

CALL FOR PAPERS

We are pleased to announce the XXVI edition of the International Finance Conference (IFC), which will take place at the Universidad de Manizales (Colombia) from September 23 to 26, 2026. The central theme of the event will be “FINANCE WITH PURPOSE, A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE,” exploring the contributions, challenges, and opportunities that sustainable finance offers in the global and regional financial landscape.

Sustainable finance has become one of the main transformative pillars for organizations by integrating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria into investment processes and decision-making. This approach not only seeks to optimize economic returns but also to generate long-term positive impacts on society (Crespi & Migliavacca, 2020). Financial inclusion is positioned as a key strategy for sustainable development by expanding access to financial products and services, particularly in rural areas and among vulnerable populations. Consequently, strategies aimed at financial inclusion promote equity and economic growth, laying the foundations for social resilience in the face of contemporary challenges.

In the Latin American context, these trends offer conceptual and empirical tools to address structural challenges such as dependence on extractive activities, inclusion gaps, and the need for energy transitions. Financial inclusion, regulatory frameworks, climate risk, and academic and business innovation will therefore be fundamental pillars in advancing toward a purposeful, conscious, and transformative financial system (Zahid et al., 2023).

Universidad de Manizales welcomes IFC2026, which has consolidated itself as an international forum for reflection, debate, and the construction of new perspectives on sustainable finance and its transformative capacity in addressing environmental, social, and economic challenges. IFC2026 is positioned as an essential space for advancing toward an inclusive, responsible, and sustainable financial future in Latin America and worldwide. In this edition, we invite research seedbeds to participate by submitting posters. We also invite master’s and doctoral students in finance and related fields to present their thesis progress. Additionally, starting this year, IFC will adopt a hybrid format (on-site and remote), facilitating participation from academics around the world.

Thematic Areas

Area 1 Sustainable Finance and Corporate Social Responsibility

Analysis of the opportunities and barriers to implementing environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards in companies and financial markets. This area includes the modeling of green finance investment and financing instruments, as well as corporate social responsibility initiatives.

Area 2 Finance for Inclusion and Development

Access to financial services, savings, credit, financial education, poverty reduction, finance for marginalized and vulnerable groups, people with disabilities, women, ethnic minorities, and strategic policies aimed at reducing inequality and promoting financial empowerment.

Area 3 Behavioral Finance

This thematic area focuses on the study of psychological and behavioral factors influencing financial decision-making, including the analysis of emotions, cognition, and human behavior.

Area 4 Finance for Entrepreneurship and SME Development

Financial products and services for business development, job creation, and technological advancement for competitiveness. Market access, international trade funding, and financial incentive programs to foster business growth and development.

Area 5 Financial Innovation and Technologies

Decentralized finance, digital banking, artificial intelligence, blockchain, and broader issues related to financial transformation, including challenges, risks, and opportunities to improve access to and user experience in financial services.

Area 6 Corporate Finance

This area focuses on financial management within firms, including capital management, capital structure, investment and financing decisions, firm valuation, and corporate restructuring.

Area 7 International Finance

This thematic area addresses finance in a global context, including foreign exchange market analysis, currency risk management, and investment in emerging markets.

Area 8 Financial and Capital Markets

Study of equity, bond, foreign exchange, commodity, and derivatives markets, including price formation, market efficiency, technical and fundamental analysis, and financial regulation.

Area 9 Investments and Asset Management

This area focuses on the valuation of intangible assets and real investments, scenario analysis, risk assessment, and firm valuation.

Area 10 Banking and Financial Services

Financial services offered by banks and other financial institutions, including commercial banking, investment banking, development banking, consumer banking, and asset-liability management.

Area 11 Insurance and Corporate Risk Management

Evaluation and management of financial and insurance risks for firms, including insuran-

ce valuation, market risk management, and credit risk management.

Area 12 Public Finance

This area focuses on practices and methodologies aimed at achieving efficiency and sustainability in public finances.

Area 13 Financial and Accounting Analysis

Financial and accounting analysis of firms and financial institutions, including financial accounting, management accounting, financial statement analysis, and earnings management.

