

StartUP@Taipei
FOUNDER FRIENDLY CITY

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| Vision



Taipei boasts excellent infrastructure, providing a secure and convenient living environment. It is closely connected to global high-tech industries and has become a hub of innovation, making it an ideal place for both local and international entrepreneurs to launch their ventures.

To provide startups with comprehensive services and support, the Taipei City Government established a One-Stop Service StartUP@Taipei Office. This office offers counseling services, incentives and subsidies, preferential loans, ecosystem connections, and innovation bases. Additionally, the city introduced its “Three Arrows for Startups” policy, focusing on three pillars: capital investment, talent attraction, and facilitating business deals. Through these initiatives, Taipei aims to attract key resources and stakeholders, solidifying its position as a truly “Founder-Friendly City”.

Taipei City's Innovation and Startup Ecology

A Place to Start up

Taipei is the leading destination for startups in Taiwan. According to the FINDIT database by Taiwan's Ministry of Economic Affairs, Taiwan had 9,714 startups launched between 2010-2025, with 4,124 of them setting up their operations in Taipei. This accounts for nearly 42% of all startups in Taiwan. Taipei is home to over half of the country's startups, accelerators, and co-working spaces. More than 80% of Taiwan's startup investment firms are also based in the city. These figures highlight Taipei's central role in Taiwan's startup ecosystem.



Top Choice of Investments by Foreign Companies

Taipei attracts more than 70% of foreign investments and nearly 70% of foreign companies operating in Taiwan. Meanwhile, emerging industries—such as digital technology, biomedical innovation, lifestyle services, cultural and creative design, and MICE—have grown rapidly in recent years. Taipei's comprehensive industry development is focused on R&D, innovation, and high-added-value industries. In response to this development, Taipei City actively invites international enterprise operation headquarters, R&D centers, and emerging technology and IT service industries to establish their offices in the city.

Plentiful Industrial Momentum

Taipei's growth strategy is powered by two key engines: building an AI-driven smart city and cultivating a founder-friendly environment. These efforts aim to develop a digitally intelligent, green innovation economy that fuels industrial growth.

It connects its Nangang Software Park, Neihu Technology Park, and Beitou Shilin Technology Park to form a Taipei Technology Corridor focused on R&D orientation. Furthermore, it introduces innovative applications to the city for building up an effective system for urban governance, marketing, tourism, traffic management, healthcare and education. The government also provides strong assistance and support to startups, increasing the growth momentum.

Outstanding Talent with Competitiveness

Taipei attracts top talent and is home to numerous academic institutions. Its educational level is persistently recognized by both domestic and international surveys. According to the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)'s Livability Survey, Taipei has repeatedly earned top scores in education-related indicators. The city is also recognized as one of the best university hubs globally. This ensures businesses have access to highly qualified talent and builds a strong foundation for the startup ecosystem.



Excellent Performance and Outstanding Rankings

► Livability

- In 2024, Numbeo released its “Safety Index by City,” where Taipei City ranked **2nd** worldwide.
- In 2024, Incredible Asia and Preply named Taipei City the Friendliest City in Asia, ranking it **1st** in Asia.

► Advantageous Environment

- In 2023, InterNations published its “Best and Worst Cities for Expats Around the World,” with Taipei City ranking **5th** worldwide.
- In 2024, the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) released “The Smart City 2024,” where Taipei ranked **3rd** in Asia.

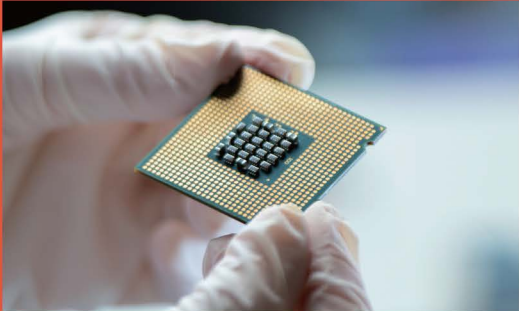
► Digital Development

- In 2024, the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) released the “World Digital Competitiveness Ranking,” placing Taipei City **4th** in Asia.
- According to the “EIU Inclusion Index 2022,” Taipei City ranked **3rd** in Asia.

