Dramatic change is underway in capital markets across the Middle East, Africa and South Asia (MEASA) region.

Efficient capital allocation is increasingly the priority. No longer are corporates only looking to self-funding or bank loans to finance growth. Nor are governments reflexively shouldering the whole burden of capital spending.

Companies are increasingly tapping equity and debt markets, while governments are looking to asset privatisations, public-private partnerships and debt financing to fund infrastructure and social development projects. The result is a vibrant landscape that demands the full range of capital market products and services.

DIFC offers the ideal platform to deliver capital market solutions to clients across the region from a tried and tested, globally recognised common-law jurisdiction that serves a vast region stretching from Europe to Singapore. Firms benefit from DIFC's unrivalled status as the region's financial hub and epicentre of deal making.

DIFC also provides direct access to Nasdaq Dubai, one of the MEASA region's most significant international electronic trading platforms and one of the world's leading exchanges for sukuk (Islamic bonds).

Banking is one of five areas within the Banks and Capital Markets focus at DIFC. The other areas include <u>Private</u> <u>Banking</u>, <u>Investment Banking</u>, <u>Brokerage</u> and <u>Capital Markets</u>.