

DAN BARUKA

Blockchain Protocol Engineer · Cosmos SDK, Go, IBC, CosmWasm

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CTO & Co-founder, Safrochain

LIVE

SAFROCHAIN-1

100K+

WALLETS

MILLIONS

OF TRANSACTIONS

61

ACTIVE VALIDATORS

262

CHAINS (ZUNIA)

01 SUMMARY

Blockchain engineer with 7 years in software development and 5 years in blockchain, including the design, launch and ongoing maintenance of a production Cosmos SDK Layer 1. As CTO and co-founder of Safrochain, I built the chain, its custom modules, its genesis and validator coordination, its indexer, explorer and multisig tooling, and I ship the core upgrades that keep it running. I also lead Zunia, a self-custody multi-chain Cosmos wallet covering 262 chains, and serve as a Developer Advocate at Intersect for the Cardano ecosystem. I work best in small, senior, remote teams that own a chain end to end.

02 CORE EXPERTISE

Chain engineering

- Cosmos SDK v0.47 and v0.50 (app wiring, keepers, msg servers, ante handlers, params, upgrades)
- CometBFT consensus, genesis design, gentx coordination, validator operations
- IBC: ICS-20 transfers, channels and relayer operations
- CosmWasm (Rust) contracts and wasmbindings, Token Factory denoms
- protobuf and buf, gRPC and REST, interchaintest end-to-end suites
- Chain data: Callisto indexer, PostgreSQL, block explorers

Languages and tooling

- Go (primary), Rust, TypeScript, Dart and Flutter, Haskell (Plutus), Python
- CosmJS and InterchainJS, Keplr and Leap, WalletConnect v2, Ledger and Keystone
- Legacy Amino multisig, ADR-036 wallet auth, SignDoc verification
- Docker, GitHub Actions, goreleaser, Linux servers, AWS, Kubernetes
- React and Next.js, Node.js, NestJS

03 EXPERIENCE

CTO & Co-founder, Safrochain

2025 – present · Remote

Community-first Cosmos SDK Layer 1 built for African and global builders. Native token SAF, chain ID safrochain-1, mainnet live since June 2026, Apache 2.0.

- Architected and launched Safrochain from the Juno codebase to a live mainnet: Cosmos SDK v0.50, CometBFT, IBC, CosmWasm, governance, staking and oracle integration. `Go`, `Cosmos SDK`, `CometBFT`, `IBC`, `CosmWasm`
- Run the live network day to day (61 active validators, upgrades, ecosystem), now serving 100,000+ wallets and millions of transactions. `validator ops`, `monitoring`
- Designed and shipped custom application modules: Likelemba (rotating savings), XPoints (on-chain points), USAF Faucet, plus Osmosis Token Factory and Gaia GlobalFee integration and CosmWasm bindings. `x/ modules`, `keepers`, `protobuf`, `wasmbindings`
- Own the release process: coordinated genesis and gentx submissions for mainnet launch, onboard and support validators, and plan and execute on-chain software upgrades of the core node. `genesis`, `upgrades`, `goreleaser`
- Built the production indexing stack: Callisto (Go) syncing chain state into PostgreSQL, with a NestJS REST API serving explorers and apps. `Go`, `PostgreSQL`, `NestJS`
- Built SafroExplorer, the network block explorer (blocks, transactions, validators, governance, CosmWasm contracts), and maintain a `ping.pub` deployment. `Next.js`, `TypeScript`, `RPC`, `gRPC`
- Built SMultisig, a non-custodial K-of-N threshold multisig for teams: Legacy Amino multisig pubkeys, ADR-036 wallet sign-in, canonical SignDoc verification before storage or broadcast, role-based access and realtime signer sync. `Cosmos SDK multisig`, `Amino`, `Next.js`
- Built WinSaf, a provably fair on-chain lottery inside Telegram: open-source CosmWasm contracts, beacon-backed draws, MPC 2-of-3 wallets and on-chain verification of every round. `CosmWasm`, `Rust`, `Telegram`
- Shipped ecosystem dApps and SDKs: Safrimba (`safrimba.safrochain.com`), decentralized savings circles that bring Likelemba (ROSCA) on-chain with SAF or USDC payouts, and SAFHANDLE (name and phone number resolution to addresses, with Dart and TypeScript SDKs). `Rust`, `CosmWasm`, `Dart`, `TypeScript`
- Maintain the ecosystem registries, docs and GitHub organization (25 repositories, external PR review, CI, security policy), and the chain listings in `cosmos/chain-registry`, `keplr-chain-registry` and Mintscan. Led the SAF listings on Coinstore (SAFUSDT) and CoinGecko.

