



AIFC Aviation Finance Hub



Leading IFC in the region

AIFC is strategically positioned to service the growing market of Central Asian countries and neighbouring CIS countries, which encompass a region with

a combined GDP of \$2.81 trillion and a population of 252 mln people



Astana is the highest ranked city in the region (GFCI 39 as of March 2026)

What is AIFC?

Astana International Financial Centre is a rapidly developing financial hub located at the crossroads of Europe and Asia in the capital city of Kazakhstan.

With its cutting-edge infrastructure and favourable business environment, AIFC is quickly becoming a hub for global investment, innovation, and growth.



About Aviation Finance Hub



Facilitation of aircraft financing & leasing



Support of Sustainable Aviation development



Aviation trainings

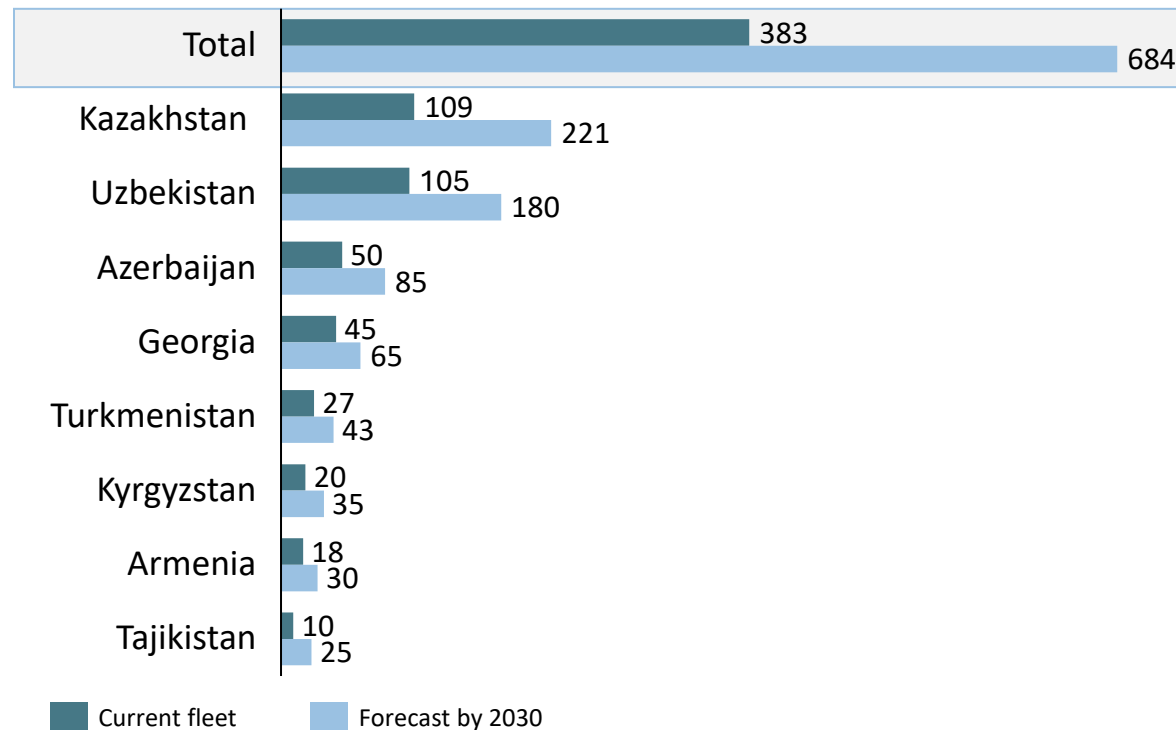


Aviation Consultancy from AIFC

- AIFC offers aircraft lessors a world-class jurisdiction that uniquely combines the asset security of English Common Law with a tax-neutral environment -effectively neutralizing regional risk while maximizing market access
- AIFC through Green Finance Center facilitates the development of sustainable aviation in the region by supporting SAF projects, and promotion of CORSIA carbon credits
- AIFC bridging the aviation industry's skills gap by domestically training finance and legal specialists
- AIFC promotes the attraction of international and local experts to create an excellence center of competence in the field of financial and technical consulting for airlines

Central Asia & Caucasus: Fleet expected to double by 2030

Regional commercial aircraft expansion by 2030



Source: National agencies of each country, AIFC Aviation Finance Hub analysis

Comments

- The regional fleet anticipated to double by 2030, this market constitutes a high-potential growth area within the global aviation landscape
- Kazakhstan maintains its leadership position, with a projected fleet expansion to over 200 aircraft. This aligns with its national strategy to establish multi-modal cargo and passenger hubs, supported by the liberalization of its "Open Skies" regime
- Uzbekistan demonstrates the most aggressive growth trajectory, aiming to more than double its fleet to 180 aircraft. This reflects the country's rapid economic opening and its mandate to transform Tashkent into a rival competitive hub for tourism and transit.

Aircraft leasing in AIFC: Common Law Jurisdiction

AIFC provides a cutting-edge legal framework based on the principles, norms, and precedents of the world-renowned law of England and Wales and the highest standards of the world's leading financial centers

■ Internationally familiar legal framework

- Employment
- Corporate Regulation
- AML & FATF
- Contracts
- Data Protection
- Insolvency

■ Flexibility of corporate regulation

■ Variety of legal forms

- Private/Public companies
- Investment companies
- Foundations
- Partnerships SPCs
- Non-profit org. etc.

