



# The State of Lisbon's Startup Ecosystem 2022

December 2022



#### **Community of Lisbon-based innovators**

The Made of Lisboa platform, which symbolises and represents the Lisboa entrepreneurial and technological ecosystem and the city's creative community, is one of the visible pillars of Lisbon's City Council and the city's economic development strategy.

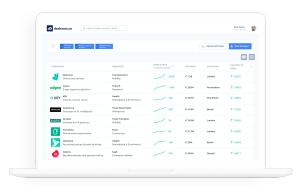
Made Of Lisboa brings together the city's entrepreneurial, creative and technological communities. Its mission is to unite and promote the entire entrepreneurial ecosystem by strengthening its sense of community, creating online and offline networking opportunities, and fostering dialogue between the various players and professional activities (primarily of an innovative and technological nature).



#### Global startup & venture capital intelligence platform.

Dealroom.co is the foremost data provider on startup, early-stage and growth company ecosystems in Europe and around the globe.

Founded in Amsterdam in 2013, we now work with many of the world's most prominent investors, entrepreneurs and government organizations to provide transparency, analysis and insights on venture capital activity.







## Key takeaways.

#### Lisbon has proven to be a fertile ground for successful startup stories.

The combined enterprise value of HQ'ed and founded startups has grown 27x since 2016.

While startups that relocated outside of Lisbon contribute for the majority of the value creation (over 90%), Lisbon-based startups alone sixfold their size during the same time period.

#### VC investment is growing across the funding funnel.

Lisbon HQ startups have raised €333M so far in 2022, an all-time high and 3.2x compared to full-year 2021. HQ'ed companies have raised 96% of the capital, while the remaining 4% was raised by relocated startups.

A few late-stage rounds accounted for nearly 40% of total VC investment so far in 2022. Early-stage investment has reached an all-time high.

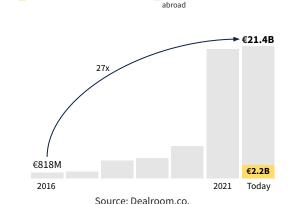
#### Lisbon's biggest successes are a breeding ground for new entrepreneurial talent.

So far Lisbon has minted two unicorns, Talkdesk and Outsystems. These two unicorns have put Lisbon's flywheel into motion, producing a new generation of Portuguese founder talent.

#### Combined enterprise value of Lisbon tech companies

Startups founded in Lisbon but HQ'ed

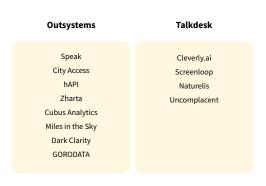
Startups with current HQ in Lisbon



#### **VC investment into Lisbon founded startups**



#### Lisbon's flywheel







dealroom.co

## **Mapping Lisbon's Startup Ecosystem.**

This report builds on the newly-launched <u>Lisbon Startup</u> <u>Ecosystem Database</u>, powered by Dealroom. In this report "Lisbon startups" refer to all startups, scaleups and unicorns which are headquartered in Lisbon. Startups founded in Lisbon, which later relocated abroad but maintain a significant presence in the city, are also included.

What is a startup?

Founders, investors and enablers can claim their profile on the Lisbon Database and improve the visibility of their (portfolio) company.

For any additional questions, please contact support@dealroom.co.

Claim your profile



## **Foreword**

Over the last decade, people have begun to notice Lisbon for more than its outstanding amenities, witnessing the emergence of a young startup ecosystem. In collaboration with the government and the community, Lisbon set the ambition to become one of the most competitive, innovative and creative cities in Europe.

This effort has borne fruit. Successful startup stories such as Talkdesk and OutSystems, world class tech talent and an ever growing number of created startup jobs are now a reality.



Margarida Figueiredo
General Director for Economy & Innovation at Câmara Municipal de Lisboa
- Lisbon City Council

This report shows visible signs of progress: record levels of investment, a strong pipeline of promising startups, and an ecosystem taking shape with increasing specialisation — and the rise of leading industries like fintech, health, and food tech, is backed by the number of rounds registered so far. Yet we know there's a lot of room for growth to fulfill our vision for Lisbon.

