

2026

Taiwan's Government Support for Startups

A founder's reference map of the public-sector entities, programs, and partners that fund, regulate, host, and brand Taiwan's startup ecosystem.

FOR FOUNDERS, IN & OUTSIDE TAIWAN

EDITION 01

Publication & citation.

PUBLISHED BY

TribeROI Insights.

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SUGGESTED CITATION

TribeROI Insights. (2026). *Taiwan's Government Support for Startups: Government Entities, Programs, and Their Public-Private Partners* (Edition 01). TribeROI.

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A founder's map of **five layers** of public-sector support. Dozens of entities, one ecosystem.

This reference document maps the entities and programs that fund, regulate, host, and brand Taiwan's startup ecosystem from the public-sector side. It also covers the small set of private organizations that work hand-in-hand with government and are routinely co-presented at official events. Pure-private VCs, accelerators, and corporate venture arms are out of scope and will be covered separately.

How entities are tagged

• GOVERNMENT	• GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED	• PRIVATE PARTNER
Ministry or cabinet-level body. NDC, MOEA, NSTC, MODA, ASVA.	Non-profit co-sponsored, supervised, or commissioned by government. ITRI, TAITRA, SMEG.	Independent organization in tight coordination with government programs. TCA, Garage+, StarFab, Meet, Everiii, EntreCamp.

Headline numbers

NT\$5_B	NT\$10_B	15,924	NT\$28_B
NDF BUSINESS ANGEL INVESTMENT PROGRAM	AI STARTUP FUND NDF • MODA • 10-YR	GOLD CARDS ISSUED THRU FEB 2026	TAIWANIA CAPITAL AUM • 6 FUNDS • 75+ STARTUPS

Sources are linked per entity throughout. Where a program's name, parent agency, or status has changed recently, the most recent verified position is used.

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The four-ring overview.

A mental model for the rest of the report: four concentric rings of activity, plus city-level offices threading through all of them.

RING 01 Policy & Capital

Five cabinet bodies set strategy: NDC operates NDF; MOEA owns SMEs and trade; NSTC owns R&D and science parks; MODA owns digital industry and policy; ASVA runs Asia Silicon Valley and AI policy. Two government-affiliated capital vehicles sit alongside: SMEG (loan guarantees) and Taiwan Capital (managed VC).

RING 02 Hubs & Applied R&D

Two flagship national hubs (TTA, Startup Terrace), three science parks, and ITRI as the deep-tech R&D engine that historically spun out TSMC and UMC.

RING 03 Events, Brand & Media

COMPUTEX and InnoVEX are the flagship events. Startup Island TAIWAN is the national brand, run by Everiii under contract with NDC. SelectUSA is Taiwan's most consequential annual U.S.-facing channel. Meet (Business Next Media) leads media coverage.

RING 04 Talent & Residency

ITTO is the single point of contact, supporting Gold Card holders, Entrepreneur Visa holders, and other foreign professionals across the full pre- and post-arrival lifecycle.

01

Policy & Capital

▶ National Development Council (NDC)

▶ National Development Fund (NDF)

▶ Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA)

▶ SMESA · IDA · A+ Program

▶ National Science & Technology Council
(NSTC)

▶ Ministry of Digital Affairs (MODA)

▶ Asia Silicon Valley & AI Strategy Agency
(ASVA)

▶ SME Credit Guarantee Fund (SMEG)

▶ Tawiana Capital

▶ 01

Five cabinet-level bodies run policy and capital, with loan guarantees and managed VC alongside. NDC sets strategy and operates NDF. Taiwania Capital writes later-stage strategic equity. MOEA owns SMEs, trade, and the physical hubs. NSTC owns R&D and the science parks. MODA owns digital industry and policy. ASVA runs Asia Silicon Valley and AI strategy.

Strategy, brand, and the equity engine.

The cabinet bodies

NDC

National Development Council

• GOVERNMENT

Cabinet-level agency designing Taiwan's national development strategy, including the action plan for the startup ecosystem. Owns the Startup Island TAIWAN brand, administers the Employment Gold Card via ITTO, and acts as management agency for NDF.

Role • Strategy • Brand • Talent • NDF oversight

NDF

National Development Fund

• GOVERNMENT

Sovereign development fund under the Executive Yuan, managed operationally by NDC. The Business Angel Investment Program co-invests with qualified angels and VCs in early-stage startups (under 3 years; paid-in capital up to NT\$80M).

To date • NT\$4.12B+ across 294+ startups • NT\$16.95B+ total private investment (Q3 2025)

MOEA

Ministry of Economic Affairs

• GOVERNMENT

Cabinet ministry for industry, trade, energy, and SMEs. Operates the physical startup hubs (Startup Terrace), the major non-equity financing programs (SBIR, SIIR), and Entrepreneur Visa review. Oversees ITRI and TAITRA.

Sub-units • SMESA • IDA • DoIT (A+) • DIR

SMESA

SME & Startup Administration

• GOVERNMENT

MOEA's startup-and-SME execution arm. Renamed from SMEA (Sept 2023). Runs Startup Terrace (operationally managed by i2i / i4i), the Startup Portal Taiwan, SBIR & SIIR grants, the incubator network (IAP & CAP), TAcc+ SpaceTech accelerator (run by ITRI), and the Entrepreneur Visa qualification process.

