

FSCA Press Release

18 June 2026

FSCA and OECD to host Symposium in Cape Town on Advancing Financial Education in Africa

The Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA), in partnership with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), will host a Symposium under the theme “**Advancing Financial Education in Africa**” on 19 June 2026 in Cape Town, South Africa. The Symposium will bring together policymakers, regulators, financial education practitioners, industry leaders’ and international experts to share expertise and strengthen collaboration on financial education and consumer protection across the continent. It will also provide a platform for strategic discussions on advancing financial literacy, promoting financial inclusion and enhancing consumer protection across Africa.

Participants will exchange on the current state of financial literacy in Africa and explore ways to build on the recent remarkable progress in financial inclusion. Discussions will highlight the importance of national financial literacy strategies in fostering a more coordinated and effective approach, drawing on the OECD Recommendation on Financial Literacy, an internationally recognised standard for strengthening financial literacy policies and practices.

Sessions will also examine emerging risks linked to digitalisation, including fraud and scams, and consider how financial education programmes can better reach and equip consumers – particularly vulnerable populations.

Financial literacy plays a critical role in enabling individuals to make informed financial decisions, manage risks and build long-term financial resilience. As African economies continue to evolve, empowering consumers with financial knowledge is essential to supporting sustainable economic growth and protecting consumers from financial vulnerability.

Commenting on the significance of the symposium, The Commissioner of the FSCA, Unathi Kamlana highlighted that, “The more we share real experiences and financial literacy

Executive Committee:

Commissioner: U. Kamlana | **Deputy Commissioners:** K. Gibson | F. Badat

strategies that actually work on the ground across Africa, the better we can equip people to make smarter financial decisions and use digital tools with confidence. That's how we protect consumers and build lasting financial well-being."

The Symposium follows the first meeting of the OECD-INFE Africa Network on 18 June, hosted by the FSCA. Members include 30 public authorities representing 36 countries and aims to strengthen regional cooperation and accelerate progress in financial education and consumer protection frameworks to enhance financial literacy and improve consumer outcomes across Africa.

Speaking ahead of the Symposium, Carmine Di Noia, Director for Financial and Enterprise Affairs at the OECD, said: *"Strengthening financial literacy is fundamentally about empowering people to make informed decisions and participate confidently in the financial system. Across Africa, rapid advances in digital finance, mobile money, fintech and capital markets are creating unprecedented opportunities for financial inclusion. Equipping people to navigate these opportunities is key not only to improving individual financial well-being and resilience, but also to accelerating the development of African economies. This Symposium and the new OECD/INFE Africa Network provide a vital platform to share experience and advance coordinated approaches across the region."*

About the FSCA

The FSCA regulates and supervises the market conduct of financial institutions in South Africa. The mandate of the FSCA is to enhance and support the efficiency and integrity of the financial system, and to protect financial customers. As stated in section 57 of the Financial Sector Regulation Act (No. 9 of 2017) this includes promoting the fair treatment of financial customers by financial institutions. Regulated financial institutions include banks, insurance companies, retirement funds and administrators, financial services providers, collective investment schemes, credit rating companies, central securities depositories, crypto asset service providers, and market infrastructures.

About the OECD and the OECD/INFE Africa Network

The OECD is an international organisation that works with governments to share policy experiences, develop evidence-based standards, and promote better policies for better lives. Its mission is to improve economic and social well-being worldwide by addressing a broad range of global challenges.

Created in 2008, the OECD International Network on Financial Education (OECD/INFE) promotes and facilitates international co-operation between policy makers and other stakeholders on financial education and financial literacy issues worldwide. Financial literacy refers to the combination of financial awareness, knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours necessary to make sound financial decisions and support financial well-being. Over 280 public institutions from more than 130 countries have joined the OECD/INFE. In 2026, the OECD/INFE launched the OECD/INFE Africa Network to promote the advancement of financial education and literacy in Africa, and related matters such as financial consumer protection and financial inclusion, leveraging OECD global networks, standards and expertise. The Network supports dialogue, knowledge-sharing and collaboration between participating African countries on best practices relating to the design, implementation, and evaluation of effective policies and practices in these areas.

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