RECONNAISSANCE HIGH SECURITY PRINTING™ ASIA

INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY ASSOCIATION

About the International Currency Association (ICA)

The ICA is the voice for the global currency industry

Advocating for the global use of cash, by creating awareness of the value of cash as a trusted public good

- Created in 2016 at the initiative of industry players
- Helps balance the conversation on future payments
- Demonstrates that cash is a vital part of the payment landscape – now and in the future
- Forms a community of thought leaders, influencers and innovators who are collectively driving the future of the industry
- Currently: **22 member companies**
- 3 different committees
- 1 sustainability committee

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About the International Currency Association (ICA)

ICA Sustainability Committee

- Set up in 2020
- Stimulates and coordinates the engagement and efforts of the ICA member companies on the topic of sustainability
- All ICA member companies can delegate one representative to this Committee
- Holds monthly meetings to advance on its Work Programme and to increase the engagement of the sector on sustainability even further.
- Currently: **13 member companies represented**
- Focus topics Work Programme 2025:
  - work of the individual ICA member companies to be even more sustainable on their own processes and materials
  - joint activity of the members together for a more sustainable cash cycle, notably through partnerships
  - promotion and communication of sustainability initiatives towards internal and external stakeholders

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End-of-life Management of Unfit Banknotes

The process of securely destroying or repurposing banknotes that are no longer fit for circulation.

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Carbon Footprint Reduction

Efforts to minimize the total amount of greenhouse gases emitted directly or indirectly by activities, products, or services in relationship with the whole banknote lifecycle.

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Durability of Banknotes

The ability of banknotes to withstand wear and tear over time. It refers to how long a banknote can last while maintaining its functionality and structural integrity under expected conditions of use.

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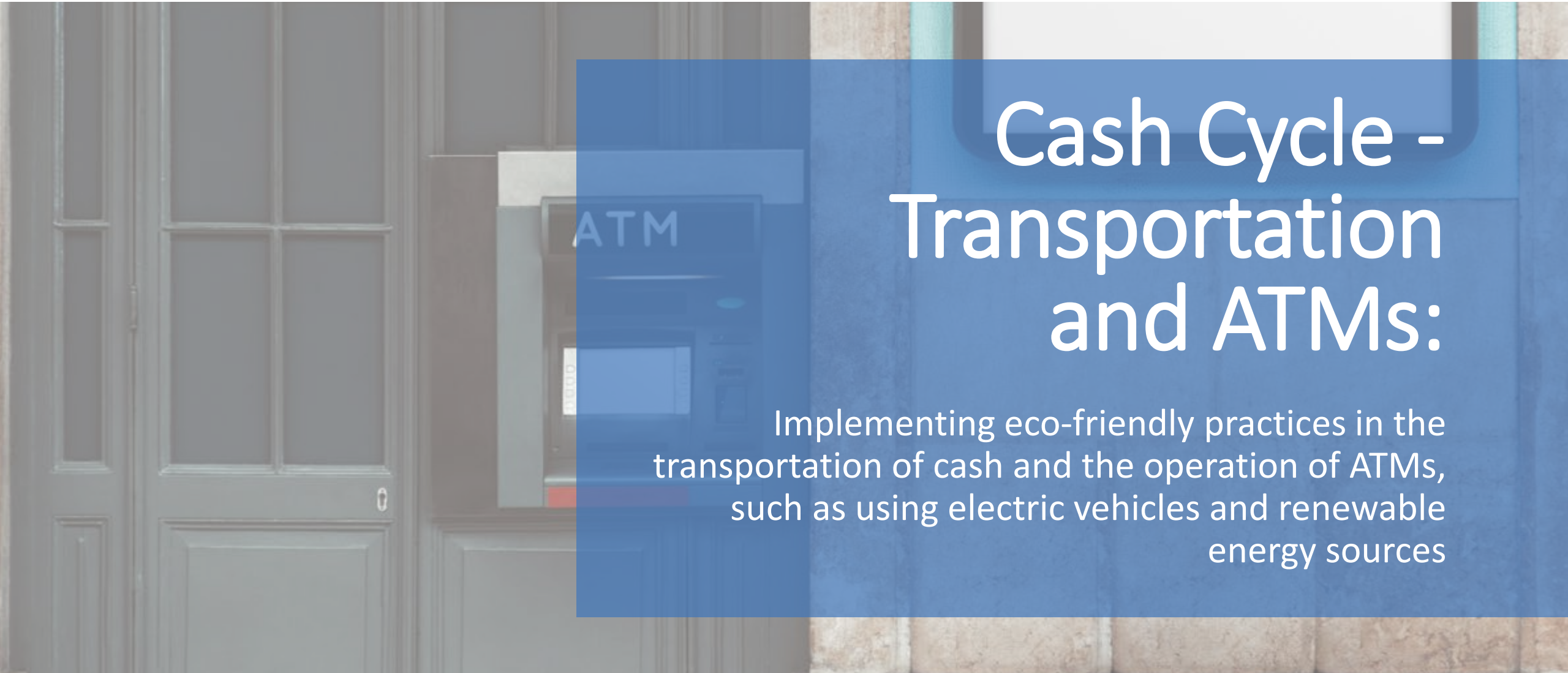