Programs • SBIR • SIIR • IAP • CAP • TAcc+ • Entrepreneur Visa

NT\$5B

Business Angel Investment Program budget.

The headline NDF program, expanded to NT\$5 billion, co-invests with qualified angels and VCs in startups under 3 years old (paid-in capital up to NT\$80M, with discretion to waive).

AI EXPANSION • 2024

NDC and MOEA expanded NDF's mandate with NT\$10 billion (~US\$320M) over 10 years for AI startups, coordinated with MODA. Routed through designated partner investors.

Science, digital, and the silicon valley plan

NSTC

National Science & Technology Council

• GOVERNMENT

Cabinet council for national S&T policy, R&D funding, and the three national science parks. Established July 2022 from the reorganization of the former Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST). Operates Taiwan Tech Arena (TTA) directly.

OwNs • TTA • Science Park Bureaus • academia-spinout funding (FITI, TRUSTU) • Taiwan CbI / IC Taiwan Grand Challenge

MODA

Ministry of Digital Affairs

• GOVERNMENT

Cabinet ministry inaugurated August 2022 under founding minister Audrey Tang. Owns digital, telecom, cybersecurity, and internet policy. Coordinates the NT\$10B AI Startup Investment Program, runs the Presidential Hackathon, and offers free GPU resources to AI startups (via NCHC).

Achieved • Digital economy crossed NT\$1T in 2024, ahead of 2026 target

ASVA

Asia Silicon Valley & AI Strategy Agency

• GOVERNMENT

Reports to NDC. Renamed from ASVDA in February 2026 in line with NDC's AI New Ten Major Construction Plan (2025–2028). Runs Asia Silicon Valley 3.0.

Targets (by 2028) • US\$5B startup fundraising • 100 startup exits • 3 overseas hubs

SMEG

SME Credit Guarantee Fund

• GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED

Quasi-public guarantee institution that backstops bank loans to SMEs (broadly defined under Taiwan's SME Act, capturing most early-stage companies). Frequently paired with SBIR awards or NDF angel co-investment to open up debt financing for young companies. Cumulative guarantees in the trillions of NT dollars; tens of thousands of beneficiaries annually.

Role • Loan-guarantee backbone

TAIWANIA

Taiwania Capital

• GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED

Government-backed VC, founded August 2017 by NDF + private enterprises. Six funds, ~US\$865M AUM. Offices in Taipei, Silicon Valley, and Central/Eastern Europe. NDF's later-stage equity vehicle; capital flows via NIC, capped at 40% of paid-in capital per fund.

Track record • 75+ portfolio cos • 14 IPOs • 4 M&A • TXOne, Ambiq, Arris, Rakuten Medical, AEye

Five vehicles

One funding stack. NDF (early equity) • MODA AI (early-mid equity, AI focus) • Taiwania (later equity) • SBIR & SIIR (grants) • SMEG (debt). Founders typically stack two or more across the lifecycle.

02

Hubs & Applied R&D

▶ Taiwan Tech Arena (TTA)

▶ Taiwan Startup Terrace

▶ i2i / i4i · IP² Programs

▶ Hsinchu Science Park (HSP)

▶ Central Taiwan Science Park (CTSP)

▶ Southern Taiwan Science Park (STSP)

▶ Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI)

▶ Industrial Technology Investment Corp. (ITIC)

▶ NCHC · Taiwan AI RAP

▶ 02

These are the on-ramps. Two flagship national hubs, TTA under NSTC and Startup Terrace under MOEA, are where founders apply for space, plug into structured programs, and access the public-sector ecosystem on a single campus. The three national science parks operate at a longer industrial timescale. ITRI sits alongside as the deep-tech R&D engine that historically spun out TSMC and UMC. NCHC provides the AI compute layer underneath.

Where founders **show up.**

Two flagship hubs • R&D • AI compute

TTA

Taiwan Tech Arena

• GOVERNMENT • NSTC

National-level deep-tech startup hub operated by NSTC. Adjacent to Taipei Arena, with TTA South in Tainan. Leads Taiwanese startup delegations to CES, VivaTech, and other international events.

Accelerator partners • Foodland • flyingVest • SparkLabs • Orbit • IAPS • Startup101 • Mosaic • BE Health

STARTUP TERRACE

Taiwan Startup Terrace

• GOVERNMENT • MOEA SMESA

MOEA SMESA's flagship international startup campus, with sites in Linkou (opened 2019) and Kaohsiung (opened 2022). Offices, programming, demo days, and soft-landing for international founders. Operated under SMESA contract by i2i and its subsidiary i4i.

Sites • Linkou (2019) • Kaohsiung (2022) • Operator: i2i / i4i

i2i / i4i

Innovation to Industry

• GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED

Spun out from the Institute for Information Industry (III) in 2014. i2i runs IP² LaunchPad (inbound, bringing Israeli teams into Taiwan) and IP² Scale Out (outbound; NYC via EntreCamp since 2024).

i2i programs to date • 263+ teams • 70%+ survival • US\$1.7B+ raised

ITRI

Industrial Technology Research Institute

• GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED

Taiwan's flagship applied-research institute, founded 1973 under MOEA. ~6,000–6,500 staff, headquartered in Hsinchu. Directly incubated TSMC, UMC, Taiwan Mask, EpiStar, Mirle Automation, and Taiwan Biomaterial. Runs OpenLab Incubation Center.

