FDI Report

30 years of CzechInvest

1992–2022

H2 2022

www.czechinvest.org
Introduction

“Welcome to the second edition of the FDI Report, whose primary purpose is to provide information on developments in the world of foreign investment. This edition is being published on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of CzechInvest and therefore looks back at the agency’s 30-year history, presents the most important investments that CzechInvest has mediated over the past three decades and outlines the main benefits of foreign investments for the Czech economy and regional development. Another important topic is the connection between foreign investments and science and research, which CzechInvest has long supported and sees as the main way to guide Czech industry toward production with higher value added, which will lead to sustainable economic growth.”

Eva Jungmannová
Head of the Investment and Foreign Operations Division

Summary

- Foreign investments bring a number of positive effects to the host economy. Governments strive to attract foreign direct investments through investment promotion agencies.
- The Czech Republic is successful in attracting foreign direct investments, as well as in the development of existing investors by means of expansion.
- Though companies under foreign control comprise less than 2% of all companies in the Czech Republic, they generate nearly half of the total turnover and value added in the domestic economy. In the manufacturing industry, they account for up to 60% of generated value added. These companies employ more than one million people, i.e. 20% of all employees in the country.
- Foreign-controlled companies also hold a very important position in terms of spending on research and development. Of the total CZK 122 billion invested in research and development in the Czech Republic in 2021, companies under foreign control spent nearly CZK 50 billion. Within the business sector, private foreign-controlled companies account for more than 60% of research and development spending.
- Thanks to the activities of foreign investors, the Czech Republic places near the top of international rankings such as the Global Innovation Index and Economic Complexity Index.
- Foreign investors are reinvesting their profits in the Czech Republic; at present, expansion projects significantly outweigh new investments.
- Thanks to the country’s well-designed system of investment incentives, foreign companies have contributed to the decline in the unemployment rate in the Czech Republic, predominantly in structurally disadvantaged regions.
- Know-how is transferred and the competencies of foreign companies’ employees are increased as such companies implement new technologies in the Czech Republic.
- Foreign companies in the Czech Republic are active in all areas of CSR and reinvest their profits in CSR here.
- Over the past thirty years, CzechInvest has succeeded in arranging 2,091 investment projects in the total value of CZK 1,153,324.38 million (USD 47,784.05 million), resulting in the creation of 306,979 jobs.

1 Data from 2020. Source: Czech Statistical Office – Foreign Affiliates Statistics, 2022
2 Data from 2021. Source: Czech Statistical Office – Science, Research and Innovation Statistics, 2022
Effects of foreign direct investments and the role of investment promotion agencies

Investments are an essential driver of economic growth and sustainable development. Foreign direct investments bring a number of positive effects to the host economy, both direct and indirect (spill-over effects). According to the OECD, the positive effects of foreign direct investments are visible in the following areas:

- Foreign investment often contributes to growth, beyond what domestic investment normally would, by raising both total factor productivity and the efficient use of resources in host economies.
- FDI can support host economies’ global trade integration by providing them with improved access to international markets, developing local export capabilities and integrating them with global value chains.
- Multinational enterprises (MNEs) often bring new technologies into recipient economies and FDI can thus lead to local technology transfers and innovation spill-overs, especially through the creation of local supplier linkages.
- FDI creates direct and indirect jobs (i.e. through backward and forward linkages with small and medium-sized domestic companies) and can enhance human capital through the dissemination of new skills, know-how and management techniques, which can benefit both MNE employees and local firms that act as suppliers to MNEs.
- International investment can also support greater competition in host markets and thus lead to productivity gains, lower prices and more efficient resource allocation.
- FDI has the potential to bring social and environmental benefits to host countries by disseminating good practices of responsible business conduct (RBC), as laid out in the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.
- FDI plays a major role in supporting regional development by creating jobs, increasing productivity, enhancing skills and innovation and helping regions with their transformation into a modern economy.

