



**2<sup>ND</sup> FINTECH WEEK**  
**16 - 17 FEBRUARY**  
**DUBAI 2026**

# Fintech Week 2026

February 16-17, 2026



**DUBAI**

# Day 01

## Registration & Welcome Coffee

Attendees arrive, register, and network over coffee.

09:00 AM – 09:30 AM

**Keynote ( Stand Alone )**The Right People, Right Now:  
Unlocking Top Talent in Competitive Markets.

Sophia Kalsi

09:30 AM – 10:10 AM

**Panel Discussion** –Embedded Payments in  
Commerce & B2B: Invisible, Instant &  
Intelligent

Alycia M. Powell, Arsalan  
Ahmed, Suji Gopalakrishnan,  
Shibu Mathew

10:10 AM – 10:50 AM

**Panel Discussion**– The Rise of Digital Wallets  
& Super Apps: What's Next?

Amir Tabch, Harsh Daftary,  
Rouf Rafiq, Saad Hazari,  
Sheikh Mohsin Ali

## Coffee Break

11:10 AM – 11:50 PM

**Panel Discussion**– Fintech x BigTech:  
Collaboration or Competition in Payments?

Karim Zaitouni, Jonathan  
Cumberlidge, Serkan Turan

11:50 PM – 12:15 PM

**Keynote ( Stand Alone )**–Digital Banking &  
Innovative Payments ~ Helping Those That Need  
It Most

Stewart A. Stockdale

12:15 PM – 12:40 PM

**Keynote ( Stand Alone )**– How to Get  
a VARA License

Harly Zappino

12:40 PM – 01:05 PM

**Keynote ( Stand Alone )**– Client-  
Centric Algorithmic Trading with No-  
Code AI

Ignacio Nicolas Ayago  
Trigo

<b>01:05 PM – 01:30 PM</b>	<b>Keynote ( Stand Alone )</b> –A Next-Generation Solution for Screening Companies Worldwide	Ekaterina Lopareva
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## Lunch Break

<b>02:30 PM – 03:10 PM</b>	<b>Panel Discussion</b> –The Role of Open Banking & Open Finance in Driving Payment Innovation	Tanvir Shah, Imran Kannuti, Amir Tabch,
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<b>03:10 PM – 03:30 PM</b>	Unlocking Liquidity: How Stablecoins Enable Cross-Border Payment Companies in Emerging Markets to Scale	Mouloukou Sanoh, Nkiru Uwaje
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<b>03:30 PM – 03:50 PM</b>	<b>Keynote ( Stand Alone )</b> –The Consolidation Imperative: Why Every Online Business Needs One Financial Partner	Serhii Zakharov
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<b>03:50 PM – 04:30 PM</b>	<b>Panel Discussion</b> –Women in Fintech	Leila Bouzinab, May Brooks Kempler, Amina Tahir, Minali
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## Coffee Break

<b>05:00 PM – 06:00 PM</b>	<b>Award Ceremony</b>	
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# Day 02

## Registration & Welcome Coffee

Attendees arrive, register, and network over coffee.

09:00 AM – 09:30 AM

**Keynote ( Stand Alone )** - Exposing the Real Truth Behind AI and Your Go-to-Market Plans.

Shelli Ryan, Melanie Lennert

09:30 AM – 10:10 AM

**Panel Discussion** – Fintech & Banking – Bridging the Divide

James Ashton-Smith, Christelle Metni, Marcus Pequeno, Manpreet Haer,Ankit Lathigara

10:10 AM – 10:50 AM

**Panel Discussion** – Tokenization, Digital Identity & Secure Authentication

Chris Smith, Angaj Bhandari,Akshay Dalal

## Coffee Break

11:20 AM – 12:00 PM

**Panel Discussion** – AI, Biometrics & Behavioral Security: Rethinking Transaction Safety

Muhammed Arshad Choudhary, Angaj Bhandari, Ilia Samsonov,Harsh Daftary,Dyma Budorin

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM

**Keynote ( Stand Alone )**- Connecting Capital: Digitising the World's Largest Asset Class from the Ground Up

Chris Smith

12:30 PM – 01:00 PM

**Keynote ( Stand Alone )**- The New Shape of Banking

Nicki Bull Bisgaard

01:00 PM – 01:30 PM	<b>Keynote ( Stand Alone )</b> - Building a Global Licensing Strategy for Fintechs/VASPs: Lessons from 10+ Jurisdictions	Nick Guliaev
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## Lunch Break

02:30 PM – 03:10 PM	<b>Panel Discussion</b> – WealthTech Innovation: Shaping the Future of Investment"	Sahba Hadipour, Ralf Plänkers, Kay French, Louis Roche, F. Josef Obeid
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03:10 PM – 03:30 PM	<b>Keynote ( Stand Alone )</b> - Breaking into Azure via Device Code Phishing and Primary Refresh Token (PRT) Theft	Shebin Mathew
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03:30 PM – 03:50 PM	<b>Keynote ( Stand Alone )</b> - Fintech Is Not About Technology. It’s About Trust	Karim Zaitouni
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03:50 PM – 04:30 PM	<b>Panel Discussion</b> - Addressing the Challenges of Cross-Border Payments	Max Lighter, Matthias Wachslar, Mohammed Al Alami, Amit Grover, Sailendra Das, Melodi Askelöf
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## Coffee Break

05:00 PM – 06:00 PM	<b>Award Ceremony</b>	
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**DUBAI**