VC arm • ITIC (1979) • US\$400M+ invested

FITI

From IP to IPO

• GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED • NSTC / NIAR

NSTC's flagship academic-spinout program for Taiwanese university teams, launched 2013 and run by STPI under NIAR (formerly NARLabs). Six-month entrepreneurship training turning research IP into companies, with a finale pitch and seed funding for top teams.

Since 2013 • 968 teams • 559 startups

NCHC

Taiwan AI RAP + TAIDE

• GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED • NARLABS / NSTC

National HPC and AI compute infrastructure under NARLabs (NSTC). Taiwan AI RAP gives pilot teams free GPU credits and access to TAIDE, Taiwan's traditional Chinese LLM. Nano4 supercomputer (Nov 2025) hit 81.55 PFLOPS on 1,760 H200 GPUs.

Free GPU credits • NT\$650K per pilot team

THREE INSTITUTES, THREE MISSIONS

ITRI (MOEA) is the applied R&D engine that spins out industrial champions like TSMC. TTA (NSTC) is the startup hub focused on fundraising and international visibility. NCHC (NARLabs / NSTC) is the AI compute layer: GPU credits, TAIDE, Nano4.

The three national science parks

Three national science parks operate under NSTC, each managed by its own Science Park Bureau. Primarily industrial parks for established R&D-intensive companies, but each houses incubation programs, university spinouts, and international R&D centers.

NT\$4T+

Combined revenue across the three national parks in 2024. Hsinchu (HSP) anchors semiconductors with TSMC and UMC; CTSP anchors machine tools and precision machinery in Central Taiwan; STSP anchors advanced-process expansion and ranks first by revenue.

01

Hsinchu (HSP)

ESTABLISHED DEC 1980

Taiwan's first science park, modeled on Silicon Valley. Six campuses across Hsinchu, Zhunan, Tongluo, Longtan, Yilan, and Hsinchu Biomedical Park. Anchor: semiconductors (~70–73% of output) with TSMC and UMC. NTHU and NYCU sit immediately adjacent.

600+ companies
160,000+ employees

Best fit • Semiconductors • IC design • deep-tech R&D adjacent to NTHU and NYCU

02

Central Taiwan (CTSP)

ESTABLISHED 2003 • 5 SITES

Multi-site network: Taichung (flagship), Huwei, Houli, Erlin, Chung Hsing. Sectors: precision machinery, optoelectronics, semiconductors, biotech, green energy. TSMC operates Fab 15; AP5B advanced-packaging due 2026; future Fab 25 will host 1.4nm logic.

2025 revenue
NT\$1.13 trillion

Best fit • Machine tools • advanced packaging supply chain • precision machinery

03

Southern (STSP)

LATE 1990S • TAINAN + LUJHU

Centered in Tainan with a Kaohsiung campus. Strengths: semiconductor manufacturing (TSMC Fab 14, future Fab 18 / Gigafab cluster), optoelectronics, biotech, medical devices, green energy. NCKU is the primary academic feeder.

Ranks #1
by revenue, 3 parks

Best fit • Semiconductor manufacturing • medtech • green energy near NCKU

03

Events, Brand & Media

▶ Taiwan External Trade Council (TAITRA)

▶ COMPUTEX TAIPEI

▶ InnoVEX

▶ Startup Island TAIWAN

▶ Everiii & Partners International

▶ StarFab Accelerator

▶ Meet Global · Meet Taipei (Business Next Media)

▶ EntreCamp · IP² Scale Out (NYC)

▶ SelectUSA Investment Summit

▶ 03

This layer projects Taiwan's startup ecosystem internationally and unifies its identity. The flagship events are COMPUTEX TAIPEI and its dedicated startup track InnoVEX, co-organized by TAITRA and TCA. NDC owns the Startup Island TAIWAN brand; Everiii runs program execution. The annual SelectUSA Investment Summit is Taiwan's most consequential U.S.-facing channel. Alongside these sit Meet (Business Next Media), the dominant Taiwan startup media platform, and EntreCamp, the New York accelerator that runs IP² Scale Out with i2i.

How Taiwan goes to market.

The flagship events

COMPUTEX

COMPUTEX TAIPEI

● GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED ● PRIVATE

Established 1981 by TCA, with TAITRA joining as co-organizer in 1985. One of the largest ICT trade shows globally. Recent editions anchored on AI, robotics, advanced computing, next-gen connectivity, and mobility.

