



STATE OF FRIBOURG  
ETAT DE FRIBOURG  
STAAT FREIBURG

Development Agency FDA  
Promotion économique PromFR  
Wirtschaftsförderung WIF  
SWITZERLAND

FRIBOURG, THE PLACE TO GROW!

# Fribourg/ Switzerland Your Business Location



FRIBOURG

Land  
of values



# “WE CHOSE FRIBOURG FOR ITS QUALITY OF LIFE, ITS UNIVERSITIES AND ITS TALENTS”\*

\*Antonio Delfino, CEO, Venturi Lab



Watch video here



Fribourg offers the perfect environment in which to grow your business and gain access to Europe's major markets.

**13,72 %**

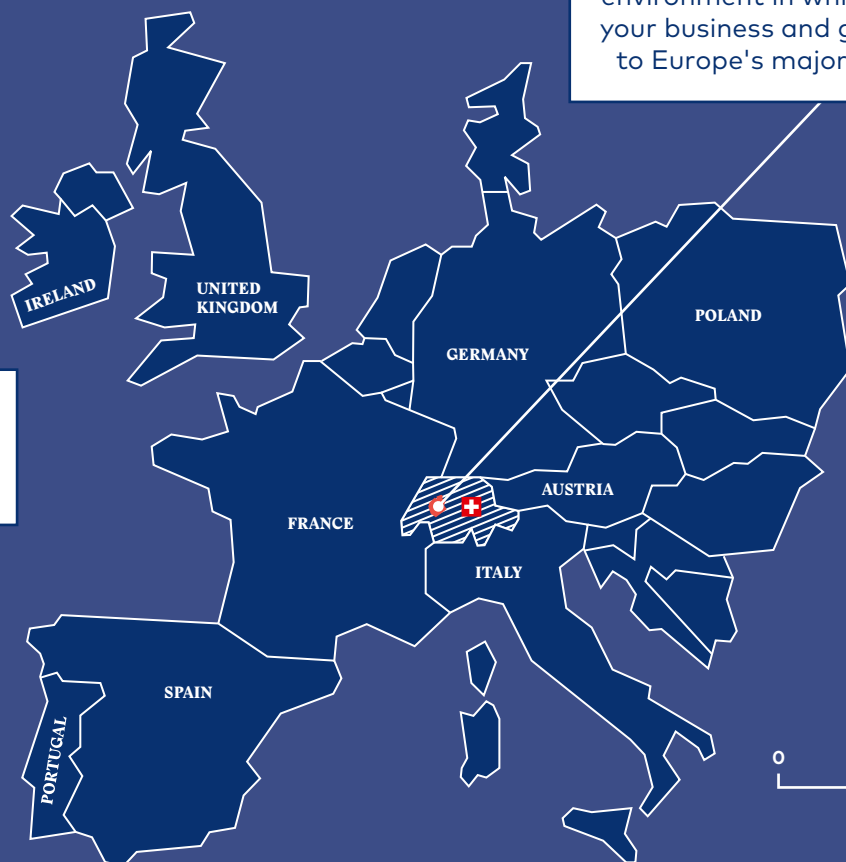
Income tax rate

**1,5** million

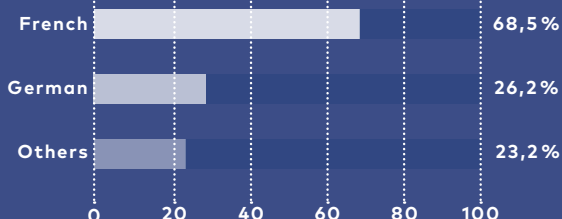
Inhabitants within  
a 45-minute radius

**22 %**

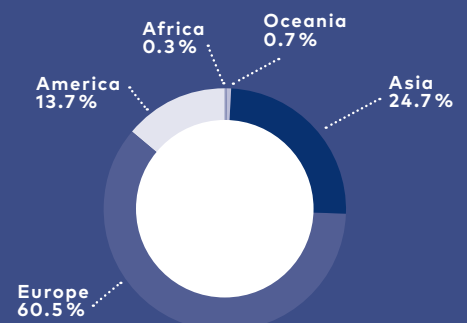
are under 20, making it  
the youngest population  
in Switzerland



