Indo-German Gateway Programme

An internationalisation and European Market-Entry Programme for Indian Enterprises

The Indo-German Gateway Programme is a structured 12-month internationalisation Programme developed by Innovation Hub RheinMain, a strategic inter-city cooperation between Rüsselsheim am Main, Raunheim am Main, and Kelsterbach.
The Programme enables eligible Indian enterprises to establish a sustained commercial and operational presence in Germany and to use the RheinMain region as a gateway for wider European market access. The Programme provides a maximum aggregate support of up to €25,000 per participating enterprise, subject to eligibility, milestone completion, approval, and availability of Programme resources.

The Programme may be implemented in partnership with National Governments, State Governments, public-sector agencies, export-promotion bodies, investment-promotion agencies, and other designated authorities through framework agreements and co-funded cohort arrangements.

This Programme Framework has been approved for implementation by the competent authorities of Innovation Hub RheinMain, formally constituted as the Zweckverband Asien der Städte Rüsselsheim am Main, Raunheim am Main und Kelsterbach, the joint public economic-development institution of the participating cities of Rüsselsheim am Main, Raunheim am Main, and Kelsterbach.

Effective Date: *23 July 2026*

Programme Constitution & Framework

Innovation Hub RheinMain hereby establishes the Indo-German Gateway Programme as a structured, time-bound internationalisation Programme for eligible Indian enterprises. The Programme may be implemented in India in cooperation with German Indian Business Alliance (GIBA) and participating national, State, and public authorities through approved framework agreements.

The Programme shall provide selected enterprises with conditional access to market-entry preparation, landing support, establishment facilitation, infrastructure orientation, institutional and business networks, and milestone-linked Programme support. Institutional resources may be directed towards enterprises that demonstrate credible market potential, management commitment, financial preparedness, and measurable establishment intent.

The Programme is not intended to function as a general trade delegation, open-ended advisory Programme, cash grant, travel subsidy, or networking initiative. It is an establishment-oriented economic development instrument designed to convert Indo-European trade potential into durable bilateral commercial presence and measurable economic outcomes.

Institutional Basis

Innovation Hub RheinMain

Innovation Hub RheinMain is the joint public economic-development institution of the cities of Rüsselsheim am Main, Raunheim am Main, and Kelsterbach in the State of Hesse, Germany. Formally constituted as the Zweckverband Asien der Städte Rüsselsheim am Main, Raunheim am Main und Kelsterbach, it combines the economic-development capacities, institutional networks, infrastructure resources, and city-level facilitation mechanisms of the three participating cities.

For the purposes of the Programme, Innovation Hub RheinMain shall act as the Programme originator, German-side institutional anchor, landing platform, and principal authority responsible for the development and coordination of the RheinMain establishment pathway. Through Innovation Hub RheinMain, the participating cities provide the economic-development, location, establishment and institutional facilitation framework for the Programme.

German Indian Business Alliance

GIBA gUG (haftungsbeschränkt), operating as the German Indian Business Alliance, is a German non-profit headquartered in Munich. Registered with the Commercial Register in Munich under registration number 306671, GIBA serves as the India-side implementation and bilateral coordination partner of the Programme. In this capacity, GIBA supports enterprise mobilisation, India-side Programme delivery, engagement with participating State Governments and institutions, and bilateral coordination with Innovation Hub RheinMain.

The Programme may be implemented in cooperation with participating Indian State Governments, public agencies, industry bodies, chambers of commerce, and other approved institutional partners. Such participation shall be governed by the applicable Programme

Guidelines, partnership arrangements, eligibility conditions, and implementation responsibilities approved for each participating jurisdiction.

Policy Rationale

High-potential Indian SMEs and growth enterprises often possess validated products, technical capabilities, export potential, and international ambition, but face structural barriers when entering European markets. These include fragmented information, unfamiliar regulatory and establishment procedures, limited access to trusted local networks, high initial coordination costs, and the absence of a destination-side institutional landing mechanism.

