

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON STARTUPS
BETWEEN THE THURINGIAN MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS,
SCIENCE AND DIGITAL SOCIETY (GERMANY),
THE THURINGIAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (GERMANY),
THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (URUGUAY),
AND THE GERMAN-URUGUAYAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets the terms for the collaboration between the Thuringian Ministry for Economic Affairs, Science and Digital Society of Germany, the Thuringian Development Agency (LEG Thüringen), the National Development Agency (Agencia Nacional de Desarrollo-ANDE) of Uruguay, and the German-Uruguayan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (AHK-Uruguay), hereinafter referred to as the "Parties."

Background

The Thuringian Ministry for Economic Affairs, Science and Digital Society is responsible for economic policy, tourism, digital society, business promotion, higher education, research, technology and innovation. Economic policy addresses dynamic and sustainable economic growth, new and attractive jobs, and strengthened innovation capacity of the regional economy. The regional government pursues an active economic policy targeted towards a knowledge-based and resource-efficient economy. In the field of science and research, main focus is on strengthening the attractiveness of Thuringia's universities as well as the regional research landscape. Good conditions for regional research activities are promoted through the "Thuringian Network for Innovative Startups".

Lo hacemos posible.

The National Development Agency (ANDE) is a government institution that promotes the development of programs that seek to improve business competitiveness on a countrywide scale in Uruguay, with an emphasis on Micro-, Small- and Medium- Enterprises. ANDE seeks to be a national and international pacesetter in the articulation of policies and actions that contribute to the sustainable economic development of the country.

The German-Uruguayan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, a member of the worldwide network of German Chambers, is a platform of over 300 local and German members that has been serving the business community since 1916. In addition to promoting business relations between Germany and Uruguay, the AHK Uruguay actively promotes several agendas through its various committees and activities, including the promotion of renewable energies and electric mobility, the introduction of the German dual education model, and the implementation of Industry 4.0 manufacturing standards in Uruguay.

In addition to this, the AHK-Uruguay is committed to the exchange of know-how and best practices between the German and Uruguayan entrepreneurial ecosystems. In 2018, this led to the sponsoring, with the support of the National Agency for Development (ANDE), of a delegation of Uruguayan startups that will participate in the Start.Up! Germany 2018 tour in the German State of North Rhein-Westphalia, organized by the Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK).

Encouraged by the visit on October 4th 2018 to Uruguay by a political, business and academic delegation of the German Free State of Thuringia, with the participation of Minister Wolfgang Tiefensee of the Thuringian Ministry for Economic Affairs, Science and Digital Society;

Expressing the desire to facilitate partnerships, commercial and cooperative ventures, business activities as well as innovation between the Uruguayan startup ecosystem and the Thuringian entrepreneurial and business community;

Identifying the relevance of the ongoing collaboration between the AHK Uruguay and ANDE, and the willingness to develop specific areas of cooperation between the Thuringian Ministry for Economic Affairs, Science and Digital Society and Uruguay, as well as activities related to the exchange of know-how and expertise with specific Thuringian business and innovation stakeholders;

The Parties reach the following agreement:

ARTICLE I

OBJECTIVES

The Parties acknowledge that the annual Start.Up! Germany tour, organized by the DIHK, to which both the AHK Uruguay and ANDE strive to regularly send a delegation of Uruguayan startups and incubators, sets an excellent precedent for promoting institutional cooperation between the Parties.

The Parties intend to encourage the participation of Uruguayan startups and incubators in institutional activities organized by the Thuringian Ministry for Economic Affairs, Science and Digital Society, with a view towards furthering the exchange of know-how and the promotion of business opportunities.

ARTICLE II

FORMS OF COOPERATION

The Parties intend to cooperate in the following areas:

- a)** To facilitate the participation of Uruguayan startups and incubators in activities organized by the Thuringian Ministry for Economic Affairs, Science and Digital Society, through institutions such as the Thuringian Development Agency (Landesentwicklungsgesellschaft Thüringen mbH - LEG Thuringen), or the Foundation for Technology, Innovation and Research Thuringia (*STIFT*).
- b)** To facilitate the participation of Thuringian startups and incubators in activities organized by ANDE.
- c)** To network potential partners, such as startups, incubators, accelerators, universities, research organizations and administrative officials, both in the Free State of Thuringia and in Uruguay.
- d)** To promote the exchange of expertise and know-how related to the entrepreneurial ecosystems of the Free State of Thuringia and Uruguay.
- e)** Other areas decided upon by the Parties.

ARTICLE III

JOINT PARTICIPATION BY OTHER INSTITUTIONS

The Parties intend, through mutual accord and within reasonable limits, to identify and call upon other public or private institutions, such as businesses and technological or entrepreneurial organizations, to participate in the above-mentioned activities.

ARTICLE IV

FINANCING

The execution of this agreement will be subject to the annual budgetary availability of the Parties, as well as to the legal provisions in force.

ARTICLE V

RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES


Any dispute derived from the interpretation or application of this MOU shall be resolved by an amicable understanding between the Parties, through consultation and negotiations.

ARTICLE VI

GENERAL TERMS

This MOU will come into effect on the date of its signature and will remain effective for a period of three (3) years. Its validity will be extended automatically for successive periods of one (1) year, unless one of the Parties submits a written notice to the other Parties, indicating its intention to terminate it at least six (6) months before its expiration date.

Signed in Montevideo, Uruguay, on October 4th 2018, in three (3) original English copies that are equally authentic.



Wolfgang Tiefensee
Minister of the Thuringian
Ministry for Economic Affairs,
Science and Digital Society
Germany



Claudia Bonnacarrère
Director
National Development Agency (ANDE)
Uruguay



Andreas Krey
Chairman-Management Board,
Thuringian Development Agency
(LEG Thuringia)
Germany



Erwin Bachmann
President
German-Uruguayan
Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Uruguay