Organised by:







7th Mediterranean Islamic Finance Forum

Islamic Finance in the Mediterranean Region: An Avenue for Sustainability and Economic Growth



16th November 2023 | Hybrid (Barcelona, Spain + Online)

About CIBAFI

The General Council for Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions (CIBAFI) is a non-profit institution that represents Islamic Financial Institutions (IFIs) globally. It was founded by the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and a number of leading IFIs. CIBAFI is affiliated with the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

Today with over 130 members from 30 jurisdictions, CIBAFI is recognised as a key component of the international architecture of the Islamic Finance Services Industry (IFSI). Its mission is to support the IFSI by advocating regulatory, financial and economic policies which are in the broad interest of CIBAFI's members and foster the development of the IFSI and sound industry practices.

CIBAFI is guided by its Strategic Objectives, which are, 1) Advocacy of Islamic Finance Values and Related Policies & Regulations; 2) Sustainability and Innovation Integration; 3) Industry Research and Analysis; and 4) Professional Development.

About ASCAME

The Association of the Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASCAME) is the most important representative of the Mediterranean private sector. ASCAME gathers all Northern and Southern Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry and businesses – regardless of their size and sector of activity – with over 250 members from 23 countries, representing thus around 30 million companies.

Through its close collaboration with the most important organisations and international institutions of the Mediterranean region, the promotion of economic activities and involvement in economic cooperation projects, ASCAME serves as a key actor in the Mediterranean economic integration and the Euro-Mediterranean partnership.

About the Forum

Over the past years, the Islamic financial industry has witnessed significant developments, earning a reputation as one of the fastest-growing global financial segments. Despite the economic shocks caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the industry continued its growth and reached a value of USD 3.5 trillion in 2022. With its ethical and socially responsible principles, Islamic finance is attracting the attention of global investors and financial markets, offering valuable opportunities for sustainability and economic growth.

The Mediterranean region occupies a vital position in the global economy, serving as a hub for trade and commerce between three continents - Europe, Asia, and Africa. Rich in natural resources, including oil, gas, minerals, and agricultural land, the region is home to various significant industries such as tourism, manufacturing, and services. Despite its enormous potential, the region is grappling with several challenges that could impede its growth. Climate change emerges as a significant challenge for the region, with extreme weather events such as droughts, floods, and rising sea levels adversely affecting agriculture, infrastructure, and natural resources.

With its focus on economic prosperity and human welfare, Islamic finance could play a crucial role in furthering economic development and fostering prosperity in the region. With tools such as Sukuk, Islamic social finance, and risk sharing-based financing structures, Islamic finance has the potential to address development challenges in the region by promoting financial inclusion, supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs), encouraging ethical investment, and providing infrastructure financing.

The 7th Mediterranean Islamic Finance Forum aims to bring together global experts and stakeholders to explore the potential of Islamic finance for the region and seize the opportunities presented by its high-growth prospects. The forum will offer insightful discussions on how Islamic finance can support the Mediterranean's financial plans and economic development, focusing on the opportunities presented by the growth of ethical, sustainable, and responsible finance. Through sharing experiences and insights, the forum will create opportunities for collaboration and partnership to advance economic development and foster prosperity in the Mediterranean region.

Programme Agenda

09:00 - 09:30	Opening Session for the 7 th Mediterranean Islamic Finance Forum (MIFF)
09:30 - 10:30	Panel Session: Harnessing Islamic Finance for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region
	 Understanding sustainability challenges in the Mediterranean region and the region's related agendas. Role of Islamic finance in promoting sustainability financing and addressing development challenges in the Mediterranean region. Sukuk as a tool for financing sustainable infrastructure projects. Potential of Islamic social finance tools for promoting financial inclusion and supporting SMEs in the Mediterranean region. Role of Islamic finance in trade finance and investment to promote sustainability, ethical business practices and economic growth. Leveraging technology for Islamic finance dissemination. Capacity building and knowledge sharing initiatives to support the growth of Islamic finance in the region. Role of governments, regulatory bodies, and private sector players in promoting Islamic finance in the region.
10:30	Conclusions and Closing Remarks

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Registration Form

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