Conventional trade missions may generate visibility and initial contacts but do not ordinarily provide the sustained preparation, market validation, legal-establishment pathway, local infrastructure access, customer development, and post-entry support required for successful internationalisation. The Programme addresses this implementation gap through a coordinated India-to-Germany pathway anchored in a defined German landing region and capable of alignment with participating Indian Government authorities.

Programme Objectives

- Enable eligible enterprises from India to establish a credible and sustained commercial presence in Germany.
- Increase exports of goods and services from India to Germany and the wider European Union.
- Facilitate inward and outward investment, technology cooperation, licensing, joint development, and industrial partnerships.
- Integrate participating enterprises into German and European customer, supplier, distributor, innovation, and sector networks.
- Create a repeatable Indian State-to-city internationalisation model with defined selection, support, monitoring, and outcome requirements.
- Generate skilled employment, export capability, technology absorption for the Indian parent enterprise and its home jurisdiction.
- Contribute to business establishment, investment attraction, employment, innovation, and economic diversification within the RheinMain landing region.

Target Beneficiaries

The Programme shall target established Indian enterprises, SMEs, scale-ups, export-ready manufacturers, growth-stage technology companies, family-owned enterprises, and commercially validated service or product businesses that intend to build a sustained German and European presence.

The Programme shall remain sector-inclusive while giving policy priority to sectors aligned with the economic and industrial strategies of the participating State and the RheinMain region, including advanced manufacturing, automotive and mobility, aerospace, defence-related civilian and dual-use technologies subject to applicable controls, logistics, industrial automation, digital and B2B technologies, life sciences, health technologies, green technologies, engineering services, and other approved sectors.

Admission and participation of enterprises operating in defence-adjacent, dual-use, security-sensitive, or otherwise controlled sectors shall remain subject to applicable export-control, sanctions, licensing, end-use, foreign-investment, and national-security requirements in India, Germany, and the European Union.

Eligibility Conditions

- The applicant shall be a legally registered Indian enterprise having its registered office, principal place of business, or substantial economic operations in India. Where the applicant seeks admission under a Government-supported cohort, it shall additionally satisfy the conditions prescribed by the participating authority.
- Applicants must demonstrate a validated product or service, commercial traction, customer acceptance, revenue, export capability, or credible international delivery potential.
- Applicants must demonstrate Germany/EU market relevance and a defined commercial objective for establishment, distribution, market development, technology collaboration, or supply-chain participation.
- Applicants must nominate a senior decision-maker responsible for the 12-month Programme and provide evidence of leadership commitment.
- Applicants must demonstrate financial capacity to meet company-borne costs, including travel, professional fees, incorporation expenses, infrastructure rentals, staffing, certification, and commercial execution costs where applicable.
- Applicants must agree to the mandatory Germany market-validation visit and milestone reporting requirements.
- Applicants must not be insolvent, subject to material legal disqualification, or in default of applicable statutory obligations, subject to verification rules determined by the participating authority.

Selection and Scoring Framework

Selection shall be competitive, evidence-based, and subject to available cohort capacity. The Programme Steering Committee shall recommend full admission, conditional admission, deferral pending readiness improvement, or rejection. The following weightage shall be applied for assessment and selection.

Criteria	Weightage	Policy Test	Assessment
Germany/EU Market fit	20%	Is there a credible market, customer, partner, or supply-chain case?	Market evidence, customer discovery, comparable sales, sector analysis.
Company maturity and financial capacity	25%	Can the enterprise financially and operationally sustain establishment and market development in Germany?	Revenue, financial summary, management accounts, funding capacity.
Export and operational readiness	15%	Can the enterprise deliver internationally and meet quality expectations?	Export history, delivery capability, certifications, operational plan.
Management commitment	15%	Will senior leadership allocate authority, time, and resources?	Named Programme lead, board/management resolution, budget commitment.

Criteria	Weightage	Policy Test	Assessment
Regulatory and adaptation readiness	15%	Can the offering be adapted to EU requirements?	Certification pathway, documentation readiness, compliance assessment.
Bilateral economic impact	10%	Will participation create exports, investment, technology transfer, employment, or supply-chain value?	Projected outcome statement with measurable indicators.

