Beyon Connect Partners with Rain to integrate the Revamped eKey 2.0 Ecosystem

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Beyon Connect, part of the Beyon Group, announced the successful integration of Rain, a leading regional cryptocurrency exchange, into the revamped eKey 2.0 ecosystem. eKey is Bahrain's Digital Authentication of National Identity platform developed by Beyon Connect in partnership with the Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA).

To mark the occasion, a signing ceremony was held at Beyon Headquarters in Hamala, Bahrain, in the presence of Beyon Connect Chairman Shaikh Mohamed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa and Rain Chairman Talal Al Zain. The partnership was signed by Beyon Connect CEO Richard Budel and Rain General Manager Geoff Stecyk.

The integration of eKey 2.0 enables new customers to verify their identity, complete electronic Know Your Customer (eKYC) procedures, and make their first trade within minutes, creating one of the fastest digital onboarding experiences available in Bahrain.

Through the integration, customers can authenticate and securely verify their identity using the revamped eKey 2.0. Following successful verification, key application details, including the customer's full name and National ID number, are automatically prefilled, helping to streamline and accelerate the process. Once approved, customers can use BenefitPay to complete their first trade in under two minutes.

By leveraging Bahrain's Digital Authentication of National Identity platform and its eKYC solution, Rain helps overcome many challenges associated with traditional digital onboarding processes, including manually entering identity document details and waiting for verification codes. This provides a faster and more secure onboarding experience, strengthens customer trust and supports Bahrain's broader digital transformation agenda.

Richard Budel, Chief Executive Officer of Beyon Connect, said: "Rain's adoption of the revamped eKey 2.0 demonstrates the role Bahrain's Digital Authentication of National Identity platform and eKYC solution play in enabling organisations to deliver faster, more secure digital experiences while strengthening customer trust. We're proud to support Rain in leveraging this trusted national platform to simplify customer onboarding and contribute to a more connected, secure and innovative digital ecosystem in Bahrain."

Geoff Stecyk, General Manager at Rain, highlighted what the partnership means for its customers: "Integrating the revamped eKey 2.0 into our sign-up process is one of the goals we have been working toward. It enables us to provide customers in Bahrain with a faster and more secure way to get started. Now, a new customer can begin trading within two minutes of downloading the Rain app using eKey 2.0 and BenefitPay's purchase service."

Binance Bahrain Expands Access to Digital Assets

Easier fiat access, familiar funding methods and a seamless user experience, supporting Binance's broader Financial Super App vision.

Binance Bahrain is expanding the ways eligible users can access crypto, with easier fiat access, familiar funding methods and a clearer onboarding journey through Binance Bahrain B.S.C., a crypto-asset service provider licensed and regulated by the Central Bank of Bahrain as a Category 4

The development reflects Binance Bahrain's focus on making it easier for users to get started, fund their accounts and access supported Binance products and services, where available and permitted. It also supports Binance's broader Financial Super App vision of creating a more connected financial experience for users.

Binance Bahrain provides eligible users access to crypto services. Users can fund their Binance Bahrain accounts using supported local fiat currencies through available fiat channels, including card and bank transfer options.

Users can also benefit from Binance's zero deposit fees on eligible fiat channels, providing a straightforward way to fund their accounts and access crypto through Binance Bahrain.

Together, these elements provide users with more ways to access crypto through supported fiat currencies, familiar funding methods and a user experience provided through Binance Bahrain platform.

Bayan Jaberi, General Manager of Binance Bahrain, said: "Our focus at Binance Bahrain is on making it easier for users to access crypto through user-friendly experiences. From supported fiat channels and funding methods to a clearer onboarding journey, we want users to have more ways to get started and access digital assets through Binance Bahrain. By bringing together easier fiat access, familiar funding methods, we are continuing to develop the Binance Bahrain experience while supporting Binance's broader Financial Super App vision."

Binance Bahrain will continue to focus on providing eligible users with access to crypto through supported local fiat currencies, easy funding methods, and a clearer onboarding experience, while providing flexible access to the Binance ecosystem.

Enabling Easy and Flexible Purchase and Sale of Silver through the Bank's Electronic Channels

KFH – Bahrain Launches "Silver Account" to Enhance Customer Investment Options to its Clients in Addition to the Sale and Purchase of Gold

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Kuwait Finance House – Bahrain (KFH) announced the launch of its "Silver Account," a new banking product that enables the purchase and sale of silver with ease and flexibility through the bank's digital channels. This initiative reflects the bank's commitment to delivering innovative banking and investment solutions that align with customer aspirations, offering expanded savings and portfolio diversification options, all in accordance with Islamic Shari'a principles.

Following the successful introduction of the "Gold Account" earlier this year, the Silver Account responds to growing customer interest in precious metal investment. This reflects the ongoing efforts of KFH – Bahrain to develop comprehensive financial products that grant customers greater flexibility in managing and growing their wealth.