Scale • 1,500+ exhibitors • 100,000+ international visitors

INNOVEX

InnoVEX

● GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED ● PRIVATE

The dedicated startup track of COMPUTEX, launched 2016 by TCA and TAITRA. Held concurrently at Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center. The Pitch Contest is the highest-profile startup pitch event of the Taiwan calendar. *2025 (10th anniv.): ~34,000 attendees, 450+ startups, 24 countries, 10 national pavilions.*

Scale • ~34,000 attendees • 450+ startups • 24 countries

TAITRA

Taiwan External Trade Development Council

● GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED

Taiwan's primary trade-promotion organization, founded 1970 as a non-profit jointly sponsored by government (under MOEA oversight) and Taiwan industry associations. ~1,300 specialists, 5 domestic offices, 60+ overseas branches.

Co-organizes • COMPUTEX • InnoVEX • MOEA pavilions

TCA

Taipei Computer Association

● PRIVATE PARTNER

Taiwan's largest ICT industry association, founded 1974. 3,000+ member companies accounting for 85%+ of Taiwan's ICT industrial output by member capital. Founding chairman Stan Shih (Acer) launched COMPUTEX in 1981.

Role • Co-equal partner to TAITRA on COMPUTEX & InnoVEX

SELECTUSA

SelectUSA Investment Summit

● GOVERNMENT • U.S. DOC EVENT ● NDC + MOEA DELEGATION

Annual U.S. Department of Commerce summit. Taiwan has sent the largest foreign delegation four years running (2022–2026). The American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) recruits the Taiwan delegation. In the SelectUSA Tech pitching sessions for startups, Taiwan won 1 first-place, 3 second-place, and 1 third-place awards in 2026.

2026 • 113 firms • 207 reps • 4 years #1 delegation

The national brand & its operators

STARTUP ISLAND TAIWAN

The national startup brand

• GOVERNMENT • NDC-LED

Launched by NDC in December 2019 as the unifying identity for Taiwanese startups internationally. NDC owns the brand; Everiii runs day-to-day operations under contract. Includes NEXT BIG and the Bridge Program Hubs in Tokyo, Seoul, and Silicon Valley (SV opened 2024). Hubs also serve as TTA's primary overseas footprint.

NEXT BIG cohort • Appier • Gogoro • 91APP • Dcard • AmazingTalker • CuboAi • CyCraft

EVERIII & PARTNERS

Strategic operator

• PRIVATE PARTNER

Taipei consultancy founded 2014 by Amanda Liu. Lead operator for Startup Island TAIWAN under long-standing contract with NDC. Runs Taipei Entrepreneurs Hub (TEH) with Taipei City and the Tokyo, Seoul, and SV overseas hubs. The original Taiwan Startup Stadium (TSS, founded 2015) was sunset in 2024.

Operates • Startup Island TAIWAN • TEH • Everiii Capital • Tokyo / Seoul / SV hubs

MEET / MEET TAIPEI

Business Next Media

• PRIVATE PARTNER

Taiwan's largest startup media platform, launched 2011 by Business Next Media. Tightly aligned with NDC, MOEA, NSTC, MODA, TTA, Startup Terrace, and ASVA programs. Meet Taipei is one of Asia's largest startup festivals.

Meet Taipei • 100+ international startups • 205 demo pitches • 55,000+ visitors

IP² SCALE OUT

NYC outbound channel

• SMESA-SUPPORTED

i2i's flagship outbound program for Taiwanese startups in the U.S. Launched 2022 with SOSA; since 2024 NYC delivery partner is accelerator EntreCamp. Format: Taipei coaching, four weeks in NYC, Manhattan Demo Day. 2025 cohort: 15 startups.

RoLe • Most prominent overseas-acceleration channel from Startup Terrace

► Corporate-backed accelerators

GARAGE+

Epoch Foundation • Zero-equity • Founded 2008

• PRIVATE PARTNER

Built for established international startups (Series A+) entering Taiwan to partner with major corporates. Backed by 30+ Taiwanese corporates incl. TSMC, Delta, Quanta, Wistron, MediaTek. 435+ startups (216 international) since 2008. SGP twice yearly; ~75% follow-on; US\$25–50K seed grants.

Focus • corporate partnerships • manufacturing / ICT / industrial

STARFAB

StarFab Accelerator • Founded 2016

• PRIVATE PARTNER

Taiwan's largest industry accelerator. Industry 4.0: IoT, hardware, AI robotics. 200+ startups, 47% follow-on rate. 20+ corporate partners (Advantech, Inventec, Delta, Flytech). Co-runs Taiwan AI x Robotics Accelerator (TAIRA) with STSP.

Channel • Most prominent corporate-startup matchmaking outside government hubs



04

Talent & Residency

▶ International Talent Taiwan Office (ITTO)

▶ Taiwan Employment Gold Card

▶ Entrepreneur Visa

▶ Digital field (MODA-reviewed)

▶ Foreign Talent Act

▶ Taipei Entrepreneurs Hub (TEH)

▶ The 2030 talent target

▶ 04

Two government-issued residency tracks are most relevant to foreign founders: the Employment Gold Card and the Entrepreneur Visa. The International Talent Taiwan Office (ITTO) is the front door for both, supporting the full pre- and post-arrival lifecycle including housing, banking, taxation, healthcare, and education.

The front door for foreign founders.