For more details on the selection & admission framework, refer to Annex A.

Programme Support Package

Each enterprise admitted to the Indo-German Gateway Programme shall be eligible for consideration for a Programme Support Package having a maximum aggregate value of up to €25,000 during the approved Programme period of 12 months. The 12-month Programme period shall commence from the date of formal admission communicated to the participating enterprise, unless a different commencement date is specified in the applicable cohort implementation plan or admission documentation.

The Programme Support Package shall be implemented through the following stages:

1. **India Phase**
2. **Germany Market-Validation Visit**
3. **Germany Establishment Phase**
4. **Post-Entry Business Development Phase**

The value assigned to each component shall be for eligible Programme interventions, institutional facilitation, hosted activities, assessments, establishment support, market-entry measures, ecosystem access, and other approved non-cash support delivered under the Programme structure. The maximum aggregate value of up to €25,000 shall not constitute a cash grant, reimbursement entitlement, transferable financial benefit, loan, equity investment, or amount payable directly to the participating enterprise.

Admission to the Programme shall not create an automatic entitlement to the full Programme Support Package. Each component shall be activated separately and progressively, subject to continued eligibility, satisfactory participation, completion of prescribed milestone requirements, availability of Programme resources, and approval by the Programme Steering Committee.

Stage I: India Phase — Admission, Assessment and Pre-Entry Preparation

A. Admission and Enterprise Assessment — Up to €3,000

The approved Programme components under this part shall include:

- verification of the applicant's eligibility under the Programme;
- review of company registration, ownership, financial, commercial, technical, and operational information;
- assessment of the enterprise's Germany and European market relevance;
- assessment of commercial maturity, export readiness, financial preparedness, management commitment, and international delivery capability;

- identification of material regulatory, certification, product-adaptation, infrastructure, and establishment requirements;
- review and determination by the Programme Steering Committee, with the participation of relevant experts as considered appropriate;
- preparation of a formal company assessment note; and
- issuance of an admission, conditional admission, deferment, or rejection determination.

The support value of up to €3,000 under this component shall be activated only after submission of the prescribed application, supporting documentation, declarations, and any additional information required by the Programme. Completion of this component shall be evidenced by a formal Enterprise Assessment Note and an admission determination issued by the Programme Steering Committee.

B. Pre-Entry Preparation — Up to €2,500

Following successful admission and assessment, Programme support value of up to €2,500 shall be assigned for pre-entry preparation. The approved Programme components under this part shall include:

- determination of the enterprise's Germany-entry objectives;
- identification of priority products, services, customer groups, and market segments;
- preliminary market, customer, partner, distributor, and supply-chain mapping;
- identification of legal, tax, regulatory, certification, staffing, immigration, and infrastructure requirements;
- preparation of an indicative establishment and market-entry budget;
- orientation concerning the RheinMain Landing Pad and the participating German cities;
- preparation of the enterprise for engagement with German stakeholders;
- preparation of the Germany-visit agenda;
- development of the pre-entry work plan; and
- approval of the enterprise's readiness to proceed to the Germany Market-Validation Visit.

The support value under this component shall be activated only after completion of the admission and assessment requirements and approval of the pre-entry work plan. Completion of this component shall be evidenced by an approved Pre-Entry Work Plan setting out the enterprise's market-entry objectives, preparation requirements, Germany-visit priorities, and progression conditions.

Stage II: Germany Market-Validation Visit

C. Hosted Germany Visit — Up to €2,500

An indicative Programme support value of up to €2,500 shall be assigned for a hosted Germany Market-Validation Visit of up to 3 days.

The approved Programme components under this part shall include:

- preparation and coordination of the approved visit itinerary;
- meetings with representatives of the participating cities, institutional, industry, and ecosystem stakeholders;
- orientation to the RheinMain business, investment, innovation, and infrastructure environment;

- review of business-address, office, coworking, warehousing, industrial, laboratory, or other infrastructure options;
- accommodation arranged or approved as part of the approved visit itinerary;
- group meals forming part of the approved visit itinerary; and
- approved activities and coordination during the visit.

