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Editorial

Healthy growth

The Swiss venture capital market has rushed from record to record over the past 10 years. The question of whether this is a bubble has come up again and again. In 2022, the market underwent its first serious stress test, which it passed with flying colours. Investment continued to grow, despite adverse circumstances. The upswing in Swiss venture capital investment is definitely not a bubble that collapses without a murmur at the first sign of a change in sentiment.

It is particularly encouraging that growth in 2022 continued not only in investment, but also in trade sales; the number increased significantly and is more than twice as high as in the years before 2020 (page 51). The high number of sales shows the lucrative nature of investment in Swiss start-ups, so it is not surprising that the number of Swiss VC fund projects is also steadily increasing. An overview of all 55 funds currently in fundraising can be found on page 33.

Last but not least, progress is also being made in start-up support. In our interview on page 42, Andreas Rickenbacher, president of the Switzerland Innovation Foundation, talks about the innovation parks and the progress made in implementation of the project.



Photo: Severin Nowacki

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Inside

Swiss Venture Capital Report 2023 is published by the news portal startupticker.ch and the Swiss Private Equity & Corporate Finance Association (SECA) in cooperation with startup.ch. Our implementation partners are Kellerhals Carrard and Swisscanto by Zürcher Kantonalbank. The information published in *Swiss Venture Capital Report* is based on communications from start-ups and investors, research in publicly available sources and the results of a survey. Once again, data collection was supplemented with confidential information from partners. All information provided on confidential financing rounds by our data partners has been individually reviewed in a multi-stage process to ensure that it conforms to the criteria of *Swiss Venture Capital Report*. Comprehensive research activities and the increasing openness of start-ups and investors lead to more transparency. This is true in particular for the amounts invested: in 82% of all financing activities, the capital recorded is included in the statistics. More information on the study method can be found on page 84.

Research partners



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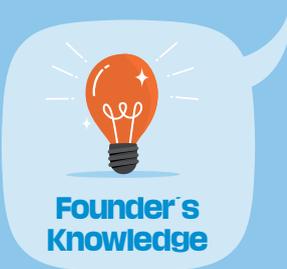
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At a glance

Growth despite headwinds

ICT and cleantech start-ups provide new highs. In addition to investments and invested capital, the number of exits and fund projects is also increasing. The Swiss venture capital market is unfazed by the difficult environment.

Inflation, the energy crisis, war in Ukraine, difficulties in global supply chains: in 2022, the conditions for ambitious young tech companies were anything but easy. Nevertheless, the long-term growth trend in the Swiss venture capital market continued. The number of financing rounds increased by 7.9% and the total amount invested by as much as 29.7%. Invested capital has almost doubled since 2020 and more than quadrupled since 2017.

The renewed growth in the amount invested is based on the positive development in the ICT and cleantech sectors; ICT start-ups attracted over 70% more capital than in 2021. Overall, ICT and fintech companies, which we considered separately, generated more than CHF 2 billion.

Thanks to a mega round, CHF 826.9 million went into the cleantech sector. The increase in the number of financing rounds by 32.3% shows that the sector is developing well across the board. The biotech sector, on the other hand, was unable to escape the global downward trend in the industry. The amount invested fell by 47.4% to CHF 400 million and the number of investments decreased by 48.6%.

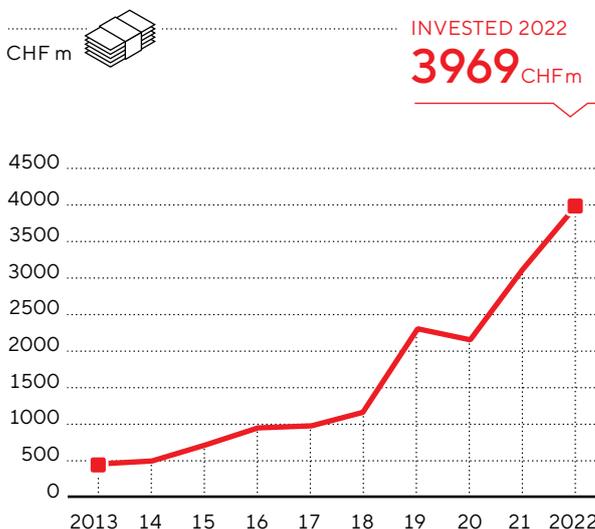
Last year, for the first time, more seed rounds were closed than early stage rounds, with the number of rounds increasing by 27% to 166 and capital invested rising by 93%. However, the decisive contributing factor in the further increase in the total capital invested in Swiss start-ups were the very large financing rounds. The three largest transactions alone raised more than CHF 1.4 billion, a good 62% more than in the previous year.

Among the cantons, Zurich stands out, with start-ups in the canton attracting more than CHF 2 billion. Geneva and Zug also showed clear growth, while investment in Basel-Stadt declined due to its focus on biotech companies.

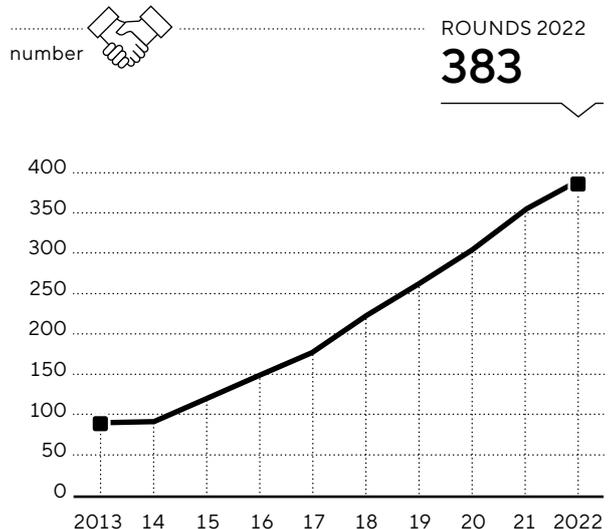
In addition to investment, trade sales of Swiss start-ups also developed very positively in 2022, despite the difficult environment.

The growing market and the numerous exits also led to a significant increase in venture capital fund launches. No fewer than 55 funds are currently in the fundraising phase; the target size ranges from 50 to several hundred million and practically all investors are also active in Switzerland.

Invested capital
in Swiss start-ups



Financing rounds
of Swiss start-ups



A photograph of three scientists in a laboratory setting. Two women and one man are smiling and looking towards the camera. They are wearing white lab coats. In the background, there are various pieces of laboratory equipment, including a microscope and shelves with bottles.

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A photograph of three people in a laboratory setting. Two men and one woman are smiling and looking towards the camera. They are wearing black t-shirts with the 'Proseed' logo. The man on the left has his arms crossed. The woman in the middle is holding a blue folder. In the background, there are various pieces of laboratory equipment, including a microscope and shelves with bottles.

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The Top 20 Largest financing rounds

CHF 2.58 billion: this is the total amount of the 20 largest financing rounds of the year – about 34% more than in 2021. Six of these companies come from the IT sector, with five each from the biotech and fintech sectors.

Climeworks

Climeworks has been a pioneer of direct air capture (DAC) technology since its foundation in 2009 and has operated the world's largest direct air capture and storage plant since September 2021. The funding is intended to increase the DAC capacity to several million tonnes of CO₂.

Sector: cleantech Canton: ZH
Phase: later stage Founded: 2009

600.0 CHF m

Investors: **Partners Group**, GIC, Baillie Gifford, **Carbon Removal Partners**, Global Founders Capital, John Doerr, M&G, **Swiss Re**, **BigPoint Holding**

SonarSource

SonarSource's tools help developers and development teams write high-standard code. In the last four years, the company has grown its commercial customer base by more than 2,000% and 80 Fortune 100 companies use the platform, including IBM, Microsoft and Alphabet.

Sector: ICT Canton: GE
Phase: later stage Founded: 2008

394.6 CHF m

Investors: Advent International, General Catalyst, Insight Partners, Permira

Wefox

The SaaS platform for insurance providers and intermediaries had more than 1,300 employees at the end of the year. Following the closing of its Series D financing round, wefox reached a post-money valuation of USD 4.5 billion.

Sector: ICT (fintech) Canton: ZH
Phase: later stage Founded: 2014

392.0 CHF m

Investors: Mubadala, EDBI, Eurazeo, **LGT**, Horizons Ventures, OMERS Ventures, Target Global

Scandit

Scandit's products enable smart devices to capture data from barcodes, text, IDs and objects through computer vision in order to automate processes and provide insights. The company has more than 1,700 global customers, including Carrefour, FedEx, Levi-Strauss and the Benetton Group.

Sector: ICT Canton: ZH
Phase: later stage Founded: 2009

138.6 CHF m

Investors: Warburg Pincus, Atomico, **Forestay Capital**, G2VP, GV, Kreos, NGP Capital, Schneider Electric, Sony Innovation Fund by IGV, **Swisscom Ventures**

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SEBA Bank

The fully integrated, FINMA-licensed digital assets banking platform closes its Series C funding round. SEBA Bank currently supports more than 25 financial markets globally, having strengthened its presence in APAC earlier this year.

Sector: ICT (fintech) Canton: ZG
Phase: later stage Founded: 2018

110.0 CHF m

Investors: Altive, **Ordway Selections**, Summer Capital, **Zug-based family office**, DeFi Technologies, Alameda Research, FTX

MindMaze

Digital neurotherapeutics pioneer MindMaze develops software and hardware solutions for the treatment of people with cognitive and movement impairment; for example, after a stroke.

Sector: healthcare IT Canton: VD
Phase: later stage Founded: 2012

96.7 CHF m

Investors: Concord Health Partners and others

DistalMotion

Dexter, a surgical robot for minimally invasive abdominal procedures, is not intended to replace surgeons, but to augment them. DistalMotion's series E financing follows the successful completion of Dexter's first clinical cases.

Sector: medtech Canton: VD
Phase: later stage Founded: 2012

82.6 CHF m

Investors: Revival Healthcare Capital, 415 CAPITAL, existing investors

Sygnum

The crypto company offers a fully regulated range of products and services for digital assets, including bank-grade custody of digital assets, trading, cryptocurrency-backed fiat loans, digital asset-focused wealth management products and B2B banking for regulated financial institutions.

Sector: ICT (fintech) Canton: ZH
Phase: later stage Founded: 2018

82.4 CHF m

Investors: Sun Hung Kai & Co., Animoca Brands, Wemade, SBI Holdings, SCB 10X, Meta Investments

Nexxiot (June)

The ETH spin-off's IOT solutions, which integrate sensors, hardware, software interfaces and analytics, give logistics and transport companies the opportunity to manage freight containers and vehicles more efficiently on the basis of real-time data

Sector: ICT Canton: ZH
Phase: later stage Founded: 2015

76.0 CHF m

Investors: Knorr-Bremse, QVIDTVM, existing shareholders

Yokoy Group

Yokoy Group's AI-based SaaS platform automates the collection and processing of employee expenses and corporate credit card issuance. The current Series B funding round was completed just five months after the Series A round.

Sector: ICT (fintech) Canton: ZH
Phase: later stage Founded: 2019

74.9 CHF m

Investors: Sequoia Capital, Speedinvest, Visionaries Club, **Zinal Growth**, Balderton Capital, **SIX FinTech Ventures**, Left Lane, **Swisscom Ventures**, **SICTIC**, business angels

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ImmunOs Therapeutics

The University of Zurich spin-off uses human leukocyte antigens (HLA) as the backbone of novel therapies capable of stimulating both the innate and the adaptive immune systems of cancer patients in order to eliminate tumour cells.

Sector: biotech Canton: ZH
Phase: later stage Founded: 2014

71.4 CHF m

Investors: Samsara BioCapital, Lightspeed Venture Partners, Gimv, Mission BioCapital, GL Capital, PEAK6 Strategic Capital, Fiscus Financial, Pfizer Ventures, **BioMed Partners, Redalpine, Schrodgers Capital**

CDR Life

Based on its M-gager® technology, CDR Life is developing a next generation of highly tumour-selective immunotherapies to enable the immune system to eradicate malignant cells without the off-tumour-related limitations of current immunotherapies.

Sector: biotech Canton: ZH
Phase: early stage Founded: 2017

70.8 CHF m

Investors: Jeito Capital, RA Capital Management, Omega Funds

Planted Foods

The ETH Zurich spin-off uses its novel biostructuring approach to produce meat from alternative proteins, such as peas, oats and sunflower seeds. Planted is available in restaurants and retail outlets in Switzerland, Germany, Austria, France, Italy and the UK.

Sector: cleantech Canton: ZH
Phase: later stage Founded: 2019

70.0 CHF m

Investors: L Catterton, Vorwerk Ventures, Gullspång Re:food, Be8 Ventures, **ACE, ETH Zurich Foundation, Tengelmann Ventures, Joyance, Yann Sommer**

Terra Quantum (January)

The company delivers end-to-end capabilities in quantum algorithm design, quantum computing and quantum security. The Series A funding marks one of the largest global funding rounds achieved in the quantum tech space.

Sector: ICT Canton: SG
Phase: early stage Founded: 2019

54.9 CHF m

Investors: private and institutional investors, **Lakestar**, family offices

Daedalean

The company develops AI-based systems for aircraft safety-critical flight control and for drones that take off and land vertically; e.g. air taxis and heavy-lift drones.

Sector: ICT Canton: ZH
Phase: later stage Founded: 2016

53.0 CHF m

Investors: Carthona Capital, Amino Capital, **Redalpine, Honeywell Ventures, SICTIC**

Beekeeper

Frontline employees – for example, in production, retail, construction, hospitals, nursing, hotels and restaurants – work without a fixed PC workstation. Beekeeper's communications platform simplifies internal communication and is used by more than 150 companies worldwide.

Sector: ICT Canton: ZH
Phase: later stage Founded: 2012

49.4 CHF m

Investors: **EGS Beteiligungen**, Kreos Capital, Energize, Thayer, **Swisscanto**, Keen Ventures, **Alpana Ventures, Verve, SICTIC**

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Portofino Technologies

Sector: ICT (fintech) Canton: ZG
Phase: early stage Founded: 2021

The company builds high-frequency trading (HFT) grade technology for digital assets. Over the past year, Portofino Technologies has traded billions of dollars across centralised and decentralised cryptocurrency venues.

48.2 CHF m

Investors: Valar Ventures, Global Founders Capital, Coatue

Cimeio Therapeutics

Sector: biotech Canton: BS
Phase: early stage Founded: 2020

Versant Ventures, and its Ridgeline Discovery Engine, has teamed up with researchers from the University of Basel to co-found Cimeio Therapeutics. The start-up's platform develops cell and immunotherapies against diseases such as leukaemia and multiple sclerosis.

46.0 CHF m

Investors: Versant Ventures

OPNA Bio

Sector: biotech Canton: VD
Phase: early stage Founded: 2020

The spin-off from the Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research at EPFL develops therapies to disrupt immuno-suppressive barriers in cancer cells.

35.8 CHF m

Investors: Longitude Capital, Northpond Ventures, Menlo Ventures

Anokion

Sector: biotech Canton: VD
Phase: later stage Founded: 2010

The company focuses on a new approach to the treatment of autoimmune diseases such as coeliac disease, multiple sclerosis and type 1 diabetes. Anokion's proteins and antigens are designed to enable targeted disease therapy without the side-effects of extensive immunosuppression.

35.1 CHF m

Investors: Pfizer Breakthrough Growth Initiative

* Swiss-based investors

In 2022, Swiss investors were represented in 10 of the 20 consortia, thus less than in 2021 when they were involved in 13 of the top 20 financing rounds. However, things look better at the top: Swiss private equity investors and large institutional investors (with a private equity focus) were on board in two of the top three rounds.

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12 July 2022

Series A financing round of CHF 15 million

They met at a seminar on employee options: consultant, business angel and serial entrepreneur **Andreas Bezner** and **Konstantin Heiermann (left)**, CFO at a Swiss medtech company. As they talked shop, the topic arose that concerns everyone involved with private equity and venture capital: the high entry barriers, even for qualified investors. “We met again and focused more and more on the limited liquidity of secondary trading,” recalls Bezner. In 2018, the two finance professionals put their heads together and designed the pre-MVP of a platform that allows investors to invest easily in late-stage growth companies – the original version of [stableton.com](https://www.stableton.com). Today’s offer is aimed at Swiss-based professional private investors, family offices, institutional investors and intermediaries. Clients have two options: they can invest in a

single start-up as part of a secondary market transaction, or they can invest in a basket of several scale-up investments via an Actively Managed Certificate (AMC). At the end of June, Bezner and Heiermann received the Swiss Fintech Award. Just a few weeks later, the two announced the closing of their Series A round led by TX Ventures. International expansion is on the agenda for the new year. The potential of the secondary market is enormous, says Bezner: “We use it as a lever to make venture capital and private equity a normal asset class.”

Stableton

Founded: 2018

Employees: 43

Total money raised: CHF 18.7 million

Website: www.stableton.com

Sectors

ICT and cleantech booming

The new record in invested capital is due mainly to the ICT and cleantech sectors. Other sectors also achieved clear records in 2022, with only biotech investment unable to escape the general downward trend in the industry.

For the first time, more than CHF 2 billion was invested in ICT and fintech start-ups in 2022. Although fintech companies increased their invested capital again from the very high level of 2021, the amount going to the ICT sector grew by more than 70% and exceeded CHF 1 billion for the first time. Valuations of individual companies also reached new dimensions for Switzerland, with fintech wefox valued at CHF 4.4 billion in its financing round and ICT company SonarSource reaching CHF 4.6 billion.

The development was more restrained in terms of the number of financing rounds. Compared with 2021, ICT start-ups saw a slight decline of 8.8%; fintech investment, on the other hand, increased by 17.4%. The median developed in exactly the opposite way, rising in ICT from CHF 1.8 million to CHF 2 million, and falling in the fintech sector from CHF 4.35 million to CHF 3 million.

ICT and fintech companies had a share in the total amount invested of 52% in 2022, with the corresponding figure for the number of financing rounds at 49.3%. Compared with the previous year, these proportions have changed little, which shows that growth in venture capital also continued in other sectors.

Strong year for cleantech

Cleantech stands out among the sectors, with the amount invested almost quadrupling to CHF 826.9 million compared with the previous year. Although Climeworks' mega round made a decisive contribution to this strong growth, a new record would have been achieved without this investment. In addition to Climeworks, Planted Foods is the second cleantech company to make it into the top 20 largest financing rounds of the year. The number of rounds shows also that the positive development cannot be attributed to just one company. In 2022, it was 32.3% higher than in the previous year and more than twice as high as in 2020. The median invested capital also rose, from CHF 2.1 million in 2021 to CHF 2.6 million.

The rise of companies with consumer products, ranging from skis and socks to non-alcoholic drinks, is also remarkable. At 31, the number of rounds is significantly above the long-term level of between 10 and 17 investments. The total amount invested has more

than doubled compared with the previous year, although at CHF 77.9 million relatively little money goes into this sector.

Biotech downtrend

The only clearly negative development in 2022 was in the biotech sector. The amount invested fell by 47.4% to CHF 400 million, and the number of financing rounds decreased by 48.6% to 19. The values are also very low in a long-term comparison, as the number of rounds has been significantly higher in every year since 2015. In terms of capital, it has practically fallen back to the level of 2016–2018. The sector was thus unable to escape the industry-wide downward trend that began in mid-2021 as the corona pandemic came to an end.

Other sectors essentially developed positively. In contrast to the biotech sector, the strong increase in number of financing rounds in the medtech sector, by 82.6%, was striking, while the sector grew by 10.6% in terms of capital. With both indicators, medtech start-ups were clearly above the long-term level.

Number of rounds stable

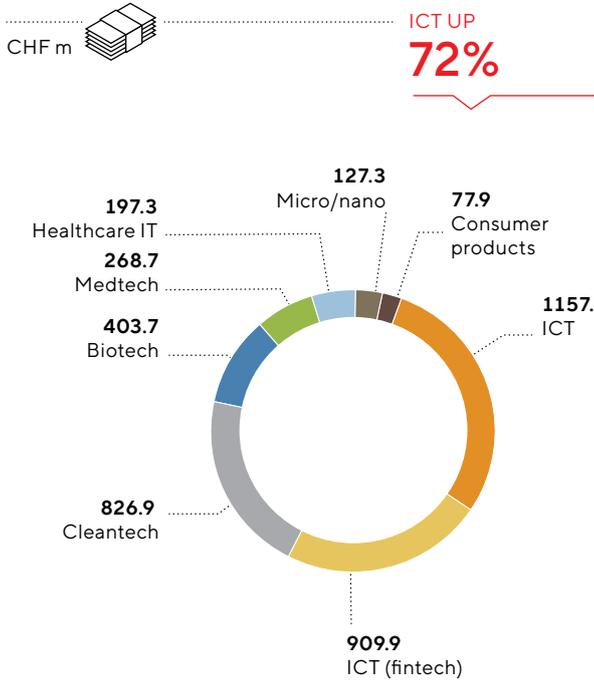
An analysis of the number of financing rounds by quarter reveals great stability, in particular in the ICT and fintech sectors, with the number fluctuating per quarter between 42 and 53. As with most of the other sectors, there was a slight upward trend over the year.

In the case of raised capital, on the other hand, a decline can be seen in the second half of the year, with the fourth quarter particularly weak. At CHF 447.1 million, it is well below the fourth quarter of 2021, where the total was CHF 639.4 million, and the fourth quarter of 2020, when CHF 842.4 million was secured.

