



Confidential Customized for **SowFin** Version 1.0

# TOC

Overview Social Media

Brand Events

Editorial Resources & Accessibility



#### **Problems We Solve**

- Most corporate finance functions (investment, financing & payout) involve laborious and manual processes.
- The result is a set of overly complicated spreadsheets, making it harder for the decision makers to focus on the most important data elements.
- The process is inherently expensive and slow due to the amount of manual work and lack of data integration. There is little learning from previous decisions and few insights into the current analysis.

SowFin is here to change all that.



### What is SowFin?

A SaaS platform offering strategic financial analysis, analytics, and productivity tools to large corporations. This helps them make **faster** and **insightful** decisions. It provides –

- Agile tools for capital budgeting, financing, payout, internal valuation, and M&A analysis
- Links between corporate functions for integrated decision-making
- Multiple sources for real-time data connectivity speed up the analysis



# Differentiation & The Market

# **Scenario Analysis**

Allows users to visualize various scenarios

# **Efficiency**

Reduce strategic finance analysis & decision time to just a couple of weeks!

# Data Visualization

Strong data visualization & graphics to facilitate decision making!

# **Error Elimination**

Eliminating the scope for human errors provides additional confidence to CFO & leadership team

# Differentiation & The Market

Unlike other financial products in the market, our cloud-based product also offers:

# Quality

Fully tested financial analysis tools to eliminate the scope for human errors

# **Agility**

Multiple sources for real-time data connectivity speed up the analysis

# **Flexibility**

Insights, visualization, graphics & modeling of various scenarios at fingertips

# **Business Objectives**

- 1. Increase revenue by signing new clients
- 2. Generate awareness for SowFin among potential customers
- 3. Become leaders and experts in the SaaS finance space



**Communications Purpose** 

Our goal is to meet business objectives by developing well-executed and integrated communications campaigns with a focus on social media, thought leadership, and events.



## Guidelines

# 01 - Consistency Matters

With a start-up, every employee's voice matters. Everything they say about SowFin matters. The key is **consistency**.

Our goal is to create one clear message that answers -

- What we do
- Why SowFin
- What's our story



### Website

02 - Colors, Etc.

#### SITE COLORS

MAIN COLOR





#A8CC43





SECONDARY COLOR #118A66





- SowFin is built for growth. Between scaling the product and growing customer capabilities
   growth is everywhere.
- Green is used to stimulate a positive perception of content. It can also represent growth, wealth, and prosperity.
- Strong color combos include green x violet x orange, green x brown x white, and green x yellow x white.

Read more: Here.

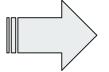


## Website

03 - Logo

- Keep the same logo in all contexts!
- Easy to identify
- Use png format with background removed
- Invert green colors when showing on green background

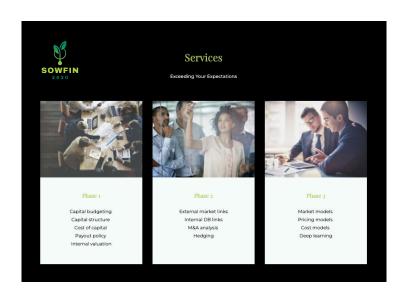




HOME Plans & Pricing Blog About Services Contact Clients Careers FAQ

# Website

04 - Sample







## Website

05 - SEO

- The SowFin site should take into account digital analytics that provide insights into its users.
- Consider bounce rate, sessions, time on page, exit page, etc.,
- Optimize headlines, URLS, search engine rankings, etc.

Read more: <u>Here</u>.



### Website

06 - Mobile

- 50% of B2B inquiries being made on mobile last year.
- The SowFin comms plan and website should have mobile at its core
- Consider preview text, mobile UX, etc.
- According to Google's <u>Mobile-Friendly Test</u>, SowFin is "mobile-friendly," which is a good start.





#### $\equiv$

**Tone & Voice** 

We are calm. We are experts. We are thoughtful. We help executives by making their life easier. We are SowFin.



