

# Türkiye Destination for Early Stage Investments



January 2023



# What makes Türkiye an attractive country for early stage investments?

- A supportive ecosystem
- Investments and successful exits
- New investment opportunities



# Supportive Ecosystem

# Liberal Investment Environment in Türkiye



# Foreign Direct Investment Law

Law No: 4875 June 5, 2003



International investors are free to make foreign direct investments in Türkiye



International investors are subject to equal treatment with local investors



Foreign direct investments cannot be expropriated or nationalized



International investors may freely transfer abroad; net profits, dividends etc.



Acqusition of real estate



International investors can apply either to the authorized local courts, or to national or international arbitration

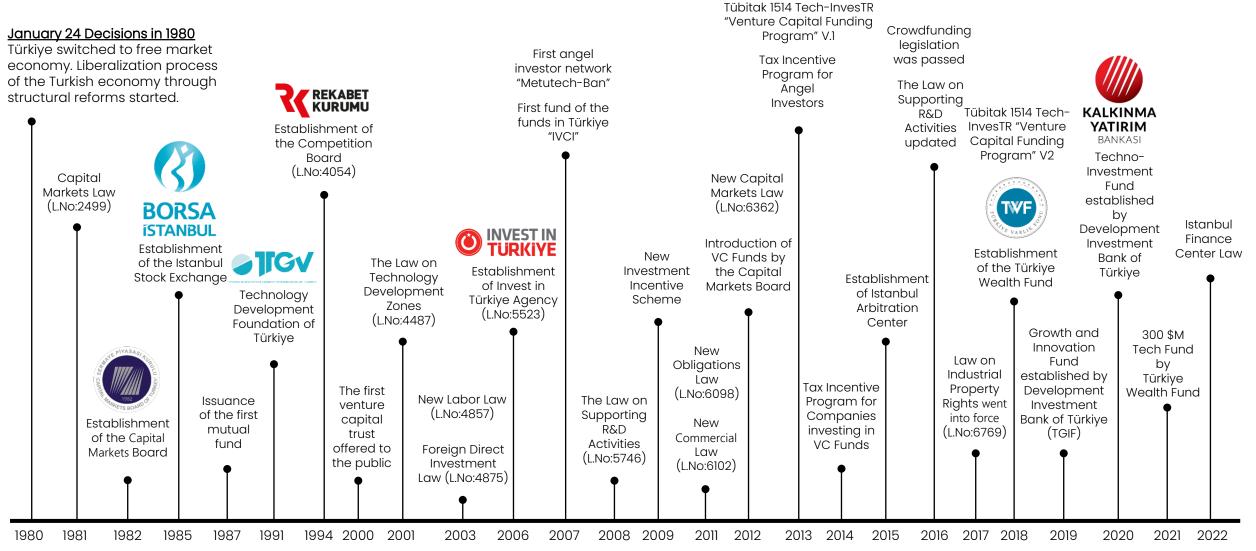


Employment of expats

# Ongoing Reform Process in Türkiye







# Turkish Startup Ecosystem in 2023

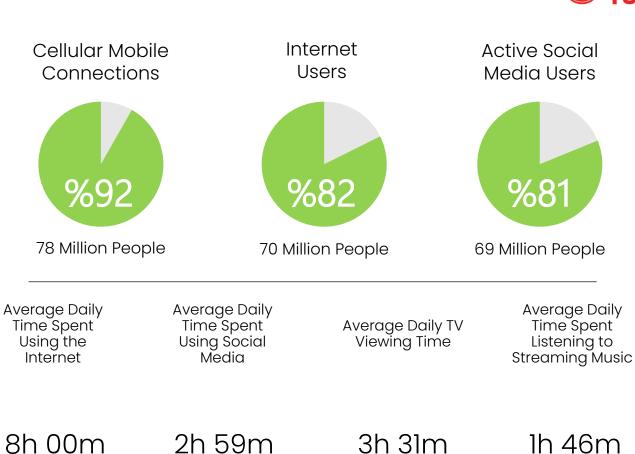


Source: Startups.Watch

# Large and young population with high tech penetration rates















# One of the Largest Talent Pools in Europe and MENA Region

Number of graduates from universities during the 2020-2021 academic year in Türkiye

