



ITFA Emerging Leader Competition 2024, Sponsored by Africa Global Trade Finance **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 26 July 2024**

Shortlist announcement: **Friday 9 August 2024**

Presentation of the shortlisted projects and announcement of the winner: **4-6 September 2024** (during the ITFA Annual Conference in Cyprus)

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 / ITFA

Supply Chain Finance – Michel Meylacq, Finverity

Trade Finance Gap – Duarte Pedreira, Alisandu / ITFA

ECAs – Harsha Mehta, Citi

Technology and Trade Finance – Izabela Czepirska, Komgo

Insurance – Pia Reyes, AIG

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 by 5.00pm London time (BST) on Friday 26 July

Competition stages:

Stage 1 (optional) – 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 26 July)

Stage 3 – judging (between 26 July and 7 August)

Stage 4 – announcement of the 3 shortlisted projects (9 August)

Stage 5 – live presentation of shortlisted projects to the ITFA Conference (4-6 September)

Stage 6 – voting on shortlisted projects by ITFA Conference delegates (4-6 September)

Stage 7 – announcement of the winner at the ITFA Conference Gala Dinner (4-6 September)

Competition Prizes:

Given **Africa Global Trade Finance’s** generous sponsorship of the 2024 Award, the three shortlisted submissions will receive:

- A free pass for the ITFA Conference taking place between 4-6 September in Cyprus. 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.
- An allowance of up to €500 for flights (economy class) and an allowance of up to €600 for accommodation during the Conference.

The winner is awarded the 2024 ITFA Emerging Trade Financier Award and will have the winning project published.