



2ND 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)

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?

Leila Bouzinab, Amir Tabch,
Harsh Daftary

Coffee Break

11:10 AM – 11:50 PM

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

Hamsini Karthik, Christian
Gleich, 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

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

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

05:00 PM – 06:00 PM	Award Ceremony	
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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

Rouf Rafiq, 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

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	Keynote (Stand Alone) - 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	Panel Discussion – WealthTech Innovation: Shaping the Future of Investment"	Sahba Hadipour, Ralf Plänkers, Kay French, Louis Roche
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03:10 PM – 03:30 PM	Keynote (Stand Alone) - 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	Keynote (Stand Alone) - Fintech Is Not About Technology. It's About Trust	Karim Zaitouni
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03:50 PM – 04:30 PM	Panel Discussion - 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	Award Ceremony	
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