

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

The region's broadest and deepest range of activities in a financial centre



DIFC Authority

Provides an independent legal framework, based on international standards of justice and English common law.



Dubai Financial Services Authority

Regulates all financial services activities.



DIFC Courts

Administers an independent English common law judiciary.



Free Zone

Benefits including 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**

5,500+
Substantive
firms

42,000+
Workforce

900+
FinTech and
Innovation

790+
regulated firms

World class

17 of the top 20 banks

7 of the top 10 Insurance companies

7 of the top 10 asset managers

27 of the top 29 global systemically important banks



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 thanks to our range of licences, visa regimes and industry development initiatives.
- MEASA's largest financial related ecosystem to do business with and a magnet for talent.
- Most progressive legal and regulatory framework – common law; leading data protection and IP regulations and pioneering digital asset regimes

A location like no other



~USD 400bn
gateway for trade



#1 for innovation
in Arab world
(Global Innovation Cities Index 2021)



150+ direct connections
to global destinations



#1
for living in MENA*
(Mercer 2019)



#2
for being stable, safe
and secure in MENA*
(*Worldwide Governance Indicators 2021)

Now is the time to join us

We will help you select from a range of license types to meet your need

- 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.
 - Fully fledged banking.

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 licenses available • License requirements vary by sector, regulated and non-regulated business Fees and capital requirements vary by license category and sector.

