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Inclusive cash aid for vulnerable people

Why Cash Aid?

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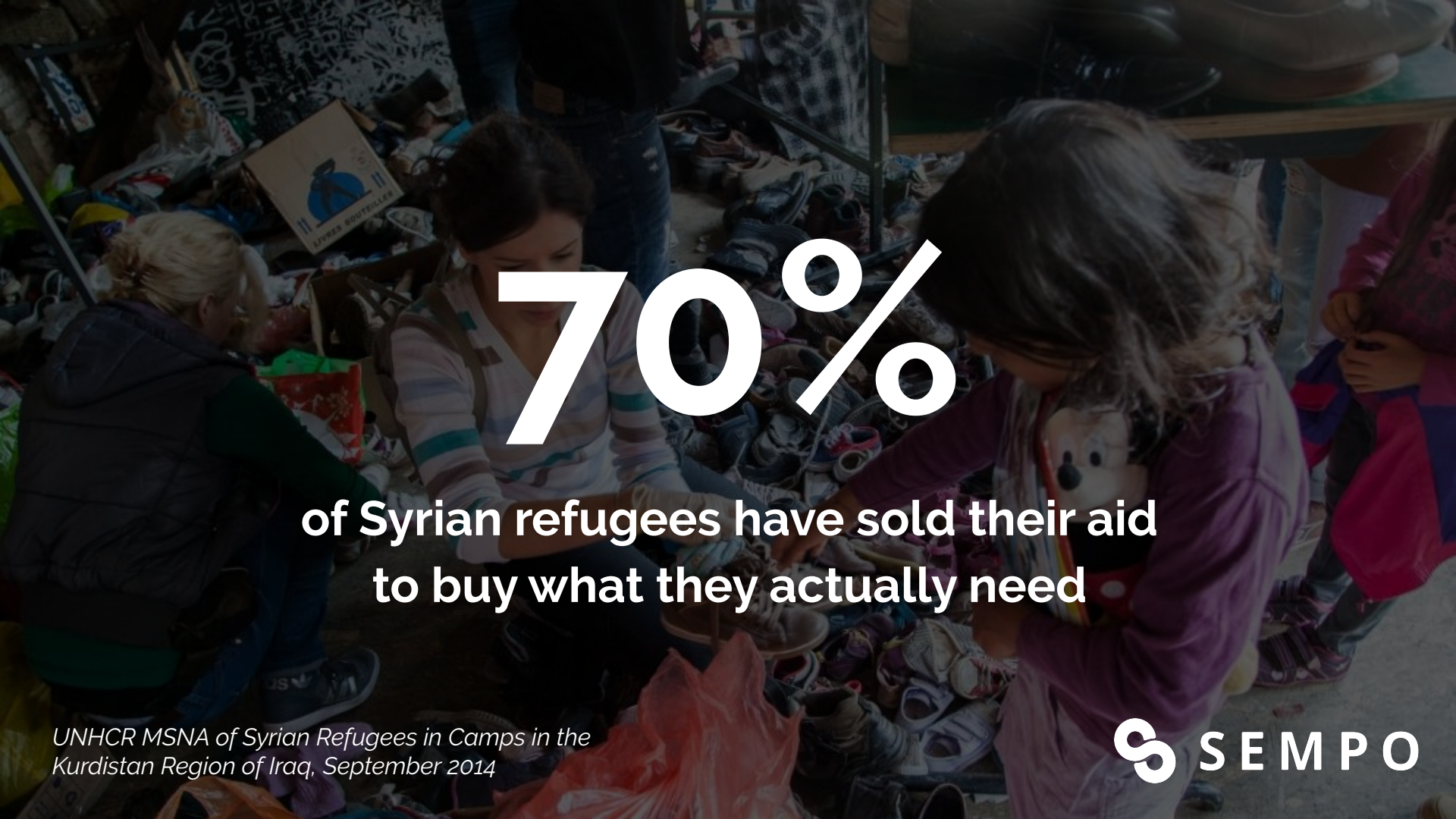

70%

of Syrian refugees have sold their aid to buy what they actually need

UNHCR MSNA of Syrian Refugees in Camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, September 2014

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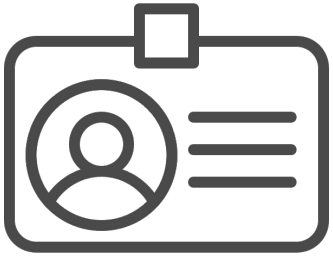
It’s hard to get cash into vulnerable communities

