

27 October 2020

News Release

UBS launches UBS Next to further engage with fintechs and the tech ecosystem

The UBS Next portfolio is an additional step for UBS to further engage with fintechs and the broader tech ecosystem. UBS plans to invest USD 200 million in digital ventures – starting with a strategic collaboration with Anthemis, a global venture capital fund with expertise in fintech investing – to accelerate deal flow origination. In addition, several direct investments are in evaluation.

Zurich, 27 October 2020 – The world's largest wealth manager launched UBS Next, a USD 200 million strong portfolio that targets investments in the fintech and broader tech ecosystem. UBS is driving both internal initiatives as well as existing strategic partnerships and external collaborations with technology companies, start-ups, regulators, peer banks, other market participants, academia and industry thought leaders.

"Connecting to fintechs and tech start-ups through our innovation labs, digital factories, future of finance initiatives as well as project collaborations has always been key to remaining at the forefront of the digital movement to drive client experiences and operational excellence," says Sabine Keller-Busse, Group Chief Operating Officer and President UBS Europe, Middle East and Africa.

Mike Dargan, Head of Group Technology, adds: "UBS Next is a further step to accelerate our innovation efforts as well as to identify and apply the latest technology for our client businesses. With our investments through close collaboration with Anthemis, we widen our access to fintech start-ups."

UBS Next focuses on enabling UBS's key strategic priorities such as:

- Codeveloping digital innovation and ecosystem through partnerships, research and innovation pipeline management, facilitated by centers of excellence;
- Modernizing and modularizing technical estates, leveraging new technologies, such as public cloud, microservices architecture, and AI; and
- Finding new and effective ways to engage with our clients and deliver our services, as well as evolving our business model to drive growth across UBS with cutting-edge technologies and solutions.

Through equity investments, UBS Next allows the bank to further strengthen connections to the fintech ecosystem. It ensures closer strategic alignment with key partners and provides an upside when portfolio companies succeed.

UBS Next primarily pursues direct investments into early stage fintechs and other relevant tech companies. In addition to direct investments, UBS enters a strategic collaboration with Anthemis. This global venture capital firm has been identifying fintech companies for over a decade and will help accelerate investment opportunity identification and deal flow for UBS.

UBS Next will be funded exclusively by UBS and will be managed by a dedicated tech venture investment team with market-proven capital expertise.

About UBS

UBS provides financial advice and solutions to wealthy, institutional and corporate clients worldwide, as well as private clients in Switzerland. UBS's strategy is centered on our leading global wealth management business and our premier universal bank in Switzerland, enhanced by Asset Management and the Investment Bank. The bank focuses on businesses that have a strong competitive position in their targeted markets, are capital efficient, and have an attractive long-term structural growth or profitability outlook.

UBS is present in all major financial centers worldwide. It has offices in more than 50 regions and locations, with about 31% of its employees working in the Americas, 32% in Switzerland, 19% in the rest of Europe, the Middle East and Africa and 18% in Asia Pacific. UBS Group AG employs over 67,000 people around the world. Its shares are listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange and the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE).

UBS Group AG

Media contact

Switzerland: +41-44-234 85 00
UK: +44-207-567 47 14
Americas: +1-212-882 58 58
APAC: +852-297-1 82 00

www.ubs.com/media

Disclaimer

These materials have been prepared by UBS Group AG and/or a subsidiary and/or an affiliate thereof ("UBS").

These materials are for distribution only under such circumstances as may be permitted by applicable law. They are published solely for informational purposes and are not to be construed as a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell any securities or related financial instruments or to participate in any particular trading strategy. They have not been prepared with regard to the specific investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any specific recipient. The recipient should not construe the contents of these materials as legal, tax, accounting, regulatory, or other specialist or technical advice or services or investment advice or a personal recommendation. No representation or warranty, either express or implied, is provided in relation to the accuracy, completeness or reliability of the information contained herein except with respect to information concerning UBS, nor is it intended to be a complete statement or summary of the securities markets or developments referred to in these materials or a guarantee that the services described herein comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations. They should not be regarded by recipients as a substitute for the exercise of their own judgment. Any opinions expressed in these materials are subject to change without notice and may differ or be contrary to opinions expressed by other business areas or groups of UBS as a result of using different assumptions and criteria. UBS is under no obligation to update or keep current the information contained herein, and past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results. UBS, its directors, officers, employees or clients may have or have had interest or long or short positions in the securities or other financial instruments referred to herein and may at any time make purchases and/or sales in them as principal or agent. UBS may act or have acted as market-maker in the securities or other financial instruments discussed in these materials. Furthermore, UBS may have or have had a relationship with or may provide or have provided investment banking, capital markets and/or other financial services to the relevant companies. Neither UBS nor any of its directors, officers, employees or agents accepts any liability for any loss or damage arising out of the use of all or any part of these materials or reliance upon the information contained herein. Additional information may be made available upon request.

UBS specifically prohibits the redistribution or reproduction of these materials in whole or in part without the written permission of UBS and UBS accepts no liability whatsoever for the actions of third parties in this respect. © UBS 2020. The key symbol and UBS are among the registered and unregistered trademarks of UBS. All rights reserved.