MAIN  
LANGUAGE



EXPORTS



# "FRIBOURG - LAND OF VALUES"

Fribourg has so much to offer. First, there is its enviable central location that includes excellent transport links to the main Swiss and European road and rail networks. The country's main cities and airports – Basel, Bern, Geneva and Zurich – are only a 90-minute journey away.

The canton's unspoiled nature, diverse landscapes, vibrant sporting and cultural life, rich history, and exceptional cultural and culinary heritage are some of the reasons why Fribourg is such a great place to live, work and study. The people of Fribourg are famed for their down-to-earth, open-minded, optimistic and friendly approach to life. At the same time, their drive has transformed the canton into a dynamic region and an ideal breeding ground for a host of innovative and exciting projects. Why not come see for yourself?



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# FRIBOURG, THE PLACE TO GROW

The canton of Fribourg has everything new companies need to get off the ground and established companies to grow: competitive tax rates, a highly educated and well-qualified workforce, bilingualism and an abundance of land ripe for development.

Fribourg has adopted a development strategy that capitalizes on the dynamism and diversity of the local economic ecosystem, and prioritizes the bioeconomy and industry 4.0.



# FRIBOURG – A HIVE OF INNOVATION

The Global Innovation Index has repeatedly ranked Switzerland among the most innovative countries in the world. It is fair to say that the canton of Fribourg has played its part in this designation thanks to a development strategy that is focused on promoting innovation and high value-added activities. Since 2011, five innovation hubs have sprung up across the canton. Offering first-rate infrastructures and superlative services, these technology centers are now home to many start-ups and hightech companies.



## AgriCo

- Specialization: agrifood and valorization of biomass
- Location: Saint-Aubin
- [www.agrico.swiss](http://www.agrico.swiss)



## bluefactory

- Specialization: built environment of the future, circular economy, bioeconomy, mobility and human health
- Location: Fribourg city center
- [www.bluefactory.ch](http://www.bluefactory.ch)



## La Maillarde

- Specialization: industry 4.0 and environmental technologies
- Location: Romont



**SWITZERLAND  
INNOVATION**  
CONNECTING GREAT MINDS

bluefactory is a member of the Switzerland Innovation Park network.



## Marly Innovation Center

- Specialization: fine chemicals and digital printing
- Location: Marly
- [www.marly-innovation-center.org](http://www.marly-innovation-center.org)



## Le Vivier

- Specialization: automation and robotization
- Location: Villaz
- [www.vivier.ch](http://www.vivier.ch)



## Fribourg Innovation Award

The biennial Innovation Award, organized by the Fribourg Development Agency and the Fribourg Cantonal Bank (BCF), celebrates Fribourg's most pioneering and visionary companies. Since 1991 more than 50 companies have reaped the benefits of this showcase of Fribourg entrepreneurial creativity, raising the visibility of their company and their products in the process. [www.iffaward.ch](http://www.iffaward.ch)

# FRIBOURG – A TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER POWERHOUSE

The transfer of knowledge and technology is a core feature of Fribourg's economic ecosystem. It allows industry to remain innovative and competitive, fosters collaborative projects, and generates win-win outcomes. There is a wealth of resources and specialist services to help companies leverage technology transfer to grow their business.

They include three sectoral clusters, five competence centers, a material sciences research center (AMI), the technology platform INNOSQUARE and a dedicated technology transfer office.

On top of all this, the Fribourg School of Engineering and Architecture has 10 applied research institutes

in three distinct fields: information and communication technologies, construction and environment, and industrial technologies. They work hand in hand with companies to find novel solutions and develop innovative products and processes.

