

Dear Si3 community,

I am delighted to introduce myself and present this update on Si3.

Last month I started in the role of Head of Business Development at UJIA. I am looking forward to meeting you in the coming months, and working together with you as we address some of Israel's critical societal and economic needs.

You will find my contact details on the reverse. Do feel free to be in touch.

Wishing you all a very happy Pesach,

**Lewis Bloch**

Head of Business Development



## Si3 UPDATE APRIL 2022

During the past year, many Israelis continued to suffer deeply from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Whilst recent reports highlighted Israel's impressive economic performance in 2021, it also highlighted that this is not shared by all members of society, and that the gaps between "haves and have nots" remain very large. We are proud that during this time our Si3 portfolio was able to continue to help address rising needs. Please see our [annual report](#) published at end of 2021 for more information.



## NEW DEALS

Since our last update, we continued to source deals and made the following new investments, which exceeded our expectations given the economic environment.

**Jump.in (Loan):** Offers training and placement in digital marketing for disadvantaged Israelis to help them find quality employment in Israel's hi-tech sector. Mentoring from Jump.in's professional staff enables participants to develop soft skills needed for successful entry to the workforce and future advancement.



**Arab-Israeli Loan Fund (Loan):** Si3 invested in a second loan fund managed by Koret (KIEDF) that offers credit to Arab-Israeli businesses. These businesses struggle to get credit from traditional banking sources. Since unemployment and underemployment is a key reason behind high poverty and growing violence in this community, this fund is meeting a critical need.

**Social Space (2 Loans):** Si3 approved two loans to Social Space, a non-profit organisation focusing on social activism. The first is to finance a youth hostel that will serve as a revenue generator for its activities in a former strip club in Tel Aviv, which has been converted into a space for social activism. The second loan expands its activities to a new location that serves as a hub/workspace for NGOs.

**Gvanim Shel Matok (Shades of Sweetness) (Loan):** Youth aged 15-18 who have already dropped out of school are taught how to make and sell chocolates and the critical employment skills they need in an effort to keep them occupied and off the streets. This loan was first brought to Si3 more than a year ago and was put on hold at the request of the company due to COVID. We are pleased to have now been able to make this investment at the beginning of 2022.

We are currently reviewing four new deals and will share details on these new investments in the coming months.

## PORTFOLIO COMPANY UPDATES

**Siraj on the London Roadshow:** The Bedouin tech company we invested in last year was selected by the British Embassy in Israel to be part of its London Roadshow. Siraj was one of five leading Arab start-ups that enjoyed a week of networking and skills development in December 2021. CEO Othman Elsheikh was also named one of the 100 Israeli Tech Leaders You Need to know in the Wall Street Journal. See the article [here](#).

**Lotus Award:** Maisa Halaby, founder and CEO of Lotus, an Si3 supported hub for Druze women was bestowed with the Knight Award by the Peres Centre for Peace and Innovation for her work to open doors and create employment opportunities for many Druze women.

**Extra Tech Change of Model:** the work space for members of Ultra-Orthodox community (formerly known as Ampersand) changed its model during COVID and is now focusing on training and placement of men and women in the workforce.



### GREENBOOK

A Guide  
to Jewish  
Impact  
Investing

## Si3 IN THE MEDIA

### Jewish Funders Network

In late 2021, the US based [Jewish Funders Network](#) published its first guide on impact investing and included Si3 as one of the three case studies, noting it to be “a model for other Jewish philanthropies looking to be involved in Israeli impact Investment”.

### The Edmond de Rothschild Foundation

Listen to Si3 Consultant Dalia Black of Weave Impact discuss in a recent podcast how to make a successful impact investment into a non-profit organisation and the power of catalytic capital. Dalia was interviewed by The Edmond de Rothschild Foundation together with Keren Lavie of Social Space.

Listen here: [www.edrf.org.il/podcasts](http://www.edrf.org.il/podcasts)

## COME VISIT THE Si3 BUSINESSES

With Israel now open for travel, we invite you to visit our portfolio companies and the inspiring entrepreneurs behind them on your next visit to Israel. Please be in touch for more information.

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