Excel vs StructureFlow

For Alternative Finance

An at-a-glance comparison for teams managing fund structures, SPVs, ownership, and complex investment scenarios

Capability		Excel		StructureFlow
Primary purpose	❌	Financial modelling & tabular analysis	✅	Structural intelligence & visual modelling
Built for fund & SPV structures	❌	Generic spreadsheet	✅	Designed for complex fund, SPV & portfolio structures
How structures are represented	⚠️	Rows, columns, formulas	✅	Visual, connected models of entities & ownership
Understanding ownership & control	❌	Manual formulas across sheets	✅	Automatic ownership, voting & control calculations
Beneficial ownership (UBO)	❌	Manually inferred	✅	Explicit, configurable UBO logic
Handling complexity at scale	❌	Becomes unreadable as entities grow	✅	Designed for hundreds or thousands of entities, relationships & flows
Visibility of dependencies	❌	Hidden in formulas	✅	Instantly visible relationships & flows
Scenario modelling	❌	Copy models and sheets	✅	Test scenarios in one living model
Late-stage changes	❌	High risk of broken formulas	✅	Change once, reflected everywhere
Risk of hidden errors	⚠️	High (silent formula breaks)	✅	Reduced by data-backed structures
Collaboration	⚠️	Multiple versions, hard to reconcile	✅	Shared workspace with version history
Explaining structures to LPs	⚠️	Requires interpretation	✅	Instant visual clarity
Speed to insight	⚠️	Slow	✅	Immediate
Output for stakeholders	⚠️	Tables requiring explanation	✅	Clear visuals exported to PPT, PDF or image
What it really is	⚠️	A calculation engine	✅	A visual intelligence layer on top of the data

Excel is where calculations live.
StructureFlow is where fund structures make sense.