



## Newsletter November 2025

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### VOICES



[Daniel Mainda](#) discusses how the [Nairobi International Financial Centre](#) is leveraging its new membership in the [World Alliance](#) to strengthen Kenya's role as a globally connected financial hub.

**NIFC has recently joined the WAIFC network — how do you envision this new membership and collaboration within the Alliance?**

Joining the World Alliance marks an important milestone for NIFC, as we build on establishing Kenya's position as a competitive, globally-connected

financial hub. We see this membership as a platform to exchange knowledge, tap into best practices and collaborate with major IFC's across the world in some of the emerging areas of interest. Areas such as innovation, sustainability and technology have become priority focus areas that provide exciting opportunities for growth, and having a global network of partners to work with is vital.

Partnership with the World Alliance opens the door for joint research, co-created initiatives and capacity building across emerging and established financial centres. Additionally, we view this partnership as a chance to contribute with other African IFCs in providing an African perspective to global financial dialogue, while strengthening NIFC's role as a bridge between regional and international markets.

**What key initiatives or projects is NIFC currently working on that you'd like to share with other financial centers?**

NIFC is currently driving a number of strategic initiatives aimed at expanding Kenya's financial ecosystem and deepening its integration with global markets. We have been actively growing our network of strategic collaborations through the signing of targeted MoUs with other international financial centres, in addition to our recent membership in the World Alliance.

We are also advancing reforms to enhance the ease of doing business in Kenya, strengthen our operating framework and attract high-quality investors. NIFC has been particularly active in the startup and sustainability spaces. In 2025, we secured Kenya's first startup-focused tax incentive, a milestone that will help accelerate innovation and entrepreneurship across the country.

Furthermore, NIFC has begun rolling out strategic projects designed to facilitate investment into high-potential sectors of Kenya's economy, including fintech, sustainability and digital assets. Collectively, these initiatives underscore our commitment to positioning Nairobi as a dynamic and competitive financial hub.

## OPINIONS



# Opinion by Thomas Krantz

WAIFC's Advisor to the  
Managing Director



[Thomas Krantz](#) highlights Türkiye's strategic position bridging Europe and Asia and its evolving approach to environmental and green finance amid climate challenges. Türkiye's carbon-transition efforts include renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable water and waste management projects, supported by both public and private finance.

Key drivers include alignment with EU carbon standards under the [CBAM](#) and strong partnerships with international development banks such as the [World Bank](#), [AIIB](#), and [EBRD](#). Domestic banks are increasingly active in issuing green and blue bonds to fund sustainable projects. Notable initiatives include the Istanbul Resilience Project, power-grid upgrades, and the Karapınar Solar Power Plant, one of Europe's largest. Krantz concludes that Türkiye's achievements offer inspiration for sustainable finance collaboration across global financial centers.

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# Opinion by Joe Moynihan

CEO Jersey Finance



[Joe Moynihan](#) emphasizes that, in an era of global volatility and public scrutiny, reputation has become a strategic asset for international financial centers. Trust, integrity, and consistency are vital to maintaining credibility and confidence among clients, investors, and regulators.

Drawing on the [Edelman Trust Barometer](#), Moynihan notes that financial services are regaining global trust, positioning the sector to drive positive change. He identifies four trends shaping the future of IFCs: sustainable finance, digital transformation, human capital development, and regulatory cooperation. For Jersey, reputation has long been central to its strategy—anchored in governance, expertise, and stability. Moynihan concludes that sustained investment in reputation and collaboration enables IFCs to foster trust, channel capital effectively, and play a constructive role in addressing global challenges.

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## NEWS



### **The World Alliance Strengthens Its Global Presence Through High-Level Engagements Across Asia and Europe**

The [World Alliance of International Financial Centers](#) has strengthened its global presence

through recent engagements across Asia and Europe.

