

**Conference Objective: Examine Latest Blockchain Use Cases to Help Drive Adoption and Commercialization Within Financial Services**

**Section 1: Latest Blockchain Strategies**

**Emerging Technologies and the Risks Associated for Financial Institutions**

- Learn how blockchains fit into the overall fintech strategy for FIs in the MENA region and how this is likely to affect financial services
- Discover the advantages of emerging technologies in mitigating risk and revolutionizing the experience of the customer to improve efficiencies and ensure customer retention
- Understand associated risks, current landscape, regulatory readiness and current mitigating actions when implementing emerging technologies and how best to benefit your business operations

*Alok Gupta, Regional Head of Risk Models, HSBC*

*Noman Azhar, EVP/Country Head- Branchless Banking & Digital Implementation, JS Bank*

**Blockchain Business Case**

- Debate whether financial institutions should continue to explore blockchain adoption and how you can leverage the commercial opportunity of the technology
- Analyze the costs and time involved in implementing blockchains to examine whether it is a worthy investment for your business
- Consider the need for a blockchain strategy within your business and how to develop it in line with your business goals

*Osama Al Rahma, CEO, Al Fardan Exchange*

*Imran Sarwar, Senior Enterprise Architect, Dubai Customs*

*Ahmed Al Refaei, COO, Al Masraf Bank*

**Do You Need Blockchain?**

- Examine alternatives to blockchain technology and when these might be more appropriate dependent on your business goals
- Learn from successful cases studies where blockchains proved inefficient to understand if there is a better emerging technology to achieve a good ROI
- Analyze the cost, time and effort involved in implementing DLT to decipher whether it is essential in order to prevent wasted resources

*Amol Bahuguna, Head of Payments and Cash Management, Commercial Bank of Dubai*

**The Challenges to Become Part of the Customers' Ecosystem: A Banker's View**

- Consider the need for business ecosystems to transform into customer ecosystems and the effects this will have on your business
- Discuss the future of transformation, focussing on digital elements for the customer, to gain insight into how to sufficiently prepare your business to meet the customer needs
- Explore the main challenges for FIs and banks with executing this transformation and why it is crucial to start putting the customer first in your business

*Frederic de Melker, Managing Director – Personal Banking, RAK Bank*

## [Section 2: Use Cases in Financial Institutions](#)

### **Choosing the Right Use Case**

- Examine the opportunities for DLT within banks and financial institutions to assess the best option for you
- Debate whether your chosen use case is of benefit to the company, or for the client, in order to really understand the business case
- Judge how choosing the appropriate use case directly relates to success at PoC stage to avoid a waste of time and money

*Pedro Pinto Coelho, CEO and Chairman, Banco BNI Europa*

### **How Can Blockchain Revolutionize the Insurance Sector**

- Analyze which blockchain initiatives are being explored by insurance companies to provide the most benefits to their business
- Debate the technical limitations when utilizing blockchains within the insurance sector including interoperability and scalability and how to overcome these during implementation
- Discuss how the insurance sector is tackling issues around security and privacy and how this can be replicated across other financial institutions

*Anshul Srivastav, CIO, Union Insurance*

### **Payments on DLT**

- Hear case studies from successful payment projects in financial institutions using DLT and how it can improve the transparency of payments making them more compliant and secure
- Examine the benefits to business and clients from using blockchain technology to run cross-border payments and how it can reduce cost and time for both parties
- Consider payments on DLT from a solution perspective to examine how it can be beneficial to your business in solving inefficiencies

*Gagandeep Singh, Product Manager, UAE Exchange*

*Navin Gupta, Managing Director South Asia and MENA, Ripple*

### **Using Blockchain in Trade Finance**

- Examine local and international perspectives on how distributed ledger technologies are creating value for customers through trade finance applications
- Debate the appropriateness of DLT when executing trade finance within financial institutions and how you can benefit from this
- Analyze the benefit of trade finance on DLT in relation to the MENA region and how this could further benefit your business

*Sagheer Mufti, COO, HBL Pakistan*

*Emre Karter, Managing Director – Head of Trade and Treasury Solutions, Citi*

## [Section 3: Regulation and Legal](#)

### **Blockchain Through the Eyes of the Central Bank**

- Hear from Central Banks on their views towards DLT and how they will impact business operations in the MENA region in relations to emerging technologies
- Learn about what Central Banks are doing in terms of using crypto assets and how this affects the region

For further information, please contact Kelly Brisk on [kbrisk@fintecnet.com](mailto:kbrisk@fintecnet.com) or +44 (0)203 409 3044

- Understand the Central Bank's goals towards enhancing financial stability and how emerging technologies can help this to improve financial inclusion

*Tariq AlUsaimi, Head of Digital Strategy, Central Bank of Kuwait*

*Ahmed Mansour, Blockchain Expert*

#### **Regulatory Landscape in the UAE**

- Explore perspectives on the regulatory landscape across onshore UAE and the key financial free zones relating to DLT to prepare for blockchain adoption
- Examine the key role of Financial Institutions and FinTechs to ensure due consultation and an educative approach with the regulators as a core component of your blockchain strategy
- Analyze the role of sandboxes and an open approach towards regulators to ensure you can successfully move from PoC to production

*Ken Coghill, Associate Director of Operational Risk, DFSA*

#### [Section 4: Digital Assets and Tokenization](#)

##### **How Tokenization Could Turn the World into a Massive Asset Exchange**

- Explore the concept of tokenization with a focus on the tokenization of company shares and how this can increase transparency and improve efficiencies
- Consider the different assets that can be tokenized and how to start to implement these in your business
- Hear an overview on the security token exchanges expected to launch this year and their effects globally

*Charles-Henry Monchau, Managing Director - CIO and Head of Investments, Al Mal Capital*

##### **Kuwait National Payment System**

- Discuss what is encompassed within the system, including the government electronic banking system, wages protection system, digital currency, and automated clearing house
- Explore Central Bank of Kuwait's journey to implementation, collaborating with local banks and enhancing financial inclusion
- Understand how this will enhance the stability and efficiency of the financial system and create the necessary infrastructure to address future needs

*Tariq AlUsaimi, Head of Digital Strategy, Central Bank of Kuwait*

##### **Bahrain's First Crypto Asset Exchange**

- Examine how Rain Financial became the first exchange to join the Central Bank of Bahrain regulatory sandbox, why they were successful and what we can learn from this
- Assess how the Rain platform become the first Central Bank regulated crypto asset exchange in the middle-east and the effects of this on the country
- Hear the next steps for Rain and how the launch of the exchange could have a global impact in enhancing collaboration and improving understanding of regulations

*Yehia Badawy, Co-founder and Partner, Rain*