

## Press Release

### **COREangels MEA Launches \$10 Million Investment Fund to Support Startups across the Middle East and Africa**

*Following a rigorous nomination and selection process during the 5th Investment Committee in Cairo, selected startups will be awarded a ticket size of up to \$150,000*

*A strategic partnership between PTS Holdings and the Arab Academy to support early-stage innovators*

**Cairo, May 2025** – COREangels MEA launched its **5th Investment Committee**, a three-day investment forum uniting **global angel investors, regional partners, and local trailblazer founders** from across the Middle East and Africa—from the Gulf to South Africa. This event marks a turning point in the regional innovation landscape, reflecting a growing commitment to aligning smart capital with purpose-driven innovation across the region.

Maha Mandour, Chairperson of PTS Holdings and Co-Founder of COREangels MEA, stated that the fund specializes in deploying venture capital into startups, with a total size of \$10 million.

She highlighted that the fund focuses on supporting tech startups aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through a hybrid model combining a global network of investors, local expertise, and an innovation studio that provides operational development services to support these companies' growth and expansion.

She highlighted that COREangels MEA offers investment support of up to \$150,000, along with a comprehensive suite of advisory and technical services designed to help startups scale into new markets.

The fund operates under the umbrella of **PTS Investments Holdings**, a visionary investment group driving the development of sustainable ecosystems for startups. PTS focuses on building future-ready companies by aligning investment and venture services with the SDGs. The fund provides startup founders not only with capital, but also with tools, **technical as well as business** strategic guidance and a powerful investor network—**backed by Kentix Ventures**, the innovation and venture studio arm of Group.

“We don’t just inject funds—we believe in building comprehensive ecosystems. COREangels MEA brings capital, capability, and community support to the region’s most promising founders,” said **Maha Mandour**, Chairperson of PTS Holdings and Founding Partner of COREangels MEA.

**This year's Committee theme: Fintech as the foundation for inclusive growth**

**Fintech in MEA is projected to surpass USD 100 billion by 2028.** COREangels MEA is channeling **smart, impact-driven capital** into startups building solutions in embedded finance,

digital payments, inclusive lending, and financial access infrastructure across various fields of application.

From over **1,000 applications**, five standout fintech startups were selected:

- **eMaisha Pay**, based in **Uganda**, empowers farmers with access to savings tools, crop insurance, and microloans.
- **RentBeta**, active across **East Africa** enables flexible rent payments and automates landlord collection systems.
- **Aqua Offers**, an Egypt-based platform, provides an intelligent, performance-based solution for loyalty programs and instant savings..
- **Monak**, serving migrant communities in MENA, offers bundled financial, health, and insurance services through a single platform.
- **Reeple**, based in Nigeria, simplifies international payments for African freelancers and remote workers.

All these companies underwent a comprehensive operational and investment evaluation through Kentix Ventures to ensure their readiness for growth and alignment with the fund's objectives and strategy.

The event was **hosted by the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AAST) Entrepreneurship Center** under the leadership of **Dr. Ismail Abdel Ghafar**. The academy provided an ideal platform for collaboration and institutional empowerment support. During the event, the strategic partnership with PTS Holdings was strengthened to empower innovation across institutions—led by the innovation studio of **Kemtix Ventures**.

**An MOU was signed between the two partners** to join efforts in supporting young innovators, especially in the early stages of their entrepreneurial journey.

The Committee welcomed a distinguished delegation of **visionary leaders, fund managers, and change makers in investments fields** from across the region—including **Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Jordan, and the United Arab Emirates**. This reflects a shared regional commitment to building a cross-border investment ecosystem focused on impact.

Among the event's special guests was **Rui Falcão**, President of **COREangels International**, whose visit **underscores** the global importance of connecting frontier innovation in MEA with smart capital.

“COREangels MEA is more than a fund—It is a trusted and secure bridge connecting regional innovation with smart, sustainable global investment opportunities.” said Rui.

The committee concluded with interactive panel discussions, hands-on training workshops, and personalized meetings with founders, complemented by cultural experiences that fostered deeper connections among attendees and anchored investment within the rich tapestry of local identity.

At COREangels MEA, we believe that true investment transcends capital—it's about forging partnerships that generate meaningful value and enduring impact.