

Title :	Directions of Recognition for Startups with Innovation Capability
Date :	2021.03.17
Legislative :	1.Promulgated and taken into force from March 17, 2021
Content :	<p>Article 1</p> <p>The Ministry of Economic Affairs (hereinafter referred to as MOEA) has established the directions specifically to promote the innovation entrepreneurship policy of the Executive Yuan.</p> <p>Article 2</p> <p>The term “startup”, as mentioned in the Direction, refers to a business that has a paid-in capital of less than NT\$100 million, or hires less than 200 employees on a regular basis, and meets one of the following requirements:</p> <p>1.Domestic Startup: A business that has been registered as a company or a business in accordance with the Company Act or the Business Registration Act of Taiwan, and has been established for less than five years (OR, WITHIN FIVE YEARS).</p> <p>2.Foreign Startup: A business that has been registered in accordance with foreign laws, and has been established for less than five years (OR, WITHIN FIVE YEARS). The limitation of less than five years (OR, WITHIN FIVE YEARS) of establishment, as stipulated in the preceding paragraph, does not apply to businesses that have been approved by the central competent authority of the relevant industry.</p> <p>Article 3</p> <p>A domestic startup with innovation capability should meet one of the following directions:</p> <p>1.Obtain the following investment (fundraising) amounting to at least NT\$2 million.</p> <p>a.Investments from domestic and foreign venture capital businesses.</p> <p>b.Individual cash investments, as described in Article 23-2 of the Statute for Industrial Innovation.</p>

	<p>c. Investment reviewed and approved by the Angel Investment Project run by the National Development Fund, Executive Yuan.</p> <p>d. Investment (fundraising) from domestic, foreign or international start-up funding platforms recognized by the Government of Taiwan.</p> <p>2. Has registered with the Go Incubation Board for Startup and Acceleration Firms (GISA) operated by the Taipei Exchange.</p> <p>3. Has obtained invention patents or design patents in Taiwan, or has been assigned or licensed with the invention patents or design patents by the patent owners who have completed the registration of such assignment/licensing at the Intellectual Property Office, MOEA.</p> <p>4. Have applied and obtained plant variety rights, or animal and plant name registration in Taiwan, but does not include those implemented by rights assignment or authorization.</p> <p>5. Those startups that have been physically stationed within one year, or are physically stationing in, the following parks or startup incubators, and have been recommended by such parks or startup incubators:</p> <p>a. International start-up parks and projects approved by the central or local governments in Taiwan (Appendix 1).</p> <p>b. The central or local government-operated startup incubators in Taiwan (Appendix 2), or those registered in the MOEA international startup incubators and approved and announced by the Small and Medium Enterprise Administration of MOEA.</p> <p>c. Foreign startup incubators recognized by the central or local governments in Taiwan (Appendix 3).</p> <p>6. The startup or the head of the company has received an award in representative entrepreneurial competitions in Taiwan or overseas (Appendix 4).</p>
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	<p>7.The startup or the head of the company has participated in indicative domestic/international fashion week shows, or has been a finalist or winner in indicative domestic/international film festivals, or international style awards and competitions (Please refer to Appendix 5, the Directions for Supporting Film Industry Professional Participation in International Film Festivals and Detailed List released by the Bureau of Audiovisual and Music Industry Development (BAMID), Ministry of Culture for the list of the said indicative international fashion week shows, film festivals, and international style awards and competitions).</p> <p>8.Others, as approved by the central competent authority of the relevant industry.</p> <p>Article 4 A foreign startup with innovation capabilities should meet at least one of the directions, as stipulated in the preceding Directions, except Subparagraph 1 Item 2 and Subparagraph 2.</p> <p>Article 5 The appendixes of Directions 3 Subparagraph 5 through Subparagraph 7 shall be recommended by the competent authorities for addition, deletion and updating every year.</p>
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Appendix 1: A List of International start-up parks and projects approved by the central or local governments in Taiwan

No.	Title	Competent authority
1	Taiwan Startup Stadium	National Development Council
2	FinTechSpace	Financial Supervisory Commission(Taiwan)
3	Taiwan Startup Terrace	Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs
4	Taiwan Tech Arena (TTA) and Accelerators	Ministry of Science and Technology
5	Young Entrepreneur's Studio	Ministry of Science and Technology (Hsinchu Science Park Bureau)
6	Yilan Entrepreneur's Studio	Ministry of Science and Technology (Hsinchu Science Park Bureau)
7	AI Robotics at CTSP & AI_ROBOT@STSP	Ministry of Science and Technology (Central Taiwan Science Park Bureau and Southern Taiwan Science Park Bureau)
8	Center for Innovation Taipei CIT	Taipei City Government
9	Taipei Co-space	Taipei City Government
10	digiBlock Taipei	Taipei City Government
11	Audi Accelerator	Taipei City Government
12	Fablab Taipei	Taipei City Government