Important Dates

- Official launch: March 25, 2026
- Submission of full papers, theses, and posters: until June 14, 2026
- Acceptance notification: June 28, 2026
- Early registration: until August 16, 2026
- Regular registration: until September 13, 2026

Submission of Full Papers, Theses, and Posters

General Guidelines

All submissions (full papers, theses, and posters) undergoing the review process must meet the following requirements:

1. We will accept only complete articles. Submissions must be original and must not have been previously published or presented (either in full or in part) at any other event.
2. The similarity index must not exceed 15%, considering comparisons with web sources, academic repositories, scientific databases, and previously indexed publications. Authors are encouraged to verify this requirement using tools such as Turnitin or Grammarly.
3. Submissions must represent a contribution to theoretical and/or practical knowledge.
4. Papers may be submitted and presented in Spanish, English, and/or Portuguese.
5. Authorship is limited to a maximum of four authors. Once a submission is registered, the inclusion or replacement of authors will not be permitted. If the submission is a revised version of a previous work, this must be clearly stated in the document along with the full reference. The new version must demonstrate significant advances compared to the previous one.
6. To present the article, at least one author must complete the registration and pay
7. the corresponding fee. The registered author will receive a presenter certificate, whi-

- le the remaining authors will receive co-author certificates.
8. Only authors whose academic papers are presented at IFC (either in person or virtually) will be eligible to receive certificates and to participate in the Best Paper Award evaluation.
 9. For theses and posters, only the authors who present the thesis or display the poster
 10. at the Conference will receive the corresponding certificates.
 11. Authors of academic papers will be required to complete a survey at the beginning of the Conference indicating whether they are interested in submitting their articles to one of the affiliated journals and/or having their abstracts published in the Conference proceedings.
 12. Only submissions uploaded through the EASYCHAIR platform will be considered and evaluated through a double-blind peer review process for acceptance or rejection. First you must create your registration on the EASYCHAIR platform in the following link: <https://easychair.org/account2/create>

I. Guidelines for Full Academic Paper Submissions

Each full paper submitted will undergo a double-blind peer review by finance specialists to determine its acceptance for presentation at the Conference and its eligibility for the Best Paper Award. Therefore, authors must strictly follow the required structure and submission instructions.

A single PDF file must be uploaded through the EASYCHAIR platform in accordance with the following guidelines:

The PDF file must be named using the paper title. The first page of the PDF must include the following information:

- Full title of the paper
- Abstract (maximum length of 150 words)
- Thematic area to which the paper is submitted

The PDF file must not include any author names, institutional affiliations, or email addresses, as this information will be provided separately during registration on the EASYCHAIR platform. Submissions must not contain any details that could identify the authors. The platform accepts PDF files only.

Required Paper Structure:

- Introduction (including the relevance of the topic, objectives, and contribution to the literature)
- Literature review (structured to allow the formulation of hypotheses)
- Methodology
- Results and robustness tests (if applicable)
- Practical implications of the findings

- Conclusions and future research directions
- Bibliography and appendices

The full paper must have a maximum length of 8,000 words (not exceeding 20 pages). This length includes graphs, figures, tables, and references.

Formatting Guidelines:

- The title must be written in Arial 14-point bold, while subtitles and main text must use Arial 12-point font.
- The text must be single-spaced, with an additional space between paragraphs. All paragraphs must be justified.
- Page margins must be set to 3 cm on the left and right and 2.5 cm on the top and bottom.
- All pages must be numbered at the bottom center.
- Figures and graphics must be of high quality in their original format.
- File format: PDF
- Citation style: APA format

II. Guidelines for Thesis Submissions

Theses will be evaluated by members of the IFC Academic Committee to determine whether they will be accepted for presentation at the Conference. Authors must therefore comply with the required structure and submission instructions. A single PDF file must be uploaded through the EASYCHAIR platform in accordance with the following guidelines:

The PDF file must be named exclusively with the title of the master's thesis or the doctoral thesis." If available, authors may submit a thesis proposal or a partial version of the thesis.