Two tracks • one office

ITTO

International Talent Taiwan Office

• GOVERNMENT • NDC

National service center under NDC. Launched November 2023, expanding the original Gold Card Office (set up Oct 2020). Single point of contact for foreign professionals, entrepreneurs, and dependents. Pre-arrival consultation, application help, and post-arrival integration across housing, banking, taxation, healthcare, education, and employment.

Activity • 119+ nationalities served • 80 events to date

GOLD CARD

Taiwan Employment Gold Card

• GOVERNMENT

A 4-in-1 document combining open work permit, resident visa, ARC, and re-entry permit. Issued under the Foreign Talent Act. Valid 1–3 years; renewable. Income-tax benefits, work rights for spouses, National Health Insurance (NHI) access for cardholders and dependents. Reviewers include: MOEA (Economy), NSTC (S&T), MOC (Culture), MODA (Digital).

Digital field (since May 2023): • 1,124 cards issued • 37% Americas • 33% Asia • 26% Europe

ENTREPRENEUR VISA

For founders launching in Taiwan

• GOVERNMENT

Dedicated visa for foreign founders building innovative businesses in Taiwan. Initial residency 2 years, renewable, for teams of up to 3 founders. Reviewed by MOEA's Department of Investment Review (DIR). Tracks: VC investment (local or overseas), residency in a recognised incubator/park, qualifying patents, or recognised competition wins.

Apply via • MOFA Bureau of Consular Affairs • NIA (HK / Macau)

TEH

Taipei Entrepreneurs Hub

• CITY • OPERATED BY EVERIII

Taipei City's foreign-founder soft-landing facility, operated by Everiii under contract with the Department of Economic Development. Co-working space, founder community, mentor network, and pre/post-arrival logistics for incoming Gold Card and Entrepreneur Visa holders setting up in Taipei.

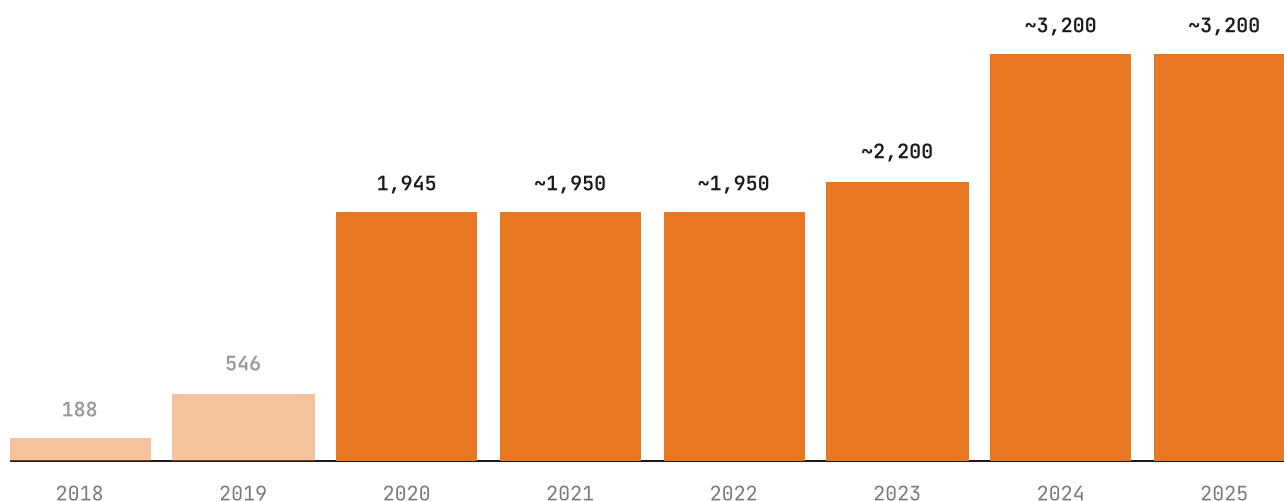
Pairs with • ITTO (national) • StartUP@Taipei • Investment Office Taipei

15,924

Employment Gold Cards approved cumulatively, as of end-Feb 2026 with 8,372 currently valid. The cumulative total crossed 10,000 in 2024, then 13,191 by May 2025. The Digital field, reviewed by MODA, has issued 1,124 cards since launching in May 2023.

Gold Card issuance · annual approvals

A clear COVID inflection in 2020. Cumulative crossed 10,000 in 2024, then 13,191 by May 2025, and 15,924 by end-February 2026.

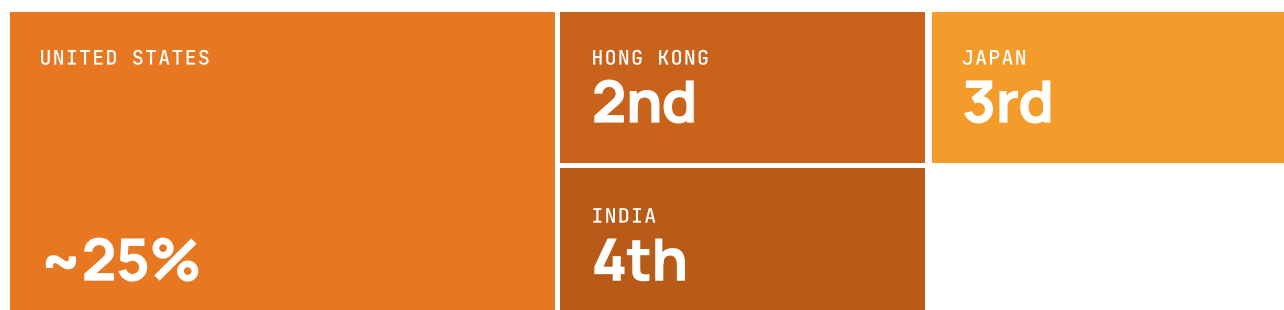


Annual figures back-calculated from monthly cumulative totals at goldcard.nat.gov.tw. 2021-22 split is inferred from end-2022 cumulative.