Our ecosystem will continue to achieve new highs and change its composition because it is still in an early stage. Large individual wins for a few startups will significantly impact the collective numbers. We intend to support our ecosystem's journey to the next level by providing support for scaleups, attracting more investment and creating better job opportunities in Lisbon.



Diogo Moura
City Councilor for Economy & Innovation
at Câmara Municipal de Lisboa
- Lisbon City Council

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#### Co-authors:



João Pedro Martins
Project Manager
at Made of Lisboa/CML



Nina Chaloum
Ecosystem Innovation Analyst
at Dealroom



**Lourenço Gouveia Booth** Innovation Ecosystem Builder at **Made of Lisboa/CML** 



Carla Napoleão Innovation Analyst at Dealroom

With contributions from:



Tomás Penaguião
Partner
at Bynd Venture Capital



Pedro Almeida
Senior Associate
at Armilar Venture Partners



Elisa Tarzia Community Manager at 351 Portuguese Startup Community



Andre Marquet Co-founder & CEO at Productized



**António Ferrão**Board Member
at **Portugal Fintech** 



Rita Falé
Content & Community Manager
at Casa do Impacto



**Pierre Gein**Executive Director at **CTIE** 



Francesco Rocca Managing Director at Impact Hub Lisbon



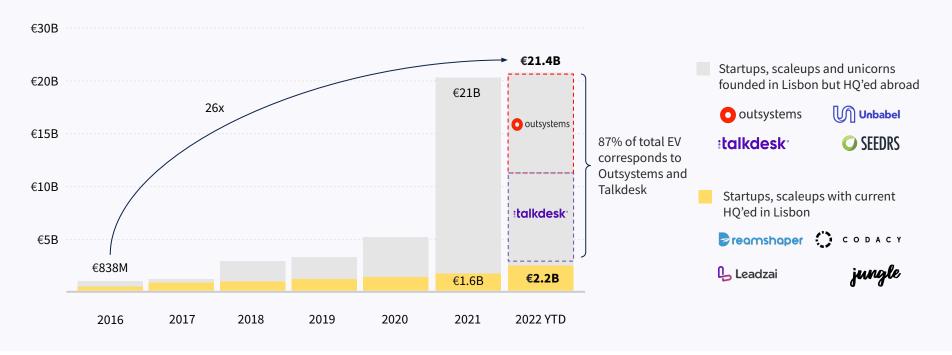
Sofia Santos Partner at Faber.VC



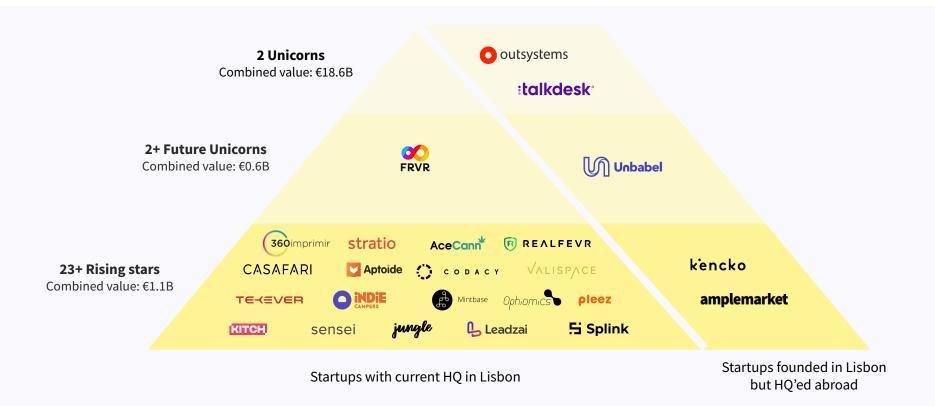
# **1** Ecosystem attractiveness

# Lisbon's startup ecosystem is now worth €21B, up 26x since 2016. Relocated companies contribute to over 90% of the value creation.