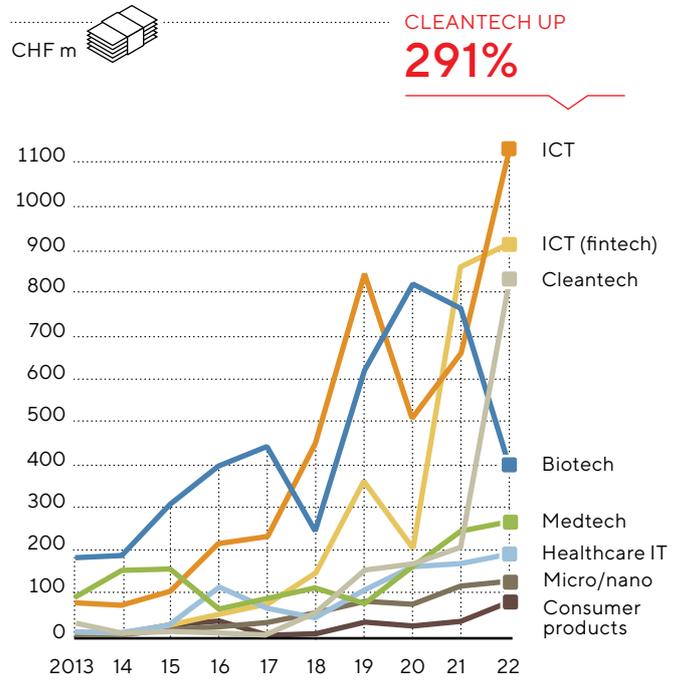
This is due to the performance of the ICT and fintech sectors. The fourth quarter in particular lacked large financing rounds, with only one investment in these sectors of more than CHF 20 million. The trend can also be observed in general: of the 20 largest financing rounds, 14 were completed in the first half of the year.

The stability of the number of investments suggests that the risk of a decline in this indicator is low. The risk that the downward trend in invested capital will continue, particularly in ICT and fintech investment, is likely to be much greater.

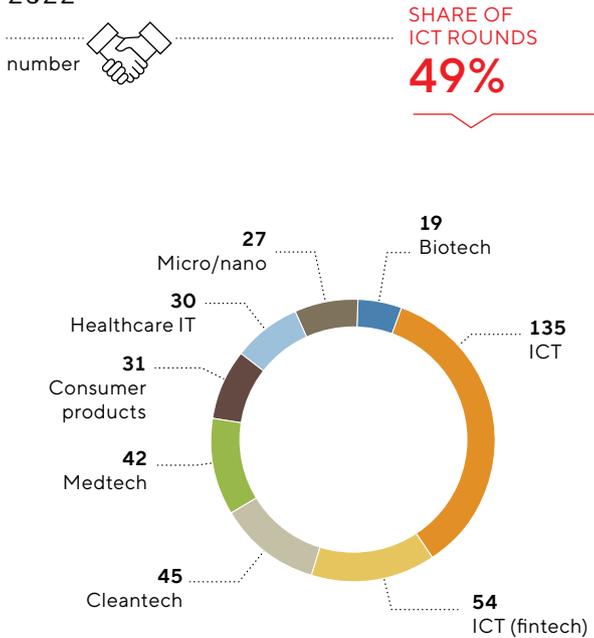
Invested capital by sector
2022



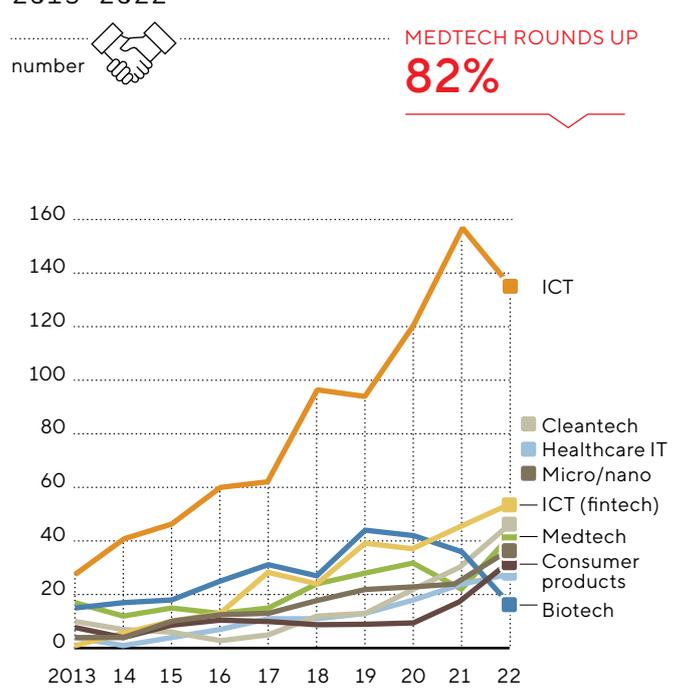
Invested capital by sector
2013-2022



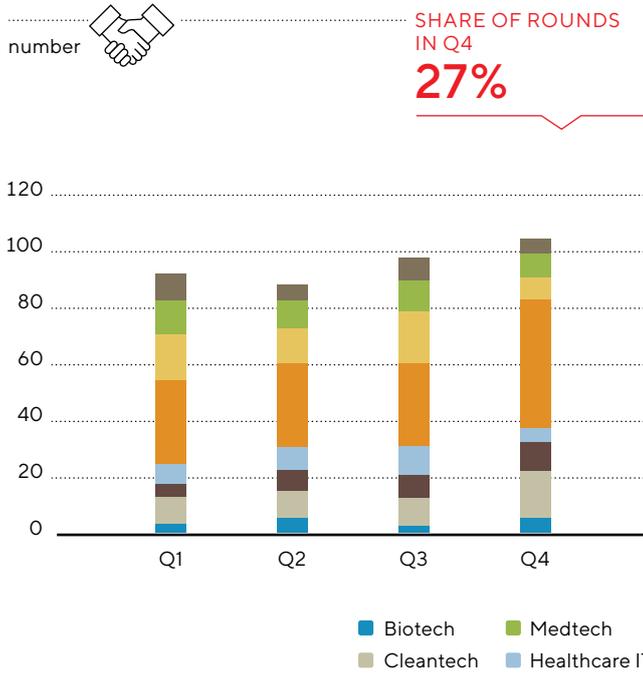
Financing rounds by sector
2022



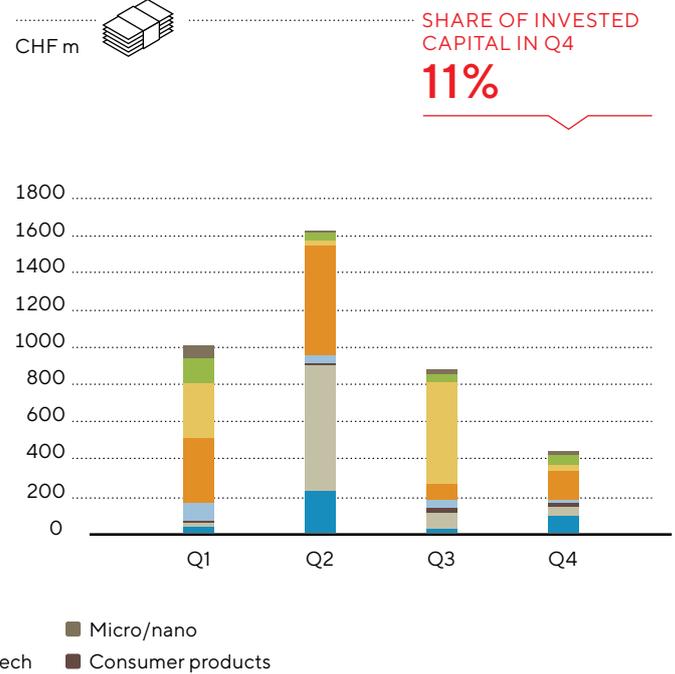
Financing rounds by sector
2013-2022



Financing rounds by sector and quarter 2022



Invested capital by sector and quarter 2022



NOTICED

The magic balancing act

The name says it all: Übermorgen Ventures. In addition to its financial goals, the Zurich-based venture capital company also has the future of the planet in mind. Or as Elena Walder-Schiavone from the four-strong founding team puts it: “We want to earn money with our activities and save about a million tons of CO₂ a year in the process.” This balancing act is to be achieved with a special investment mix. The current 22 portfolio companies include digital start-ups that help their customers to do business or consume more sustainably – for example, with SaaS platforms – and cleantech start-ups with innovations that have the potential to curb global warming directly – for example, with an energy-efficient technical process to convert biomass into biochar. The two areas have exit horizons of different lengths. “That’s why we decided on an evergreen structure, which is rarely seen in Switzerland,” says Walder-Schiavone. The backers do not invest in a fund, but acquire shares in Übermorgen



Elena Walder-Schiavone, managing partner at Übermorgen Ventures

Ventures Investment AG, the management team of which – investor Adrian Bühler, Doodle founder Myke Näf, cleantech expert Alexander Langguth and Walder-Schiavone – is responsible for investment decisions. Walder-Schiavone was able to do the legal work herself: she has been working as a lawyer with a focus on venture capital and start-ups since 2012. In 2014, she set up a shared office with her school friend Bühler and Näf in an old building on the Limmat, where Übermorgen Ventures was conceptually developed and ultimately founded. The team now has almost CHF 50 million under management. Most of the money, which can be continuously reinvested, comes from successful entrepreneurs at home and abroad. Pension funds, banks and insurance companies are not yet on board at Übermorgen Ventures. However, in view of the climate crisis, Walder-Schiavone is convinced that this will change: “Institutional investors will discover the advantages of our evergreen structure.”



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Phases

Growth at a high level

All phases recorded high growth in terms of volume, with seed rounds growing the most and almost doubling the previous year's volume. In a long-term comparison, the increase in rounds of CHF 10 million to CHF 20 million was particularly remarkable.

In 2022, seed rounds continued the strong growth trend of recent years impressively. After the number of transactions reached 100 in 2021, they rose further in 2022 to 166, an increase of 27%. Thus, for the first time, most investments came from this phase, accounting for 43% of financing rounds, with early stage on 34% and later stage 23%. Seed round activity increased in all sectors, with the exception of biotech.

Invested capital in the seed phase doubled compared with the previous year (from CHF 169.6 million to CHF 327.2 million, or 93%). All sectors posted gains except biotech. Investment in medtech increased almost sixfold, in fintech and healthcare IT more than threefold, in ICT almost twice as much and in cleantech by almost half. Biotech, on the other hand, saw a decline of a third.

The median amount invested was CHF 1.5 million, with an average of CHF 2 million. Three years ago, the average was just under CHF 1 million per round. More than CHF 25 million went to two seed investments: Destinus (micro/nano) with CHF 26.8 million and Grizzly Development (ICT fintech) with CHF 25.2 million.

Fewer early stage rounds

The fall in the number of early stage rounds in 2022, by 11% to 130, was due largely to the ICT sector. Here, the number of rounds dropped by a third, from 60 to 41. The biotech sector recorded a fall of almost 30%, which did little to limit the decline of the previous year (-33%), and fintech was down almost 14%. The increase in activity in micro/nano (+33%), cleantech (+22%), medtech (+14%) and in the field of health informatics (+11%) was able to cushion only part of the slowdown in ICT.

In terms of invested capital, early stage rounds increased by 31% to CHF 805 million. Five of the 20 largest financing rounds were closed in the early stages, compared with only three in 2021. All sectors recorded an increase. Medtech's Series A volume doubled and thus increased the most, from CHF 38 million to CHF 74 million. Even the biotech sector, which is otherwise in decline in all other areas, achieved a 41% increase in invested capital (from CHF 158 million to CHF 223 million). The ICT sector achieved an increase of the same magnitude, up from CHF 149 million to CHF 212 million (+42%).

Slowed growth

Overall, the number of later stage rounds (Series B or later) grew by 12%, from 78 to 87, with a notable increase in investment in cleantech and consumer products start-ups. Since 2019, the number of later stage transactions in cleantech companies has increased from four to 15 and those in consumer products companies from two to nine.

Later stage financing rounds attracted a quarter more capital than in 2021, but this could not match the big increase in that year (+72%). However, the amount invested in the top three and top 20 was again substantially higher than in the previous year (+62% from CHF 856 million to CHF 1,387 million, and +34% from CHF 1,932 million to CHF 2,582 million, respectively). For the first time in Switzerland, in addition to a CHF 600 million transaction – as in 2021 – two rounds of CHF 400 million were also completed. The median for later stage rounds rose from CHF 8.6 million to CHF 10 million.

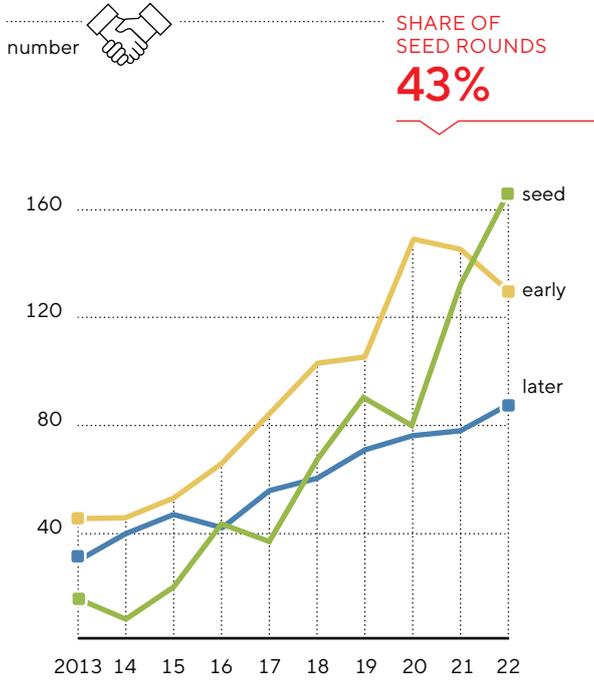
More growth financing

Historically, investments in the range of CHF 10 million to CHF 20 million are rare. The size class tends to be undersupplied with capital. In 2022, transactions of between CHF 10 million and CHF 20 million increased significantly, with nine more investments completed than in 2021 (from 19 to 28; +47%). The increase results primarily from the ICT sector: two rounds were reported in this critical phase in 2021, while 10 were reported in 2022.

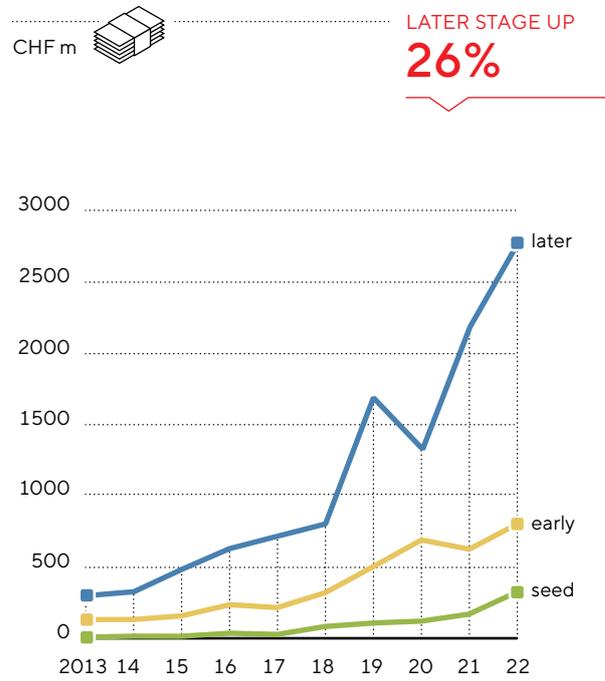
Despite this considerable increase in the frequency of transactions of between CHF 10 million and CHF 20 million, less than one in 10 is of this magnitude. This development should be observed critically, as these rounds are essential for further growth, scaling and foreign expansion.

In 2022, 30 companies received more than CHF 20 million, of which five exceeded the CHF 100 million mark – the same number as in the previous three years. ICT and fintech each contributed seven rounds of more than CHF 20 million, along with four cleantech rounds, including the top rounds for Climeworks and Planted Foods. These three sectors compensated for the weakness of the biotech industry.

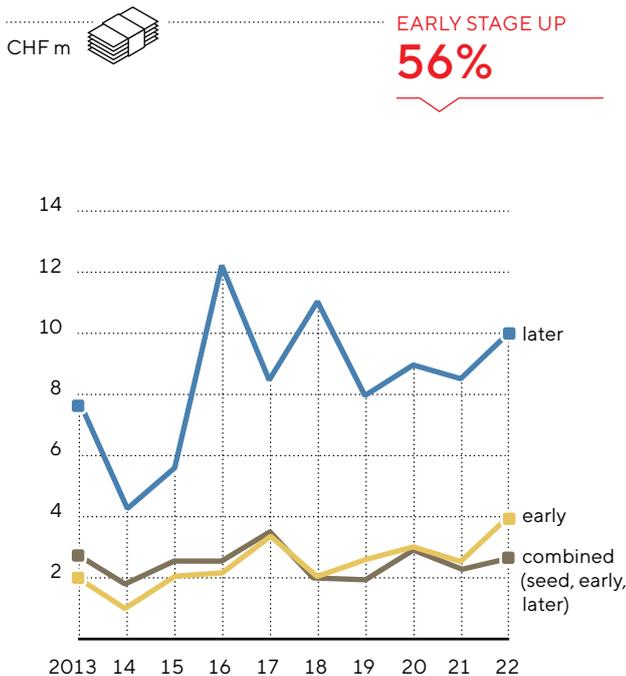
Financing rounds by phase
2013-2022



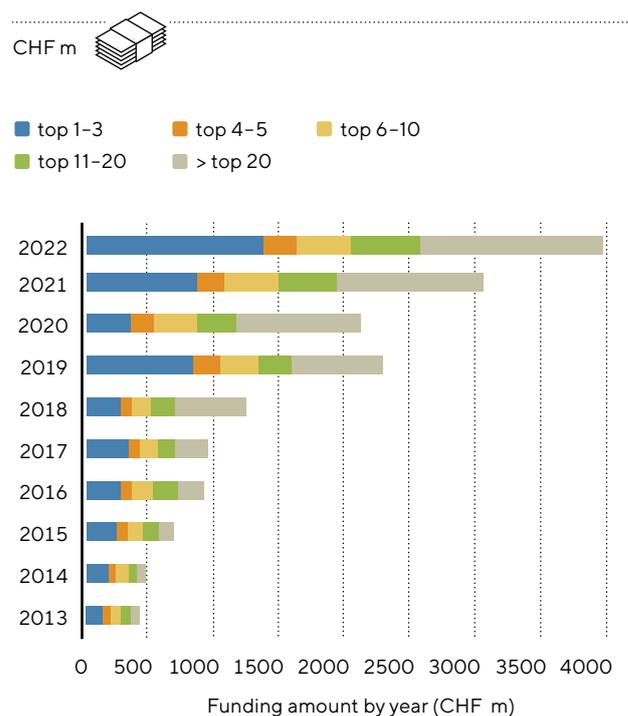
Invested capital by phase
2013-2022



Median of financing rounds
2013-2022

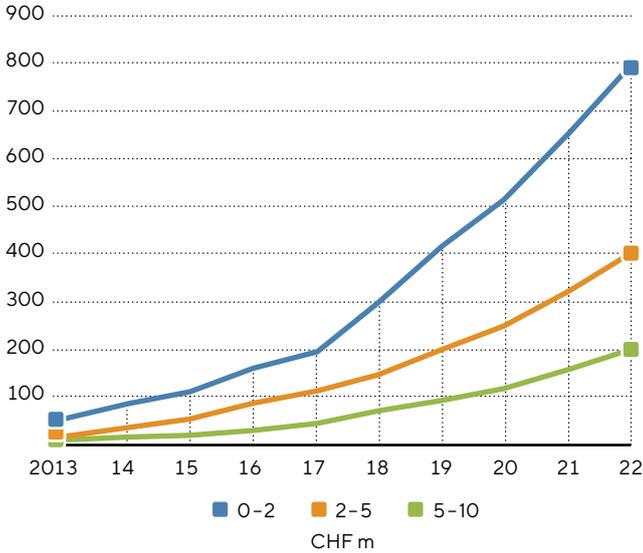


Invested capital by rank of financing rounds
2013-2022



Invested capital by size of financing round
2013–2022

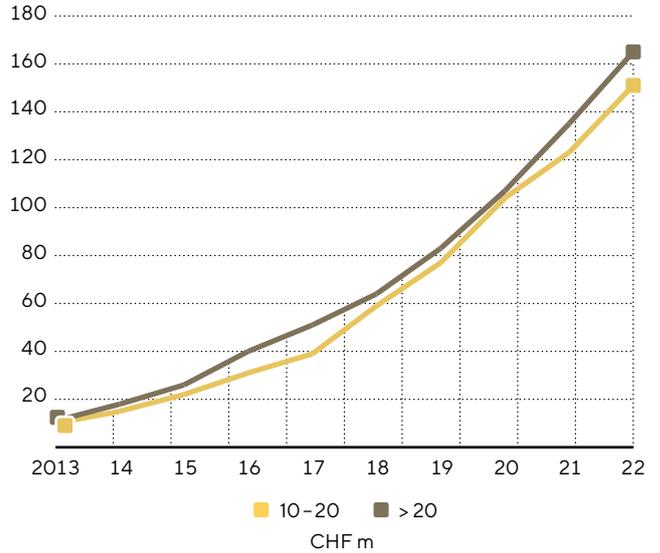
number of rounds
up to CHF 10 m
n = 1345



number of rounds
above CHF 10 m
n = 306

ROUNDS IN THE RANGE OF
CHF 10 M - CHF 20 M UP

47%



NOTICED

Start-up concerns reach the top

The constitution of the Swiss Confederation allows several bodies to initiate a legislative process. The most active are the members of the National Council and the Council of States, but the general public can also become active by collecting signatures and voting, and in certain cases the Federal Council takes the initiative on its own. This is how the idea of a Swiss innovation fund came about.

