

# March 2019

# **Blockchain:** More respectable so far than Crypto's

#### **Research Highlights:**

Blockchain has become the buzzword for transformative technology across the globe with GCC countries playing a leading role in its adoption. Its first and most prominent use case is cryptocurrency, which has a complex legal and policy approach. This study analyses the ways in which blockchain technology is disrupting different sectors in the GCC region and the regulations imposed on cryptocurrencies by the authorities in GCC.



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#### Is regular update **4** for this available?

Based on Marmore's discretion. However, bespoke reports can be produced based on this report as per specific client arrangements.

#### What is this report about?

As a continuously evolving technology, many organizations in the GCC region are exploring the potential of blockchain to not only enhance their capabilities, but also process transactions and exchange information in effective and secure manner. Cryptocurrencies, the first application of blockchain, on the other hand are heavily regulated or banned in the region. Experts claim that the true value of cryptocurrencies is to be found in its underlying technology. The report provides a detailed analysis of adoption of blockchain and cryptocurrencies in the GCC region, the regulations placed by Government authorities on cryptocurrencies and an insight into the crypto trading scenario in the region.

#### **2** Who will benefit and why?

The report will benefit anyone seeks to study the blockchain and cryptocurrency landscape in GCC. It includes regulators, government agencies, economists, research institutions and policy makers, investors and business entities. This report would help these entities to gain in-depth understanding about the topic in the context of GCC.

#### Can I only download certain 5 sections of the report?

No. The report can be downloaded in entirety only.

#### **3** How exhaustive is this report?

This report is based on our research on blockchain technology applications in the GCC region and the regulatory approach towards cryptocurrencies. The study has been conducted in the light of the largescale interest by public and private entities in the technology and its adoption across sectors in the region. The study contributes knowledge about the technology that undergirds the transformation of GCC economies into financial and technological hubs and the regulatory aspects surrounding it.

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## Key questions addressed in this report:

• In what ways are the GCC governments responding to blockchain disruption in different sectors?

Why is blockchain adoption encouraged by authorities while cryptocurrencies are shunned?

· Which are the sectors that are currently adopting blockchain?

· What are the potential future application areas of blockchain?

· What is the legal status of cryptocurrencies across GCC region?

 What is the trading status of cryptocurrencies in GCC countries?

#### This report can add value to:

Technology companies

Technology PEs and VCs

Government SME funding agencies

Policy makers

Regulators

**Economists** 

**Research Institutions** 

**Business entities** 

Traders

General Investors

# about **marmore**

#### Our vision

To be the first choice for obtaining strategic intelligence on the MENA region.

#### Our mission

Serving businesses and institutions with reliable information and intelligence about MENA, needed to catalyse growth, understand the larger environment and facilitate decision-making.

#### Our aim

Advocate intellectual research on MENA economics, businesses and financial markets and provide customized, actionable solutions.

#### Our foundation

- » A subsidiary of Markaz: Investment bank and asset management firm with 40+ years of history
- » Markaz research activities commenced in 2006
- » Marmore established in 2010 to intensify the research activities
- » Publishes research reports and provides consulting services

# published **research**

#### Industry research

Marmore's industry reports provide information on industry structure, key players, market analysis, demand drivers, competitive analysis and regulatory requirements.

#### Economic research

These reports are produced as thematic discussions based on current issues in the economy. The reports aid key stakeholders such as investors, businessmen, market participants, and policy makers in understanding the impact of a particular theme on the economy.

#### Infrastructure research

Infrastructure research highlights bottlenecks in the sector and areas requiring urgent investments. Our infrastructure report analyses the link between economic development and infrastructure and showcases supply & demand challenges in the GCC and investment opportunities.

#### Capital market research

Capital market reports provide an analysis of stock & bond markets in the MENA region including outlook. These reports are strategic in nature and provides investment perspective to readers.

#### Policy research

Marmore has partnered with several leading thought leaders and institutions of repute to generate economic policy research studies in key areas like energy, labor, economic structure and public sector.

#### Periodic research

Our periodic reports capture GCC stock markets' earnings, risk premium studies, and economic development & outlook.

#### **Regulatory research**

Our regulatory research series is an effective consolidation, analysis and summary of key business, economic, and market regulations that impact business environment.

# consulting **Services**

Marmore provides customized consulting services based on specific requirements of our clients. Marmore's bespoke consulting services marries the challenges of cost, time, scope and data availability to generate actionable outcomes that are specific to our clients' needs.

### What type of consulting services we provide?

- » Industry market assessment (market size, competitors, regulations)
- » White label reports (industry reports, company newsletters, periodic research)
- Databases (competitors' information, target clients insights)
- » Company valuation (buy/sell side advisory)
- » Due diligence / Business evaluation
- » Feasibility studies (market and financial)
- » Business plans
- C-Suite support to leaders with intellectual, industry related needs

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#### How do we execute consulting engagement?

Our seven step process to execute consulting engagements:

- » Step 1: Requirement and scope analysis
- » Step 2: Proposal submission
- » Step 3: Project initiation
- » Step 4: Fieldwork / research
- » Step 5: Analysis & reporting
  - » Step 6: Review & approval
- » Step 7: Report submission / presentation



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