

Press Release

Ninth iVCi Strategic Network Meeting focuses on Technology Transfer

Istanbul 27 May 2013: The ninth Strategic Network Meeting of the Istanbul Venture Capital Initiative (iVCi) took place on Friday 24 May 2013 at the Sait Halim Pasa Mansion next to the Bosphorus, in Istanbul. It gathered over forty professionals who discussed Technology Transfer, the next wave of early stage investment in the country.

On this occasion, iVCi joined forces with the Bosphorus University, a leader in the intellectual property field that also hosted its third International Conference on the subject (see <http://www.ipconference.boun.edu.tr/>). Together with Ms. Pınar Eczacıbaşı, Chairwoman of the iVCi Strategic Network, interventions included those of Prof. Lale Akarun, Vice-Rector, Boğaziçi University, and Mr. Jacques Darcy, Head of Technology Transfer at the European Investment Fund (EIF).

The audience, which mainly comprised technology transfer offices from across the country, had the opportunity to network, share ideas and discuss several of the proposals presented at this year's conference. The network meeting was a good opportunity to present Technology Transfer Turkey (TTA Fund), an initiative from the Turkish Government under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance. To be managed by the EIF, this project entails a EUR 30 million fund to be advised by an independent fund manager. The project is currently awaiting approval from the European Commission.

Technology Transfer, i.e. the commercialisation of the results of research, whilst at its infant stage in terms of actors in the country, is developing fast through significant investments from the Government through TUBITAK, the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, and the expected update in the legislation for intellectual property coming out from academic institutions., With a strong history in manufacturing, and a modern network of universities linked to technology parks, Turkey is geared to become an attractive destination for innovation through technology transfer.

iVCi Strategic Network provides a platform for PE/VC specialists and stakeholders to share knowledge and network in the Turkish market. Two meetings take place every year in May and November.

About Istanbul Venture Capital Initiative

Established in November 2007, Istanbul Venture Capital Initiative (iVCi) is Turkey's dedicated fund of funds and co-investment programme. Total fund commitments amount to EUR 160 million from public and private investors, including the Small and Medium Industry Development Organisation of Turkey (KOSGEB), the Technology Development Foundation of Turkey (TTGV), the Development Bank of Turkey (TKB), Garanti Bank, the National Bank of Greece Group (NBG Group) and the European Investment Fund (EIF). EIF is the adviser to iVCi.

For more information about iVCi visit <http://www.ivci.com.tr/>