



Ludovic's "giving back"

Ludovic, a former grant-holder and graduate, tells us of his experience within the Foundation as a grant-holder and mentor.

What did you get from being sponsored by the Foundation? What will you remember from these years spent with the Foundation?

The five years I spent with the Foundation were a wonderful adventure. I particularly appreciated the relationship I had with my mentor. He worked partly in Toulouse, meaning we could see each other regularly, which was a great opportunity. He supported me from my first year to my final year at IEP, from the moment I started thinking about my career path until I founded by own company. His opinions and long-term vision helped me set my own career goals. And we're still in contact!

Another major factor, amongst others, was the financial one. Thanks to the Foundation grant, I bought a laptop, came to Paris to visit museums and even spent my third year of studies in Argentina. That would have been difficult without the Foundation's financial help.

Why did you want to continue the adventure by becoming a mentor?

The Foundation suggested I become a mentor. At the beginning, I thought I didn't have enough experience. But the Foundation had been a big help, giving a massive boost to my career path, so I really wanted to give something back. The grant-holder's profile was the clincher for me - he was a student of the Toulouse School of Economics who is looking at entrepreneurship. I will be able to give him some of my experience: help him with his plans, connect him to my network in Toulouse and explain to him what path he must follow so that he may realise his entrepreneurial ambitions.

Ludovic Craïssac, 5th intake, co-founder of Agence 636, which he set up a year ago in Toulouse, a firm that provides consultancy and training on the use of professional social networks for both companies and e-recruitment. He has a diploma from IEP in Toulouse and a Master's 2 degree in Entrepreneurship from Paris Dauphine.

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