gbaglobal.org). Rest assured, the website is fully protected with the industry standard SSL Certificate standards. You may need to clear your cache, replace your bookmarks, or simply go directly to gbaglobal.org in your browser.

Read More [GBA New Logo, Branding and Website](#)

Improved Blockchain Social Media Platform

We have spent the last several months building an infrastructure that will support the global growth of this industry. Our new platform allows for people to find and connect with each other around several different characteristics and affinity groupings. We have launched new chapters, working groups and Communities Of Interests (COIs). These groups allow blockchain professionals to organize around organizations, regions, or themes. These are just other ways that people and organizations can collaborate on projects and developing blockchain solutions.

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Website Resource Directory

Remember, professional (paid) members can list information about themselves, blockchain merchants, applications & products, organizations, projects, grants, jobs, contract opportunities and publications. Just go to the [“Add Listing”](#) page on the Resource Library.

GBA Chapters News

New Chapters

GBA welcomes many new additions to our global family of 51 chapters. We are about to begin our new chapter promotion with a goal of starting 200 new chapters. To start a new chapter please go to:

<https://gbaglobal.org/gba-professional-chapters>



New: Student Chapters

The GBA is launching student chapters in early 2018 on college and university campuses around the world. We are interested in working with schools ranging from “ivy league” to community colleges. Student chapters are led by students with a faculty moderator who is a GBA Professional Member. Our plan is to connect student chapters with professional chapters and working groups for mentorship, project work, hackathons and job fairs. For more information, please visit: <https://gbaglobal.org/gba-student-chapters>

Chapter Highlights

- [Toronto, ON \(Canada\)](#) - The Toronto chapter of the GBA took a booth at a Blockchain event in downtown Toronto. The event was attended by 700 participants interested in crypto and blockchain technologies. Hundreds of people were introduced to the GBA in a face to face meeting and the overwhelming response was that the GBA is serving a much-needed function in the burgeoning blockchain space.
- [Paris \(France\)](#) – The French regulator, AMF (Autorité des Marchés Financiers) has issued a discussion paper on ICOs and has asked for contributions. Leila Nassiri (Paris Chapter), coordinated with Michael Bombace (Financial Regulatory & Compliance), Bernie Doyle (Financial Oversight), and Suzannah Simmons (Legislative & Legal) to prepare a comprehensive response to this request on behalf of the GBA. We are extremely excited about this effort as it is a prime example of how we were able to leverage the Working Groups to respond to Government needs.
- [Tokyo \(Japan\)](#) – GBA kicked off an event in 2018 with JIPDEC (Japan Information Processing Development Corporation), and invited official speakers to present about digital and blockchain deployment in the public sector, visit Meetup Site. In April, Kohei Kurihara (Tokyo Chapter) will be invited as a speaker at the supply chain seminar in

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Tokyo. We are honored to have the opportunity to present use-cases with supply chain at the coming conference.

- **Mexico City (Mexico)** – Our first event hosted 80 guests at the Tecnológico de Monterrey University. The second event happened on February 22 at Escuela Bancaria y Comercial University and drew about 300 attendees. The next event will be on April 26 at the IPADE Business School.



- **Singapore**
56 GBA members participated in the Blockchain Economic Forum 2018 in February in Singapore. We discussed the blockchain use-cases for Public Sector organizations. Additional blockchain events have been scheduled and conducted.
- **Valladolid (Spain)** - The President of Valladolid, Spain Government Blockchain Association, and the International Chamber of Commerce of Valladolid in conjunction introduced the conceptual new paradigm of internet by Blockchain and DLTs. The Spanish Chapter is managing a partnership with the ICC to accommodate a regular basis course, and this is the first event in the region to approach the public and private levels under the scope of the international relationship directorate of Valladolid for the future knowledge center of Blockchain in town. The French Chapter invited by the Spanish Chapter delivered the role of GBA globally.
- **Atlanta, GA (USA)** - Despite the once in a five-year snow-storm in Atlanta, the GBA Blockchain Foundations workshop, part 1 of 5 in a [GBA certification](#) course, went forward. Participants flew in from Poland, China, Chicago, and New York, while others drove through six inches of snow overnight from DC and North Carolina. It was a great day with mostly developers and some miners looking to fill gaps in their blockchain knowledge. Participants are eager and waiting for the remaining 4 workshops to complete their official GBA certification. In addition, discussions were held with the President of GBA - Global, Gerard Dache, to open a GBA training center in Atlanta, coming in Q1 2018.
- **Denver, CO (USA)** - Had a successful Intro to Blockchain GBA class. Met with representatives at the State of Colorado around making Colorado a Blockchain innovation state. Additional GBA Certified Training Consulting Courses are planned.
- **Puerto Rico (USA)** - February 28th the Government Blockchain Association held their chapter meeting in the Puerto Rican Capitol rotunda. Rep Eddie Charbonier announced his legislative resolution to support blockchain implementation in Puerto Rico. This is the beginning of a conversation with lawmakers on providing legislative and regulatory recommendations to attract investment dollars, create jobs and improve services for

