

SOUTH KOREA

There were four new investment projects by South Korean businesses in 2023 that created 39 jobs in France.



They chose France in 2023

CryptoLab: This South Korean firm is renowned for its expertise in fully homomorphic encryption (FHE) technology. It has earned recognition for its technological excellence and leadership in collaborative projects with major entities, such as IBM, Samsung Electronics, LG U+ and Naver Cloud. Distinguished as the patent holder for FHE technology, CryptoLab has achieved success by deploying its solutions to the South Korean National Pension Fund and the Korea Credit Bureau. In its commitment for global collaborations, CryptoLab actively engages with researchers worldwide. To establish its first international presence, CryptoLab strategically selected the French city of Lyon (Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region) for its high-quality research environment.

Samsung Electronics: The South Korean electronics giant has opened a “Samsung Computational Design Lab” in the Paris/Ile de France region. This innovation lab, which will welcome around ten designers and engineers, aims to improve traditional design processes by applying advanced technologies, such as artificial intelligence, machine learning and computational design. Launched in Paris within the Samsung Electronics France subsidiary, the design lab will implement a new form of collaboration between designers and machines, with a view to simulating real products and improving the user experience.

From 2023, investments in decarbonization, digitalization, safeguarding and technological partnerships are recorded by Business France in the Annual Report, even when they do not generate jobs, as they strengthen French industrial capacity, safeguard the sites of the foreign investors and are part of the “France 2030” attractiveness strategy.

South Korean investments in France

The FDI stock* of businesses from South Korea in France is around €1.1 billion.

Four new investments from South Korea in 2023 created 39 jobs in France.

Among these projects, three involved R&D and engineering, while the fourth was the creation of a decision-making center. Over the last three years, manufacturing activities have dominated (29% of projects), followed by decision-making centers (21%).

The projects covered a variety of business sectors. In 2023, sectors receiving South Korean business projects were agri-food, chemicals/ plastics, consumer electronics and IT services.

Breakdown of projects by business activity

Business activity	Number		Share	
	Projects	Jobs	Projects	Jobs
Decision-making centers	1	24	25%	62%
R&D, engineering, design	3	15	75%	38%
Total	4	39	100%	100%

Breakdown of projects by business sector

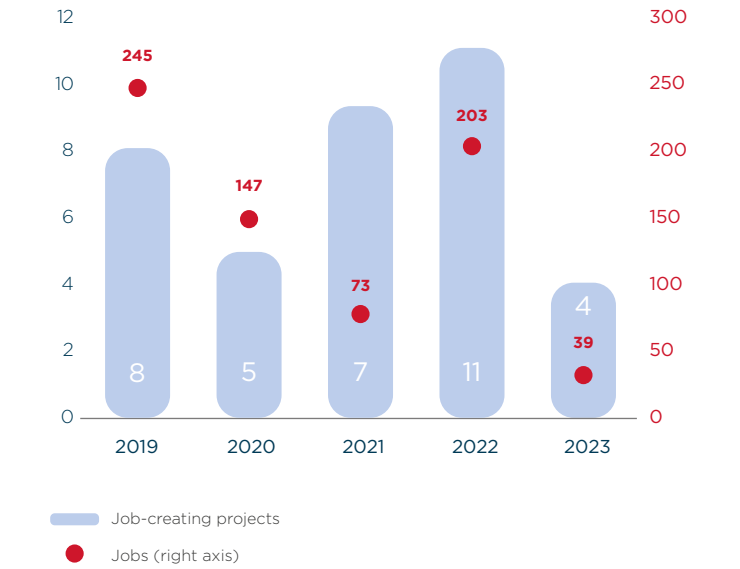
Business sector	Number		Share	
	Projects	Jobs	Projects	Jobs
Agri-food	1	24	25%	62%
Chemicals, plastics	1	6	25%	15%
Consumer electronics	1	5	25%	13%
IT services	1	4	25%	10%

In total since 2021, the wholesale and retail sector has accumulated the largest project share (14%), while consulting and business services has gained the most jobs (22%).

Ile de France (Paris region) attracted more than half of South Korean investments (three projects), while the last project benefited Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes.

* Source: Banque de France, 2023; FDI stock in France (immediate investor) as of December 31, 2022.

Change in projects and jobs since 2019



Top host regions in 2023

ILE DE FRANCE (PARIS REGION) 3 projects

AUVERGNE-RHÔNE-ALPES 1 project