Cash Cycle - Transportation and ATMs:

Implementing eco-friendly practices in the transportation of cash and the operation of ATMs, such as using electric vehicles and renewable energy sources

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Setting of Organizational Targets

Establishing specific, measurable goals for a company's sustainability efforts, integrating them into business strategies and operations

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Requirements in Procurement

Incorporating environmental, social, and governance criteria into procurement processes to ensure that purchased goods and services support sustainable development and the achievement of sustainability targets set by one organization.

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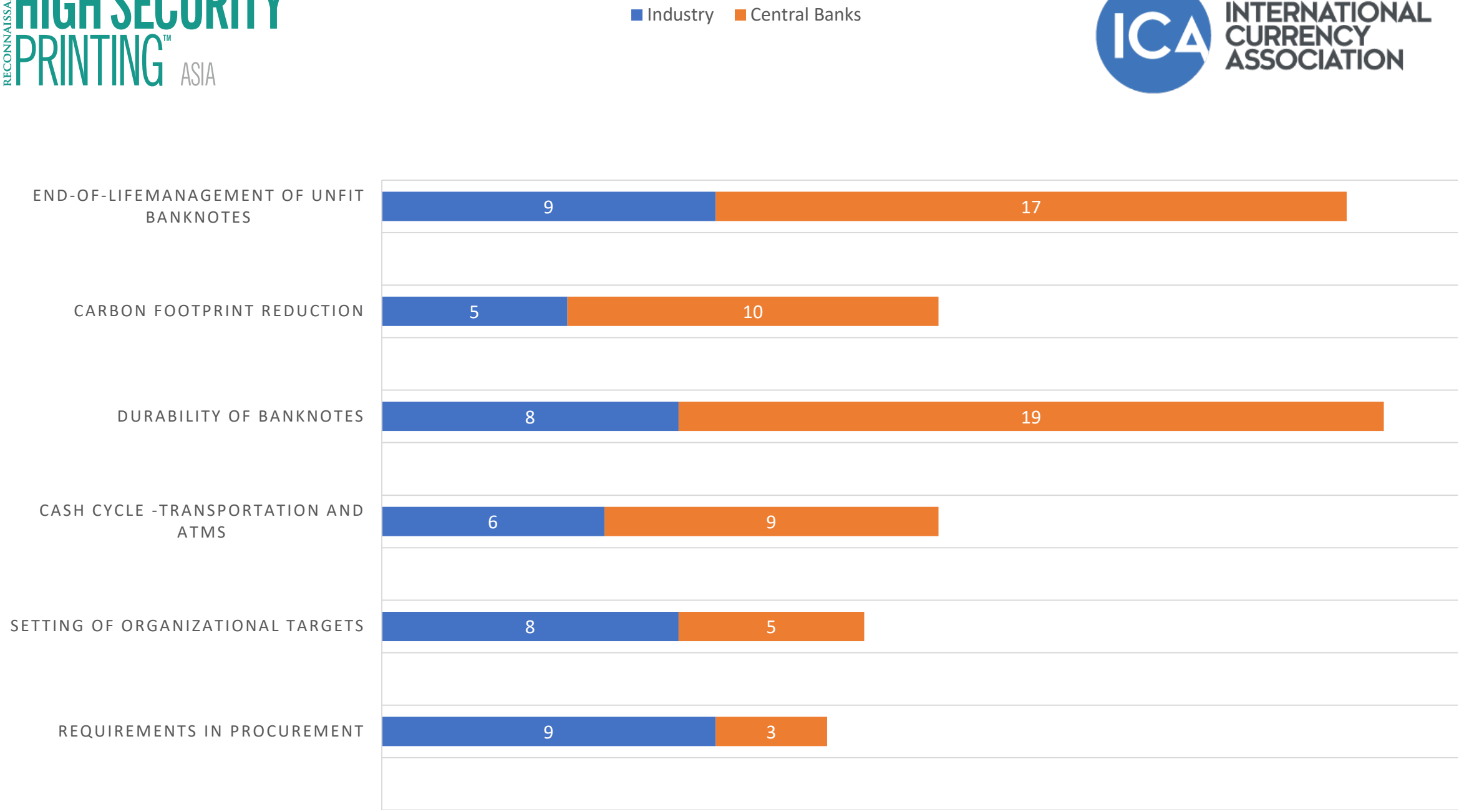