Governments around the world are aware of these benefits and, through business and investment promotion agencies, they attract, develop and cultivate foreign direct investments in their respective countries. Together with governments, these agencies formulate strategies and priorities for attracting foreign direct investments, promote the given country as a suitable destination for such investments, encourage foreign companies to establish branches in their respective countries, and take care of companies that are already located there so that, in the ideal case, they reinvest in the given country. At the same time, they serve as a link between the business sphere and the government, as they pass on feedback from investors to local governments (“policy advocacy”) and participate in the creation of a more favourable investment climate for existing and new businesses.

The Business and Investment Development Agency CzechInvest has fulfilled this role in the Czech Republic since 1993.

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The Czech Republic and foreign direct investments

Thanks to its strategic location, technically highly qualified workforce, extensive opportunities for collaboration in science and research, and stable investment environment, the Czech Republic has long been very successful in attracting foreign direct investments. In per capita terms, the Czech Republic has long been the most successful V4 country in attracting FDI.

FDI inflow in a comparison of the V4 countries (in EUR per capita)

In the first decade after the Velvet Revolution, foreign companies successfully built on the industrial tradition of the Czech Lands. Through foreign direct investments, those companies substantially aided the transformation of the Czech economy, modernisation of industry and reduction of the country’s high unemployment rate, while also contributing to wage growth, transfer of know-how and the incorporation of the Czech economy into multinational supply chains. Implementation of internationally recognised certifications and standards contributed to qualitative progress in their Czech subsidiaries and beyond.

Economy

Today, foreign companies are a strong component of the Czech economy and significant contributors to the state budget. Of the total 1,068,000 companies in the Czech Republic in 2020, only 19,851 – i.e. less than 2% – were under foreign control. However, this fraction of companies generates nearly half of the value added in the economy, accounts for more than 60% of total spending on science and research in the business sector and employs nearly 1,014,000 people, i.e. a full one-fifth of employees in the Czech Republic. Foreign-controlled rank among the most important employers in the country.

Source: wiiw FDI report 2022, Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies, 2022
The largest group comprises companies based in Germany (3,229), followed by Slovakia (3,146) and Austria (1,262). In 2020, a total of 3,562 foreign-controlled companies were operating in the Czech Republic’s manufacturing industry, predominantly in the areas of metalworking, machine and equipment manufacturing, manufacturing of rubber and plastic products, vehicle manufacturing and manufacturing of electrical devices.\(^5\)

\(^5\) Data from 2020. Source: Czech Statistical Office – Foreign Affiliates Statistics, 2022

**Number of foreign-controlled companies in the manufacturing industry and their sectors of operation (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other manufacturing</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metalworking</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machine and equipment manufacturing</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing of rubber and plastic products</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle manufacturing</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing of electrical devices</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing of other non-metallic mineral products</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair and installation of machines and equipment</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food production</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing of computers, electronic and optical devices</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Czech Statistical Office, 2022*

Thanks to the success of foreign investors in the country, the Czech Republic has also long placed highly in the Global Innovation Index, an international ranking published by the World Intellectual Property Organisation. This year, the Czech Republic ranked 30th out of a total of 132 evaluated economies. The overall Global Innovation Index is calculated from the sub-indices in the group of pillars and monitored areas. The high rankings in the region of Central and Eastern Europe are mainly due to the Knowledge and Technology Outputs pillar, in which the Czech Republic is ranked 17th globally. The Czech Republic’s strengths include, in particular, science and research financed from abroad (in percent of GDP), imports and exports of technologically advanced products, advanced manufacturing and the country’s high level of production and export complexity. These parameters are also influenced by the activities of foreign investors in the Czech Republic.

**Country rankings in GII 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Global Innovation Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Rep.</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Country rankings – selected indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Production and export complexity</th>
<th>High-tech exports</th>
<th>High-tech import</th>
<th>High-tech manufacturing</th>
<th>R&amp;D spending funded from abroad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Czech Rep.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: WIPO, Global Innovation Index, 2022*
Thanks to the above-mentioned production and export complexity, the Czech Republic regularly ranks near the top of Harvard University’s Economic Complexity Index, which has been published since 2000. The index assesses the number and complexity of products exported from the monitored countries. Since 2016, the Czech Republic has ranked sixth behind Japan, Switzerland, Germany, South Korea and Singapore.