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constituents. We look forward to helping promote an open discussion with legislative leaders and bring issues of significance to their attention. [Giancarlo Gonzalez](#) said to the hundreds of dignitaries and guests assembled that “Our problems are local, but the solutions are global”.



- [Vermont \(USA\)](#) - SB269 “Digital Currency LLC” bill, Sponsored by Sen. Alison Clarkson is in play, which proposes a tax exempt status. A number of VTGBA meetup members attended committee hearings and gave testimony. VTGBA casual meetup hosted in State House cafeteria bi-weekly, and weekly contributions from interested parties on watch.interchain.live Ryan Munn has also been interviewed for 7 Days, and on video at ORCA (public access) for the Vermont TechBeat pilot showcasing blockchain and related entrepreneurs. A land title pilot project in South Burlington, Vermont also made news.
- [Washington, DC \(USA\)](#) - [Terri Pfeiffer](#), the DC Chapter President hosted the Blockchain and Automated IT for Government Summit. Speakers included leaders in the blockchain space from Commerce, DISA, DHS, GSA, HHS, DOT, USDA, NIST, and the US Joint Chiefs of Staff.
- The DC Chapter also hosted [Michael Allman](#), US Congressional candidate at Georgetown University who has promised to use the blockchain to bring integrity to our representative democracy through a campaign he calls “Direct Democracy”. You can read more about his work at allmanforcongress.com.

Working Groups

News

Working Groups have been ramping up in January of 2018. Working Group leaders have started to have 1 on 1 strategy meetings with [Rob Perry](#), starting the first week of January, to discuss the plan and approach for 2018.

Active Working Groups

Active Working Groups with forums, lists to blogs and members. More improvements are in the works. GBA now has over 25 Working Groups organized around the following topics:

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- Asset Management
- Land Titling
- Budgeting, Appropriations & Tracking
- Contract Management
- CyberSecurity
- Economic & Financial Management
 - Cryptoasset Compliance (Review in progress)
 - Economic Analysis
 - Financial Oversight
 - Financial Regulatory & Compliance
- Education and Training
 - Adult Education
 - Childhood Education
- Energy Working Group
- Government Ontology
- Health Care
 - Medical/Clinical Cannabis Research.
 - Financial
 - General
 - Medical Records
- Identity Management
- Intellectual Property - Software Product & License Management
- Legislative & Legal
 - General
 - Legal Information Management
- Smart City
- Supply Chain
- Voting

New Working Group Nominations

We are instituting a review process to accommodate new Working Group nominations. When a new nomination is submitted it will be reviewed and tailored so that its scope fits within the existing structure. Please contact [Rob Perry](#) if you would like to suggest a new Working Group.

New nominations in December include:

- FinTech Working Group
- Taxation Working Group
- The Open Initiative for Blockchain Academic Certificates Working Group
- Artificial Intelligence Working Group
- Cryptoasset Compliance Working Group

Working Group Highlights



Budget Appropriations & Tracking

This working group is led [Steve Olson](#) and their of the group is to establish a prototype system that would allow government organizations to appropriate funds, distribute funds using smart contracts and provide real time reporting to oversight bodies. The intention is to provide increased visibility and reduce the need for compliance auditing.

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French government regulatory recommendation



The AMF published a discussion paper on Initial Coin Offerings (ICOs) on October 26th, 2017, in which it wished to gather the views of stakeholders on ICO regulation.

We are happy to share our response and would like to thank the Autorité des Marchés Financiers (“AMF”) for the opportunity given through this discussion paper to contribute to the discussion on how to regulate ICOs.

