



18. Blockchain Is Blockchain the Answer for your Data Security and Data Exchange

Title presentation

Blockchain Technology in Agri-Food: state of play and outlook

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Abstract

Blockchain has been known to hold many promises in addressing problems concerning digital transactions in multi-actor processes. In the agri-food sector, where many processes are confronted with information challenges, blockchain technology (BCT) has gained considerable traction over the last years. Governments, international organisations, private companies, consortia of public and private actors have launched various pilots of blockchain application for improving transparency, traceability, and many other key issues in the agri-food sector. This has resulted in a large number of use cases that have demonstrated and tested BCT, although it is often unclear what kind of blockchain is applied in different use cases. Due to the novelty and elusiveness of the technology, there is no ready-to-use framework or guideline yet for assessing its applicability and choosing the right technical and organisational setup. As a result, many stakeholders have to grope in the dark when designing and implementing their 'blockchain application'. Furthermore, the actual costs and benefits of blockchain applications remain to be seen.