Founder & Lead Engineer, Zunia Lab

2025 – present · Remote

Self-custody multi-chain wallet for the Cosmos ecosystem. Browser extension and mobile app on the same keys, IBC-native, Apache 2.0, 1.0 release candidate.

- Lead a team of four developers and one community manager; own architecture, security model and release process. [TypeScript](#), [Rust](#), [Dart](#)
- Shipped the Chrome extension (Manifest V3) with plain-language transaction decoding before signing, per-site permissions, Amino and Direct signing, and runtime chain suggestion. [TypeScript](#), [CosmJS](#), [InterchainJS](#)
- Built the Flutter mobile wallet with biometric unlock, QR air-gapped approval of desktop transactions and WalletConnect v2 for dApp sessions. [Flutter](#), [Dart](#), [WalletConnect](#)
- Designed the Zunia chain registry: 262 chains (218 Cosmos, 43 EVM, 1 Solana) read at runtime, so new chains need no app release.
- Implemented one-step IBC transfers with channel, route and fees resolved before signing; median end-to-end transfer of 4.2 s measured from Cosmos Hub to Safrochain. [IBC](#), [ICS-20](#)
- Integrated Ledger (Nano S Plus, Nano X, Stax) and Keystone 3 hardware signing, BIP39 and BIP44 derivation, AES-256 storage in the OS keystore, zero server-side key material.
- Published developer SDKs (web, React, Flutter), a standard Cosmos wallet interface for drop-in dApp support, a live IBC map ([ibcmap.zunialab.com](#)) and a security disclosure policy.

Co-founder, [Dyma](#)

2024 - present · Remote

Task-to-earn application for the Cosmos ecosystem with an on-chain reputation system.

- Designed the reputation layer as a portable, verifiable signal usable by other Cosmos projects, with IBC multi-hop routing and signed, timestamped proofs consumable through an SDK.
- Designed DYMA liquidity on Osmosis (weighted pool configuration, Token Factory denom registration).

Developer Advocate, Cohort 2, [Intersect \(Cardano\)](#)

2025 - 2026 · Remote

Selected for Cohort 2 of the Intersect Developer Advocate Program, run by the Open Source Office.

- Co-lead the Developer Experience Working Group (weekly sessions, a 12-week onboarding roadmap, a target of 15 to 30 new developers with working Cardano environments) and act as the focal point for developers in East and Central Africa.

Community Maintainer, [Intersect Maintainer Retainer Program](#)

2025 - present · Remote

- Funded maintainer and top contributor (150+ commits) of [IntersectMBO/developer-experience](#): backlog triage, release support, documentation and governance compliance under the Open Source Committee.

Co-founder & Project Manager, [Uptodate Developers](#)

2019 - present · Goma, DR Congo, and remote

Software studio and developer community.

- Frontend developer on Adaex, a decentralized exchange on Cardano (React, Node.js API integration, 2023 to 2025).
- Project manager on Ekival, a P2P crypto application (AWS and Linux infrastructure, 2021 to 2022), and on ProWorkspace, a CRM platform (2023 to 2024).

04 SELECTED PROJECTS AND OPEN SOURCE

Safrochain [safrochain.com](#)

SMultisig [smultisig.safrochain.com](#)

WinSaf [winsaf.xyz](#)

SAFHANDLE [github.com/Safrochain-Org/safhandle-contract](#)

Zunia Wallet [zunialab.com](#)

SafroExplorer [explorer.safrochain.com](#)

Safrimba [safrimba.safrochain.com](#)

COTS [github.com/danbaruka/COTS](#)

Open-source contributions: [cosmos/chain-registry](#), [chainapsis/keplr-chain-registry](#), [CosmosLabsKR/chainlist](#), [ping-pub/mainnet](#), [IntersectMBO/developer-experience](#), [IntersectMBO/evolution-sdk](#), [IntersectMBO/cardano-ledger](#), [cardano-foundation/cardano-token-registry](#).

05 COMMUNITY AND ECOSYSTEM

Developer Advocate, [Intersect \(Cardano\)](#) · 2025–2026
Mentor and speaker, [Cardano Africa Tech Summit](#) · 2026
Guest speaker, [Cardano Summit masterclass](#) · 2023

Maintainer, [IntersectMBO/developer-experience](#) · 2025
Host, [Cardano Summit community event](#) · 2024
Co-founder, [Dev Community](#) · 2019–

06 EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Licence (five-year programme, Bac+5) in Computer Science and Management, Institut Supérieur de l'Informatique et de Gestion (ISIG), Goma, DR Congo, 2020.
- Graduat (three-year degree) in Computer Science and Management, ISIG, Goma, DR Congo, 2018.
- Cardano Blockchain Certified Associate (CBCA), Cardano Foundation, 2022.

07 LANGUAGES

- French: Native
- Swahili: Native
- English: Professional working proficiency