Combined enterprise value of Lisbon tech companies founded since 1990 (founded and HQ'ed) <u>» view online</u>



## Lisbon has fostered a strong pipeline of successful and promising companies, some of which have relocated abroad.





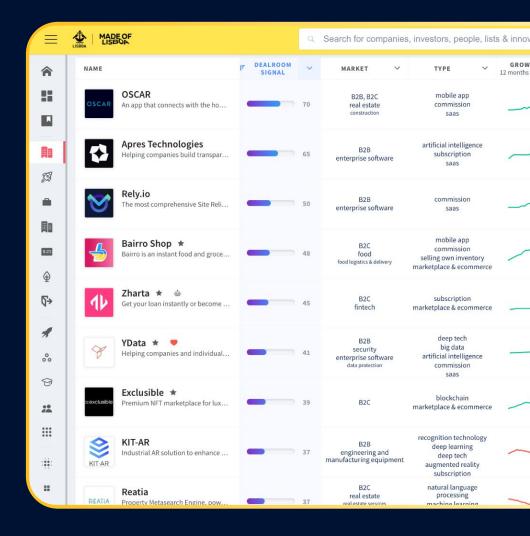


# Discover the most promising Lisbon startups using predictive signals.

(Pre)seed opportunities

Seed to Series A opportunities

**Breakout opportunities** 



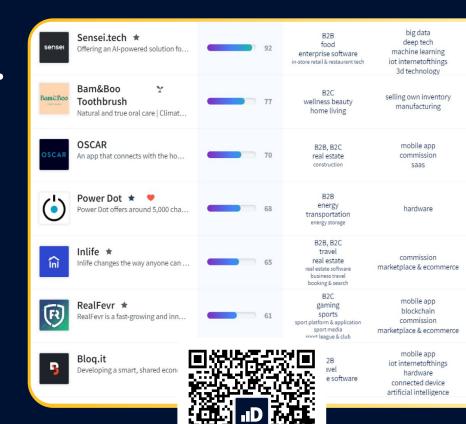
# Discover the top 50 startups in Lisbon using predictive signals.