Reinvestments are also a very important outcome of foreign investments. The Czech Republic is successful in terms of reinvestments and has long done well in convincing foreign industrial investors of the other advantages of the Czech market. Such investors thus use the capital that they have earned in the expansion of their local operations. A model example of investment and subsequent reinvestment of profits is a foreign company that originally came to the Czech Republic to build a manufacturing plant. Thanks to its positive experience here, the company gradually reinvests and expands its scope of operations not only in the area of manufacturing, but also in its other activities, typically its science and research centre and shared-services centre. Over the long term, industrial manufacturers thus expand their production process horizontally on both sides, i.e. toward research and development and toward marketing, sales and aftersales. Due to the fact that both directions of expansion always involve activities with a higher level of value added, such reinvestments are very desirable.

Structure of projects supported by CzechInvest (1993–2021)

Foreign-controlled companies employ roughly 20% of all employees in the Czech Republic. Foreign direct investments have contributed to the long-term trend of low unemployment in the Czech Republic. At the same time, thanks to the country’s well-designed system of investment incentives, foreign investors are motivated to establish their plants in structurally disadvantaged regions (Karlovy Vary, Ústí and Moravia-Silesia) and assist with the restructuring of the given region and the transition of the local workforce from mining and heavy industry to more specialised and technologically advanced sectors with higher value added. The presence of foreign companies also has a direct impact on wages in the given region, as their arrival in the region increases competition in the labour market and motivates established companies to raise wages, introduce new benefits, etc.

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Data from 2020. Source: Czech Statistical Office – Foreign Affiliates Statistics, 2022
Science and research

Foreign-controlled companies are important entities in research and development activities in the Czech Republic. Forty percent of the total spending on research and development in the Czech Republic is by private foreign-controlled companies, and more than 30% of science and research workers are employed by foreign-owned companies. These companies’ expansions and reinvestments in the area of science and research in the Czech Republic can also be observed in statistics published by the Czech Statistical Office. Between 2005 and 2021, spending on science and research in this business segment grew by 384%, from CZK 10 billion to CZK 48 billion and the number of people employed in science and research increased by 266% from 7,500 to 27,400. This development is also associated with the number of foreign-controlled companies whose predominant economic activity is in the Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities category, which nearly doubled in the period 2012–2020, thus recording the highest rate of growth in the number of companies among all economic activities. The science and research activities of foreign companies thus contribute significantly to the long-term favourable ranking of the Czech Republic in global indices (e.g. the aforementioned Global Innovation Index). In comparison with the other V4 countries, the Czech Republic is the most successful thanks to private-sector investments and is approaching the average of all EU countries.

7 Data from 2021. Source: Czech Statistical Office – Science, Research and Innovation Statistics, 2022
8 Persons per full-time equivalent (FTE) focused on research and development activities
9 NACE section M

R&D spending in the business sector, in CZK million (2005–2021)

Source: Czech Statistical Office, 2022
CSR

Foreign investors also contribute to the development of local infrastructure and the education of the population through their CSR activities. Many companies have set high corporate standards with the aim of being a “good neighbour” in the community, region and society in which they operate. They are active in all three pillars of CSR: social, environmental and economic. Foreign companies are leaders in the Czech Republic in both the number of CSR activities and the amount spent on such activities. They thus entirely voluntarily contribute to the further development of the Czech Republic.

- **Hyundai Motor | South Korea**
  The Hyundai Foundation has long supported local community projects involving, for example, improvement of the environment. Other activities include supporting firefighters both educationally and materially, fundraising for children from SOS villages, and the Good Neighbour project, in which it financially supports activities in municipalities located near its factory.

- **Doosan Škoda Power | South Korea**
  This company provides continuous support for engineering disciplines at universities, where it also funds research activities. In addition to that, it is also a partner of the local football club and funds numerous local activities, including a campaign to raise funds for the repair of an organ and the purchase of an earth-moving machine.

