



جهاز قطر للاستثمار
QATAR INVESTMENT AUTHORITY

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UTOPIA UNLOCKS NEW GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTREPRENEURS IN THE MIDDLE EAST WITH THE LAUNCH OF ‘A-TYPICAL VENTURES’

- *A-typical Ventures seek ambitious startups across the wider Middle East to invest in and build the next generation of industry disruptors*
- *In partnership with Qatar’s sovereign wealth fund, QIA, and the Qatar Development Bank (QDB), A-typical Ventures is on a mission to drive innovation and economic diversification across the region*

LONDON, UK (24 February, 2025) -- UTOPIA Capital Management, a pioneer in emerging and frontier market investments, today announced the launch of A-typical Ventures, a new driving force for early-stage venture innovation across the Middle East’s startup ecosystem.

A-typical Ventures announced during Web Summit Qatar that it is actively seeking the region’s most visionary entrepreneurs who have bold ambitions to scale innovations and drive economic diversification across sectors such as FinTech, HealthTech, e-Commerce, Logistics & Mobility, and ClimateTech.

Backed by QIA and with the support of QDB, A-typical Ventures will enable Pre-Seed, Seed and Pre-Series A founders across the GCC, Levant, Pakistan and Turkey to refine their business models, optimise their go-to-market strategies, and unlock powerful growth opportunities.

A New Approach to Scaling Innovation in the Middle East

“We are extremely honoured to be partnering with two of the region’s most forward-thinking organisations,” said Alina Truhina, Managing Partner of Southeast Asia & the Middle East at UTOPIA. *“A-typical Ventures represents a next-generation approach to early-stage venture investing and building. This is an incredibly exciting time for the region, and we are eager to contribute to the growth of a thriving, innovation-driven venture economy.”*

Fatma Ali Al-Khater, who is joining A-typical Ventures as a Partner said: *“The Middle East is at a pivotal moment in building a thriving startup ecosystem, and we have a unique opportunity to shape its future. With my deep-rooted experience in the region’s economic and investment landscape, I am committed to supporting A-typical Ventures to lay the foundations for a robust ecosystem that enables startups to scale faster, build stronger and make a lasting impact on the regional economy.”*

Backing the Next Wave of Disruptors

QIA’s investment marks one of its first deployments of capital from its visionary [Fund of Funds](#) program which aims to develop a strong start-up and venture capital ecosystem in Qatar and attract leading venture capital funds and entrepreneurs to the region.

QDB will be supporting A-typical Ventures through the creation of a venture studio, providing hands-on strategic and operational support to startups within the A-typical Ventures ecosystem. As Qatar’s leading enabler of entrepreneurship and private sector development, QDB brings a wealth of expertise and

experience to this venture, leveraging its deep understanding of fostering a dynamic, innovation-driven startup ecosystem.

“Qatar is once again proving itself as an unparalleled hub for startups and innovation,” said Mohammed Al Emadi, Executive Director of Investment and Incubation at Qatar Development Bank. *“At QDB, we are co-building the next generation of game-changing ventures. Our collaboration with Utopia and our Qatari partners marks a bold step toward reshaping the startup landscape. By merging strategic investment with hands-on venture-building expertise, we aim to empower high-potential startups in Qatar and across the Middle East, helping them scale faster, break into new markets, and drive real economic impact. This is yet another leap to position Qatar and the region as a global powerhouse for disruptive innovation and high-growth ventures.”*

A Strategic Move for UTOPIA

The launch of A-typical Ventures marks UTOPIA's official expansion into the Middle East and the opening of its QFC registered and licensed asset management firm. Building on its strong track record across emerging markets, UTOPIA has already supported more than 150 visionary entrepreneurs, driving economic and social impact across emerging and frontier markets.

“The launch of A-typical Ventures represents a key milestone in advancing an innovation-driven venture industry and strengthening the startup ecosystem,” said Yousuf Mohamed Al-Jaida, Chief Executive Officer, Qatar Financial Centre. *“At QFC, we are committed to providing a platform that enables capital management firms like UTOPIA to establish themselves in Qatar and expand into the Middle East, with the aim of nurturing a thriving business environment and driving economic diversification.*

With its latest move into the Middle East, UTOPIA aims to further bridge capital, talent, and market access to position the region as a global hub for high-growth startups.

A-typical Ventures will be operating under the QFC licensed and registered firm, Utopia Capital Management LLC.

For more information on A-typical Ventures, visit www.a-typicalventures.com. For more information on UTOPIA, please visit www.utopia-capital.co.

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About UTOPIA

UTOPIA Capital Management is a pioneer in emerging and frontier market investments, investing in tech-enabled startups in Africa and Southeast Asia. UTOPIA has raised substantial capital from leading global investors, building a strong foundation for supporting visionary entrepreneurs and scaling impactful solutions. With over 150 visionary entrepreneurs backed to date, UTOPIA has expanded the reach of innovative products and services to improve the lives of millions.

For more information, visit: www.utopia-capital.co or follow @UTOPIA Capital Management on LinkedIn.

About QIA

QIA is the sovereign wealth fund of the State of Qatar. QIA was founded in 2005 to invest and manage the state's reserve funds. QIA is one of the largest and most active sovereign wealth funds in the world. QIA invests across a wide range of asset classes and diverse regions, as well as partnering with leading institutions across the globe to develop a global and diversified investment portfolio, with a long-term perspective that can generate sustainable returns and contribute to the prosperity of the State of Qatar.

More information on: www.qia.qa

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About QIA's Fund of Funds Program

The Fund of Funds program aims to develop a strong start-up and venture capital ecosystem in Qatar, attract leading venture capital funds and entrepreneurs to the region and help close the current funding gap for local and regional entrepreneurs.

The program, first announced in February 2024, will invest more than USD 1 billion in international and regional venture capital funds and will place a priority focus on the tech and healthcare sectors.

The Fund of Funds program has a dual investment mandate to achieve good financial performance and deliver a positive development impact on the Qatari venture capital ecosystem.

About QDB

Established in 1997 as a government-affiliated development institution, Qatar Development Bank aims to strengthen the national business landscape, foster industrial development and drive the economic diversification of the private sector in Qatar.

Throughout more than twenty-five years of economic development, Qatar Development Bank has achieved notable successes, cementing its position as a major contributor to the national entrepreneurship ecosystem, the private sector and a diversified and knowledge-based economy.

Qatar Development Bank's strategy is aligned with Qatar National Vision 2030, the Third National Development Strategy, and the Third Financial Sector Strategic Plan, with a focus on building a promising future for businesses in Qatar and empowering entrepreneurs to lead a sustainable and prosperous future.

Qatar Development Bank's support system rests on three integrated pillars, namely promoting innovation by embracing and accelerating entrepreneurial ideas and investing in startups, developing local businesses by providing financial and advisory support, enabling the export ecosystem to bolster Qatari exports and raise the competitiveness of Qatari products in global markets. Additionally, QDB works on national initiatives in collaboration with partners from the governmental entities.

The bank's efforts are centered around diversifying support mechanisms to foster social and economic development, leveraging available resources to advance environmental, social and institutional governance and digital transformation efforts, and promoting innovation and creativity, with a focus on forging impactful local and global partnerships.