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Blockchain x Energy State of the Market

Cleantech Group

Making sense of and uncovering opportunities from innovation in energy, mobility, industry and more

Inputs

Secondary Information



Public Data

Public news, reports, data Global web crawling

Primary Information



Start-up interviews

Business model Traction Partnerships

Proprietary Information



Ecosystem interviews Boards and roundtables CTG events insights

Resources

Proprietary database



27k+ companies 20k+ rounds 21k partnerships 4k M&A events



Experienced Analysts



Market Intelligence

- Innovation: business model and/or technology – creating or capturing new sources of value
- Opportunities and disruption: from business activities all they-way up to and across whole industrial sectors
- Companies: what are innovative companies doing? how do they make money? how do they compete and differentiate themselves?
- Where to watch: for new sources of innovation
- Who: is funding, investing, partnering to grow and commercialize innovative companies





Only 18 months ago...

Processing transactions

Executing smart contracts

Recording transactions and ownership data

Logistics and supply chain

P2P & automated energy trading

























EV charging & mobility

SCANERGY



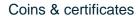








IoT and M2M comm's







OVolt Markets

Land registry







Gem

FACTOM



We now track 160+ companies and \$1.3b+ of funding





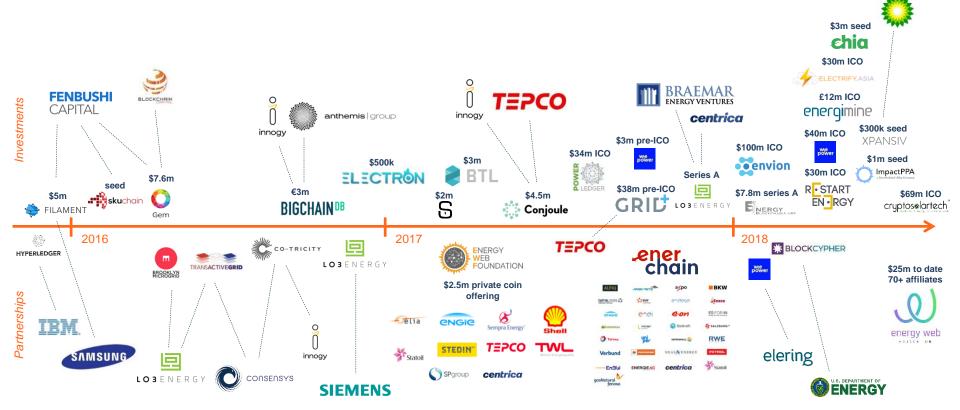






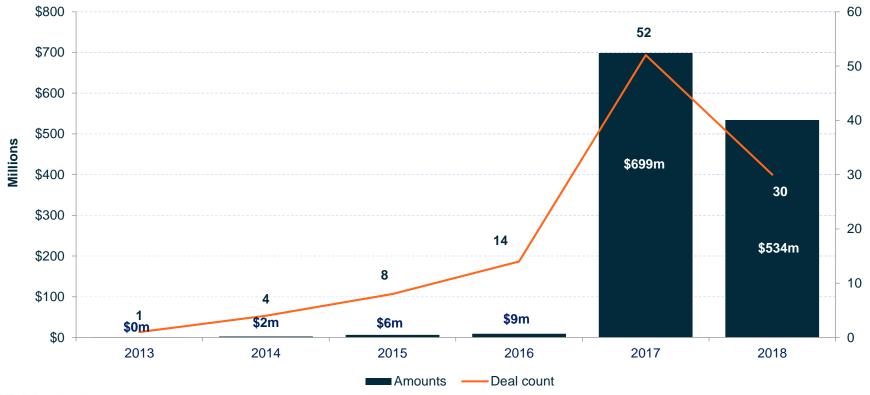


Deal-making peaked in Q1 2018



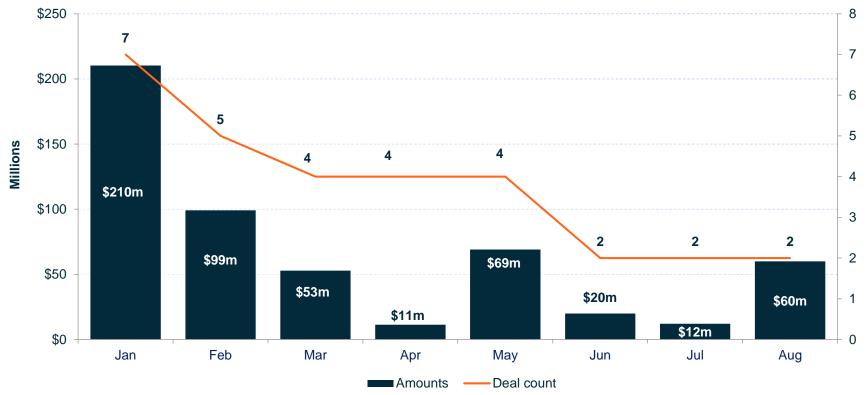


Investment has sky-rocketed in the last 18 months



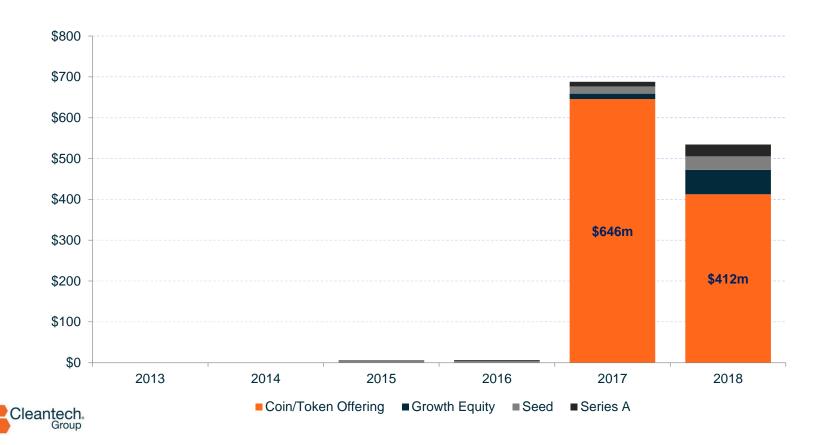


But the 2018 number is hiding a recent slowdown

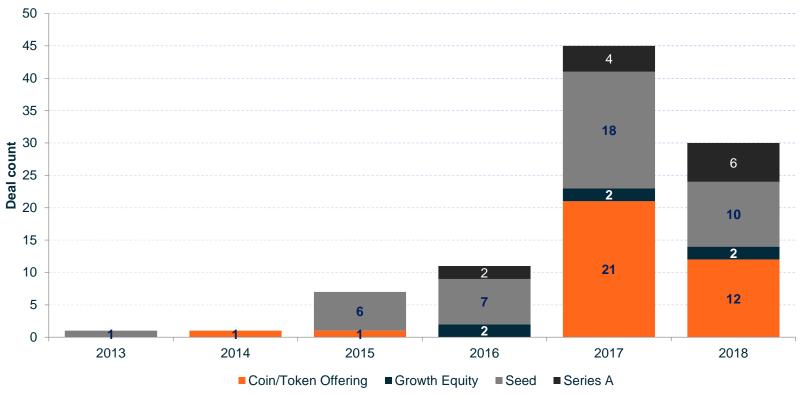




Propelled by a new type of financing



Venture rounds are more numerous than ICOs





Usual suspects are only part of the picture

Traditional Corps/VCs



































Crypto-investors: the emerged part



























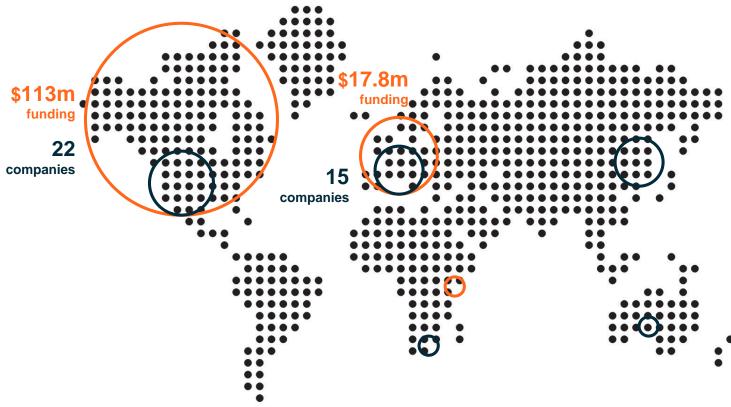






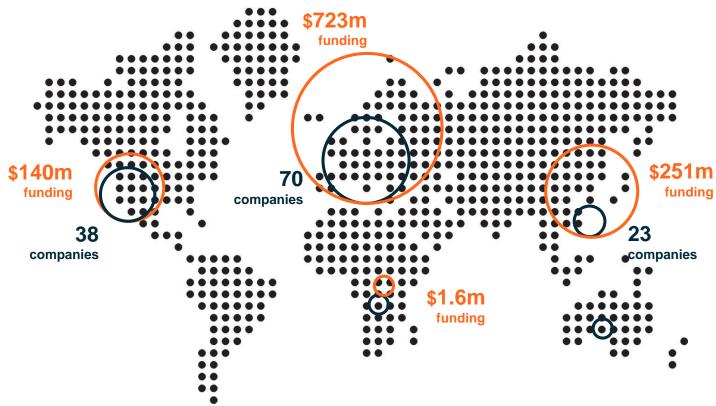


18 months ago...