Combined value of the Lisbon top 50: €920M

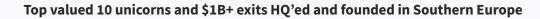
Median age: 5 years

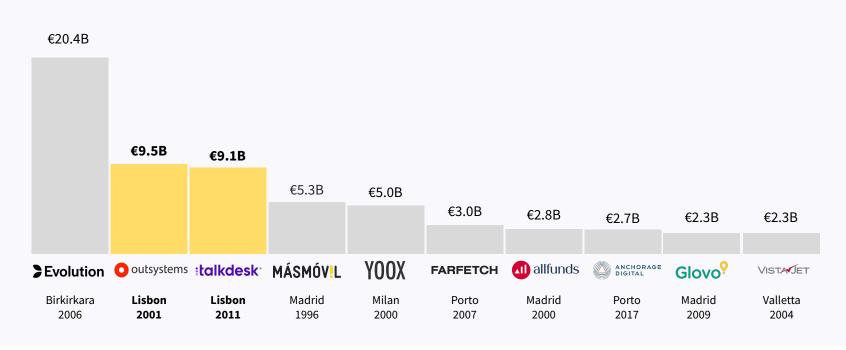
Median funding raised: €1M

Top sectors: Transportation, Real Estate



## Lisbon's unicorns, OutSystems and Talkdesk, are two of the most valuable companies from Southern Europe.



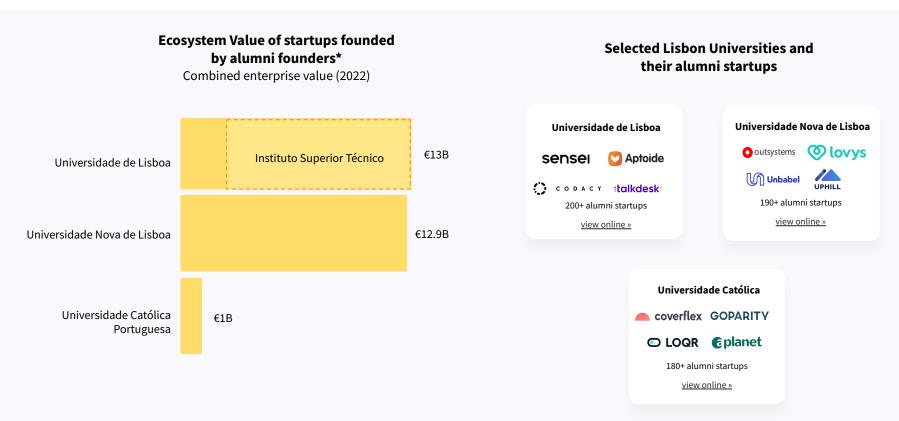


## Lisbon's flywheel is put into motion with talent from its unicorns now founding the next generation of startups in Portugal.

#### **Lisbon startup factories**



# Lisbon's top universities are a breeding ground for fostering entrepreneurial talent, in Portugal and abroad.







# Lisbon's universities are fostering the next generation of entrepreneurial talent.

» Universities by number of startups

» Alumni founders who raised more than €10M

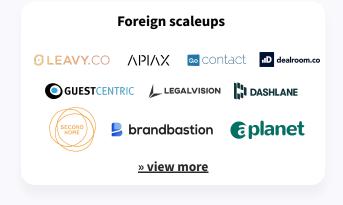
NAME		LOCATIONS	ALUMNI-FOUNDED STARTUPS (Europe)	ALUMNI FOUNDERS (Europe)	ALUMNI-FOUNDED UNICORNS (Europe)	FUTURE UNIC (Europe)
NXVA	Universidade Nova de Lisboa Youngest public institution for hig	Lisbon Lisbon	172	165	-	1
COAL COAL	Universidade Católica Portuguesa Over the past 50 years Universidad	Lisbon Lisbon	149	130	v	-
⊕ERESC.	Católica Lisbon School of Business & Economics CATÓLICA-LISBON is one of the mo	Lisbon Lisbon	77	73		v
SEC	ISEG - Lisbon School of Economics and Management Founded in 1911, with 100 years, I	Lisbon Lisbon	77	65	1	1
TÉCNICO LISBOA	Instituto Superior Técnico Since its creation in 1911, Instituto	Lisbon Lisbon	59	52		
LISBOA	University of Lisbon Largest and most Prestigious Univ	Lisbon Lisbon	34	28		1
<b>S</b> ISG	ISG - Instituto Superior	Lishon Lishon	22	16		





