

Bahrain Bourse participates in annual Isa bin Salman Education Charitable Trust ceremony

Honoured for Continued Support of Education



Manama

Bahrain Bourse is participating in the 2025 annual ceremony of the Isa bin Salman Education Charitable Trust, held under the patronage of His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister of the Prime Minister's Court and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Isa bin Salman

Education Charitable Trust, under the theme "Knowledge and Giving". The event was attended by His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa along with senior officials and distinguished guests.

During the ceremony, Bahrain Bourse was honoured in recognition of its contribution to supporting the Trust's educational programme for 2025,

aimed at investing in education and empowering national talent, thereby contributing to the sustainable development of the Kingdom of Bahrain. This recognition reaffirms Bahrain Bourse's ongoing commitment to promoting financial literacy within the framework of its Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices, in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development

Goal 4.

On this occasion, Shaikh Khalifa bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa, Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain Bourse, highlighted the significance of participating in this national event that reflects the values of giving and investing in human resources. Shaikh Khalifa emphasized the Bourse's continued commitment to supporting educational

initiatives that open wide horizons for Bahraini youth and prepare them for excellence and leadership across various fields. Isa bin Salman Education Charitable Trust was established in 2013 with the aim of providing scholarships that substantially empower students in the Kingdom of Bahrain, granting them the support necessary to

actualise their potential and excel in their desired career paths. Offering admission to programmes of study at local and international universities, the Trust aspires to achieve societal advancement by investing in Bahraini youth, who constitute the Kingdom's national asset and applicants are selected based on transparent criteria of eligibility.

NBB becomes first bank in Bahrain to adopt digital Know Your Customer (KYC) Service

For New Customers Using eKey for Business (EKEY-B)

Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has partnered with Beyon Connect, part of the Beyon Group, to integrate a cutting-edge digital Know Your Customer (KYC) solution powered by eKey for Business (EKEY-B) and designed to make banking faster, easier and more secure for new customers.

Through this collaboration, NBB becomes the first bank in the Kingdom to offer a fully integrated process powered by EKEY-B, the latest version of Bahrain's national digital identity authentication. This innovation streamlines individuals'



access to banking services and contributes to an improved user experience. The deployment

also allows new customers to instantly open accounts via the NBB Digital App with a seamless experience that is safeguarded by regulatory-grade security.

Commenting on the occasion, Subah Abdullatif Al Zayani, Chief Executive Retail Banking at NBB, said, "By introducing EKEY-B on our Banking app, we are making banking faster, safer, and more accessible—directly addressing the evolving needs of our customers. Our strategic partnership with Beyon Connect enables us to deliver secure, seamless experiences and set new standards for digital banking in Bahrain. This collaboration not only empowers

our customers today but also reinforces our commitment to driving the Kingdom's digital transformation."

Commenting on the occasion, Christopher Hild, Chief Executive Officer of Beyon Connect, said, "Trust and security are the foundations of financial services. EKEY-B empowers banks and financial institutions to meet regulatory requirements, protect customers, and deliver faster, smarter services. It's a vital step forward in building a future-ready financial ecosystem in Bahrain."

From his end, Dr. Khalid Al Mutawa, Deputy Chief of Operations & Governance at the

Information & eGovernment Authority (IGA), praised NBB's adoption of EKEY-B and noted that this step reflects the strong collaboration between the public and private sectors. He emphasised that this milestone demonstrates the success of collective efforts to enhance the efficiency of banking services and deliver them quickly and accurately while ensuring the highest standards of data protection. He added that integrating EKEY-B with digital KYC facilitates secure, digital identity verification for customers, expediting account opening procedures and enabling financial services without the need for

traditional processes.

The collaboration with Beyon Connect reinforces NBB's mission to reimagine banking access in a way that prioritises both user accessibility and institutional trust. New customers can seamlessly authenticate, register, and transact without compromising on safety, a model that meets both their practical needs in line with the Bank's strategy to meet experience excellence and high compliance standards.

By continuing to invest in digital solutions that remove unnecessary steps and barriers, NBB remains focused on delivering a more responsive and efficient banking experience.

BENEFIT Internal Audit Department awarded full conformance certification

Under IIA's New Requirements

Manama

BENEFIT, the Kingdom's innovator and leading company in Fintech and electronic financial transactions service, has announced that its Internal Audit Department has been awarded the Full Conformance Certification with the new requirements and standards published by the Institute of Internal Auditors.

The recognition was announced during Audit, Anti-Fraud & I.T. Congress 2025 held in Abu Dhabi and organized by United Arab Emirates



Internal Auditors Association, in the presence of representatives from Institute of Internal Auditors - IIA,

the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE).

This achievement represents the highest rating granted by the Institute, reaffirming the department's commitment to all approved professional requirements and regulations. It reflects the department's commitment to applying internationally recognized best practices across governance, risk management, internal controls, and compliance, and demonstrates the high level of organizational readi-

ness embedded within BENEFIT's operational and control frameworks.

The Internal Audit Department earned this recognition following an extensive series of conformance assessments, reaffirming BENEFIT's position as one of the region's leading financial institutions committed to upholding robust internal audit practices, proactively identifying risks, and continuously improving the efficiency and quality of internal reporting.

On this occasion, Mr. Mansoor AlAlwan, Chief Audit Executive at BENEFIT, said: "It is a

privilege to receive this recognition, which stands as a distinguished international acknowledgement of the exceptional efforts of our Internal Audit team. This accomplishment reflects the collective professionalism, diligence and strong sense of responsibility demonstrated by every team member in ensuring complete adherence to the latest global standards. It strengthens stakeholder confidence and further cements our position as a leading contributor to the advancement of Bahrain's financial and banking sector."