Setting of organizational targets

Ideas

- Start with UN sustainable development goals as a base for target definition
- Benchmarking with more experienced organizations
- Compulsory training for staff to raise awareness
- Ask staff for input and feedback
- Focus on the little things (it doesn`t need to be the big target right at the beginning; small changes also matter)
- Hire external consultancy to define targets that are realistic
- Integrate environmental efficiency in all procurement processes
- Every new implementation/ process/ product needs to be evaluated by ESG department

Challenges

- more guidance from government required + harmonization of targets
- Missing facilities to fulfill targets (e.g.: no waste recycling plants are close to Central Bank in order to achieve recycling target)
- Explaining the „Why“ (benefits, motivation, etc.)
- To evaluate, what is really important (don`t overwhelm people with sustainability)
- Addressing awareness in organization with support of top-management
- There are too many standards existing → which one to choose?

Needs

- Exchange with other Central Banks

Requirements in procurement

Ideas
- Value index for supplier ranking
- Implement standardized framework for all our industry
- Request of sustainability criteria for tender specs (KPI indication)

Challenges
- Sustainable requests in tenders could limit qualified suppliers
- Higher costs of sustainable options is critical for Central Banks
- Sources of sustainable raw materials are difficult to find
- Today no frameworks are available yet
- Difficult to verify suppliers` fulfillment of indicated sustainability value → proceed suppliers audits to check fulfillment

Needs
- Awareness for industry to follow expectations
- Have expertise in procurement department to contact suppliers on certain aspects
- Initiative for mindset of protecting environment (e.g. „10 for 1 tree program“)
- Enforce the regulations to fulfill sustainability criteria

Carbon Footprint Reduction

Ideas
- Installation of solar panels, energy saving- and new technologies
- Increase life of banknotes
- Individual evaluation of centralized vs. de-centralized cash centers
- Plantation of trees
- Local recycling, instead of far shipments of waste

Challenges
- no existing standards
- No existing laws/ laws are too weak
- International collaboration

Needs
- Enforcement of regulations
- Collection of data
- Communication
- Development goals (ICA)
- Priority level

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Durability of Banknotes

Ideas
- Different substrates
- Varnished paper note
- Embedded security features
- Design
- Color choice
- Printing process
- Data on when a banknote is unfit

Challenges
- If it is too durable, what happens?
- Sustainability vs. durability
- Culture of countries, climatic conditions
- Cash handling process
- Public communication

Needs
- Why is a banknote unfit? Need to know the cause
- Initiate global banknote durability/benchmark standard by taking in consideration climatic conditions, substrate and clean note policy
- Circulation trial evaluation
- Cash cycle and clean policy data

Cash Cycle – Transportation & ATMs

Ideas

- New packaging
- Buffer stocks
- Daily data
- ATM consolidation

Challenges

- Data
- Clean Note Policy
- ATM consolidation

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End-of-Life Management of unfit Banknotes

Ideas
- Briquettes → corrugated cardboard
- Composting
- Shredded banknotes are waste

Challenges
- Low and irregular quantity of banknotes
- Third-party availability

Needs
- Separation of chemicals from banknotes
- Sharing of case studies

GLOBAL CURRENCY FORUM

APRIL 27-30
2026
ANTALYA, TURKEY

GLOBAL CURRENCY FORUM

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF CURRENCY

LEADING PLATFORM FOR THE GLOBAL CASH COMMUNITY

Independent, future-focused, and built for progress.

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A space designed for collaboration, connection, and purpose – not promotion, or pitching. This is where the industry's key stakeholders meet as peers, united by a shared commitment to progress.

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If you are shaping the future of Currency, **you should be here.**

If you are setting policy, printing currency or managing a cash cycle, **you need to be here.**

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