“The Federal Council,” explains Martin Godel, head SME policy, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), “has long been concerned about the lack of productivity gains and growth prospects in the Swiss economy.”

Not least against the background of the latest corporate tax laws, which are diminishing the competitive advantage of Switzerland as a tax location. Thus, the promotion of tech-driven growth companies came into the government’s focus. “The fund solution,” says Godel, “was obvious, insofar as most



Martin Godel, head SME policy at SECO (State Secretariat for Economic Affairs)

other OECD countries already have such state investment opportunities.”

On 22 June 2022, the Federal Council took a directional decision in favour of a new innovation fund. The vehicle is intended primarily to finance start-ups in the growth phase and will be guided in its investment decisions by the overarching themes of decarbonisation and digitalisation.

Since then, an internal administrative team led by SECO has been working out the details. It has submitted proposals to the government relating to the size, structure

and governance of the fund.

The Federal Council’s decision for or against the creation of the fund is expected to be made at the end of March. And however it turns out, the discussions about it alone have been a positive signal for Swiss founders, start-ups and VC investors. “They now know that their concerns have been taken note of at the highest level,” says Godel.

A black and white photograph of a space shuttle launching, viewed from a low angle. The shuttle is ascending vertically, with a large plume of white smoke and fire trailing behind it. The image is partially framed by a large, curved red and white graphic element that sweeps across the top and right sides of the page.

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12 October 2022

Financing round with strategic investor

André Borschberg needs no introduction. His name – together with Bertrand Piccard’s – is synonymous with the first round-the-world flight in a non-fossil-fuelled aircraft seven years ago. Immediately after his return from the Solar Impulse mission, Borschberg brought his expertise in sustainable aviation to a start-up, named after the hangar at Sion airfield where the company was based: H55. Since then, the 70-year-old engineer and his team have been working on an aviation-ready package of electric motor and battery: the propulsion system should be certified in 2024. Borschberg is confident of its success: “I assume that we will be the first worldwide.” According to the business plan, H55 will focus initially on the conversion business. About half a million aircraft exist worldwide, of which some will be converted to electric and hybrid drives. Partnerships with aircraft and turbine manufac-

turers, including Piper and Pratt & Whitney, point the way to this goal. RTX Ventures, the venture capital arm of US aerospace company Raytheon Technologies, has also been persuaded by the Valais-based start-up’s concept, and in October it joined H55 as a strategic investor. H55 and Raytheon Technologies will work together to advance technology that will help the aviation industry to achieve zero CO₂ emissions by 2050, according to the press release. “If the expertise is right,” Borschberg comments, “even the biggest US corporations will come to Valais.”

H55

Founded: 2017

Employees: 75

Total money raised: CHF 70 million

Website: www.h55.ch

Cantons

Over CHF 2 billion for Zurich

In 2022, the cantons developed at differing rates. Zurich made strong gains, with Geneva, Zug and St. Gallen catching up, but Basel-Stadt finding itself going through a weak phase.

In 2019, venture capital investment in canton Zurich exceeded CHF 1 billion for the first time. In 2022, the CHF 2 billion mark was broken – compared with the previous year, invested capital increased by 64.8%. Zurich start-ups thus attracted a larger share of total funds invested in Switzerland, with 53.7% in 2022 and breaking the previous record set in 2019 of 50.3%.

The main driver of the positive development are the very large rounds, with 11 of the start-ups on the top 20 list of largest investments coming from Zurich compared with only four in 2021. In 2019, nine Zurich companies made it into the top 20.

The large financing rounds came from the cleantech sector in particular, and also the ICT and fintech sectors. This is reflected in a balanced sector distribution of invested capital: cleantech start-ups are responsible for 32.8% of the amount invested in Zurich, fintech companies for 28.6% and ICT companies for 22.1%. The remaining sectors account for 16.5%.

The importance of Zurich for Switzerland, on the other hand, varies greatly between sectors. In the cleantech sector, 84.4% of the total amount invested in Switzerland went to the canton, in the fintech sector 67.1%, and in the ICT sector a comparatively low 40.7%.

Canton Zurich also increased its number of financing rounds. The growth rate here was 17.6%, with the canton's share in all financing rounds rising to 43.5%. Only in one year has the rate been higher: at 44.6% in 2014. In most other years, it has been below 40%.

Vaud in second place

Canton Vaud, as usual, ranks second in terms of financing rounds and capital generated. However, the start-ups provided only a small increase of 4.7% in the number of rounds. Invested capital saw a slight decline of 8.7%. The proportion of total venture capital generated in Switzerland fell to 13.8% – clearly, the worst figure over the past 10 years. At 17.5%, the proportion of financing rounds was thus at the level of previous years.

The sector distribution in canton Vaud is also diverse. However, the strength in the medtech sector is striking: 66.8% of the total amount invested in Swiss start-

ups in this sector went to companies based in Vaud. This canton's start-ups also attracted the most capital in the related sectors of healthcare IT and micro/nanotech. At 51.6% for healthcare IT and 46.2% for micro/nanotech, the share of the total amount is not quite as high as in the medtech sector.

In terms of invested capital, Geneva ranked third in 2022. The amount has fluctuated at around CHF 100 million over the past 10 years, but this year reached CHF 463 million due to a single investment in ICT unicorn SonarSource. The number of financing rounds, at 19, was at the usual level for Geneva.

Steady growth in Zug

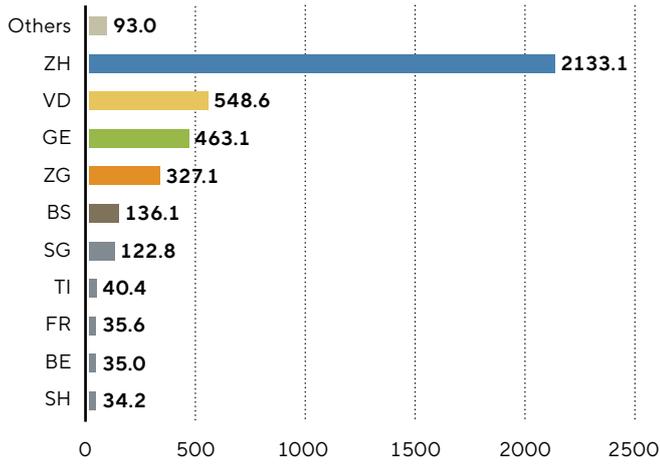
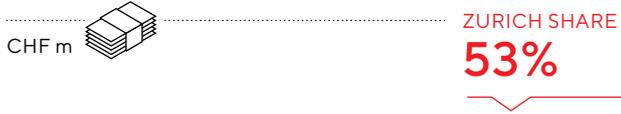
A new record was also set in canton Zug at CHF 327.1 million, with the underlying growth stronger than in canton Geneva. Zug start-ups attracted about CHF 250 million in both 2019 and 2020. Investment is clearly dominated by fintech start-ups: 79.2% of the money invested in the canton went to start-ups in this sector. The two financing rounds in Zug in the top 20 were also closed by fintech start-ups.

In addition, Zug has recorded steady growth in the number of investments. With 35 financing rounds and an increase of 20.7%, Zug is in third place for this criterion in 2022. The importance of the canton for Switzerland is slowly increasing: in 2022, 9.1% of the rounds took place there, compared with a value of about 8% in recent years.

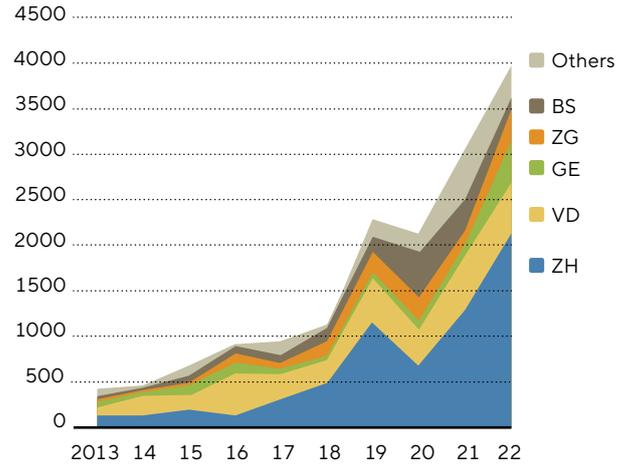
Basel-Stadt has traditionally focused on the biotech sector. Since this sector performed poorly in 2022, the canton had to accept a significant decline in venture capital. The number of financing rounds fell by 31.6% and invested capital by as much as 60.2%. As with the biotech sector as a whole, Basel-Stadt thus fell back to the level of 2018.

St. Gallen, on the other hand, has continued to rise. Invested capital more than doubled compared with 2021 and, at CHF 122.8 million, was well above the CHF 100 million mark for the first time. The number of financing rounds is also steadily increasing, with the upswing driven by ICT start-ups – one of which made it into the top 20 largest investments.

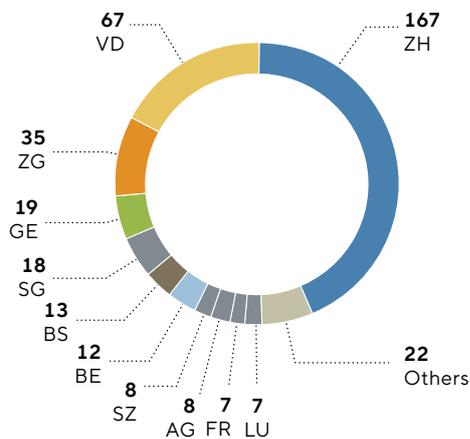
Financing amount by canton
2022



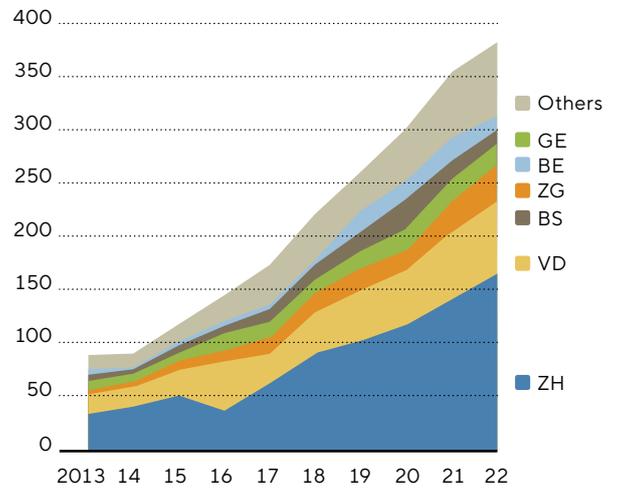
Invested amount by canton
2013-2022



Financing rounds by canton
2022



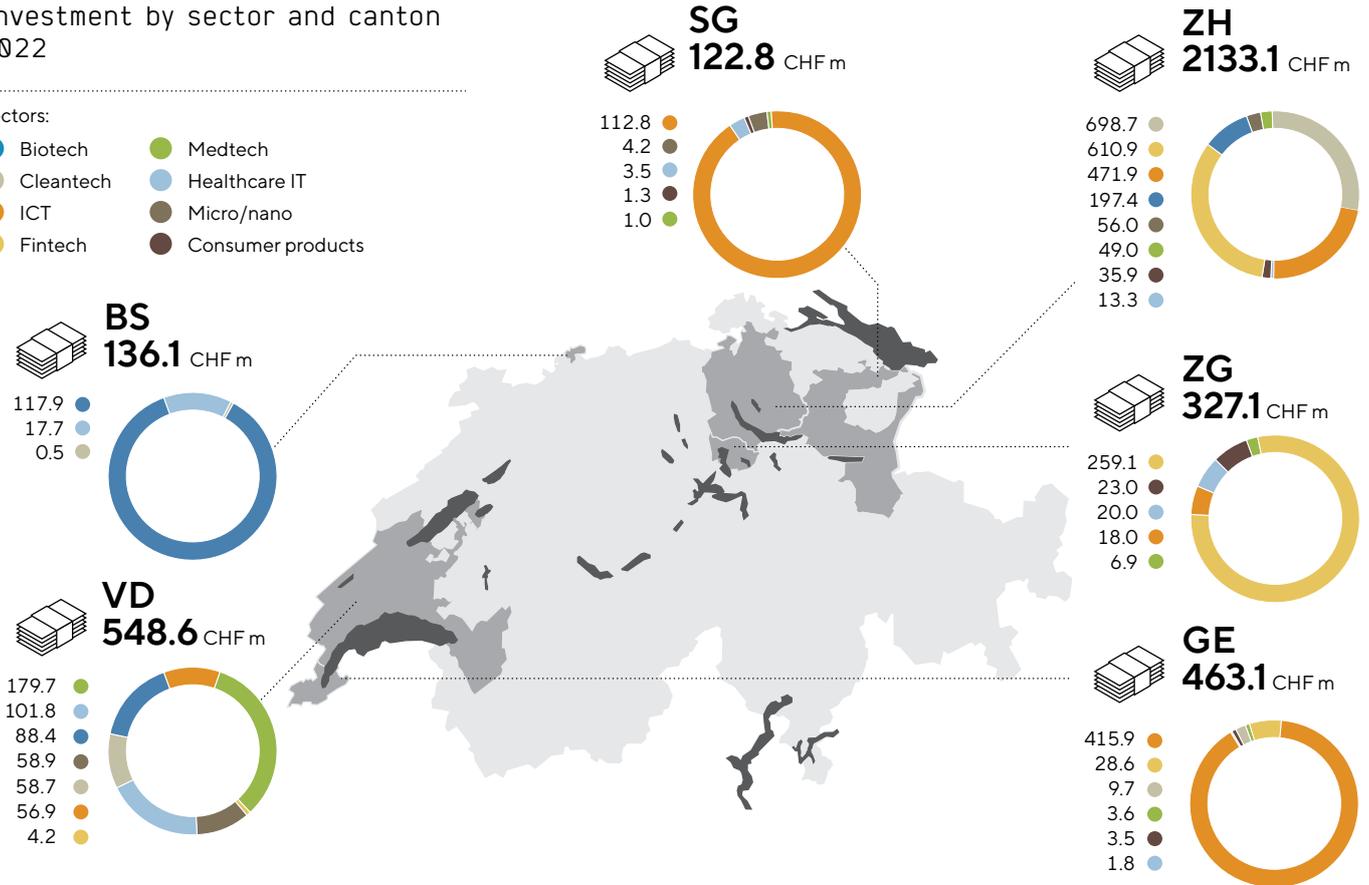
Financing rounds by canton
2013-2022



Investment by sector and canton 2022

Sectors:

- Biotech
- Medtech
- Cleantech
- Healthcare IT
- ICT
- Micro/nano
- Fintech
- Consumer products



NOTICED

Good news from Lake Geneva

Anyone who asks how rural Vaud has established itself as a top location for VC-financed companies always receives the same answer: EPFL. The canton seized the opportunity presented by EPFL's rise from 'golden university of applied sciences' to a globally recognised technical university in the 1990s.

In 1994, the canton's state council together with Banque Cantonale Vaudoise (BCV), EPFL and Vaud Chamber of Commerce founded FIT (fondation pour l'innovation technologique). They were later joined by other educational institutions, such as the University of Lausanne and Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne, and local corporates including Nestlé.

"Since then, FIT has supported practically all Vaud start-ups that have made an international impression," says managing director Julien Guex. The list ranges from Sophia Generics to MindMaze and Nextthink.

The results are also impressive in quantitative terms: to date, FIT has granted 352 repayable loans of up to CHF 500,000 and 96 grants of between CHF 20,000 and CHF 100,000. More



Julien Guex, managing director at FIT (fondation pour l'innovation technologique)

than 270 start-ups have received a total of CHF 64 million. In return, these companies have attracted CHF 2 billion in venture capital and created more than 3,000 mostly highly qualified jobs in French-speaking Switzerland.

Guex has been in charge of FIT since 2008. "At the beginning, it was still a part-time job," he recalls. Now, the 47-year-old lawyer has a team of five employees who manage an alumni community for which a financing platform was established in 2019. FIT Investors' objective is to connect promising start-ups with potential investors. On average, between 10 and 15 financing rounds are in progress and in 2022 alone FIT Investors was in contact with 90 qualified investors.

The innovation ecosystem surrounding Lausanne is humming and the taxpayer should also benefit from this over the medium term. In view of the forthcoming negotiations with the canton about the financing of FIT, the board is planning an important change: "We want to start granting convertible loans soon," says Guex.



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Unser Anlageteam mit den Investment Directors Nils Granath, MBA, Dr. Robert

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Health Tech	Industrial/Clean Tech	IT/ICT

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55 open funds

Showcase for the VC industry

The SVCR team surveyed more than 100 Swiss investors about their VC vehicles in the fundraising phase. The result is good news for the entire ecosystem: the number of venture capital investment opportunities is constantly increasing.

3VC 3VC II SCSp ** DACH and CEE (10% Switzerland) software series A CHF 100–150 m	BiomedVC BiomedInvest IV Europe therapeutics (biotech/pharmaceuticals) early stage CHF 150 m	Cutler Capital Management Tomahawk.VC – Fund II, LP Switzerland (10%), Europe (60%), US (30%), Web3 pre-seed, seed CHF 25 m
Alpana Ventures SA Alpana IV – Cleantech Switzerland (95%) cleantech growth CHF 100 m	Blue Horizon Blue Horizon Growth II global (40% US, 40% Europe, 20% rest of world) sustainable food systems growth CHF 500 m	CV VC African Fund Africa blockchain pre-seed, seed, pre-series A USD 10–20 m
Apprecia Partners Apprecia Capital I SCSp ** Europe, Switzerland (60%) sustainability pre-seed, seed, pre-series A, series A CHF 30 m	blufolio Blufolio Blockchain Venture Capital Fund II SICAV-RAIF global (Switzerland approx. 20%) Web3/blockchain early CHF 30 m	DAA Capital Partners SA Tech 1291 Ventures I ** Switzerland (75%), Europe (25%) deeptech seed, series A CHF 50 m
Backbone Ventures Backbone Ventures 5502 Fund ** Switzerland (approx. 40%), Germany, rest of Europe sector-agnostic pre-seed/seed CHF 20–30 m	Collateral Good Management AG Collateral Good Ventures Sustainability I ** global sustainability food, material and packaging systems seed to series A CHF 100 m	DAA Capital Partners SA Tech 1291 Ventures II Switzerland (75%), Europe (25%) deeptech, energy, environment seed, series A, series B CHF 100 m
BFI Consulting AltAlpha Digital Fund worldwide crypto hedge funds (e.g. quant, L/S, market-neutral) established CHF 100 m	Creadd SA Creadd Tech Ventures Switzerland (60%), Europe life sciences, tech, SaaS early, series A, early B CHF 25–40 m	Efficient Frontier Investing SA EFI Lake Geneva Ventures I ** 80% Switzerland, up to 20% Europe technology companies (medtech, ICT, deeptech) early stage, seed, series A CHF 50 m

The list comprises fund managers in an active fundraising phase:

- Funds offered by advisor/manager domiciled in Switzerland (not exhaustive); list based on survey of 100+ investors
- Entry order: advisor/manager, fund name, geographic focus, sector focus, development stage focus, target size
- ** First close
- Pure corporate venture capital funds are excluded

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Carmen Traversa
Misurio AG



Matthew Reali
Ponera Group Sagl



Ebba Carlson
Bcomp AG



Daria Luedtke
Wegaw AG

Emerald Technology Ventures AG along with subcontractor South Pole is mandated by the Federal Office for the Environment to manage the Technology Fund.

