

DIFC AT A GLANCE

DRIVE THE FUTURE OF
FINANCE WITH US

#1 GLOBAL FINANCIAL CENTRE IN MEASA

Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) is one of the world's most advanced financial centres, and the leading financial hub in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia (MEASA) region.

With a 22-year track record of driving the future of finance, DIFC creates value for companies by providing the best environment to accelerate growth.

THE REGION'S ONLY FINANCIAL CENTRE OPERATING AT SCALE ACROSS ALL SECTORS



BANKS &
CAPITAL MARKETS



FAMILY BUSINESSES
& FOUNDATIONS



FINTECH &
INNOVATION



INSURANCE &
REINSURANCE



PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE PROVIDERS



WEALTH & ASSET
MANAGEMENT



DIFC AUTHORITY

Ensures efficient governance, underpinned by a world-class legal and regulatory framework



DUBAI FINANCIAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Regulates all financial services activities conducted in and from DIFC



DIFC COURTS

Administers an independent English common law judiciary



FREE ZONE

Benefits include 100% foreign ownership, no restriction on capital repatriation, tax advantages

DIFC PROVIDES THE MOST STABLE AND TRUSTED PLATFORM FOR GROWTH

MEASA'S LARGEST FINANCIAL ECOSYSTEM

10,000+
FIRMS

1,930+
AI, FINTECH &
INNOVATION FIRMS

50,000+
WORKFORCE

1,130+
DFSA REGULATED &
SUPERVISED ENTITIES

OUR COMMITMENT TO HELP YOU GROW

- DIFC's platform is designed to help you grow faster than the market
- We work with the industry and regulator to be a catalyst for innovation
- We are a business enabler offering a wide range of licences, visa regimes and industry development initiatives
- MEASA's largest financial services ecosystem and a magnet for global talent
- Most progressive legal and regulatory framework – common law; leading data protection and IP regulations and pioneering digital asset regimes



WORLD CLASS

19 OF THE TOP 25
GLOBAL BANKS

7 OF THE TOP 10 GLOBAL
MONEY MANAGERS

27 OF THE TOP 29 GLOBAL
SYSTEMICALLY IMPORTANT BANKS

#1
IN CITIES IN THE
MIDDLE EAST AND
#8 GLOBALLY

(GLOBAL POWER CITY INDEX 2024)

#1
IN SMART CITIES IN
THE GCC, ARAB WORLD
AND ASIA, AND
#4 GLOBALLY

(IMD SMART CITY INDEX 2025)

#3
MOST
STARTUP-FRIENDLY
CITY GLOBALLY

(STARTUP FRIENDLY CITIES INDEX 2026)

A LOCATION LIKE NO OTHER

270+
CONNECTIONS
TO GLOBAL
DESTINATIONS ACROSS
100+ COUNTRIES

#3
FOR WORK
GLOBALLY

(BCG'S DECODING GLOBAL TALENT 2024)

#7
IN GLOBAL FINANCIAL
CENTRES AND #5
FOR FINTECH GLOBALLY

(GFCI 39)

NOW IS THE TIME TO JOIN US

SELECT FROM A RANGE OF LICENCE TYPES
TO MEET YOUR BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS

- 1** INNOVATION AND START-UP LICENCES
- 2** FULL LICENCES RANGING FROM:
 - Representative offices
 - Market maker and provider of credit, brokerage, asset management, custody and money services
 - Advising and arranging activities
 - Full-fledged banking
 - Holding/investment/managing offices

LICENSING PROCESS

- 1** Submit letter of intent
[CLICK HERE](#)
- 2** Process application and obtain in-principle approval
- 3** Register your entity

NOTE:
Specific Islamic Finance licences available • Licence requirements vary by sector, regulated and non-regulated business. Fees and capital requirements vary by licence category and sector.