1,167,119

80,799

university graduates from Engineering and Engineering Trades 25,905

university graduates from Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)



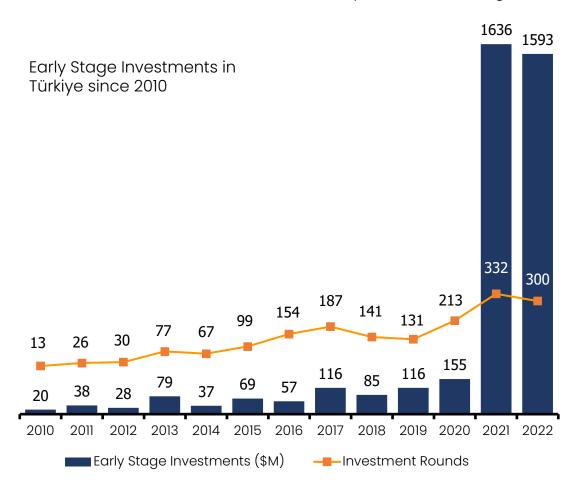


# Investments and Successful Exits

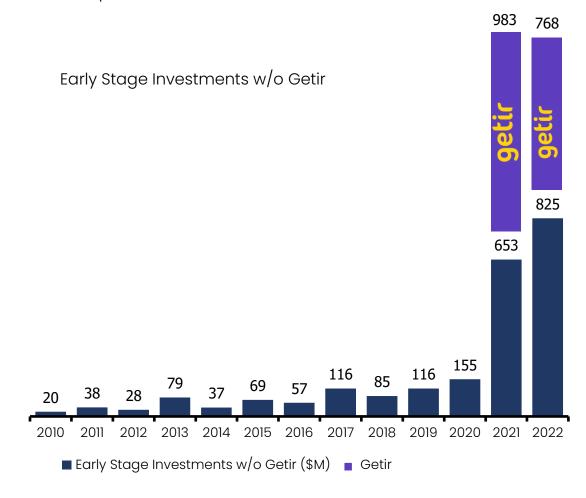
## Early Stage Investments in Türkiye since 2010



Early stage investments in Türkiye have shown a significant increase in the recent period. 2021 was a record year in Türkiye with an investment figure of 1 billion 636 million dollars. In 2022, early stage investments maintained almost the same level with 1 billion 593 million dollars, across 300 deals in seed, early and later VC stages.



Turkish grocery delivery platform Getir made a significant amount of contribution to the investment figures in Türkiye, in the last 2 years. When Getir deals were excluded, there is still a remarkable increase in numbers. Last year the all-time record was broken with 825 million dollars, up from 653 million dollars in 2021.



### Europe Deals Leaugue in 2022







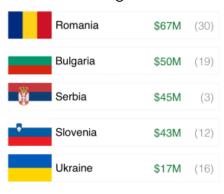




1.League



2.League



### MENA Deals Leaugue in 2022

Champions League

Super League



1.League

2657AB	Saudi Arabia	\$669M	(70)
RÁS	Egypt	\$615M	(132)
	Bahrain	\$136M	(6)

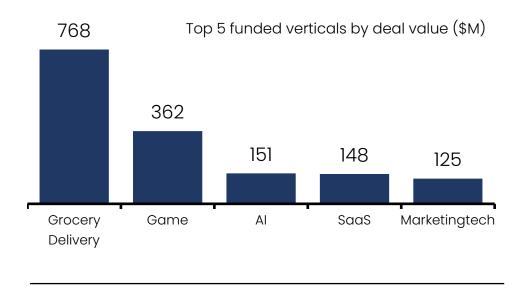
2.League

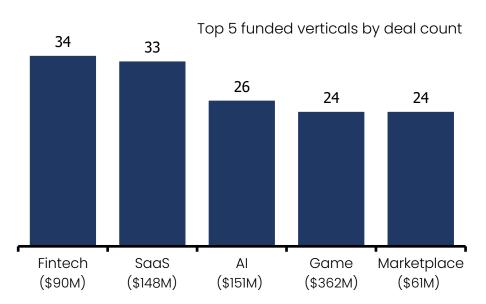
	Jordan	\$41M	(17)
雧	Lebanon	\$26M	(8)
	Georgia	\$15M	(7)