Highlights include discussions on Vietnam's ambition to become a global capital hub at the [Vietnam Future Economy Summit](#) and insights on Poland's evolving financial center during [Warsaw Finance Week](#). At [Hong Kong FinTech Week](#), the World Alliance contributed to a panel on AI, talent, and the future workforce. It also joined [DIFC](#) and [Asia House's webinar on next-generation financial cities](#). These activities underscore the World Alliance's commitment to collaboration, innovation, and the development of interconnected global financial centers.

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## NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS



Future  
Finance  
Poland

### **The European Digital Identity Wallet: A One-Click Future for Financial Onboarding**

[Future Finance Poland](#) is advancing practical innovation through its Digital Identity Specialization, with a strong focus on the [European Digital Identity Wallet](#) (EUDIW).

[Mastercard's](#) Malgorzata Domagala highlights EUDIW as a transformative solution that could make bank onboarding as simple as a one-click login. Under the eIDAS 2.0 framework, the wallet enables seamless account opening across the EU while preserving legal assurance. For financial institutions, it promises cross-border onboarding, compliant KYC, and enhanced trust and privacy. This marks a new standard for digital onboarding across Europe.

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### **Strengthening Hong Kong's Position as a Global Commodity Trading Hub**

The [Financial Services Development Council](#) has released a new report focused on strengthening Hong Kong's role in international commodity trading to enhance economic resilience and global competitiveness.

The [report](#) presents actionable strategies to position Hong Kong as a global commodities hub. Key recommendations include building a

stronger trading ecosystem through physical infrastructure, GBA collaboration, and stakeholder incentives. It also calls for prioritizing key commodities such as precious and base metals while expanding into emerging categories. Further proposals include enhancing connectivity through product cross-listing and exploring a potential “Commodity Connect” with Mainland China.

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### **KIFC Showcases Rwanda’s Rising Role as a Gateway to African Investment**

[KIFC](#) hosted an exclusive event alongside the Insights Forum in partnership with the [Rwanda High Commission in Singapore](#), the [Global Finance & Technology Network](#), and [Raffles Family Office](#).

In the keynote address, CEO [Hortense Mudenge](#) emphasized Rwanda’s emergence as a strategic financial hub and gateway to Africa. She highlighted Kigali’s predictability, efficiency, and strong regulatory environment for capital deployment. The event underscored Rwanda’s growing role in enabling global investors to access African markets. KIFC continues to open new pathways for impact-driven investment across the continent’s fast-growing sectors.

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## **NIFC and QFC Strengthen Partnership to Drive Sustainable Growth Across Africa and the Middle East**

The [Nairobi International Financial Centre \(NIFC\)](#) signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding with the [Qatar Financial Centre \(QFC\) Authority](#) during the [Second World Summit for Social Development](#).

The agreement, signed by NIFC CEO [Daniel Mainda](#) and QFC CEO [Yousuf Al-Jaida](#), builds on a decade-long partnership that began with Qatar's support in establishing the NIFC. This renewed collaboration seeks to boost cross-border investments, innovation, and financial cooperation. Both centers reaffirmed their shared commitment to global best practices and to promoting sustainable, inclusive growth across Africa and the Middle East.

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## **AIFC Strengthens Collaboration with ASP Community to Enhance Compliance and Growth**

The [Astana International Financial Centre \(AIFC\)](#) hosted the "AIFC Community: ASP in Focus" event, bringing together more than 80 representatives from its ecosystem to strengthen collaboration and knowledge sharing.

The session highlighted the vital role of Ancillary Service Providers (ASPs) in supporting AIFC participants with registration, compliance, and daily operations. Experts from [AFSA](#), [Moore Kazakhstan](#), and [GRATA International](#) discussed key topics, including AML/CFT compliance, valuation practices, and family office structuring. Speakers emphasized ASPs' role as a key link between AIFC participants and authorities. The event reinforced AIFC's commitment to transparency, innovation, and international best practices.

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## **Casablanca and Beijing Renew Partnership to Advance Sustainable and Inclusive Finance**

[Casablanca Finance City Authority](#) and the [Beijing Financial Street Service Bureau](#) have renewed their partnership through a new Memorandum of Understanding.