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Patrik R. Peyer
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Emerald Technology Ventures

Emerald European Transformation Fund
Europe, Israel (5-10% Switzerland)
cleantech
early, expansion
CHF 250 m

Endeavour Vision

Endeavour Medtech Growth III
Europe, US
healthcare technology: devices, digital
health, diagnostic tools
growth
USD 375 m

EquityPitcher Ventures

EquityPitcher Venture Growth Fund
50-70% Switzerland, 30-50% Germany/
Austria
ICT (B2B SaaS, software, hardware)
series A/B
CHF 100 m

F10

F10 Incubation Fund I **
DACH, Europe, Nordics, Singapore, Asia
fintech, insuretech
pre-seed
CHF 100 m

Forestay

Forestay Capital II ILP **
Switzerland, Europe, Israel, East Coast US
B2B software
early growth (series A-C)
CHF 200-350 m

Forty51 Advisors AG

Forty51 Ventures Fund I SCSp FIAR **
Europe (50% CH)
biotech
company formation, early
USD 150 m

GP Bullhound

GP Bullhound Fund VI **
global with focus on Europe
software, healthcare, fintech,
marketplaces
growth
CHF 500 m

Kainjoo SA

Allegory Capital 2032 vision fund
Switzerland 30%, Europe 40%, US 30%
regulated industries
seed, series A
CHF 50 m (evergreen)

L1 Digital AG

L1D Blockchain Venture II SLP **
global
blockchain
series A+
USD 200 m (USD 151 m already signed)

Marcau Partners

REALR
DACH, Nordics
consumer
pre-seed until pre-series A
EUR 40 m

Maximon AG

Longevity Co-Investment Fund **
50% Switzerland, 35% rest of Europe,
5% Middle East, 5% US, 5% Asia
longevity
seed/early stage
CHF 100 m

Momenta Ventures

Digital Industry Fund III **
North America, Europe + EFTA + UK,
Middle East, Australasia
digital industry
early growth
CHF 50 m

Momenta Ventures

Digital Industry Fund IV
North America, Europe + EFTA + UK,
Middle East, Australasia
digital industry
growth
CHF 100 m

Nextech Invest AG

Nextech Oncology VII SCSp
global
biotech
early stage
USD 400 m

Nextech Invest AG

Nextech Crossover I SCSp
global
biotech
growth stage
USD 400 m

Nordic Eye Venture Capital

Nordic Eye Fund III
Europe, US, Switzerland (10%)
technology
series A
EUR 200-250 m

Olive Capital

Olive Capital
50% France, 15% Switzerland, 15% UK,
20% rest of Europe
Web3
pre-seed
EUR 10 million

Planven Entrepreneur Ventures

PEV Continuity Fund I **
US, Israel, Switzerland
B2B software
late stage
CHF 100 m

Prediction Capital

Prediction Capital Fund ONE
DACH (Switzerland 30-50%)
fintech, consumertech
early stage
CHF 30-50 m (evergreen)

Privilège Ventures

Privilège Capital Fund IV
Europe incl. Switzerland
agnostic (excl. biotech, crypto)
seed stage
CHF 40-50 m

Pureos Partners AG

Pureos Bioventures II, LP
Europe (Switzerland 40%), plus some
US and Asia
biotech (therapeutics)
balanced
USD 300 m

QBIT Capital

QBIT Ventures Fund I **
Switzerland 100%
agnostic (excl. biotech, healthtech, life
sciences)
pre-seed & seed
CHF 25 m

Redalpine Venture Partners

Redalpine Capital VII
Europe with focus on DACH
ICT, health
early stage (seed, series A)
CHF 180 m

Redalpine Venture Partners

Summit Fund
Europe
ICT, health
pre-seed to pre-IPO
CHF 1 bn (evergreen)

Sandborn

Breed
60% Switzerland, 40% world
lead teams, ICT, cleantech, femtech
seed
CHF 20 m

Seed X Liechtenstein AG

Seed X Funds SICAV – VC Fintech I **
Europe
fintech, insurtech, proptech
seed
n. a.

Serpentine Ventures

Serpentine Ventures Flagship Fund II
50% Switzerland, 40% Europe and Israel,
10% US
ICT, deeptech
early stage
CHF 50 m

Serpentine Ventures

Serpentine Ventures Growth Fund II **
40% Switzerland, 40% Europe and Israel,
20% US
ICT, deeptech
late stage venture
CHF 250 m

Serpentine Ventures

Serpentine Ventures Rookie Fund II
90% Switzerland, 10% rest of world
ICT, deeptech
seed stage
CHF 20 m

session.vc AG

session.vc
DACH
B2B SaaS, deeptech, consumertech
early stage (pre-seed, seed)
CHF 50–100 m (evergreen)

SNGLR Capital AG

SNGLR XTF Longevity
Europe, estimated 50% Switzerland
longevity (in particular personalised
medicine and agtech)
seed
EUR 20 m

SNGLR Capital AG

SNGLR XTF Smart Mobility/Cities
Europe, estimated 20% Switzerland
smart mobility/cities
seed
EUR 20 m

Spartan Group

Spartan Venture Fund II **
global
blockchain, gaming, metaverse
early stage
CHF 200 m

Spicehaus Partners AG

Spicehaus Swiss Venture Fund II
100% Switzerland
ICT
seed/early stage
CHF 100 m

Swisscanto by Zürcher Kantonalbank

Swisscanto (CH) Private Equity World
Carbon Solutions I**
global (10–20% Switzerland)
decarbonisation technology and
services
later stage venture, growth, buyout
CHF 250 m

Übermorgen Ventures AG

Übermorgen Ventures Investment AG
Europe
climatetech
early stage
CHF 50 m

Una Terra Venture Studio AG (CH)

Una Terra Venture Capital Fund RAIF SCA
SICAV (LUX) **
Europe (30% Switzerland)
circular economy
series A–C
CHF 200–250 m

Verve Ventures

Verve Venture Fund I
Europe, 50% Switzerland
ICT, health, bio, tangible
later stage (mainly series B)
CHF 100 m

Verve Ventures

Verve Digital I
Europe, 20% Switzerland
ICT
seed/early stage
CHF 10 m

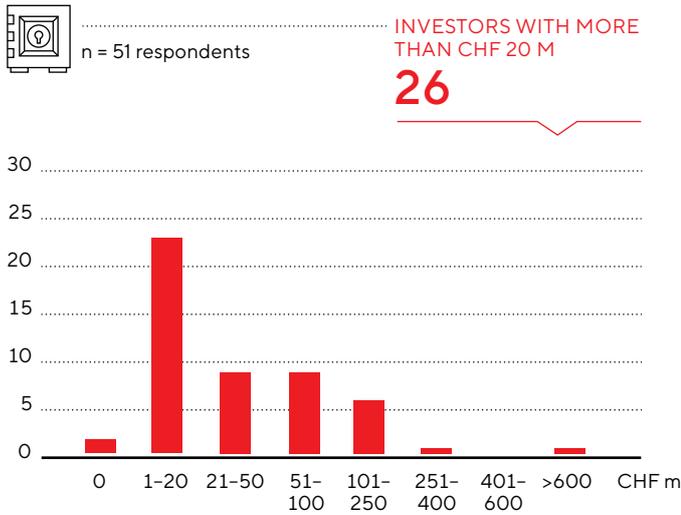
Wingman AG/Wingman Ventures Sarl

Wingman Ventures Fund II SCSp
100% Switzerland
tech (B2B software, industrial technology,
consumertech)
pre-seed
CHF 120 m

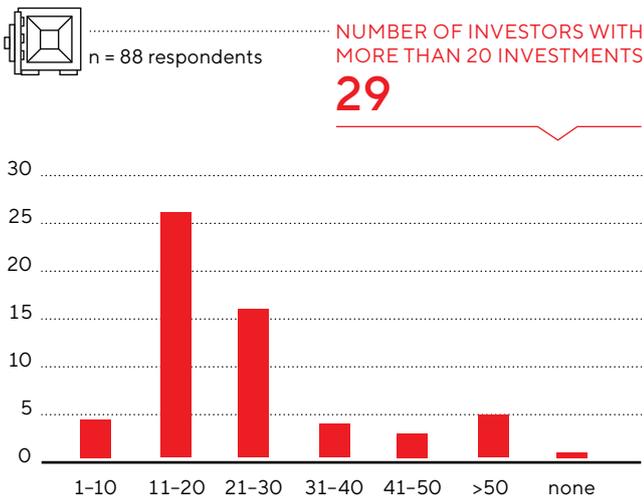
Investor survey

The questionnaire was sent to more than 250 addresses. A record number of 103 responses were included in the statistics: slightly more than 60% are accounted for by venture capitalists, with the remaining 40% divided roughly evenly between the corporate venture units of companies, business angels, institutional investors and family offices – investors that conduct business within an institutional framework and which are active in the financing market several times a year, whether in Switzerland or abroad. The proportion of internationally active investors based in Switzerland was higher than in the previous year. The response rate across all questions averaged 50%.

Currently available 'dry powder'



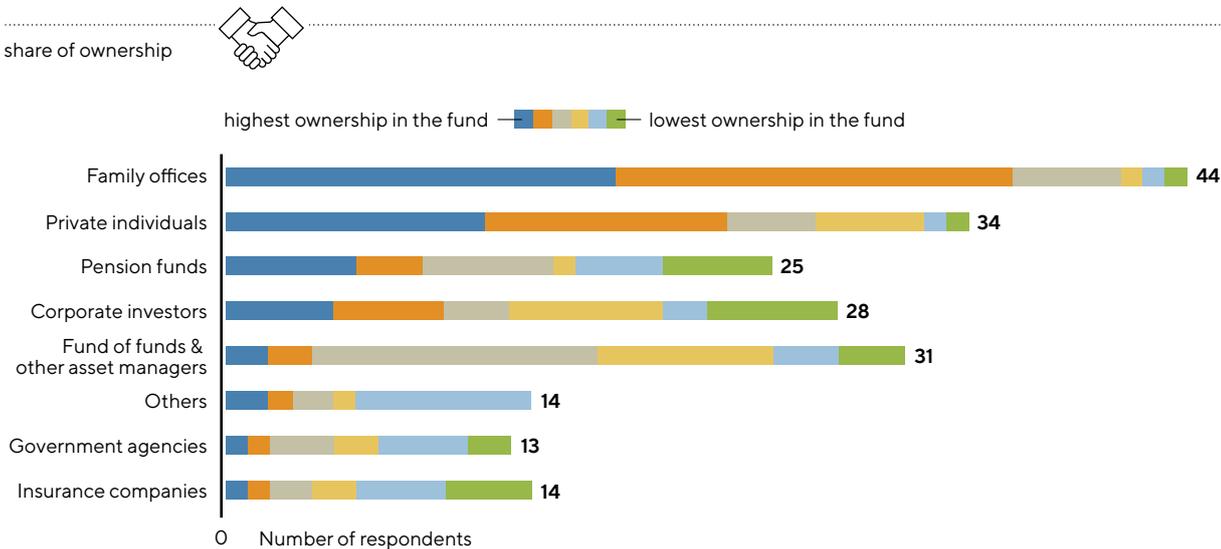
Number of new investments over last three years



Findings in a nutshell

- Almost all the investors surveyed (83) are also active in Switzerland. With more than 40%, the DACH countries are the most popular target markets. The UK, Scandinavia and Benelux follow with about 35%.
- Slightly more than half of respondents invest in ICT and digitalisation topics in the healthcare sector. A fifth each focuses on biotech, medtech and cleantech topics.
- More than 70% of those surveyed indicated seed and early stage as their focus.
- About two thirds of respondents have invested in up to 10 Swiss start-ups in the past three years; 80% intend to continue the investment frequency, if not increase it.
- Two-thirds of the VCs surveyed have closed a new fund since 2020; 45% reached a size of up to CHF 100 million and 55% above.
- About half of investors have 'dry powder' of up to CHF 20 million, with a third having CHF 50 million or more.
- Over the last three years, a cumulative average of CHF 51 million has been invested. The minimum was less than CHF 1 million and the maximum CHF 417 million.
- By far the most important core investors in a fund are family offices and private individuals.
- More than 80% of investors have an ESG policy or have a policy in progress. Only one in 10 relies on a full integration of ESG criteria into the valuation process.

Importance of fund investors by type of investor



Investors

The glass is more than half full

The asset class 'VC made in Switzerland' has become increasingly established. The number of new funds is rising and the range of sectors and themes is becoming broader. The basis is a thriving start-up ecosystem.

The Swiss start-up scene has developed rapidly over the past 10 years. This has been favoured by technological change and the improved integration of business and academia. Today, founding a start-up in Switzerland is more attractive than ever from an entrepreneur's point of view.

Local start-ups attract large companies from all over the world and in return receive collaboration opportunities or are acquired. Internationally active investors are increasingly involved in our part of the world. Valuations are still more attractive than overseas, the development of the financing market is less spectacular but more predictable, and the proximity to companies, general conditions and legal certainty are considered significant advantages.

High hurdles up to and after the start

Nevertheless, the hurdles to entering the venture capital business – ie, founding a new management company or launching a new fund – are still high in Switzerland. Demonstrating success, or in other words a track record, is demanding. The success of the investment team is assumed and failure is not tolerated by potential investors.

In order to create trust, venture capital teams need successful entrepreneurs who have already founded or – even better – sold a company. Partners who have years of industry experience or senior knowledge of dealing with start-ups are also helpful.

What is needed is an optimal interplay between capable managers who are willing to set up a business and far-sighted institutional investors. In recent years, it has become apparent that progress on the entrepreneurial side, the size and stability of the financing landscape and the existing role models increasingly have an impact on fund foundation, whereby these effects – as is usual with innovations – do not occur linearly but in an exponential form.

Success attracts success. It is essential for managers to find their way into this cycle, since proceeds from the sale of companies are preferably invested in new start-ups or funds.

The local VC fund industry is relatively young, with most providers in the second or third fund generation. Some established managers may be well above that, but there are a large number of companies with first-time funds, or offers from existing manager companies with teams in a new composition.

Attractive company building

An increasing number of VCs are actively involved in company building. Bringing in crucial expertise at an early stage creates a high barrier to entry for imitators. Since hardly any foreign competitors exist in the early phase, competition for good deals is less intense and the entry price is more attractive, which has a positive effect on fund returns.

However, the other side of the coin is that the company's shares will be diluted in larger follow-on financings if the fund can no longer co-invest due to capacity reasons. The solution would be opportunity funds that can invest in the fast-growing 'winners', as some providers have been offering lately.

The challenges are manifold on both the start-up and investor side. The key phrase is 'dry powder': in Switzerland, the amount not invested but granted is comparatively modest in the overall context. This is probably sufficient for the manager as a percentage of the size of their fund, but too little for the entire ecosystem to cushion any fluctuations on the international capital markets. Switzerland continues to depend on the few managers with more than CHF 100 million in 'dry powder' and the global players from abroad.

Thomas Heimann,
deputy managing director, SECA

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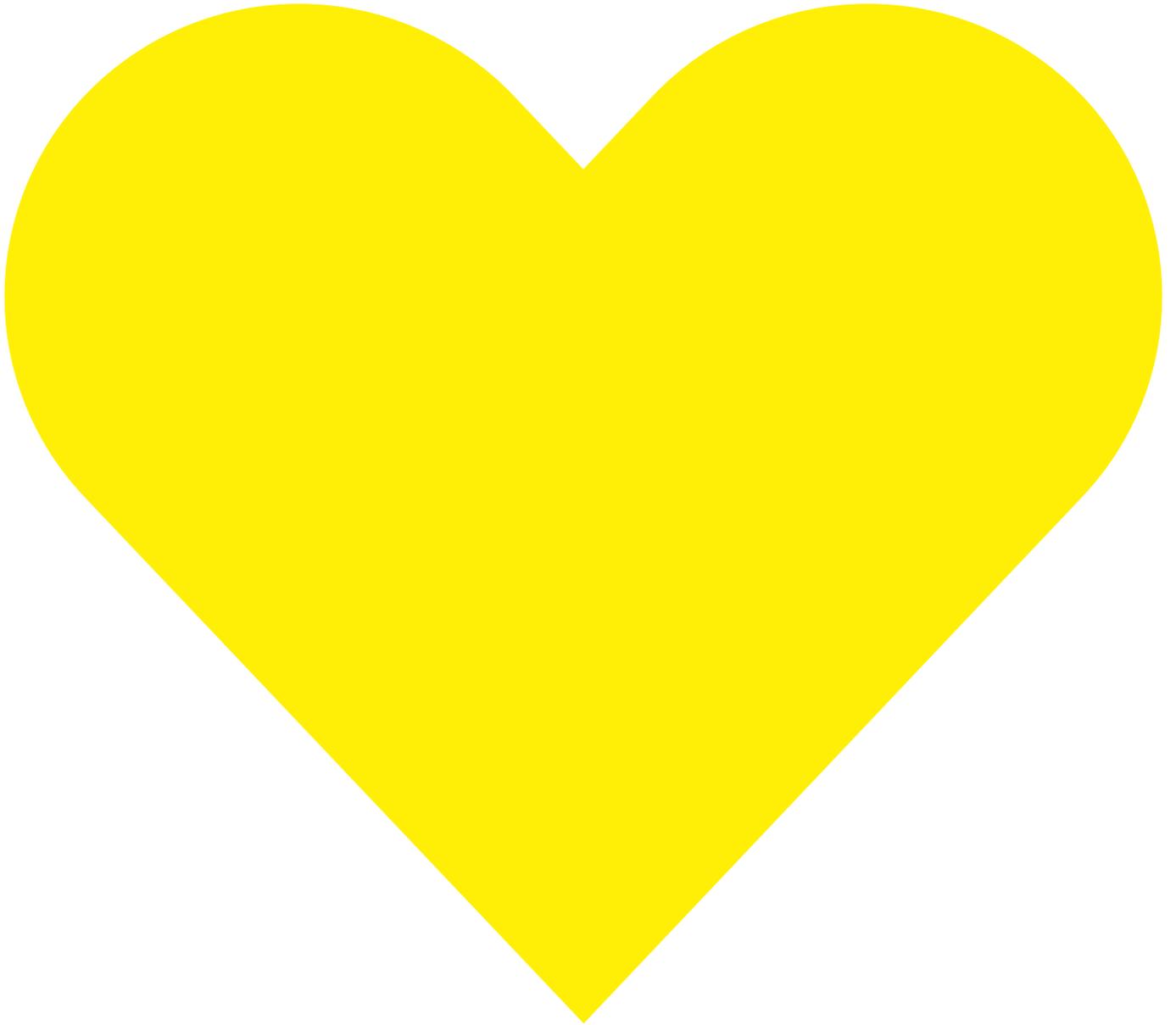
Switzerland Innovation is a network of six innovation parks forming an ecosystem accelerating the transformation of research results into marketable products and services. We create the best conditions for industrial R&D by offering easy access to knowledge and expertise, research infrastructure, and funding opportunities.

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6 September 2022

Seed financing round

Consumption of plant-based food is on the rise, but the billion-dollar industry is still struggling to find a more appealing texture and creaminess, particularly for the alternative dairy market. "I have failed to persuade my parents to switch to plant-based dairy, as it does not offer the same experience they are used to," said 27-year-old **Tomas Turner (left)**, co-founder of Cultivated Biosciences. In his master's thesis on microbial fermentation, the materials science and engineering graduate from Ticino found a solution by which to enrich plant-based creams without genetically modified (GM) yeast. Turner and his 29-year-old co-founder **Dimitri Zogg** are developing creamy functional ingredients using biomass fermentation to grow GM-free yeast in bioreactors in their Zurich laboratory. Using a proprietary process,

they extract the fat molecules to produce a liquid cream that companies can add to their products to achieve the same creaminess as animal dairy: "This yeast-derived fat will be a key component for companies making plant-based yoghurt or cheese." Incorporated in Fribourg, the start-up collaborates with several test partners and Valio (Finland) and Hochland (Germany) will be among the first recipients of the ingredient. "After the testing phase in 2023, we want to launch in the US in 2024, followed by European markets in 2025," says Turner.

Cultivated Biosciences

Founded: 2021

Employees: 10

Total amount raised: CHF 1.4 million

Website: www.cultivated.bio

After studying business administration and political science, Andreas Rickenbacher worked as a consultant for various SMEs and large companies. In 2006, he was elected to Bern's cantonal government for the Social Democratic Party (SP), where he headed the department of economic affairs for 10 years. The 55-year-old father of two daughters has been a member of the Foundation Board of Switzerland Innovation since 2015. He took over the presidency from Ruedi Noser at the beginning of 2022. He is also active as a board member and management consultant.



“There’s an endless stream of automotive companies and start-ups in the lab”

The generation project Switzerland Innovation is taking shape. Foundation president Andreas Rickenbacher talks about the vision, the spiritual father of the project and the current state of implementation. **Jost Dubacher**

Almost exactly seven years ago, on 18 January 2016, you, as a member of the Bern cantonal government, were present when a large red button was pressed in the Zentrum Paul Klee. The Switzerland Innovation project was officially launched. Have the great expectations of back then been fulfilled?

Andreas Rickenbacher: We are on the way to success. Innovation ecosystems have emerged at the six Switzerland Innovation parks (see box, p. 41) and at a total of 10 locations in other regions. The Biel/Bienne and Basel Area parks have already moved into their own buildings. Park Innovaare in Villigen (AG) will move into its new premises this year.

What is happening in the parks? Can you give specific examples?

As the former director of economic affairs in Bern, allow me to illustrate our activities using the Biel/Bienne site as an example. In 2013, the canton and the city of Biel/Bienne founded Switzerland Innovation Park Biel/Bienne AG together with local companies. From 2015, operations were slowly ramped up and Innovation Park Biel/Bienne’s new building opened in mid-2021, with about 15,000 m² of laboratory and office space. Approximately 50 scientists and engineers are currently working there on innovation projects related to advanced manufacturing, Industry 4.0, healthtech and energy storage.

For which customers? Or, to put it another way, from where does Switzerland Innovation Park Biel/Bienne AG receive its orders?

Let’s take the example of the Swiss Battery Technology Center. Together with Bern University of Applied Sciences, it maintains a battery testing lab that offers development, recycling and lifecycle estimation facilities. The demand is enormous. There’s an endless stream of representatives of the European automotive industry and US battery start-ups in the lab. This kind of collaboration between Swiss universities and large domestic and foreign companies corresponds exactly

to the basic idea of Switzerland Innovation: decentralised parks as physical platforms for international innovation partnerships.