# 01 – Founder Story

- Founder & CEO Ishtiaque Mohammad will be the company's key spokesperson
  - Supported by Senior Director, Suhel Ahmed
- "Seasoned professional and passionate leader with 20+ years experience in IT industry thriving at the intersection of corporate strategy, finance and business development."
- LinkedIn profiles should be up-to-date, including photos, URL, and SowFin information.



## 02 - Content Pillars

#### **Expertise in finance**

This content will help SowFin become a respected leader in the space

#### Company culture

This content will help attract new talent while recognizing the critical work of current employees



# 03 – Content Types

#### **Expertise in finance**

- Events
- Blog posts
- Earned media
- Social media

#### **Company culture**

- Social media
- Word of mouth
- Employee events



#### Press release format Guidelines in Appendix

### **Editorial**

# 04 - Press Release Guidelines

- Don't bury the lede; get important information up front
- Press releases should capture all pertinent information
- Two quotes are ideal, one internal and one external

More information for startups: <u>Here</u>.



# 05 – Pitching Guidelines

- Pitching should be done intentionally, with journalists in mind
- Relationships should be developed with purpose
- Pitches should be focused, clear, and with engaging subject lines
- Have a strong writer and editor develop high-quality pitches.



We recommend building a <u>Twitter list</u> to keep an eye on all their content.

### **Editorial**

### 06 – Earned Media x Journalist List

- Stephanie Flanders, Senior Executive Editor, Bloomberg
- Paul Krugman, Op-Ed Columnist, New York Times
- Jesse Eisinger, Senior Reporter and Editor, ProPublica
- <u>Trish Regan, Award-winning Journalist, Publisher</u>
- Rebecca Jarvis, ABC News Chief Business and Economics Correspondent
- Gretchen Morgenson, Senior Financial Reporter, NBC News Investigations
- Andrew Ross Sorkin, Columnist/Editor, New York Times



# 07 – Blog Guidelines

- Write the way you speak. A conversational tone will help break down complicated topics.
- Consider republishing previously high-performing content to maximize low-lift reach.
- URLs matter!

Re-post & advertise posts on social media!

- Thought leadership
- Event Takeaways
- Product
- Q&A



# **Editorial** 08 – Editorial Calendar

- Work ahead
- Plan, plan, plan.
- Solicit content from employees if you're running low on ideas.

Channel	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chamile	Ivioliday	Tuesuay	vveunesuay	Tilui Suay	Filuay
	1-May	2-May	3-May	4-May	5-May
Social Media	LinkedIn/ Twitter share from company page		Evergreen Twitter/Linked In post about company offerings with CTA to site	ICYMI Future of Finance post	Company culture posts
Ishtiaque Social Media	Ishtiaque share or reshare of company posts			ICYMI Future of Finance post	
Website	Publish Ishtiaque blog post on the Future of Finance		Prep following blog (URL, SEO, etc.)		
Earned Media	Prep journalist pitches for following blog post				

# 09 – Community Management

- How SowFin interacts with its communities online
- What to do for reputational and external crises
- Hiring a community manager
- Escalation and response processes
- Documentation





# 01 – Why is Social crucial?

- Creates strong connection between branding and company (paid social)
- Enables a specific focus on a target market; personalized marketing brings in the right audience (paid social)
- Increases website traffic
- Ability to use a variety of digital mediums & tools (i.e. video, GIFs)



# 02 – Target Audience

These are typically men in metro areas, 40-60, and with an interest in finance and will help grow an engaged audience online.

- 01 | Investors
- 02 | Potential customers
- 03 | Finance enthusiasts







# 03 – Sample Persona

Name: Karl Blaggard

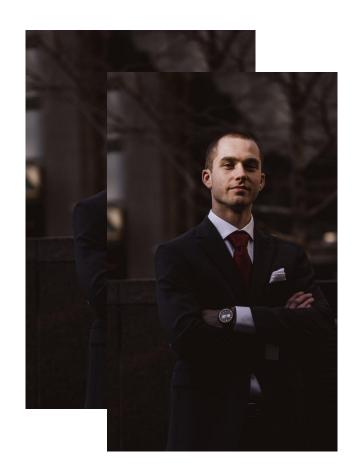
**Age**: 42

City: San Francisco, CA

Job: VP, Corporate Finance

Interests: Personal finance, NFTs, squash, day trading

Social media platforms: Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Reddit