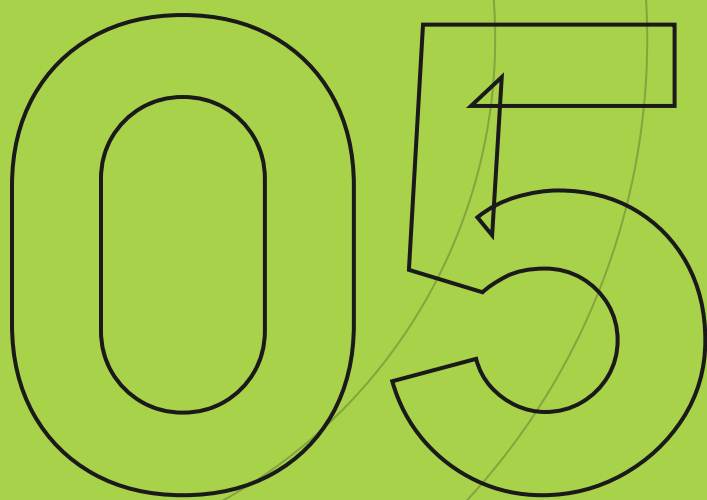
2030 TARGET

NDC's national recruitment target: 400,000 foreign workers by 2030, including 70,000+ professionals · coordinated across MOEA, MOL, NIA, NSTC, MODA, OCAC, MOFA.

► Top source countries · Gold Card



NDC publishes the ranking but not percentages for ranks 2-4. Other notable source countries: UK, Canada, Germany, France, South Korea, Singapore.



05

Where on the island, & which entity, by need.

▶ City-level startup offices

▶ Taipei · New Taipei · Taoyuan

▶ Hsinchu · Taichung · Tainan · Kaohsiung

▶ Founder decision matrix

▶ Founder need × stage

▶ Inception · Early · Mid · Late

▶ Primary sources by entity

▶ 05

Each major Taiwanese city operates its own startup support office under its Department of Economic Development, offering local incentives, low-interest loans, business registration, and procurement pilots. Programs vary; founders should check the relevant city for current incentives. The decision matrix at the end of this chapter maps founder needs across stages.

Where on the island.

City-level startup offices

01

Taipei City

Most active city-level startup body in Taiwan. Founder counselling, awards, low/zero-interest loans, the Taipei Entrepreneurs Hub for foreign-founder soft-landing (with Everiii).

StartUP@Taipei

ITO

SITI

TEH

Best fit · Software · SaaS · consumer · brand and capital access

02

New Taipei City

Home to Startup Terrace Linkou. 11 hubs identified in the FINDIT 2024 ecosystem review, including the NTPC-AWS Joint Innovation Center and New Taipei Industrial Development Bureau.

Startup Terrace Linkou

NTPC-AWS

Best fit · International soft-landing · cloud-native via NTPC-AWS

03

Taoyuan City

Home to ASVA's Asia-Silicon Valley Innovation R&D Center in Qingpu. Launched accelerator with Plug and Play in 2025.

ASVA R&D Center

Youth EC Center

Best fit · AIoT · smart mobility · airport-adjacent logistics

04

Hsinchu

Operates alongside Hsinchu Science Park Bureau. City-level Hsinchu Startup Hub plus a youth entrepreneurship base in the Park's Yilan campus.

Hsinchu Startup Hub

Yilan campus

Best fit · Semiconductors · IC design · academic R&D spinouts

05

Taichung City

Anchors local machine-tool and precision-machinery cluster around CTSP. Investment subsidies for foreign companies setting up regional operations.

CTSP

EDB

Best fit · Hardware · machine tools · precision manufacturing

06

Tainan City

Coordinates with STSP and NCKU on local startup support. Hosts TTA South in the Shalun Smart Green Energy Science City. Direct connection to NSTC's national program.

TTA South

STSP

Best fit · Green energy · smart mobility · deep-tech R&D

07

Kaohsiung City

Home to Startup Terrace Kaohsiung (Yawan Startup Park) in the Asia New Bay Area, plus i2i's Kaohsiung Software Incubator. Positioned around 5G, AIoT, and southern semiconductor expansion.

Startup Terrace KH

Yawan Park

Best fit · 5G · AIoT · southern semis · maritime tech

08

Index of incentives

The MOEA Invest Taiwan portal aggregates municipal incentives across all cities. The most useful single index for founders comparing regional offers.

investtaiwan.nat.gov.tw

Which entity, by need & stage

Stage definitions. **INC** Inception · **EARLY** 0–2 yrs · **MID** Series A/B · **LATE** Series C+ to pre-IPO. Some programs span multiple stages.

