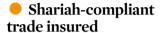
Al Baraka partners with ICIEC to back Islamic trade from Bahrain

Partnership aims to de-risk trade



Al Baraka, ICIEC sign policy

Bahrain trade ties supported

Mahir Haneef TDT | Manama

l Baraka Islamic Bank has signed a key policy agreement with the Islamic Corporation for the Insurance of Investment and Export Credit (ICIEC), in a move expected to boost Shariah-compliant trade financing and mitigate risk for Bahraini exporters and investors

The policy, signed in Bahrain, grants Al Baraka access to ICIEC's insurance tools, including credit and political risk protection. These instruments are designed to support clients engaged in cross-border trade in alignment with Islamic finance principles.

Dr. Adel Salem



ICIEC, a multilateral insurer affiliated opment Bank Moody's, provides guar-

ment in Organisation

ber states. By partnering with cies that reduce risk expo-ICIEC, Al Baraka gains the ability sure for local businesses with the Is- to extend credit support to busi- trading internationally. It

Group and our commitment to sustainable diversification goals by makrated Aa3 by Islamic banking," said Hamad ing the country more attrac-Abdulla Al Oqab, CEO of Al Bartive as a base for Islamic trade aka Islamic Bank. "It enhances and finance. antees for our ability to offer secure, Shatrade and riah-compliant trade finance to improve the competitiveness of gateway invest- our customers."

Private sector push

lamic Devel- nesses with greater confidence. also aims to support Bah-"This agreement underscores rain's broader economic

> The agreement is expected to Bahraini enterprises operating

Bahrain

The bank's leadership highin OIC markets, where ICIEC prolighted the role of such policies vides tailored coverage against in enabling Bahrain to serve as a The partnership targets in- credit default, political unrest, safe and credible Islamic bankof Is- creased access to ICIEC's com- or unforeseen trade disruptions. ing hub. Al Baraka noted that

this is part of its wider strategy to empower local businesses to expand globally without compromising on faith-based financial values.

ICIEC and Al Baraka officials expressed mutual optimism about the partnership's impact on the development of the Islamic financial services ecosystem, particularly in trade finance.

The collaboration marks a new step in integrating multilateral risk insurance into Islamic banking operations in the Kingdom.



ICIEC, rated Aa3 by Moody's, operates under the Islamic Development Bank Group and focuses on credit and political risk insurance for OIC member states, including Bahrain.

BisB grooms youth for finance sector

Internship addresses skills gap

21 students complete training

Exposure to realworld banking

Focus on Islamic finance roles

Mahir Haneef TDT | Manama

🕇 ahrain Islamic Bank programme, offering 21 university students hands-on experience across key departments in the bank. The initiative comes amid growing calls for stronger alignment between academic education and the real-world demands

training in retail banking, corporate and

(BisB) has concluded its 2025 summer internship of Islamic banking. The interns re-

ceived tailored Afnan Saleh

banking, oper- vide "practical knowledge and and workplace readiness. ations, IT, fi- skills that are critical to success nance, and in today's banking sector." **Talent pipeline support** pli-As Bahrain's Islamic finance workforce detvelopment. ance.

sector continues to grow, banks

said

programme was designed to pro- between academic knowledge developing future leaders who

Acting Chief Human Resources Officer, Hussain Al Hakim, financial sector." said the programme highlights BisB's commitment to national

a broader effort to bridge the gap sure," he said. "We take pride in and well-equipped workforce.

understand the values of Islamic banking and the dynamics of the

Beyond the internship

BisB has delivered over 35,000 "We aim to prepare the next hours of training through its inare increasingly looking to cul- generation of professionals by ternal development and interntivate homegrown talent. BisB's giving them real-world experi- ship initiatives, reflecting a longinternship programme is part of ence, not just theoretical expoterm strategy to build a resilient

The bank also encourages participants to explore roles beyond conventional finance, including compliance, technology, and operations.

By nurturing student talent early, BisB hopes to contribute to a future-ready financial ecosystem rooted in Sharia-compliant principles and national priorities.



Bahrain Islamic Bank has invested over 35,000 training hours into developing youth skills through its internship and employee training programmes, reinforcing its commitment to workforce development.