

Providing for a Sound Business Environment

Stable and Transparent Legal System

Germany is home to a legal environment rightly renowned for its stability and transparency. The World Economic Forum ranked Germany among the leading countries of 133 competitors for its judicial independence. Solid codifications and an effective enforcement system provide investors with a secure legal framework and the possibility to quickly enforce their rights.

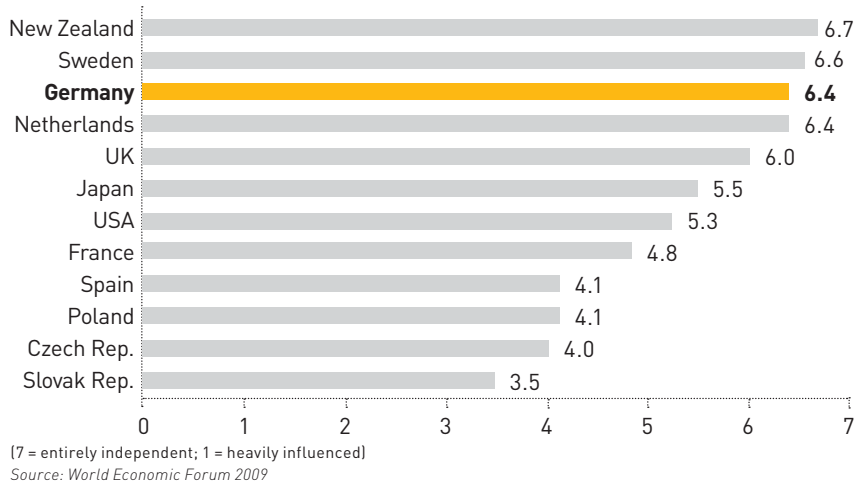
A Safe and Secure Business Landscape

Intellectual property rights enjoy a high level of protection in Germany. For technical and commercial innovations, property rights can be registered in the form of patents, utility models, trademarks, and designs. The same conditions apply to foreigners as they do German nationals when registering property rights. The World Economic Forum ranked Germany among the leading countries in the "intellectual property" category.

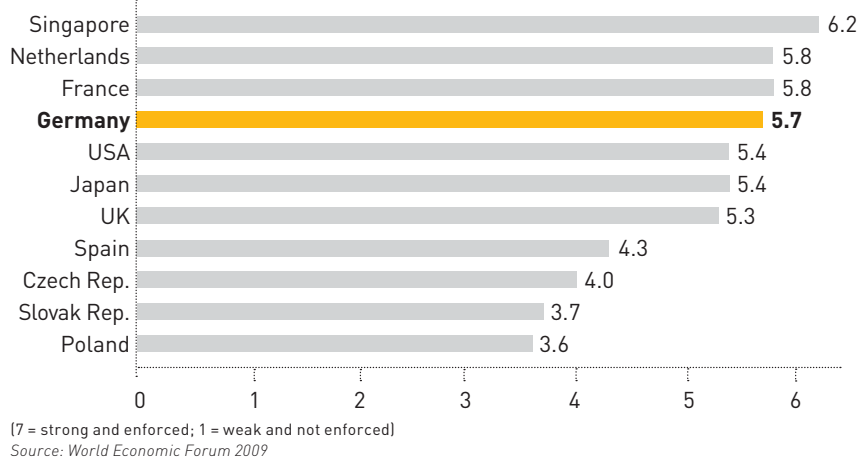
Efficient Company Formation Procedures

Company formation procedures in Germany are swift and efficient, requiring only a few simple steps to establish a new company. Company establishment costs are moderate and more importantly, can be easily determined from the outset. The German private limited liability company (GmbH) is the most widely used legal corporate form in Germany. It combines high flexibility with relatively few obligations.

Judicial Independence Assessment 2008



International Intellectual Property Security Assessment 2008



The GmbH Act underwent a complete review in 2008. The reform has facilitated the establishment and the running of a GmbH. For instance, the act provides a set of model articles of association, which can be used for uncomplicated standardized formations of a GmbH. Business investor rights are expressly set out and all business activities are legally

secured. Public business registers provide transparent information pertaining to company legal representation and individual personnel authorized to conduct business transactions. This information is freely accessible to everyone. As such, the risk of fraud and manipulation is effectively negligible in Germany.