Source: Startups.Watch

# Top funded verticals in Türkiye in 2022







- In terms of deal size; grocery delivery, gaming, Al, SaaS and marketingtech were hot topics of 2022.
- In terms of deal count; fintech, SaaS, game,
   Al and marketplace were among the most funded verticals.
- Game and fintech verticals broke all-time records in their respective verticals in terms of investment amounts.
- Metaverse was the fastest growing vertical with 700% increase in deal count compared to the previous year.

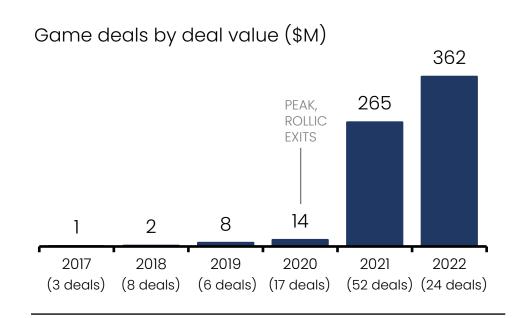
Source: Startups.Watch

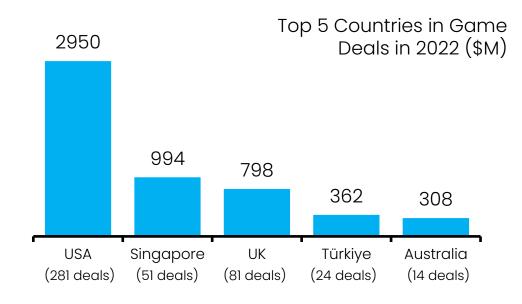
### **Game Vertical**





- After a record-breaking year, the game deals continued its upward trend with a new record of \$362 million in 2022.
- Dream Games and Spyke Games accounted for the majority of the gaming deals in 2022.
- In 2022, Türkiye was the fourth most invested country in the World in terms of investment in game startups.





## Istanbul, A Rising Star in Early Stage Investments



- For early stage investments Istanbul ranked 6<sup>th</sup> among all European cities in 2022.
- Specifically in game vertical, Istanbul came 2<sup>nd</sup> in Europe after London.

### Angel & VC Deals in European Cities in 2022

#	City	Deal Size (\$)	Deal Count
1	London	18.5B	1,202
2	Paris	8.2B	354
3	Berlin	5.3B	350
4	Stockholm	2.6B	142
5	Munich	1.8B	122
6	Istanbul	1.5B	230

### Game Deals in European Cities in 2022

#	City	Deal Size (\$)	Deal Count
1	London	705M	60
2	Istanbul	366M	21
3	Paris	154M	16
4	Helsinki	121M	9
5	Lisbon	92M	6

Istanbul ranks 10<sup>th</sup> in the "Rising Stars" category of Dealroom.co's "The Next Generation of Tech Ecosystems" report, a listing that benchmarks 201 global tech ecosystems, based on startup success rates, investment, innovation and talent.

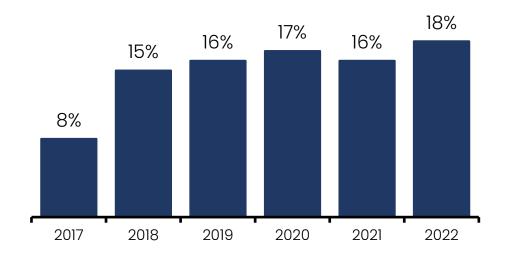


# Foreign Investor Participation



In 2022, foreign investors participated in approximately 1 out of every 5 transactions.