Intellectual Property - Software

The Working Group is led by [Jim Tyson](#) and hosted at the GSA. The group is developing a system that would allow governments around the world to manage software licenses using a blockchain.



CyberSecurity

New Project: Blockchain System – Security Authorization

Blockchain technology is rapidly gaining traction in the government spaces. Several federal agencies such as GSA, CDC, and FDA have started exploring the technology and even have pilot programs. However, for a Blockchain system to be used in a production environment and handle real data and customers it must meet stringent federal security requirements. A system must go through a complete Security Authorization (SA) before it is granted an Authorization to Operate (ATO) and blockchain systems are no exception. This project involves studying how to get blockchain solutions through the ATO process. For more information contact [Ajay Chandhok](#).

Education

The education working group is developing a suite of courses and building out training courses. GBA welcomes members to post their training on the [GBA Event Calendar](#). Also, in 2018 all [GBA courses will be available through the GSA eBUY program](#)

Energy

The GBA has launched the Energy Working Group. The purpose of this group is to identify unique problem sets and challenges faced by public and private entities regarding energy supply, distribution and regulation. The group will explore innovative blockchain and distributed

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ledger technologies to address these challenges to increase efficiency, security, resilience and sustainability. To learn more contact [Christopher Peoples](#).

[Financial Regulatory and Compliance Working Group](#)

A New Working Group has been formed to create think tanks with private and public sector members and to help educate regulatory lawmakers on the technical, financial, and fundamental state of cryptoassets. This group is a collective group of leaders, and business owners in the cryptoasset financial markets. Their goal is to help government authorities like the US SEC, CFTC, and IRS regulate with a comprehensive and thorough understanding the fundamentals and nature of blockchain based assets. For more information about the work of this group, please contact [Michael Bombace](#)

[Land Titling Working Group](#)

The Land Titling Working Group is preparing to launch an outreach campaign to the public, government entities and GBA Chapters worldwide in March, 2018. The Working Group Leader, [John Dean Markunas](#) is recruiting Land Titling Working Group volunteers to help manage the various Group initiatives. Of special interest is working with potential global volunteers who work in government or private land registry sectors - regardless of country.

The [Land Titling Working Group](#) has published several articles this month including:

- [The French Land Administration from the Origins to Modern Times Part I](#)
- [PILOT PROGRAM-REAL ESTATE TITLE TRANSFER ON BLOCKCHAIN – U.S. Cook County Blockchain Pilot Program Report](#)
- [A New Paradigm on Collective Ownership of Real Estate By The Global Community](#)
- [Brazil Blockchain Land Registry Case Study Published](#)
- [Announcement Regarding Blockchain Technology for Land Registry Offices in Brazil](#)

Read More [Current Articles](#)

[Supply Chain Management](#)

Members of the Supply Chain Working Group include a research fellow for a major government contractor who is engaged in defense applications of blockchain technology in supply chain management and other areas. For example, [Jim Tyson](#) is developing a reference architecture and proof-of-concept integrating an open-source, permissioned blockchain with an open-source supply chain management solution. Other members include blockchain professionals from around the world including cities in the US such as Atlanta, Biloxi, Charlotte, Denver, Philadelphia, & Washington. Working Group Members from around the world are located in Kraków, and Moscow. For a full list of members please visit the [Supply Chain Member](#) page. To read more from this working group, please visit the [Supply Chain Blog Posts](#)

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Voting

[Mark Page](#) is leading this group. This group helps members deploy voting solutions that enable organization to vote on a blockchain with privacy, accountability, transparency and integrity.

Communities of Interest (Cols)

The GBA has launched [Communities of Interest \(Cols\)](#). These affinity communities are not tied to one geographic area or a single working group domain. However, they are bound by an abstract affiliario. Some of the groups that currently exists are:

- European Committee
- International Organizations
- Washington State

GBA in the News

- Gerard Dache, GBA president was interviewed on the [Crypto Disrupted](#) Youtube channel.

The bottom line is, we are using blockchain technology to create real world solutions, and we would love to have you on our team. We would like to encourage you to join the GBA as a professional or commercial company and Join a Working Group or a Local Chapter.

If we can do anything to support you or your mission, please let us know.

[Visit Us at https://www.gbaglobal.org/](https://www.gbaglobal.org/)

