



A singular opportunity for project leaders and maritime start-ups to develop their business in France !

Press release - August 2019

The NARWHAL CHALLENGE is a call for innovative projects, driven by the entire community of economic and scientific actors in Western Brittany (Finistère), a French region strongly imprinted by its maritime economy and its world-renowned research community. This 8-organization collective has decided to unite its expertise in order to launch the first Call for international projects in the area.

Sustainably developing the local maritime economy

The NARWHAL CHALLENGE seeks to attract project leaders and maritime start-ups from all over the world. Its mission is to promote innovative initiatives and to foster the growth of projects with the support of the region's established actors. The wealth of local networks and the collective momentum that characterize the area make it a region ripe for development.

Candidates have until October 4th, 2019 to apply online, at www.levillagebycafinistere.com, with their proposal for solutions or services relative to various fields :

- Defense, safety and maritime security
- Naval and sailing
- Maritime energy and mining resources
- Marine biological resources
- Environment and seaboard appreciation
- Maritime ports, logistics and transportation
- Tourism

Networking, visibility and ecosystem discovery

Selected entrepreneurs will benefit from a complete week of customized immersion, according to their activity and to the necessary expertise required for developing different projects.

The week will consist of various workshops :

- Linking with our client, partner and potential investor networks
- Sharing experiences and skills in target fields
- Discovering Brittany's maritime economy and living environment

The project's next phase will be launched during the year 2020 and will allow project leaders and start-ups convinced of the region's potential (scientific resources, testing platforms, first local opportunities, living environment) to benefit from an acceleration program over several months.

Dates to remember



The Finistère in numbers

Its maritime economy

- 40,400 jobs in the maritime sector
- 1st European port for offloading seaweed
- 40 hectares dedicated to renewable marine energy

Its scientific community

- A high-level university center: 1600 students, 730 researchers, the University of Bretagne Occidentale holds the world's 12th position in the field of oceanography, according to the Shanghai index.

Its allure

- 1391 kilometers of coastline - 1st maritime department of France
- 19,000 internationals living in the Finistère
- The seat of internationally renowned institutions

«Setting up your business in Brittany, and especially in the Finistère, is a guarantee of having the advice and help your project requires.» **Franck Zal co-founder of Hemarina** (A biotechnology firm that developed a technique of universal oxygen transportation from sea worms)

«The exceptional abundance of expertises and scientists here affords the Finistère a unique status in France and in the world.» **Yann Guichoux - President of Eodyn** (An innovative company specialized in the space sector and in maritime traffic)

The project's partners

The Village by CA Finistère, innovative project accelerator and member of the 1st start-up support network in France, and the Campus mondial de la mer are the initiators of this Call for projects.

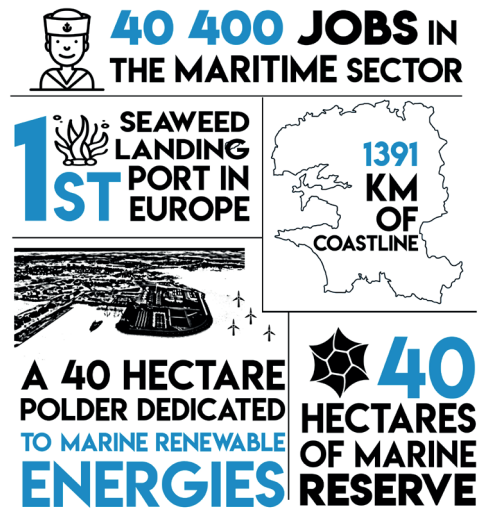


Located in Brest, Brittany's second largest metropolitan area, the Village by CA Finistère supports innovation of all kinds. This space seeks to bring together local actors: collaborators, start-ups, SMEs, major companies, students, researchers, etc. Together, they innovate and create new business opportunities around 4 domains of excellence: the sea, cybersecurity, health/aging, and agriculture/agribusiness. The Village by CA Finistère is a veritable catalyst for the region's innovation and transformation - a place for accelerating innovative projects, stimulating creativity, highlighting finished projects and offering new business opportunities.



The Campus mondial de la mer is a project focused on the development of a sustainable maritime economy, or "blue development". This effort, spearheaded by the Brest Metropolitan Area, has been jointly developed by federative structures of the marine technologies and sciences community in Western Brittany: Europôle Mer, Pôle Mer Bretagne Atlantique and Technopôle Brest-Iroise. It brings together engineering universities and schools, businesses, national research institutes and territorial communities. Its main ambition is to make Brittany THE foremost region for research and valorization of the oceans and seas. Through coordinated actions promoting research, the convergence of laboratories and businesses, the valorization of research, and support for the development and internationalization of SMEs, the "Campus mondial de la mer" seeks to conquer markets with strong potential.

OUR TERRITORY



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