► Healthcare and Social Services

- In 2025, Numbeo released the “Health Care Index by Country,” with Taiwan ranked **1st** worldwide.
- In 2024, RankingRoyals published “Cities With the Best Health Care,” where Taipei ranked **1st** worldwide.

Key Industries



ICT Industry

Taipei is home to more than 13,000 ICT companies, employing over 170,000 professionals, maintaining a leading position in the ICT sector.

Biomedical Industry

Taipei leads Taiwan's biotechnology sector, with over 584 companies generating USD 9 billion annually and contributing over 60% to the national market.



Financial Industry

Taipei is Taiwan's financial hub, hosting over 80% of the nation's financial headquarters and venture capital firms, supported by 200,000 professionals and diverse investment opportunities.

Tourism Industry

Taipei, renowned for its cultural and natural attractions, history, safety, and convenience, attracts 90% of Taiwan's visitors and ranks as the world's second-best city for travel.



Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE) Industry

Taipei, ranked 3rd in Asia in 2022 ICCA rankings, offers world-class conference and exhibition facilities, with over 6,000 booths and 14,300 seats in the Xinyi - Nangang districts.

| StartUP@Taipei SERVICE



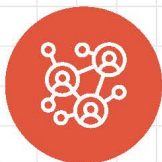
One-Stop Service for Entrepreneurs

- Provide immediate response and information on entrepreneurial resources.
- Refer entrepreneurs to other relevant service providers.
- Provide information on innovation hubs, co-working spaces, maker spaces, and accelerators.



Entrepreneurial Counseling and Coaching

- Startup Clinic and multidisciplinary advisors 'diagnosis.
- Potential Startup Mentorship Program.
- Organize entrepreneurship training courses and lectures.



Entrepreneur Matchmaking and Networking

- Provide the latest startup news via the StartUP@Taipei website and Facebook page.
- Organize events and exhibitions to promote industry networking.
- Host matchmaking events to connect startups with resources.

| Invest Taipei Office SERVICE



One-Stop Customized Service

- Provide investment-related information, legal and regulatory consultations.
- Arrange business investment visits.
- Explain subsidy programs and eligibility.
- Offer administrative support, Visa application assistance.



Local Industry Collaboration and Business Opportunities

- Connect businesses with venture capital and networking events.
- Provide assist in acquiring land or office space.
- Introducing local talent and human resources.



Interdepartmental Integration Platform

- Conduct interdepartmental meetings to reduce investment barriers.
- Facilitate connections with the central government for administrative support.
- Provide referrals to relevant authorities.

Funds Assistance

The Taipei City Government provides diverse funds to startups, such as "Subsidies & Incentive for Taipei Industry" projects, and preferential loan projects, to meet entrepreneurs' demand at different stages.

Subsidies & Incentives



Subsidy for Startup

The startup must be registered in Taipei City within one year.
Each application is capped at **1 million** NTD.



Branding Subsidy

The company must be registered in Taipei City for over one year.
Each application is capped at **5 million** NTD.



R&D Subsidy

The company must be registered in Taipei City for over one year.

- **Innovation R&D Subsidy**
Each application is capped at **5 million** NTD.
- **Startup Accelerated Subsidy**
Each application is capped at **3 million** NTD.
- **Theme R&D Subsidy**
Each application is capped at **2 million** NTD.
(Please refer to the latest official announcement for accurate information.)



Incubation Subsidy

Legally established schools/foundations or corporations.

- **Innovation Incubation Subsidy**
Each application is capped at **3 million** NTD.
- **International Incubation Subsidy**
Each application is capped at **3 million** NTD.
- **Angel Investment Subsidy**
The investments are capped at 10% of the project budget, and each application is capped at **3 million** NTD.



Investment Incentives

Qualifications

The companies are newly registered or have increased capital within a year.

- **Job Training Subsidy**
Each application is capped at **1 million** NTD.
- **New Hired Employees' Payroll Subsidy**
Each application is capped at **5 million** NTD.
- **Rental Subsidy**
Each application is capped at **5 million** NTD.
- **Annual Housing & Land-Value Tax Subsidy**
Each application is capped at **50 million** NTD.
- **Loan Interest Subsidy**
Each application is capped at **50 million** NTD.