The maximum indicative value of up to €2,500 shall apply only to the mandatory hosted visit and shall not constitute a travel allowance or reimbursement. International and domestic travel, visa fees, personal transport, personal meals, extended stays, upgrades, incidental expenses, and any expenditure incurred outside the approved visit itinerary are not included.

Following completion of the Germany Market-Validation Visit, the enterprise shall submit an establishment decision and a post-visit implementation plan in the prescribed form. Progression to the Germany Establishment Phase shall be subject to approval of the establishment decision and post-visit implementation plan by the Programme Steering Committee. Completion of this component shall be evidenced by a Germany Visit Report, an establishment decision submitted by the participating enterprise, and an approved post-visit implementation plan.

Stage III: Germany Establishment Phase

D. GmbH Establishment through Innovation Hub RheinMain — Up to €10,000

An enterprise approved under the Programme to establish a German limited liability company, or Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung (GmbH), through Innovation Hub RheinMain shall be eligible to receive access to a GmbH Establishment Service Package at a fixed cost of €30,000.

The package shall be implemented on a co-financing basis comprising:

- a contribution of up to €10,000 by Innovation Hub RheinMain towards eligible establishment services; and
- a fixed contribution of €20,000 by the participating enterprise.

The package shall include:

- coordination of the GmbH formation process;
- preparation and review of incorporation documents;
- coordination with the notary and the competent Chamber of Industry and Commerce;
- support for company-name clearance and formulation of the proposed business purpose in consultation with the competent Chamber of Industry and Commerce;
- coordination of the application for entry in the German Commercial Register;
- initial tax-registration and VAT-registration support;
- coordination of business registration;
- support concerning bank-account opening and transfer of the statutory share capital;
- assistance with apostilles, certified translations, and document legalisation; and
- coordination with empanelled professional service providers and competent authorities until completion of the approved establishment process.

The approved scope of services, designated service providers, implementation milestones, payment arrangements, exclusions, and treatment of additional case-specific expenditure shall be set out in the applicable establishment and co-financing agreement.

The contribution of Innovation Hub RheinMain shall be activated only upon:

- approval of the enterprise's establishment decision;
- acceptance of the approved scope of services;
- confirmation of the enterprise's ability and commitment to meet its co-financing obligation;
- submission of the prescribed incorporation documents; and
- execution of the required establishment, co-financing, and service documentation.

Any expenditure arising from enterprise-specific requirements, case-specific complexity, changes in scope, delayed or incomplete documentation, or services falling outside the approved package shall be borne by the participating enterprise.

The contribution of Innovation Hub RheinMain shall not be paid directly to the participating enterprise and shall not be transferable, reimbursable, or convertible into cash. It shall be applied directly towards the cost of eligible services delivered through empanelled professional service providers engaged through Innovation Hub RheinMain.

Activation shall be evidenced by execution of the prescribed agreements and commencement of the approved process. Completion shall be evidenced by documentary proof of the applicable incorporation, Commercial Register, tax-registration, and business-registration milestones.

Stage IV: Post-Entry Business Development, Market Entry and Customer Engagement

E. Post-Entry Commercial Development — Up to €7,000

Upon completion or substantial advancement of the approved establishment process, Programme support value of up to €7,000 shall be assigned for post-entry business development, market entry, and customer engagement in Germany and the wider European market. The Programme shall facilitate market access and customer engagement but shall not guarantee customer acquisition, purchase orders, contracts, distributor appointment, revenue generation, investment, funding, or commercial success. The approved Programme components under this part shall include:

- preparation and implementation of a structured Germany and European market-entry plan;
- identification and prioritisation of target customers, market segments, distributors, channel partners, and supply-chain opportunities;
- customer, partner, distributor, procurement, and supply-chain mapping;
- facilitation of introductions to relevant German and European companies, industry bodies, procurement organisations, and business networks;
- organisation of approved customer meetings, partner meetings, product presentations, demonstrations, and business-matching engagements;
- facilitation of participation in approved trade fairs, sector events, pitch formats, and market-access programmes;
- development or adaptation of the enterprise's German and European value proposition, market positioning, and customer-engagement materials;
- validation of pricing, distribution, sales, partnership, and market-entry models;
- identification of local representation, recruitment, sales, and business-development requirements;

- support for distributor, channel-partner, strategic-partner, and supply-chain engagement;
- periodic monitoring of customer engagement, commercial opportunities, partnerships, exports, revenue, investment, and employment outcomes.

