

WORLD ISLAMIC FINANCE FORUM (WIFF) 2026



Call for Papers

The **IBA Centre for Excellence in Islamic Finance (IBA-CEIF)** is pleased to announce the **World Islamic Finance Forum (WIFF) 2026** and invites scholars, researchers, policymakers, regulators, and industry practitioners to submit original research papers on the conference theme:

Islamic Banking 2030: Innovation, Regulation and Global Competitiveness

WIFF has established itself as one of the region's premier platforms for intellectual discourse on Islamic finance by bringing together academia, industry leaders, regulators and policymakers to discuss emerging trends and shape the future direction of the industry.



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About the Theme

WIFF 2026 seeks to provide a platform for rigorous academic discussion and industry dialogue on how Islamic banking can position itself as a globally competitive, technology-enabled, resilient and socially responsible financial system by 2030.

Suggested Sub-Themes



Digital Innovation and the Future of Islamic Banking

- Artificial Intelligence in Islamic banking
- Open Banking and Open Finance
- Digital-only Islamic banks (Neo Banks)
- Banking-as-a-Service (BaaS)
- Blockchain, tokenization and smart contracts



Regulation, Governance and Risk Management

- Cybersecurity and operational resilience
- Digital identity and financial crime prevention
- ESG regulations and sustainability reporting
- Risk management in digital banking
- Consumer protection and responsible finance



Innovation in Islamic Financial Products

- Sustainable and Green Islamic Finance
- Digital Sukuk and Tokenized Assets
- Housing and Infrastructure Finance
- Islamic Social Finance Integration
- Product innovation and financial engineering

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Leadership • Excellence • Impact



Center for Excellence in Islamic Finance

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Global Competitiveness and Market Development

- International competitiveness of Islamic banks
- Cross-border Islamic banking
- Islamic banking in non-Muslim jurisdictions
- Financial inclusion and underserved markets



Emerging Research Areas

- Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) and Islamic Finance
- Digital Assets and Virtual Assets
- Climate Finance and Islamic Banking
- FinTech collaborations
- Data Analytics in Islamic Banking

Submission Guidelines

Full Paper Submission – Authors are invited to submit original full papers (6,000–7,000 words, including references).

- Papers must not have been published or be under review elsewhere.
- Papers should be submitted in Microsoft Word format through the online submission portal.

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Important Dates

- Full Paper Submission Deadline **Wednesday, September 30, 2026**
- Notification of Acceptance **Tuesday, October 20, 2026**
- Camera-Ready Paper Submission **Sunday, November 15, 2026**

Submission Process

For submission of papers, please visit: <https://ir.iba.edu.pk/wiff/>

Publication Opportunities

Accepted papers will be considered for publication in the IBA academic journal **'Business Review'**.

Rewards

Best Paper Reward

PKR 75,000

Runner-up Reward

PKR 50,000



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Contact Information

For further inquiries, please contact us at:

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We look forward to your valuable contributions and participation in WIFF 2026 as we explore the transformative potential of Islamic finance in addressing global challenges and fostering sustainable growth.



Monday–Tuesday
December 14–15, 2026



Mövenpick Hotel,
Karachi, Pakistan

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