



How to obtain a Startup VISA in Italy

By Alessandra Pagani

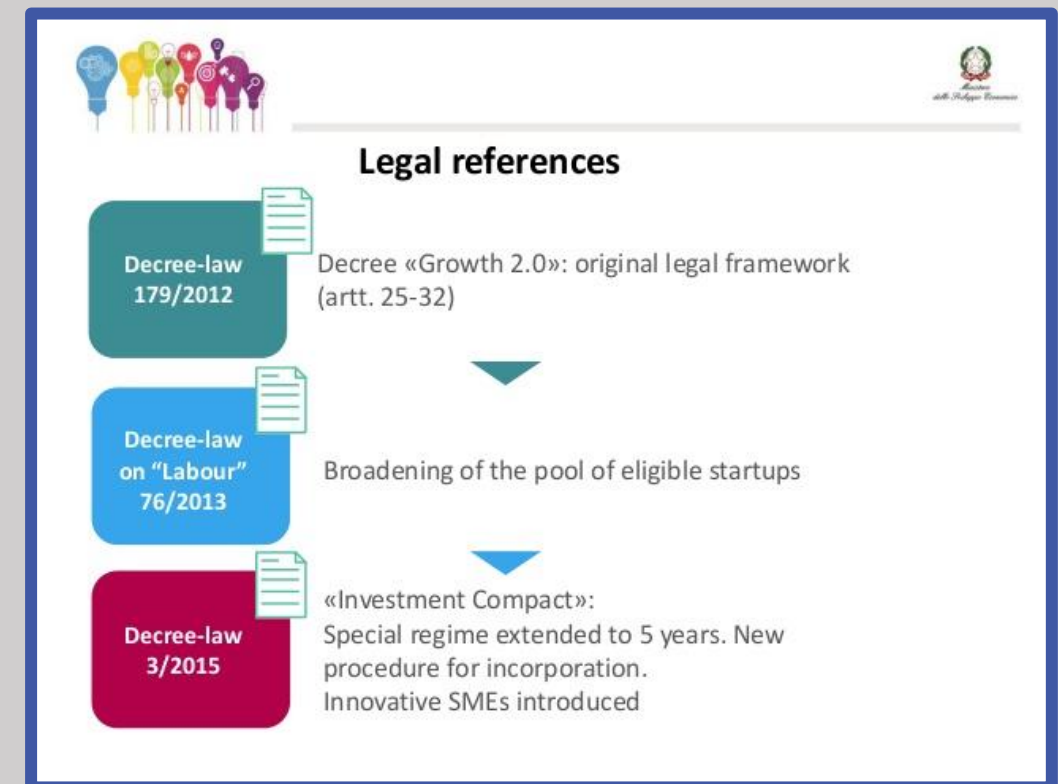
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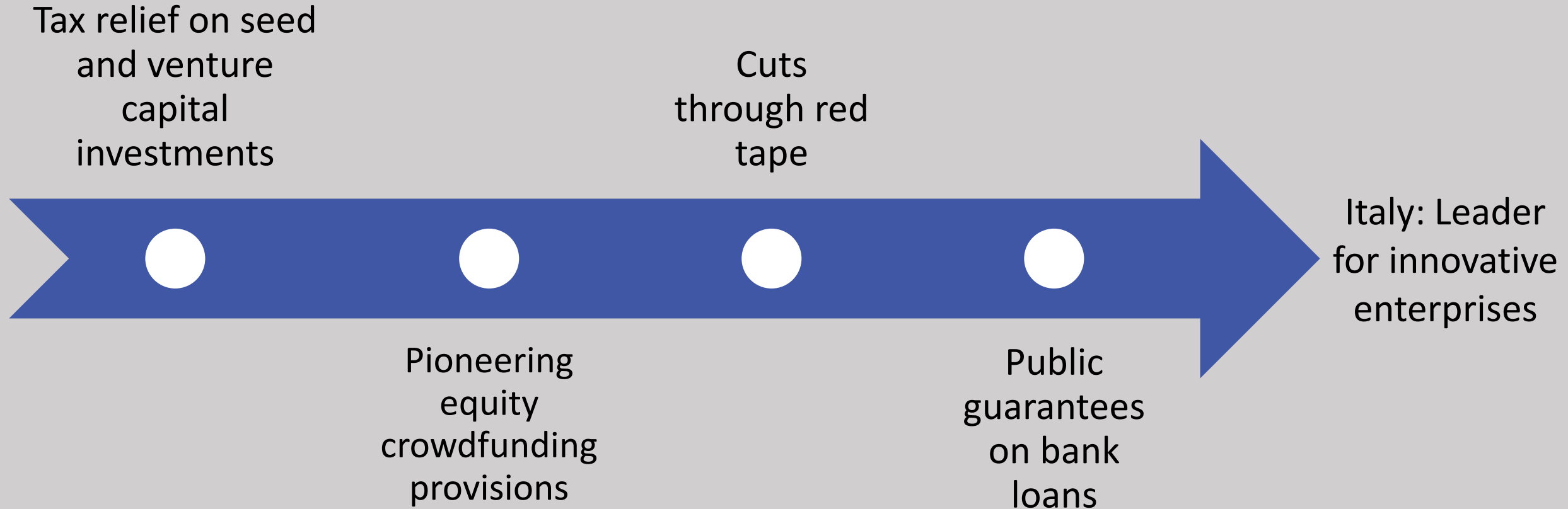
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What is ITALIA STARTUP VISA (IVS)?