Share of Deals with Foreign Investor Participation (Angel & VC Deals)



Accel, Balderton Capital, Ceecat Capital, EBRD, Hummingbird, Felix Capital, Goodwater Capital, Goldman Sachs, Index Ventures, Qatar Investment Authority, Sequoia Capital, Startup Wise Guys, Tiger Global, Wamda Capital are just some of the globally known foreign investors investing in Turkish startups in 2022.



### **Turkish Unicorns**

# **INVEST IN TURKIYE**

### **Peak Games**

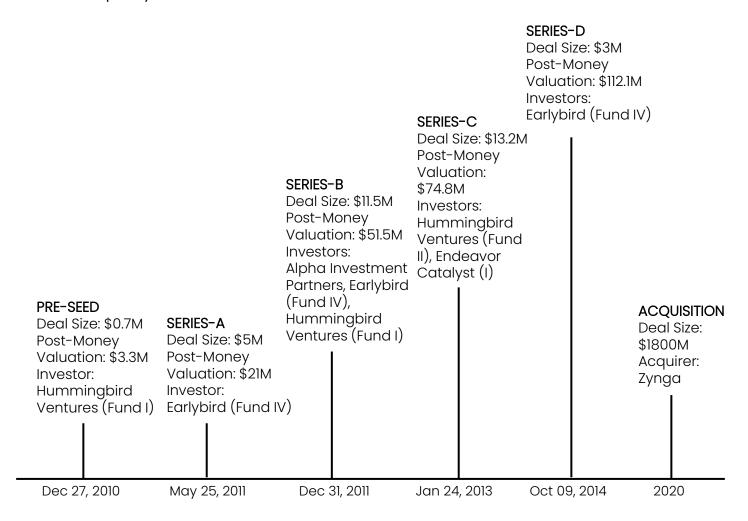


Turkish mobile game developer.

Peak Games was established by Sidar Sahin in Istanbul, in 2010.

Peak was acquired by the USbased Zynga for \$1.8B, in 2020 and had become Türkiye's first unicorn.

Hummingbird Ventures, Earlybird, Alpha Investment Partners, Endeavor Catalyst were among the financial investors of Peak before the acquisition. Peak Games Investment Rounds and Company Valuation



### **Turkish Unicorns**

# **INVEST IN TURKIYE**

### **Dream Games**

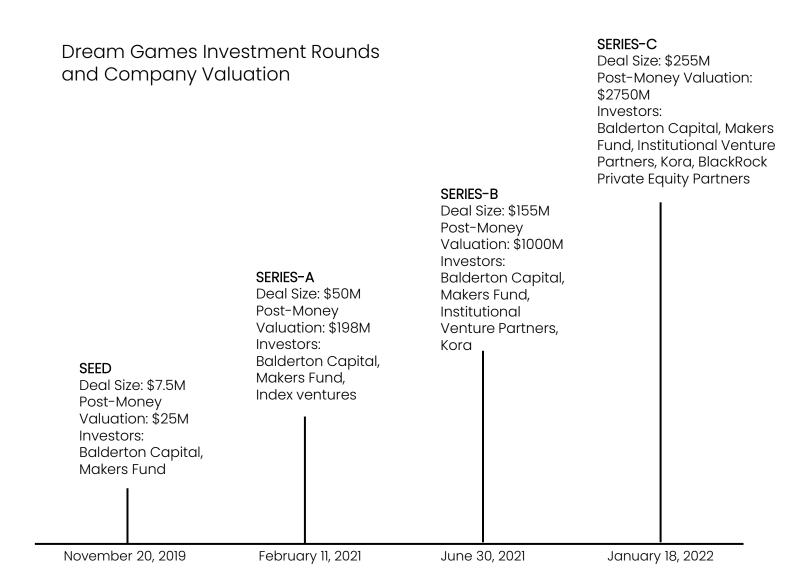


Turkish mobile puzzle games developer.

Dream Games was established by Soner Aydemir in Istanbul, Türkiye in 2019.

It became unicorn in June 2021.

