

# NBB and INJAZ Bahrain launched ‘Yalla Learn and Earn’ Campaign

Empowering Students with Financial Literacy and Digital Awareness

Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB), in collaboration with INJAZ Bahrain, has launched “Yalla Learn and Earn,” a nationwide educational initiative aimed at equipping intermediate school students with essential financial literacy and digital banking awareness.

As part of the initiative, representatives from both NBB and INJAZ Bahrain visited



ed 10 schools, engaging with a total of 500 students in in-

teractive financial education activities. The in-school ses-



sions were designed as age-appropriate workshops that in-

roduced key concepts such as budgeting, saving, and the role

of digital tools in responsible money management. NBB’s Yalla Family Banking solution was also spotlighted as an accessible tool to build financial discipline from an early age.

The campaign reaffirms NBB’s commitment to youth empowerment and innovation-driven learning, supporting its broader efforts to support financial inclusion and national socioeconomic development.

## NBB sponsors eighth edition of Mara’ee 2025

Under the Patronage of HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has partnered with the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs & Agriculture to serve as gold sponsor of the 8th edition of the Bahrain International Exhibition (Mara’ee 2025), the Kingdom’s flagship animal and agriculture production show.

Under the esteemed patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the eighth edition of Mara’ee 2025 was officially inaugurated. Abdul Aziz Al Ahmed, Chief Executive – Strategic Accounts, represented NBB at the event, where he was also presented with a commemorative plaque from His Majesty in recognition of the Bank’s ongoing support and sponsorship of this leading national event.

NBB remains dedicated to strengthening its role in supporting the development of key national sectors and creating long-term impact for Bahrain’s economy, environment, and communities.



## Veggie ‘burgers’ at stake in EU negotiations

AFP | Brussels, Belgium

EU countries and lawmakers will wrangle Wednesday over whether to give plant-based “sausages” and veggie “burgers” the chop, amid a push to restrict such labels to meat products.

Many of Europe’s livestock farmers see plant-based foods that mimic meat products as potentially misleading for consumers, and a threat to their already troubled sector.

Lawmakers at the European Parliament in October backed a proposal to reserve a list of labels including burger and sausage for foods containing meat.

The EU’s 27 member states will now look to hash out the initiative with negotiators from the parliament as part of a broad-ranging package of new measures to protect farmers. Some countries seem reticent -- and officials say it may need more rounds of negotiations to reach an agreement.

Food retailers in Germany, Europe’s largest market for plant-based alternative products, have spoken out against the move, along with environmentalists and consumer advocates.

Among the high-profile opponents is also former Beale and famed vegetarian Paul

McCartney, who co-signed a letter to the EU’s executive arguing against the measure.

“We urge you not to adopt these restrictions, as we are deeply concerned about the significant global impact they could have,” the letter said.

But livestock farmers argue the opposite, with French industry group Interbev saying it “confuses consumers and undermines recognition” in meat products.

EU consumption of plant-based alternatives to meat products has grown five-fold since 2011, according to data from BEUC, a consumer group.



Plant-based burgers can mimic the sight, smell, and sizzle of real meat because they use ingredients like hemp, pea protein, beetroot juice, and coconut oil to recreate the colour, texture, and juiciness of beef – some brands even use legume-based heme molecules to produce a meat-like flavour when cooked.

## US Fed expected to make third straight rate cut despite divisions

Washington, United States

The US Federal Reserve is expected to deliver a further interest rate cut despite divisions among its ranks, with chief Jerome Powell’s ability to secure support from fellow policymakers put to the test.

Financial markets expect a third consecutive 25 basis points reduction, bringing levels to a range between 3.50 percent and 3.75 percent. This would be the lowest in around three years.

But fissures within the Fed have grown even as policymakers slashed rates twice in recent months to boost the weakening employment market -- and the central bank faces a turbulent year ahead.

Officials opened their second day of deliberations at 9:00 am (1400 GMT), with their decision to be unveiled later Wednesday.

“We look for at least two dissents in favor of no action and one in favor of a larger cut,” said Michael Feroli, chief US economist at JP Morgan.

“There are almost equally compelling reasons to cut and to hold,” he added in a recent note.

## Bahrain Bourse’s holds 8th Board Meeting for 2025

Manama

The Board of Directors of Bahrain Bourse (BHB) held its eighth meeting for the year 2025 yesterday chaired by Mr. Yusef Abdullah Al Yusef, Chairman of Bahrain Bourse.

Prior to the Meeting, the Board held a meeting with Al-Ramz Corporation to discuss recent updates on the formulation of the Capital Market Development Plan, which aims to strengthen the capital markets ecosystem in the Kingdom of Bahrain and enhance its attractiveness to local and international investors in line with the



economic development goals and Bahrain Vision 2030. The 2026–2028 Strategic Plan and Executive Operational Plan

were also discussed.

During the meeting, the Board also discussed the topics on the agenda and reviewed

the progress of its previous decisions and recommendations, along with the latest developments in BHB’s operations. The

Board also discussed the level of progress of the projects and initiatives under the Operational Plan as of November 19, 2025, all of which are aligned with the six strategic pillars aimed at developing the market infrastructure and enhancing services provided to investors.

In addition, the Board discussed BHB’s consolidated estimated budget for the year 2026, which reflects its future directions and plans to enhance operational efficiency and develop the financial products and services offered.

The Board also reviewed BHB’s Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) Report as of No-

vember 19, 2025, to assess the latest updates regarding the level of achievement accomplished during the year. This supports the development of a robust framework for setting performance measurement standards for the upcoming year, ensuring alignment with the Capital Market Development Plan and the strategic plan.

The Board discussed decisions and recommendations of the Board’s Committees related to projects and tasks assigned by the Board and decided on actions to be taken within their respective areas of responsibility and authority.