Rising Star Subsidy ^(RSS)

Three-phase project with total subsidy of up to 15 million NTD

The company must be registered in Taipei City for 1-8 years

Financing & Loan



Taipei City Government SMEs Loan Program

- The financing is capped at **10 million** NTD.
- The maximum loan maturity term is five years.
- Simple loan is capped at **3 million** NTD with no business plan required and fast approval.



Concessional Loan program for SITI Granted Companies

- The financing is capped at **30 million** NTD.
- The maximum loan maturity term is five years.

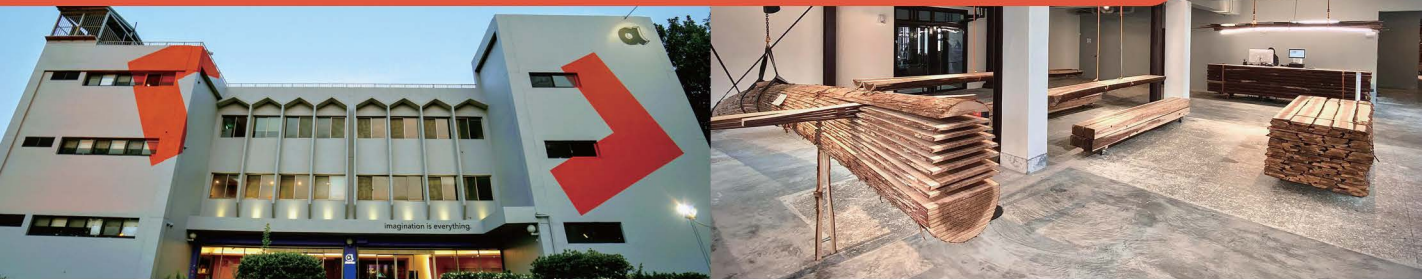


Social Enterprise Starting Financing

- The financing is capped at **3 million** NTD.
- The maximum loan maturity term is five years.



Working Spaces Support



To provide entrepreneurs an optimal environment and attract both domestic and international startups to establish themselves in Taipei, public land, existing facilities, and private-sector resources have been leveraged to create innovation hubs. Currently, a total of **14** operational bases have been established, encompassing a floor area of approximately 242,515 square meters, housing **589** active resident teams.

It is expected that **3** bases will be opened by 2027.

Based on the surrounding industrial characteristics and development trends of each base, corresponding industries will be planned to attract emerging industries in the relevant fields to develop.



