Hello

Welcome to the first edition of the Rise FinTech report. Rise, created by Barclays, is a global network of the world’s top innovators working together to create the future of financial services. This report is a snapshot of our global Rise network and brings you the latest FinTech insights from across the world for this quarter.

With over 250 companies across our Rise sites and over 300 alumni, we have access to a huge range of change makers in the industry. Our mission is to better connect technology, talent and trends from our network to accelerate innovation and growth for Barclays, startups and corporates. We hope you enjoy and will share these insights.

Join us and rise to the challenge to transform finance.

#HomeofFinTech

Foreword
Global innovation investment outlook

Innovation is the process by which new ideas generate economic and social value. The emergence of FinTech has been critical in driving innovation and is a great contributor to growth and productivity within financial services.

For over 325 years, innovation has been part of Barclays’ DNA. It’s allowed us to co-create with our rich, diverse network of colleagues, partners, customers and clients around the world. This has led to a host of industry firsts, from installing the first ATM in the UK to generating the world’s first trade transaction using blockchain technology.

It’s become increasingly evident that technological innovation, through the emergence of FinTechs, is critical to the future of financial services. Innovation and FinTechs are key to increasing market access, the range of product offerings and convenience while also lowering costs.

According to KPMG’s FinTech report, investment in FinTechs reached a new record in 2018. Globally, the total number of investments, across M&A, PE and VC, doubled from $50.8 billion in 2017 to $111.8 billion in 2018. This increase can be traced back to three main deals – $17 billion investment by Blackstone in Refinitiv, the $13 billion acquisition of UK’s WorldPay by Vantiv and the $14 billion capital funding raised by Chinese firm Ant Financial.

2018 also witnessed an increase in FinTech investment through corporate venture arms. Corporate VC investment nearly doubled last year, rising from $11.6 billion in 2017 to $23.1 billion in 2018. In addition, established technology companies also participated in the FinTech investments during that period – a trend which is likely to continue for the foreseeable future.

At Rise, we are committed to driving innovation within Barclays and shaping the future of financial services. Rise Growth Investment funds is new investment capital for companies who have been part of the Barclays Accelerator, powered by Techstars, programme. This allows Barclays to invest £10 million per Accelerator class, translating to £30 million capital available for investment per year across our three Accelerator classes.

Michal Beinisch
Global Head of Rise
FinTech Platform

1 Investing in Innovation, Royal Academy of Engineering, 2015
2 FinTech and market structure in financial services: Market developments and potential financial stability implications, FSB, 2019
3,4,5 The Pulse of Fintech, KPMG, 2018
FinTech continued to be the hottest thing in tech during Q1 2019 – there was the launch of the Apple Card, the giant ($400 million) investment by Softbank in UK FinTech Oaknorth and the recognition by major brands like Goldman, ING and NatWest that it was time to create their own FinTechs and challenger brands (Marcus, Yolt and Mettle respectively). At 11:FS we talk about the war for customers taking place on the banking battlefield, whether it’s incumbents, challengers or big techs we see different approaches playing out. The big banks with a base of customers are trying new ways to adopt and adapt to the market expectation that challengers have created. Challengers are asserting simple and delightful experiences for their customers. Big techs are beginning to encroach into the profitable parts of banking and are winning brand and mindshare from customers.

The reality is there has never been a better time to be in FinTech, and whilst the investment amounts are astronomical, there’s simply so much still to do. At 11:FS we like to say “digital banking is only 1% finished”. We say this because the journey is just getting started. If you think FinTech has happened, think again. Whether it’s the focus on small business banking brought about by the Alternative Remedies Package in the UK and challengers in the US or the slew of micro-savings/lending platforms like Acorns and Plum, FinTech is evolving. As 2019 progresses, more and more of the banking and financial services value chain will be attacked by FinTechs, with funding to follow.2

Simon Taylor
Co-Founder and Blockchain Lead, 11:FS

1 Disclosure: 11:FS worked to deliver Mettle for NatWest
2 For more information on FinTech Trends please check out 11:FS’ podcast, Fintech Insider, on iTunes or Spotify.
We’re moving into spring and we’ve survived the first quarter of 2019, and despite the grey weather blockchain has been highly visible.

With London Blockchain Week in February, we saw a community of experts, enthusiasts and innovators in this space gather for a week of events across the city. Over 3,000 participants took part throughout the week in various activities, including workshops and a blockchain hackathon.

In addition, we witnessed the launch of a blockchain exchange-traded fund (ETF) on the London Stock Exchange this quarter. Investment management firm, Invesco, launched an ETF that targets companies with a blockchain as their key offering for revenue generation.¹

A recap for novices out there – blockchain is a subset of distributed ledger technology (DLT), acting as a database that takes a number of records and groups them into ‘blocks’. The blocks are assembled to form a ‘chain’ using a cryptographic signature. This acts as a ledger, which can be shared and corroborated by anyone with the appropriate permissions.²

Blockchain has several applications within financial services, namely payments, transaction banking, trade finance and capital markets.

