

Network News

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Highlights from the 42nd Annual Global Conference

We were delighted to welcome delegates from around the world to the beautiful city of Madrid for the Russell Bedford International Annual Global Conference 2025.



Before the conference, Stephen Hamlet, CEO of Russell Bedford International, and Kathryn Davis, Associate Director of Network Engagement, visited our host firm A.G. Consultores at their Madrid offices. It was a fantastic opportunity to meet their team, exchange ideas and hear about their future plans.



The conference began with registration followed by a welcome dinner at La Manzana restaurant in the Hyatt Regency Hesperia hotel. Delegates enjoyed an evening of reconnecting with colleagues, meeting new members and celebrating the continued success of our firms around the globe.



Day one opened with welcomes from CEO Stephen Hamlet and Global Chair Daniel Ryba, followed by a full agenda. Highlights included executive updates from our Central Office and sessions on cross-border business development, AI in accountancy, and the impact of international minimum tax rules.



Delegates later enjoyed cocktails, dinner and the wonderful views over Madrid at Ginkgo Restaurante & Sky Bar.



Day two continued with another strong line-up of sessions, covering strategies for effective collaboration, building sustainable business success, cyber security insights, and updates from our Centres of Excellence.



On the final day, delegates explored topics including succession planning and maintaining the gold standard in quality, followed by our Annual General Meeting and the exciting announcement that Los Angeles will host the 2026 Annual Global Conference.



To close of the conference, delegates gathered for a drinks reception and gala dinner at the iconic Real Casino de Madrid.



"This conference has been a fantastic reminder of the strength of our global community. We've shared knowledge, celebrated achievements and strengthened the relationships that make our network so unique. I'm incredibly proud of what we continue to achieve together." - Stephen Hamlet, CEO of Russell Bedford International.

A huge thank you to our delegates, speakers and hosts for making this year's conference such a success.

Members can visit the intranet event page for speaker presentation uploads and event photos: [42nd Annual Global Conference - International Accounting - Audit - Tax - Consulting | Russell Bedford global network](#)

BAA joins Russell Bedford International in Jeddah



Russell Bedford International welcomes Bassam Abed Andijani Company to its global network in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Russell Bedford International is pleased to announce the addition of Bassam Abed Andijani "BAA" Certified Public Accountants and Consultants to its global network.

Based in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, BAA is a full-service audit and financial consulting firm dedicated to supporting businesses of all sizes. With three partners and a client base of more than 70 organisations, BAA provides a wide range of services including audit, accounting, bookkeeping, tax and business advisory.

In addition, the firm's specialised offering includes a full range of managed ERP and financial reporting solutions, powered by Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central.

"We are delighted to welcome BAA to our network in Saudi Arabia", said Stephen Hamlet, CEO of Russell Bedford International. "Their experienced and client-focused team further strengthens our presence in the Middle East, and they are ideally positioned to support the vital role that accounting will play in delivering Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030."

Maher Zureikat, Managing Partner at BAA, commented:

"Joining Russell Bedford International is a significant milestone for our firm and our clients. This partnership reinforces our commitment to delivering world-class accounting and advisory services in Saudi Arabia, while connecting our clients to a global network of expertise. We look forward to contributing to the growth and success of businesses locally and across the region."

Patter Foundation chosen for this year's Russell Bedford Cares Programme



As part of the Russell Bedford Cares programme 2025, Russell Bedford International is proud to announce its support for the Patter Foundation - a dynamic charitable initiative established with the assistance of Russell Bedford member firms Amazon Associates and Camphin Boston in the Mlawe Vubwi District of Eastern Zambia.

The Patter Foundation is pioneering a transformative community development project that blends cultural heritage, sustainable architecture, and social empowerment. This initiative unites more than 20,000 residents across 26 rural village clusters.

Empowering communities through three core projects

1. Umodzi Epicentre

At the heart of the Foundation's work is the Umodzi Epicentre, a multifunctional community hub providing education, healthcare, and economic opportunity. The centre includes:

- A health clinic with maternity services, professional nursing staff and essential medical supplies.
- A nursery and adult education programme, offering literacy classes, trade skills, nutrition and leadership training.
- A technology classroom with a fully equipped computer lab and free satellite Wi-Fi access for the community.
- Agricultural support facilities, including a hammer mill, grain store and an agricultural supply shop.

