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.
- Role of **dual education systems** and international academic partnerships.
- Encouraging research and innovation through **university-industry collaboration**.
- Positioning Azerbaijan as a hub for **knowledge-based industries**.

7. Real Estate & Urban Development

- Opportunities in large-scale urban projects such as **Sea Breeze** and **White City**.
- Innovative **urban planning and integrated territorial development**.
- Impact of real estate projects on employment, tourism, and economic growth.
- International models for sustainable city development adaptable to Azerbaijan.
- Encouraging **mixed-use developments** that combine residential, commercial, and cultural spaces.

8. Transport, Logistics, & Infrastructure

- Expanding capacity of **ports, railways, and airports** to support trade corridors.
- Interconnectivity between **North-South and East-West routes**.
- Logistics hubs and free trade zones as investment drivers.
- Incorporating **digital logistics solutions** to enhance efficiency.
- Case studies on reducing transit times and improving cross-border trade flows.

9. Agriculture, Agribusiness, & Food Industry

- Investment opportunities in **agro-processing and food exports**.
- Modernizing agriculture through **precision farming and smart technologies**.
- Government incentives for rural development.
- Developing **agribusiness clusters** and export-oriented value chains.
- Leveraging liberated territories for **high-value agricultural production**.

10. Sea Breeze Health Valley: Azerbaijan's Global Gateway to Medical Excellence

- Strategic role of Sea Breeze Health Valley in advancing Azerbaijan's healthcare, life sciences, and economic diversification agenda
- Positioning Azerbaijan as a regional hub for high-quality medical services, pharmaceutical and biotech production, and digital health solutions
- Integration of healthcare delivery, research, manufacturing, and education into a unified, globally competitive cluster, drawing on global models while adapting to the national regulatory and market context
- Mobilizing governance, policy frameworks, and multistakeholder support - from government and investors to the Sea Breeze Health Valley Management Company - to ensure international standards and move from vision to implementation

11. Post-Conflict Reconstruction & Investment in Liberated Territories

- Opportunities in **infrastructure, housing, and industrial facilities** in liberated territories.
- Development of **smart villages** and tourism projects.
- Priority sectors: renewable energy, agriculture, logistics, and manufacturing.
- Role of international partners in post-conflict economic recovery.
- Ensuring sustainability and community integration in reconstruction efforts.

Exhibition

A dedicated exhibition space will feature thematic zones, including:

- Digital Azerbaijan and Smart Solutions
- Green energy, renewable power, and climate technologies
- Startups and innovation
- Tourism investment
- Agritech and food industry
- Chemical, heavy, and light industries
- Real estate and property
- FinTech and e-commerce
- Investment in liberated territories
- Water resources and climate solutions

The exhibition will provide interactive displays, visual project presentations, and dedicated "Agora" areas for small-group discussions and pitches (up to 40 participants per session).

Expected Outcomes

- Strengthened international visibility of Azerbaijan's investment environment
- New investment partnerships in strategic and emerging sectors
- Enhanced East-West and North-South connectivity discussions with actionable follow-ups
- Increased investor interest in Azerbaijan's non-oil sectors
- Promotion of regional cooperation and integration initiatives

Registration:

To participate in the Forum, please **register using the official registration form:**

Registration Link: https://azpromo.az/az/posts/1812/1st-azerbaijan-international-investment-forum