



## INCENTIVES

# TO FOREIGN COMPANIES INVESTING IN FINLAND

Foreign-owned companies in Finland are eligible for a wide range of government and EU incentives on an equal footing with Finnish-owned companies. Invest in Finland and our national network can help you to find out more information about them.

### **Business aid from ELY Centres**

Business aid to companies operating in Finland is coordinated by the Centres of the Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY Centres), whose 15 regional offices provide advisory, training and expert services and funding for investment and development projects. Foreign investors can benefit from several different types of aid, mainly for Development areas 1 and 2.

The services offered by ELY Centres cover internationalisation of business operations, improvement of business efficiency and management skills, development of technology and innovation, updating of staff skills and training of new employees. ELY Centres may also contribute to the funding of development projects. Funding support is discretionary and depends on the nature of the project.

Investment aid can be granted to companies in the regional development areas, especially small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Large companies may also qualify if they have a major employment impact in the region. Aid to business development can be granted to improve or facilitate the company's establishment and operation,

know-how, internationalisation, product development or process enhancement.

Subsidies for start-up companies are available for establishing and expanding business operations during the first 24 months. Transport aid may be granted for deliveries of goods produced to sparsely populated areas. Energy subsidies can be granted to companies for investments in energy efficiency and conservation.

### **EU-funded support**

EU finance is largely channeled through the ELY Centres. It is directed to projects developing the competitiveness, know-how and operating environment of the SME sector, with a special emphasis on start-up businesses and service sector companies.



## DEVELOPMENT AREAS IN FINLAND



## MAXIMUM LEVEL OF INVESTMENT AID FOR ENTERPRISES

### Development area I



### Development area II



### Development area III



Source:  
Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment

### R&D and innovation incentives by Tekes

Tekes, the Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation, provides low-interest loans and grants to challenging and innovative projects potentially leading to global success stories. The organisation offers funding for research and development work carried out by companies, research organisations, and public sector service providers in Finland. Besides funding technological breakthroughs, Tekes emphasises also service-related, design, business, and social innovations. Startups and both SMEs and large companies can benefit from Tekes incentives.

### Capital investments from Finnish Industry Investment

Finnish Industry Investment is a state-owned investment company that invests in Finnish companies, both directly and through private equity funds. The organisation invests in rapid growth, internationalisation, spin-offs, major industrial investments, as well as sectoral, corporate and ownership restructurings. It also invests in foreign companies if the capital is used for business development in Finland.

### Further information

Centres of the Economic Development, Transport and the Environment  
[www.ely-keskus.fi/en/web/ely-en/](http://www.ely-keskus.fi/en/web/ely-en/)

Ministry of Employment and the Economy  
[www.tem.fi/en](http://www.tem.fi/en)

Finnvera  
[www.finnvera.fi/eng](http://www.finnvera.fi/eng)

Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation  
[www.tekes.fi/en/funding/](http://www.tekes.fi/en/funding/)

Industry Investment  
[www.industryinvestment.com](http://www.industryinvestment.com)

Finnish Tax Administration  
[www.vero.fi/en-US](http://www.vero.fi/en-US)