FOUNDER NEED	MOST RELEVANT ENTITIES & PROGRAMS	STAGE
Early-stage equity capital	NDF Business Angel Investment Program · NDF AI Startup Investment Program (with MODA). Government co-investment alongside qualified angels and VCs.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Growth-stage strategic equity	Taiwania Capital (Tech / Bio / CEE / SEA Funds) · ITIC (ITRI's VC arm). Professionally managed government-backed VC for Series A through pre-IPO; cross-border co-investment.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Non-dilutive R&D grants	SMESA SBIR (technology, NT\$1.5M Phase 1 / NT\$12M Phase 2 from 2026) and SIIR (services) · MOEA A+ Industrial Innovative R&D via DoIT. A+ targets advanced industrial R&D and VC-validated startups.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Loan-backed expansion	SME Credit Guarantee Fund (SMEG) + bank partners. Government-backed guarantees on commercial loans, often stacked with SBIR grants for the same project.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Idea-stage incubation	Garage+ Starship Programme · SMESA incubator network · i2i incubator hubs. Free workspace, mentors, structured early support before institutional funding.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Foreign-founder residency	ITTO as front door for Gold Card and Entrepreneur Visa. One-stop service for application, arrival, and post-arrival integration.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Local-market pilots & incentives	StartUP@Taipei + ITO + SITI · Taoyuan EDB · equivalents in New Taipei, Hsinchu, Taichung, Tainan, Kaohsiung. Municipal subsidies, low-interest loans, procurement pilots.	 INC EARLY MID LATE

Which entity, by need & stage (continued)

FOUNDER NEED	MOST RELEVANT ENTITIES & PROGRAMS	STAGE
Deep-tech & R&D landing pad	Taiwan Tech Arena (NSTC) · national science parks · ITRI open labs and OpenLab Incubation Center · Taiwan Cbi / IC Taiwan Grand Challenge (semis-AI focus, US\$30K landing prize + up to US\$3M in credits). Pilot fab, applied R&D, industrial clustering.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
AI-specific support	MODA AI Startup Investment Program (NT\$10B) · NCHC Taiwan AI RAP (free GPU credits + TAIDE access) · IC Taiwan Grand Challenge for chip-based AI. Dedicated funding pool plus compute, training data, and chip-development support.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
AIoT & IoT-specific support	ASVA programs · Asia Silicon Valley Innovation R&D Center (Qingpu). Sector-specific support for IoT, AIoT, autonomous mobility, and smart-city pilots.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
International soft-landing in Taiwan	Startup Terrace Linkou & Kaohsiung via i2i / i4i, with IP ² LaunchPad · Garage+ Startup Global Program · Taipei Entrepreneurs Hub (Everiii).	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Industry partnership / spinout	ITRI open labs and tech transfer · ITIC (early-stage VC) · NSTC academic-industry programs · StarFab corporate-startup matchmaking. Pilot manufacturing, joint R&D, IP licensing, direct corporate partnerships.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Investor-readiness coaching	Startup Island TAIWAN program calendar (Term Sheet Bootcamp + Go Global Bootcamp, formerly TSS through 2023). Cross-border pitch events, structured coaching for raising international capital.	 INC EARLY MID LATE

Which entity, by need & stage (continued)

FOUNDER NEED	MOST RELEVANT ENTITIES & PROGRAMS	STAGE
Outbound expansion to U.S.	IP ² Scale Out · i2i with EntreCamp (NYC, since 2024) · Startup Island TAIWAN Silicon Valley Hub (2024) · TTA delegations (Taiwan-incorporated).	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Outbound expansion to Asia (JP / KR / SEA)	Startup Island TAIWAN Bridge Program Hubs in Tokyo and Seoul (op. by Everiii) · Taiwania Capital CEE / SEA Funds for cross-border equity · TAITRA missions across Japan, Korea, and Southeast Asia.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
International brand & showcase	Startup Island TAIWAN, NEXT BIG (NDC, op. by Everiii) · TTA international delegations · Bridge Program Hubs (Tokyo, Seoul, SV).	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Highest-profile pitch moment	InnoVEX (TAITRA + TCA) at COMPUTEX · Meet Neo Star Demo Show. Asia's largest ICT-focused startup pitch and matchmaking events.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Trade-show pavilion & missions	TAITRA pavilions · TCA-led export missions · SelectUSA Investment Summit (annual). Coordinated Taiwan presence at international trade shows, FDI promotion, matchmaking visits.	 INC EARLY MID LATE
Media coverage & visibility	Meet Global · Meet Taipei festival · Meet Greater South · Meet Neo Star Demo Show. Primary Taiwan-focused startup media platform.	 INC EARLY MID LATE

READING THE MATRIX

Programs filled at all four stages, like ITTO and municipal incentives, sit underneath the whole journey. Programs filled only at MID/LATE, like Taiwania, SelectUSA, IP² Scale Out, and NEXT BIG, are graduation channels you grow into.

The 90-day founder playbook.

