



ALBARAKA SUMMITS
LONDON



NEW HORIZONS:

Islamic Economy in Global Markets, Beyond Majority-Muslim Societies



JW MARRIOTT GROSVENOR HOUSE, LONDON - UK



18th - 19th November, 2025



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INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the Islamic economy has experienced remarkable growth beyond its traditional borders, gaining substantial traction in non-Muslim majority countries. This expansion is driven by a confluence of factors, including the increasing demand for ethical and sustainable financial solutions—principles deeply embedded within Islamic finance. Rooted in risk-sharing, social responsibility, and the avoidance of interest-based transactions, Islamic finance is resonating globally with a diverse audience seeking alternative financial models.

Across various regions, we see compelling examples of this trend. Australia has made significant strides by promoting Islamic investment funds and developing superannuation products aligned with Shari'ah principles. In Germany and France, growing Muslim populations and inclusive financial policies have fostered the establishment of Islamic banking windows and halal product ecosystems. Luxembourg, known for its financial innovation, has emerged as a leading European hub for Islamic investment funds and was among the first in Europe to issue a sovereign sukuk.

In North America, both Canada and the United States are home to a rapidly expanding ecosystem of Islamic financial services, including Islamic mortgages, fintech platforms, and ethical investment funds that appeal to Muslim and non-Muslim consumers alike. Across the Atlantic, Brazil is actively exploring Islamic finance to support agribusiness and infrastructure, particularly in its international trade relations.

In Asia, Thailand is enhancing its halal infrastructure in food, tourism, and finance, aiming to become a leading halal economy in the region. Meanwhile, Russia is taking steps toward integrating Islamic economy into its broader financial system, with the government actively exploring regulatory frameworks for Sukuk issuance and promoting halal products to cater to its growing Muslim population. The Kazan Summit has played a crucial role in this development, acting as a key platform for promoting the halal industry, Islamic finance, and Islamic-related education. This summit has significantly contributed to raising the profile of Islamic economic principles within Russia and the broader region.

South Africa is positioning itself as a significant player in the Islamic finance sector in Africa, hosting one full-fledged Islamic bank and other conventional banks that have Islamic windows. This development provides an opportunity to grow the industry within an environment that is receptive to and welcoming of Islamic banking tools and products. The regulatory framework for Islamic finance continues to evolve, attracting investors from across the continent and beyond. Additionally, South Africa's Islamic economy is supported by key non-profitable sectors such as Zakah, Waqf, and philanthropy, which contribute significantly to social welfare and economic development. These sectors provide essential services, support community development, and promote sustainability, creating a holistic Islamic economy that extends beyond financial transactions.

In India, the potential for Islamic finance is gaining attention, particularly in the form of ethical banking and investment solutions, as the country explores ways to integrate Islamic financial principles into its vast and diverse economy. India has also exported to the world some of the most prominent scholars who, through different generations, have worked

tirelessly to write and develop the economic and financial knowledge of the Islamic economy on various scales. Their contributions have played a pivotal role in the global understanding and advancement of Islamic economic thought.

Importantly, Maqasid al-Shari'ah—the higher objectives of Islamic law—form the foundational values upon which modern sustainability frameworks such as ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are built. The protection and preservation of life (nafs), intellect ('aql), wealth (maal), faith (deen), and future generations (nasl) are not only central to Islamic economic thought, but also directly reflected in today's global development goals.

Islamic finance instruments—such as sukuk—are now widely used to fund projects that advance environmental protection, social justice, and ethical governance. This confirms that the Islamic economy is not a parallel system, but a deeply rooted and proactive contributor to the global pursuit of inclusive, sustainable, and values-driven development.

In this evolving landscape, a new wave of Muslim entrepreneurs and startups is playing a transformative role—developing Shari’ah-compliant fintech platforms, ethical marketplaces, digital zakat and waqf solutions, and halal innovation hubs. These ventures are not only modernizing access to Islamic economic tools but also demonstrating how values-based entrepreneurship can contribute to local economies, global impact, and inclusive prosperity.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SUMMIT:

1



Encourage academic and industry-led research on the impact of Islamic economics on global development agendas.

2



Analyze the current landscape and growth futures of the Islamic economy within non-Muslim majority countries.

3



Identify key enablers and barriers for the adoption of Islamic financial services in secular and pluralistic markets.

4



Highlight the contribution of Muslim communities, entrepreneurs, and professionals to the development of Islamic economy frameworks in non-Muslim societies.