- **TPCA (Toyota) | Japan**
  TPCA has helped to implement hundreds of local projects for the Kolín region. Toyota also established the Grant Programme for the Development of the Kolín Region, co-fines local infrastructure and also supports all types of schools, from preschools to universities.

- **Panasonic | Japan**
  Panasonic has long assisted with the development of the region and the city of Plzeň, improving the quality of relaxation zones and parks, cooperating with non-profit organisations on support for outdoor education, and supporting a hospital in Plzeň and a number of children’s homes.

- **Microsoft | USA**
  Microsoft is a partner in education. The company provides its software to non-profit organisations and allows students and teachers to use Microsoft software free of charge and to become familiar with the technologies of the future. It also gives university students an opportunity to gain experience and to collaborate on projects.

- **Meopta | USA**
  This company collaborates with the Czech Biathlon Union, as well as with the Czech Ornithological Society and the Czech-Moravian Hunting Union, for which it develops custom products, as well as with the Army of the Czech Republic.

- **Ricardo | UK**
  Ricardo participates in the Girls Day project, in which companies with a technical focus open their doors to female secondary-school students and entertainingly show them that being a programmer or designer is not a job only for men.
Investment project statistics

Statistics for the past 30 years

- Total investment volume
- Investments by country of origin
- Investments by sector
- Timeline

Top 10 investors in the Czech Republic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Sector</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toyota</td>
<td>Automotive</td>
<td>Eaton</td>
<td>Electronic components</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyundai</td>
<td>Automotive</td>
<td>Red Hat</td>
<td>IT (software development)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volkswagen</td>
<td>Automotive</td>
<td>Honeywell</td>
<td>Aerospace, Strategic service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denso</td>
<td>Automotive</td>
<td>GE Aviation</td>
<td>Aerospace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nexen</td>
<td>Rubber industry</td>
<td>BMW</td>
<td>Automotive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CZK 1.2 trillion

Total investment volume of mediated projects

2,091 Total number of projects

307,000 Total number of newly generated jobs

Investments by country of origin

Source: CzechInvest
Investments by sector

Source: CzechInvest

Overview of investments over the years

Source: CzechInvest

FDI Report: 30 years of CzechInvest
Investment incentives

Investment incentives are a tool for gaining investments and supporting businesses, which through their investments aid regional development, create jobs and help to cultivate the given region’s environment.

Investment incentives are provided by the state upon approval by the government in conjunction with the relevant ministries. Incentives are administrated by CzechInvest.

Together with the quality of the business and working environment, the high level of university education and the stable political situation, investment incentives are one of the tools that help to attract high-quality projects in modern sectors of the economy to the Czech Republic. Their proper formulation enables us to be competitive in this respect not only at the V4 level, but also at the EU level.

The system and conditions of investment incentives are not rigid, but are continuously amended dynamically according to the needs of the economy in order to target areas of current demand. For example, during the coronavirus crisis, the conditions for the production of required medical products were eased so that companies involved in such production would have greater access to investment incentives. Although investment incentives can be obtained in several different forms, practically the only form used is partial corporate tax relief, which can be applied to newly implemented investment projects.

Since CzechInvest’s establishment in 1992, a total of 203,115 new jobs have been created directly. However, several times more jobs have been created in the Czech Republic within the value chains of which the supported projects are a part.

In the last three years, the supported projects have received investment incentives worth CZK 8 billion. The benefits of these projects to the state treasury amount to more than CZK 56.6 billion, which exceeds the incentives more than seven times.

CZK 56.616 billion

financial benefits of investments for the state

CZK 28.34 billion

amount invested by companies

CZK 7.98 billion

incentives granted

In addition to the creation of new jobs, the supported projects have a strong positive impact on the financial benefits for the state. In the past three years, supported projects have received investment incentives (in the form of tax relief in the vast majority of cases) in the value of CZK 8 billion, and the benefits of these projects for the state treasury amount to more than CZK 56.6 billion, which is more than seven times the value of the incentives.
Number of new jobs by region

Thanks to the focus of investment incentives on the quality of supported projects, wages for newly created positions are higher than the average in the Czech Republic. For example, in the monitored period from 6 September 2019 to 16 September 2022, this amount was CZK 41,981, i.e. nearly CZK 2,000 more than the national average. Furthermore, in some regions, such as Liberec, Ústí and Pardubice, the difference is even greater in comparison with the regional average wage.