What do the taxpayers of Biel and Bern, and the local entrepreneurs, gain from it?

Batteries are important building blocks for tomorrow’s mobility and power supply. So far, Switzerland has barely played a role in this billion-dollar market. The production of battery cells takes place in Asia. With a facility such as the Swiss Battery Technology Center, the Swiss economy gets a second chance in the area of de-manufacturing, recycling and the secondary use of batteries.

Innovation Park Biel/Bienne is dedicated to smart manufacturing. Innovation Park Basel Area, on the other hand, offers life sciences services. How did the thematic specialisation come about? In 2012, with the complete revision of the Federal Act on the Promotion of Research and Innovation (FIFG), Parliament created the legal basis for the federal government’s commitment to a Swiss innovation park. FIFG provides for a decentralised structure. However, the Federal Council delegated the choice of locations to the Conference of Cantonal Directors of Economic Affairs (VDK)...

... of which you were then president?

Right. That also explains my personal commitment to this cause. VDK set up an international jury and invited all cantons and regions to make suggestions for locations and their thematic orientation.

In an initial process, in addition to the ETH sites in Zurich, Lausanne and Villigen [location of the Paul Scherrer Institute], only the Basel Area received the Switzerland Innovation Park label. Why was that?

Because the jury felt that the other applications did not meet the conditions. Biel was able to make improvements immediately, and about 18 months ago

Switzerland Innovation Park Ost became the sixth member of the 'club'. The parks in Lausanne, Basel, Zurich and St. Gallen in turn have regional offshoots; for example, Switzerland Innovation Park Zurich has associate locations in Rotkreuz and Manno – thus, central Switzerland and Ticino are also included. Today, we have a presence throughout Switzerland.

“The park on the former military airfield in Dübendorf is a generational project”

Entrepreneur and FDP Council of States member Ruedi Noser is considered to be the spiritual father of Switzerland Innovation Park. How do you assess his role?

The project would not exist without him. He developed the idea in the noughties and succeeded in bringing the federal government and enterprises together. In addition, he organised considerable financial resources in the business community for the start-up phase.

Noser represents canton Zurich in the Council of States. And, of all things, Switzerland Innovation Park Zurich seems to be ill-starred; at least that's the public perception...

This perception is deceptive. Much more has to be taken into account than with any other location: the park on the former military airfield in Dübendorf is a generational project. For comparison, the largest new

building to date, Innovation Park Basel Area, which was inaugurated last autumn, has a usable area of 50,000 m² and offers jobs for 2,000 people. In Dübendorf, a new innovation district will be built on an area of 40 hectares. Naturally, the preparatory work will take a little longer. However, I am convinced that progress will now be made: in November, the Zurich cantonal council approved a commitment loan of almost CHF 100 million for the development of Switzerland Innovation Park Zurich.

So far we have spoken mainly about the activities out in the field, but not about the foundation that you chair. How is it financed and what are its tasks?

In the Swiss tradition, the Switzerland Innovation Foundation is a supporting organisation that operates on a subsidiary basis – that means we do what cannot be done outside in the parks. Our main tasks are quality management, the international marketing of Switzerland Innovation and coordination of the network. Since 2021, the foundation's activities have been financed on the basis of a performance mandate from the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI).

Who assesses the quality of the locations?

An external evaluation of all locations by a group of international innovation experts takes place every four years. This evaluation is compared with the first appraisal in 2018 and confirms successful further development and significant progress at all locations.





“To date, about 2,700 new jobs have been created thanks to Switzerland Innovation”

Who pays for the international marketing?

We collaborate closely with Switzerland Global Enterprise (SGE), the federal government’s location promotion organisation. SGE attends industrial and trade fairs all over the world and represents our interests in the target markets of Asia and North America.

At the opening ceremony in the Zentrum Paul Klee, Noser, then still president of the foundation, predicted that one day Switzerland Innovation would generate thousands of highly qualified jobs. What is the position now?

To date, about 2,700 new jobs have been created thanks to Switzerland Innovation. In this respect, I would say, yes, Noser’s vision of a Silicon Valley in Switzerland is taking shape.

.....

The six parks at a glance

Park Basel Area

Location: Allschwil (BL)

Focus: health, life sciences

www.switzerland-innovation.com/baselarea

Park Biel/Bienne

Location: Biel (BE)

Focus: advanced manufacturing, Industry 4.0, healthtech, battery technology

www.switzerland-innovation.com/biel-bienne

Park Innovaare

Location: Villigen (AG)

Focus: light, laser and photon sources, detection and imaging, manufacturing and prototyping, systems and software

www.switzerland-innovation.com/innovaare

Park Network West EPFL

Location: Ecublens (VD)

Focus: computer and computational science, energy, natural resources and environment, health and life sciences, materials and manufacturing, mobility and transport

www.switzerland-innovation.com/network-west

Park Ost

Location: St. Gallen

Focus: health and performance, MEM industry, digitalisation

www.switzerland-innovation.com/ost

Park Zurich

Location: Dübendorf (ZH)

Focus: robotics and mobility, aerospace, advanced manufacturing

www.switzerland-innovation.com/zurich

Go from Funding Series A, B, C... To SIX.

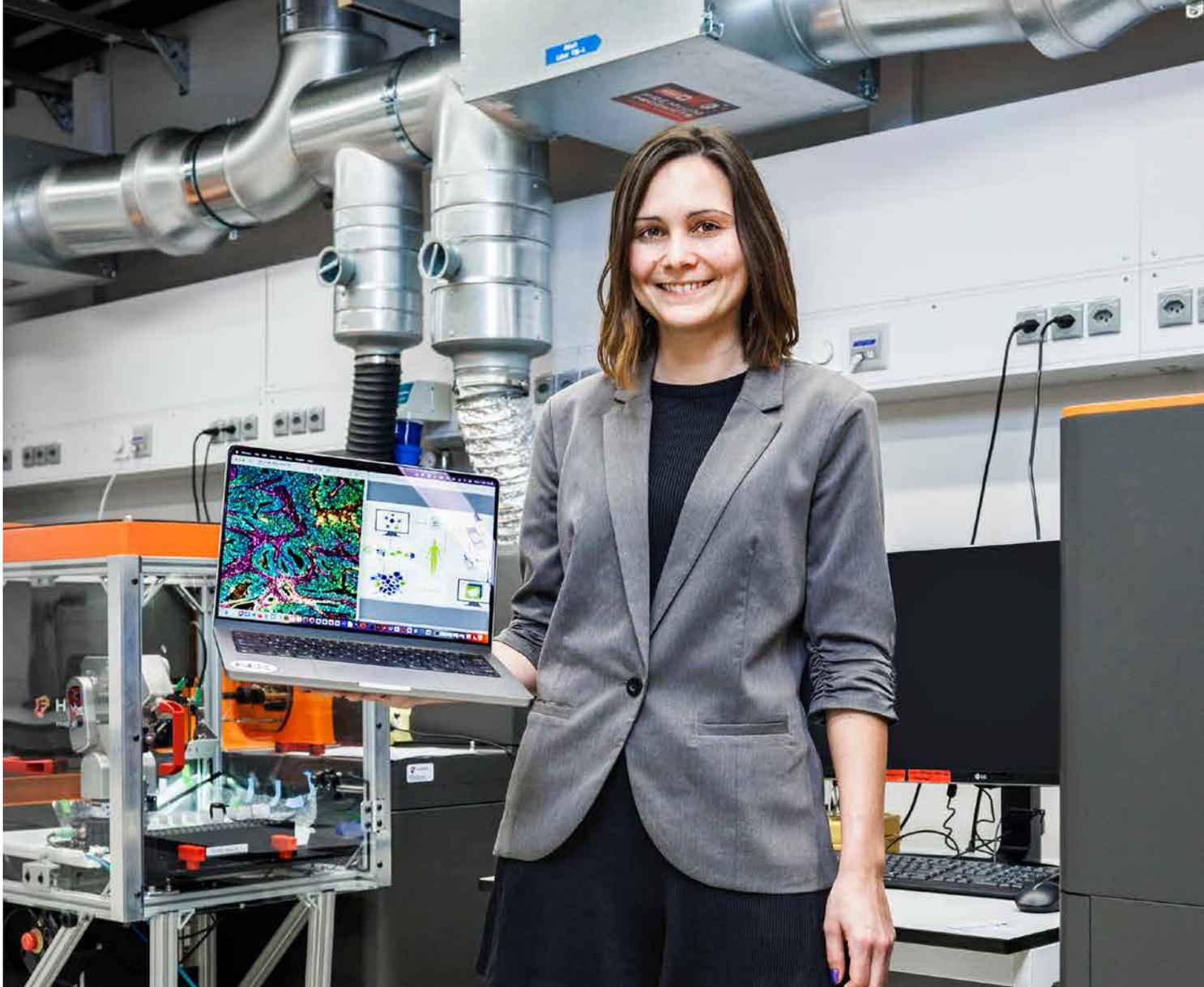
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11 November 2022

Seed round of CHF 7.5 million

Imaging mass cytometry (IMC) is a young technique that makes biological processes in individual cells visible using metal isotopes bound to specific proteins with antibodies. IMC is a godsend for oncology, since tumour cells and the immune cells that attack them express several dozen relevant proteins that can be labelled. The Bodenmiller Lab at the University of Zurich and ETH Zurich is a world leader in this application. Its proprietary algorithms enable use of cell samples to determine which cancer patients are likely to respond to an immunotherapeutic drug and which not. So far, the technology has been used only in research, but **Jana Fischer** and her team have set themselves the goal of making it usable for everyday clinical practice. "The protein data we can provide to hospitals saves lives," comments Navignostics' CEO. But that's not all: individualised

diagnostics increase the hit rate of extremely expensive immune drugs and curb the growth in healthcare costs. That's why Fischer explored the venture capital market at the beginning of the year. In September, the UZH Life Sciences Fund agreed funding, followed by an oversubscribed seed round in November. Navignostics moved into larger laboratories at a new life sciences campus in Horgen at the beginning of 2023. The start has been successful: "Now it's about navigating cleanly," says Fischer. Just like her hobby – skydiving.

Navignostics

Founded: 2022

Employees: 7

Total money raised: CHF 8.5 million

Website: www.navignostics.com

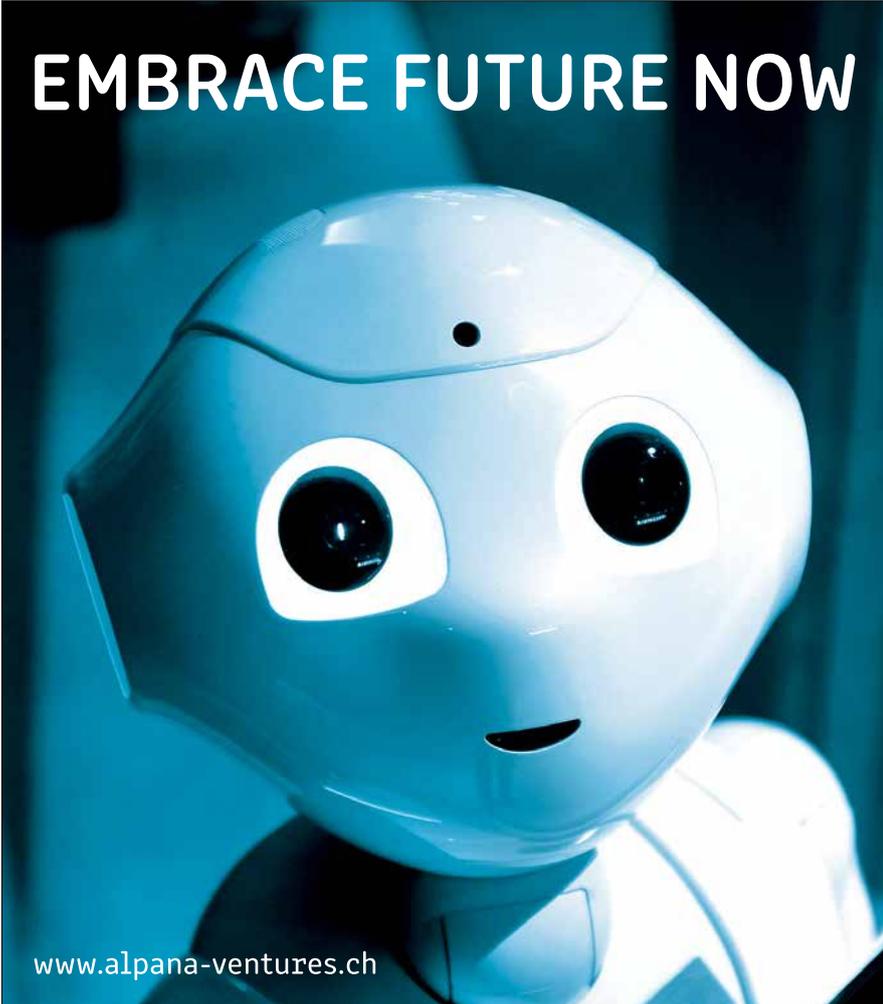


IPOs

Waiting for better times

Last year was not a good year for IPOs. According to EY, the number of IPOs fell by 45% to 1,333, and the issue volume shrank by 61% to USD 180 billion. Swiss start-ups also suffered from the unfriendly climate. After a record year in 2021 with 11 IPOs, only five representatives of the Swiss innovation ecosystem went public in 2022: two biotech start-ups and one each from the healthtech, cleantech and fintech sectors. Two of the five companies made their stock market debut on the SIX Swiss Exchange and one on Sparks, the new stock market segment for fast-growing small and medium-sized companies.

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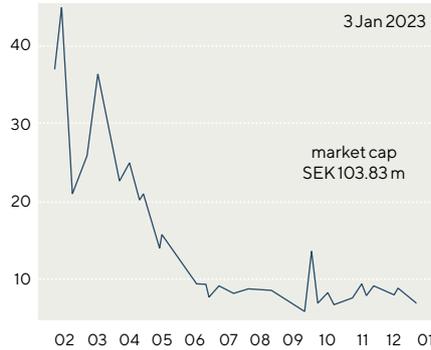
First trading day
12 January 2022



BEBO Health

Founded in March 2019, Geneva-based BEBO Health operates the website be-bô, an e-commerce portal that specialises in health, sport and well-being products. The portal sells devices to aid weight loss, and nutritional supplements to facilitate recovery after exercise or help break down fat cells. At the time of BEBO Health’s IPO on the Euronext in Paris, its market capitalisation was EUR 26.8 million.

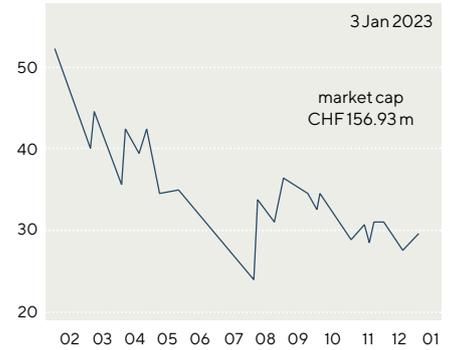
10 February 2022



Smart Valor

Smart Valor operates a publicly accessible exchange for digital assets, custody and asset management, and offers its technology as a Crypto-as-a-Service to financial institutions. The company went public on Nasdaq First North Growth Market in Stockholm on 10 February. The day after the IPO, the price of the SDR (Swedish Depository Receipt) was just below SEK 39, which corresponds to an enterprise value of CHF 59 million.

11 February 2022



XLife Sciences

Zurich-based XLife Sciences brings research projects from four areas – tech platforms, biotech/therapies, medtech and artificial intelligence/digital health – through the ‘proof of concept’ phase in order to then license them out. At the opening of the first trading day on SIX’s Sparks segment, the market capitalisation of the life sciences start-up was CHF 232.5 million.

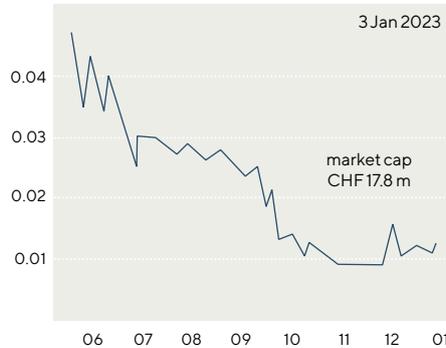
14 February 2022



Energy Vault

Energy Vault’s gravity storage solutions replace water with purpose-built composite blocks. In September 2021, the Ticino-based cleantech start-up announced a merger with Novus Capital Corporation II, a US publicly traded special purpose acquisition company (SPAC), in order to go public on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). The company received gross proceeds of USD 235 million and on the opening day was valued at USD 500 million.

3 June 2022



Kinarus

Kinarus Therapeutics, founded in 2017, focuses on the development of novel active ingredients for the treatment of viral, respiratory and eye diseases. The shares of the Basel-based biotech start-up have been tradable on the SIX Swiss Exchange since 3 June. The public opening was preceded by a reverse takeover in which Kinarus acquired, via a share swap, a company that had been listed on the Swiss stock exchange for some time.



Wyss Zurich
Translating
Science into Life

The Wyss Zurich Translational Center (Wyss Zurich) is a unique accelerator, embedded within the ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich, that is dedicated to the emerging fields of regenerative medicine, robotics, and medical devices/bionics technologies.

We unite world-leading experts, pooling their knowledge and expertise, to form multidisciplinary teams.

CeNeReg*
UZH/ETH Zurich

denovoSkin*
UZH

ETIMSred*
UZH

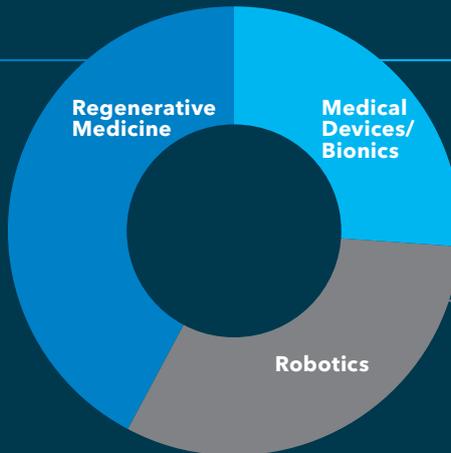
LifeMatrix
UZH/ETH Zurich

MUVON
UZH

Phire
UZH/ETH Zurich

Recolony
UZH

Somagenetix
UZH



hemotune*
ETH Zurich

HYLOMORPH*
ETH Zurich

Liver4Life
ETH Zurich/UZH

Nanoflex
ETH Zurich

OxyPrem*
UZH

ANYmotion*
ETH Zurich

Sevensense*
ETH Zurich

Seervision*
ETH Zurich

Voliro
ETH Zurich

Wingtra*
ETH Zurich

Zurich Eye*
ETH Zurich/UZH

* completed projects

23
projects
supported

600
jobs
created

CHF 104m
total funding
bridging the "valley of death"

CHF 166m
additional funding
raised by the projects/startups



For more information please see our website wysszurich.ch

ETH zürich



Trade sales

Stronger home market

A good 60 deals, a billion-dollar transaction and a handful of exits in the three-digit million range – 2022 is thus, as in the previous year, significantly above the long-term average. Switzerland and the US accounted for a third each of the acquiring companies.

Biotech

Creoptix

Creoptix focuses on next-generation bioanalytical instruments for drug discovery and life sciences. In January, the start-up was taken over by UK analytical instrument manufacturer Malvern Panalytical.

Wädenswil (ZH), founded 2009; www.malvernpanalytical.com

FGen

Boston-based Ginkgo Bioworks expanded its technology portfolio with the acquisition of FGen and its ultra-high-throughput screening platform.

Basel-Stadt, founded 2011, www.ginkgobioworks.com

Vaximm

The start-up develops oral T-cell immunotherapies to treat cancer patients. At the beginning of November, Vaximm was sold by its investors to Zug-based BCM Europe AG.

Basel-Stadt; founded 2008, www.vaximm.com

Versantis

With a focus on severe liver failure, French biopharma company GENFIT has taken over Versantis. The success-related purchase price can rise to CHF 105 million.

Zurich, founded 2015, www.versantis.com

Cleantech

Depsys

Depsys' platform generates and processes real-time data from power grids. New owner UK energy supplier Octopus Energy Group will integrate the tool into its technology portfolio.

Puidoux (VD), founded 2012, www.depsys.com

Flisom

The ETH spin-off is one of the leading international manufacturers of photovoltaic thin-film solar modules. The new owner is German investment company MARNA Beteiligungen.

Niederhasli (ZH), founded 2005, www.flisom.com

Kickbag

Kickbag, developer of a reusable shipping bag, was taken over by logistics partner Swiss Post.

St. Gallen, founded 2020, www.kickbag.ch

Nispera

The start-up provides machine learning-enabled SaaS targeting the renewable energy sector. Since April, Nispera has belonged to US Siemens subsidiary Fluence.

Zurich, founded 2015, www.nispera.com

Quantis

The EPFL spin-off employs more than 250 environmental experts and transformation specialists. They have been working for the Boston Consulting Group since September.

Lausanne, founded 2006, www.quantis.com

Solstis

EPFL spin-off Solstis is one of the pioneers of Swiss photovoltaics. It was taken over in June by BKW.

