

## Nicolas Debon Director, Nantes Saint-Nazaire Développement

## **Background**



An economic development professional who has worked for several local communities over the past twenty years, Nicolas Debon is also an attuned connoisseur of the business world.

In 2000, he was appointed Director of Ouest Cornouaille Promotion (Finistère), a local economic and tourist development agency. In 2003, Nicolas Debon moved to Lyon where he held the position of Coordinator of Regional Economic Development before becoming Manager of Local Development for the Greater Lyon area. During his time there, he piloted local economic animation policies and the establishment of numerous businesses in the region. After 5 years in the south, Nicolas Debon turned again to the west of France. In 2008, he joined the Saint-Nazaire agglomeration team (CARENE) as Deputy Director General in charge of economic development, then Nantes Métropole in 2011 in the same position.

With his experience in territorial development strategies and many years working with local and national players, in 2017, Nicolas Debon was appointed Director of Nantes Saint-Nazaire Développement.

## **Areas of Expertise**

Entrepreneurship in the regions: the dynamics and singularity of the Nantes & Saint-Nazaire ecosystem
Nantes & Saint-Nazaire: Prospects in development
Nantes & Saint-Nazaire: A diversified economy and a quality of life
The major investment projects of the Greater Area in the run up to 2020
Development and internationalization of nanto-nazairian companies

## A propos de Nantes Saint-Nazaire Développement

The aim of Nantes Saint-Nazaire Développement agency is to enhance the attractiveness and economic development of the Nantes and Saint-Nazaire area. It works to attract French and international companies from priority sectors to set up their business in the area. It facilitates their move and that of their employees and families by offering them a multitude of services; starting from the research phase through to the completion of their integration. The agency particularly helps companies in their real estate search, supports them in connecting with professional networks and recruiting their teams, and provides communication support on the establishment of their business in the area.

Born in 2015 from the merger of two entities; Nantes Métropole Développement and the international agency Nantes Saint-Nazaire, Nantes Saint-Nazaire Développement has supported over 430 companies in 5 years, particularly in the area's sectors of economic such as digital, industry (aeronautics, marine renewable energies, shipbuilding and boating), the creative and cultural industries and health. Since its creation, the agency has contributed to the creation of more than 6,000 jobs in the region. Funded by Nantes Métropole, the CARENE of Saint Nazaire and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Nantes St-Nazaire, it is headed by Nicolas Debon and currently has 27 employees.

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