



**MAJOR ORGANISATIONS LEADING IN INNOVATION LAUNCH "DEEP TECH WEEK"  
ONE WEEK DEDICATED TO ACCELERATING CUTTING-EDGE SOLUTIONS**

*Initiated by Boston Consulting Group, French national investment bank Bpifrance, Swiss research institute EPFL, Hello Tomorrow & venture capital firm SOSV*

Under the High Patronage of  
Mr Emmanuel MACRON  
President of the French Republic

**Paris, October 17th, 2019** - More than a decade after the smartphone, innovation is in the midst of a new revolution: the emergence of breakthrough technologies, also known as *deep tech*. With 18 billion<sup>1</sup> USD invested in cutting-edge technologies last year, thousands of project ideas are being developed worldwide; this year alone the Hello Tomorrow Challenge saw over 5,000 startup applications. These innovations carry great potential, responding to many environmental, social, health and industrial challenges. In order to accelerate the transfer of these technologies, the major stakeholders in deep tech (startups, researchers, universities, laboratories, investors, major groups) need to work together to build a stronger political and economic platform.

For this reason, Boston Consulting Group (BCG), Bpifrance, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Hello Tomorrow and SOSV are launching the first project of its kind: a week dedicated entirely to new and emerging technologies. The week will gather a global community of key actors, initiate a dialogue around deep tech, as well as highlight and accelerate new innovations. The first edition of Deep Tech Week, from 9-13<sup>th</sup> March 2020, will take place in the heart of Paris, one of Europe's leading innovations hubs.

**One week to bring together the best in deep tech and start building solutions for the future**

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<sup>1</sup> The Dawn of the Deep Tech Ecosystem (2019) - Hello Tomorrow & BCG

Events, debates, roundtables and various workshops will be organized at some of Paris' top economic and scientific hubs, aiming to:

- **Highlight the crucial role of research in science and technology to key actors in the public and private sector**, by showcasing innovation addressing crucial issues from the Sustainable Development Goals identified by the UN.<sup>2</sup>
- **Give a platform to entrepreneurs, labs, startups**, universities, research centers or support structures, that support and accelerates the development of deep tech.
- **Encourage partnerships in order to accelerate the development of new technological solutions**. Connecting actors in research and science with experienced entrepreneurs, investors and large corporations.
- **Foster the creation of new strategic sectors** by encouraging collaboration between different industries, combining different fields of technology (such as quantum applications or synthetic biology) to combat global issues such as climate change.

**For Sarah Pedroza, Managing Director at Hello Tomorrow:** *"We are pioneering Deep Tech Week alongside some of our historic partners to drive the acceleration of emerging technologies with high impact. This has always been part of Hello Tomorrow's mission, combining our efforts only makes the project stronger. With a large range of attendees diverse in both industry and origin, the week will serve to encourage cross-sector knowledge-transfer and exchange on different cultural perspectives. We're bringing together many major players in innovation, which is ambitious for a first edition, but this only reflects the significance of the challenges ahead of us as a society."*

**Paul-François Fournier, Executive Director of Bpifrance, in charge of Innovation, adds that:** *"Connecting and integrating the different actors within the deep tech ecosystem, both in France and internationally is essential. Not only to position France as one of the top three "deep tech nations" in the world, but also in order to find and provide solutions to the climate emergency. This is the goal of the French government and of Bpifrance. Through launching a major deep tech project, our objective is to double the number of start-ups stemming from scientific research, and enable them to grow with the help of dedicated support systems."*

**For Julia Binder, Deputy of the Vice President for Innovation at EPFL:** *"As one of the worldwide leading technical universities and a key player for disruptive innovation in Switzerland and beyond, EPFL is defining the forefront of many cutting-edge technologies. We are committed to making our science and knowledge available to the world, which is why we welcomed the opportunity to collaborate with a diverse and inspiring set of partners to create the first "Deep Tech Week". This unique format will allow everyone to explore and exploit deep*

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

*tech opportunities that could disrupt entire industries and have the potential to positively impact our society and the environment."*

**For Benjamin Joffe, Partner at SOSV:** *"The closer you are to deep tech entrepreneurs, the more optimistic you become regarding the future. The question is always: will this future happen? Those entrepreneurs need to develop a staggering range of skills in record time for their startup to reach escape velocity. Partners, mentors and peers act as boosters to their rocket. The Deep Tech Week is designed to bring them some of this boost."*

**For Massimo Portincaso, Managing Director and Partner at BCG:** *"The innovations brought about by deep techs have a lasting impact on societies and their economies. As the cost of some of these technologies drops, deep-tech start-ups are revolutionizing R&D as we know it. To support this innovation revolution, we at BCG are convinced that it is essential for the ecosystem's main players - academic and public institutions, large multinationals, deep-techs – to collaborate. Deep-Tech Week responds directly to this challenge."*

