

DNGO & DNGO Books

Abstract

Dngo is a pioneer in the field of blockchain-based, decentralised NGOs. Dngo aims to increase user participation in social change by incentivising contributions with cryptocurrencies. Dngo will provide a space for deliberative democracy by creating its own blockchain-based community on Steem blockchain.

The first part of this article will discuss the working principles of Dngo. Then the second section will go on to introduce Dngo.io and Dngo books, which is a blockchain-based project specifically designed to incentivise people to create a multilingual and publicly accessible audiobook archive – currently this project is in its beta phase.

Introduction

Dngo has plans to be the first blockchain-based decentralised NGO, leading the way in the implementation of blockchain technology to enhance the third sector. Dngo aims to encourage an increased level of participation in civil society, as well as creating democracy in the Steem blockchain community. Furthermore, Dngo, by creating various projects on Steem blockchain attempts to bring sustainable income to steemit.com users, in addition to the created content making a positive impact and working towards social change. To achieve this goal Dngo has four core values guiding and framing its activities, these are:

- **Open Democracy**

Dngo encourages its community members to openly communicate and take part in internal decision making processes without fear of facing any exclusions. The main practical implementation of this value is that it allows the Dngo community to decide on what charitable donation to make by using the resources accumulated on Dngo's Community Fund. Additionally, most of the curation rewards achieved by projects will be used in same way.

- **Transparency**

Basing Dngo on Steem blockchain creates full visibility on the Dngo teams' earnings. Each member of the community can easily reach the logs of the payments that have been made to Dngo team. Full visibility prevents Dngo staff from abusing, or being accused of abusing the rewards pool. Transparency is an issue in NGOs and not-for-profit sectors, as with any business, but this technology has the possibility to correct this issue.

- **Accountability**

The features of Steem blockchain allow any application to become truly detectable by everyone. This ensures that every interaction between Dngo team and community members are visible.

- **Blockchain Environmentalism**

It's a social duty for any NGO to be environment friendly. Since Dngo is a decentralized application on Steem blockchain, it should pay maximum attention to its environment, namely Steem blockchain. Dngo dedicates itself to become blockchain friendly in its all projects.

How does it work?

Dngo's existence on Steem blockchain is dependant on the projects that it creates. Dngo's business logic follows the *Fair Share Script* in three steps by:

- 1) designing projects that will provide freely accessible material to any user;
- 2) incentivising people to contribute to these projects by rewarding them with Steem Power and Steem Dollars; and,
- 3) using the majority of the accumulated curation rewards to make charitable donations. As well as creating a Community Fund through the upvotes function to serve the same purpose.

Utilising this model, the end product of Dngo projects will be considered common goods and will be freely accessible. People who contribute to Dngo projects will be rewarded for their valuable contributions, and in doing so will provide contributors a sustainable and reliable source of income. Dngo fulfills the task of assisting those who are in need by sharing curation rewards as well as sharing the available funds in the community fund with charitable organisations. Furthermore, collaborating and working together for social change will have a positive effect on the motivation and relationships between members.

DNGO Books

Dngo books is Dngo's first project that is specifically aimed to incentivise people to collectively create multilingual audiobook archives – mainly to serve people with a visual impairment. By following the Fair Share Script process the results expected with Dngo Books projects are:

- 1) the creation of a multilingual and collectively produced audiobook archive that is publicly accessible;
- 2) the creation of a source of sustainable income to Steemit.com users, which will diversify and enrich their user experience on the platform, and;
- 3) assisting people in need by using the Community Fund account and curation rewards.

Due to the nature of copyright law, Dngo Books' users must adhere to these laws and only make audiobook versions of books that are currently available in the public domain. This does not limit the user as at this point in time there are over 16 million freely accessible public domain books available through Project Gutenberg, Harvard University's public collections, as well as other public library collections worldwide.

Becoming a Contributor and Receiving Rewards

Becoming a contributor to Dngo Books project is very simple and straightforward. Users who produce audiobooks can receive rewards for their efforts by following the steps below:

1) Individuals are first required to have a steemit.com account. Once users have an account or existing steemit users can join Dngo by simply visiting Dngo.io. By allowing SteemConnect to access the required permissions, this will enable the individual to use their steemit.com account on the Dngo website – Dngo does not require users to share their owner keys as the required permissions are only needed for posting and commenting. With regards to the posting and commenting permissions, Dngo will be able to post individual contributions on Steem blockchain so that the users can be rewarded for their contributions.

2) Registered users can start making audiobooks by searching through the books listed on the Dngo database. Dngo uses archive.org's free eBook database to create this list. By having a listing of the public domain books on Dngo, it creates a better user experience as well as preventing potential copyright abuses.

3) The user-friendly interface guides users to contribute to Dngo Books with ease. Once the user has created their audiobook file they simply need to click on 'contribute' and upload the file.

4) All contributions will be reviewed by Dngo Books moderators. The moderators are responsible for checking the quality and originality to ensure the high standards of Dngo Books are adhered to. Only then will the approved contributions be posted on Steem Blockchain. This directly relates to one of Dngo's values - Environmentalism - that if the contribution does not meet the Dngo standards then it will not be posted.

Furthermore, this serves as second layer of copyright protection. If the moderators detect a copyright infringement, they will reject the contribution. This way Dngo protects both Steemit.com, Dngo.io and the users from having problems with copyright holders.

5) Posting the approved contributions on Steem blockchain allows Dngo and also other steemit.com users to upvote the contributions to evaluate them. Dngo upvotes the contributions depending on the quality. Using the floating upvote weights is a mechanism to incentivise users to produce more high-quality contributions.

A Publicly Accessible Audiobook Archive

With every individual contribution Dngo will get closer to building a collectively produced, blockchain-based multilingual audiobook archive. Dngo plans to make use of this audiobook archive to directly benefit those who need it the most. As audiobooks are excellent assets in a general sense, they are, however, an incredible and much-needed asset for those with a visual impairment. It is because of this that Dngo aims to transfer the the audiobooks archive to CD format to send it to the NGOs working for people with a visual impairment. In addition to this the Dngo community is free to offer suggestions and recommendations regarding the further usage of the audiobook archive.

Conclusion

Dngo, being the trailblazer of using blockchain technology in an NGO, aims to revolutionise the field of social change by relying on Steem blockchain's advanced features. Dngo Books is the first step towards this goal. Dngo's Fair Share Script enables anyone to produce content that will be freely accessible, while being rewarded for their effort. Besides their valuable contributions, Dngo members are also helping Dngo to accumulate funds that will be used directly for making charitable donations to people who are in need.