FRANCE IS STARTUP-FRIENDLY

KEY INFO IN

10

POINTS

1

THERE ARE LOTS OF US

Most business startups in Europe (Eurostat).

2

SPEED OF SET-UP

In 2014, **only 4.5 days were required to found a company in France**, versus 6 in the UK and 14.5 in Germany (*Doing Business*, World Bank).

3

COST COMPETITIVE

Business start-up costs for procedures (% of GNI per capita) is 0.9 in France compared to 1.2 in the US and 8.8 in Germany (where it significantly increased in the last few years). It has remained stable in France (*Doing Business*, World Bank).

4

AMBITION

The largest incubator in the world, Halle Freyssinet, with more than 1000 startups by 2016. Paris alone is home to 4,000+ tech startups. 100,000 sq. m. of co-working spaces in Paris. **More than 50 private accelerator programs in Paris and "French Tech Cities".**

5 FUNDING

Experienced and entrepreneur-friendly investors ensure a solid seed-funding and VC ecosystem. France is first in the EU for Venture Capital Investment for Startups with €384 million against €355 million in Germany and €274 million in the United Kingdom (Eurostat). **Second largest VC ecosystem in Europe (US$1.2 billion in 2013)**.

6 PRO-ACTIVE PUBLIC POLICIES AT ALL LEVELS

Government, Regions, 9 "French Tech Cities". At the national level, President Hollande's government has made start-ups a priority with a cohesive policy (40 measures). These include a fiscal freeze for all tax measures supporting innovation, Entrepreneur Visa, a crowdfunding law allowing startups to raise up to €1 million....

7 A SPECIAL TAX STATUS FOR ACCREDITED NEW INNOVATIVE COMPANIES

Full exemption from tax on profits. Exemptions from employer payroll taxes and social security contributions, up to a specific threshold. Exemption from property tax / local business tax. €800 million of Tax exemptions for 4,500 Young Innovative Enterprises (since 2004).

8 FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Numerous government incentives and subsidies to launch new ventures e.g.: **"French Tech" grant of €30,000 to launch a new venture;** a €200 million French Tech Acceleration fund for Startup accelerator program; €500 million "Large Venture" fund for venture capital injections; €600 million of Regional Innovation Subsidies (2012); €600 million for the European Innovation Grants (2012); €700 million worth of Bpifrance subsidies & loans (2012).

9 SIMPLIFIED LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENT

The French government has simplified administrative procedures and legislative or regulatory standards. **This reduces the number of tax accounting and publishing obligations** for SMEs and microbusinesses.

10 RESEARCH FRIENDLY

R&D tax credit covers 30% of all R&D expenses up to €100 million, and 5% above this threshold. €5 billion per year of for 20,000 businesses (SMEs – 88%).

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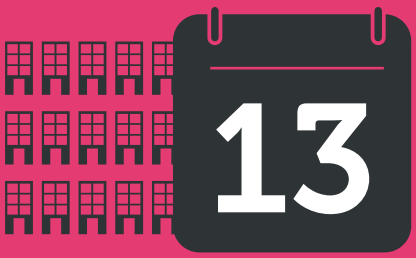
ONLY
4,5
days
REQUIRED TO FOUND A COMPANY IN FRANCE



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