

Press Release December 4, 2020

## Investment Office in Web Summit 2020 Alongside Turkish Start-ups

The Investment Office of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey took the global stage alongside Turkish investors and start-ups in the Web Summit of 2020 – one of the most important technology conferences in the world. The tenth annual Web Summit was organized online as a result of the pandemic, and took place on 2-4 December. The Investment Office was a partner for the event, which boasts 100,000 attendants from 150 countries, 800 speakers, 2500 start-ups and 1500 investors.

the Investment Office organized a live masterclass webinar titled "Turkey: Restructuring Venture Capital in Developing Markets" as a part of Web Summit 2020, which boasted speakers such as 500 Startups Istanbul Partner Enis Hulli, Earlybird Digital East Fund Partner Cem Sertoğlu, Insider Founding Partner and CEO Hande Çilingir and Firefly Systems Inc. Founder Kaan Günay.

The President of the **Investment Office**, **Burak Dağlıoğlu**, shared his desire to energize Turkey's ecosystem in this industry by attending important global entrepreneurship Summits, and stated, "Venture capital funds and technology initiatives continue to feature prominently on the agenda of our key topics as the Investment Office of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey. These fields must become our priority as a country as well. Istanbul needs to take its rightful place in the world as an investment center. This is why we took part in one of the most important events of the world, the Web Summit, as successful agents of our country's investment ecosystem.

**Dağlıoğlu** also underlined the recent beginning of a new investment process, and shared successful returns to international firms born from investments in the field of technology. "Turkey hosts a highly developed and entrepreneurship-conducive ecosystem. It is also home to competitive entrepreneurship and an educated human resources pool for technology investments. In the last 10 years, we have also proven the technological competency of the products and services created by these investments, as well as our capacity for global exports. More importantly, international funds have flowed into Turkey and fared well enough to generate high rates of return. This is time when many funds are being formed to invest in our country, which means we will observe a grander investment period in Turkey over the next 5 years. We wholeheartedly support all shareholders within the entrepreneurship ecosystem of our country by offering close cooperation."



The Investment Office organized a live masterclass webinar titled "Turkey: Restructuring Venture Capital in Developing Markets" as part of the Web Summit 2020 by the investment office. One of its moderators, 500 Startups Istanbul Partner Enis Hulli, made the following analysis, "Turkey has an engineering pool that enjoys the quickest increase in the EMEA, with a yearly growth of 16.5%. The total investment in entrepreneurship efforts is in the area of 100 million dollars, placing Turkey among leading countries since 2018 with a total of 3.5 million dollar return. I believe that the engineering potential of our country, contrasted with limited local investments, foreign parties and purchases, makes Turkey one of the most profitable countries for early stage investors."

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