The Silver Account can be instantly opened through the KFH – Bahrain app, enabling customers to buy and sell silver starting from 50 grams around the clock, with immediate transaction execution and settlement. The silver valuation is continuously updated, giving customers real-time visibility into the value of their holdings to support informed investment decisions.

The account enables customers to buy and own silver with no storage fees, and the option to request physical delivery of 500-gram and 1000-gram silver bars of 99.99% purity. Customers can also monitor their holdings in grams, access digital valuation reports, transaction history and certification documentation.

On this occasion, Bassam Alali, Deputy Group CEO for Treasury & investments at KFH – Bahrain, commented, "The Silver Account is a valuable addition to our suite of investment solutions, reflecting our dedication to developing innovative banking services that meet our clients' needs and offer broader options for diversification of savings and portfolios. We designed this account to be easily accessible, flexible, and transparent, allowing clients to securely and conveniently manage silver investments through our digital channels."

Bassam Alali, Deputy Group CEO for Treasury & investments at KFH – Bahrain

He added, "Building on the success of the Gold Account, this new product exemplifies our commitment to expanding investment opportunities in precious metals. The Silver Account provides diversification and saving benefits, offering clients increased flexibility in managing their holdings and leveraging this asset class within their portfolios."

The Silver Account is fully compliant with Islamic Shari'a principles and adheres to the standards set by the Accounting and Auditing Organisation for Islamic Financial Institutions (AAOIFI). Through this account, the bank offers a reliable banking channel that combines investment in precious metals with Sharia-compliant controls.

Global Oil Prices Surge Above $100

Global oil prices surged on Monday as supply fears intensified following a shutdown of Saudi Arabia's East-West crude pipeline and a severe slowdown in shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. Brent crude climbed 3.7% to $108.26 a barrel, while WTI rose 2.5% to $102.77. Murban crude jumped 9.8% to $131.21. The disruptions have raised concerns over a potential global supply deficit, with already limited inventories offering little cushion. Markets are also reassessing monetary policy, with investors pricing an increased chance of a Federal Reserve rate hike this week as higher energy costs threaten to add further inflationary pressure.

RCSI Medical University of Bahrain Students Strengthen Research and Clinical Skills Through Partnership with Keele University

Students at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) - Medical University of Bahrain continue to strengthen their research, clinical and practical skills through international learning opportunities provided by Keele University, our longstanding partner in the United Kingdom.

This summer, our medical students participated in a six-week research training programme at Keele University throughout July, gaining valuable exposure to internationally recognised biomedical research environments. Through the programme, our students developed core research competencies while contributing to projects across a diverse range of disciplines, including neuroscience and neurodegenerative disease, cancer biology and therapeutics, cardiovascular and platelet research, tissue engineering and bioengineering, stem cell and disease modelling, women's health, infectious diseases, and rare neuromuscular and skeletal disorders.

The international programme also provided hands-on practical learning through an accelerated Human Anatomy dissection course at Keele University's Anatomy and Surgical Training Centre. The specialist course enabled our students to consolidate and deepen their anatomical knowledge through practical dissection and direct anatomical exploration, complementing their medical education with immersive, experiential learning.

Dr Khadija Matrook
Lecturer in Nursing and Nursing Year 4 Director
RCSI Medical University of Bahrain

Dr Maikki Cullen, Lecturer in Science, MCP & Academic Director of Undergraduate Research
RCSI Medical University of Bahrain

Dr Maikki Cullen, Lecturer in Science – Medical Commencement Programme & Academic Director of Undergraduate Research, commented: "International academic partnerships offer practical learning opportunities for our students in diverse academic and healthcare environments. Beyond the academic benefits, these programmes encourage students to adapt to new learning environments, engage with academics and peers outside their home institution, and gain insight into different approaches to healthcare education. We value such experiences, which contribute to the development of confident, adaptable and internationally minded healthcare professionals, and we are grateful to Keele University for providing such valuable opportunities."

Since the first cohort of our students travelled to Keele University for research training in 2019, the partnership has continued to expand, creating international learning opportunities. Dr Khadija Matrook, Lecturer in Nursing and Nursing Year 4 Director, is supporting undergraduate nursing students participating in opportunities offered through this partnership. Programmes have included biomedical research training, student exchanges, clinical observerships and specialist educational programmes. In 2025, our medical students became the first cohort to participate in Keele University's accelerated Human Anatomy dissection programme alongside biomedical research training.

Further strengthening our international outlook, RCSI Medical University of Bahrain recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Queen's University Belfast, United Kingdom, to expand opportunities for international exchange and immersive learning.

Through strategic partnerships with leading international universities, RCSI Medical University of Bahrain is committed to delivering a globally connected medical and health sciences education and preparing future healthcare professionals with the knowledge, adaptability and international perspective required to contribute to the advancement of healthcare and patient care in the Kingdom of Bahrain and beyond.