Lausanne, founded 1996, <https://solstis.ch>

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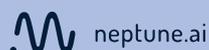


FLYTREX

DEEP.CODE



LatticeFlow



DouxMatok



calvinrisk



Consumer products

Enhazz

Sven and Audrey Goebel built up a successful direct sales business for skincare products. They intend to expand further under the umbrella of the Scandinavian health and wellness brand Zinzino.

Sarnen, founded 2017, www.zinzino.com

Fintech

Accounting

Accounting's software helps the crypto community to track and file their crypto taxes. In November, the company was acquired by Glassnode, a Swiss-based blockchain data and intelligence provider.

Baar (ZG), founded 2018, www.accounting.com

Assetmax

Assetmax's software digitises the portfolio management of independent asset managers, family offices and banks. The new owner is Norwegian financial data specialist Infront.

Zurich, founded 2014, www.assetmax.ch

Dloop

Tom Rieder and Sven Schumacher, operators of Elementum, a marketplace for digital art, sold their company to blockchain company DSENT, also domiciled in canton Zug.

Zug, founded 2018, www.dloop.ch

Mitra Solutions

The start-up developed a drag and drop system for the visualisation of insurance products, the basis of automated claims processing. The new owner is Zug-based Jarowa AG, operator of the eponymous insurtech platform.

Zug, founded 2018, www.jarowa.group

New Access

New Access' platform enables wealth managers to rapidly deliver personalised services and innovative products. In June, global wealth management platform FNZ took over the fintech pioneer.

Meyrin (GE), founded 2000, www.fnz.com

SecurionPay (Online Payments Group)

Online Payment Group's platform enables businesses to accept online payments in 160 currencies. In September, the start-up was acquired by Shift4. The Pennsylvania-based payment service provider paid a total of USD 125.9 million, including cash, stock and potential contingent payments.

Wollerau (SZ), founded 2014,
<https://get.securionpay.com/high-risk>

Sysmosoft

Sysmosoft's e-signature solution is used by many highly regulated industries such as financial services, governments and educational institutions. In July, SwissSign, Swiss Post's dedicated trust service and identity provider, acquired and integrated the start-up.

Yverdon (VD), founded 2010, www.swissign.com

Yes

Electronic identification service Yes was sold by founder Daniel Goldscheider to German ID wallet provider Verimi. Verimi is backed by major companies including Allianz, Axel Springer, Deutsche Bahn, Deutsche Bank, Lufthansa, Telekom, Mercedes-Benz and Volkswagen.

Lachen (SZ), founded 2013, www.yes.com

ICT

1plusX

1plusX's core product enriches publisher first-party data with AI to create precise audience and content profiles in real time. In March, the founding team sold the business to New York-based adtech company TripleLif. According to an article in the *Wall Street Journal*, the acquisition was worth USD 150 million.

Pfäffikon (SZ), founded 2014, www.1plusx.com

Actando

The start-up provides technology-enabled learning solutions to life sciences commercial teams. In June, Actando was acquired by US-based global player Red Nucleus.

Geneva, founded 2013, www.actando.com

Adresta

The Helvetia Insurance spin-off creates blockchain-based certificates for watches. Part of CEO Mathew Chittazhathu's founding team is now working for the new owner – Lucerne jewellery and watch company Bucherer.

Zurich, founded 2019, www.adresta.ch

Amazee.io

The start-up operates a cloud-based platform for software developers. The new owner, Californian software company Mirantis, intends to integrate amazee.io's technology into its portfolio.

Zurich, founded 2007, www.amazee.io

Animatico

The ETH spin-off leverages AI characters to help brands and retailers provide their customers with next-generation experiences through stylised AI avatars. Animatico was acquired in May by California-based semiconductor company Nvidia.

Zurich, founded 2019, www.nvidia.com

Axon Ivy

Axon Ivy's business process automation platform digitises business processes. Founder Stefan Muff has now sold the company to Japanese IT group Ricoh. After the sale of Endoxon to Google, it is the second major exit for Muff.

Baar (ZG), founded 2010, www.axonivy.com

Beqom

About 120 large companies from around the world manage their compensation processes with Beqom's SaaS platform. In April, it was announced that the company had been fully acquired by Californian private equity firm Sumeru Equity Partners, with a transaction volume of USD 300 million.

Nyon (VD), founded 2009, www.beqom.com

Blockv Solutions

The blockchain start-up offers a solution for enabling NFT utility and composability. The new owner is Colorado-based SmartMedia Technologies, which develops an Enterprise Web3 platform.

Zug, founded 2017, www.blockv.io

BlueBotics

The EPFL spin-off develops navigation systems for automated guided vehicles and autonomous mobile robots. The buyer is ZAPI, an Italian manufacturer of electronic components for electric and hybrid vehicles.

St. Sulpice (VD), founded 2014, www.bluebotics.com

Blumenpost

The online flower shop focuses on sustainability and is growing strongly. Its acquisition by organic market Farmy generates synergies in logistics and ordering.

Zurich, founded 2020, www.blumenpost.com

BookaBed

Tek Travels DMCC, a wholly owned subsidiary of TBO Tek Ltd, is in charge of the B2B accommodation provider with a focus on the Irish and UK travel industry. CEO Karl Tyrrell and his founding team sold a 51% stake to the Indian company.

Cham (ZG), founded 2014, www.bookabed.ie

Bravo Technologies

The Bravo app digitises ordering processes in the catering industry. In December, Swen Koller and Oliver Girstmair sold their company to Sensational, a Swiss software company with a strategic focus on e-commerce in the food industry.

Hünenberg (ZG), founded 2020, www.orderbravo.com

Code Lane

Code Lane's digital human platform generates digital avatars that mimic human behaviour. In September, the founders led by CEO Simon Heinzle announced a deal with American game developer Epic Games (Fortnite) to take over the platform and the entire team.

Zurich, founded 2017, www.codelane.ch

Codecheck

The Codecheck app informs health and environmentally conscious consumers about the ingredients in products. In May, it was announced that the assets had been taken over by Berlin-based Producto, operator of the comparison portal Testberichte.de.

Zurich, founded 2014, www.codecheck.info

Cognitive Solutions & Innovation

Stefan Georg Hild, founder of Cognitive Solutions & Innovation, is a global pioneer in advanced AI solutions for industrial manufacturing. He and his team have been working for New York-based ei3, a leading Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) company, since the beginning of the year.

Niederurnen (GL), founded 2017, www.ei3.com

Comvation

The web design agency can look back on 19 years of experience and takes care of about 1,300 customers. The new owner is Cleverclip's serial entrepreneur Carlo Badini.

Thun (BE), founded 2004, www.comvation.com

Coorpacademy

The edtech start-up has established itself as a European leader in corporate digital learning. Its new owner is Australian firm Go1, one of the world's largest corporate education content hubs.

Lausanne, founded 2013, www.1plusx.com

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- **Phase:** late seed to early stage
- **Region:** DACH, Europe

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Digital Republic

The mobile virtual network operator earns its money by selling tailor-made data packages. At the end of the year, founders Ali Soy and Marco Arnold sold their company to Mobilzone. Zurich, founded 2016, www.digitalrepublic.ch

Element34 Solutions

The start-up is one of the leading international providers of local Selenium Grid infrastructures. The new owner is US company Banyan Software. Lachen (SZ), founded 2015, www.seleniumbox.com

Finity

The provider of content analysis, which also operates the adtech platform Paper.li, was acquired by global B2B data company DemandScience. Ecublens (VD), founded 2016, www.finity.ai

GotCourts

The racket sports platform, founded by Diego Seit and Cédric Escher, operates in Switzerland, Germany and Austria. Last February, the company was sold to Playtomic, Europe's leading tennis and padel social and booking app. Zurich, founded 2013, www.gotcourts.com

Hacknowledge

The start-up offers a security monitoring service that helps customers to shorten the time between breach and detection of IT threats. Almost 50 employees have been working for Swiss Post since the sale in the middle of the year. Morges (VD), founded 2016, www.hacknowledge.com

Houzy

Houzy's platform gives more than 100,000 registered users the opportunity to manage their homes digitally. Two years ago, financial service providers UBS and Baloise became involved. In November, they agreed a majority stake with the founding team led by Stefan Schärer. Zurich, founded 2017, www.houzy.ch

Institut für Bildungsevaluation Zürich

The University of Zurich spin-off develops several products to support both learning and electronic testing. At the end of 2022, Urs Moser and the founding team sold 60% of the shares to software company Trifork Holding, domiciled in Feusisberg (SZ). Zurich, founded 2003, www.ibe.uzh.ch

Jacando

The start-up develops digitisation solutions for the human resources sector. Customers include more than 600 companies throughout the DACH region. The new German owner, Tenhil Gruppe, operates job portals in Germany and Austria. Basel, founded 2012, www.jacando.com

Knowledge Expert

The team at Knowledge Expert uses low-code scalable architecture to help clients with implementation of their digital strategies. Capgemini, the new owner, is one of the largest consulting companies in the world. Carouge (GE), founded 2009, www.k-expert.com

LUCY Security

LUCY Security's platform allows organisations to measure and improve the security awareness of their employees. The start-up has been part of ThriveDX's SaaS division, a global leader in cybersecurity and digital skills training, since mid-year. Baar (ZG), founded 2015, www.lucysecurity.com

MENU Technologies

MENU Technologies develops e-commerce solutions for the catering industry. This summer, founders Marlon and Karl Koch sold their company to US software company Par. Zug, founded 2014, www.menu.app

OK Job

Job portal OK Job operates about 20 agencies throughout Switzerland. Since mid-December, it has belonged to French job placement giant Groupe CRIT. Founder Bernard Houche remains a minority shareholder and will continue to run the company. Lausanne, founded 2012, www.okjob.ch

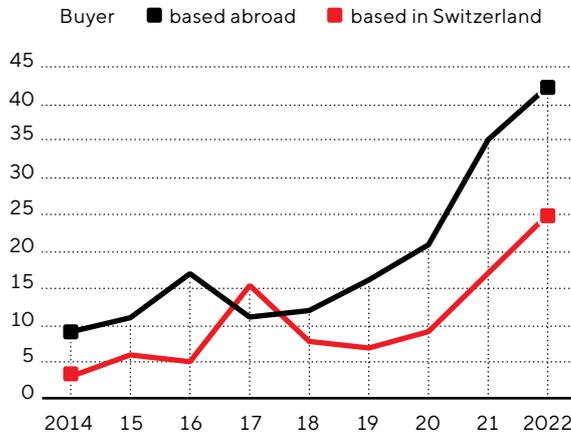
PDF Tools

Private individuals and companies can use the PDF Tools platform to easily compress, convert and edit their PDF files. In March, the company was taken over by its competitor SmallPDF, also domiciled in Zurich. Zurich, founded 2003, www.pdf-tools.com

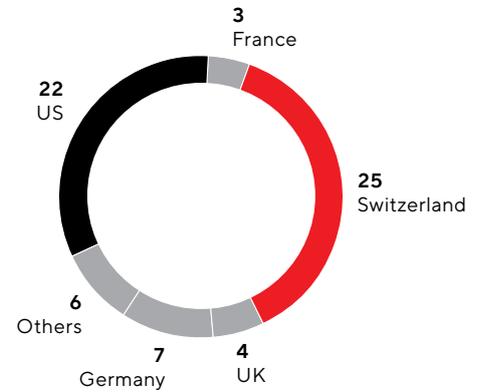
People Analytix

People Analytix's AI-based employee skills management platform helps companies manage skill shifts in their organisation. The new owner is Learning Pool, a UK provider of learning technology and content in North America and western Europe. Zurich, founded 2017, www.people-analytix.com

Number of trade sales



Acquirers of Swiss start-ups by country of origin 2022



Pupil

Pupil’s educational software was developed for Swiss primary and secondary schools. The collaboration with the new majority shareholder, German edtech start-up Sdui, should lead to higher growth.

St. Gallen, founded 2019, www.pupil.ch

Swiss QualiQuest

Swiss QualiQuest’s reputation management system allows feedback to be obtained from customers, suppliers and employees. In June, the start-up was taken over by Bern-based consulting firm Think Beyond.

Bern, founded 2015, www.swissqualiquest.ch

RouteRank

The EPFL spin-off’s mobility platform finds the fastest, cheapest or lowest-emission route from A to B. RouteRank has belonged to Zurich software house Netcetera since mid-year.

Lausanne, founded 2007, www.routerank.com

Totemo

The Zurich start-up is considered one of the leading specialists in email encryption in Europe. The new owner, security provider Kiteworks, is based in California.

Kloten (ZH), founded 2001, www.totemo.com

Signatys

The start-up has cross-industry expertise as an integration partner of electronic signatures. In October, it was taken over by SwissSign, the trust services and identity provider arm of Swiss Post.

Geneva, founded 2011, www.swissign.com

Unblu

Unblu’s platform allows companies to exchange all kinds of information quickly, directly and securely with their customers. In November, it was announced that Swiss Post had acquired a majority stake in the start-up.

Basel-Stadt, founded 2008, www.unblu.com

SMSup

The SMS dispatch platform was taken over by the Swiss branch of F24. The German F24 is a global SaaS provider for incident and crisis management, emergency notification and business messaging.

Marly (FR), founded 2017, www.smsup.ch

Viselio

The start-up simplifies the visa application process for more than 80 countries. In February, CIBT, a global leader in immigration and visa services, acquired Viselio’s software platform. Along with the platform, Viselio’s team of developers will also join CIBT.

Bern, founded 2016, www.cibtvisas.ch

Workspace2go

Workspace2go offers workspace and seminar rooms in more than 100 Swiss cities. In October, founder Manuele Fumagalli sold his portal to the German Spacebase, operator of a global online marketplace for B2B meeting and event rooms.

Zurich, founded 2016, www.spacebase.com

Yoveo

The start-up develops video products and acts as a partner for content, production and technology topics. The new owner is communications agency Farner, in which the Yoveo founding team has a financial interest.

Wallisellen (ZH), founded 2015, www.yoveo.ch

Medtech

AMF Medical

AMF Medical's Sigi Patch Pump is an ergonomic, rechargeable patch pump that reduces the burden of managing diabetes. The new owner is Tandem Diabetes Care, an insulin delivery and diabetes technology company based in San Diego. Tandem paid CHF 62.4 million in cash, with up to CHF 129.6 million on the achievement of certain milestones.

Ecublens (VD), founded 2014, www.amf.ch

Ava

Since the middle of the year, Ava has belonged to US start-up Femtec Health, which was founded only in 2020. The Texan company is funded by big companies including Estee Lauder and Unilever and has acquired a number of healthcare IT start-ups.

Zurich, founded 2014, www.avawomen.com

BestSmile

The dental start-up produces transparent braces for teeth and operates 36 practices throughout Switzerland. At the end of March, founders Marcel Kubli, Philip Magoulas and Ertan Wittwer sold their company to the Federation of Migros Cooperatives.

Winterthur (ZH), founded 2018, www.bestsmile.com

MedAlliance

The start-up is developing a revolutionary delivery technology for various drugs. In October, it was announced that it had been taken over by US medtech group Cordis. The transaction amount is partly success-based and can increase to USD 1.135 billion by 2029.

Nyon (VD), founded 2008, www.medalliance.com

Micro/nano

Asyriil

Asyriil's feeding systems are used in assembly lines, facilitating process automation for a variety of industries. In March, the company was taken over by German private equity investor capiton.

Villaz-St-Pierre (FR), founded 2007, www.asyriil.ch

CTsystems

CTsystems' dielectric elastomer technology enables the development of novel polymer actuators, sensors and generators. In September, the EMPA spin-off was taken over by the Datwyler Group, based in Uri.

Dübendorf (ZH), founded 2019, www.ct-systems.ch

Drivetek

The start-up is an engineering service provider and product supplier for application-specific drive technology based in Brugg (BE). The new owner is US automotive supplier BorgWarner. The transaction has an enterprise value of up to CHF 35 million, of which CHF 25 million was delivered at closing.

Brugg (BE), founded 2002, www.drivetek.ch



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Big birthdays

There was a lot of celebrating in 2022: EPFL Innovation Park and Fongit (fondation genevoise pour l'innovation technologique) both turned 30, and Venture Kick celebrated its 15th anniversary. **Jost Dubacher**



12 Jan

The organisers of the traditional SwissSkills professional championships announce that for the first time they will also award entrepreneurship talents, and from 7 to 10 September eight teams demonstrate their entrepreneurial skills in Bern. The first Swiss championship title in entrepreneurship goes to Zurich computer scientists Raymond Tea and Ralf Boltschauser, who have developed a health app.

1 Apr

DayOne, Basel Area's healthtech accelerator, launches DayOne Accelerator 2.0. Three new verticals will support a wide community of innovators from concept to mid-stage ventures. Each team selected

receives equity-free funding of up to CHF 100,000 in addition to one-to-one coaching, tailored mentoring and training, workspace, industry-wide visibility and access to DayOne's network of digital health experts and health innovation partners – including global players Novartis, Roche, Bayer and Takeda.

14 Apr

The Institute for Management Development (IMD) and Innovaud have been supporting start-ups for many years. The new LeadiNNG to Scale-Up programme focuses on start-up founders who have managed to get their business off the ground and completed their all-important first funding round. In April, 14 start-ups join the first round of the programme;

they receive coaching from leading entrepreneurship professors at IMD and gain access to a network of successful scale-ups and entrepreneurs.

15 Apr

Switzerland is currently considered a non-associated third country in terms of the EU's Horizon Europe framework programme. The Swiss Innovation Agency Innosuisse, led by Annalise Eggimann, implements a transitional measure for start-ups with the Swiss Accelerator, which the Federal Council puts into force on a legal basis on 15 April. With a budget of CHF 86 million, Swiss Accelerator funding amounts to a maximum of CHF 2.5 million per application, typically spread over two years.



18 May

The first Startup Days

gathering after the pandemic is very well attended, with 1,200 entrepreneurs, investors, supporters and corporate representatives participating in the Kursaal Bern. This record is certainly related to the growing Swiss start-up scene and the fact that attendees are delighted to finally meet again in person without restrictions. Much networking goes on throughout the day and the more than 50 sessions attract a large audience. The traditional pitching battle is won by start-ups Incon.ai, Muvon, Aktionariat, Casus and Enerdrape

19 May

Investor clubs Startup Invest and SICTIC join forces.

Startup Invest's activities, its angel investors and its large group of 32 institutional investors from Switzerland and abroad are merged into the non-profit association SICTIC. Thomas Dübendorfer, president and co-founder of SICTIC, welcomes the merger: "This merger allows

us to better position Switzerland on the global map for start-up investors by consolidating fragmented efforts into SICTIC, which becomes a super strong Swiss investor platform with international visibility and a large investor base."

20 Jun

EPFL Innovation Park turns 30.

Just in time for the milestone birthday, the launch of a new site is also on the agenda. Ecotope is a place where start-ups, researchers and external companies will be able to pool their resources in order to explore groundbreaking ideas. Canton Vaud is its main partner. "Ecotope will be a major plus for our canton," says Philippe Leuba, head of Vaud's Department of Economic Affairs, Innovation and Sport. Plans are underway to double EPFL Innovation Park's capacity 30 years after it opened its doors.

25 Aug

Over a period of 10 years, UBS will invest up to CHF 20 million in two joint initiatives with ETH Zurich

to promote entrepreneurship and innovation, and raise interest in STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). UBS will also make a donation of up to CHF 20 million to support the construction of a new ETH building for student initiatives and spin-offs on the Hönggerberg campus. The contracts for the strategic partnership are signed by Sabine Keller-Busse, President UBS Switzerland, and Joël Mesot, president of ETH Zurich.

8 Sep

The TOP 100 Swiss Startup Award 2022

is held as usual at Venturelab's start-up space in Schlieren, with a selected audience of start-ups, investors and key partners. The big winner of the evening is Yokoy: the fintech company uses artificial intelligence to automate the entire corporate spend and credit card process. The Zurich-based start-up was founded in 2019 by Melanie Gabriel, Devis Lussi, Thomas Inhelder, Philippe Sahli and Lars Mangelsdorf.



28 Sep



18 Nov



15 Dec

14 Sep

According to the **European Innovation Scoreboard 2022**, Switzerland is again the most innovative country. Switzerland performs better than EU countries and all other countries analysed in the survey, including the US, South Korea and Israel. The Global Innovation Index, from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), also published in September, comes to the same conclusion. And, finally, in the IMD's world ranking 2022 on 'Digital Competitiveness', Switzerland climbs from sixth to fifth place.

28 Sep

Fongit (fondation genevoise pour l'innovation technologique) celebrates its 30th anniversary with an event attended by more than 200 entrepreneurs, politicians, investors and supporters. Over the last 10 years, more than 1,500 jobs have been created, including 500 direct jobs in the canton. In addition, the support of tech start-ups has resulted in the attraction of talent and a thriving innovation eco-

system, as well as a significant tax return for the canton. For every franc invested in a start-up through Fongit, a tax return of CHF 1.2 per year is generated.

3 Nov

The one Startup Night Winterthur becomes two Startup Nights. The organiser, the Entrepreneur Club Winterthur, takes the risk and is rewarded: over the two days, about 8,000 visitors meet in the Eulachhalle. The event is opened with a video message from Guy Parmelin, head of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research, and speakers include Swiss e-commerce pioneer Roland Brack and Planted co-founder Pascal Bieri.

