

— THE OPERATING SYSTEM FOR GLOBAL PAYMENTS

The Settla Operating System

The identity, routing, and interoperability layer for global payments. Not an application — **protocol infrastructure**: the layer money runs on.

✓ The One Rule · never touches funds

v1 · 2026

— THE THESIS

The internet needed three things. Payments still lack all three.

Names (DNS), routing (TCP/IP, BGP), and neutral interconnection (peering) made the internet universal. Money has none at global scale — so Settla supplies the missing three layers.

Layer 1

Identity

= DNS for money

Resolve who someone is and how they can be paid, from any identifier.

Layer 2

Routing

= best-execution

Compute the route that delivers the most landed value across every rail.

Layer 3

Interoperability

= neutral peering

Let any network reach any other by name, via licensed movers.

— THE ONE RULE · CONSTITUTIONAL · INVIOABLE

Settla never holds, moves, settles, or converts customer funds — and never stores private keys.

It **resolves · routes · orchestrates · observes**, and delegates execution to licensed institutions. Not a policy — the **architecture and the business model**. It keeps Settla outside the money-transmitter perimeter: infrastructure that regulated institutions sit behind, not compete with.

— THE PROBLEM, PRECISELY

Four layer-shaped gaps.

- 01 **Addressing.** Money goes to NUBANs, IBANs, 0x-wallets, phone accounts. One wrong digit is an irreversible loss. No universal, human-first address for value.
- 02 **Best execution.** The FX spread dwarfs the fee. "Zero fee" routinely lands the recipient **less**. No price transparency, no best-execution layer.
- 03 **Integration.** Each new market means another PSP, rail, and compliance stack — N integrations for N corridors.
- 04 **Interoperability.** OPay can't pay M-Pesa; a US bank can't pay a Nigerian wallet by name. The networks are walled gardens.

— THE NEUTRAL LAYER

The thin layer between identity and settlement.

Settla sits where a name is pointed at the best carrier — and never touches the money itself. Crypto is signed by the user's own wallet; fiat, FX and bills are executed by licensed movers.

Resolve

Who, and how to pay them

Any identifier → identity + the endpoints they disclose, with consent-gated, minimal disclosure.

Route

The best way to move it

Rank every rail by landed value — FX, fees, speed, reliability — not the sticker fee.

Orchestrate

A licensed mover carries it

Assemble an instruction; the mover executes under the user's authorization. Settla observes and reconciles.

One operating system, seven planes.

Twenty-five named subsystems, each with a real home in a protocol-grade codebase. A decomposition of what exists — not a wish-list.

P1

Resolution

Resolver Engine Identity Graph
Capability Registry Directory

P2

Routing

Routing Engine FX Intelligence
Route Policies

P3

Interop & Execution

Corridor Engine Mover Registry
Partner Registry Transfer Orch.

P4

Intelligence

Settlement Obs. Treasury Intel
Analytics

P5

Developer

Dev Platform SDKs Docs
Webhooks Notifications Sandbox

P6

Trust

Compliance Center Security Center

P7

Operations

Admin Console Enterprise Console Partner Portal Monitoring Terraform · Helm · K8s · ArgoCD

— THE REQUEST LIFECYCLE

@amina, 100 USDC → NGN.

01

Resolver

@amina → identity +
disclosed NGN endpoint.
never a balance

02

Routing

rank rails by landed value,
FX-aware.
best route

03

Corridor

pick a licensed mover for
(rail, jurisdiction).
a row, not code

04

Transfer

assemble an instruction —
a record.
tin_9f3a...

05

Mover

executes under
authorization.
← funds move here

06

Observe

reconcile observed-vs-
instructed; emit events.
Settla-Signature

Settla produced a resolved recipient, a best route, and a settled instruction — and **never held the money**. The identity graph learned one more edge; the treasury proved one more rev-share.

— WHY IT WINS

Six moats that compound with coverage, not code.

01

Identity-graph network effect

Value payable-by-name grows as identities × endpoints × movers. A competitor starts at zero edges.

02

Interop compounds with coverage

A corridor is a mover row + an FX rate. Each partner multiplies payable pairs; the marginal corridor is nearly free.

03

Best-execution price edge

Ranking by landed value structurally delivers recipients more — the "best execution" mandate, for payments.

04

Neutrality is strategic

Settla is the layer PSPs and banks sit behind, never a competitor. Neutral layers become infrastructure.

05

The One Rule = regulatory moat

Never touching funds avoids transmitter capital + licensing — faster and cheaper in every jurisdiction at once.

06

Developer distribution

One integration replaces N. Users carry portable @handles between apps; movers get routed demand.

— WHY IT'S HARD TO REPLACE

The switching cost is the graph, not the API.

- Re-pointing an API is easy; re-accumulating an **identity graph, mover coverage, and reconciled trust history** is not.
- **Two-sided lock-in.** Users hold portable @handles; movers receive routed demand. Neither side is cheaply reproduced.
- The **reconciliation ledger is a trust asset** — observed-vs-instructed history accrues only with time and volume.
- **Standards gravity.** As SDKs, webhooks and the directory become the default way apps address value, Settla becomes the protocol — and protocols are replaced by protocols, not products.

— WHO BUILDS ON IT

Two sides, one neutral layer between them.

Developers · SaaS

One API, every rail, every name

Replace N PSP integrations; pay anyone by handle; best-landed-value by default. No custody risk — you don't become a money transmitter to use Settla.

PSPs · banks · fintechs

Become a mover, get routed demand

Register your rails; Settla sends the instructions you're best placed to execute. New corridors are a capability, not an integration. You remain the regulated entity.

Enterprises

Treasury-grade routing

Best-execution routing, reconciliation and observability across every corridor, from one console.

Governments · institutions

A neutral addressing layer

Non-custodial rails for domestic and cross-border programs, with licensed local execution.

— THE HONEST MATURITY LINE

Engineering is ahead of go-live.

● LIVE · REAL MONEY

On-chain USDC on mainnet, signed by the user's own wallet — non-custodial and moving real value today.

● ROUTED

Every fiat corridor (NG / KE / GH / US / EU) **resolves → routes → instructs** end-to-end with a real tin_ — gated only on a mover executing under live credentials.

● LIVE · IN PROD

Treasury reconciliation, the identity/registry graph, four access channels (**web · PWA · USSD · SMS**), the developer dashboard + docs, the SDKs, and the infra/observability stack.

● NEAR BUILD

Self-serve Mover Marketplace & Partner Portal · live FX feed · CDN + redundancy · certifications as partners require.

— THE PROGRAM TO FULL OS

Dependency-ordered. Each step preserves The One Rule.

01

First live corridor

Yellow Card executing → the routed path becomes real money end-to-end.

02

CDN + redundancy

Edge caching and failover → planet scale for resolution + routing.

03

Mover Marketplace

Self-serve Partner Portal → the coverage flywheel: corridors as data.

04

FX-intelligence feed

Live quotes + treasury analytics → sharper landed value, provable rev-share.

05

SDK + docs to grade

Stripe/Plaid-grade developer surface → distribution through the ecosystem.

06

Certifications

Compliance & security attestations, added exactly when a partner requires them.

— THE OPERATING SYSTEM FOR GLOBAL PAYMENTS

Settla turns a **name** into a
settled payment — across any
rail, on any continent, without
ever touching the money.

✓ The One Rule · resolve · route · orchestrate · observe · delegate

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