

## **FinTech and the Future of Finance**

Financial technology, Fintech, is one of the fastest-growing industries in the business world. Professionals have praised it as the future of finance. Fintech refers to the integration of traditional financial services with future technologies like Big data, Cloud Computing, and Online Wallets) to build more inclusive, effective, and efficient financial services, and in turn affect the development of embracing economies.

The emergence of fintech disrupted the financial market and created more opportunities for new businesses and the development of old ones.

The future fintech creates can be seen through the stories of big brands like PayPal, Flutterwave, and Google Pay and the growth of sectors like VAS (value-added services), IOT (Internet of things), Loans, and BlockChain.

AI, Data analysis tools and software can now advise users on investments and asset management - not just at the corporate level, but at the retail consumer level - and now, with big data and machine learning, users can monitor transactions, perform automated trading, and identify threats.

Technological advancements have also ensured that physical money can be spent in the digital world; thereby, changing the way we view cash. The world is now going cashless with more people opting to make transfers, and use payment cards or QR codes rather than spending physical cash.

No doubt, Fintech is fostering innovation and competition side by side, but it also comes with its own risk, which it has proven to eventually come up with solutions for. While fintech has pushed for the advancement of the finance sector by lowering the barriers to entry, it has also blurred the boundaries between the financial sectors and government regulations, by exploiting loopholes for financial advantages.

The government has tried to mitigate the risks brought about by the rise of fintech by constantly reviewing and editing policies and tightening the loopholes which can be exploited by fintech. However, Fintech being the future of Finance is anticipating these changes, and evolving with them.

With all these advancements and evolution currently going on, it is not possible to predict the exact effect that fintech will have on the future of the finance world. The effect will vary, but what we know for certain, is that it will bring about more business

opportunities, the advancement of some businesses, the extinction of others, changes in government policies, and more exploitation of policy loopholes for business profits.