# SOFT LANDING

# **Mission to Silicon Valley**

for startups and ecosystem builders Startup Division November 12-16, 2018



# Overview

# **Overview of the programme**

#### Summary

- During this 5 day programme ecosystem builders and startups from all over Europe will be deeply immersed into the Silicon Valley startup ecosystem
- For ecosystem builders, the main goals of the mission are to give an opportunity to quickly understand the local ecosystem and build strong, lasting partnerships with its key stakeholders.
- For startups, the main goal of the programme is to provide tangible practical support in entering the US market or benefiting from access to it.

#### Outcomes

- 1. Gain a deep understanding of a unique Silicon Valley ecosystem.
  - 2. Shake hands and have a one-on-one chat with the key stakeholders from the ecosystem, ranging from leading accelerators and VCs, to government officials and rock-star entrepreneurs.
  - 3. Build strong relationships and identify opportunities for ground-breaking collaborations





# Organizers

#### Mission to Silicon Valley is organized by Soft-Landing and French Tech HUB



Soft-Landing connects top startup ecosystems through numerous exchanges of ecosystem leaders, strengthening the knowledge of EU, US and India's startup scene and building strong networks.

- 6 startup ecosystems explored in 3 continents
- 200 ecosystem builders participating in the Missions
- 100 startups/scaleups supported



French Tech Hub backed by Paris Region authorities and the French government is a growth accelerator for high tech companies in the United States that has active presence in Silicon Valley and facilitates growth for European scaleups.

- 200 companies
- \$150M raised after US market validation
- 50 subsidiaries currently managed



# French Tech HUB has a successful track record in the Silicon Valley

French Tech Hub built strong partnerships in Silicon Valley thanks to the bootcamp programmes



>300 speakers



>200 workshops



>200 mentoring sessions

6

#### French Tech Hub partners

Accelerators and co-working spaces



#### A sample of 300+ workshops facilitators – mentors from French Tech HUB



Sean Sheppard @GrowthX Academy



Mike Sigal @500 Startups



**Pascale Diaine** @Storm Ventures



ED Fernandez @Naiss



**Bill Reichert** @Garage Technology



**RJ Mahadev** @Cisco



Jorge Soto Founder, Dashtab & Inside Sales, Twitter Expert: B2B Sales



Dan Fagella @TechEmergence



Shira Abel @Hunter & Bard



Mitchell Weinstock @HP Tech Venture



Sabrina Cherunin @Kmart & Sears Marketing Director



Germain Brion @ChargeBee







Nicolas Zylberstein Corporate development @Pinterest



Juliette Somma @Lalilo



Dan Feld @Google for Entrepreneurs



Anne Cocquyt

@The Guild

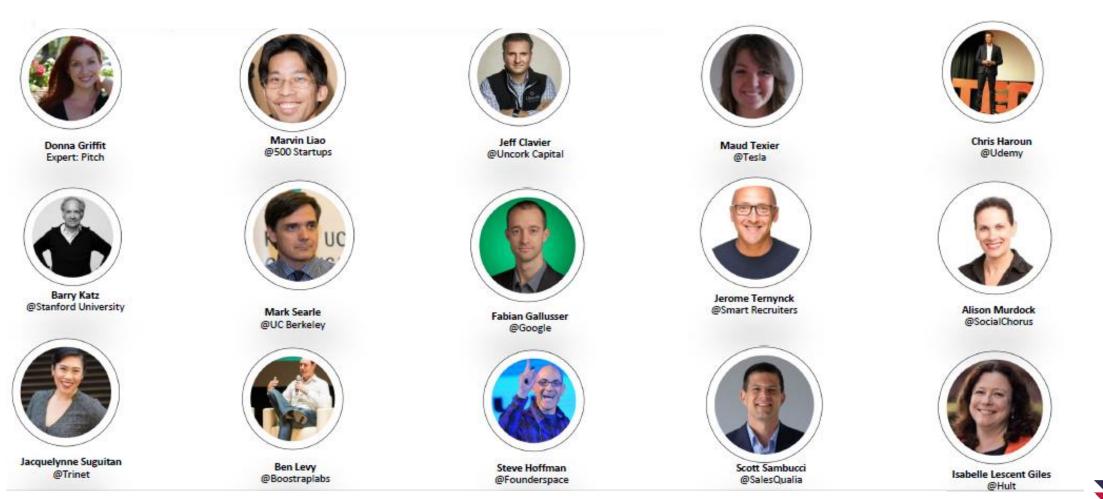
**Chris Brown** Expert: Business development, Market entry







#### A sample of 300+ workshops facilitators – mentors from French Tech HUB



# Programme

# What is in the programme?



#### 5-day programme

• Full-day activities from Monday to Friday (full participation in the programme required).

#### **Practical support**

- Support for travel and accommodation costs up to 950 EUR.
- Pre-arranged accommodation.
- Transportation from the hotel to activity locations.
- Breakfasts and lunches.



#### The best events and networking

- Exciting site visits and events.
- Social events and networking with other startups and scaleups in the hub.

