

WAPPP'S 2026 THEME: NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING INSTITUTIONS (NIFIS) Building the institutional engines behind scalable infrastructure delivery



FROM CONCEPTS TO INSTITUTIONS

- 2024 — SMALL-SCALE PPPS

Highlighted the role of small and mid-size PPPs in empowering local governments and SMEs to deliver inclusive, locally anchored infrastructure

- 2025 — BLENDED FINANCE

Demonstrated how catalytic capital can de-risk projects and crowd in private investment

- 2026 — NIFIS

Focuses on the permanent institutional architecture that enables these approaches to operate at scale

WHAT ARE NIFIS?

State-sponsored, nationally anchored entities created to mobilize, intermediate, and deploy long-term capital for infrastructure.

They may take the form of development banks, national infrastructure funds, or hybrid bank–fund models.



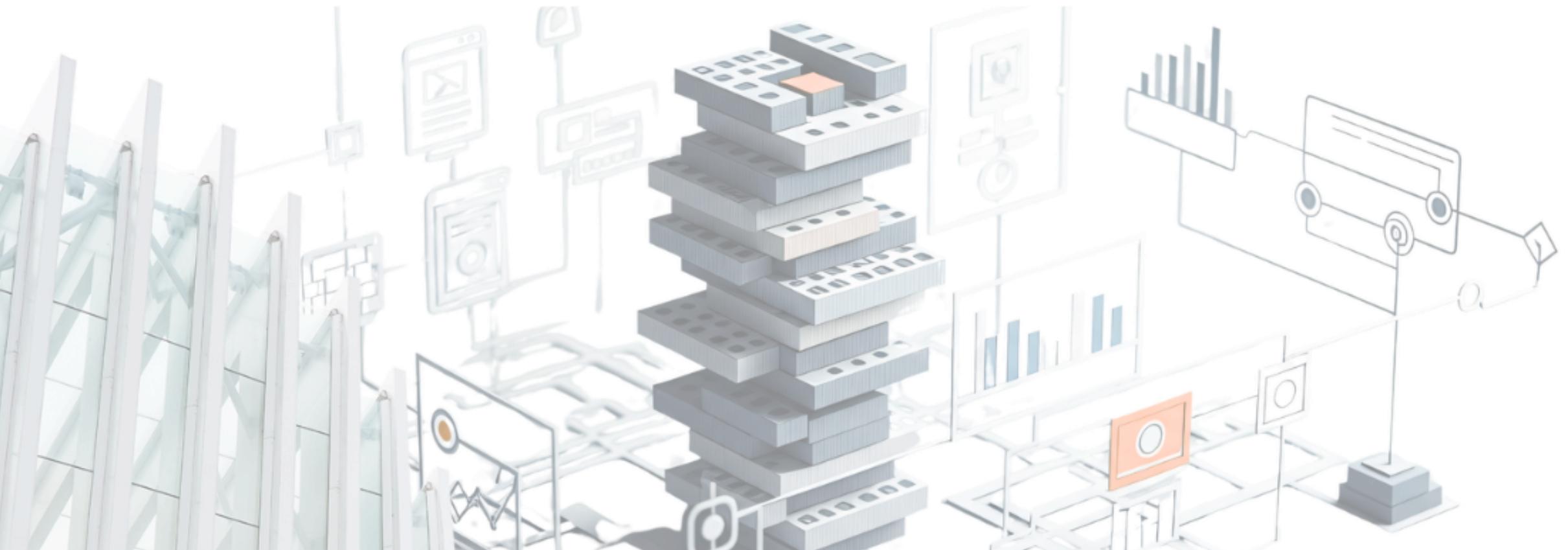
WHAT DO NIFIS DO?

Mobilize long-term capital; deploy debt, equity, guarantees, and blended finance tools; improve project bankability; de-risk PPP pipelines; and strengthen local enterprise participation.



WHY THIS THEME MATTERS

NIFIs help close infrastructure financing gaps caused by limited fiscal space, fragmented pipelines, and underdeveloped capital markets by providing scalable and credible financing mechanisms.



THE 2026 LEARNING SERIES

- Foundations: Why NIFIs Matter
- Models & Mandates: Banks, Funds, and Hybrids
- Design & Governance: Building the Institution
- De-risking for Impact: Instruments & Blended Finance
- Housing Finance: Sectoral Applications
- Local Participation: SMEs & Domestic Enterprises
- Ecosystem Integration: NIFIs, PPP Units & DFIs

JOIN THE GLOBAL CONVERSATION

WAPPP invites case studies, speakers, policy-makers, and partners to help shape practical insights for the next generation of infrastructure finance.

