

Wyld VC Launches the Middle East's First AI Venture Capital Fund Bridging the Gulf and Silicon Valley

The Firm's \$50 Million Fund Invests In Early-Stage AI Founders Across the Bay Area and GCC, and is Backed By World Renowned Investors in New York and Silicon Valley

— May 13, 2025

Wyld VC today announced the launch of its inaugural \$50 million early-stage venture capital fund, the first AI-native fund to emerge from the MENA region on the heels of President Trump's visit to the region to discuss such important matters as bilateral trade ties including in AI. Founded by Saudi venture capitalist Tala Hasan Al Jabri, Wyld VC will back "Wyld minds" in AI who are shaping the next wave of the human experience.

"The GCC is leading the charge in catalyzing an AI revolution—through massive infrastructure investments, advanced research and model deployment, and transparent, innovation-forward regulation," said Tala Al Jabri, Founder and Managing Partner of Wyld VC. "However, the region's greatest gap is AI talent. Wyld VC is here to fill that gap."

Wyld VC is anchored by the family office of Lawrence E. Golub, and is the office's first investment in the region. "Tala is a highly accomplished, talented investor, with a track record of success investing in innovative, early-stage technology companies. Her considerable investment acumen, combined with her unparalleled and comprehensive ties and network in the Gulf and the United States, offer a unique investment opportunity. I am excited to be supporting Tala and Wyld on this compelling new venture, and I look forward to working with her and her team," said Lawrence E. Golub.

Launched during President Trump's high-profile visit to Riyadh from May 13–16, 2025—amid deepening U.S.–Saudi cooperation in defense, technology, and AI—Wyld VC enters the market at a pivotal moment. In the region, AI is a matter of national strategy, with stakeholders seeking both financial and socioeconomic returns. Accordingly, the fund will focus on AI middleware and

applications—the layers with the greatest potential for impact across the board.

As one of the region’s earliest tech investors, Tala Al Jabri has backed some of MENA’s most revered startups, including Tabby, but her portfolio spans beyond the region, particularly into US startups like fast growing Starcloud. Never shy of a challenge, Tala is a recognized pioneer for women in Saudi Arabia, including being the first woman to work on a Partner level at a VC firm in the Kingdom, earning her the title of Woman of The Year 2022 in Finance in Saudi Arabia by Arabian Business. Wyld VC marks the first Venture Capital firm to be launched by a Saudi Woman.

“Founders in AI need a partner that caters to their unique needs. That’s what Wyld VC is here to provide and we have the best partners to carry forward this mission.” Said Al Jabri. “Wyld VC is uniquely positioned to provide its visionary founders with the resources and mentorship they need from both the San Francisco Bay Area and the region, building on over 15 years of experience and deep networks across both markets,” Al Jabri added.

“This moment demands bold capital and a new kind of investor. it’s going to be Wyld.,” said Al Jabri.

About Wyld VC

Wyld is an early-stage venture capital firm focused on backing the AI revolution. We partner with Wyld minds who are shaping the next frontier of the human experience through our inaugural \$50m fund. The fund aims to be a bridge between the Middle East, where governments are deploying billions into AI, and the Bay Area. The firm is backed by a NYC-based family office and is founded by Tala Al Jabri. Tala was previously an advisor to a16z and advisor at SoftBank Vision Fund. She is an advisory council member at The Harvard Kennedy School Mossavar Rahmani Center and a board member of several institutions.

The Lawrence E. Golub Family Office

The Lawrence E. Golub Family Office, is the family office of Lawrence E. Golub, the CEO of Golub Capital, a market-leading, award-winning direct lender and experienced private credit manager. As of January 1, 2025, Golub Capital had over 1,000 employees and over \$75 billion of capital under management, a gross measure of invested capital including leverage.

Earlier this year, Golub Capital opened an office in Abu Dhabi Global Market, Abu Dhabi's international financial center. Golub Capital is an international philanthropic leader through its board fellows program in supporting leading business schools to train their students for leadership positions on the boards of directors of non-profit organizations and in making impact investments. In December, 2024, the firm announced a three-year partnership with NYU Stern Abu Dhabi to expand this effort to the GCC.