

FRANCE IS INNOVATIVE

KEY INFO IN

10
POINTS

1

▶ FRANCE IS ATTRACTIVE

75% of foreign investors say France is attractive for R&D/innovation investment (TNS-Sofres-AFII). France's attractiveness for inward R&D investment is due its proximity to markets (cited by 77% of respondents) and the caliber of the R&D workforce (75%). Partnerships with public-sector research laboratories and the proximity of innovation clusters were also cited.

2

▶ A MAJOR PLAYER

With gross domestic expenditure on research and development (GERD) of US\$55 billion (PPP) in 2012, France was ranked sixth in the world, after the United States, China, Japan, Germany and South Korea.

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▶ FIRMS ARE DYNAMIC

Thomson Reuters' Top 100 Global Innovators: **France ranks third in the world's top 100 most innovative companies**, with 7 of the most innovative companies in 2013.

In Deloitte Technology Fast 500 EMEA, France is the leader with 86 companies in 2014. The top 10 French companies are Weezevent, Visiomed, Energie perspective, Alter CE, Lucibel, Webinterpret, Lekiosque.fr, Web rivage, Openstudio, Optireno.

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▶ HIGHLY SKILLED WORKFORCE

With 9.2 researchers per 1,000 members of the labor force, France ranks fourth in the world, ahead of Germany (8.2) and the United Kingdom (8.3).

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▶ TAX ENVIRONMENT CONDUCTIVE TO INNOVATION

France offers businesses the most generous R&D tax treatment. **In 2012, 20,441 companies benefited from France's research tax credit**, of which around 2,000 were foreign companies established in France. €800 million of Tax exemptions for 4,500 Young Innovative Enterprises (since 2004).

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▶ TOP COMPANIES CHOOSE FRANCE

The number of foreign investment projects in R&D, engineering and design rose sharply in 2013 to 77 investment decisions, up from 58 in 2012 (IFA Data).

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▶ FRANCE IS COMMITTED TO PROTECTING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

France made 8.400 patent applications in 2013, 4th in the world.

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▶ GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT IN FRANCE

France's Public Investment Bank, "Bpifrance", offers companies, particularly innovative SMEs and mid-size companies, a tailored funding service to support companies at every stage of their development. A second phase of the "National Investment Program" has also been launched, supported by additional funds of €12 billion.

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▶ DYNAMIC NETWORK OF INNOVATION CLUSTER

France's 71 innovation clusters of which 18 are world-class, are attractive ecosystems for foreign investors. In 2012, 606 foreign-owned companies belonged to innovation clusters. According to the TNS-Sofres survey, **91% of those polled say that France's innovation clusters were a factor in their company's decision to set up R&D operations in the country.**



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▶ "LA FRENCH TECH" SUPPORTS THE GROWTH OF THEIR STARTUPS AND DIGITAL COMPANIES

The French Tech initiative aims to boost the image and attractiveness of France's digital ecosystem by rallying its regional ecosystems to promote the growth of digital startups and companies.

This includes accelerator programs: €200 million invested in private-sector initiatives to help digital companies grow faster and succeed internationally. International investment attractiveness: €15 million to support fab labs and attract foreign talent, entrepreneurs and investors.

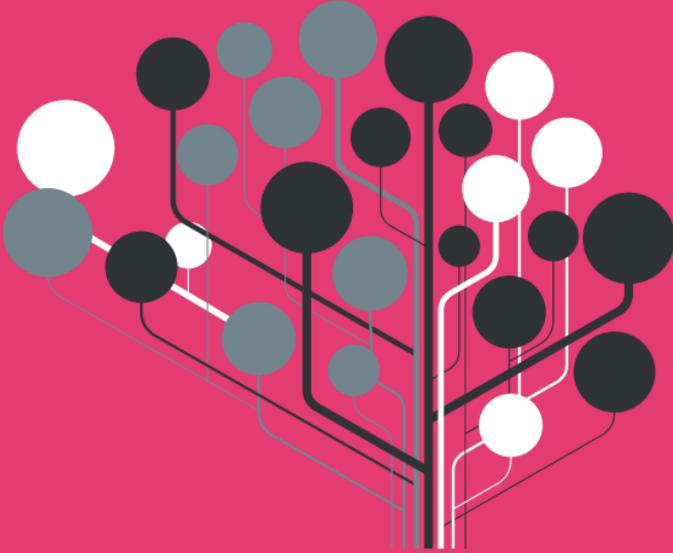


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ATTRACTIVE ECOSYSTEMS:
71 INNOVATION CLUSTERS
OF WHICH **18** WORLD-CLASS



**FOREIGN
INVESTMENT
DECISIONS
PER WEEK**

ACCESS TO A MARKET OF
65

MILLION CONSUMERS
AND GATEWAY TO THE EMEA

NEARLY
30%

OF BUSINESS R&D
CONDUCTED BY
FOREIGN COMPANIES