Average gross monthly wage in projects by region, 6 September 2019 – 16 September 2022

Within the development of the Czech Republic as a whole, particularly the country’s structurally and economically disadvantaged regions are targeted. Thanks to this, the largest number of projects have been directed to the Ústí and Moravia-Silesia regions, which are transitioning away from an economy focused on the extraction of fossil raw materials. Since 1992, a total of 32,591 new jobs have been created in the Ústí region in connection with 204 projects, and 31,195 new jobs have been created in the Moravia-Silesia region in connection with 199 projects.
Foreign offices

- United States: San Francisco, New York
- Canada: Toronto
- Germany: Düsseldorf
- Great Britain: London
- Japan: Tokyo
- South Korea: Seoul

Country of origin statistics, 1993–2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of origin</th>
<th>Number of projects</th>
<th>Investment (CZK million)</th>
<th>Investment (USD million)</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>137,824.25</td>
<td>4,780.82</td>
<td>30,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7,841.00</td>
<td>295.72</td>
<td>4,207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>79,953.73</td>
<td>3,441.72</td>
<td>12,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>262,112.48</td>
<td>10,672.26</td>
<td>66,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>103,525.75</td>
<td>4,420.52</td>
<td>45,409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>28,157.97</td>
<td>1,087.37</td>
<td>12,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>971</td>
<td>619,415.18</td>
<td>24,698.41</td>
<td>171,181</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Foreign offices of CzechInvest
USA
- The volume of venture capital invested in the United States is the largest in the world (Crunchbase).
- Of the world’s 100 best universities, fifty are in the United States (Centre for World University Rankings).
- The United States is home to more than 74,000 startups (StartupRanking.com).
- American companies invest the most resources in R&D.
- The largest consumer market in the world in terms of spending.
- The United States is the country with the highest level of FDI inflow.

Japan
- Japan has long had the world’s highest ranking in the economic complexity index.
- Japan supplies 47% of the world’s industrial robots.
- The country is the world’s largest creditor.
- Japanese carmakers account for 30% of global vehicle production.
- Japanese corporations hold an estimated 500 billion yen in reserve, more than in any other country.
- Japan is the third-biggest foreign investor in the Czech Republic.

South Korea
- The world’s tenth-biggest economy.
- Seventy percent of young people (aged 25-34) have university education.
- Most of the economy is controlled by chaebols, i.e. family-owned conglomerates (approximately 40 companies accounting for 84% of GDP; Samsung alone accounts for 15% of the country’s total GDP).
- Hyundai Motor – the largest FDI in the Czech Republic.
- Governmental hydrogen strategy – hydrogen as the largest source of energy by 2050, covering up to 33% of all consumption.
- Among all OECD countries, South Korea ranks second in R&D investment relative to GDP (USD 75.4 billion, or 4.81% of GDP); Israel is first with 5.44% (data from 2020).

Canada
- The largest percentage of the adult population with tertiary education in the world.
- Approximately 95,000 businesses open in Canada every year.
- CAD 40 billion invested in research and development in 2021.
- One thousand startups in the area of AI and machine learning.
- Toronto ranks among the world’s top 25 innovative cities; the Toronto-Waterloo corridor is the second-biggest technology cluster in North America (after Silicon Valley).
- Canada ranks among the world’s top ten hydrogen producers and is the leader in the area of innovative hydrogen technologies and fuel cells.