### Notable foreign companies, scaleups and unicorns are setting up offices in Lisbon.

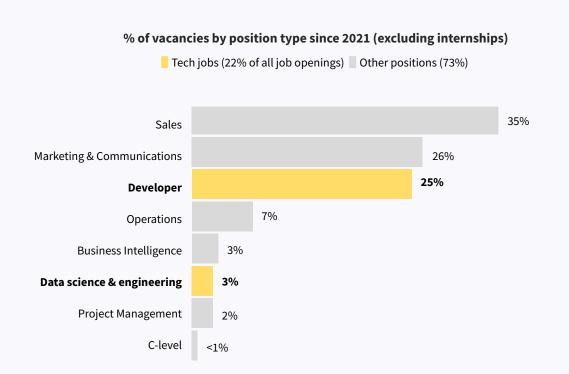








#### Over 70% of vacancies at Lisbon-based startups are for non-tech jobs.



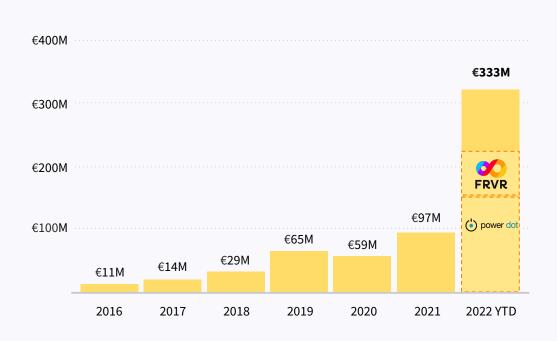




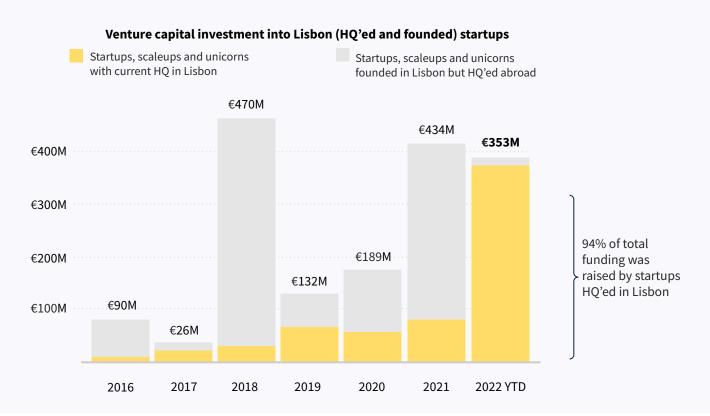
# **2** Funding landscape

# €333M has been raised so far in 2022. That's 3.2x more than 2021 and has already set a new record for VC investment in Lisbon-based startups.

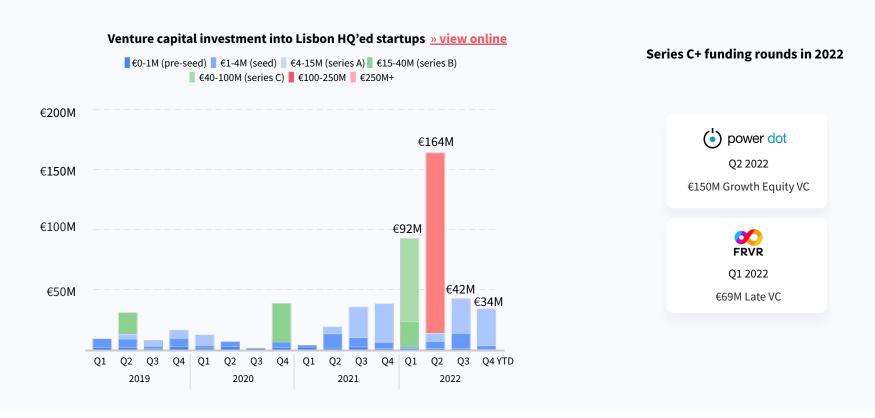
#### Venture capital investment into Lisbon HQ'ed startups <u>» view online</u>



# In 2022 YTD, 94% of total funding (€333M) raised by Lisbon startups was invested in startups currently based in Lisbon.



# This record growth has been fueled later-stage rounds, including PowerDot and FRVR's Series C rounds.



### Early-stage VC investment in 2022 has reached its highest level ever, up 1.9x since 2020.







CODACY

Q3 2022

€14M Series B

R

REALFEVE

Q4 2022

€10M Early VC

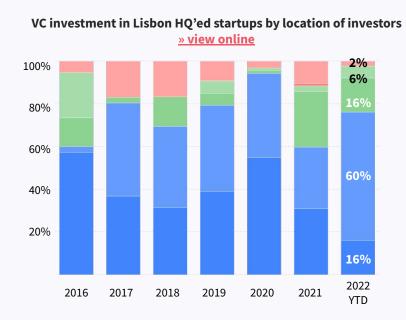
**//** habit

Q4 2022

€5.2M Early VC

# International investors have an increasingly important role in the ecosystem, contributing over 80% of the total investment and 70% of rounds raised by Lisbon-based startups in 2022.





#### Number of rounds in Lisbon HQ'ed startups by location of investors » view online 100% 2% 4% 80% **15**% 60% 31% 40% 20% 30% 2022 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 YTD