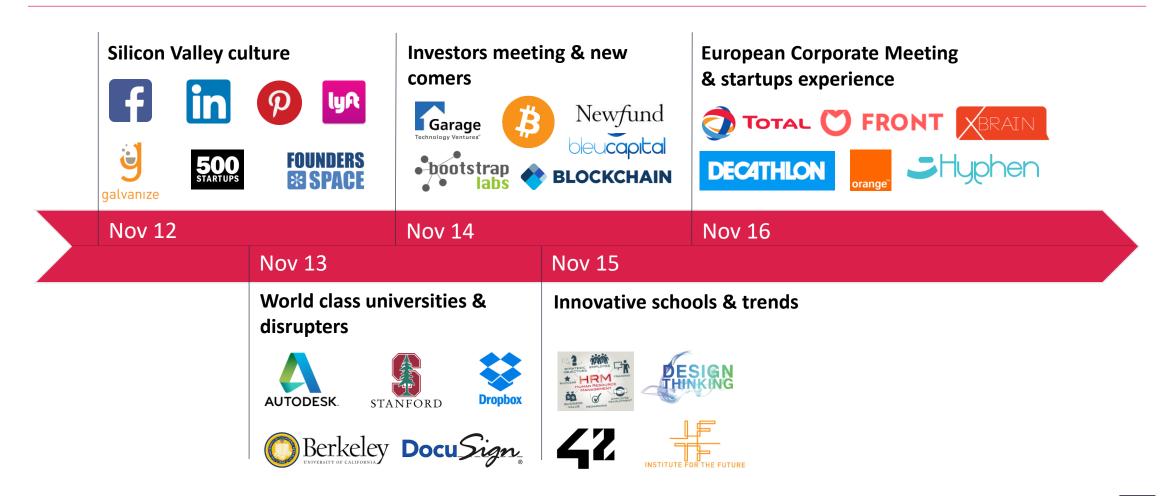


# A week of inspirational topics\*

Welcome to Silicon Valley! Arrivals of participants.		Change makers Bay areas welcome top universities that produce the most venture capital-backed entrepreneur. This successful ecosystem support many IPOs.		Innovative trends From Design Thinking to innovative schools, Silicon Valley facilitate the emergence of creative way to learn, to think and work.	
Nov 11	Nov 12	Nov 13	Nov 14	Nov 15	Nov 16
	Silicon Valley The Silicon Val due to the uni create and nu	Silicon Valley Culture The Silicon Valley's success is due to the unique culture create and nurtured by the Tech giants and digital companies.		i <b>ng</b> played by sts is unique alley. It reneurial also how this ystem works.	Startup experienceThe art of pitching, networkingand all about startup strategyfor success.Ecosystem buildersStrategic discussions with Clevel executives engaged in thedigital transformation of their

company.

# A week of inspirational meetings\*



# A week of events and networking\*

Welcome Dinner Welcome dinner with all part (TBC)	ticipants	European Innovation Meeting Connect with European entrepreneurs, VCs, Corporate Executives and influencers from Silicon valley		
Nov 11		Nov 15		
	Nov 13		Nov 16	
	VCs Pitch Startups French Tech Hub's U.S. VC Pitch to International Entrepreneurs	S	Pitch and Play By group and with dedicated mentors, you will imagine a startup that you would like to create based on your learning and meetings of the week. You will pitch your startup presenting your business model strategy.	

#### A few words from previous participants of the French Tech HUB programmes



"The workshop was a fantastic opportunity to dive into the world of Silicon Valley... I was able to evaluate the pros and cons of creating and/or moving my startup to the Bay Area and what I could export to Europe."

Pierrick GUIVARC'H CEO of IRIUM "This trip to the USA allowed us to understand the pace of the local market and to share ideas with wellknown experts during the conferences. **Everything was top!**"

Dovamiel Haddad Co-Founder of OMMI



"We came back totally blown away. The experience allowed us to put our complete project into perspective and to rethink our entire growth strategy as well as image."

Michael Sebbag Co-Founder of BISLY



#### A few words from previous Soft-Landing participants (startups)



"Soft-Landing **programme in Zoetermeer was a game changer**, a paradigma shift for us. Even after the 2nd mentoring session, we altered our business plan for a leaner, better and faster startup. Quality of the participants were exceptional."

<u>Firat Aytas</u> Founder at Kryptowatt Investments



"Soft- Landing Vilnius was truly a great experience for Casky, as we have networked with key players in the field of Blockchain and Cryptocurrency. On top of which, we have **met potential**, **lifelong contacts to collaborate**, **socialize**, **and build with**. This experience is highly recommended."

#### Joshua Anthony Casky.io



"Very intense program to find out everything to know about local startup environment. Perfectly answers all the questions regarding the export to chosen market. **Best market research I've done.**"

Povilas Vytautas Dudonis Founder at Serfy.io

#### A few words from previous Soft-Landing participants (ecosystem builders)



"It was amazing to discover the Lithuanian leadership in regulation and support for blockchain startups. The great selection of participants and speakers gave us all an **excellent learning and networking experience!**"

<u>Claudia Suhov</u> Founder at Kidster.ro



"Soft-Landing was a condensed and complete experience that combined two things: the interaction of interesting startups with a bunch of European ecosystem players and the familiarization with the Dutch FinTech companies and ecosystem. **Fast, efficient and fun**!"

#### Aristea Sapera Program Manager at Beta-I



"Missions like this are really needed

- they are eye-opening experiences, which help participants learn from one another. At the same time, they encourage us to look at our own ecosystem from a different angle and understand that we actually are better than we think we are."

#### leva Dirvonskaitė

COO at Vilnius TechPark



# Have questions?

Andra Bagdonaitė <u>andra@startupdivision.eu</u>

# **APPLICATIONS OPEN**

Are you a startup? Apply here: <a href="https://www.f6s.com/slsa/apply">https://www.f6s.com/slsa/apply</a>

Are you an ecosystem builder? Apply here: <u>https://f6s.com/slb/apply</u>

> www.soft-landing.eu @softlanding\_eu #SoftLandingEU





This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 780914.