- Italian Government policies to attract and retain innovative entrepreneurs from all over the world
- The startup status lasts for 5 years



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What is ITALIA STARTUP VISA (IVS)?

Smooth incorporation	Flexible corporate Management	Free access to Italy frontiers	Reduction of losses
Exemption dummy companies	Exemption duty of visa for vat credit	Tax incentives for corporate and private investments	Tailor made Labour contract

What is ITALIA STARTUP VISA (IVS)?



Sustainable growth



Technological
development



Employment



Innovation



Why having a Startup in Italy?

Advantages

- Branding: Made in Italy



Why having a Startup in Italy?

Advantages

1. A country that ranks among the world's top economies and markets
2. Strategic logistic hub
3. Key world player in manufacturing and international trade
4. Competitiveness in machinery and 'Made in Italy' sectors
5. Competitive workforce
6. Excellence in R&D and innovation
7. Unparalleled quality of life and cultural offer
8. Tax incentives
9. On going reforms: pro-business and pro-growth
10. Open to foreign investment: right place, right time



Why having a startup in Italy?

Disadvantages

1. Italian taxation
2. Italian language knowledge
3. Laws complicating procedures
4. Ecosystem Maturity
5. Italian Business Mindset





WHO CAN APPLY?

Any extra-EU citizen who has a good business idea, whatever age, sex or background.



WHAT DO I NEED TO APPLY?

A business model, a computer with an internet connection (even ISDN will do) and a 50,000 euros in financial resources for your innovative startup.



WHEN AND FROM WHERE CAN I APPLY?

Any time, applications are accessible online.



HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET THE VISA?

No longer than 30 days.



WHO SELECTS SUITABLE CANDIDATES?

A Technical Committee composed of representatives of recognized national associations



HOW DOES THE SELECTION PROCESS WORK?

The Committee checks if the submitted business model potentially meets the requirements of an innovative startup

What Qualifies as Innovative Startup?

Decree 179/2012:



- Limited company or a cooperative
 - not listed on a regulated market or multilateral trading system;
 - annual sales do not exceed 5 million euros;
 - does not distribute dividends.
- + be engaged solely or primarily in technological innovation;
- + not have been created from a corporate merger or division

What Qualifies as Innovative Startup?

Decree 179/2012:



- + devote at least 15% of its expenditure to R&D;
- + have at least one third of its team composed of PhD students or graduates, or of personnel who have been working in research for at least 3 years;
- + be the owner, filer or licensee of a patent, industrial property right, or owner of an original software.

ITALIA STARTUP VISA (ISV)

- Non-EU Citizens
- Remote Application

ITALIA STARTUP HUB (ISH)

- Non-EU Citizens
- Already in Italy
- Prolong their stay

Two Pathways for ISV and ISH application

- Direct Application
- Through Certified Incubator

Certified Incubators



WHAT ARE THEY?

Certified incubators are companies that host startups and support business ideas



WHAT BENEFITS?

Certified incubators provide innovative startups with technical, legal and management support, as well as equipment and a physical space where the companies can develop their business.

Italia Startup Visa: Procedure for Direct Application and through Certified Incubator

Step 1: Email ISV Committee

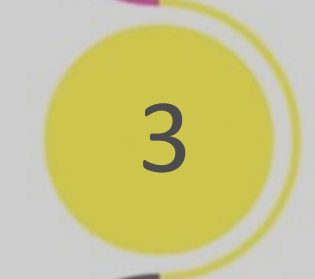
italiastartupvisa@mise.gov.it

You need

- Application form for ISV
or
undertaking by incubator to host startup
- Presentation deck (.ppt format)
- Forecast of costs and revenues (business plan)
- Cover letter with financial statements attached
- Copy of passport

Obtain ...

- Nulla Osta ISV
or
Nulla Osta ISV (startup backed by incubator) (within 30 days)



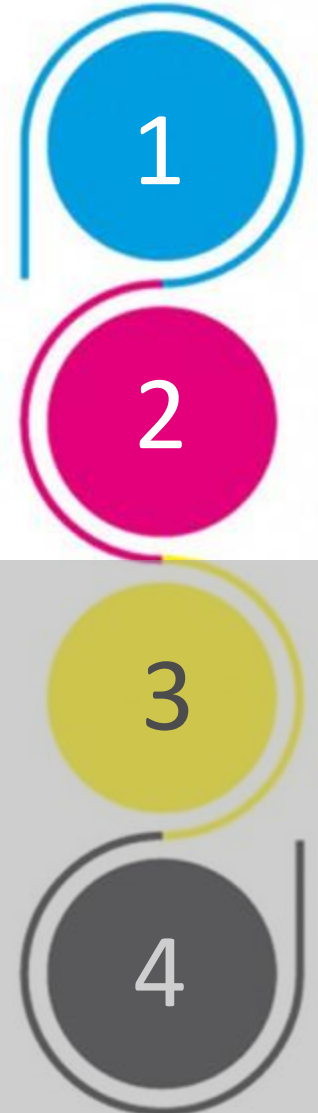
Step 2: At your local Italian Embassy or Consulate

