

PRESS RELEASE

CDP, Bpifrance, ELITE-Euronext Group and Team France Export launch the French-Italian Accelerator for SMEs and Mid- Caps

The first cross-border initiative dedicated to training and business matching meetings to support the growth and international expansion processes of companies on the markets of the two countries gets underway

Rome/Paris, 15 December 2021 – Italian and French companies, particularly SMEs and Mid-Caps, now have a new solution they can leverage to accelerate their international expansion and successfully position their businesses into their respective markets in Italy and France. Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP), Bpifrance, ELITE-Euronext Group and Team France Export announce the launch of the French-Italian Accelerator, the first joint programme between France and Italy to guide the growth of companies through dedicated training sessions and increase business opportunities among companies in the two countries by planning bilateral meetings.

The initiative kickstarts today with a first group of around 40 French and Italian ambitious companies operating in the manufacturing and service sectors. The programme will be rolled out into six sessions, each one two days long, taking place between France and Italy. The first day of each session will be dedicated to training, while the second will be focused on business matching meetings.

More specifically, the programme is designed to improve companies' skills through training sessions provided by leading Italian and French Business Schools: MIP Politecnico di Milano, SDA Bocconi school of management in Milan and Sciences Po in Paris, as well as the chance to seize potential business opportunities through bilateral meetings in order to transform them into growth opportunities, and to empower transalpine partnerships across the countries and promote cross-border investments.

Furthermore, companies will gain access to some digital assets such as the ELITE Digital Compass, the smart tool to self-assess companies' potential and see how their growth strategy stacks up against the top priorities, as well as to additional contents accessible on e-learning platforms.



Information for the Press

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Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP) is a National Promotional Institution that has been supporting the Italian economy since 1850. Through its operations, it is engaged in accelerating the industrial and infrastructural development of the country, so as to contribute to its economic and social growth. CDP focuses its activities on regional sustainable development, as well as innovation and growth, including internationally, of Italian companies. It is a partner of Local Authorities, with loans and advisory services, for the creation of infrastructures and for the improvement of services of public utility. In addition, it is active in the field of International Cooperation to fund projects in developing countries and emerging markets. Cassa Depositi e Prestiti is funded totally by private resources, through the issue of postal bonds and passbook accounts and through issues onto the national and international market.

Bpifrance Investissement is the management company that handles Bpifrance's equity investments. Bpifrance is the French national investment bank: it finances businesses – at every stage of their development – through loans, guarantees, equity investments and export insurances. Bpifrance also provides extra financial services (training, consultancy) to help entrepreneurs meet their challenges (innovation, export). For more information, please visit: <https://www.bpifrance.com/> - Follow us on Twitter: @Bpifrance - @BpifrancePresse.

ELITE is the private market connecting private companies with diverse sources of capital to drive their growth. It comprises a vibrant community of successful entrepreneurs, advisors, brokers and investors focused on helping private companies from around the world obtain funding and so transform their vision into clear plans, actions and results. Our network and digital platform provide companies with simplified access to diverse funding options and help intermediaries and brokers expand their reach. Today, ELITE is a global success story, unlocking funding, jobs and growth for thousands of companies and so bringing benefit to the economies in which they operate. ELITE – A EURONEXT COMPANY.

CCI France Italie, La Chambre, is a private institution under Italian law based in Milan, belonging to the network of French Chambers of Commerce and Industry Abroad (CCI France International). It is the first French-Italian business network and brings together over 300 French and Italian companies. Founded in Milan in 1885, it is the oldest foreign chamber of commerce in Italy. The current Chairman is Denis Delespaul. The Chambre's mission is to foster and contribute to the development and consolidation of economic and commercial relations between France and Italy by offering meeting and networking opportunities for the Franco-Italian business community. To this end, the Chambre collaborates with the French and Italian ministries, with diplomatic representatives, as well as other Chambers of Commerce and trade associations in France and Italy and, in general, with the public and private authorities of the two countries, to promote trade development between France and Italy.

Team France Export: l'union des acteurs publics au service de l'internationalisation des entreprises françaises et des acteurs privés offreurs de solutions, au sein d'une « Team France Export », vise à offrir aux PME et ETI de notre pays un dispositif lisible, efficace et adapté. Elle offre un continuum de solutions, de la préparation à la projection à l'international: depuis les Régions françaises, dans lesquelles sont constitués des « guichets uniques de l'export * » jusqu'aux marchés étrangers où un « correspondant unique Team France Export ** » orientera les PME vers les solutions répondant à leurs besoins.