04 - KPIs

#### KPIs to consider -

- 1. Share of voice
- 2. Audience growth rate
- 3. Click through rate
- 4. Revenue\*



# 05 - Channels & Content

#### 1. LinkedIn -

- a. Audience: Investors, marketing leads, talent
- b. Content: Thought leadership, company culture

#### 2. Twitter –

- a. Audience: Finance enthusiasts, investors
- b. Content: Resharing, community management, engaging with experts



Social media presence is a great way to promote your products for free!

Social media presence is a great way to promote

your products for free!

## **Social**

### 06 - Channels & Content

#### Ishtiaque's LinkedIn –

- a. Audience: Investors, marketing leads
- b. Content: Thought leadership, events, expertise in finance

#### 2. Employee LinkedIn -

- a. Audience: Talent
- b. Content: Company culture



# 07 - Paid Ideas

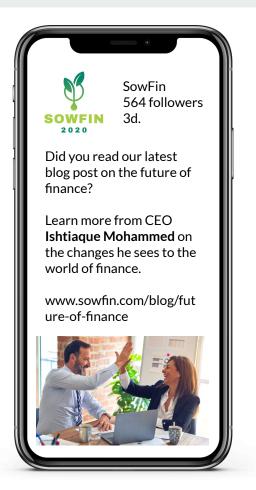
- 1. <u>Boosted LinkedIn</u> posts
- 2. <u>Promoted Tweets</u>
- 3. Google Ads can target specific audiences
- Work closely with the reps from these platforms to ensure tight audience targeting
- Consider making a more detailed Budget plan for future campaigns & ads



09 - Samples

## SowFin LinkedIn

- Claim SowFin handles.
- LinkedIn is ideal for reaching SowFin's target audiences.
- Photos should be real, not stock, when possible and show people's faces.





# Social

09 – Samples

## Ishtiaque LinkedIn

- Ishtiaque's LinkedIn profile should be fully updated before beginning this activation.
- Respond to comments and ask questions.



Ishtiaque M. Founder/CEO, SowFin 3d.

Did you read my latest blog post on the future of finance?

Big changes are ahead for finance, especially with explosive cloud-based SaaS offerings.

www.sowfin.com/blog/fut ure-of-finance





## **Social**

09 – Samples

# Employee LinkedIn

- Share content via internal newsletters or Slack channels.
- Share some pre-written copy ideas with employees.



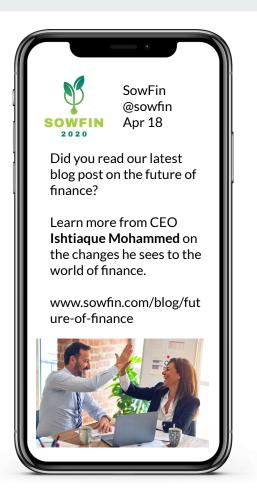


## **Social**

09 - Samples

## SowFin Twitter

- Check links & character counts on Twitter when posting.
- <u>UTM codes</u> can be used to track link usage by platform.







### **Events**

### 01 - Guidelines

- Consider branding materials, posters, pens, stickers, etc. as these will help attendees remember the brand.
- Network through business cards and LinkedIn invites. Keep a list.
  - Use the LinkedIn invite message to explain why you're connecting.
- Produce content before, during, and after these events.
  - If you're low on staff, do your best, but always get photos.