The support value under this component shall be activated against approved commercial-development activities and verified implementation milestones. Completion of this component shall be evidenced by an approved market-development plan, a record of implemented customer and partner engagement activities, and a final progress report against the prescribed commercial-development milestones.

Overview of allocation of the Programme Support

Programme Stage	**Principal Activation**	**Maximum Support**
India Phase	**A. Admission and enterprise assessment:** Submission of required documents, eligibility verification, assessment, and formal admission ***(Months: 1 -2)***	Up to €3,000
	B. Pre-entry preparation: Completion of assessment and approval of the pre-entry work plan ***(Months: 2-4)***	Up to €2,500
Germany Visit	**C. Hosted market-validation:** Completion of pre-entry requirements and approval of the official visit itinerary. ***(Months: 4-5)***	Up to €2,500
Germany Phase	**D. Establishment through Innovation Hub RheinMain:** Approval of the establishment decision, confirmation of the enterprise's co-financing commitment, execution of the required agreements, and commencement of the approved establishment process. ***(Months: 5-8)***	Up to €10,000
	E. Post-entry business development, market entry, and customer engagement: Completion or substantial advancement of the approved establishment process and approval of the post-entry market-development plan ***(Months: 8-12)***	Up to €7,000
	Total	**Up to €25,000**

Obligations of Participating Enterprises

Enterprises admitted to the Programme shall comply with the following obligations:

- **Submission of information and disclosures:** The participating enterprise shall submit complete, accurate, and verifiable corporate, financial, technical, commercial, ownership, regulatory, and operational information in the prescribed form and shall promptly disclose any material change affecting its eligibility, financial capacity, ownership, management, or participation in the Programme.
- **Appointment of an authorised programme representative:** The participating enterprise shall nominate a senior decision-maker duly authorised to represent the enterprise, coordinate Programme participation, approve commitments, attend mandatory engagements, and ensure compliance with the approved Programme roadmap and timelines.
- **Financial capacity:** The participating enterprise shall maintain the financial capacity required to meet all prescribed enterprise contributions and company-borne expenditure, including travel, professional services, establishment costs, infrastructure, staffing, certification, and commercial implementation costs, as applicable.
- **Completion of mandatory Programme requirements:** The participating enterprise shall complete all prescribed assessments, pre-entry activities, meetings, the Germany Market-Validation Visit, establishment actions, stage-gate requirements, and other mandatory Programme components within the approved timelines.
- **Milestone implementation and reporting:** The participating enterprise shall implement the approved work plans, establishment milestones, and market-development activities and shall submit the prescribed progress reports, supporting documents, utilisation evidence, and outcome data within the specified reporting periods.
- **Compliance, verification, and review:** The participating enterprise shall comply with all applicable laws, Programme conditions, contractual obligations, and institutional requirements and shall cooperate with any verification, review, monitoring, audit, or performance assessment undertaken by the Programme Steering Committee or an authorised participating authority.

Continued access to Programme support shall remain subject to satisfactory compliance with the above obligations, and failure to comply may result in deferment, suspension, reduction, or withdrawal of Programme support in accordance with the Programme conditions.

General Conditions Governing the Programme Support Package

The indicative values specified under the Programme shall:

- constitute maximum ceilings and not guaranteed allocations;
- represent the assessed or approved value of eligible non-cash Programme interventions;

- be activated only against approved activities and verified milestones;
- not be paid directly to the participating enterprise; not be transferable between enterprises; not be exchanged, redeemed, or converted into cash; not be carried forward beyond the approved Programme period unless expressly authorised;
- lapse where the enterprise withdraws, becomes ineligible, fails to meet prescribed requirements, or is removed from the Programme; and
- remain subject to modification, reduction, suspension, or withdrawal by the Programme Steering Committee in accordance with the Programme Guidelines.