Financial Infrastructure simply doesn’t exist



People lack documentation to open a bank account

10% - 20% currency conversion overhead

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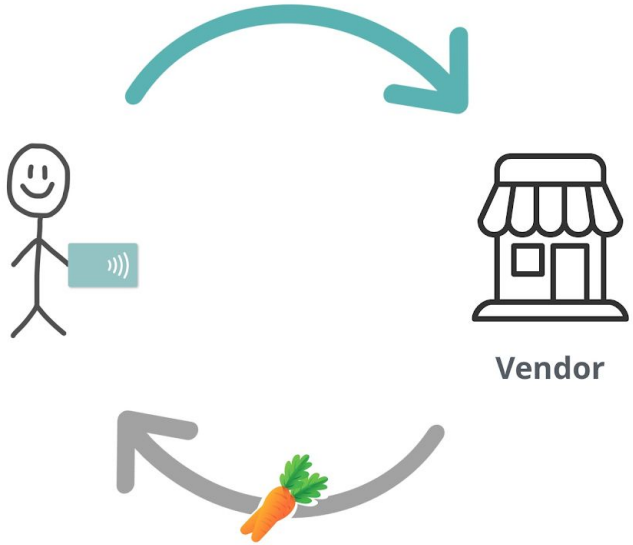
Digital Currency
sent at low cost



Vendor

Exchange Digital
Currency for Cash

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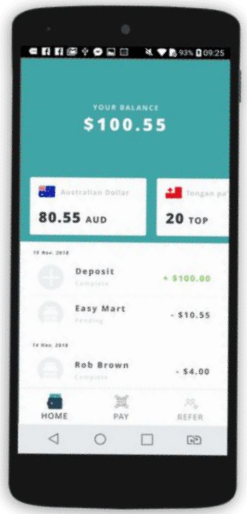
Sempo: Blockchain Based Cash Aid



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In the last 2 years

120,000+

People Empowered in 2020

1 million

Payments a year

96%

Faster Cash Aid Delivery

Iraqi Kurdistan

Lebanon

Greece

Vanuatu

Kenya

Venezuela

Deployment Locations

Sempo Wallet

Image Courtesy of Keith Parsons/Oxfam Aus

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Wait.

But why Blockchain?

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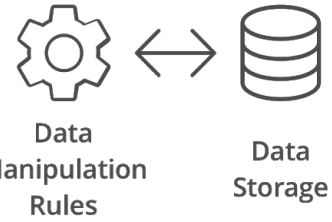

Blockchain is a regular computer

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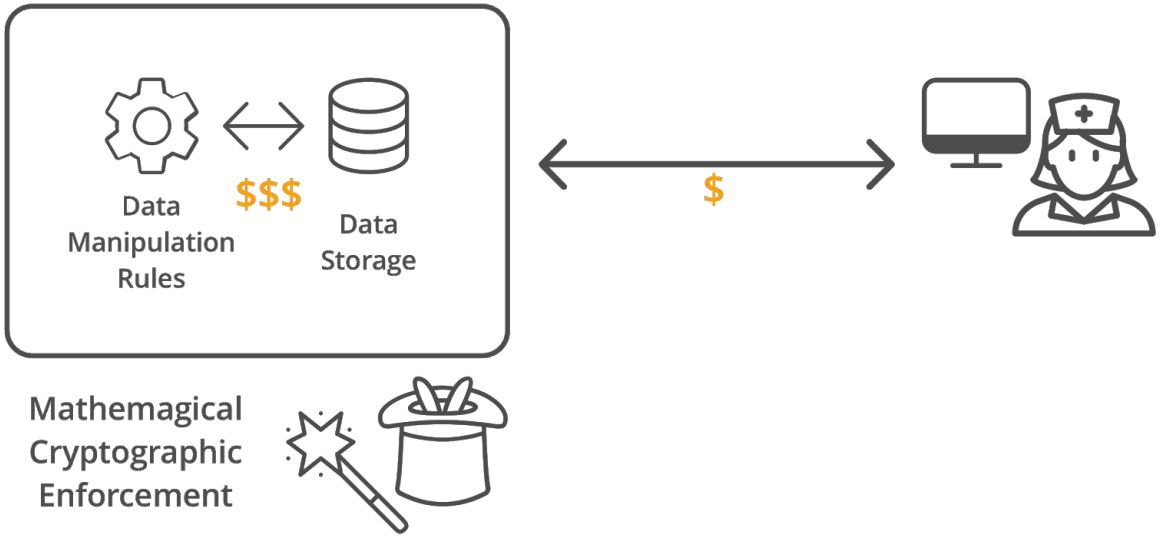