## International VCs are taking interest in Lisbon's startups.

## Selected investment rounds with foreign VCs as lead investors in 2022



Lead investor

**Hiro Capital** 

€69m Late VC



Lead investor

**Woodstock Fund** 

€7m Series A

#### TEKEVER

Lead investor

**Ventura Capital** 

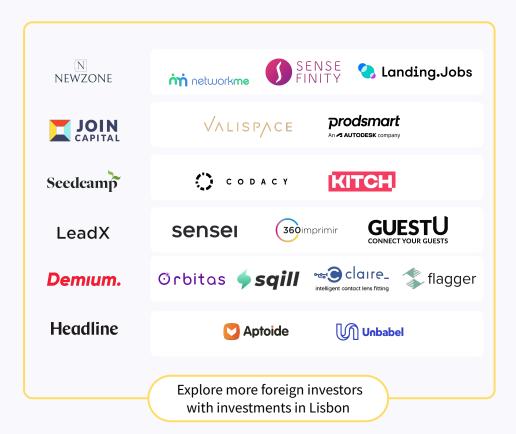
€21m Late VC

#### jungle

Lead investor

**Shift Invest Fund** 

€5m Series A

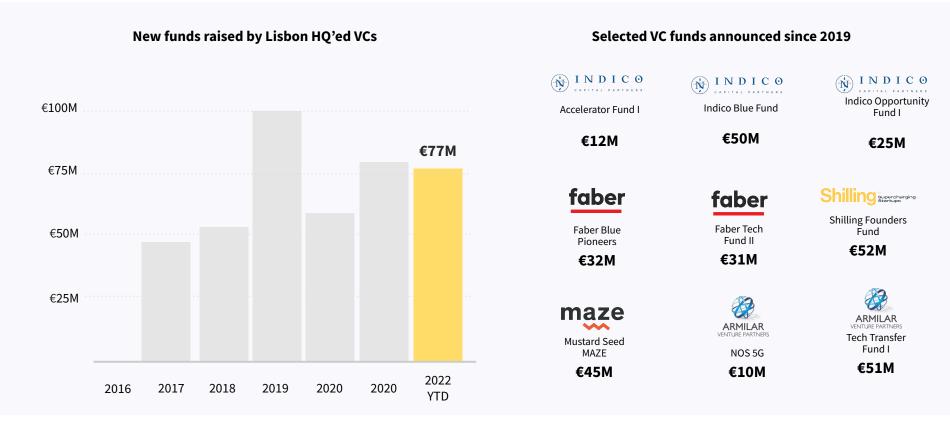


## Local investors play an important role in helping foster the next generation of successful startups in the ecosystem.





# Local VCs have high levels of capital available to invest in startups, having raised €77M in new funds in 2022.





## 66

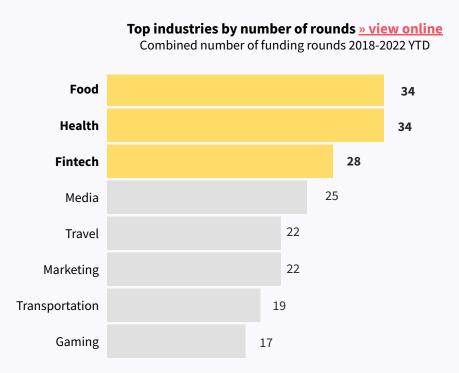
# Mostly driven by technical founders building B2B companies with a global ambition from day one, Portugal and, in particular, Lisbon have been punching above their weight.

As a result, the number of local and international entrepreneurs and investors in the region is significantly increasing, a sign that the ecosystem is evolving in the right direction."

**Pedro Ribeiro Santos** Partner at Armilar Venture Partners



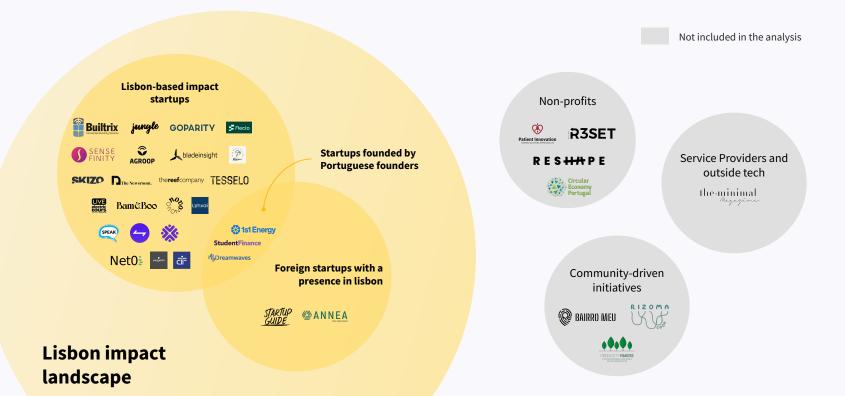
## Foodtech, Fintech and Health lead by number of funding rounds.