All statutory charges, professional fees, infrastructure costs, staffing costs, travel costs, certification expenses, and other enterprise-specific expenditure shall be borne by the participating enterprise unless expressly approved as an eligible Programme intervention.

Participation of Government and Public Authorities

National Governments, State Governments, public-sector agencies, development authorities, export-promotion bodies, investment-promotion agencies, and other designated public authorities in India may participate in the Programme as Government or institutional partners for the purpose of aligning it with their respective internationalisation, export-development, investment, innovation, and enterprise-growth priorities.

Establishment in Germany shall be treated as a market-access instrument for the international growth of the Indian parent enterprise and not as a relocation programme. Participating enterprises shall be expected to demonstrate how their German presence will contribute to exports, investment, technology cooperation, production activity, skilled employment, supply-chain participation, or other measurable economic value in India.

Participating authorities shall provide the financial contribution and implementation support specified in the applicable framework agreement and may prescribe additional eligibility, reporting, compliance, sectoral, regional, or policy requirements as applicable to enterprises supported under their respective programme allocation, provided that such requirements remain consistent with the objectives and core framework of the Programme.

The terms of participation shall be set out through a framework agreement between Innovation Hub RheinMain, formally constituted as the Zweckverband Asien der Städte Rüsselsheim am Main, Raunheim am Main und Kelsterbach; GIBA gUG (haftungsbeschränkt), operating as the German Indian Business Alliance; and the participating authority. Each framework agreement shall be developed in consultation with the relevant authority and may define jurisdiction-specific, cohort-specific, sectoral, financial, governance, and implementation arrangements.

Co-Funding and Strategic Cohort Partnership

A participating authority may enter into a strategic cohort partnership with Innovation Hub RheinMain and the German Indian Business Alliance for the co-funded implementation of a defined Programme cohort.

The applicable framework agreement may provide for the participating authority to:

- identify priority sectors, regions, enterprise categories, or policy outcomes;

- nominate, endorse, or participate in the selection of eligible enterprises;
- contribute financial or non-financial resources towards approved Programme components;
- prescribe cohort-specific eligibility, localisation, reporting, or compliance requirements;
- participate in cohort oversight, progress review, and outcome assessment; and
- support enterprise mobilisation, export promotion, investment facilitation, technology cooperation, and institutional engagement within its jurisdiction.

The framework agreement and associated cohort implementation plan shall define the cohort size, contribution structure, eligible expenditure, payment milestones, selection arrangements, institutional responsibilities, governance provisions, reporting requirements, performance indicators, and treatment of unused or uncommitted funds.

The terms of participation shall be set out through a framework agreement between the Zweckverband Asien der Städte Rüsselsheim am Main, Raunheim am Main und Kelsterbach, acting through Innovation Hub RheinMain; the German Indian Business Alliance; and the participating authority.

The participating authority shall designate specific economic outcomes to be monitored, including export growth, investment mobilisation, technology transfer, international revenue, supply-chain integration, skilled employment, district-level participation, and sectoral development. These outcomes shall be incorporated into the cohort implementation plan and reviewed through periodic joint reporting. Any contribution provided by a participating authority shall be additional to the Programme Support Package and may support eligible enterprise-borne internationalisation costs, including market-entry and business-development expenditure, travel to Germany, international airfares, professional and establishment costs, and other approved implementation expenses. Subject to the applicable policy and funding rules of the participating authority, such support may also be structured as a grant, reimbursement, subsidised loan, or other approved financial instrument towards the establishment of a German subsidiary.