If we review the role blockchain plays in capital markets and crypto, there’s a lot to get excited about. Blockchain is at the heart of developing the issuing process for tokens. Taking the use case of security token offerings (STO) as an example, the ledger technology can safely extend accessibility and liquidity, normally part of FX and commodities markets, to issue and sell shares in private companies. To reference Nicola McNeely, tech lawyer and expert, this poses the question of whether, in the future, we can say ‘bye’ to IPOs and ‘hello’ to STOs? Watch this space.

And don’t overlook the use of blockchain for payments. IBM have accelerated the blockchain revolution with the launch of their global payments network, IBM Blockchain World Wire. Moreover, with Chainalysis raising a series B round of $30 million in their compliance-based software for cryptocurrency transactions, this space should not be underestimated.³

¹ Invesco blockchain ETF to launch on London Stock Exchange, 2019, Financial Times
² Distributed Ledger Technology: Beyond Block Chain, 2016, Government Office for Science
³ Blockchain Sleuthing Startup Chainalysis Raises $30 Million, 2019, Coin Desk
Rise global ecosystem

Enterprise Solutions

Innovation Services

Lending

Risk, Compliance & Regtech

Services

Wealth & Investment Management

AI, Big Data & Machine Learning

Banking & Payments

Blockchain

Capital Markets & Trading

The information on the infographic is accurate at the time of publication.
Rise ecosystem insights

London
• $879m in VC investments
• 30 VC deals
• Top VC deals: OakNorth – $440m, Starling Bank – $98m, GoCardless – $76m
• 10,000+ Rise visits
• 100+ Rise startup introductions
• 75+ Rise events

New York
• $404m in VC investments
• 33 VC deals
• Top VC deals: Better Mortgage – $75m, Stash – $65m, YieldStreet – $62m
• 8,700+ Rise visits
• 30 Rise startup introductions
• 80+ Rise events

Mumbai
• $116m in VC investments
• 3 VC deals
• Top VC deals: BillDesk – $85m, Mswipe Technologies – $31m, CoinDCX – undisclosed
• 2,100+ Rise visits
• 25+ Rise startup introductions
• 40+ Rise events

Tel Aviv
• $23m in VC investments
• 3 VC deals
• Top VC deals: nsKnox – $15m, Colu – $7m, Tigapo – $1m
• 2600+ Rise visits
• 130+ Rise startup introductions
• 35+ Rise events

Vilnius
• 0 VC deals
• 1,980+ Rise visits
• 10+ Rise startup introductions
• 30+ Rise events

VC investment statistics provided by Innovate Finance
Case study: Flux

Digitising receipts and rewards from within your banking app.

Flux was founded on a simple idea: it’s insane that you can go from using 21st-century technology of contactless payments to 1008C technology of paper receipts.

So, the team at Flux created a solution with a mission to digitise, automate and organise the world’s receipts whilst creating more valuable interactions with a positive environmental footprint.

Key features

- Automatic digital receipts and loyalty points from participating retailers straight to your mobile banking app
- Makes itemised spend data available to banks, generating new insights that can be monetised
- Enables retailers to connect the offline and online world.

tryflux.com

Case study: Simudyne

Inform decision making by using predictive analytics to simulate highly complex scenarios.

Leaders have access to unprecedented quantities of information. They need to act fast, break down silos and solve big problems.

Simudyne helps senior leaders accelerate optimum performance by providing a platform to help make radically better decisions.

Key features

- Quickly build and run complex models with billions of parts
- Provide immediate answers through an easily digestible interface
- The only secure simulation platform certified by Cloudera (market leading Hadoop ‘Big Data’ platform).

**Value**

- Enables Barclays to do predictive analytics at a large scale and extremely low computational cost
- Simulate more detailed scenarios and understand the spectrum of possible outcomes
- Gain insights and make quicker, data-driven decisions.

**The Barclays partnership**

Simudyne’s software has been described as ‘potentially transformational’ to our business and a successful pilot was completed across Barclays (Quantitative Analytics, Risk Analytics, Credit Risk, FIRM, Omni-Channel and Customer Experience). Barclays now has an Enterprise Platform License with Simudyne to help us better manage risk, as well as looking at revenue generating use cases across the business. Simudyne is also building out our talent base for data scientists.

simudyne.com

¹ Correct at time of writing
Innovate Finance is an independent membership association that represents the UK’s global FinTech community. Founded in 2014, Innovate Finance is a not-for-profit that advances the country’s leading position in the financial services sector by supporting the next generation of technology-led financial services innovators. More than 250 global members have joined to date ranging from seed stage startups to global financial institutions and professional services firms. All benefit from Innovate Finance’s leading position as a single point of access to promote enabling policy and regulation, talent development, business opportunity and investment capital.

Learn more at innovatefinance.com
About Rise, created by Barclays

Rise, created by Barclays, is a global community of the world’s top innovators working together to create the future of financial services. With a diverse network of FinTech talent, one of the world’s leading accelerator programme and workspaces based in the main FinTech hubs of the world, Rise is an exclusive place for FinTech companies to connect, create and scale together with Barclays.

To join our community, or keep in touch with the latest Rise news, visit or follow us on:

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