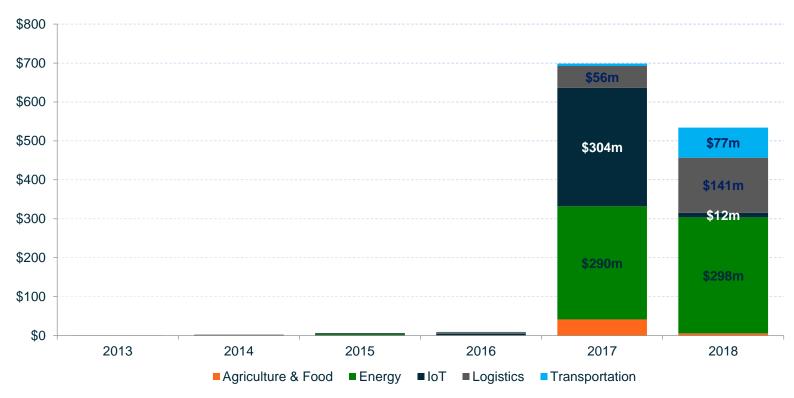


Europe now leading by a lot



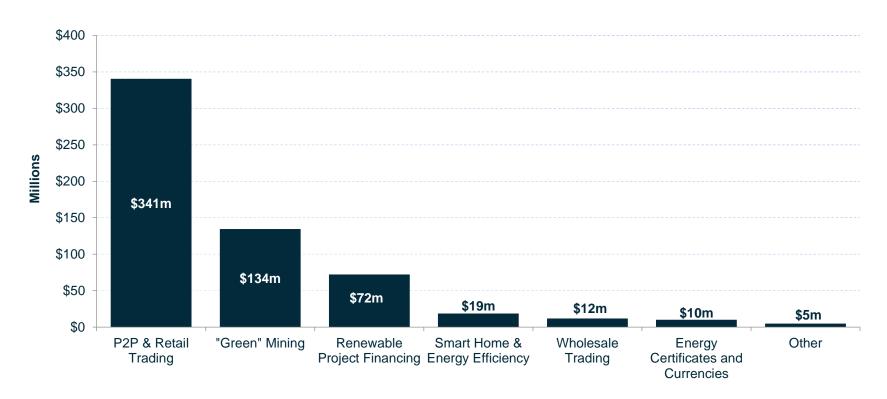


Core energy use cases leading the charge





P2P & Retail leading energy investment







Some of the organizations we talked to





























We asked about scale-up efforts and challenges

What is the current scale of blockchain in energy projects?

How long will it take to get to commercial/production scale?

What aspects of scaling up are hardest?

- Technical, energy market integration
- Technical, blockchain side
- Commercial
- Regulatory
- Capital, VC
- Capital, token
- Talent / recruiting

What are top technical challenges?

What are top commercial challenges?

How fast is the blockchain community solving challenges, compared to other techs?

Has your view on blockchain scalability changed in the past year?

1 = super easy

2 = easy

3 = medium

4 = hard

5 = mission impossible



What we learned

Disconnect between funding and commercial maturity

- Most use cases are currently trying to go from PoC to pilot
- Use cases around wholesale trading and digitization of energy data are most commercial
- But P2P is receiving most funding and attention ICO bias

Start-ups, corporates and investors all see different scale-up challenges

- Corporates are the most bullish, pushing companies to think about commerciality, making bets
- Start-ups are focused on technical challenges: scaling public blockchains, governance, energy markets
- Investors are less skeptical than 18 months ago, but still see commercial scale as 1-2 years away

Despite flurry of activity and headlines, progressing at a regular pace

- Most players see blockchain applications evolving at regular innovation pace
- Partnerships with big corporates are deemed the best lever to accelerate scale





2018-19 outlook

What to look for

- 1. The ICO market is rightly cooling down, may be bridged by a VC increase
- 2. The hype around blockchain is subsiding, putting pressure on innovators to demonstrate value creation
- 3. Early-movers maturing and bringing offerings to pre-commercial scale