■ AIFC Court's exclusive jurisdiction over disputes

Aircraft leasing in AIFC: Fiscal advantage

55+ tax treaties

- ✓ Ireland (Leasing Hub)
- ✓ Singapore (Asia Gateway)
- ✓ UAE (MENA Finance)
- ✓ United Kingdom (Legal)
- ✓ USA (Capital Markets)

	Kazakhstan (AIFC) WHT	Ireland WHT	Singapore WHT
Azerbaijan	Exclusive Treaty Access	Treaty not in Force	No Treaty
Kyrgyzstan	Exclusive Treaty Access	No Treaty	No Treaty
Tajikistan	Exclusive Treaty Access	No Treaty	No Treaty
Turkmenistan	Preferential Regional Rate	No Treaty	Treaty in place

AIFC – Aviation Finance Hub

Tax types	Kazakhstan (KZ)	AIFC regime	
		Authorised companies	Non-authorised companies
Corporate income tax (CIT)	20%	0%	20%
Value added tax (VAT)	16%	0%	16%
Withholding tax (WHT) on dividends and capital gains tax (CGT)	5-15%	0%	0%
Dividends paid on shares or participation interests of an AIFC participant company	20%	0%	0%
Capital gains from sale of shares or participation interests of an AIFC participant company	20%	0%	0%
Personal income tax (PIT) for foreign employees	10%	0%	10%
Capital gains from sale of securities listed on AIX	0%	0%	0%
Interest on securities listed on AIX	0%	0%	0%
Dividends on securities listed on AIX	0%	0%	0%

Aircraft leasing in AIFC: Asset safety

ICAO SAFETY COMPLIANCE

82%

- Above global average (67%)
- Above EUR/NAT regional benchmark (77%)
- All restrictions lifted from the European Commission's Air Safety List
- Active progression towards US FAA Category 1 status via the ongoing IASA assessment

CAPE TOWN & IDERA FRAMEWORK

- Kazakhstan is a Contracting State to the Cape Town Convention and the Aircraft Protocol, providing a globally recognized standard for asset-backed financing
- Clear legal mechanisms are in place for the Irrevocable De-Registration and Export Request Authorization (IDERA), granting lessors control over the asset in default.

AIFC is the premier international hub for aviation finance and leasing in Central Asia, distinguished by its leadership and specialized expertise in innovative, asset-backed structures.



Outcomes for Lessors:

- **Unlock New Capital:** Tap into the vast pool of investment to finance expansion into high-growth Central Asian and Caucasus markets
- **Secure Market Leadership:** Gain a powerful first-mover advantage to shape industry standards, build your brand, and lock in key clients before competitors arrive
- **Diversify Strategically:** Access a new client base of fast-growing regional airlines and manage your aircraft portfolio from a perfect hub connecting Europe and Asia
- **Capture Untapped Demand:** Gain a unique competitive edge by providing sought-after solutions to a significant and underserved market

Two ways of regulating aircraft leasing in AIFC (requirements)

Providing Credit License

Requirements	Minimum threshold
Application Fee (paid once)	14 000 USD
Registration Fee (paid once)	500 USD (via portal) or 1 500 USD (on paper)
Supervision Fee (annually)	9 800 USD
Minimum Capital Requirement	The Base Capital Requirement for a Credit Provider is 2 million USD
Liquid Assets Requirement	Must be maintained in accordance with AIFC Banking Business Prudential Rules
Appointment of Internal and External Auditor	Required
More detailed information	AFSA – Astana Financial Services Authority » Providing Credit

Providing Islamic Finance

Requirements	Minimum threshold
Application Fee (paid once)	14 000 USD
Registration Fee (paid once)	500 USD (via portal) or 1 500 USD (on paper)
Supervision Fee (annually)	9 800 USD
Minimum Capital Requirement	The Base Capital Requirement for a Credit Provider is 2 million USD*
Liquid Assets Requirement	Must be maintained in accordance with AIFC Islamic Banking Business Rules
Appointment of Internal and External Auditor	Required
More detailed information	AFSA – Astana Financial Services Authority » Providing Islamic Financing

**However, a special waiver currently applies, allowing for a gradual increase in capital requirements from USD 100,000 to USD 2 million over a 36-month period, depending on whether the company uses only its own funds or also external financing*

Two ways of regulating aircraft leasing in AIFC (requirements)

Requirements	Minimum threshold
<p style="text-align: center;">Organisational structure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of a Board of Directors; • Appointment of approved and designated individuals (SEO, Finance Officer, Compliance Officer, MLRO and a deputy MLRO, Risk Manager, Internal Audit Manager); • Appointment of committees within the company (Risk Committee, Compliance Committee etc.); • Shari’ah Supervisory Board (at least 3 members) (<i>applicable for Providing Islamic Finance</i>)
<p style="text-align: center;">Each applicant will be required to submit documentation evidencing the internal control systems that will govern the affairs of the applicant as part of the authorisation process:</p>	
Providing Credit	Providing Islamic Finance
<p>AML Policy, Internal Control Policy, Compliance Manual, Compliance Monitoring Programme, Risk Management Policy, Remuneration Policy, Outsourcing Policy, Business Continuity Plan/Disaster Recovery Plan, Conflict of Interest, Credit Risk Management Policy, Market Risk Management Policy, Operational Risk Management Policy, Interest Rate Risk Management Policy, Concentration Risk Policy, Large Exposure Policy, Trading Book Policy, Liquidity Risk Management Policy, Group Risk Management Policy, Disclosure Policy</p>	<p>AML Policy, Internal Control Policy, Compliance Manual, Compliance Monitoring Program, Risk Management Policy, Remuneration Policy, Outsourcing Policy, Business Continuity Plan/Disaster Recovery Plan, Conflict of Interest, Internal Audit Policy, Investment Research Policy, Islamic Financial Business policy and procedures, Shari’ah Supervisory Board Policy</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">AFSA – Astana Financial Services Authority » Providing Credit</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AFSA – Astana Financial Services Authority » Providing Islamic Financing</p>





Contact us

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