

STARTUP FUNDRAISING IN FRANCE

KEY INFO IN

10

POINTS

1 ▶ OVER €200 MILLION RAISED THROUGH CROWDFUNDING

In 2016, French crowdfunding platforms raised over €233.8 million, up 40% from 2015 (€166.8 million). In all, a total of 21,375 projects were funded. (*Baromètre du Crowdfunding 2016*, Financement Participatif France – the French crowdfunding association)

2 ▶ LEADING FRENCH CROWDFUNDING PLAYERS

Since 2010, Ulule has backed more than 17,000 projects, raising nearly €75 million. The platform has attracted more than 1.4 million members in 201 countries, with a project success rate of 67%, making it Europe's leading crowdfunding site. Meanwhile on the KissKissBankBank platform, 1.1 million Kissbankers in 174 countries have provided €65 million in funding for more than 25,400 projects since 2010.

3 ▶ SURGE IN BUSINESS ANGELS

In 2015, more than 10,000 business angels invested €41 million in France (France Angels). Xavier Niel, founder of French ISP Free, is France's most active business angel, investing in nearly 300 startups from around thirty countries through the Kima Ventures fund he co-founded in 2010. He is followed by Fabrice Grinda, who co-founded the Aucland auction site in 1999 and has invested €26 million in 170 startups. (Fundme/Challenges 2015)

4

▶ IDINVEST PARTNERS: A LEADING FRENCH VENTURE CAPITAL FUND

Idinvest Partners, known for having nurtured French stars such as Meetic, Deezer and Sarenza, has now exceeded €7 billion in assets under management. Since its inception in 1997, Idinvest has backed more than 3,500 companies in Europe.

5

▶ FRANCE'S THRIVING VENTURE CAPITAL ECOSYSTEM

Venture capital investment in French startups grew 22% in 2016, with more than €2 billion raised. (EY survey of venture capital in France, 2016)

6

▶ FRANCE: SECOND IN EUROPE FOR VENTURE CAPITAL

France has consolidated its position within the European venture capital ecosystem, securing second place in Europe by deal numbers (486), hot on the heels of the United Kingdom. (CB Insights)

7

▶ FRENCH STARTUPS ATTRACTING FOREIGN VENTURE CAPITAL

French technology startups are increasingly attracting foreign investors. Funding rounds involving at least one foreign venture capital fund have doubled in number over the last four years (from 28 startups in 2011-12 to 61 in 2015-16). Index Ventures (Switzerland), Accel Partners (United States) and Point Nine (Germany) were among the most active foreign funds in France. (Chausson Finance)

8

▶ EARLY-STAGE TAX EXEMPTIONS

The 'innovative new company' (JEI) status makes startups eligible for a number of tax breaks, including full exemption from corporate tax in the first year. These advantages can be combined with France's research tax credit and the innovation tax credit.

9

▶ EASIER CREDIT THROUGH LOANS FROM BPIFRANCE

In 2005, France's public investment bank Bpifrance launched seed capital loans for innovative early-stage startups (up to 50 employees, balance sheet or revenues of up to €10 million) in their first five years that have received state innovation support. Loans range from €50,000 to €100,000, or even as much as €300,000 if regional authorities agree to stand as guarantor.

10

▶ FRENCH TECH GRANTS

French Tech grants of up to €45,000, administered by France's public investment bank Bpifrance, can be awarded to risk-taking entrepreneurs creating innovative companies. The aim is to help recently founded high growth-potential startups with their initial expenses to gain a foothold in the market.



For further information, please visit:
www.businessfrance.fr





Business France
77, boulevard Saint-Jacques
75680 Paris Cedex 14 - France
Tel.: +33 1 40 73 30 00



€2 MORE THAN
billion

**RAISED IN VENTURE CAPITAL
IN 2016 BY STARTUPS
IN FRANCE**

(EY)



ONLY

3.5

DAYS REQUIRED IN 2016
TO FOUND A COMPANY IN FRANCE

(WORLD BANK, DOING BUSINESS, 2017)



FRANCE: 1st
IN EUROPE FOR THE NUMBER
OF FAST-GROWING COMPANIES
IN THE TECHNOLOGY SECTOR

**(FT 1,000: EUROPE'S FASTEST
GROWING COMPANIES)**

**VENTURE CAPITAL:
FRANCE RANKED**

2nd

**IN EUROPE
BY DEAL NUMBERS**

(CB INSIGHTS)