### 01 – Product Launch Guidelines

- 1. Initial planning settle on SowFin name and branding, meet with legal
- 2. Pre-launch activities social media launch, editorial calendar, investor pitches
- 3. Sales prep and channel launch readiness prepare for customers and marketing efforts based around launch
- 4. Launch day social media, earned media, and other communications/PR efforts
- Post-launch follow-up communications measurement, report out success of launch day



02 - Resources

- 1. <u>LinkedIn best practices</u>
- 2. <u>Twitter best practices</u>
- 3. 4 Ways Founders Can Build Their Social Media Presence
- 4. <u>Twitter ads</u>
- 5. <u>LinkedIn ads</u>
- 6. How to Build a Social Media Strategy for Your Startup



# 03 – Blog Ideas

### • Thought Leadership:

- "The future of Finance"
- o "Finance after COVID-19"

#### Event Takeaways:

- "3 things we learned at Garnter CFO"
- "SowFin's First Event; A success!"

### Product:

"3 things we learned while building SowFin"

### • Q&A:

- "Sitting down with SowFin's Founder & CEO: Ishtiaque Mohammad"
- o "Get to know our newest team members!"



### The Future of Finance

By Ishtiaque Mohammed May 1, 2022

### Finance is changing

COVID-19 has changed the world of finance. And it's time for companies to take the next step in innovation. Corporate finance solutions can help.





## 04 - Elements of an Investor Pitch

- Cover slide
- Problem & solution
- Company & vision
- Key pillars Team, Market opportunity, Technology explainer, Go-to-market strategy
- Financial validation
- The Ask



05 - Press Release Sample

> Remember that URLs matter for SEO!

### SowFin Launches New Corporate Finance Tool for Mid-Size Firms

NEWS PROVIDED BY SowFin Apr 18, 2022, 13:15 ET









SowFin, a new corporate finance SaaS solution, hits the market today as a way to speed up finance decisions and analysis.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, May 1, 2022 /PRNewswire/ --SowFin has launched its inaugural finance tool to help mid-size firms speed up and smooth out otherwise complicated financial analyses.

The California-based start-up aims to use the cloud to help finance executives move beyond Excel and human error to something bigger and better...

Read more: Here.

# **Appendix**

# 06 - Social Media Accessibility

- 1. Make text accessible
- 2. Provide descriptive image captions
- 3. Include video captions
- 4. Add video descriptions
- 5. Use a color contrast of at least 4.5:1
- 6. Don't rely on color to convey meaning
- 7. Stay informed about accessibility tools
- 8. Promote positive inclusion
- 9. Welcome and embrace feedback



## 07 - Event Recommendations

### To attend:

- 1. Gartner CFO & Finance Executive Conference, June 6 7, 2022
- 2. Global Achievers Entrepreneurship Finance Conference, 17 19 May 2022
- 3. The Future of Fintech, Stripe Sessions, May 24th 2022

### To host:

- 4. SowFin "Launch" Event
- 5. Workshops for clients to demonstrate product individualized & customized for each customer
- 6. Employee events



09 - Key Terms

**Beta Calculation** 

**Capital Budgeting** 

Capital Structure

Comparables

Cost of Capital

**Cost Synergies** 

**Coverage Ratios** 

DCF (Discounted Cash Flow)

**Debt Ranking** 

Dividends vs. Buybacks

**EBITA** 

**EBITDA** 

**Enterprise Value** 

**Equity value** 

FCF (Free Cash Flow)

Internal Valuation

**Investor Preferences** 

IRR (Internal Rate of Return)

Long-Term Value Creation

M&A (Mergers & Acquisitions)

Market Synergies

Multiples

NPV (Net Present Value)

**Payout Policy** 

**Project Valuation & Ranking** 

**Real Options** 

ROIC

ROIC (Return on Invested

Capital)

Scenario Analysis

Sensitivity Analysis

Signaling

WACC





### What's Ahead

01 - Future Social

- 1. Reddit AMA "Ask Me Anything", interactive Q&A platform
- LinkedIn Live Stream live video of product demos and future Q&As with Sowfin members and other experts in the field
- 3. <u>Twitter Spaces</u> communities Potential to attract more customers
- 4. <u>TikTok</u> Quick facts or demos of product; TikTok is one of the most visited platforms today



### What's Ahead

01 – Next Steps

- Test & iterate
- Long-term planning (IPO, etc.)
- Hiring plan
- Advertising & agency partners





