

ITFA Emerging Leader Competition Parameters:

Eligible Participants:

Emerging Leaders in Trade Finance. Who can be classified as an Emerging Leader? Students, existing trade finance professionals who genuinely feel that they fit the “Emerging” label and have less than 10 years’ experience in the industry, and professionals from other industries with no working experience in trade finance (regardless of number of years’ experience).

Timelines:

Deadline for submissions: **Friday 14 July 2023**

Shortlist announcement: **Wednesday 2 August 2023**

Presentation of the shortlisted projects and announcement of the winner: 11-13 October (during the ITFA Conference in Abu Dhabi)

Judging Criteria:

The winning projects will make a **significant contribution to the trade finance industry**. This could for example be by way of contributing to an on-going industry debate, or by way of creating a new innovative product/instrument, by way of enhancing the knowledge shared about the industry (specific knowledge sharing forums and events), amongst others.

Project topics and advisors:

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) in Trade Finance – Johanna Wissing, Credit Suisse

Supply Chain Finance – Michel Meylacq, Finverity

Trade Finance Gap – Duarte Pedreira, Crown Agents Bank

Technology and Trade Finance – Izabela Czepirska, Komgo

Other Trade Innovation – Pouya Jafari, SMBC

Project format:

Any medium, at the candidate’s choice, ranging from the more traditional (article, paper) to the most innovative (videos, podcasts, social media).

How to submit:

By email to sec@itfa.org

Competition stages:

Stage 1 – candidates start the process by submitting a project form outlining their details and a short description of their proposed project; a project advisor is then assigned to the project in accordance with the project’s topic:

Stage 2 – candidates prepare their submissions (until 14 July)

Stage 3 – judging (between 14 July and 28 July)

Stage 4 – announcement of the 3 shortlisted projects (2 August)

Stage 5 – live presentation of shortlisted projects to the ITFA Conference (11 to 13 October)

Stage 6 – voting on shortlisted projects by ITFA Conference delegates (11 to 13 October)

Stage 7 – announcement of the winner at the ITFA Conference Gala Dinner (11 to 13 October)

Competition Prizes:

The three shortlisted submissions will receive a free pass for the ITFA Conference taking place between 11 to 13 October in Abu Dhabi. This free pass will include full conference participation as well as entry into all social events taking place during the conference, including the Gala Dinner. The winner is awarded the 2023 ITFA Emerging Trade Financier Award and will have the winning project published.