Programme Governance

The Programme shall be governed through a **Programme Steering Committee** constituted by Innovation Hub RheinMain and German Indian Business Alliance (GIBA). The Programme Steering Committee shall be convened by Innovation Hub RheinMain. Where a National Government, State Government, public authority, or other institutional partner participates through a framework agreement, its authorised representative shall be part of the Steering Committee for matters relating to the relevant cohort or Programme arrangement. The Steering Committee shall also invite experts for technical, sectoral, legal, financial or regulatory expertise as requested by the Steering Committee. The Programme Steering Committee shall be responsible for Programme oversight, enterprise selection, approval of stage progression, review of milestone compliance, consideration of exceptions, and monitoring of Programme performance.

Programme Results and Key Performance Indicators

The performance of the Programme shall be assessed against defined output, outcome, and economic-impact indicators applicable to the participating enterprises, the relevant cohort, and the participating institutional partners.

The principal results and performance indicators shall include:

1. **Enterprise Participation and Progression**
   Number of applications received, enterprises assessed, enterprises admitted, enterprises completing each Programme stage, and enterprises progressing to establishment and post-entry market development.
2. **Germany Establishment Outcomes**
   Number of enterprises initiating and completing the approved GmbH establishment process, securing a registered business address, completing commercial and tax registration, and maintaining an operational presence in Germany.
3. **Export and International Revenue Outcomes**
   Incremental exports of goods and services, European market revenue, value of commercial transactions, and other measurable international business generated by participating enterprises.
4. **Market Access and Customer Engagement Outcomes**
   Number and quality of customer, distributor, partner, procurement, and supply-chain engagements, including formal discussions, pilot projects, demonstrations, distribution arrangements, purchase orders, and commercial partnerships.
5. **Investment, Technology, and Employment Outcomes**
   Investment mobilised, technology cooperation, licensing, joint-development activity, supply-chain integration, and skilled employment created or retained in India and Germany.
6. **Public Value and Programme Leverage**
   Programme support utilised, enterprise co-financing mobilised, public and institutional resources leveraged, cohort-level economic outcomes, and measurable value generated for participating Indian jurisdictions and the RheinMain region.

The applicable targets, reporting formats, verification requirements, and review periods shall be prescribed for each cohort through the relevant Programme Guidelines, framework agreement, or cohort implementation plan.

Confidentiality and Protection of Programme Information

All commercial, financial, technical, operational, ownership, and personal information submitted or generated in connection with the Programme shall be treated as confidential and used only for Programme assessment, implementation, monitoring, and reporting purposes.

Innovation Hub RheinMain, GIBA, and where applicable participating Government or institutional partners, Programme Steering Committee members, experts, and empanelled service providers shall be subject to appropriate confidentiality, non-disclosure, statutory secrecy, or equivalent information-protection obligations. Information shall be shared only with authorised stakeholders to the extent necessary for delivery of the Programme and subject to the applicable agreements, consent requirements, and data-protection obligations.

No confidential information, enterprise profile, case study, or commercial outcome shall be published or disclosed for promotional purposes without the prior consent of the participating enterprise, except where disclosure is required by applicable law or by an authorised public authority.

Integrity and Regulatory Compliance

Participating enterprises, institutional partners, experts, and service providers shall comply with all applicable anti-bribery, anti-corruption, anti-money-laundering, sanctions, export-control, procurement-integrity, and other statutory compliance requirements. Any material breach, misrepresentation, prohibited transaction, or failure to cooperate with a compliance review may result in suspension, withdrawal, or termination of Programme participation and support.

Exclusions and Non-Entitlements

The Programme does not guarantee visa approval, company registration, bank-account opening, regulatory certification, public incentives, investment, customer acquisition, contract award, revenue, or commercial success. The Programme does not substitute for legal, tax, immigration, regulatory, financial, or sector-specific professional advice. Participation does not confer exclusivity, procurement preference, public endorsement of a company’s products, or automatic access to government contracts.

Travel to and from Germany, personal expenses, extended stays, private transport, upgrades, infrastructure rent, staffing, and specialist professional fees shall remain company costs unless expressly included in an approved Programme component or establishment service package.

