

Gonçalo Amorim
Building Global Innovators

Portugal

Gonçalo Amorim combines over 16 years of actual deployment of venture capital investment, from restructuring (company turn-arounds) to early stage (tech transfer & commercialization). Gonçalo developed a deep understanding of the complexity and operational intricacies facing knowledge-based companies.

His on-going mission for the past seven years at the MIT Portugal – Innovation & Entrepreneurship initiative (MPP-IEI) has been to facilitate a model for early stage commercialisation of IP-intensive startups in a global marketplace, launching a global, hybrid accelerator – Building Global Innovators (BGI). BGI facilitated the creation over 75 high tech ventures, raising over €110 million in financing from different capital sources and enabled the creation of 727 highly qualified jobs (Dec. 2016). Gonçalo Serves in the board of several startups in Portugal and abroad either as BOD or independent advisor.

Gonçalo holds an MSc in Engineering Management from the University of Bristol with a Mechanical Engineer degree from Brighton University. Is a Chartered Engineer by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (UK).

In the last seven years has mentored and advised close to 200 high tech, international startups & university technology based spinouts. Gonçalo has been an active advisor (voluntary, non-paid) of the Portuguese government & several of its public agencies on innovation & tech transfer policies & programs.

Gonçalo has participated as a keynote in several international events relating to technology innovation, tech transfer, entrepreneurship and corporate venturing. He has lectured at both the Faculty of Science (Lisbon University) and at Indeg (ISCTE-University of Lisbon Institute's management school) in the fields of technology transfer (Master level students).

Gonçalo started off his career in 1997 designing scientific equipment's at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (Oxfordshire / UK) for the LHC (CERN), joining in 2000 HP Fibre Optics Division (Ipswich, UK), where he successfully filed a dozen triadic patents on MEMS and optical packaging. In Portugal (since 2005), has held several C-level roles in some of the most dynamic Portuguese multinationals (Sonae & Semapa). He is currently editor of the journal Bio-Based and Applied Economics and member of the Steering Committee of Eurochoices and author of many scientific publications, including six books as editor.