

National Start-up and Spin-off Environment



Czech
Republic
The Country
For Startups

Institution Responsible: Ministry of Industry and Trade/CzechInvest/Czech-Moravian Guarantee and Development Bank/Technology Agency of the Czech Republic

Managerial responsibility: General Director, CzechInvest

Opening position

In the Czech Republic there is a weaker investment environment to incentivise the creation and financing of new projects, but there is partial support for start-up projects through the state CzechInvest agency, through incubation and acceleration programmes. However, there is a lack of a comprehensive national concept for their establishment, development and funding. Universities support the emergence of start-ups/spin-offs haphazardly because they are generally considered to be risky in the academic environment. From the point of view of business practice, there is insufficient motivation to use academic outputs, and in the Czech Republic the approach of corporations and small and medium-sized firms to cooperation with start-ups is inflexible. From the point of view of young Czech innovative companies themselves, their ability to expand abroad is lower due to low internationalisation.

Goals

- Create specific support elements for the establishment and support of start-ups and spin-offs at national level and link these elements with regional and international support.
- Create a comprehensive funding programme with national support for the start-up segment.
- Create a start-ups map to link them up with investors and support providers.
- Ensure an exchange of information and best practice between start-ups at national level.
- Create an environment of interest for foreign start-ups and technology teams for the long-term development of their activities in the Czech Republic.
- Prepare a Czech Technology Agency targeted programme for start-ups and spin-offs.
- Introduce training for entrepreneurship as part of teaching at all levels of education.
- Introduce monitoring and benchmarking of incubators, hubs and accelerators.

Tools

- Creation of a National Start-up Support Agency within CzechInvest.
- Create Czech-Moravian Guarantee and Development Bank programmes for financing start-ups, incl. involving small and medium-sized businesses in setting up their own start-ups.
- A system for commercialization institutions at universities and public research institutions.
- Collaboration with commercial corporations and possible private investors to develop start-ups.
- Create tools for targeted support of RD&I within the Czech Technology Agency for start-ups and spin-offs, incl. an evaluation system.
- Creating 2020+ operational programme calls for start-ups and spin-off.
- Targeted support from university teaching for entrepreneurship through setting up start-ups and spin-offs.
- Supporting a regional structure to promote innovative start-ups and spin-offs.
- Expanding the use of the instruments of the European Investment Fund (EIF).
- Creation of investment schemes in line with international models (Israel, Finland).

- Proof-of-concept fund.
- National Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation of the Czech Republic (RIS3).
- Supporting the scaling-up of successful companies and their access to global markets – cooperation within Team Czech Republic.
- Targeted support for the involvement of Czech small and medium-sized companies in obtaining foreign funds.

Notes

A large grid of small dots, intended for taking notes.