**ICT
Technology**
t.Hub



Block-Chain
N24 ARK · TPE



AR / VR / MR
digiBlock Taipei



**Green Energy
/Smart Car**
• Tesla EIS Center
• Audi AceCenter



Maker Space
• Fablab Taipei
• POPOP Taipei



**Cultural &
Creative Design**
• T Fashion
• D.Lab



**Comprehensive
Theme**
• CIT (Center for
Innovation Taipei)
• Taipei Co-space



**Biotech
Industry**
Taipei
Bioinnovation Park



**Innovation
Habitat**
Empower Block

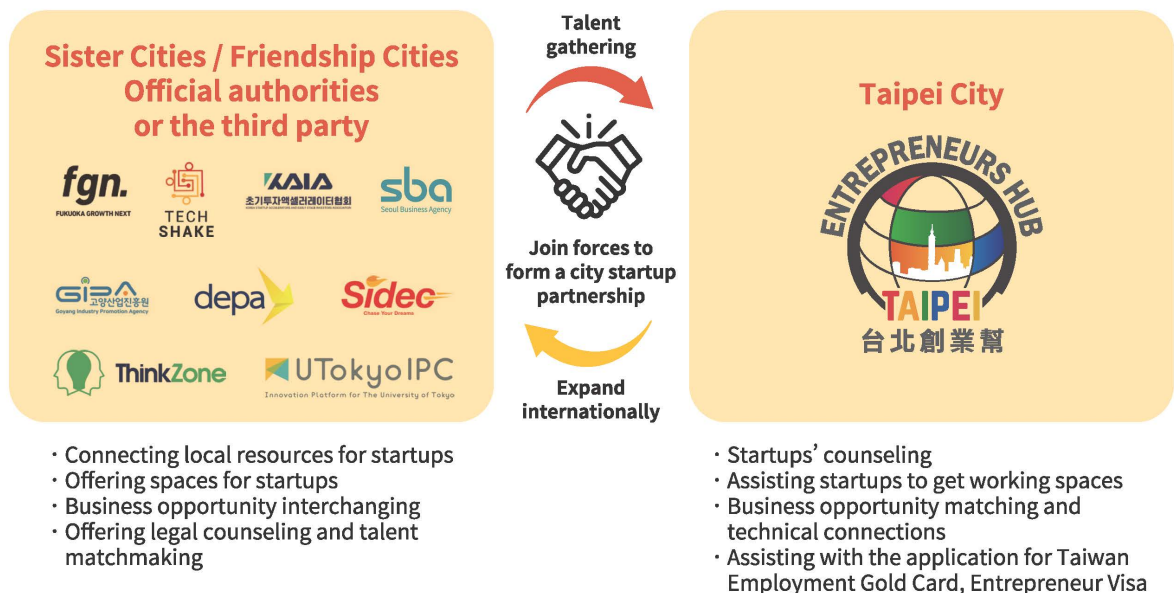


International Connections

International connections are vital to a thriving startup ecosystem. To support this, the Taipei City Government leads emerging industry teams to global exhibitions and invites international startups and talent to Taipei, fostering exchanges and collaborations. The city also launched the "Taipei Entrepreneurs Hub" to showcase local entrepreneurial resources.

City's Startup Partners

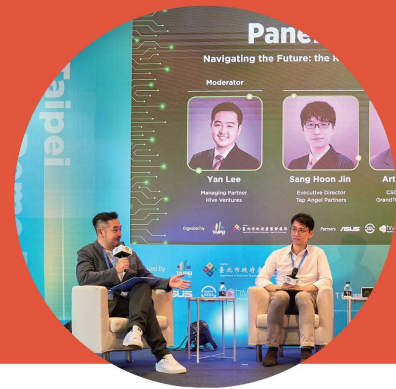
To introduce startup momentums, gathering diverse talent.



StartSphere Taipei Event

StartSphere Taipei, organized by the Taipei City Government, is an annual flagship international event that showcases innovation and entrepreneurship in consumer tech, digital entertainment, fintech, and AI applications. Through forums, showcases, networking sessions, and global investor matchmaking, it serves as a platform connecting startups with international markets, capital, and technology. The event gathers entrepreneurs, investors, unicorns, and media from across Asia, the Americas, and Europe for meaningful exchanges and startup showcases—showcasing Taipei's dynamic potential as a global innovation hub.

In 2024, The Taipei City Government launched the “Global Pass” to assist Taipei’s startups in accessing international co-working spaces and help them to link to local resources, funds, and connections as well. On the other hand, Taipei City teams up with its sister and friendship cities officially to establish “Cities Startup Partners” to promote inter-city cooperation and share entrepreneurship resources, and then invites global startups or specialists to come to grow and develop their business in Taipei.



Global Pass (for entrepreneurs)

Facilitating Taipei’s startups to connect the overseas entrepreneurs ecosystem



10 countries, 21 cities, 109 spots.

Tokyo, Osaka, Seoul, Singapore, Bangkok, Ho Chi Minh City, Melbourne, etc. Continuing to negotiate...



Using Co-working office, meeting room, and activity spaces

Assisting community connections, introducing resources, and matching businesses.



SEMs registered in Taipei



Subsidizing the member & stay fee, the subsidy is capped at 60,000 NTD

TOPS Platform

Taipei-Origin Promotion Station

The Taipei-Origin Promotion Station (TOPS) is a government initiative aimed at expanding procurement opportunities for local startups and small- to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). It connects these businesses with buyers from the private sector, public institutions, and government agencies.



Procurement Matching

TOPS identifies promising Taipei-based startups and SMEs, features their products and services on the platform, and connects them with potential buyers through targeted matchmaking efforts.



Promotion and Facilitation of Procurement

TOPS provides coaching sessions and hosts promotional events to boost the visibility and market reach of participating businesses, helping them unlock new sales opportunities.



Incentives and Awards

Organizations that procure products through the TOPS platform may receive commendations and monetary rewards. The “Sustainability and Shared Prosperity” award highlights outstanding efforts in innovative collaboration and sustainable practices.

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Department of Economic Development, Taipei City Government

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