Blockchain is a regular computer
that's really hard to work with

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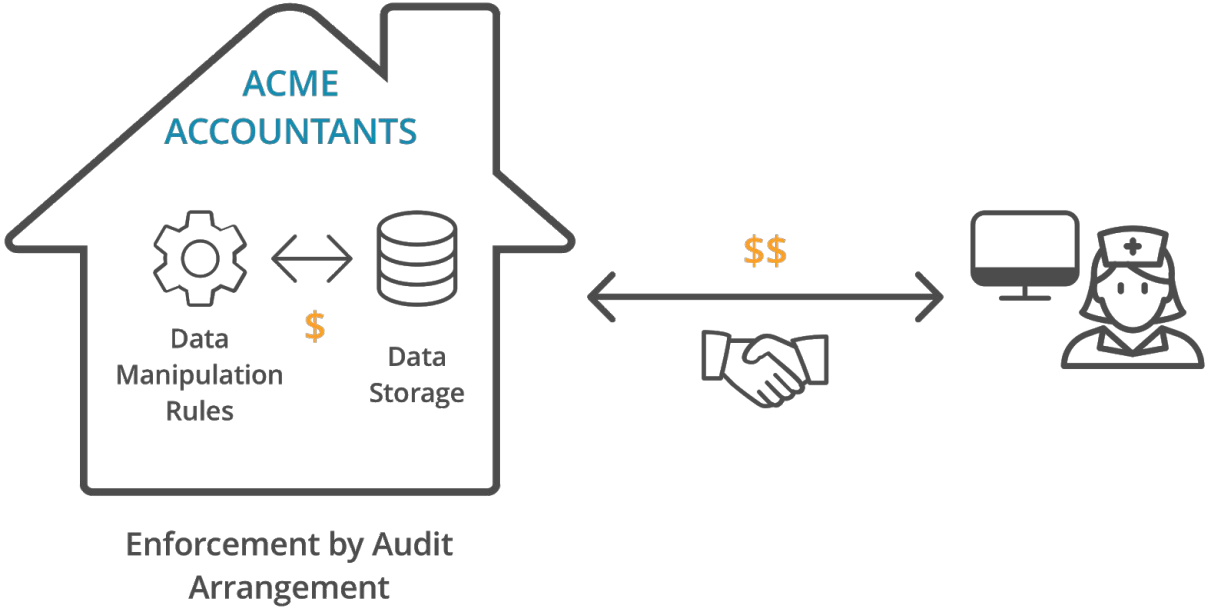

This is the status-quo we should be comparing to.