Our Investment Project Consultancy Services

Germany Trade & Invest Helps You

Germany Trade & Invest's teams of industry experts will assist you in setting up your operations in Germany. We support your project management activities from the earliest stages of your expansion strategy.

We provide you with all of the industry information you need – covering everything from key markets and related supply and application sectors to the R&D landscape. Foreign companies profit from our rich ex-

perience in identifying the business locations which best meet their specific investment criteria. We help turn your requirements into concrete investment site proposals; providing consulting services to ensure you make the right location decision. We coordinate site visits, meetings with potential partners, universities, and other institutes active in the industry.

Our team of consultants is at hand to provide you with the relevant background information on Germany's tax and legal system, industry regulations, and the domestic labor market. *Germany Trade & Invest's*

experts help you create the appropriate financial package for your investment and put you in contact with suitable financial partners. Incentives specialists provide you with detailed information about available incentives, support you with the application process, and arrange contacts with local economic development corporations.

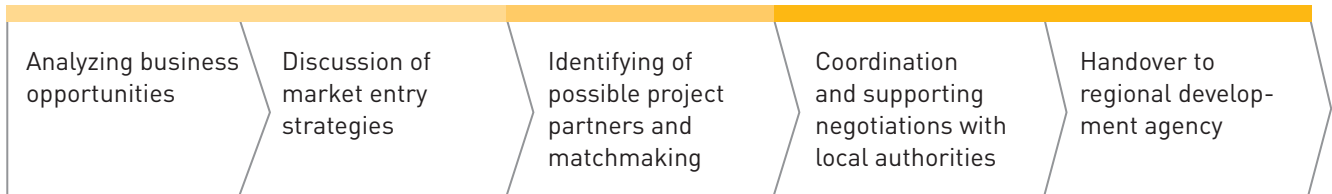
All of our investor-related services are treated with the utmost confidentiality and provided free of charge.

Strategy

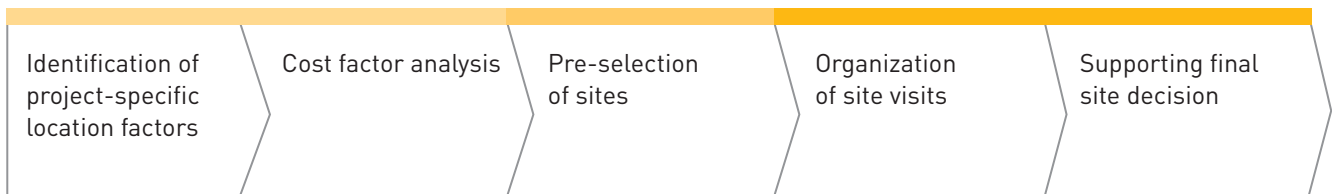
Evaluation

Decision & Investment

Project Management Assistance



Location Consulting /Site Evaluation



Support Services



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Germany Trade and Invest
Gesellschaft für Außenwirtschaft
und Standortmarketing mbH

Friedrichstraße 60
10117 Berlin
Germany

T. +49 (0)30 200 099-555
F. +49 (0)30 200 099-999
invest@gtai.com
www.gtai.com

Chief Executives

Dr. Jürgen Friedrich, Michael Pfeiffer

Authors

Anne Bräutigam, Market Intelligence Germany
Germany Trade & Invest, anne.brautigam@gtai.com
Thomas Bozoyan, Market Intelligence Germany
Germany Trade & Invest, thomas.bozoyan@gtai.com

Editor

William MacDougall, *Germany Trade & Invest*

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Germany Trade & Invest
Friedrichstraße 60
10117 Berlin
Germany

T. +49 (0)30 200 099-555
F. +49 (0)30 200 099-999
invest@gtai.com

About Us

Germany Trade & Invest is the foreign trade and inward investment agency of the Federal Republic of Germany. The organization advises and supports foreign companies seeking to expand into the German market, and assists companies established in Germany looking to enter foreign markets.

All inquiries relating to Germany as a business location are treated confidentially. All investment services and related publications are free of charge.

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