Village ambassadors have been appointed to promote the Epicentre's services and share learnings within their communities. However, transportation remains a challenge, as many villagers travel over 10km on foot to access the centre. The Foundation is currently fundraising USD 25,000 to purchase 116 bicycles, ensuring greater accessibility for all.



2. OurPitch

Through its OurPitch programme, the Foundation uses football to inspire youth and community development. The initiative promotes teamwork while supporting the growth of football in Zambia by training coaches, building pitches, organising tournaments and supplying equipment. Learn more at ourpitch.org/impact



3. Nkalango Farm Project

Currently in the planning phase, the Nkalango Farm Project represents a multi-million-dollar investment in agricultural innovation. The project will establish a model farm to provide hands-on training in modern farming techniques and agritech solutions - enhancing yields, food security and rural livelihoods.



A shared vision for sustainable growth

Through its support of the Patter Foundation, Russell Bedford International reaffirms its commitment to creating lasting social impact and empowering communities worldwide. Together, these efforts demonstrate the transformative power of collaboration, compassion, and sustainability in action.

Supporting Global Sustainability Through Partnership with WasteAid

In alignment with our ongoing commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility, Russell Bedford International is proud to support WasteAid, a UK-based non-governmental organisation dedicated to improving waste management and recycling in low- and middle-income countries.

At Russell Bedford, our mission to reduce our environmental footprint extends beyond our daily operations. In 2023, we took a deliberate step toward sustainability by eliminating conference gift bags and redirecting those funds toward charitable causes focused on environmental protection. Continuing this initiative in 2025, our donation supports WasteAid's vital work in building



WasteAid collaborates with local communities and policymakers across Africa and Asia to deliver waste management and recycling programmes where they are needed most. Their initiatives strengthen emerging waste collection and recycling sectors, creating livelihood opportunities while reducing pollution and carbon emissions.

In 2024 alone, WasteAid's impact was remarkable:

- Positively improving the lives of 1,285,531 people through 13 programme interventions across five countries.
- Removing over 300,000 kg of waste that would otherwise have been dumped or burned.
- Preventing approximately 593.76 metric tonnes of CO₂ emissions from entering the atmosphere.
- Delivering 7,862 hours of training and mentoring to waste collectors, empowering them to launch and grow their own green enterprises.



Russell Bedford International's support of WasteAid reflects the firm's deep-rooted belief that sustainability and community impact go hand in hand. Through responsible choices and global partnerships, we are helping to foster a cleaner planet, stronger communities, and a more sustainable future for all.

Learn more about WasteAid's projects and impact at wasteaid.org.

taking you further day 2025

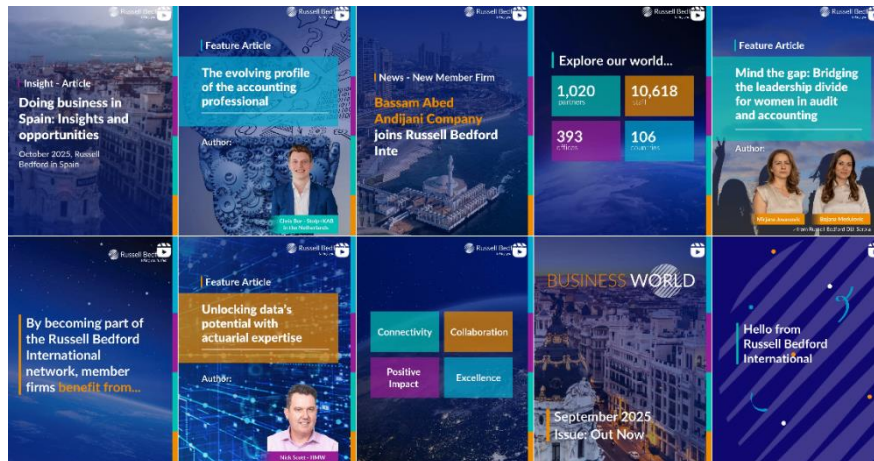


Our annual *taking you further* day will be held on 3 December 2025. Don't forget to [register](#) for the *taking you further* day virtual party! For those who wish to present their activities at the virtual party, please send a 3 minute video or presentation to hira.asghar@russellbedford.com by **28 November 2025**.

