

TRANSCRIPT Episode 19 – Charly Greaux

Jonathan Bench: Today I'm joined by Charly Greaux, the founder of Glabtech and SBIX, based in St. Bartholomew in the French Caribbean. A 40-year coder and former technology teacher, he built sovereign internet infrastructure before pivoting to blockchain compliance.

SBIX Certify provides eIDAS-qualified timestamping and blockchain anchoring for regulated finance. We'll get more into the details of these technical terms in our discussion.

Charly, welcome to *Lawbalization*.

Charly Greaux: Thank you, Jonathan. Great to be here.

Jonathan: You have such an interesting background. We were talking before we started recording. Can you tell us a little bit about where you came from personally, and then professionally, how you arrived where you are now?

Charly: Yes, thank you. I'm Charly Greaux, founder of Glabtech and SBIX, as you say, and I'm based in Saint-Barthélemy. It's a very small French island in the Caribbean.

It's also European, not only French, because we now have more independence. We are a European overseas territory.

I've been coding since I was very young. I started at age 10 on an Amstrad computer. I was also a technology teacher for 10 years.

Then I founded Glabtech in 2011. At first, it was a solar company to build solar energy for my island. I was the first company doing solar on the island.

Then I decided to pivot to digital infrastructure in 2019. I obtained my autonomous system number, ASN 30077, as well as IPv4 and IPv6 address blocks, to build independent infrastructure. It's very rare to be an independent operator.

Today, I'm building SBIX. It's a compliance-grade proof infrastructure for regulated finance.

Jonathan: Let's stop for a minute and go back to your upbringing. When you grew up, there were only about 2,000 people on the island, and now there are closer to 10,000. One of the most interesting things you mentioned earlier was the water supply. How do you even get water on an island where you can't drill wells?

Charly: Yes. When I was a kid, nobody knew about St. Barth. The first family that discovered it was the Rockefeller family from the U.S., the big petroleum family.

They developed part of the island and kept it secret for their friends. After the 1990s, the island became known as a beautiful, peaceful French island in the Caribbean, with strong security.

At the beginning, we didn't have water. Everyone had their own cistern to collect rainwater. My cistern is an 80-cubic-meter water tank. It's huge.

Now it's one of the favorite islands for jet-set and wealthy people. At Christmas and New Year, many tech leaders come—Jeff Bezos, Elon Musk, Bill Gates, Paul Allen when he was alive.

When I was a kid, nobody knew my island. Now everyone knows it. The change happened very fast.

Jonathan: That's fascinating. Tourism is obviously big, but you're in deep tech. Do you see a correlation between wealthy tech leaders visiting and places like St. Barth becoming more tech-friendly or innovative?

Charly: I'm not sure, but when these people meet on their yachts, it's not only for fun. They also make decisions in a safe, private environment. The island is very secure, with no criminality. They can be totally independent and free here.

Jonathan: Very secure and isolated. How did you get into tech? Did you have to leave the island to get an education?

Charly: Yes, of course. There is no high school on the island. At 15, you must leave. I went to Guadeloupe to study electronics, then Martinique, then computer science, and later to France, to university in Lyon.

Leaving your family at 15 is hard. Coming from an island of 2,000 people and arriving in a big city feels like another world.

Jonathan: That's such a unique experience. Let's fast-forward to SBIX. Blockchain is still very complex for many people. You're talking about compliance with zero data exposure. How does that change audits and regulation?

Charly: Blockchain is misunderstood. I use it only for proof—immutability. Blockchain is not crypto. Crypto is an asset. Blockchain is a ledger.

In SBIX, we don't store data. We store a hash—a fingerprint of the document—on the blockchain so it can never be changed.

Jonathan: That fingerprint idea really resonated with me, especially for cross-border disputes. How do you prove when a document existed?

Charly: Most people say internal logs are enough. But real heads of compliance know they're not. Logs can be changed.

SBIX uses eIDAS-qualified timestamps, cryptographic hashes, and blockchain anchoring. We also provide an evidence pack with open-source verification scripts. Even if SBIX disappears, you can still prove the document existed at that time.

Jonathan: What types of documents are companies most interested in protecting this way?

Charly: Any kind—financial statements, policies, compliance documents. Even writers or artists can timestamp their work. But SBIX is mainly for professionals and legal documents.

The eIDAS timestamp is legally valid in all 27 EU countries.

Jonathan: You built regulation into SBIX from the start. When does regulation slow innovation, and when is it a competitive advantage?

Charly: Regulation slows innovation when it's vague, inconsistent, or retroactive. But when you build for regulation, it's a huge advantage. I'm eIDAS-qualified. My competitors aren't. I win regulated deals.

Compliance is the future, not the bug.

Jonathan: What do people most misunderstand about blockchain in regulated markets?

Charly: Three things. First, they think blockchain equals speculation or scams. Second, they think logs are enough for compliance. Third, they think blockchain exposes data. It doesn't. Only hashes are stored.

Jonathan: You've worked in solar, infrastructure, and blockchain. How did working in a small but complex environment shape your thinking about sovereignty?

Charly: If you don't own your infrastructure, you don't control your destiny. It's true for energy, internet, and compliance. That belief led directly to SBIX.

Jonathan: Is solar infrastructure still growing on the island?

Charly: Yes. Electricity is expensive because fuel is imported. As prices rise, people adopt solar. Mentality changes when cost changes.

Jonathan: Final question. If you weren't doing this, what would you be doing?

Charly: I wouldn't change. At 50, I'm exactly where I want to be. You come full circle. What you love as a kid—that's where you should go.

Jonathan: Don't lose what you love.

Charly: Exactly.

Jonathan: This has been fascinating. Thank you so much for your time.

Charly: Thank you, Jonathan, for inviting me. Sorry for my English, but I did my best.

Jonathan: You did great. My French is much worse.

Charly: I really enjoyed the conversation. Thanks a lot.

Jonathan: Thanks.