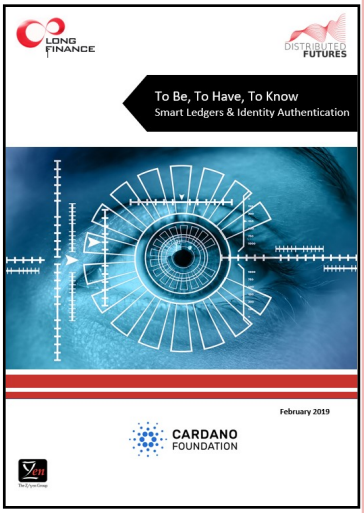
To Be, To Have, To Know

Smart Ledgers & Identity Authentication

The twenty-first century holds both exciting new horizons and practical challenges as we journey through the digital era of human development.

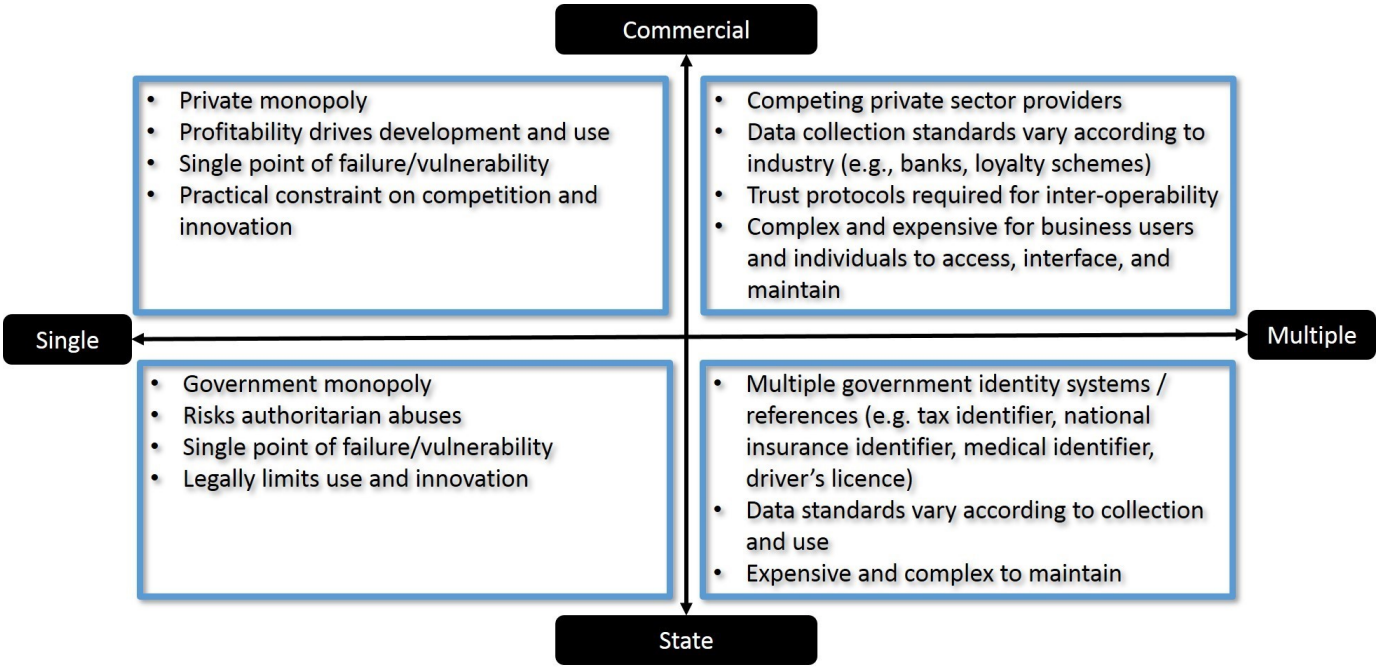
Overview



The research provides alternative models for practical identity management and authentication, and suggests considerations for policy makers, regulators, businesses, and individuals, both for the present and looking forward.