Join us to celebrate the network's core values, reflect on our achievements and look forward to the upcoming new year together.

Take part in our *taking your further* day quiz [here](#) to win a donation to a charity of your choice.

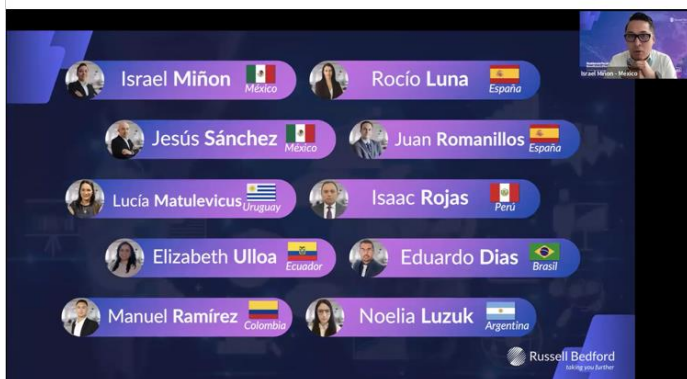
Follow Our New Instagram Account



Follow us on our brand-new Russell Bedford International Instagram account. This new social media channel allows us to update you with even more Russell Bedford news and showcase the benefits of being part of the Russell Bedford International network.

Follow @Russellbedfordinternational and stay tuned for further updates, insights and news to come.

Ibero-American Tax Committee Webinar



The Ibero-American Tax Committee's recent webinar, 'Tax Residency and Ultimate Beneficial Ownership in Ibero-America', featuring 10 speakers from 8 countries, attracted a record number of over 1,000 attendees from firms and clients across the region.

Watch the (Spanish) recording [here](#).

Russell Bedford Malaysia Hosts Firm Games

Russell Bedford Malaysia is currently taking part in the Inter-Accounting Firm Games (IAFG) 2025. The games feature a range of team sports including badminton, bowling and pickleball.

Follow the team to keep up with their progress [here](#).



Just In the Place Golf Tournament



Russell Bedford España recently celebrated the ninth edition of their Just In the Place Golf Tournament at the prestigious Real Club de Golf El Prat. This was followed by cocktails, music and an awards ceremony.

See more [here](#).

Webinar Recordings

Thank you to those who attended our recent webinars. We hope you found them useful.

For members who were unable to attend, please see links below to access the recordings for our most recent webinars.

[Reports - ESG and Narrative Reporting](#)

[Data Analytics: Practical Tips for Accountants and Auditors](#)

[ISA315R - Understanding the IT environment](#)

A reminder that all our historic webinar recordings are available on our [Events page](#) by scrolling down to "Past Events". In addition, keep a look out for our upcoming video summaries on each event page offering a quick overview of each video prior to watching.

Forthcoming conferences

For further details about upcoming Russell Bedford conferences and to register, please visit the [Events](#) page on the intranet.



Managers & Young Partners Conference

The 2025 Russell Bedford Managers & Young Partners Conference will be held from 23 - 25 November in Hamburg, Germany. **Registration closes Friday 31 October.** Please visit our members [Events Page](#) on the intranet for details.



Americas Conference

The 2026 Russell Bedford International Americas Conference will be held from 15 - 18 January in San José, Costa Rica. Registration is still open. Please visit our members [Events Page](#) on the intranet for details.

Russell Bedford - key facts and figures

- More than 40 years of global service
- Top 20 global accounting network
- Over USD 900 million global fee income
- Some 1000 partners and over 10,000 staff
- Almost 400 offices in more than 100 countries

For previous editions of Network News, visit our [Network News](#) webpage.