

Morocco: CASABLANCA FINANCE CITY

"The creation of the 'Casablanca Finance City' financial centre by the Kingdom of Morocco will encourage Africa's financial integration within global financial markets, facilitate trade between African countries and attract global investment into the continent. Casablanca Finance City is increasingly regarded by international investors as a financial platform and gateway into African markets."

His Majesty King Mohammed VI - Marrakesh, October 13, 2014

Casablanca, the Kingdom's economic capital, plays host to a large number of multinational enterprises. It is rapidly gaining a reputation as the region's leading economic and financial centre. The city draws strength from the country's economic dynamism and the vitality of Moroccan companies which have operations in Africa.

Proud of its attributes and convinced that it has a key role to play in attracting investment into Africa, Morocco has established Casablanca Finance City, under the aegis of His Majesty King Mohammed VI. CFC is a financing and investment platform which aims to give a competitive advantage to multinational enterprises with operations across the continent. Casablanca Finance City offers a strategic geographical location, a stable environment and infrastructure meeting international standards. Casablanca Finance City already plays host to a number of leading multinationals and financial institutions by providing a flexible business environment, an integrated ecosystem and an attractive tax regime.

Casablanca Finance City has much in common with major financial centres around the world:

- Legislation protecting investors and a governance system meeting the highest international standards.
- Attractive business environment.
- Leading financial institutions, multinational enterprises and professional service providers already present.
- Availability of qualified human resources.
- Access to the African market via a range of agreements protecting investors and double taxation treaties.

Casablanca Finance City (CFC) provides a comprehensive framework for companies applying for CFC status An attractive business environment CFC status provides highly attractive benefits, making it easy to do business. Members enjoy fast-track administrative procedures including visas delivered within 72 hours, work permits within three days and resident permits within two weeks.

CFC members have access to an international arbitration centre (CIMAC) as well as specialist chambers at the Casablanca commercial court with expert judges. Free movement of capital and full control over foreign currency assets are granted to those with CFC status.

Casablanca Finance City Authority (CFCA) assists its members and guides them through every step of the administrative process from application for CFC status to implementing their investment projects.



The CFC ecosystem is connected to the African market by:

- 1. A large number of air connections Air connections Casablanca provides access to more than 30 African cities and operates about 40 direct flights to European destinations.
- 2. Good penetration by Moroccan companies Moroccan companies have operations in a number of African countries in several business sectors such as banking, insurance, telecommunications and real estate. Moroccan banks help companies develop their business interests in Africa.
- 3. South-South partnerships: a large number of double taxation treaties, investor protection and investment promotion agreements as well as free trade agreements with African countries have made it easier to do business and strengthened business relations within the region. The financial sector also benefits from a large number of cooperation agreements between regulators.

Tax incentives

Companies with CFC status benefit from an attractive tax regime. Financial institutions and professional service providers, for example, are exempt from paying corporation tax on their exports over a five-year period. Export revenues are taxed at a rate of 8.75% thereafter. CFC companies are also exempt from paying registration fees on establishing the company or increasing their share capital.

Partnerships with major international financial centres

Partnerships with other international financial centres are a key aspect of Casablanca Finance City's growth strategy. CFC has already signed partnership agreements with a number of major financial centres including Singapore, Luxemburg, London, Paris, Mauritius and Montreal.

High-class property on offer meeting international standards

The Casablanca Finance City zone, which covers an area of 100 hectares, is located at the very heart of the new Casablanca Anfa City Centre. The broad range of commercial and cultural property on offer includes office space and residential areas, as well as fifty hectares of green space. The CFC zone, which is ideally located with excellent connections to the city, offers a unique environment and quality of life within the region.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR QUERIES.

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