



NEWSLETTER

August 2026

Sarah's Reflections

Over the past few months, I've found myself thinking a lot about connection and trust, and what they mean for a growing global network like AllianceDFA.

We have so much knowledge, experience and expertise across our members, but do we always know who is here, what others have to offer, or what they are looking for? **Are we creating enough opportunities for members to connect directly?**

I've also been questioning whether we sometimes become too focused on outputs: what we are doing, what we are delivering and how we measure impact. Those things matter, of course.

But meaningful collaboration doesn't happen simply because we have shared objectives. It grows from relationships, trust and a willingness to listen, exchange ideas and understand one another.

I'm looking forward to hearing your perspectives and to continuing to build an AllianceDFA network where the relationships between people are just as important as the work we do together.



Have you shared your thoughts?

Answer this short connectivity survey to help us understand how connected members currently feel and where we can build stronger connections. It takes just 2–3 minutes to complete!

Take the survey [here](#):





Connect with Sarah

2nd London Forum on Islamic Banking and Finance 2026

AlHuda CIBE's event will explore the future of Islamic Banking, Ethical Finance, Fintech, and Sustainable Investment.



22 August



The Islamic Cultural Centre, London, UK



www.alhudacibe.com/uk2026

Fintech for Inclusion Global Summit 2026

Accion Ventures' biennial gathering spotlights founders driving inclusive innovation and brings together decision makers who are shaping the future of affordable, technology-enabled financial services.



02 September



Convene, 155 Bishopsgate, London, UK



<https://www.fintechforinclusionsummit.com/>

Attending?

Discount codes available - reach out to sarah for more details

Member Events

Meet the Network

On 19 August, we're creating two opportunities to connect with members across the AllianceDFA network.

07:00 UTC | Australia-Asia-Africa-Europe

13:00 UTC | LAC-US-Africa-Europe

These sessions are all about networking, making connections and getting to know others across the AllianceDFA network.

Come along, introduce yourself and discover who else is part of our global community!



MEMBERS MEETING

**AllianceDFA Mixer:
Meet the Network**

 **DATE**
19 August 2026

 **TIME**
07:00 UTC
or
13:00 UTC



 Alliance of Digital Finance
and Fintech Associations



AllianceDFA Activity

14

Network connections woven in July

Translating into opportunities, including a board appointment, research interviews, regulatory insights, and consultancy engagements

If you're looking for a connection within the network - either associations, individuals, or partners - just reach out to Sarah via email or WhatsApp!

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I was looking for reflections from the ground about the Stablecoin context in Ghana, and Nana Yaw (DFP Ghana) was helpful and generously put me in contact with another expert. Danielle Lawrence (FINASA) also agreed to meet me and share insights.

Thank you, Sarah for all the great efforts you are extending to us!

Manal Yassin (Shomoul)

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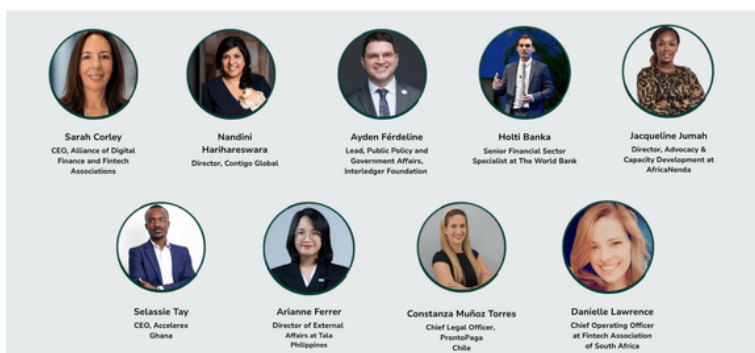
Launch of Questioning IPS Design Inclusivity: Unlocking Fintech and Non-Bank Participation in Domestic Instant Payment Systems

Questioning IPS Design Inclusivity: Unlocking Fintech and Non-Bank Participation in Domestic Instant Payment Systems

Alliance of Digital Finance and Fintech Associations

CENTRO GLOBAL LEE

Interledger FOUNDATION



Listen to the recording [here](#):



303 Registrations 117 Participants 57 countries

Making Finance Work for Women Podcast

From invisible to investable - how fintech can unlock growth for women entrepreneurs



Listen to the podcast [here](#):





Member Spotlight

Dr Ammar Hamadien



**Managing Partner at Verdica Partners
and Chair of Shomoul (Sudan's
Fintech Association)**

What do you bring to the network?

With nearly three decades of experience spanning telecoms leadership, national ICT governance and multilateral digital development, my core strength is turning financial inclusion strategy into systems that can actually work in practice - from regulatory sandboxes and digital ID to interoperable payment infrastructure.

Working across regulator, operator and multilateral environments, including GSMA and UN advisory roles, has taught me the value of being able to translate between policy, industry and implementation.

I am happy to share what's worked (and what hasn't) in capacity building, inclusive financial access, regulatory strategy and AI governance frameworks for emerging markets.

What are you curious about?

I'm particularly interested in the resilience side of financial inclusion - how digital ID, payments and remittances can serve underserved and displaced populations when infrastructure is disrupted, and how we design for resilience from the outset.

I'm also following how AI is reshaping credit scoring and KYC/KYB, alongside cross-border payment interoperability and CBDCs.

I'd especially love to learn from fellow association leaders about keeping programmes running through difficult conditions, navigating regulation, building trust and maintaining member engagement as markets evolve.

How would you like to collaborate?

I'm open to collaborating on cross-regional policy advocacy, joint research and leadership capacity building, particularly around cross-border payment corridors, regulatory harmonisation and responsible AI.

If you're building something practical in financial inclusion, interoperability or digital finance, especially in fast-changing markets, let's talk!





Member Spotlight

What's your AllianceDFA story?

Joining AllianceDFA through Shomoul was a natural step in our mission to elevate regional digital finance advocacy to a global standard. I realised early on that while local fintech ecosystems face unique regulatory contexts, our underlying challenges - governance, scale, and inclusion - are fundamentally shared.

AllianceDFA provided the perfect global peer platform for exchanging institutional knowledge, amplifying our collective voice, and turning localised lessons into actionable, scalable impact across emerging markets.

What regulatory or market hurdle is your association facing now?

The dominant structural bottleneck is the friction between rigid national data sovereignty frameworks and the operation of real-time, low-cost cross-border remittance corridors. We face systemic regulatory arbitrage, with conflicting regional AML/CFT verification standards and fragmented licensing regimes slowing institutional interoperability.

Furthermore, risk-averse regulatory postures frequently create "sandbox entrapment," preventing high-impact digital finance platforms from reaching commercial scale and driving broader financial inclusion.

What could another member share to accelerate your work?

I would value operational blueprints and empirical data on scaling interoperable cross-border payment corridors and offline-capable digital ID frameworks.

I'd be particularly interested in case studies on graduating fintech platforms from regulatory sandboxes into full commercial deployment, or lessons learned from establishing reciprocal KYC/KYB recognition across fragmented regional markets. These insights would significantly accelerate the implementation of various FinTech product roadmaps.

A fun fact about you?

I have a lifelong fascination with historical cartography. Give me an old geopolitical map, and I'll happily spend an evening tracing how trade routes, infrastructure and migration quietly reshaped economies centuries before anyone called it "development".

It's more than a hobby, it's the same instinct that drives my everyday work. Digital protocols, cloud networks and financial rails are doing today what roads, ports and rivers did yesterday, just faster and often invisible until you know where to look. The "Power of Geography" is simply fascinating!

Connect with Ammar



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