Balderton Capital, Makers Fund, Institutional Venture Partners, Kora and BlackRock Private Equity Partners invested in Dream Games



### Turkish Unicorns

## Insider



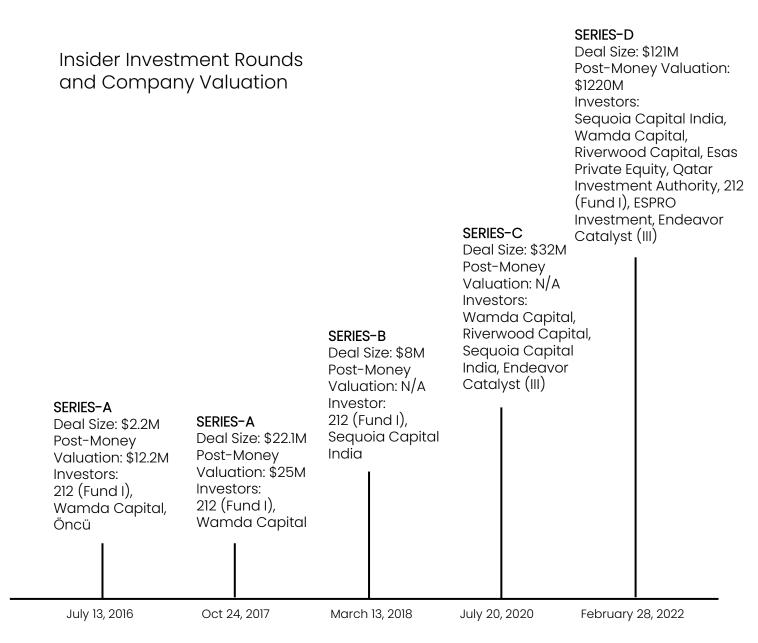
Turkish B2B software-as-a-service (SaaS) platform.

Insider was established by Hande Cilingir and her five fellow co-founders in Istanbul in 2012.

It became unicorn in February 2022.

212, Wamda Capital, Öncü, Sequoia Capital India, Riverwood Capital, Endeavor Catalyst, Esas Private Equity, Qatar Investment Authority and ESPRO Investment invested in Insider





### Turkish Decacorns

# Trendyol



Turkish e-commerce platform.

Trendyol was established by Demet Mutlu in Istanbul, in 2010.

Alibaba of China acquired %82 stake of Trendyol for \$782M in 2018.

It later became unicorn in March 2021, and then decacorn in August 2021.

Tiger Global, Kleiner Perkins, EBRD, Softbank, Princeville Capital, ADQ, Qatar Investment Authority and general Atlantic are among the financial investors in Trendyol.

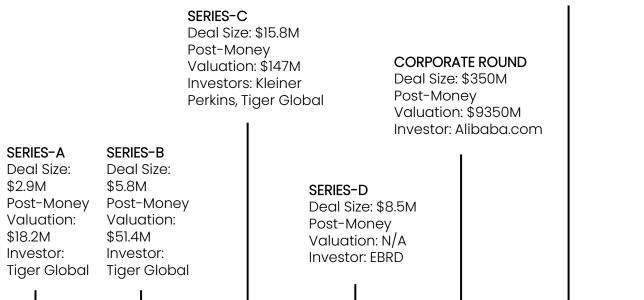


Trendyol Investment Rounds and Company Valuation

Aug 3, 2010

Dec 2, 2010

PRIVATE EQUITY
Deal Size: \$1500M
Post-Money
Valuation: \$16500M
Investors: SoftBank,
Princeville Capital,
ADQ, Qatar
Investment Authority,
General Atlantic



