# AGRI-FOOD: A FLAGSHIP INDUSTRY

KEY INFO IN

10

POINTS

## 1 A KEY PLAYER

With revenues of €185 billion, 61,000 companies and nearly 570,000 employees in 2015, the agri-food industry is the leading industrial sector in France. It accounts for one-fifth of employees and value added in French manufacturing. (French government figures)

## 2 INTERNATIONAL AMBITIONS

In 2017, France was the world's sixth largest agri-food exporter after the United States, the Netherlands, Germany, China and Brazil (UN Comtrade). Agri-food is the third largest contributor to France's trade balance, with a surplus of €5.7 billion. The top four exports are drinks (€15.9 billion), dairy products (€6.6 billion), meat and meat-based products (€4.5 billion), and grain processing products (€2.7 billion). (French Customs Authorities)

## 3 AN ATTRACTIVE MARKET

This attractive sector welcomed 149 foreign investment projects between 2016 and 2017, resulting in more than 4,200 jobs being created or maintained. (Business France)

## 4 EUROPE'S #1 PRODUCER OF SUGAR AND CEREALS

France is the European leader in sugar and cereal production, with 5.8 million tonnes of pure sugar other than glucose and 53.6 million tonnes of cereals produced in 2016. (Eurostat)

## 5 FRANCE: EUROPE'S LARGEST CATTLE HERD

In 2017, France had over 18 million cattle, more than any other European country (Eurostat). There are more than 193,000 cattle farmers in France (Idele), producing 1.44 million tonnes in carcass weight equivalent (CWE) in 2017 (Eurostat), making it Europe's leading beef producer.

## 6 WORLD-CLASS POULTRY SECTOR

France was the third largest poultry producer in the European Union in 2017 (1.65 million tonnes CWE) after Poland (2.34 million) and the United Kingdom (1.83 million) (Eurostat). It is ranked sixth in the world for poultry exports (UN Comtrade), totaling €933 million in 2017. (Eurostat; French Customs Authorities)

## 7 A MARKET WORTH OVER €7 BILLION

With 1.54 million hectares, representing 13% of the European Union's (EU) organic utilized agricultural area (UAA), up 16% on 2016, France has the EU's third largest area of agricultural land given over to organic produce. French organic farming stands out for the diversity of its output, with the market for organic food products worth more than €7 billion in 2016, up 21% from 2015. (Eurostat; Agence Bio, 2018)

## 8 FRANCE: THE COUNTRY OF WINE

In 2016, France was the world's second largest wine producer after Italy, with 45.6 million hectoliters produced. A third of all French wines are exported making France the world's leading wine exporter, with foreign sales in 2017 amounting to €9.1 billion. In 2016, French wines accounted for 28% of world wine exports by value (French Customs Authorities). There are currently more than 142,000 winemakers and 3,000 sommeliers operating in the French wine industry. (larvf.com)

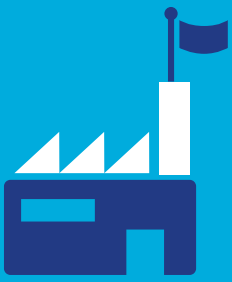
## 9 SMART FOOD TAKES OFF

Many innovative projects have already emerged under the "smart food choices" banner, focusing on new forms of food. Examples include the Algolife algae production and processing facility and the success of Novolyze, recognized for its innovation and expertise in the food safety market.

## 10 FARMING GOES DIGITAL

Created in 2016 to support the farms of tomorrow, the Digital Farming Association brings together innovative players from the agricultural industry. These include Weenat, supplier and manager of meteorological and agricultural information through connected sensors, and Agriconomie.com, the first marketplace to specialize in agricultural supplies (seeds, parts, equipment and fertilizer).

For further information, please visit:
www.businessfrance.fr



FRANCE: EUROPE'S

# #1

DESTINATION
FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT
IN INDUSTRY

(EY, 2017)

# €185 billion

## IN AGRI-FOOD SECTOR REVENUES

(FRENCH GOVERNMENT FIGURES, 2017)

ACCESS TO A MARKET OF
67
MILLION CONSUMERS
AND GATEWAY TO THE EMEA

(INSEE, 2018)

# FRANCE:
# THE WORLD'S SIXTH LARGEST AGRI-FOOD EXPORTER

(UN COMTRADE, 2018)

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