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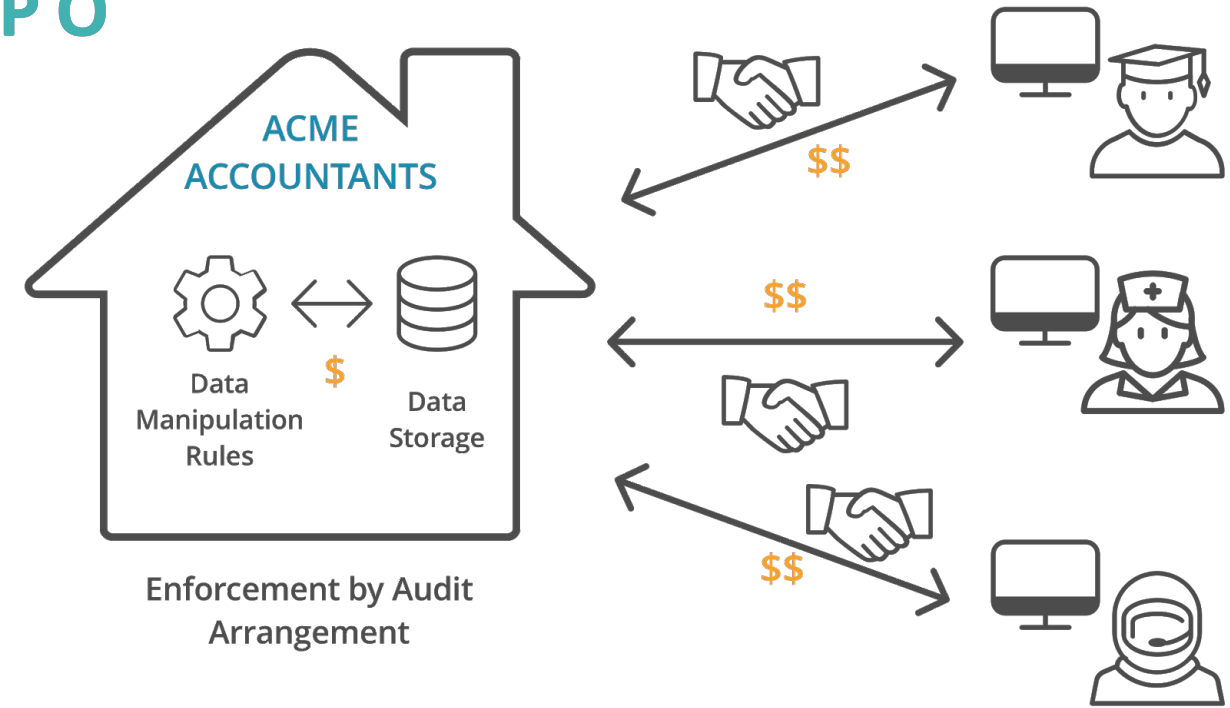

This is a disaster if you have disparate use-cases leveraging a common backbone

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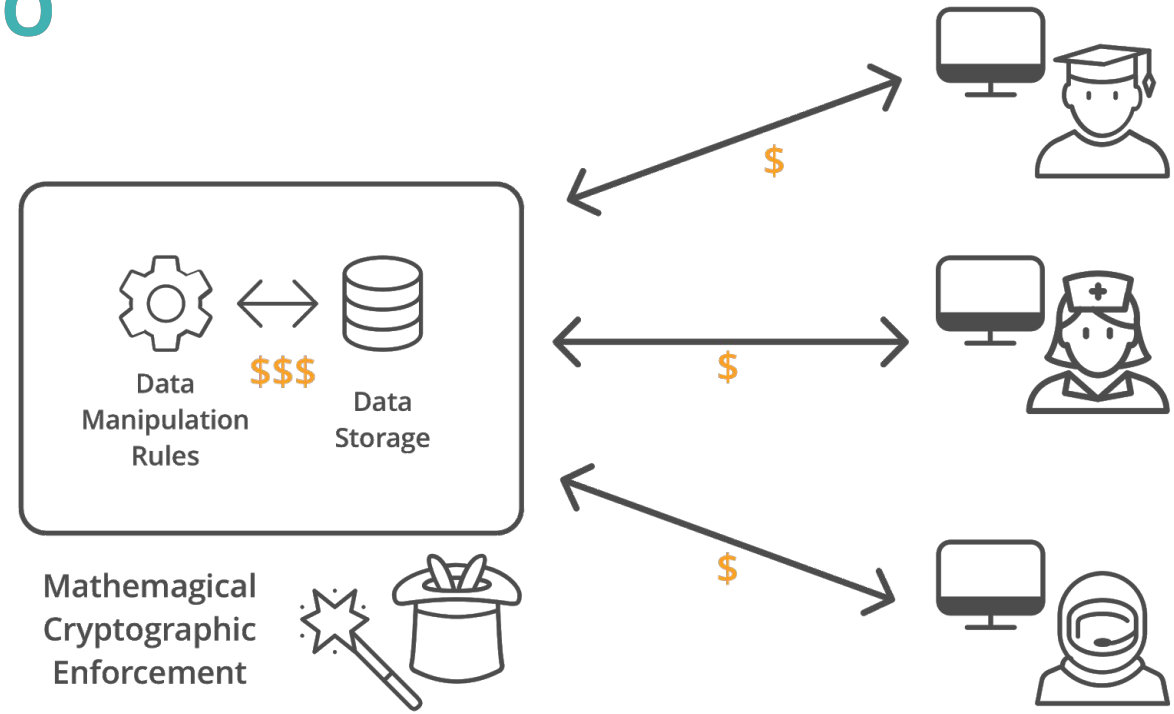