United Kingdom
- The government’s ambitious Green Industrial Revolution plan aims to secure investments with higher value added (approximately GBP 22 billion) and to create more than 60,000 jobs.
- The value of the British startup ecosystem is estimated at USD 580 billion, i.e. more than France and Germany combined.
- London accounts for 30% of the UK’s GDP and has the highest GDP of all European cities.
- London is Europe’s largest VC fund market with investment valuation of more than USD 10 billion.
- Four British universities placed in the top ten of the 2022 QS World University Rankings.
- Britain has the second-largest number of Nobel laureates in the world (137 in total).

Region Germany, Austria and Switzerland
- Germany is the largest investor in the Czech Republic.
- As of 2022, twenty-four startups with a value of more than EUR 1 billion have been established and are operating in Germany.
- A total of 1,085 venture-capital deals were carried out in Germany in 2021.
- The largest number of startups are established by people from countries outside of the EU who studied in Germany.
- Germany invests 3.1% of its GDP in research and development.
- Switzerland ranks first and Germany eighth in the 2022 Global Innovation Index.
- Twenty-four percent of electricity in Germany is generated by wind farms.
CzechInvest celebrating 30 years

1992
The Ministry of Industry and Trade (MIT) establishes the Czech Agency for Foreign Investments (CAFI), which has the task of supporting the inflow of foreign investments into the Czech economy. CAFI’s first presentation abroad is intended for a group of Italian companies.

1993
The first projects of the agency, now with the new name CzechInvest, are implemented. The greenfield projects include that of the company CANSTAR; the investment projects include that of the Japanese company Nissho Iwai Corp.

1998
The Czech government hears the complaints of investors and feels pressure to create a favourable investment environment, and thus the Investment Incentives tool is created. In comparison with the previous year, the number of announced projects grew threefold in late 1997 and early 1998.

2000
CzechInvest is named the Best European Investment Agency and moves to Štěpánská ulice in Prague, where it remains to this day.

2002
CEO Martin Jahn wins the 2001 Brand Manager of the Year award for CzechInvest’s contribution to the creation of the marketing image “The Czech Republic – The Place to Invest”.

2003
In terms of the number of projects processed, this is a very successful year, as it is marked by investments in business support services and technology centres. Investors such as Accenture, Daikin, ExxonMobil, Honeywell, Panasonic and Siemens set their sights on the Czech Republic.

2005
CzechInvest holds a supplier day for the Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO), which is attended by 16 Japanese exhibitors and 153 suppliers. The 250 business meetings held during the event result in three concluded contracts and 17 negotiated agreements.

2008
Investments in research and development and in business support services surpass manufacturing-oriented projects for the first time. Software-development companies are behind the largest number of new investments, accounting for 21% of the total number of new projects.

2012
CzechInvest celebrates its 20th anniversary. During its two decades in operation, the agency has mediated more than 2,000 projects worth more than CZK 741 billion, with the creation of 241,000 jobs.

2018
The MIT and BMW AG sign a Declaration of Cooperation between the Czech government and the BMW Group on preparations for the construction of a new testing centre, which will be the company’s first development facility in Eastern Europe.

2020
CzechInvest assists domestic companies and foreign investors in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic. The agency engages in a number of compensatory measures and puts businesses in contact with institutions while striving to keep them informed and provide them with support.

2021
The MIT and CzechInvest support the technological incubation of innovative startups from The Country for the Future programme with aid in the amount of CZK 1 billion.

2022
CI celebrates its 30th anniversary + the figures for mediated investments. CzechInvest is transforming itself into an innovative agency that actively addresses and attracts investment projects of a highly technological nature and with the potential to transform traditional Czech industries.

For 30 years we have been creating the conditions for investors and entrepreneurs to lay the foundation for a modern and dynamic economy.
CzechInvest’s Activities

- development of Czech technology firms’ potential
- support for “smart” investments
- motivation of foreign investors already established in the Czech Republic toward sophisticated complementary investments
- development and cultivation of the national start-up and spin-off environment
- assistance for Czech firms when entering foreign markets
- promotion of the Czech economy, technologies and R&D abroad
- cultivation of the business and investment environment in all regions of the Czech Republic
- linking of partners from the business and R&D spheres
- use of trends in progressive sectors of the global economy