The NETVA (New Technology Venture Accelerator) program offers young French innovative startups a personalized support program, opportunity analysis and development of technological partnerships in the United States. Managed by the Office for Science and Technology of the French Embassy in the United States teams in Boston, San Francisco, Washington D.C., Chicago and Houston, NETVA aims to meet the internationalization needs of French startups developing innovative products with high added value. This year, the program will be sponsored by Bpifrance, organized in partnership with INRIA, and will be open to two new geographical areas: Chicago and Houston.

NETVA is intended for young French startups with innovative technology, originating from or backed by research laboratories with the intent to develop in North America. This tenth edition is primarily aimed at early-stage projects in the fields of artificial intelligence applied to health and the industry of the future will be favored without prohibiting the support of original projects in other fields. The number of applications selected from each areas is very limited, we will therefore take into account the adequacy between the startups’ sector of activity and the respective strengths of the open ecosystems described below.

The winners of the competition participate in a personalized program in 2 phases:

1. a training seminar in June in Paris on approaching/tackling North American markets;
2. an immersion week at the beginning of November in one of the five most dynamic ecosystems in the United States: Massachusetts (Boston), Silicon Valley (San Francisco), Washington D.C., the Great Lakes region (Chicago) and Houston.

During this week, entrepreneurs will participate in seminars to confront their business model with the North American reality, will benefit from individual meetings with key players in their field of activity and will participate in events that allow them to highlight their project.

NETVA is a unique opportunity for young French companies to prepare for their upcoming development in an American ecosystem and to create a network with the help and expertise of local actors specialized in business development in the United States.

Since 2010, NETVA has supported over 100 startups, with each promotion benefiting from the help of over 30 experts to guide them in their search for contacts. Each winner was given 10 to 15 individualized appointments and all were introduced to the extensive network of the French Embassy in the United States.

The Office for Science and Technology of the French Embassy in the United States relies on the support of partners in France for the implementation of the NETVA program, the main ones being the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Bpifrance, Business France and INRIA. The program involves a total of about thirty partners in France and the United States.
Objectives

- **Discover** the potential and mechanisms for innovation in North America
- **Analyze** development or pre-implementation opportunities
- **Develop** academic and industrial partnerships
- **Collect** opinions from investors on the market potential of the selected technologies
- **Meet** French high-tech entrepreneurs who have succeeded locally

Key figures

**Key figures for the NETVA 2018 edition**

- 16 young innovative companies received awards
- A jury of 20 French and American innovation experts
- 10 French incubators and technopoles supporting the program
- 23 leading partners in France and the United States

**Key figures since NETVA’s creation in 2010**

- Over 100 young innovative companies awarded prizes
- Over 600 personalized appointments during the immersion weeks
- Increased media coverage year after year

**1st prize “Research and Innovation” 2010**

In 2010, the NETVA program received the first prize for “Research and Innovation” in the “Initiatives for the Economy 2010” competition. Created in 2004, this competition rewards the best initiatives that strengthen the competitiveness of French companies. This award was presented by a jury of 70 journalists specialized in economics.