Blockchain makes it possible to integrate a common backbone over disparate use-cases

Because we can integrate into a huge range of
cryptocurrency services,
blockchain allows Sempo to move funds in regions
that we can't access through regular finance networks.
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Lessons Learned

Sempo team in Nairobi Kenya

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HW04481215 HiCo

commbank.com.au/travelmoney

2147

AUTHORISED SIGNATURE

For assistance or to report lost/stolen:
Within Australia: 1300 660 700
International (call charges apply): +61 1300 660 700

BPAY
Biller Code: 113167
Ref: Your 16-digit card number

CommonwealthBank

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A Syrian Refugee using Sempo in Akkar, Lebanon

Localise!

Blockchain should be a tool that helps us **integrate** the unique and contextualised ways that we all interact.

Blockchain should not be a mould that enforces homogeneity.

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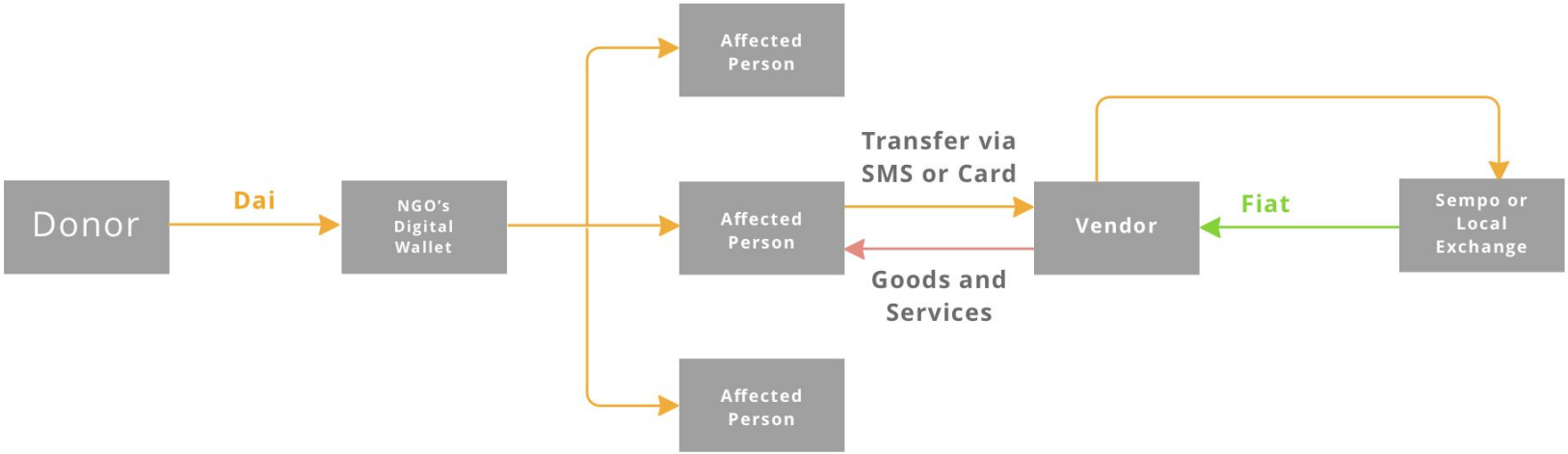
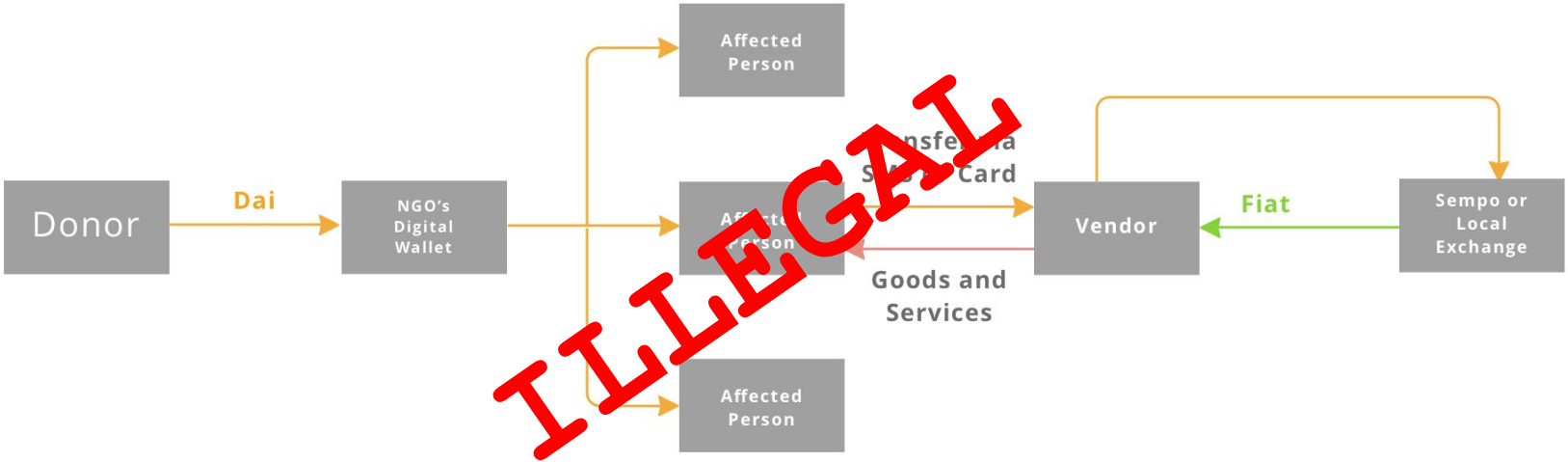
Image Courtesy of Keith Parsons/Oxfam Aus

