

AI IN FRANCE

KEY INFO IN

10

POINTS

1

▶ GREAT EXPECTATIONS FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Thirty percent of French people think that government adoption of 'smart' technology could reduce waiting times, the number of forms to fill in (27%) and clerical errors (20%). Forty percent think that introducing artificial intelligence (AI) into the healthcare sector would lead to more reliable diagnoses. (OpenText survey, 2017)

2

▶ AN ACTIVE RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

France offers an active public and private research environment for AI that is attracting multinationals. These include Fujitsu and Facebook, which have already embarked on shared research programs with national research institute INRIA. A recent French government report on AI listed 5,300 researchers. The 'France is AI' initiative supports and promotes AI in France.

3

▶ RECOGNIZED EXCELLENCE

In 2016, Facebook expanded its Paris-based AI research center, opened a year earlier. Mark Zuckerberg (CEO) said France had one of the largest AI research communities in Europe. According to Mike Schroepfer (CTO), Paris has "the highest concentration of talented people all across Europe". Fujitsu is currently investing €50 million in an AI center of excellence at the École Polytechnique.

4

▶ PROMISING STARTUPS

In 2016, virtual secretary Julie Desk raised €600,000, while student question and answer service Jam raised €1 million via the ISAI seed club. Big Data specialist Dataiku raised €13 million, and social data intelligence firm Linkfluence raised €12 million. Bordeaux-based startup Wiidii, which is developing a part-robot, part-human personal assistant, is currently preparing to raise €8 million.

5

▶ SNIPS: A PIONEER IN AI

Established in 2013, Snips is a Paris-based startup that develops algorithms to make connected devices autonomous, for example by giving them voice assistance capability. Integrated technology bypasses the need for a server, ensuring that user data remains confidential.

6

▶ BUDDY THE CONSUMER ROBOT

In 2015, fledgling Paris company Blue Frog Robotics, already established in Boston and San Francisco, launched Buddy, the first consumer robot companion, measuring 45 cm and aimed more specifically at the silver economy, education and domestic security markets.

7 ▶ **AI: COMING SOON TO A CITY NEAR YOU**

French firm Netatmo, which specializes in developing connected devices for the home, presented its 'with Netatmo' program at CES Las Vegas 2017. Its goal is to give industrial partners access to its AI expertise, with a view to integrating connected solutions to housing infrastructure.

8 ▶ **SMART MACHINES**

Based on learning through data modeling, deep learning and machine learning are central to the development of a number of technical feats, such as automated driving and voice assistants. Frenchman Yann Le Cun, AI researcher and director of Facebook's AI center in Paris, is one of the inventors of deep learning.

9 ▶ **18 AI DEGREE PROGRAMS**

With 89 engineering schools and 45 universities offering AI-related education in 2016, France's education system offered 18 specialist AI master's degrees with more than a thousand student places.

10 ▶ **AN AI TRADE SHOW**

Paris is hosting the AI Paris 2017 conference and exhibition. The aim of this new event is to bring together organizations from throughout the French AI ecosystem and provide them with a complete overview of opportunities, prospects and technologies.



For further information, please visit:
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€2 MORE THAN
billion

**RAISED IN VENTURE CAPITAL
IN 2016 BY STARTUPS
IN FRANCE**

(EY)



ONLY

3.5

**DAYS REQUIRED IN 2016
TO FOUND A COMPANY IN FRANCE**

(WORLD BANK, DOING BUSINESS, 2017)



FRANCE: 1st
IN EUROPE FOR THE NUMBER
OF FAST-GROWING COMPANIES
IN THE TECHNOLOGY SECTOR

**(FT 1,000: EUROPE'S FASTEST
GROWING COMPANIES)**



18

**SPECIALIST AI MASTER'S DEGREES
AVAILABLE IN FRANCE IN 2016**