18 Nov

Venture Kick celebrates its 15th anniversary. Launched in 2007, the initiative addresses the crucial funding gap experienced by early-stage entrepreneurs launching from Swiss universities. Since the launch, CHF 44.85 million has been invested in 917 start-up projects, leading

to the incorporation of 718 companies with 11,362 jobs and CHF 6.7 billion raised from investors. "The achievements have gone far beyond our expectations," says Pascale Vonmont (third from left), president of the strategy board. "With a leverage of 150x from investors for every franc given by Venture Kick, and alumni who have become world leaders in their field, we feel privileged to have been able to make it happen."

15 Dec

In March 2021, FDP National Councillor Andri Silberschmidt submitted a motion with the following wording: "The Federal Council is commissioned to ensure that the founding of a company should be possible without media disruption – i. e. completely digitally." On 15 December, six months after the National Council, the Council of States also approves the motion. Now it's the turn of the Federal Council.



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Investments

383 financing rounds

Amounts, investors, sectors, cantons and support programmes: all publicly available information on Swiss start-up financing rounds is listed on the following pages. A link to further information on each financing round can be found in the PDF version of this magazine, which can be downloaded at startupticker.ch.

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I V T*	Investors
21shares	24.5	ICT (fintech)	later stage	ZG		Marshall Wace, Collab+Currency, Quiet Ventures, ETFS Capital, Valor Equity Partners
4D Lifetec	1.9	medtech	later stage	ZG		existing and new investors
9T Labs	15.6	micro / nano	early stage	ZH	T	Stratasys, Verve, ACE & Company, ZKB, Wingman, SICTIC
About You Services	1	ICT	seed	FR		Serpentine
AC Bioscience	2.5	biotech	seed	VD		n. a.
Acheteur.ch	0.6	ICT	seed	VD		private investors
Adaptiv Biosystems	2.5	medtech	seed	VD	V	Wingman, Acequia Capital, Hawktaill VC, Rheingau Founders, Founders, Inc, FAST by GETTYLAB, Axial
Adiposs	1.8	medtech	early stage	GE	T	Privilège Ventures, CR Ventures, Fongit, Singapore-based family office Kingbridge, Business Angels Switzerland, business angels
Aegis Rider	n. a.	ICT	seed	ZH		Serpentine
AELER Technologies	7.0	cleantech	early stage	VD		Decisive, MACV, Tiger8, Virtual Network, AA Sons
Aepsy	n. a.	healthcare IT	seed	ZH		Backbone Ventures, private investors
Aero41	0.7	micro / nano	early stage	VD	V	Boundary Holding
Agora Care	1.8	healthcare IT	early stage	GE		private investors, SICTIC
Aison Technologies	n. a.	medtech	seed	ZH		private investors, SICTIC
Aisot Technologies	0.2	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZH		private investors, SICTIC
Akina	1.6	healthcare IT	seed	ZH	V	Ertan Wittwer, Philipp Magoulas, Nikolaus Nieder, Joel Roos, Springboard Health Angels
Akselos	16.4	ICT	later stage	VD	I, T	AT Capital Group, Future Energy Ventures, Japan Energy Fund, Shell Ventures
Aktionariat	n. a.	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZH		n. a.
Aleno	4.5	ICT	early stage	ZH		Gentian Investments, German family office
AlgoTrader	4.5	ICT (fintech)	later stage	ZH		Credit Suisse Entrepreneur Capital, C3 EOS VC Fund, SBI Investment, Fenbushi Capital, Verve, Quonota Investments, NeueCapital
Alithea Genomics	1.0	medtech	seed	VD		Novalis Biotech Acceleration Fund, private investors
aliunid	n. a.	cleantech	early stage	ZG		Aargauische Kantonalbank, Innovationsfonds der Alternativen Bank Schweiz, Appmodule
Alpentol (Cannabissurordonnance.ch)	0.6	healthcare IT	seed	VS		n. a.
Alphacruncher	1.5	ICT	seed	SG		Alpine Group, NGM, private investors and existing users

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FINANCING ROUNDS

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I V T*	Investors
Altoida	18.7	healthcare IT	early stage	LU	T	M Ventures, Whitecap Venture Partners, Honor-Health, btov, Alpana, Hikma Ventures, Fyrfly, VI Partners
AMNIS	8.6	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZH		Lansdowne Partners, Spicehaus, SICTIC
Amplo (January)	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZH		n.a.
Amplo (September)	1.6	ICT	seed	ZH		session.vc, Backbone Ventures, Fyrfly, SICTIC
Anavon Ski	0.7	consumer products	early stage	GR		crowdfunding (Conda.ch)
Anokion	35.1	biotech	later stage	VD	T	Pfizer Breakthrough Growth Initiative
Aramedes	1.1	consumer products	early stage	ZH		crowdfunding (Conda.ch)
Araris Biotech	23.7	biotech	early stage	ZH	T	4BIO Capital, Pureos Bioventures, Wille, the Institute for Follicular Lymphoma Innovation, VI Partners, Schrodgers Capital, btov, Redalpine
Archilogic	n.a.	ICT	later stage	ZH		Carrier Ventures
Artiria Medical	1.1	medtech	early stage	VD	I, T, V	n.a.
Aseptuva	0.5	medtech	seed	BE		Valuemaker, Fortyone
Aspaara	2.0	ICT	seed	ZH		Wingman, Gentian Investments, business angels
aspivix	4.7	medtech	early stage	VD	T	Hemex, 4FOx ventures, ZKB, LaunchPad APAC
Auxivo	n.a.	micro / nano	seed	ZH	V	Serpentine, ETH Foundation, SpanSet Inter
AVA Innovations	n.a.	ICT	seed	SO		Serpentine
Avea Life	2.5	consumer products	seed	ZG		Maximon
Avelo	2.2	medtech	seed	ZH	V	Occident, Privilege Ventures, Arve, ZKB, MedTech angel investors
aXedras Group	n.a.	ICT (fintech)	later stage	ZG		World Gold Council
Bcomp	32.0	cleantech	later stage	FR	I, T, V	BMW i Ventures, Volvo Cars Technology Fund, Porsche Ventures, Airbus Ventures, Generali, existing investors
Bearmind	0.1	healthcare IT	seed	VD		private investors, SICTIC
Beekeeper	49.4	ICT	later stage	ZH	I, V	EGS Beteiligungen, Kreos Capital, Energize, Thayer, Swisscanto, Keen Ventures, Alpana, Verve, SICTIC
Berlin Heals Holding	5.0	medtech	early stage	ZG		n.a.
Bionter	2.9	medtech	seed	BL	V	Dynamk Capital
Biosimo	n.a.	cleantech	seed	ZH	V	Übermorgen Ventures
BioVersys	24.2	biotech	later stage	BS	I, T	existing and new investors
BloGa Tech	1.8	ICT	seed	SH		Fundamental Labs, OKEx Blockdream Ventures, Signum Capital, Animoca Brands
BottlePlus	n.a.	consumer products	seed	AG		n.a.
Bottneuro	4.0	healthcare IT	seed	BS		DART labs, HEMEX, Zühlke Ventures
Boum	1.0	consumer products	seed	BE		n.a.
b-rayZ	4.0	medtech	early stage	ZH	V	LifeCare partners, Protagon, Convergence, Eckenstein-Geigy Foundation, Swisspreneur syndicate, private investors
BSC Sports (Big Sack)	0.5	cleantech	seed	VD		business angels
C WIRE	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZH		21Celsius
Caeleste (CLST)	n.a.	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZH		Spartan Group, TX Ventures, Coinbase Ventures, Kraken Ventures, GSR, Menai Financial Group, Luno Expeditions

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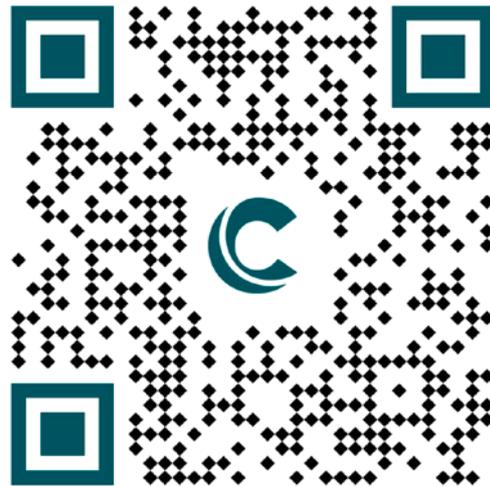
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FINANCING ROUNDS

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I V T*	Investors
Caeli Nova	8.0	medtech	early stage	SZ	T, V	Ornament Health, LG Capital, Latécoère
Calingo Insurance	1.5	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZH		Venpace, EquityPitcher, Swiss Founders Fund, SICTIC, business angels
Calvin Risk	1.4	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZH		Wingman, btov
Candi Solar	n.a.	cleantech	later stage	ZH		STOA impact fund, Energy Entrepreneur Fund, Gaia impact fund, most existing shareholders
CAOS (Zitadel)	2.4	ICT	seed	SG		Nexus Venture Partners
Caplena	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZH	V	private investors, SICTIC
Capskin	n.a.	medtech	early stage	ZH	T	Serpentine
capsule services	3.0	consumer products	early stage	LU		crowdfunding (private investors)
carecircle	1.9	healthcare IT	seed	ZG		Pearl Street Equity, family office, business angels
Carnault	n.a.	consumer products	later stage	BS		crowdfunding (Aktionariat)
Carvolution	16.2	ICT	later stage	BE		Mobilier, Redalpine, Armada Ventures, Ringier Digital Ventures
CASUS Technologies	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZH		Nicole Herzog, Beat Brechbühl, Thomas Gabathuler, SICTIC, Kellerhals Carrard, Swiss Founders Fund
CDR Life	70.8	biotech	early stage	ZH	I	Jeito Capital, RA Capital Management, Omega Funds
CEBS (kooky)	6.7	consumer products	early stage	ZH		UVC Partners, Valentin Stalf, Cornelius Boersch, Emanuel Thomassin, Alois Flatz
Cerchia	1.3	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZG		private investors, SICTIC
Certifaction	5.2	ICT	seed	ZH		Expa, HV Capital, SeedCamp, Wingman
Chain4travel	4.3	ICT	seed	ZG		n.a.
Cimeio Theapeutics	46.0	Biotech	early stage	BS		Versant Ventures
Climeworks		cleantech	later stage	ZH	I, T, V	Partners Group, GIC, Baillie Gifford, Carbon Removal Partners, Global Founders Capital, John Doerr, M&G, Swiss Re, BigPoint Holding
coach better	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZH		Steven Nzonzi
coatingAI	0.6	ICT	seed	ZH		SICTIC, Serpentine, Aare Ventures, private investors
Cobea (Alpine White)	1.8	medtech	seed	ZH		Ertan Wittwer, Fabrice Aeberhard, business angels
Coinstrategy Capital	5.0	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZH		private investors
collectID	3.2	ICT	seed	SG		Seventy Six Capital, Hellen's Rock Capital, SBI-Sygnum-Azimuth DAO Fund, SICTIC
Cortex (Dopamine)	n.a.	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZG		Chainfir Capital
Cortexia	n.a.	ICT	early stage	FR		Remondis Digital Services, Capital Risque Fribourg
Covalo	1.2	ICT	early stage	ZH		private investors, SICTIC
Cowa Thermal Solutions	1.0	cleantech	early stage	LU	V	private investors
Creable	n.a.	ICT	seed	SZ		Sequoia Capital Scout Fund, private investors
CreatorSpace	1.5	ICT	seed	ZH		Sequoia Capital Arc, Gaingels Network, NEXTBLUE, Thilo Konzok
Cultivated Biosciences	n.a.	cleantech	seed	FR	V	Wingman, Big Idea Ventures, Proveg International, Blue Horizon, Arturo Elizondo, Lukas Böni, other angels from the FoodHack syndicate
Cybera Global	4.8	ICT	early stage	ZH		Converge VC, New North Ventures, Founder Collective, Serpentine, CV VC, additional VCs, angels, private investors
Cyltronic	1.2	micro / nano	early stage	ZH		Baltec

FINANCING ROUNDS

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I	V	T*	Investors
Cynos	1.0	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZH				private investors, SICTIC
CYSEC (January)	4.0	ICT	seed	VD		T		Line Break Capital, Indaco Venture Partners SGR, Blockchain Valley Ventures, Boundary Holding, Horizon Capital, 4See Ventures
CYSEC (October)	2.0	ICT	early stage	VD		T		Karista
Daedalean	53.0	ICT	later stage	ZH		T		Carthona Capital, Amino Capital, Redalpine, Honeywell Ventures, SICTIC
Dancing Queens	n.a.	consumer products	seed	ZH				private investors (Höhle der Löwen)
Daphne Technology (March)	4.0	cleantech	later stage	VD		T		Swisscom, private investors introduced through UBS Growth Advisory, ONE CREATION
Daphne Technology (December)	3.0	cleantech	later stage	VD				institutional investors advised by J.P. Morgan Global Alternatives' Global Transportation Group
Decentriq	14.0	ICT	early stage	ZH		T		Eclipse Ventures, existing investors including Atlantic Labs, btov, Paladin Capital Group
Deep Breath Intelligence	2.8	healthcare IT	seed	ZG				Qupar, Sigi Föhn
deskbird (August)	4.8	ICT	early stage	SG				Fortyone, Rivus Capital, session.vc
deskbird (November)	1.4	ICT	early stage	SG				PortfoLion Capital Partners
Destinus	26.8	micro / nano	seed	VD				Conny & Co, Quiet Capital, One Way Ventures, Liquid2 Ventures, Cathexis Ventures, ACE & Company, other investors
DHP Technology	1.4	cleantech	later stage	GR				crowdinvesting (Conda.ch)
DillySocks	0.4	consumer products	early stage	ZH		T		crowdinvesting (Aktionariat)
DistalMotion	82.6	medtech	later stage	VD		I, T, V		Revival Healthcare Capital, 415 CAPITAL, existing investors
DNA Mobile (Miloo)	2.5	consumer products	seed	GE				Brunschwig Group, private investors
Drone Harmony	1.5	ICT	early stage	ZH				Spicehaus, private investors, SICTIC
Edaphos	2.2	cleantech	early stage	GE				BPI France, other investors
EH Group Engineering	5.0	cleantech	early stage	VD				AP Ventures
Engimmune Therapeutics	15.5	biotech	seed	BS				Pureos Bioventures, Novo Holdings
Equip Club	5.0	healthcare IT	seed	VD				TNF
Equippo	n.a.	ICT	later stage	ZG				Wallenius Wilhelmsen Group, btov, VI Partners
EthonAI	1.2	ICT	seed	ZH				Wingman, Acequia Capital, business angels
Eulitha	n.a.	micro / nano	later stage	AG				AGIC Capital
Everon	n.a.	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZH				QBIT Capital
Evulpo	n.a.	ICT	early stage	ZH				Swiss family offices, Serpentine
ExerGo	3.0	cleantech	later stage	VD				Baler Hughes, Eren Group, existing investors
Exnaton	n.a.	cleantech	early stage	ZH				True Ventures, Übermorgen, SICTIC, private investors
Experify	3.8	ICT	seed	ZH				Vertex Ventures US, Sonae Investment Management, Berkeley SkyDeck Fund, SICTIC
Fairpicture	1.1	ICT	early stage	BE				private investors, Aare Ventures
Farmy	6.0	consumer products	later stage	ZH		T		private investors, SICTIC
fidentity	0.9	ICT	seed	BE				private investors, SICTIC
Findependent	1.2	ICT (fintech)	seed	AG				Backbone Ventures, SICTIC
Fixposition	n.a.	micro / nano	seed	ZH				Serpentine, Amino Capital, MAX Electron, SICTIC

FINANCING ROUNDS

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I V T*	Investors
Fixposition	n.a.	micro / nano	early stage	ZH		Serpentine, Segway-Ninebot, other investors
Flowbone	2.1	medtech	seed	VD		business angels
Flummox	12.2	ICT	seed	SG		Fasanara Capital, venture capital firm from CEE, business angels
Flux Mobility	n.a.	cleantech	seed	ZH		PCS Holding, other investor
Flyability	15.0	micro / nano	later stage	VD	T	SBI Investment, Cargill, Verve, Dow, ETF Partners, Swisscom, Future Industry Ventures
Flybotix	5.5	micro / nano	early stage	VD	T	Technologiefonds, Schwartzkopff Partners on behalf of clients, new and existing investors
Foxstone	10.0	ICT (fintech)	early stage	GE		Rosablanche Venture, Vaudoise, Naef Holding
Fresepirited Drinks (Rebels 0.0%)	1.0	consumer products	seed	ZH		StartAngels Network, business angels
Fruitful Farming	0.5	cleantech	seed	ZH		business angels, family office
fyn foods (fabas)	0.1	cleantech	seed	ZH		private investors (Höhle der Löwen)
Get Local	0.6	ICT	early stage	ZH		private investors, SICTIC
Get More Brain	2.5	ICT	seed	ZH		business angels, SICTIC
Glambou	5.5	consumer products	later stage	ZG		Lakeshore Group
Golog	n.a.	ICT	seed	BE		private investors, Aare Ventures
Gossik	0.8	ICT	seed	SG		Fortyone, SICTIC, private investors
grape insurance	1.7	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZH	V	Wingman, Tomahawk.VC, DD Venture Capital
Greenteq	10.0	micro / nano	later stage	ZH		existing and new investors, SICTIC
Grizzly Development	25.2	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZG		DeFi investors
H55	n.a.	cleantech	early stage	VS		RTX Ventures
HackVentures	1.1	ICT (fintech)	seed	VD		FoodLabs, Siddhi Capital, EQT Ventures, ACME, Vala Capital, Revent, Square One Foods, private investors
Hair and Skin Medical (August)	4.6	consumer products	later stage	ZH		Ertan Wittwer, Philip Magoulas, Marcel Kubli, Dr. Omar Haroon, Fabrice Aeberhard
Hair and Skin Medical (October)	3.9	consumer products	later stage	ZH		YZR
Haya Therapeutics	4.6	biotech	seed	VD	T	Humboldt Fund, Broadview Ventures, Apollo Health Ventures, BERNINA BioInvest, 4See Ventures, Schrodgers Capital, Viva BioInnovator
Healios	n.a.	healthcare IT	early stage	BS		Zühlke Ventures, Lichtsteiner Foundation, business angels
Hedera Dx	13.5	medtech	early stage	VD		Adam Ghobarah, Inventure, Air Street Capital, Amino Collective, GRIDS Capital
Helvengo	4.2	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZH		TX Group, PostFinance, SeedX Liechtenstein, Hypoport, Anamcara Capital, Plug and Play, Conny & Co, business angels
Helvetic Care	1.0	healthcare IT	later stage	SZ		AEVIS VICTORIA, private investors
hemotune	7.3	medtech	later stage	ZH	I, T, V	Occident, ZKB, HEMEX, VP Venture Partners
Hilky AG	0.6	consumer products	seed	ZH		n.a.
holo1one	7.5	ICT	early stage	AG	T	Micron Ventures, Lenovo, Verve, SICTIC, Family Office Schwarzwälder Bote (Redstone), Forefront Venture Partners
Huperty	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZH		Marcel Schneider, Peter Mettler
HYLL	1.2	ICT	early stage	BE		private investors, SICTIC

