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## Taking stock to prepare for the future

IFSP Annual Conference on 22 May is set to look at the progress made in Malta's financial services, and how that is preparing the industry for the coming challenges.

The IFSP's Annual Conference for 2024, *Malta's Financial Services Proposition – A Status Check*, brings together a cast of front-line practitioners and experts to take stock of the achievements of the past years and the pitfalls avoided with a view to effectively tackle the challenges on the horizon.

The conference programme promises to be highly relevant and of great interest to any practitioner in Malta. The full programme can be viewed on the IFSP website, where briefs on each session and speakers, all leading experts in their field, will be available.

The IFSP conference would not have been possible without the support of the firms sponsoring the event. The IFSP thanks KPMG, Deloitte, the Malta Stock Exchange, and Croftz, along with Ganado Advocates, FinanceMalta, Working Town and RSM for their invaluable contribution to the discussion on the state of the industry and where it is going.

The conference opens with a look at the MFSAC Strategy for Financial Services published last year, taking a look the progress made on its recommendations and what needs to be done, followed by Stephen Attard's discussion with MBR CEO Geraldine Spiteri Lucas on the way the Malta Business Registry is developing. The morning continues with a discussion on AI in finance, during which a panel drawn from both the IT and finance worlds will demystify AI before looking at the ways this technology will be impacting the industry. This prepares the way for the final morning session, talking about the future direction of PMLFT in a session with some of Malta's leading PMLFT practitioners and Yehuda Shaffer, who is an international expert on PMLFT, and consultant to Malta NCC. Following lunch, the conference restarts with three concurrent breakout sessions. One looks at a few of the more pressing and impactful tax directives under discussion at the EU, with another examining the value delivered by sustainability in finance. The trio of breakout sessions is rounded off with a discussion of areas of growth for financial services in Malta.

The conference will continue with a discussion on the newly revised CSP Rulebook, looking at how the regime has changed in light of the lessons of two years of experience with the first regulated environment for CSP services. The final session, almost a tradition and highlight for IFSP conferences is a discussion between four of Malta's leading tax practitioners on the status of international taxation, and how they see it developing.

Book your place at the conference to participate in the discussion on how the state of the industry and its future direction will impact your business by visiting <https://ifsp.org.mt/conference/>.