The agreement builds on their 2018 collaboration and aims to deepen cooperation in sustainable finance, fintech, innovation, and talent development. Both parties will promote knowledge exchange and best practices to strengthen financial connectivity. This renewed commitment highlights their shared goal of advancing a more inclusive and sustainable global financial ecosystem.

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## **FinanceMalta Showcases FinTech Leadership at the Digital Malta Conference**

[FinanceMalta](#) participated in the Digital Malta Conference, which brought together leaders shaping the nation's digital and financial transformation. During the event, [Alex Konewko](#) of [Finductive](#) presented "The FinTech Ecosystem in Malta," highlighting the sector's growth, regulatory framework, and collaboration opportunities.

Other industry experts, including representatives from [SGM-FX](#), [Camilleri Preziosi Advocates](#), [Amicorp Fund Services](#), and [Jesmond Mizzi Financial Advisors](#), contributed to discussions on innovation and digital progress. FinanceMalta reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening Malta's role as a leading hub for financial and digital services.

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## **Luxembourg for Finance Explores Investment Strategies Amid Global Uncertainty**

[Luxembourg for Finance](#) (LFF) hosted its "Focus on Investing" event, exploring how investors can navigate today's "polycrisis" of market volatility, geopolitical uncertainty, and technological disruption.

[DWS Group](#) CIO [Vincenzo Vedda](#) highlighted U.S. tariffs as a key risk to global growth but noted that strong earnings continue to justify rising stock valuations. The panel discussed the rapid expansion of thematic investing—particularly in AI and defense—and the growing importance of ETFs driven by diverse investor segments. [Douglass Welch](#) of [Pemberton Asset Management](#) emphasized private debt's increasing role in supporting SMEs and the real economy.

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### **Stuttgart Financial Highlights Innovation and Capital Market Synergies at BW Congress**

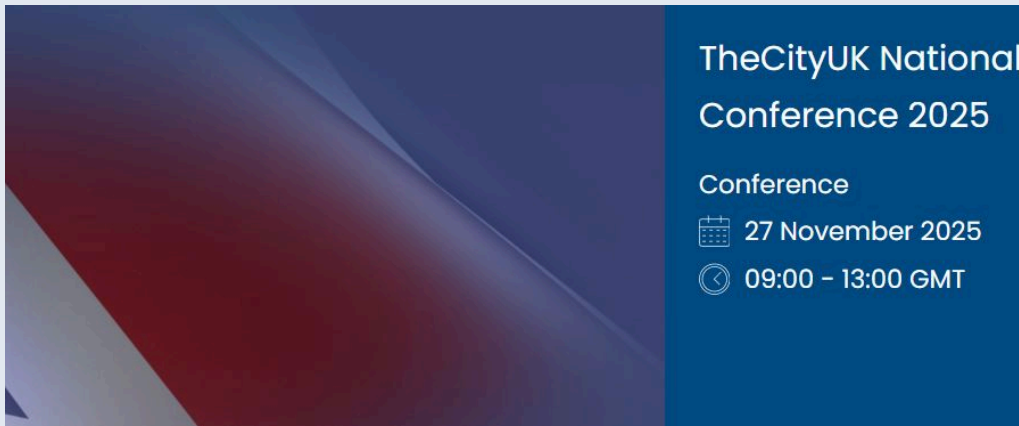
[Stuttgart Financial](#) and the Finance Accelerator of [Boerse Stuttgart Group](#) participated in the *BW Congress* organized by [Umwelttechnik BW](#), which gathered leaders from business, science, and politics to discuss the future of Baden-Württemberg.

The event addressed key topics such as industrial transformation, the circular economy, carbon management, and innovation. Stuttgart Financial's [Kati Nayeri](#) joined a panel on strengthening the region's long-term competitiveness, emphasizing the role of capital markets and innovation financing. The initiative highlighted Stuttgart Financial's commitment to connecting industry, capital, and innovation to shape a sustainable economic future.

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For additional news articles on WAIFC and its members, please subscribe the [weekly newsletter](#) of our Managing Director.