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Annex A: Selection and Admission Framework

1. Preliminary Scrutiny of Applications

All applications received under the Programme shall be subjected to preliminary scrutiny for the purpose of determining compliance with the prescribed eligibility conditions and completeness of the required documentation. Applications found to be incomplete, materially inconsistent, unsupported by the prescribed evidence, or otherwise deficient shall be returned for clarification, deferred for further consideration, or rejected by the Programme Steering Committee.

2. Verification of Documents and Information

Applicants shall submit such documents and information as shall be indicated in the Programme application. The Programme Steering Committee may require additional information, clarification, supporting evidence, or independent verification at any stage of the assessment process.

3. Assessment and Scoring

Applications satisfying the preliminary eligibility requirements shall be assessed in accordance with the criteria and weightages prescribed in the Selection and Scoring Framework of the Programme. The assessment shall take into account the information and evidence submitted by the applicant, the outcome of management interactions, the enterprise's financial and operational capacity, its Germany and European market relevance, its establishment intent, and the anticipated bilateral economic impact of its participation.

4. Minimum Qualifying Requirements

An applicant shall ordinarily be required to secure a minimum aggregate score of **75 out of 100** for consideration under the Programme. Securing the minimum qualifying score shall not confer any right to admission. Admission shall remain subject to comparative merit, available cohort capacity, sectoral relevance, programme resources, and the final decision of the Programme Steering Committee.

5. Management Interaction

Shortlisted applicants shall be required to participate in a management interaction before the Programme Steering Committee or a duly authorised panel as part of the assessment. Failure to participate in a prescribed management interaction shall result in deferment or rejection of the application.

6. Selection Decision

Upon completion of the assessment process, the Programme Steering Committee shall decide that an applicant be -

- admitted to the Programme;
- admitted subject to specified conditions;

- placed on a reserve list;
- deferred pending fulfilment of readiness requirements;
- rejected.

Conditional admission shall require the applicant to submit additional documents, confirm financial or co-financing capacity, complete specified preparatory actions, or remedy identified deficiencies within the period prescribed by the Programme Steering Committee. The decision of the Programme Steering Committee shall be communicated to the applicant.

7. Government-Supported Cohorts

Where the Programme is implemented in partnership with a National Government, State Government, public authority, or other designated institution, applicants under the relevant cohort shall be subject to additional eligibility, sectoral, regional, reporting, localisation, or policy requirements. Such additional requirements shall apply only to the relevant cohort and shall be considered together with the core eligibility and assessment requirements of the Programme.

8. Conflict of Interest

Every member of the Programme Steering Committee and every expert associated with the assessment process shall disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to an applicant. A person having a material conflict of interest shall not participate in the assessment, deliberation, or decision concerning that applicant.

9. Finality of Decision

The decision of the Programme Steering Committee shall be final for the relevant selection cycle. The Committee may, at its discretion, reconsider an application where material new information becomes available or where a deferred applicant is permitted to submit a revised application in a subsequent selection cycle.

Annex B: Monitoring, Evaluation and Tracking Framework

Programme performance shall be monitored against approved milestones, deliverables, support utilisation, enterprise contributions, and economic outcomes.

Participating enterprises shall submit prescribed progress information at the completion of each Programme stage and at such additional intervals as may be determined by the Programme Steering Committee.

Monitoring shall include verification of:

- completion of Programme activities and stage deliverables;
- utilisation of approved Programme support;
- fulfilment of enterprise co-financing obligations;
- progress of GmbH establishment and operational presence;
- customer, partner, distributor, and supply-chain engagement;
- exports, European revenue, investment, technology cooperation, and employment outcomes; and
- compliance with reporting and participation requirements.

A final Programme review shall be undertaken upon completion of the 12-month implementation period. Participating enterprises shall thereafter be required to submit outcome information for a period of up to 24 months for the purpose of assessing the sustainability and economic impact of the Programme.

Where the Programme is implemented through a Government-supported cohort, consolidated progress and outcome reports shall be prepared in accordance with the relevant framework agreement and cohort implementation plan.

All monitoring and reporting shall be subject to applicable confidentiality, data-protection, and information-sharing arrangements.