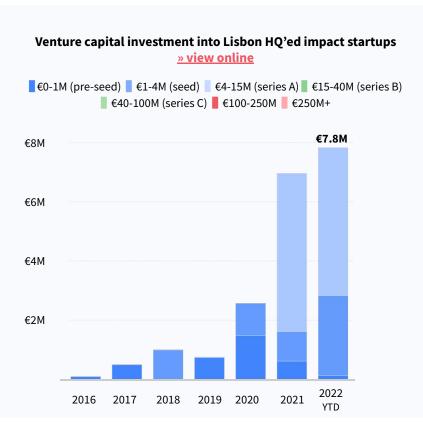


## Lisbon's impact landscape.

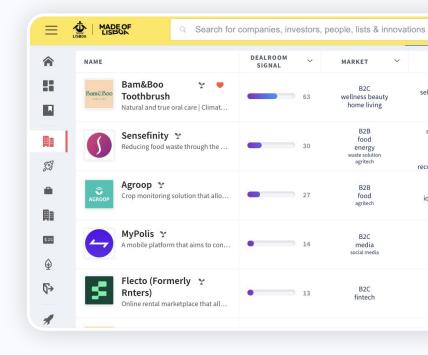




### Lisbon-based impact startups have raised a record €7.8M in 2022, 3.1x more than in 2020.



#### Explore 30+ Lisbon-based impact startups » view online

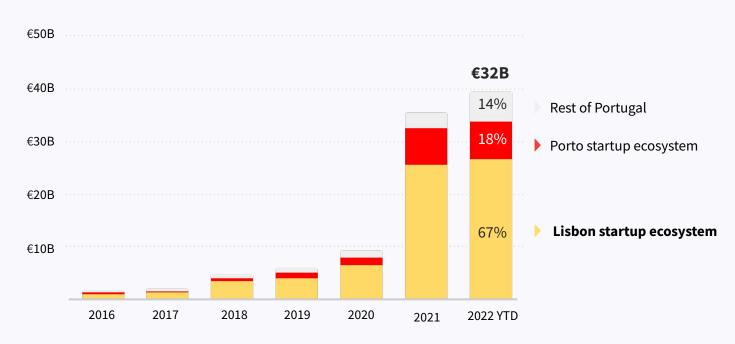


# 3 Lisbon in perspective

## The Lisbon startup ecosystem accounts for 67% of Portugal's tech value.

Source: Dealroom.co. Includes combined enterprise value of startups HQ'ed and founded in each respective ecosystem. The

## Combined enterprise value of private Portuguese startups founded and HQ'ed since 1990



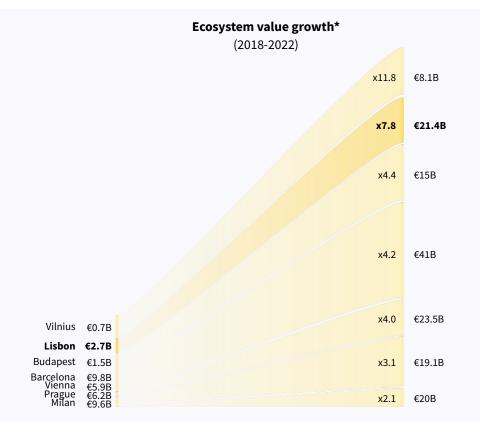


Lisbon's success has been inspiring and created a healthy competition with other regional ecosystems, enhancing the quality of all, and this is important for our vision to create a Scale Up Nation."

António Dias Martins Executive Director at Startup Portugal



# The value of Lisbon founded startups has grown 8x since 2018, higher than other leading ecosystems in Southern, Central and Eastern Europe.





