



FIVE35 VENTURES

KEY FEATURES

Fund Objective	The Fund addresses the lack of investment, ownership & network leverage for female-owned and/or managed and/ or female impacted technology companies in Sub-Saharan Africa
Fund Managers	Hema Vallabh Julia Price Janade Du Plessis
Fund Size	US\$ 30 million
Fund Term	7 years (two possible 1-year extensions)
Fund Structure	<i>En Commandite Partnership:</i> LP/GP Structure
Fund Domicile	Mauritius
Target IRR & Hurdle Rate	IRR: Net 15% Hurdle: 7%
Fees & Distribution	Fees: 2.5% Carry: 25% (with catchup)
Investment Stage	Seed & Series A
Transaction Structure	- Seed: Max US\$ 500K - Series A: Max US\$ 2 million - Minority equity & quasi-equity - Board representation
Pipeline	Successful graduation from world-class accelerators. First signed PoCs /pilots from large corporations. Early stage direct pipeline referrals from top Africa-focused VC funds that typically invest only at the Series A

Unlocking an overall African **GDP potential uplift of 5%** by leveraging the **35% higher ROI** typically achieved in female founded businesses

FUND DESCRIPTION

FIVE35 Ventures is a **US\$ 30M VC Fund dedicated to investing and empowering women**. The Fund will invest in and grow **scalable and sustainable technology-enabled female-focused companies** in Africa that are multi-sectored and have a meaningful impact on women.

The Fund is an *En Commandite Partnership* Mauritius-registered Fund. The Fund is currently tracking 70+ female-focused prospective companies in the pipeline.

The Fund will be run by an **experienced team** with a strong investment theory, track record, proprietary deal sourcing abilities, and proven value addition delivery. The Fund Managers have 50 years combined investment experience and a solid investment track record and existing portfolio of tech investments. The team is complemented by a strong network of specialist advisors from a broad range of industries and international markets.

INVESTMENT MANDATE

The Fund will invest in African operating companies (B2B and B2B2C) that are:

- **Technology platforms** with a proven track record and growth prospects
- Companies with **female founders / co-founders, majority of women in leadership, employed and / or consumer decision-makers**
- Traditional businesses that could **rapidly commercialise** through the incorporation of smart technology

INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY

- The Fund will invest in **Seed and Series A stage companies**, where limited capital is available to support female entrepreneurs
- The Fund will **construct a diversified portfolio of businesses** across multiple sectors, and geographies (with a majority focus on the African tech-hubs)
- The typical size of investments range from **USD 500k (Seed) to USD 2 million (Series A) with minority equity participation and Board representation**
- The Fund will use its **diverse pipeline networks** to access deals through in-country accelerators, incubators, tech hubs partnerships and investor networks
- The Fund will use its **diverse corporate and investor networks** to unlock value and market growth opportunities for portfolio companies

WHY IS THIS FUND IMPORTANT?

There is a significant funding gap for African female entrepreneurs. **Less than 5% of all venture capital funding in Africa is distributed to female-focused businesses. Yet, females, on balance, have proven to return a higher ROI by up to 35% in their start-ups.** Importantly, technology infusion and female empowerment has the ability to rapidly transform an economy in terms of ownership patterns, formal participation and financial inclusion.

The AfDB has done substantial research into the significant funding gap of female entrepreneurs on the African continent and in response to this has launched the AFAWA fund to bridge the \$42 billion financing gap facing women in Africa and the We-FI initiative to essentially boost the AfDB's initiative for women tech-focused entrepreneurs. **With the AfDB being a cornerstone investor, we would like to partner with other like-minded investors to invest in the FIVE35 Ventures Fund**, and act as a catalyst to bridging this gap and ultimately support female entrepreneurs in Africa.

FUND DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES

The outcomes from this investment will include **job creation for women**, and building of human capital through acquisition of new skills by employees in investee companies. These contribute to social inclusion through **increased technical skills and improving women's participation in economies across Africa**, deploying capital to release social, economic and technology developmental opportunities, with a focus on previously under-served communities; and catalyze industrialization and job creation in Africa, in general.

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