



# #MakingItHappen together with Kianda Technologies



Derya Sousa of Kianda Technologies in Fingal

**THERE IS NO GETTING AWAY FROM THE FACT THAT TECHNOLOGY IS BOTH THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE. AND INDEED, WITHOUT IT, WORKING FROM HOME FOR THE PAST YEAR WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR COUNTLESS PEOPLE ACROSS THE GLOBE.**

Derya Sousa, co-founder of the automation tech start-up, Kianda Technologies, knows that this is an exciting field to be working in and is particularly enthused to see more and more women involved in the sector.

Together with her husband Osvaldo and backed by Local Enterprise Office Fingal, she specialises in self-build workflow applications which bring internal efficiencies for users at every level.

“My journey to becoming a female entrepreneur in the tech world has had ups and downs since the early years,” says Sousa, who is originally from Turkey. “I have faced and overcome many situations and working in IT, I was often the only woman in the room and that did not feel good.”

“But I am a true believer in ‘different’ being powerful. And I’ve always felt that it’s more about what we do with

our differences which truly matters – so leveraging my differences and turning them into advantages has worked for me along the way.”

Sousa and the team [currently consisting of 8 with more staff being recruited this year] provide a no-code automation platform that enables clients to build customised applications, replace paper processes and address their digitalisation needs themselves.

Launching in 2017, the company achieved significant traction with clients as far flung as Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. It wasn’t unduly affected by Brexit and saw some loss of trade due to the pandemic, but things are beginning to pick up again.

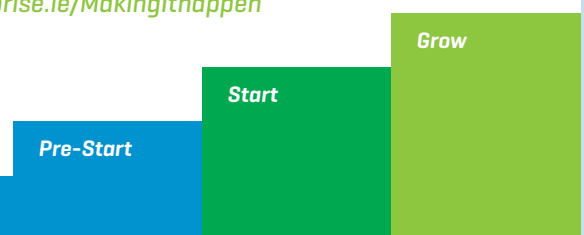
**“IN THE LAST COUPLE OF MONTHS, THERE HAS BEEN A SUBSTANTIAL MOVEMENT IN OUR MARKET AND SINCE THE BEGINNING OF 2021, WE HAVE GROWN OUR CUSTOMER BASE BY 30%,” SAYS SOUSA. “WE ARE INVESTING HEAVILY IN BOTH TECHNOLOGY AND PEOPLE TO BECOME RECOGNISED EXPERTS IN NO-CODE BUSINESS PROCESS AUTOMATION IN IRELAND AND EUROPE IN THE COMING YEARS AND EVENTUALLY TO BECOME A GLOBAL PLAYER IN THE MARKET.”**

The company boss says Kianda received great support from Local Enterprise Office Fingal, including a Business Priming Grant, Export assistance and a Business Expansion Grant. The company is also a client of Enterprise Ireland and benefitted from the Covid-19 Business Financial Planning Grant.

Nominated by LEO Fingal, it also won the ‘Best Export’ title at the National Enterprise Awards 2020/2021.

“Working with the Local Enterprise Office Fingal and their exceptional team made hiring and growing our business easier for us,” says Sousa.

*To find out more about Local Enterprise Office supports for your business, please visit [LocalEnterprise.ie/MakingItHappen](https://LocalEnterprise.ie/MakingItHappen)*



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