The first page of the PDF must include the following information:

- Full title of the thesis
- Thesis abstract (maximum length of 150 words)

The PDF file MUST NOT include any author names, institutional affiliations, or email addresses, as this information will be provided separately during registration on the EASYCHAIR platform. Submissions must not contain any identifying information. The platform accepts PDF files only.

Required Thesis Structure:

- Introduction (including the relevance of the topic, objectives, and contribution to the literature)
- Theoretical Framework (discussing the main theories related to the topic)

- Literature review (structured to allow the formulation of hypotheses)
- Methodology
- Results and robustness tests (if applicable)
- Practical implications of the findings (if applicable)
- Conclusions and future research directions (if applicable)
- Bibliography and appendices

The thesis must have a maximum length of 100 pages. This length includes graphs, figures, tables, and references.

Formatting guidelines:

- The title must be written in Arial 14-point bold, while subtitles and main text must use Arial 12-point font.
- The text must be single-spaced, with an additional space between paragraphs. All paragraphs must be justified.
- Page margins must be set to 3 cm on the left and right and 2.5 cm on the top and bottom.
- All pages must be numbered at the bottom center.
- Figures and graphics must be of high quality in their original format.
- File format: PDF
- Citation style: APA format

III. Guidelines for Poster Submissions

Posters will be evaluated by members of the IFC Academic Committee to determine whether they will be accepted for presentation at the Conference. Authors must therefore comply with the required structure and submission instructions. A single PDF file must be uploaded through the EASYCHAIR platform in accordance with the following guidelines. The PDF file must be named exclusively with the title of the poster and must include the following information:

- Full name of the Conference
- Title of the work (no more than 140 characters, including spaces)
- Author(s): full name(s) and institutional affiliation(s). A photo and email address of the presenter must be included
- Introduction
- Literature review
- Hypotheses
- Methodology
- Results
- Conclusions
- Bibliography

The poster format must comply with the following specifications:

- Font size for text and figure captions must be clearly legible.
- The font type must be Arial.
- Tables, figures, diagrams, and photographs may be included; however, animations are not permitted.
- The poster page must measure 70 cm in width and 120 cm in height.

Posters submitted after the established deadline will not be included in the poster session for organizational reasons.

Best Academic Paper Awards

The IFC2026 Academic Committee will evaluate the papers presented at the Conference and will grant three awards. The highest-rated paper will receive a prize of USD \$1,000. The second- and third-place papers will receive recognition.

To be eligible for the awards, the following requirements must be met:

- The full paper must be presented at IFC2026.
- At least one author must be present at the award ceremony; otherwise, the award will be declared void.
- Authors must sign the publication rights transfer for the paper in one of the journals affiliated with IFC2026.
- The author(s) must not be members of the IFC Board or the Academic Committee.

Academic Ethics

Within the framework of the Conference, we remind all participants of the importance of upholding the highest standards of academic ethics in the preparation and submission of abstracts, full papers, and posters. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools to support writing, analysis, or editing processes is permitted, provided that such use is carried out in a responsible and transparent manner. Accordingly, authors are encouraged to explicitly declare in their documents whether AI tools have been used and to what extent, thereby ensuring methodological transparency, originality of contributions, and respect for academic integrity.

Our collective commitment is to ensure that this space for knowledge exchange is grounded in honesty, trust, and shared responsibility.

Submissions and Inquiries

Information about the conference can be found on the IFC 2026 website:
www.internationalfinanceconference.com/ifc2026

The approval or rejection of the submitted works will be notified by email to all authors declared on the platform.

For any questions, contact via email to: ifc@internationalfinanceconference.com

Bibliography

Crespi, F., & Migliavacca, M. (2020). The determinants of ESG rating in the financial industry: The same old story or a different tale? *Sustainability*, 12(16), 6398. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su12166398>

Zahid, M., Naqvi, S. U. U. B., Jan, A., Rahman, H. U., & Wali, S. (2023). The nexus of environmental, social, and governance practices with the financial performance of banks: A comparative analysis for the pre and COVID-19 periods. *Cogent Economics & Finance*, 11(1), 2183654. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23322039.2023.2183654>



XXVI INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CONFERENCE

Finanzas con propósito, futuro sostenible

23 al 26 de septiembre de 2026

Manizales, Colombia

IFC

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