Source: Startups.watch

Feb 8, 2012

### Turkish Decacorns

# **INVEST IN TURKIYE**

### Getir

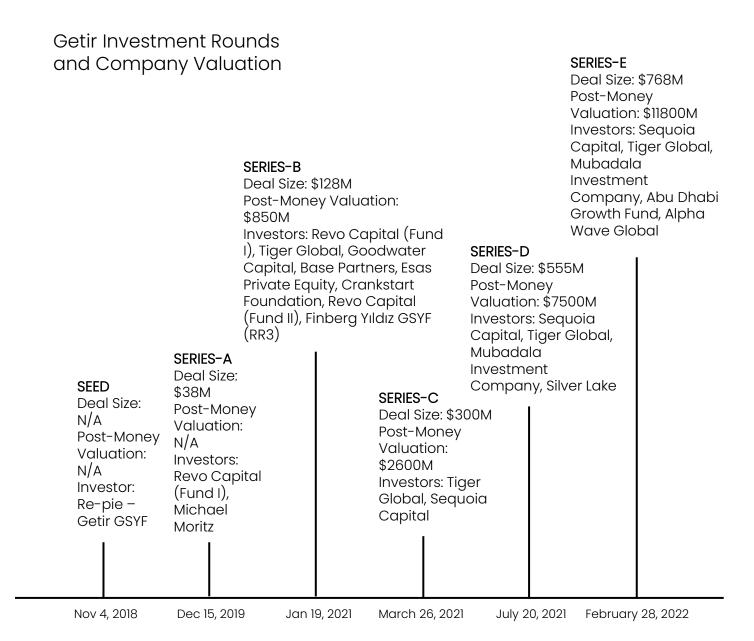


Turkish grocery delivery company.

Getir was established by Nazim Salur in Istanbul in 2015.

It became unicorn in March 2021, and decacorn in March 2022.

Tiger Global, Sequoia Capital, Mubadala Investment Company, Silver Lake, Abu Dhabi Growth Fund, Alpha Wave Global, Goodwater Capital, Base Partners, Crankstart Foundation and Revo Capital are among the investors of Getir.



# International Investors in Türkiye (2021 - 2022)













PRINCEVILLE CAPITAL





Trendyol























Getir

Source: Startups.watch

# International Investors in Türkiye (2021 - 2022)



# **BlackRock**

Balderton. [N]



























Insider

# International Investors in Türkiye (2021 - 2022)































Blu TV









Modanisa





Biotrend









Akinon

Source: Startups.watch



# New Investment Opportunities

## State Supported VC Funds in Türkiye



### LIMITED PARTNERS

Ministry of Treasury and Finance

TUBITAK - Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye Universities

### **GENERAL PARTNERS**









**Gedik**portföy

### **FUND SIZE**

Total Size: ~ TL 1 Billion

### **INVESTMENT MODEL**

Direct Investment in technology startups

### LIMITED PARTNERS

Ministry of Industry and Technology

### **GENERAL PARTNERS**



### **FUND SIZE**

TL 350 Million

### **INVESTMENT MODEL**

Investment in VC funds who invests in technology startups, Co-Investment in Series-C level technology startups

### **LIMITED PARTNERS**

Istanbul Development Agency

### **GENERAL PARTNERS**

Due diligence is ongoing with 17 VC Funds as of January 2022

### **FUND SIZE**

TL 400 Million

### **INVESTMENT MODEL**

Investment in VC funds who invests in technology startups

### **LIMITED PARTNERS**

Vakif Katilim Albaraka Bilisim Vadisi KOSGEB

### GENERAL PARTNERS



### **FUND SIZE**

TL 100 Million

### **INVESTMENT MODEL**

Direct Investment in technology startups based in Bilisim Vadisi (IT Valley)

### LIMITED PARTNERS

Türkiye Wealth Fund
Abu Dhabi Developmental
Holding (ADQ)

