Implications for the payments system How stablecoins are the new E-Money

Tony Craddock, Director General, The Payments Association

CBDCs conference at LSE October 28th 2022



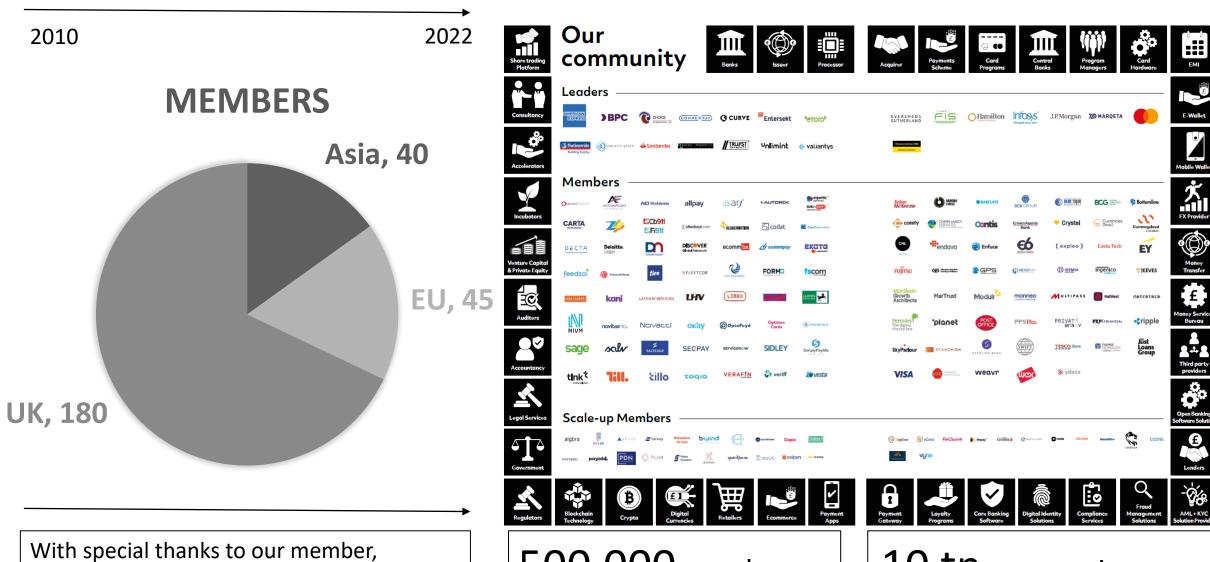
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UK Association of the Year (up to 500 members)

UK Association of the Year 2022





Boston Consulting Group and PayWithGlass

500,000 employees

10 tn transactions p.a.

The purpose and impact of E-Money



- EMD1 set out in 2000 to:
 - 1. Stimulate innovation
 - 2. Give consumers access
 - 3. Encourage competition, investment
- EMD1 was updated by PSD1 (Directive 2007/64/EC), EMD2 (Directive 2009/110/EC) and PSD2 (Directive 2015/2366)
- It continues to evolve with proposed PSD3 (expected Q3 2023)
- It has been a massive success:
 - 300+ E-Money issuers in UK & Europe
 - 15 Billion+ € issued* with approx. 7.5T transactions**
 - Numerous new products and services
 - 100's of millions of satisfied consumers

^{*}https://sdw.ecb.europa.eu/reports.do?node=1000003509

^{**}https://www.statista.com/statistics/443399/electronic-money-payment-in-european-union/

Stablecoins and E-Money have clear similarities



Digital

Digital store of value

Secure

Fully collateralised

Pegged

1:1 pegged with fiat currency

Flexible

Can be multicurrency

And clear differences that require regulation



Business model

Stablecoin issuers rely on yield generated on reserve and VAS vs transaction costs model of EMIs

Distribution

New roles filled
by varying
parties
including
wallets issuers,
exchanges and
market makers)
compared with
EMIs

Use cases

Stablecoins are not confined to payments unlike E Money, with an array of Decentralised Finance use cases

Custody

85% of stablecoins are held in cash like non custodial wallets with direct end user ownership, unlike E Money

The proposed EU regulation of stablecoins

MiCA proposal

 Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Markets in Crypto-assets expected 2024

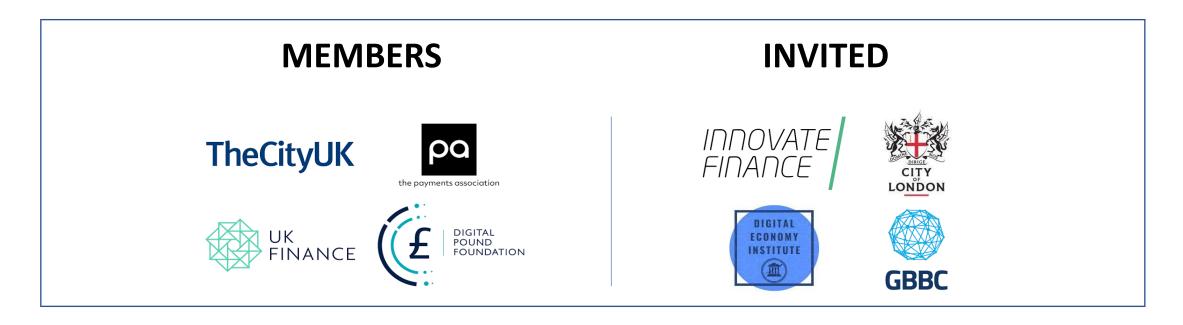
MiCA objectives:

- To provide legal certainty for crypto-assets not covered by existing EU financial services legislation, for which there is currently a clear need.
- To establish **uniform rules** for crypto-asset service providers and issuers at EU level
- To replace existing national frameworks applicable to crypto-assets not covered by existing EU financial services legislation
- To establish specific rules for so-called 'stablecoins', including when these are emoney

The UK Digital Currencies Coordination Group



- Group of UK trade associations
- Setting out to
 - Share developments with their community's digital currency activities in the UK
 - Educate stakeholders such as parliamentarians, government bodies, public sector, banks



Conclusion: history is repeating itself



- S-Money is the new E-Money
- Significant implications
 - Market participants
 - Consumers
 - Fraud
 - Innovation in payments

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