13	FashionBlock Taipei	Taipei City Government
14	Tesla EIS Center	Taipei City Government
15	T FASHION	Taipei City Government
16	t Hub Taipei	Taipei City Government
17	ARK.TPE	Taipei City Government
18	Nangang Bottle Cap Factory	Taipei City Government
19	INNOSQUARE	New Taipei City Government
20	NTPC-AWS JIC	New Taipei City Government
21	TYCommander Start-up Hub	Taoyuan City Government
22	Andong Youth Start-up Hub	Taoyuan City Government
23	Hsinming Youth Hub	Taoyuan City Government
24	Digital Art Kaohsiung United Office (DAKUO)	Kaohsiung City Government
25	The Pier2 Base	Kaohsiung City Government

Appendix 2: A list of the central or local government-operated startup incubators in Taiwan

No.	Title	Competent authority
1	NanKang Software Incubation Center, SMEA	Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs
2	Hsinchu Biomedical Science Park Incubation Center, SMEA	Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs
3	The SME Incubator at Southern Taiwan Science Park, SMEA	Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs
4	Kaohsiung Software Incubation Center, SMEA	Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs
5	Agricultural Innovation Incubation Center	Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan, R.O.C.

Appendix 3: A list of foreign startup incubators recognized by the central or local governments in Taiwan

Startup incubators approved by the central or local governments (overseas)		
No.	Title	Government agency
1	AngelPad	Ministry of Science and Technology
2	Y Combinator	Ministry of Science and Technology
3	Alchemist	Ministry of Science and Technology
4	Amplify LA	Ministry of Science and Technology
5	Chicago New Venture Challenge	Ministry of Science and Technology
6	MuckerLab	Ministry of Science and Technology
7	StartX	Ministry of Science and Technology
8	Techstars	Ministry of Science and Technology
9	500 Startups	Ministry of Science and Technology
10	gener8tor	Ministry of Science and Technology
11	HAX	Ministry of Science and Technology
12	Healthbox	Ministry of Science and Technology
13	Idealab	Ministry of Science and Technology
14	IndieBio	Ministry of Science and Technology
15	MassChallenge	Ministry of Science and Technology
16	R/GA	Ministry of Science and Technology

17	SkyDeck	Ministry of Science and Technology
18	Brandery	Ministry of Science and Technology
19	Capital Innovators	Ministry of Science and Technology
20	Dreamit	Ministry of Science and Technology
21	Plug and Play	Ministry of Science and Technology
22	REach	Ministry of Science and Technology
23	Yield Lab	Ministry of Science and Technology
24	Zero to 510	Ministry of Science and Technology
25	Accelerprise	Ministry of Science and Technology
26	AlphaLab	Ministry of Science and Technology
27	FOOD-X	Ministry of Science and Technology
28	Health Wildcatters	Ministry of Science and Technology
29	Lighthouse Labs	Ministry of Science and Technology
30	UpTech	Ministry of Science and Technology
31	XLR8UH	Ministry of Science and Technology
32	SmartLabs	Ministry of Science and Technology

Appendix 4: A list of representative entrepreneurial competitions and awards

Entrepreneurial competitions and awards		
No.	Title	Competent authority/Organizer
1	FROM IP TO IPO PROGRAM (Taiwan)	Ministry of Science and Technology
2	Taiwan reputed university startups to Taiwan Unicorns	Ministry of Science and Technology
3	Business Startup Award	Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs
4	U-start Plan for Innovation and Entrepreneurship	Youth Development Administration, Ministry of Education
5	Startup Island TAIWAN Next Big	National Development Council
6	Disrupt(NY、SF)	TechCrunch Inc.
7	Echelon	e27 co.
8	IDG DEMO Show	International Data Group
9	Seedstars World	Seedstars SA
10	Slush	Startup Sauna Foundation
11	Web Summit (Including Collision and RISE)	Connected Intelligence Limited

Appendix 5 A list of indicative international fashion week shows, film festivals, and international style awards and competitions

International fashion week shows		
No.	Title	Organizer
1	New York Fashion Week (The show must be listed in the organizer's official event calendar)	Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA)
2	London Fashion Week (The show must be listed in the organizer's official event calendar)	British Fashion Council (BFC)
3	Milan Fashion Week (The show must be listed in the organizer's official event calendar)	Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana
4	Paris Fashion Week (The show must be listed in the organizer's official event calendar)	Fédération française de la couture

International style awards and competitions		
No.	Title	Organizer
1	CFDA Awards	Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA)
2	The Fashion Awards	British Fashion Council (BFC)
3	ANDAM Fashion Awards	ANDAM