What to test with companies

- 1. Go to market strategy and competitive advantage vs. existing solutions
- Revenue and business model
- 3. Path to scale

For corporates & govs: impact on your current and/or future scope + value of experiment



Join us in New York to dive into the topic







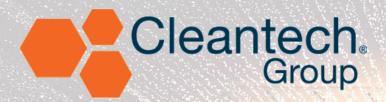






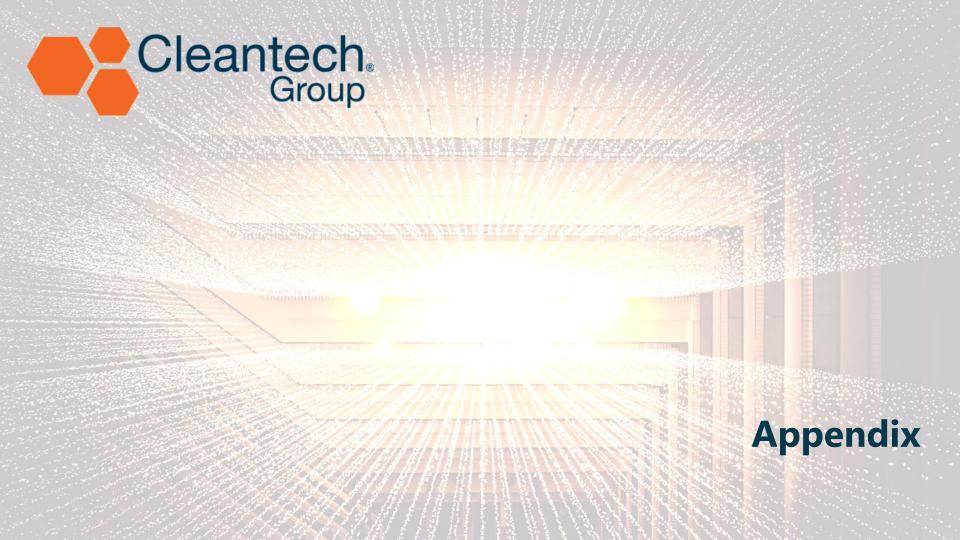






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Thank you.



The scale-up race is on

	Start-ups	Corporates	Investors
Most advanced use case	Energy data marketplace	Wholesale trading	Tokenization of assets
Current scale	Pilot	Proof of Concept	Proof of Concept
Time to commercial scale	Less than a year	Less than a year	1 to 2 years
Scale-up Challenge level	2.48	2.19	2.95
Challenge #1	Technical, blockchain side	Commercial	Regulatory
Challenge #2	Regulatory	Technical, energy side	Technical, blockchain side
Challenge #3	Raising token capital	Technical, blockchain side	Commercial
What can help most?	Partnerships and tech talent	Commercial talent	Partnerships
Improvement pace		Faster, but not by much	Faster, but more complex Close to investment-ready



Business models are not convincing enough yet

"Most businesses are bulls%!t or window-dressing. They don't need blockchain to work."

Utility exec

"A shake-out is coming. Hardcore guys will stick around, night flyers will disappear, then blockchain 2.0 will emerge."

Utility exec

"No one has a business model today. If they have it, it's **not new**." *VC investor*

"Lots of investing. Not much to show for the talk."

Utility exec

"Our level of investment is **justified by the progress** made in the last 12 months."

CVC investor

"In a complex environment, you make multiple bets. They're sensors, feed data. We're learning as we go."

Utility exec

"We are close to max hype in the first cycle, and it won't last long. But the rise of **DR** is unstoppable, and a distributed ledger is a perfect match for it."

Utility exec

"This consortium process has been very positive – we're moving faster than we thought."

CVC investor



Making the solution work vs. selling it

"Putting an energy app on a private blockchain is easy. Scaling it on a **public blockchain** is mission impossible –we're working on it."

Start-up co-founder

"There is a big difference between using private and public blockchains. Not that many people are talented enough to build true decentralized systems."

Start-up co-founder

"Some people are focusing on selling partially ready solutions. We're **heads-down on the tech**." Start-up co-founder

"The hardest part is to scale governance, and to configure privacy"

Start-up co-founder

"There is a big chasm between **press enthusiasm** and interest from utilities, especially in the US." Start-up co-founder

"We're tackling segment of markets that **need it most**: islands, microgrids, munis and coops" Start-up co-founder

"We need to get large **energy players** much more comfortable with **supplying data**." Start-up founder

"Raising token capital is getting harder and harder, when you try to do it by the books."

Start-up

