

Facebook and PayPal invest in Indonesian start-up Gojek

June 3 2020



Founded in 2015, Gojek started as a motorcycle taxi app before quickly turning into a 'super-app'

Facebook and PayPal have invested in the Indonesian ride-hailing and digital payment start-up Gojek, joining other tech giants Tencent and

Google, the Jakarta-based company said Wednesday.

The new investment "will support Gojek's mission to boost Southeast Asia's digital [economy](#), with a focus on supporting payments and financial services in the region," it said in a statement.

The size of the investment was not disclosed.

Starting as a motorcycle ride-hailing call centre in 2010, Gojek launched an app five years later that soon turned into a "super-app" offering a wide range of services including deliveries, takeaway food and [financial services](#).

The investment is Facebook's first in Indonesia, Southeast Asia's leading economy.

The social network behemoth is looking for new outlets for its products, particularly WhatsApp messaging, which is used everywhere in the country of more than 260 million people.

"Gojek, WhatsApp and Facebook are indispensable services in Indonesia," Matt Idema, [chief operating officer](#) at WhatsApp, said in the statement.

"Working together we can help bring millions of small businesses and the customers they serve into the largest [digital economy](#) in Southeast Asia."

PayPal's payment services are also expected to be integrated into the Gojek app as part of the agreement.

The Indonesian start-up says it has connected hundreds of thousands of traders on its platform, often [small businesses](#) in the informal economy,

and has more than 170 million users in the region.

Gojek in March raised \$1.2 billion for expansion, according to Bloomberg, and it is valued at \$10 billion by analysts CB Insights.

The company's main competitor is Grab, another "super-app" founded in Singapore.

Indonesia's digital sector was estimated at \$40 billion in 2019 and could triple by 2025, according to a study by Google, Temasek and Bain & Company.

© 2020 AFP

Citation: Facebook and PayPal invest in Indonesian start-up Gojek (2020, June 3) retrieved 10 April 2024 from
<https://techxplore.com/news/2020-06-facebook-paypal-invest-indonesian-start-up.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--