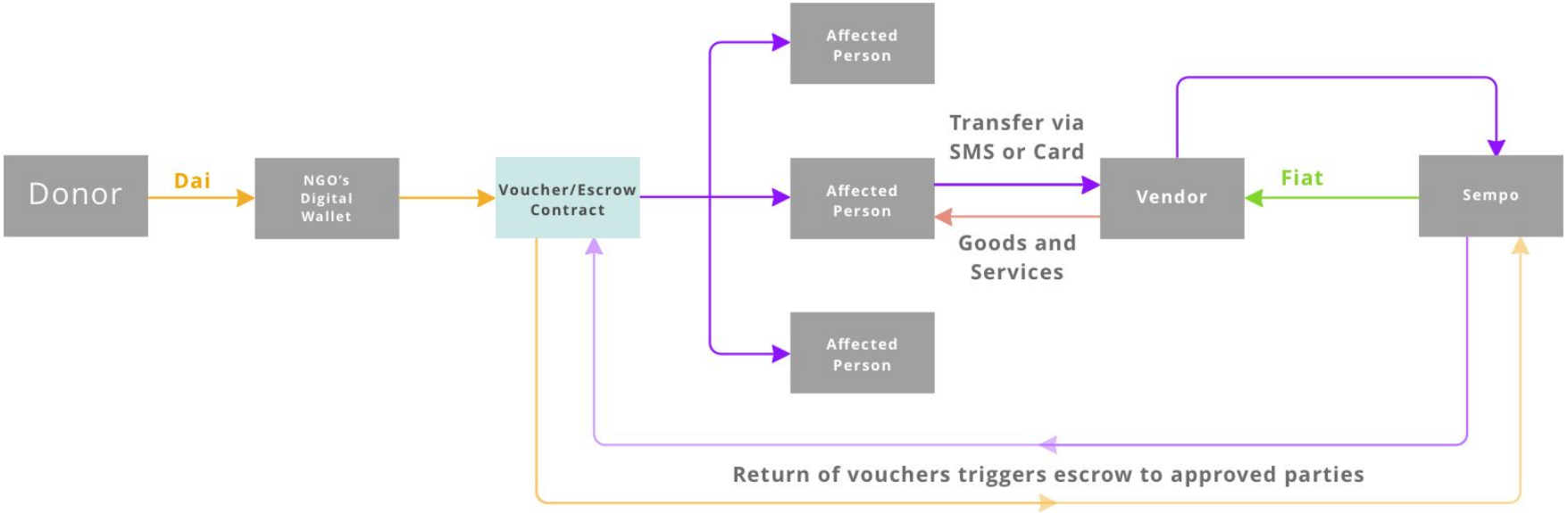
Stablecoin Distribution



Stablecoin Distribution



Escrowed Stablecoins: Crypto-Collateralized Vouchers



Pay attention to Regulation

If you ignore regulation,
it can be a massive hinderance.

If you pay attention to what the intent of the regulation is,
you can leverage it to your advantage.

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Image Courtesy of Keith Parsons/Oxfam Aus

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