### **Call for participation and contribution at Deep Tech Week**

The Founding Members of Deep Tech Week; BCG, Bpifrance, EPFL, Hello Tomorrow and SOSV are the pioneers of this project, with numerous other organisations from around the globe supporting the initiative as official members and partners of the week. Among them are some of the most prominent research centres, universities, incubators, companies, NGOs and public authorities (all organisations referenced below).<sup>3</sup>

Today, the organisers are inviting more actors to take part. Interested parties can apply to become a member and organise an event or by participating as an attendee, between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2020. All sectors are welcome to participate, whether it be from the world of research, industry or civil society.

Deep Tech Week will conclude with the Hello Tomorrow Global Summit, the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2020, the annual international event dedicated to deep tech, supported by Hello Tomorrow's Worldwide Partner BNP Paribas, organised in Paris in an exclusive and unique setting.

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<sup>3</sup> Partners: BNP Paribas,

Official Members: ArianeGroup, ChangeNOW, CNRS Innovation, Deep Circle, Deep Tech 4 Good, Deeptech Founders, Deutsche Ventures, Elaia, Embassy of Hungary in Paris, French Tech Paris-Saclay, Future Positive Capital, Good Tech Lab, Hax, IndieBio, iGEM, Inserem Tranfert, Institut CURIE, Institute for Brain and Spinal Cord (ICM), iPEPS Incubateur, JETRO, Kind Earth Tech, L'Oréal Research & Innovation, Liberté Living Lab, Makesense, Paris-Sorbonne University, Paris Women in Machine Learning and Data Science, Pint of Science, RebelBio, The SATT Network, Safran, Schoolab, SoScience, Systematic, Paris Region Ecosystem.

For more information about Deep Tech Week and how to participate, visit [deeptechweek.com](https://deeptechweek.com) and encourage your readers to subscribe to the Week. **(Member applications close on 29/11/2019).**

The detailed program for Deep Tech Week will be shared at the beginning of 2020.



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#### **About the Founding Members**

##### **Bpifrance**

Bpifrance is the French national investment bank: it finances businesses – at every stage of their development – through loans, guarantees, equity investments and export insurances. Bpifrance also provides extrafinancial services (training, consultancy...) to help entrepreneurs meet their challenges (innovation, export...).

For more information, please visit: [www.bpifrance.fr](http://www.bpifrance.fr) - Follow us on Twitter: @Bpifrance - @BpifrancePresse - [bpifrance.fr](http://bpifrance.fr)

##### **Boston Consulting Group**

Boston Consulting Group partners with leaders in business and society to tackle their most important challenges and capture their greatest opportunities. BCG was the pioneer in business strategy when it was founded in 1963. Today, we help clients with total transformation—inspiring complex change, enabling organizations to grow, building competitive advantage, and driving bottom-line impact. To succeed, organizations must blend digital and human capabilities. Our diverse, global teams bring deep industry and functional expertise and a range of perspectives to spark change. BCG delivers solutions through leading-edge management consulting along with technology and design, corporate and digital ventures—and business purpose. We work in a uniquely collaborative model across the firm and throughout all levels of the client organization, generating results that allow our clients to thrive.

##### **EPFL**

EPFL is Europe's most cosmopolitan technical university with students, professors, and staff from over 120 nations. A dynamic environment, open to Switzerland and the world, EPFL is centered on three missions: teaching, research and innovation. EPFL works together with an important network of partners, including other universities and colleges, industry and the economy, politicians and the general public, in order to have a real impact on society.

##### **Hello Tomorrow**

Hello Tomorrow is a global organisation dedicated to leveraging deep technologies to solve world challenges. Partnering with universities and research labs we identify early-stage startups and empower them through our Global Challenge. We connect these pioneers with industry, investors, researchers, and regulators through events in over 10 countries. We also provide consulting services to help companies integrate deep tech into their strategies, training them to be more agile. Visit [hello-tomorrow.org](http://hello-tomorrow.org) for more information

##### **SOSV**

SOSV — The Accelerator VC — is a \$300M venture fund operating global accelerator programs: HAX (Shenzhen/San Francisco) for hardware, IndieBio (San Francisco) and RebelBio (Cork/London) for life sciences, Chinaccelerator (Shanghai) and MOX (Taipei) for cross-border internet, and FOOD-X (NYC) for the business of food. SOSV invests in over 150 companies per year and over its two-decade history has a net IRR of over 30%, putting it in the top 10% of VC funds in the world.

## Founding Members of the Deep Tech Week



## Official Partner of the Deep Tech Week



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