You need

- Nulla Osta ISV or Nulla Osta ISV (startup backed by incubator)
- Proof of accommodation in Italy (ex. hotel)
- Certificate of minimum income for previous year (ex. income tax return)
- Copy of ISV Application form and Cover letter
- Passport
- 4 passport-size photographs
- Proof of residence in the local consular district

Obtain ...

- 1-year startup self-employment visa (**Italia Startup Visa**)



Step 3: At Police Office (Questura)

Within **8 days** from arrival in Italy

You need

- Two payments of €30.46 and €50.00 each (to be paid at the post office)
- A €16.00 stamp ("Marca da Bollo")
- Copy of your entire passport
- 2 passport-size photographs
- Certificate of suitable accommodation in Italy

Obtain ...

- 1 year self-employment residence permit

NOTE: *Remember to set the appointment at Questura well in advance by writing to italiastartupvisa@mise.gov.it*



Step 4: At Police Office (Questura)

60 days before the residence permit expires

You need

- *Visura camerale* (Certificate of incorporation, articles of association and file search report) of your startup
- Evidence of adequate annual income

Obtain ...

- Additional 2 year self-employment residence permit

NOTE: Remember to set the appointment at Questura well in advance by writing to italiastartupvisa@mise.gov.it



Where to Startup?



#1 Largest Italian startup Hub since World's Fair Expo in 2015

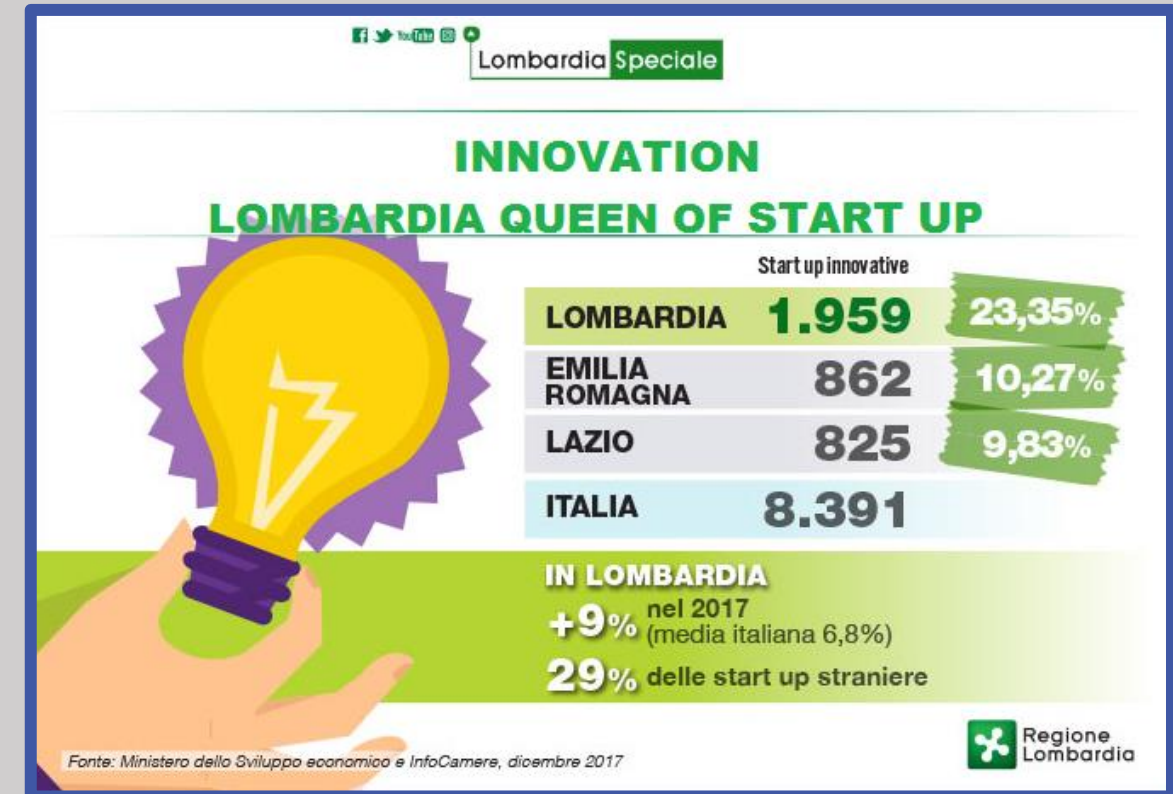
Where to Startup?

Advantages in Milan:

- Position and transportation
- Event richness
- University excellence
- Funding
- Help of public sector
- Big corporations headquarters.

Disadvantages in Milan:

- Cost of Living
- Fragmentation





Thank you

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