**EVENTS**



## [TheCityUK National Conference 2025](#)

Join experts to explore how skills drive growth. This event aims to showcase how financial services can be the engine of growth in every region, reflecting [TheCityUK](#)'s commitment to national development.

November 27, 2025. The Queens Hotel, New Station Street, City Square, Leeds , LS1 1PJ, United Kingdom

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## [Abu Dhabi Finance Week 2025](#)

[Abu Dhabi Global Market](#), has the pleasure to announce the Abu Dhabi Finance Week 2025, the most influential finance event in the Middle East. This four-day event will provide a unique platform to explore dynamic changes in global financial industry and sustainability shifts, and their potential impact on the financial world.

December 8 to 11, 2025. Al Maryah Island, ADGM Square, Abu Dhabi, UAE

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## AIFC CONNECT: ABU DHABI 2025

Join us in Abu Dhabi for an exclusive event spotlighting Kazakhstan's investment potential and financial market opportunities. Explore the AIFC's role in attracting global capital, structuring deals, and supporting foreign investors through world-class legal and regulatory frameworks.

December 9, 2025

Venue: Rosewood Hotel, Abu Dhabi

REGISTRATION →

### [AIFC Connect: Abu Dhabi 2025](#)

Join us in Abu Dhabi for [AIFC](#) Connect, an exclusive event highlighting Kazakhstan's investment potential and the [Astana International Financial Centre](#)'s role in attracting global capital and supporting investors through world-class frameworks. This edition, supported by the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates to the Republic of Kazakhstan, will explore emerging opportunities across Asset Management, Capital Markets, FinTech, and Digital Assets.

December 9, 2025. Rosewood Hotel, Abu Dhabi, UAE

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### [Workshop - Connecting Asia and Europe: Asset & Wealth Management, Green Finance and Digital Assets](#)

[Luxembourg for Finance](#) invites you to “Connecting Asia & Europe: Asset & Wealth Management, Green Finance and Digital Assets”, an exclusive workshop in Hong Kong on 26 January 2026. Featuring three parallel sessions and a networking drink, the event will explore the future of asset management, sustainable finance, and digital innovation. Participation is by invitation only.

January 26, 2026. Grand Hyatt Hong Kong, 1 Harbour Road, Hong Kong

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### [Asian Financial Forum 2026](#)

The Asian Financial Forum (AFF) is the region's premier platform that brings together influential leaders from government, finance, and business communities globally for ground-breaking discussions and exchange of insights on the global economy from an Asian perspective.

January 26, 2026. Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1號 Expo Drive Hong Kong, HKI Hong Kong

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### [27th Annual IBA Arbitration Day Conference](#)

The 27th IBA Arbitration Day, titled "New Horizons," will focus on new technologies, new types of disputes, the influence of new sectors and geographies (space, smart cities, green hydrogen!) on the evolution of International Arbitration, and how to stay abreast of these developments.

January 28, 2026. Rosewood Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

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## DOWNLOADS

### Publications

- [Report on Strategies for Attracting, Developing, and Retaining Talent](#)
- [Whitepaper on Crafting the Digital Sustainability Reporting Ecosystem](#)
- [Report on Women in Finance - Compendium of Good Practice](#)
- [Report on Art - An Integral Ingredient for Financial Centers](#)

- [Whitepaper on Enhancing Supply Chain Finance for the Promotion of the Green Transformation](#)
- [Report on How Leading Financial Centers Advance Financial Inclusion and Literacy](#)
- [Report on Supporting Ecosystem for Sustained Recovery and Growth of SMEs](#)
- [Whitepaper on the Future of Financial Centers](#)

## Institutional

- [WAIFC Presentation](#)

The [World Alliance of International Financial Centers \(WAIFC\)](#) is a non-profit Association registered in Belgium, representing 26 leading international financial centers. Its members are government agencies, associations, and similar institutions developing and promoting their financial centers. WAIFC facilitates cooperation between financial centers, exchanging best practices, and communication with the general public.

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