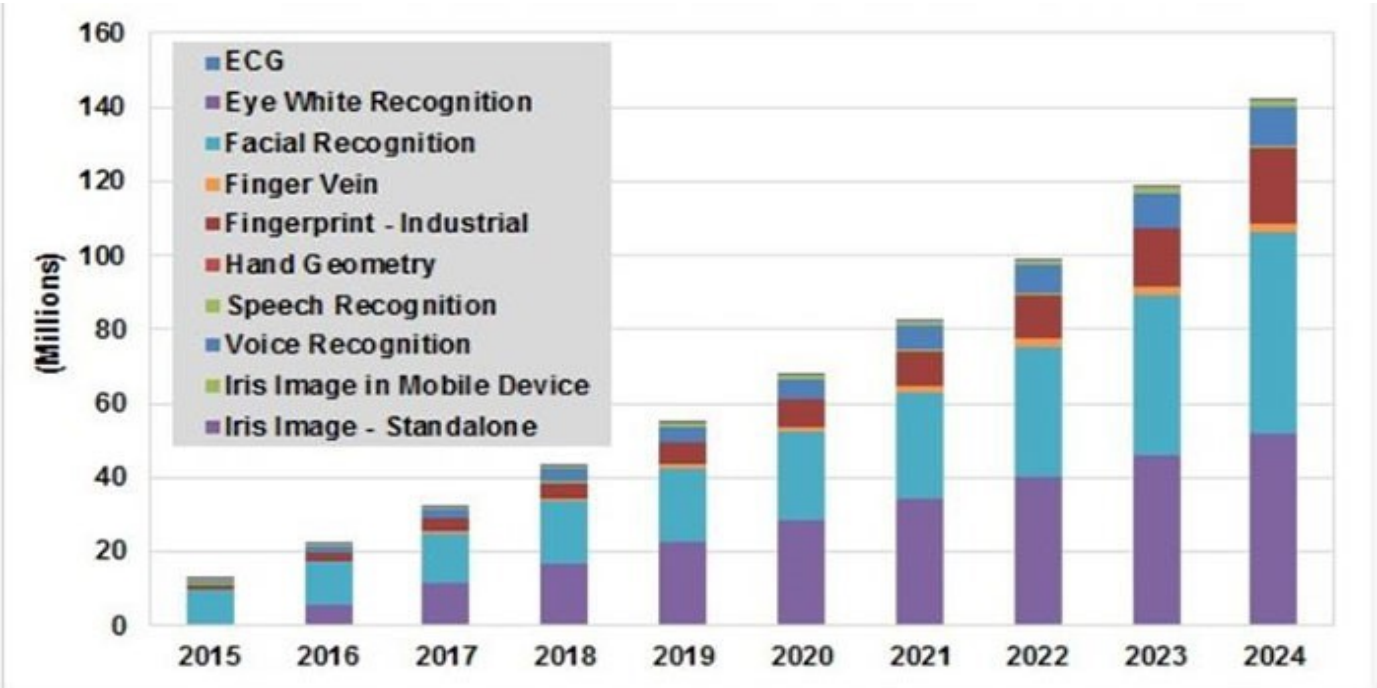
The report highlights the increasing importance of identity stewardship for government and private sector digital engagement, and shows how identity management and authentication solutions can exploit the emerging Smart Ledger Technologies. It also explores the social, economic, and political challenges of standardising and rationalising digital identification methods nationally and globally, by evaluating alternative models for managing digital identity and balancing the needs of nation states, businesses, policy makers, regulators, and individuals.

Report Extracts



Alternatives for implementing identity management and authentication systems

Report Extracts



Enterprise biometrics devices and licences, World Markets: 2015 – 2024 (source *Tractica*)

Conclusions

The report briefly considered identity management and authentication for individuals and entities to improve digital interactions with governments, the private sector, and each other. It demonstrates the challenges that practical implementations of identification authentication and management systems for individuals pose. The considerations have been assessed against the ideal of proving three dimensions of identity in terms of:

- **What you are** (the inherence factor)
- **What you have** (the possession factor)
- **What you know** (the knowledge factor).

The first conclusion must be that there is no 'silver bullet' that provides the ideal of a 100% secure, convenient and cost-effective implementation identity management and authentication. Progress has been made, but the range of systems being used by governments and private sectors is massively diverse and largely incompatible with ambitions for wider interoperability. Progress has also been made on standards, on methods, on technologies, on cooperative governance, but no solution has the critical mass that will deliver a globally secure, usable, cheap solution in the near term.

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