→ [www.heia-fr.ch](http://www.heia-fr.ch)

## TECHTRANSFER FRIBOURG



TechTransfer Fribourg is the official technology transfer office of the University of Fribourg, the Adolphe Merkle Institute, the Fribourg School of Management and the Fribourg School of Engineering and Architecture. It offers advice on intellectual property issues and acts as a link between academic research and industry.

→ [www.tt-fr.ch](http://www.tt-fr.ch)

## INNOSQUARE



INNOSQUARE is a technology platform that helps companies develop and realize their innovative ideas, and facilitates collaborative single- and multisector projects that bring together industry, the public sector and academia.

→ [www.innosquare.com](http://www.innosquare.com)

### SECTORAL CLUSTERS

#### Building Innovation Cluster

→ [www.building-innovation.ch](http://www.building-innovation.ch)

#### Food & Nutrition Cluster

→ [www.clusterfoodnutrition.ch](http://www.clusterfoodnutrition.ch)

#### Swiss Plastics Cluster

→ [www.swissplastics-cluster.ch](http://www.swissplastics-cluster.ch)

### COMPETENCE CENTERS

#### Biofactory Competence Center (BCC)

→ [www.bcc.ch](http://www.bcc.ch)

#### Digital Printing Competence Center (iPrint)

→ [www.iprint.center](http://www.iprint.center)

#### Plastics Innovation Competence Center (PICC)

→ [www.picc.center](http://www.picc.center)

#### Robust and Safe Systems Center (ROSAS)

→ [www.rosas.center](http://www.rosas.center)

#### Smart Living Lab

→ [www.smartlivinglab.ch](http://www.smartlivinglab.ch)



**adolphe merkle institute**  
excellence in pure and applied nanoscience

The **Adolphe Merkle Institute (AMI)**, is a center of excellence in nanosciences and material sciences research and education. Through collaborations with industrial partners, AMI seeks to stimulate innovation and foster industrial competitiveness. The AMI is also home to the internationally respected Bio-Inspired Materials National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR).

→ [www.ami.swiss](http://www.ami.swiss)

# FRIBOURG – A BEACON OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

Fribourg has the youngest population in Switzerland and a higher education landscape that is as diverse as it is dense. Alongside its cosmopolitan university, where over 10,000 students are enrolled in a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs, the canton has five specialist higher education institutes: the School of Engineering and Architecture, the School of Management, the School of Social Work, the School of Health Sciences and the School of Teacher Education. It is also home to the Adolphe Merkle Institute, Switzerland's leading research and teaching center in the field of nanosciences and material sciences. The prestigious EPFL (Swiss

Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne), which is internationally recognized for its excellence in education and research, has also a location in Fribourg.

Added to these is a plethora of colleges specializing in fields such as business administration, agriculture, music, art, multimedia and hospitality. Of course, there is a broad host of primary, junior and senior high schools, as well as vocational training schools and colleges. Throughout the education system, classes are taught in French and German, while English is the language of choice for many postgraduate programs.



**University of Fribourg**

→ [www.unifr.ch](http://www.unifr.ch)



**Adolphe Merkle Institute**

→ [www.ami.swiss](http://www.ami.swiss)



**School of Management & Innovation Lab**

→ [www.heg-fr.ch](http://www.heg-fr.ch)



**School of Engineering And Architecture**

→ [www.heia-fr.ch](http://www.heia-fr.ch)



**EPFL Fribourg**

→ [fribourg.epfl.ch](http://fribourg.epfl.ch)

# FRIBOURG – A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF BUSINESS

Since 1971, the Fribourg Development Agency has been helping local businesses get off the ground, outside companies to relocate to the region, and established companies to expand their operations. We are on hand to advise and guide you through the many support mechanisms and opportunities offered by the canton of Fribourg. A dedicated project manager will be appointed to assist and coordinate your project, and will take the lead and put you in touch with the right people for: financial assistance and tax incentives, finding the ideal site or premises for your business, staff recruitment, applying for and obtaining work and residence permits, apartment/house hunting, the social integration of your family and your personnel, contacting institutions of higher education, and any other topic that might arise. Get in touch. We're here to help!

