

Speedinvest reinforces its Emerging Markets focus with the appointment of Rana Abdel Latif as Partner, further expanding its footprint in the Middle East and Africa

With 15+ years of experience across VC and PE mandates in the Middle East and Africa (MEA), Rana Abdel Latif will establish Speedinvest's UAE office, the hub for all Speedinvest activities outside of Europe.

- *This appointment is a testament to Speedinvest's commitment to continue expanding its investment offering in MEA to plug a crucial gap in early and growth-stage funding.*
- *Rana joins a team of experienced investors with a strong investment track record in the region.*
- *An early investor in five +1bn companies (Bitpanda, GoStudent, Open, Wayflyer, and Wefox), Speedinvest has already partnered with over 30 Emerging Markets companies, including Moove, Izyico (exit), Abhi, Khazna, ShopUp, FairMoney, Agroclub, and Fairplay.*

[DUBAI, LONDON, BERLIN, VIENNA, 2 May 2024] Speedinvest, a leading pan-European early-stage venture capital fund, has appointed Rana Abdel Latif as Partner with the company's Emerging Markets team, as the firm continues to expand its footprint in the MEA region.

Rana joins Speedinvest from Nclude Fintech Innovation Fund, where she co-led the closing of six successful transactions for the portfolio while simultaneously co-leading strategy development, investment allocation, deal sourcing, structuring, and execution. Before this, Rana spent over a decade at Qalaa Holdings (previously Citadel Capital), leading large M&A and financing deals across North and East Africa. Rana has also held several roles across asset management and banking in a career spanning almost two decades across Africa and the Middle East. Rana holds an MBA from Columbia Business School and London Business School.

Rana Abdel Latif, Partner at Speedinvest, said: *"We see the region not merely as a source of capital, but as the capital of opportunity. Having witnessed the rapid growth of Speedinvest over the past decade, I am keen to continue to build on the success of their well-established Emerging Markets team across the Middle East and Africa. There's never been a more critical time to provide early and growth-stage funding to the most promising startups and founders in MEA, and I look forward to leveraging my growth and regional market expertise to support their path to success."*

Oliver Holle, CEO and Managing Partner of Speedinvest, said: *"Adding someone of Rana's calibre to our team is a great win for Speedinvest and the perfect way to double down on our*

local presence and showcase our long-term investment commitment to the ecosystem. The region is witnessing some of the most remarkable global growth with an ever-increasing opportunity set of amazing entrepreneurs yet there remains a pressing need for more capital in the early stages, ideally coming from investors that combine both a global perspective and regional expertise.

“We already have a strong track record of investment in the region, and our existing portfolio is having an outsized impact across MEA. With Rana’s impressive career spanning almost 20 years across venture capital and private equity in the region, and Speedinvest’s global network and sector-focused know-how, we are well positioned to help local companies grow and scale more quickly.”

Rana will focus her efforts on identifying and funding innovative new startup investments across MEA and will work closely with Speedinvest’s established portfolio of Emerging Markets companies, including Moove, ShopUp, Iyzico (exit), FairMoney, Khazna, and Abhi. She joins a team of seasoned investors and strategic advisors focused on Emerging Markets, including Stefan Klestil, Faisal Belhoul, Deepali Nangia, Enrique Martínez-Hausmann, Alvaro Perezcano, and Varun Rekhi.

Speedinvest has built the leading early-stage VC in Europe with more than €1 billion AuM and 40+ investors globally and has led the early-stage rounds in many European winners, including GoStudent, Bitpanda, Wayflyer, and Wefox. Over the past five years, Speedinvest has also become a leading investor in Emerging Markets, building one of the most successful Fintech portfolios and utilizing their in-depth sector knowledge and success to invest in and support companies across all six of Speedinvest’s areas of investment.

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About Speedinvest

Speedinvest is a leading early-stage venture capital firm with more than €1 billion AuM and 40+ investors based in Dubai, Berlin, London, Munich, Paris, and Vienna. Our dedicated sector-focused teams are the first to fund Europe’s most innovative technology startups and our in-house operational experts are on hand to offer founders ongoing support with growth, HR, market expansion, and more. Wefox, Bitpanda, GoStudent, Wayflyer, Open, CoachHub, Schüttflif, TourRadar, Adverity, and TWAICE are among our portfolio of 300+ companies. Learn more at www.speedinvest.com.

