



Group Chief Executive Officer's statement

Purpose - driven growth

As Dubai Islamic Bank (DIB) celebrates its 50th anniversary, we recognise this milestone as more than just a reflection of our legacy; it is a reaffirmation of our unwavering commitment to the future.

Over the past five decades, our journey has been intrinsically linked to the growth and development of the UAE, a nation that has continuously pushed the boundaries of progress and innovation. Our journey mirrors the UAE's visionary ambitions, and we are proud to have played an integral role in supporting the country's economic advancement and financial empowerment.

In 2024, our focus remained on strengthening our operational resilience and enhancing our technological capabilities to meet the dynamic needs of our customers. A defining achievement was the successful upgrade of our core banking system, a strategic initiative that has significantly improved the efficiency, security, and agility of our operations. This enhancement not only ensures compliance with evolving regulatory frameworks; it also enables us to anticipate and meet the dynamic needs of our customers with greater precision and speed.

This transformation underscores our broader vision of building a seamless, future-ready banking ecosystem.

Digital innovation continued to be a key driver of our progress. With technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) at the forefront of our plans, we are creating a data-driven banking environment that enhances customer experience through personalised solutions and proactive service delivery. Our ambition to transition into a fully digital-first organisation aligns with our commitment to accessibility and inclusivity, ensuring that financial services are intuitive and within reach for all segments of the society.

As part of our ongoing growth strategy in 2024, we expanded our market reach through a balanced approach that combines deeper engagement with existing customers and strategic diversification into new segments. Aligned with our deliberate strategy, this expansion reinforces our dedication to market diversification, operational excellence, and customer-centric growth.

Sustainability continues to be an integral part of our corporate ethos, reflecting our dedication to ethical banking and responsible finance. In 2024, we reaffirmed this commitment through the issuance of our Sustainable Sukuk (USD 1 Billion), which underscores our efforts to support the UAE's ambitious sustainability targets and global environmental objectives.

Looking ahead, our sustainability vision is anchored in three key pillars – environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and robust governance. By embedding these principles into our core operations, we aim to not only meet regulatory expectations, but also exceed them, driving meaningful impact across the communities we serve.

"Our trajectory at DIB is crystal clear: we are not merely chasing growth; we are pioneering purpose-driven expansion."

Dr. Adnan Chilwan
Group Chief Executive Officer
Dubai Islamic Bank





Group Chief Executive Officer's statement continued

Our efforts in environmental stewardship have significantly contributed to biodiversity and climate action. These initiatives form part of a broader ESG framework that integrates environmental, social, and governance principles into every facet of our operations. From green financing to fostering financial inclusion, DIB remains at the forefront of creating a positive, sustainable impact within the communities we serve.

As we step into 2025, we do so with optimism and a clear sense of purpose. Our roadmap sets the stage for capturing new market opportunities, enhancing customer segmentation strategies, and expanding our international presence, while remaining steadfast in delivering value to our stakeholders. Investment in state-of-the-art digital platforms and cybersecurity measures will continue to be a priority, ensuring that we remain resilient and agile in an ever-evolving financial landscape.

As we celebrate this milestone anniversary, I extend my deepest appreciation to our Chairman, His Excellency Mohammed Al-Shaibani, for his leadership and vision that continue to steer the Bank towards greater heights. I would also like to recognise the dedication of our senior management team and our employees, whose commitment and hard work remain the driving force behind our achievements. To our shareholders and partners, I express my gratitude for their trust and confidence in our vision. Most importantly, I thank our valued customers, whose loyalty inspires us to constantly innovate and enhance our offerings.

Moving on, our journey continues with the same determination and ambition that defined our success over the past five decades. Together, we will shape the future of Islamic finance, setting new benchmarks in innovation, sustainability, and customer excellence, ensuring that Dubai Islamic Bank remains a leader in the evolving financial landscape.

Dr. Adnan Chilwan
Group Chief Executive Officer
Dubai Islamic Bank

Awards & Achievements

MEA Finance Industry Awards 2024

- Best Islamic Digital Banking Provider
- Best Islamic Bank – UAE
- Best Sustainable Finance Initiative
- Best Sukuk Islamic Fund
- Best Sukuk Deal of the Year

MEA Business Achievement Awards 2024

- Banking and Finance – Exceptional Products/ Services DIB 'alt'
- Banking and Finance – Outstanding Sustainability Initiative Dubai Islamic Bank
- Outstanding New Product/Service Launch DIB Nest

Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2024

- UAE's Best Bank for Diversity and Inclusion

Middle East Banking Awards 2024

- Best Sukuk House in UAE
- Best Foreign Investment Bank in Oman
- Best Product Launch in the ME (Retail) DIB Nest

MEA Finance Banking Technology Awards

- Best Digital Innovation in Islamic Banking of the Year for 'alt'
- Best Innovation in Retail Banking for EVolve

Islamic Finance News Awards

- Real Estate Deal of the Year
- Best Islamic Retail Bank
- Indonesia Deal of the Year
- Best Islamic Bank in Kenya
- Social Impact, SRI ESG Deal
- Best Islamic Bank in the UAE
- Corporate Finance Deal of the Year
- Syndicated Finance Deal of the Year
- IFN Hybrid Deal of the Year 2023
- Sovereign and Multilateral Deal of the Year
- UAE Deal of the Year
- Best Overall Deal of the Year

Capital Markets and ESG Finance Saudi Arabia Awards

- Acquisition Finance Deal of the Year
- ECA, DFI, IFI Deal of the Year
- Transport Finance Deal of the Year
- Power Finance Deal of the Year
- Corporate Bond Deal of the Year