→ [www.promfr.ch](http://www.promfr.ch)

## THE BEST PLACE FOR THE BEST COMPANIES

These companies, among many others, have chosen to locate in Fribourg: Alcon (Switzerland/USA), Bio-Rad (USA), Cartier (France), Cailler/Nestlé (Switzerland), Comet (Switzerland), Johnson Electric (China), Liebherr (Germany), Mapei (Italy), Medion Grifols Diagnostics/Grifols (Spain), Parker Meggitt (USA), Michelin (France), Nespresso (Switzerland), Pall International (USA), Richemont International (Switzerland), Rolex (Switzerland), Savencia (France), Scott Sports (Switzerland), Sika (Switzerland), Sonova (Switzerland), Starrag (Switzerland), UCB Farchim (Belgium), Venturi (Monaco), VeriSign (USA) and Wago Contact (Germany)

→ [www.promfr.ch/en/establish/references](http://www.promfr.ch/en/establish/references)



Neue Regionalpolitik **nrp**  
Nouvelle politique régionale **npr**  
Nuova politica regionale **npr**

The **New Regional Policy** is a stimulus program launched by the federal government with assistance from the cantons. Its mission is to foster innovation both in industry and tourism by providing financial support in the form of loans, non-repayable grants and subsidies.

**Innosuisse** is Switzerland's national innovation promotion agency. It provides consultancy, networking services and financial resources to help turn scientific research into economic results.



## FRI UP

Fri Up is the canton of Fribourg's official business start-up support agency. It offers free support for new entrepreneurs and fosters innovation.

→ [www.friup.ch](http://www.friup.ch)



## PLATINN

Based in Fribourg, Platinn is the Western Switzerland Innovation Platform. Its mission is to foster the innovation capabilities and competitiveness of SMEs through its coaching services

→ [www.platinn.ch](http://www.platinn.ch)



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## **OUR TEAM IS AT YOUR SERVICE.**

Please do not hesitate to contact us, and we will be delighted to assist you.

Fribourg Development Agency (FDA)

**PROMFR.CH**



 FDA on LinkedIn



Energy,  
Competitiveness,  
Swiss Plastics Cluster,  
Vocational Training, Grow,  
Building Innovation Cluster,  
Smart Living Lab, Excellence,  
Quality, Renovation, Research, Land of Values, International,  
Campus, Le Vivier, Interdisciplinary Research, CRM, Knowledge,  
Technology Platform, Robust and Safe Systems Center, MIC,  
Universities of Applied Sciences, Supply Chain, Technologies,  
Competence Centers, Adolphe Merkle Institute, Success,  
Artificial Intelligence, Technology Parks, Opportunities,  
Fribourg-Freiburg, #Place2Grow, FDA, Smart Factory,  
Digital Printing Competence Center, Leadership,  
Augmented Reality, iPrint, AI, Added Value,  
Structure, Applied Research, Talents,  
BIC, Mobility, Employment, EPFL,  
ROSAS, Science, Innosquare,  
Students, HEIA-FR, BIM,  
Sponge City, Space,  
Blue Hall, 3D,  
Robotics,  
www

Investment, Profitability, Education, Online, Bioeconomy,  
Centers of Excellence, CO<sub>2</sub>, Biofactory Competence Center,  
Bluefactory, Dynamism, Industry 4.0, Circular Economy,  
GDP, Quality of Life, Business, Fribourg, Start-up, University,  
Unifr, Multilingualism, Switzerland, [www.promfr.ch](http://www.promfr.ch)

## Fribourg / Switzerland :

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**THE PLACE TO GROW !**

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