### **GENERAL PARTNERS**



### **FUND SIZE**

\$ 300 Million

### **INVESTMENT MODEL**

Investment in VC funds & Direct investment in technology startups

# VC Fundraising Activity in Türkiye

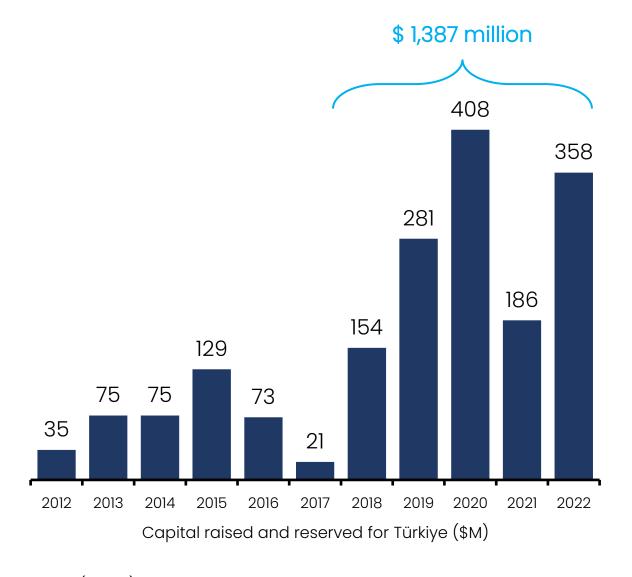


In the last 5 years, 124 VC funds raised \$1.4 billion worth of funds in Türkiye.

For the same time period, the share of the VCIF/VCIT's\* was \$430M, approximately one third of the total funds were raised.

With the approval of Capital Markets Board of Türkiye (SPK) a record number of 94 new VCIF were established in 2022. It is possible to refer to these funds as "onshore micro funds" as the vast majority of VCIFs have a fund size of less than \$10M and all are based in Türkiye.

Re-Pie Ventures, Domino Ventures, Gelecek Etki GSYF, Paribu Ventures, Gözde Tech Ventures, Founder One, Simya VC, TT Ventures GSYF, Turkcell Yeni Teknolojiler GSYF, Arya GSYF, Yıldız Tekno GSYO, INVEST 101, Koç Topluluğu Şirketleri 1. Özel GSYF, Teknopark Istanbul Derin Teknoloji GSYF are some of the prominent funds established in 2022.

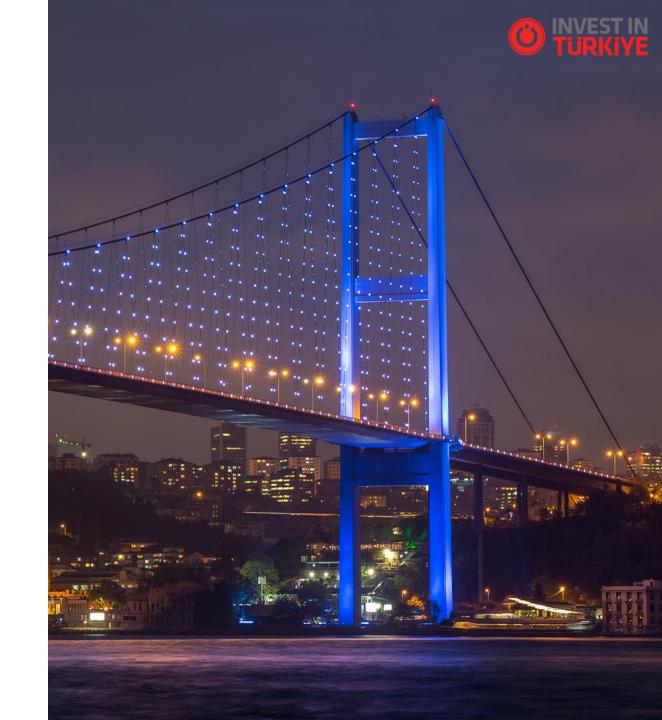


\*: VCIF: Venture Capital Investment Fund (GSYF), VCIT: Venture Capital Investment Trust (GSYO).

Source: Startups.watch

# Why Invest in Turkish Startups?

- Mature ecosystem supported by ever expanding reforms
- Large and young population with high tech penetration rates, ideal for product testing
- Affordable and competent developer pool
- Ever increasing investment trend with increasing VC involvement
- Successful exits to global companies
- 2 decacorns, 3 unicorns in the last 2 years
- Co-investment opportunities with the Turkish VC funds to benefit from the next successful exit round





invest.gov.tr