Intelligence with Blockchain Analytics

The crypto momentum in Africa

Juan Montaner, ISP Lead for Africa
Trends in recent investigations

- **Increased economic activity on the blockchain**
- Robberies and scams use **DeFi** as attack vectors
- Rapid adoption of stablecoin, and in particular **USDT-Tron**

Source: Chainalysis, Crypto crime report 2023
Rapid adoption of stablecoin (USDT, USDC, DAI, BUSD)
Increased economic activity on the blockchain

- **2009**: Overstock accepts BTC payments
- **2010**: Major US retailer Overstock accepts BTC payments
- **2013**: FBI shuts Silk Road, first BTC ATM installed
- **2014**: ICOs raise billions, BTC at ATH
- **2017**: North Korea evade sanctions using crypto
- **2018**: Facebook's Libra, Nike files 'CryptoKicks' trademark
- **2019**: COVID-19 drives crypto interest, major social platforms connect crypto wallets
- **2020**: The year of NFTs, the metaverse attracts big brands
- **2021**: Visa settles USDC transactions, institutional investment accelerates
- **2022**: Colonial Pipeline attack
- **2023**: Ticketmaster debuts NFT-gated ticket sales
- **2010**: @ 10k BTC!
- **2012**: Telegram launches USDT and BTC transfers via chat
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Increased crypto activity on streets

Paris

Lagos
Nigeria is Africa’s top crypto economy (#2 of the index)
Terrorist Financing (From web to Telegram)

Al Qaeda
Al Ikhwa
Ansar International
Lashkar-e-Taiba
Hamas Al-Qassan
Hizb Ut Tahrir
ITMC
ISIS
Katibat Tawhid
Malhama Tactical
Merciful Hands
Yaqub Foundation

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Terrorism activity in crypto

Terrorism Financing

Illicit Actor

Sanctioned Jurisdiction

Sanctioned Entity

High Risk Exchange
TRACERS IN THE DARK

THE GLOBAL HUNT FOR THE CRIME LORDS OF CRYPTOCURRENCY

ANDY GREENBERG

AUTHOR OF SANDWORM
Thank you!
Questions?