

1st Azerbaijan International Investment Forum

Concept Note

Dates: 22–23 September 2025

Venue: Sea Breeze Resort, Baku, Azerbaijan

Theme: *"Advancing East-West, North-South Connectivity in a Fragmented Global Economy"*

Organizers:

- Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan
 - Export and Investment Promotion Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan – AZPROMO
 - The European House – Ambrosetti (TEHA)
- Organizational Support:** Sea Breeze Resort
Information Partner: Euronews

Purpose:

The Forum aims to showcase Azerbaijan's investment attractiveness, strategic projects, and economic potential to the international community. It will foster dialogue on strategic connectivity, regional economic integration, sustainable development, and cross-border investment cooperation. Opening address by H.E. President of the Republic of Azerbaijan is expected, underscoring the Forum's high-level political and economic significance.

Audience:

- International and domestic investors
- Global and regional CEOs
- Government officials, ministers, and senior policymakers
- Representatives of international organizations and think-tanks
- Media and expert communities
- Local companies and entrepreneurs

Program Overview – Key Topics

The 1st Azerbaijan International Investment Forum will host **plenary sessions, thematic panel discussions, and parallel events** over two days, providing a comprehensive platform for discussing Azerbaijan's and the broader region's economic potential, investment priorities, and strategic role in the global economy.

1. Strategic Role of the Middle Corridor & Regional Trade Corridors

- Examination of the **South Caucasus and Central Asia** as pivotal regions in global trade

realignments.

- **The Middle Corridor's** role in connecting Europe and Asia via the **Caspian and Black Seas**.
- Infrastructure and energy projects as drivers of cross-regional integration.

- Positioning Azerbaijan as a natural bridge for **East-West and North-South connectivity**.
- Interaction between emerging regions (Gulf, Central Asia, South Caucasus) in shaping a **multipolar global order**.

2. Foreign Investment Policies & Long-Term Development Strategies

- Strategic policy frameworks to attract **Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs)**.
- Leveraging **Special Economic Zones (SEZs)**, industrial parks, and innovation clusters.
- Balancing short-term capital inflows with **sustainable, long-term growth**.
- Case studies of successful public-private cooperation in investment promotion.
- International best practices in fostering **stable and predictable investment climates**.

3. Reshaping Global Value Chains & Boosting Competitiveness

- Transition from **commodity-based trade** to integrated industrial value chains.
- Opportunities for **industrial upgrading** and localization.
- Digital connectivity as a competitive advantage.
- The role of **SMEs** in enhancing resilience and adaptability in supply chains.
- Diversification strategies to reduce dependency on single markets or sectors.

4. Green Transition & Renewable Energy Investment Opportunities

- Harnessing solar, wind, and hydropower potential in the **Caspian region**.
- **Cross-border interconnections** to facilitate green energy exports.
- Financing mechanisms for large-scale renewable projects.
- Policies to meet **COP29 commitments** and climate targets.
- Role of public-private partnerships in accelerating the **green transition**.

5. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) & Investment Financing

- Blending **public capital, private investment, and sovereign wealth** to maximize impact.
- Priority sectors for PPPs: transport, energy, tourism, and urban infrastructure.
- The role of the **Azerbaijan Investment Company and Entrepreneurship Development Fund**.
- Global case studies in PPP models for emerging markets.
- Financing instruments to de-risk and attract foreign investors.

6. Human Capital, Skills, & Innovation

- Developing technical, digital, and entrepreneurial skills to support **new industrial hubs**.
- Building stronger education-industry linkages.