DAY 1

Tuesday, November 18th, 2025
(09:30 AM - 05:00 PM)

(BallRoom - JW Marriott)

09:30 AM - 10:00 AM

RECEPTION AND REGISTRATION

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

OPENING CEREMONY

11:00 AM - 11:15 AM

SHORT PAUSE

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

FIRST THEMATIC PANEL (CENTRAL-BANK LEVEL)

Strategic Foresight for the Islamic Economy in Non-Muslim Countries: Political Recognition, Legal Empowerment, and Institutional Integration

Discussion Topics:

1. Legal Empowerment and Regulatory Frameworks.
2. Institutional Integration and Market Participation.
3. Policy Recommendations and Action Steps.

Q&A Session

12:15 PM - 01:00 PM

LUNCH BREAK & DHUHUR PRAYER

01:00 PM - 02:15 PM

SECOND THEMATIC PANEL (ISLAMIC BANKING CEO LEVEL)

Islamic Banking in Global Markets and Environments: Between Aspirations and Operational Realities

Panelist 1:

Regulatory Compatibility: Adapting Islamic Banking Models within Conventional Legal Systems.

Panelist 2:

Strategic Foresight and Global Opportunities

Panelist 3:

Transplanting Islamic Banking: Strategies for Adapting Core Values in Global Markets.

Q&A Session

02:15 PM – 03:30 PM

THIRD THEMATIC PANEL

Islamic Investment Solutions within the Global Economic System: Toward Greater Availability and Asset Diversity

Panelist 1:

Infrastructure and Real Economy Investments: Reclaiming Tangibility in Islamic Portfolios.

Panelist 2:

Legal Harmonisation and Cross-Border Structuring of Islamic Investment Vehicles.

Panelist 3:

Digital Frontiers: Advancing International Expansion of Islamic Economy and Finance through Technology and Digital Assets.

Panelist 4:

Advancing Islamic Banking and Finance in Switzerland: Assessing Infrastructure, Market Demand, and Service Provision

Q&A Session

03:30 PM – 03:45 PM

BREAK & ASR PRAYER

03:45 PM - 05:00 PM

FOURTH THEMATIC PANEL

Empowering Entrepreneurship from Islamic Economy Perspective: Innovation, Ethics, and Global Market Access

Scope:

This panel explores the growing movement of purpose-driven entrepreneurship across OIC countries and diaspora communities, with a focus on how founders, ecosystem enablers, and investors can collectively build impactful, ethical, and globally scalable ventures.

Key Discussion Points:

- The Rise of Values-Based Entrepreneurship and its Significance within the Islamic Economy.
- Balancing Profitability with Purpose: How Ethics and Impact are Driving New Business Models.
- The Role of Islamic Finance, ESG Principles, and Ethical Investment Frameworks in Enabling Sustainable Startup Growth.
- Insights from Global Muslim Entrepreneurs and Ecosystem Leaders.
- The Role of Platforms like SKSEED in Connecting, Scaling, and Supporting Purpose-Driven Ventures Across Regions.
- Innovative Models for Halal Venture Capital, Angel Investing, and Non-Interest-Based Financing.

Q&A Session

05:00 PM

THE END OF THE FIRST DAY

DAY 2

Wednesday, November 19th, 2025

(09:30 AM - 05:00 PM)

(BallRoom - JW Marriott)

09:30 AM - 10:00 AM

RECEPTION AND WELCOME TEA

10:00 AM - 10:05 AM

MC

10:005 AM - 10:15 AM

KEYNOTE SPEECH

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

FIFTH THEMATIC PANEL

Chambers of Commerce as Engines of Economic Acceleration and Business Networking

Discussion Topics:

1. Reimagining the Role of Chambers: Beyond Networking.
2. Access to Investment Opportunities: Tackling Barriers in the UK.
3. Policy Advocacy: Giving the UK Muslim Business Community a Voice Based on the Experience of ICCD Affiliate Members.
4. Building a Self-Sustaining Business Ecosystem between the UK Muslim Community and your Esteemed Country.
5. Positioning the UK as a Global Hub in the Halal Economy.

Q&A Session

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

WORKSHOP

Islamic Screening and ESG Metrics:
Building the Next Generation of Investment Indexes

12:15 PM - 01:00 PM

LUNCH BREAK & DHUHUR PRAYER

01:00 PM - 02:45 PM

SPECIAL SESSION

Under the Auspices of the Saleh Kamel Islamic Economy Award

جائزة صالح كامل للاقتصاد الإسلامي
SALEH KAMEL ISLAMIC ECONOMICS AWARD



From Research to Impact

02:45 PM - 03:45 PM

WORKSHOP

The Economic Landscape of Muslims: Realities and Transformations

03:45 PM - 04:00 PM

CLOSING REMARK

04:00 PM

THE END OF THE SECOND DAY