A condensed action sequence for foreign founders landing in Taiwan with intent to build.
Three 30-day blocks. Pick one or two items per block most relevant to your stage.

WINDOW	WHAT TO DO · WITH WHOM	OUTCOME
Days 1–30 RESIDENCY · DISCOVERY	Residency. File Employment Gold Card (Digital field if applicable) or Entrepreneur Visa . Engage ITTO for pre-arrival consultation, banking, NHI (National Health Insurance). Policy edge. Identify which of the five cabinet bodies (NDC, MOEA, NSTC, MODA, ASVA) owns your sector. Soft-land. Book a desk at TEH or visit StartUP@Taipei .	Card or visa filed · ITTO case opened · address in Taipei.
Days 31–60 HUBS · COHORTS	Flagship hubs. Tour TTA (Taipei) and Startup Terrace (Linkou). Apply to whichever fits. Accelerator. Garage+ (corporate) · StarFab (industry 4.0) · IP² Scale Out (U.S. outbound). Sector. AI: NCHC Taiwan AI RAP . Deep-tech: ITRI open-lab. AIoT: ASVA in Taoyuan. Semis/IC: Taiwan Cbi / IC Taiwan Grand Challenge .	In one cohort · intros logged · sector partners identified.
Days 61–90 CAPITAL · BRAND	Capital. Pre-seed / seed: SBIR / SIIR or NDF Business Angel . Series A+: Taiwania Capital . Loans: SMEG . Brand. Apply to a Startup Island TAIWAN program (NEXT BIG, Term Sheet Bootcamp, or Bridge Hub). Plan InnoVEX or Meet Neo Star . Local. Register with your city's Department of Economic Development; claim subsidies and procurement pilots.	Grant or co-invest in motion · showcase set · entity registered.

AFTER DAY 90

Pick one outbound corridor (U.S. via SV Hub / IP² Scale Out, or Asia via Tokyo / Seoul Bridge Hubs). Use the Gold Card to hire across borders. Convert a city subsidy into a first paying reference customer.

A NOTE ON PACE

Programs run on application windows and review cycles. Some materials are Chinese-only. Several routes assume a Taiwanese legal entity. Treat this map as routing infrastructure, not instant access; introductions and persistence still matter.

Primary sources.

Where to verify

Primary sources are linked per entity throughout. The list below is grouped by section for quick lookup.

Policy & capital

ndc.gov.tw · df.gov.tw · moea.gov.tw ·
moeasmea.gov.tw · ida.gov.tw · nstc.gov.tw ·
moda.gov.tw · asva.org.tw · smeg.org.tw ·
taiwaniacapital.com

Hubs & R&D

taiwanarena.tech · startupterrace.tw ·
startupterrace.com · web.sipa.gov.tw · ctsp.gov.tw ·
stsp.gov.tw · itri.org.tw · nchc.org.tw

Events, brand & media

computextaipei.com.tw · innovex.com.tw ·
taitra.org.tw · startupisland.tw · everiiipartners.com ·
meet-global.bnext.com.tw ·
edm.bnext.com.tw/meet · tca.org.tw ·
selectusasummit.us · ait.org.tw/selectusa

Talent & visa

talent.nat.gov.tw · goldcard.nat.gov.tw ·
foreigntalentact.ndc.gov.tw · startup.sme.gov.tw

City-level & partners

startup.taipei · invest.taipei · edb.tycg.gov.tw ·
investtaiwan.nat.gov.tw · garageplus.asia ·
starfabx.com

Recent name and status changes

Verified positions used throughout: NSTC was reorganized from MOST in July 2022. Asia Silicon Valley Plan Executive Center was renamed Asia Silicon Valley & AI Strategy Agency (ASVA) in February 2026. MOEA's Investment Commission was renamed the Department of Investment Review (DIR) in September 2023. TSS, founded by Everiii in 2015, has been superseded by Startup Island TAIWAN since 2024 and is no longer running active cohorts.

► What is missing from this map

Intentionally out of scope (to be mapped in a separate report): pure-private VCs and corporate VC arms · university entrepreneurship centers · maker spaces and unaffiliated coworking · blockchain / Web3 ecosystem organizations · family offices and angel syndicates · sector-specific industrial associations not tied to startup policy. Omission is not the same as irrelevance. The scope here is limited to public-sector entities and their closest public-private partners.

► Tag legend

● GOVERNMENT

Ministry or cabinet-level body.

● GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED

Co-sponsored or supervised non-profit.

● PRIVATE PARTNER

Independent, in tight coordination with government.

About the publisher.

TribeROI Insights

TribeROI Insights publishes research on the communities and ecosystems where measurable outcomes get created but rarely get measured. TribeROI's data-driven insights depend on qualitative grounding: primary sources and direct engagement with the practitioners themselves. This report on Taiwan's startup support programs is the first publication, borne of our experience building a startup from Taiwan.

TribeROI

TribeROI is the AI-powered measurement platform connecting community to business outcomes. We aggregate signals from every surface where community happens, using a proprietary framework to tie that activity to revenue, retention, support, hiring, and product innovation, so executive stakeholders can finally see and act on the influence community already has across the business.

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