# Lisbon has one of the highest funding growth rates among European ecosystems, growing faster than more mature ones.

#### **VC funding growth of selected European ecosystems**

Q1-Q3 2021 vs. Q1-Q3 2022

	Q1-Q3 2021	Q1-Q3 2022	Growth in VC funding
Lille	€0.04B	€0.5B	11.9x
Lisbon	€0.06B	€0.3B	5.1x
Porto	€0.01B	€0.02B	1.9x
Zurich	€1.2B	€2.2B	1.8x
Milan	€0.7B	€1.2B	1.8x
Helsinki	€1.3B	€1.7B	1.3x
Madrid	€0.8B	€0.9B	1.2x
Barcelona	€1.6B	€1.4B	0.9x
London	€21B	€18B	0.9x
Berlin	€7.5B	€5B	0.7x
Stockholm	€7B	€4.2B	0.6x
Munich	€3.8B	€2.1B	0.6x
Amsterdam	€4.6B	€1.5B	0.3x

# 4 Methodology

## Methodology and definitions.

#### What is a startup?

Companies designed to grow fast. Generally, such companies are VC-investable businesses.

When startups are successful, they develop into scaleups (>50 people), grownups (>500 people) and result in big companies. Only companies founded since 1990 are included in this report.

What is a startup?

#### What is a unicorn?

Unicorns are (former) startups that reached US\$ 1B valuation or exit at one point in time.

What is a Unicorn?

#### **Underlying Data**

Dealroom's proprietary database and software aggregate data from multiple sources: harvesting public information, user-submitted data verified by Dealroom, data engineering. All data is verified and curated with an extensive manual process.

The data on which this report builds is available via <a href="mailto:app.dealroom.co">app.dealroom.co</a>. For more info please visit dealroom.co or contact <a href="mailto:support@dealroom.co">support@dealroom.co</a>.

#### **Venture Capital, Investors**

Domestic investors refer to Portuguese investors. Europe investors includes the entire European continent, the UK and Russia, but excludes Turkey and Portugal.

Investment are referred to by their round labels such as Seed, Series A, B, C, ... late stage, and growth equity. VC investments exclude debt, non-equity funding, lending capital and grants.

#### **Job openings**

This report also includes data about job openings. The job openings data is sourced from Indeed and Predict Leads. This report counts all job openings by Lisbon-based startups founded after 1990, advertised from January 2021 to October 2022. However, the analysis excludes internships.





## Scope of the report.

In this report, the municipalities that are considered as part of the Lisbon Metropolitan Area include: Alcochete, Almada, Barreiro, Amadora, Cascais, Lisbon, Loures, Mafra, Moita, Montijo, Odivelas, Oeiras, Palmela, Seixal, Sintra, Sesimbra, Setúbal and Vila Franca de Xira.

While many startups founded in Lisbon relocate beyond the borders of Lisbon, most maintain business-critical ties to their homelands. In order to take this reality into account, this report includes both **Lisbon-based** startups, which maintain their main center of business (HQ) in their country of origin, and **Lisbon-founded** startups, relocated outside of Lisbon as they grew.

Startups founded by alumni of Lisbon Universities, and/or nationals of Lisbon countries whilst abroad, as well as startup funded by Lisbon investors abroad, are not included in the main section of this report.

#### 1,400+ startups in Lisbon Startup Ecosystem.

all startups founded, HQ'ed or with a presence in Lisbon Metropolitan Area. » view online

#### 1,300+ Lisbon founded or HQ'ed startups.

Homegrown and relocated companies. <u>» view</u> online

#### **Lisbon-based Startups.**

startups with current main center of business (HQ'ed) in Lisbon, whether they were founded there or not <u>view online</u>

#### **Relocated Lisbon Startups.**

startups founded in Lisbon, currently based elsewhere.

» view online

# Foreign startups with a presence in Lisbon.

startups with a secondary office in Lisbon.

» view online

Scope of this report.





## Impact is to have sustainability at the core.

In this report, an impact startup is a company that addresses one or more UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) at the core of its business and the potential to scale. Our litmus test: if you remove the impact, you also remove the business.

Impact sits within a broader framework of Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) which seeks to reduce the harmful impact of business.

Our full taxonomy is available at this link.

In this report we examined over 30 Lisbon-based impact startups.