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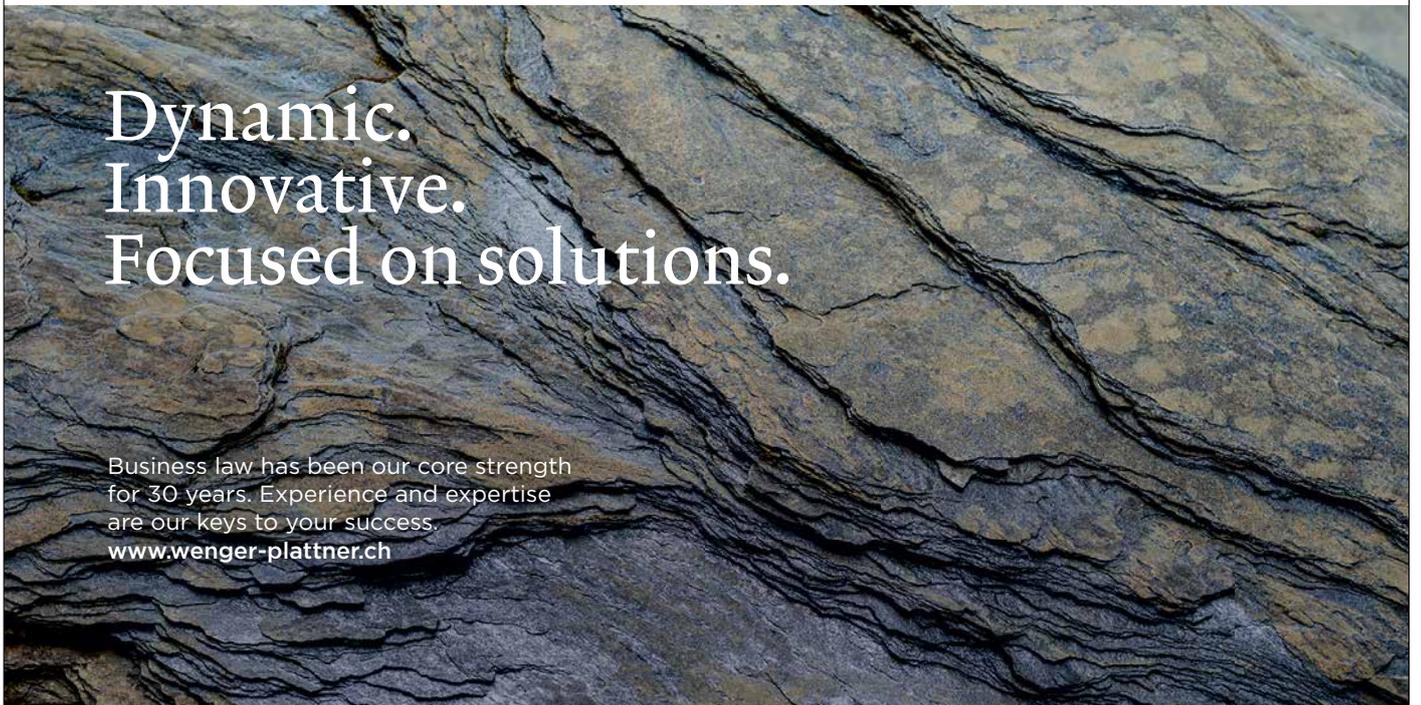
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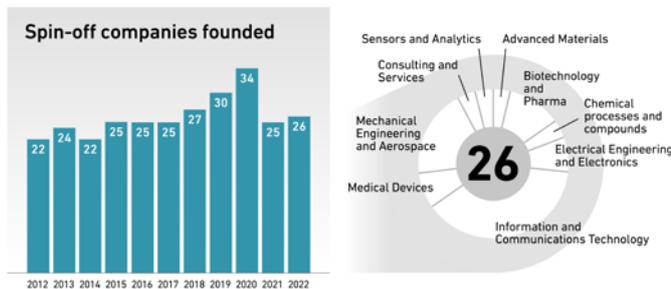
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FINANCING ROUNDS

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I V T*	Investors
Hypoteq	1.0	ICT	seed	ZH		new and existing investors
i2 Holding	3.8	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZG		Swiss business angels, hedge fund manager, family offices
ImmunOs Therapeutics	71.4	biotech	later stage	ZH	T	Samsara BioCapital, Lightspeed Venture Partners, Gimv, Mission BioCapital, GL Capital, PEAK6 Strategic Capital, Fiscus Financial, Pfizer Ventures, BioMed Partners, Redalpine, Schroders Capital
Imverse	4.5	ICT	early stage	GE		Hammer Team, HTC, Logitech, DAA Capital Partners, ACE & Company, XCEL NEXT, SICTIC, Ivo Petrov
Indyvit	n.a.	consumer products	early stage	BL		R17 Ventures
Inergio Technologies	1.3	cleantech	seed	VD	T, V	Privilège Ventures, StartAngels Network, DART Labs, private investors
InfraScreen	1.5	cleantech	seed	NE		Investbridge Capital, ACE & Company
Insolight	4.6	cleantech	later stage	VD	T	Demeter, Smart Energy Innovation Fund, Verve, ZKB, SICTIC
Invasight	4.5	biotech	seed	ZH	V	OCCIDENT, JFG Life Sciences Foundation, Verve, High-Tech Gründerfonds, Wille Finance, ZKB, AVANTECA Partners, angel investors
Isochronic	2.0	micro / nano	seed	VD		Serpentine, ZKB, SICTIC, private investors
Jarowa	12.4	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZG		Eos Venture Partners, moyreal holding, Helvetic Trust, family office
Jua.ai	2.5	ICT	seed	SZ		Promus Ventures, Siraj Khaliq, Mehdi Ghissassi, session.vc
juli	3.5	healthcare IT	seed	SG		Speedinvest, Norrskén VC
Jurata	0.5	ICT	seed	ZH		private investors, SICTIC
Kaduu	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZG		Spicehaus, private investors
Kaqtu	0.5	ICT	seed	ZH		business angels
Kaspar&	n.a.	ICT (fintech)	seed	SG		BLKB, SICTIC
KEJAKO	0.75	medtech	early stage	GE		private investors, Business Angels Switzerland
Kemaro	5.0	micro / nano	early stage	TG		Spicehaus, W+P Beteiligungen, Obayashi Corporation, existing investors
KetoSwiss	4.0	biotech	early stage	BS		William K. Warren Foundation, R42, Healthspa Capital, Baszucki Group, Ortho Innovations
Kinastic	n.a.	healthcare IT	early stage	ZH	V	AXA, Mica Ventures, business angels
Klarpay	3.0	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZG		payabl. Group
Koa	10.0	cleantech	early stage	ZH	V	Haltra Group, Landscape Resilience Fund, IDH Farmfit Fund
Komed	1.1	healthcare IT	early stage	ZH		private investors, SICTIC
KOMP-ACT	n.a.	micro / nano	early stage	VD	V	Pariter Partners, SICTIC
Laevitas	2.4	ICT (fintech)	seed	VD		Three Arrows Capital, DeFiance Capital, Astronaut Capital, CMS, Astronaut Capital, strategic angels
Lambda Health System	0.4	medtech	later stage	VD		private investors, Business Angels Switzerland
LatticeFlow	11.8	ICT	later stage	ZH		Atlantic Bridge, OpenOcean, FPV Ventures, btov, Global Founders Capital
LeaseTeq	4.2	ICT (fintech)	seed	SZ		private investors, SICTIC
Ledgy	21.2	ICT	later stage	ZH	T	New Enterprise Associates, Speedinvest, existing investors including Sequoia Capital, 20VC, btov, VI Partners
LEM Surgical	8.7	medtech	early stage	BE		Simon Michel, co-founding team, external investors

Digital twins, new cancer treatments and three unicorns

A grand total of 26 spin-offs were founded at ETH Zurich in 2022. Their businesses range from new cancer drugs and sustainable water bottles to digital mapping of urban traffic flows. The ETH spin-off family also welcomed three new unicorns and raised 1.2 billion Swiss francs in fresh capital.



In 2022, 26 spin-offs were founded at ETH Zürich. (Source: ETH Zurich)

Over the past year, ETH has seen the creation of 26 new spin-offs. These newly founded spin-offs cover a wide variety of fields and reflect the entire range of topics at ETH Zurich. The largest group (10) of the 2022 spin-offs are again focused on the IT and communications technology sector – a trend that has continued for several years. However, the problems these companies address are very different: while Calvin Risk AG offers a kind of artificial intelligence insurance, Cerrion AG uses AI and sensors to monitor and improve entire production processes. The ETH spin-off Transcality AG creates complex models, or digital twins, of traffic systems that make it possible to analyse a city's traffic flows and simulate future scenarios.

Working to enhance mental and physical health

A striking number of the new ETH spin-offs develop solutions for the healthcare sector. Three young companies are working on novel cancer drugs or on improving existing therapeutics, while two others offer apps that help to reduce stress and increase mental and physical well-being. Another one is Kairos Medical AG, which develops biodegradable bone implants. These are able to stabilise bones during healing, but – unlike conventional metal screws – they then dissolve in the body over time.

Spark the entrepreneurial spirit before graduation

No fewer than four of the new spin-offs came to life in the Student Project House – ETH's ideas workshop for its students. One such spin-off is Bottleplus, which produces a sustainable water bottle that can be used to make carbonated water on the go. Another is AtlasVR AG, which provides virtual reality technology for professional training programmes. "We want society to benefit from our research findings and innovations as quickly as possible. I'm enormously pleased that the Student Project House is

succeeding in encouraging students to pursue their ideas and bring them to market," says Vanessa Wood, Vice President for Knowledge Transfer and Corporate Relations at ETH Zurich. To further promote entrepreneurship among students and get schoolchildren excited about STEM subjects, ETH also entered into a strategic partnership with UBS in summer 2022.

Three new unicorns and numerous acquisitions

Investment in ETH spin-offs also saw positive development last year. The companies raised around 1.2 billion Swiss francs – more than ever before. Three ETH spin-offs also attained unicorn status in 2022: the term refers to start-ups that are so promising that their market value exceeds one billion dollars even before they go public. These three companies are Scandit, which enables fast scanning even under difficult conditions, as well as Southpole and Climeworks, both of which are dedicated to the fight against climate change.

There were also a number of successful acquisitions: for example, the spin-off Adresta was bought by Bucherer, Animatico was acquired by Nvidia, and FGen was taken over by Ginko Bioworks. Vertical farming herbs from ETH spin-off Yasai also found their way onto Coop shelves in 2022, and Synhelion announced a strategic collaboration with Swiss International Air Lines. "It's important for ETH that good technologies and ideas give rise to companies with growth potential and thus create new jobs. In this way, the success of our spin-offs becomes the success of Switzerland," says Vice President Vanessa Wood.

ETH spin-offs over the years

Since 1973, a total of 540 spin-offs have been created at ETH Zurich. Recognised ETH spin-offs receive support from the ETH Domain Knowledge Transfer and Corporate Relations during their foundation and in the often crucial following years in the form of consulting, licensing of ETH technologies and networking. A comprehensive analysis by the University of St.Gallen in 2020 showed that ETH spin-offs perform better, create more jobs and are also acquired more often than the average Swiss start-up. You can find a list of all spin-offs and a good overview of the key details on the website www.ethz.ch/entrepreneurship.

FINANCING ROUNDS

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I V T*	Investors
Leman Biotech	10.5	biotech	early stage	VD		n. a.
Lightly	2.9	ICT	seed	ZH		Wingman, SICTIC
LocalBini	0.6	ICT	early stage	SG		existing investors, private investor
Loft Dynamics	18.7	ICT	early stage	SH		Craft Ventures, Sky Dayton, Up Ventures
LS Instruments	n. a.	medtech	later stage	FR	I	private investors
Lumendo (January)	2.5	medtech	seed	VD	I, V	Dominik Lysek, ZKB, Business Angels Switzerland
Lumendo (June)	0.9	medtech	seed	VD	I, V	Dominik Lysek, ZKB, N&V Capital, Business Angels Switzerland
Lyfegen Healthtech	7.7	healthcare IT	early stage	BS		aMoon, APEX Ventures
Lynus	0.3	cleantech	early stage	SZ		crowdinvesting (Conda.ch)
machine MD	3.2	healthcare IT	seed	BE		Sitem StartUp Club, Guido Fluri Foundation
Macu4	0.7	medtech	seed	ZH		private investors (Höhle der Löwen)
Malaica	n. a.	healthcare IT	seed	ZH		Swiss business angels
MARK Investment Holding (Splint Invest) (February)	0.3	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZG		business angels
MARK Investment Holding (Splint Invest) (November)	0.5	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZG	V	private investors (Höhle der Löwen)
Matchspace Music	n. a.	ICT	early stage	ZH	V	private investors, Business Angels Switzerland
matriq	4.2	micro / nano	seed	SG		industrial investor, FT, InnoHolding, Fortyone, Fortimo Business, ZKB, SICTIC, seed investors
Medical Templates	3.0	medtech	seed	ZH		discoveric
medudoc	2.0	healthcare IT	seed	LU		private investors
Memo Therapeutics	23.0	biotech	later stage	ZH		Swisscanto Invest, Adjuvant Capital, Fresenius Medical Care Ventures, GF Group, Verve, Vesalius Biocapital, ZKB
Memox Innovations	1.5	ICT	early stage	ZH		new and existing investors, Fortyone
Metabloqs Platform	1.2	ICT	seed	LU		n. a.
Metaphysiks Engineering	1.9	micro / nano	seed	VD		TNF, Logitech, All Here, Tej Tadi
Meteomatics	13.5	ICT	later stage	SG	T	Klima, Enagás, US-based renewables and utility company
Mikks	2	consumer products	early stage	ZH		n. a.
Mila	1.9	ICT	early stage	ZH		Born2Grow Ventures, Alpana, Oriza Ventures
mimiX Biotherapeutics	n. a.	medtech	seed	NE		AO Foundation, Heraeus, private investors
MindMaze	96.7	healthcare IT	later stage	VD	T, V	Concord Health Partners, others
Miraex	4.0	micro / nano	early stage	VD	T, V	private investors, SICTIC
Mister Loo	5.0	consumer products	later stage	ZH		Silverhorn, responAbility
molecule	12.9	healthcare IT	seed	SH		Northpond Ventures, Backed VC, Shine Capital, Speedinvest, Balaji Srinivasan
Morgen	1.0	ICT	seed	ZH		VI Partners, New Forge, SICTIC, private investors
Mosanna Therapeutics	n. a.	biotech	seed	BS		Forty51 Ventures
Motosacoche	1.0	consumer products	seed	GE		private investors, family offices
Moveagain	n. a.	ICT	later stage	ZH		Serpentine
mtchbxsystems	0.3	ICT	seed	ZG		private investors (Höhle der Löwen)
Multiwave Technologies	1.0	medtech	early stage	GE		new and existing investors

FINANCING ROUNDS

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I V T*	Investors
My Beni	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZH		Fabrice Aeberhard, Bianca Gubser Keyman
my Facility	n.a.	cleantech	seed	AG		StartAngels Netzwerk, Business Angels Club Aargau, SICTIC
MyFeld	0.4	ICT	seed	AG		private investors (Höhle der Löwen)
Mympact	0.3	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZH		F10 Switzerland, business angels
Nahtlos	1.0	medtech	early stage	SG		business angels, Stiftung Startfeld, SICTIC
Nanolive (April)	18.5	medtech	later stage	VD	I, T, V	US-based and Nasdaq-listed life sciences investor, Taiwan Capital
Nanolive (September)	2.1	medtech	later stage	VD		Innoviva affiliate, Taiwan Capital
Navignostics (September)	1.0	healthcare IT	seed	ZH		UZH Life Sciences Fund
Navignostics (November)	7.5	healthcare IT	seed	ZH		Bruker Invest AG, Think.Health Ventures, Ventura Biomed Investors, ZKB
NBK Labs (nobank)	1.0	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZG		private investors
Nemis Technologies	7.7	medtech	early stage	ZH	T	n.a
Neo Medical	19.0	medtech	later stage	VD		Swisscom Ventures, other investors
neon Switzerland	11.2	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZH	T	institutional investors, crowdfunding, SICTIC
Neur.on	1.6	ICT	seed	FR		Helbing Lichtenhahn, Capital Risque Fribourg, private investors, SICTIC
Neural Concept	8.5	ICT	early stage	VD	T	Alven, Aster, CNB, High-Tech Gründerfonds
Nevermined	3.0	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZG		Signature Ventures, Polymorphic Capital
Nexenic	1.8	consumer products	early stage	ZH		ZFV Unternehmungen, private investors
Nexxiot (February)	n.a.	ICT	later stage	ZH	I	Arvato Financial Solutions
Nexxiot (June)	76.0	ICT	later stage	ZH	I	Knorr-Bremse, QVIDTVM, existing shareholders
NIKIN	5	ICT	later stage	AG		crowdfunding (Conda.ch)
noii land	0.3	ICT	seed	ZH		Manuel Grenacher, Julian Liniger, Fabian Knup
nomady	2.0	ICT	early stage	SZ		Sparrow Ventures, other investors
NOMOQ	n.a.	micro / nano	seed	ZH		international investors
Novigenix	18.8	medtech	later stage	VD		new and existing investors
Numarics	2.1	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZH		Wingman, SeedX
OceanSafe	n.a.	cleantech	seed	BE		Rütters, exelixis capital, angel and impact investors
OiOiOi	0.6	ICT	seed	ZH		private investors (Höhle der Löwen)
OPNA Bio	35.8	biotech	early stage	VD		Longitude Capital, Northpond Ventures, Menlo Ventures
Ovomind	1.6	ICT	seed	GE		SICTIC, Fongit
Oxyle	2.8	cleantech	seed	ZH		Wingman, SOSV, Better Ventures, another.vc
Parashift	n.a.	ICT	later stage	BL		BLKB
PatchXR	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZH		Serpentine
pax.world	5.3	ICT	seed	ZH		BOLD Capital Group Reef, DFG Capital, TRGC, BlueZilla VC, Shima Capital, DextForce, Poolz, AU21 Capital, Jump Trading
PeakData	12.0	healthcare IT	early stage	ZG		AlbionVC, Octopus Ventures, Heal Capital
Pelt8	0.1	ICT	seed	ZH		business angels
Perspective Robotics (Fotokite)	13.7	micro / nano	later stage	ZH	I, T	MSA Safety, Swisscanto Invest, Credit Suisse Entrepreneur Capital, Sony Innovation Fund, SICTIC
Pexapark	8.0	cleantech	later stage	ZH		Encavis, RP Global, Baywa.re, S&P Global Commodity Insights, Fluence



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FINANCING ROUNDS

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I V T*	Investors
ph. International	0.5	consumer products	early stage	ZH		crowdinvesting (Conda.ch)
Picterra	6.2	ICT	later stage	VD		VI Partners, ACE & Company
Piomic Medical	7.5	medtech	early stage	ZH	I	Swiss Diabetes Venture Fund, Verve, ZKB, NEST pension fund
PIPRA	2.1	healthcare IT	seed	ZH		StartAngels Network, Forward VC, ZKB, Plug and Play
Pitcher	n.a.	ICT	later stage	ZH	I	Crest Rock Partners
Planetary Group	7.5	cleantech	seed	GE		Astanor Ventures, Xange, Blue Horizon, Nucleus Capital
Planted Foods	70.0	cleantech	later stage	ZH	T, V	L Catterton, Vorwerk Ventures, Gullspång Re:food, Be8 Ventures, ACE, ETH Zurich Foundation, Tengelmann Ventures, Joyance, Yann Sommer
Plastogaz	n.a.	cleantech	seed	VD	T, V	Dow Venture Capital
Portofino Technologies	48.2	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZG		Valar Ventures, Global Founders Capital, Coatue
Positrigo	5.5	medtech	later stage	ZH	I, T, V	Fairway Asset Management, 4FO Venture Partners, EIC Fund, ZKB, ETH Foundation
PreComb Therapeutics	1.3	biotech	early stage	ZH		LongeVC, Kinled, private investors, family offices
PRODUCER	0.5	ICT	seed	ZH		Volker Wendel
Properti	6.0	ICT	seed	ZH		Serpentine, Sparrow Ventures, Ertan Wittwer, business angels
PWN	0.9	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZG		Dialectic, business angels (Patricio Worthalter, Tim Beiko, Will Harborne, Kenneth Ng and Chris Waclawek)
qibee	4.6	ICT	later stage	ZG		Z5 Capital, Meet The People, private investors
QualySense	2.3	micro / nano	later stage	ZH	I, V	Ferrum
QuantActions	n.a.	healthcare IT	seed	ZH		Fortyone, group of investors including Plug and Play Germany
Raumpioniere	1.5	ICT	seed	SG	V	business angels, Stiftung Startfeld, family office
Recycling Services	0.35	cleantech	later stage	ZH		crowdinvesting (Conda.ch)
Refluenced	0.3	ICT	seed	ZH		private investors (Höhle der Löwen)
Relai	2.2	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZH		Redalpine, Polytech Ventures, Fulgur Ventures, ACE & Company, SICTIC
Remotion	0.2	ICT	seed	ZH		Heiko Hubertz, For One Red, William Candillon, Sebastien Lorber, Spotify engineers, Musixmatch engineers, customers
Resistell	8.5	medtech	later stage	BL	T	TRUMPF Venture, OCCIDENT, ZKB, EIC Fund, Launchpad, private investors
RIBE Moto	0.5	ICT	seed	ZH		private investors (Höhle der Löwen)
Riskwolf	0.4	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZH		SICTIC, Serpentine, Asian investor
SalesPlaybook	0.6	ICT	seed	ZH		session.vc, business angels
Saporo (January)	2.5	ICT	seed	VD		session.vc, Lightbird Ventures
Saporo (December)	4.0	ICT	seed	VD		XAnge, session.vc, Lightbird Ventures, SICTIC
Scailyte (January)	n.a.	healthcare IT	early stage	BS		n.a.
Scailyte (September)	6.0	healthcare IT	early stage	BS		Swiss family office, Mirabaud bank, previous investors
Scandit	138.6	ICT	later stage	ZH	I, T, V	Warburg Pincus, Atomico, Forestay Capital, G2VP, GV, Kreos, NGP Capital, Schneider Electric, Sony Innovation Fund by IGV, Swisscom Ventures
Scewo	n.a.	medtech	early stage	ZH	T, V	n.a.



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FINANCING ROUNDS

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I	V	T*	Investors
Scrona	6.2	micro / nano	early stage	ZH		T, V		AM Ventures, TRUMPF Venture, Verve, Manz, SICTIC
SEBA Bank	110.0	ICT (fintech)	later stage	ZG				Altive, Ordway Selections, Summer Capital, Zug-based family office, DeFi Technologies, Alameda Research, FTX
Sedimentum	3.3	healthcare IT	early stage	ZG				existing investors, SICTIC
Selma Finance	7.0	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZH				TX Ventures, Sparrow Ventures, existing investors, SICTIC
Shea Yeah	n.a.	consumer products	seed	ZH				private investor (Höhle der Löwen Deutschland)
Shelter Office	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZH				Serpentine
Side Effects	1.0	ICT	later stage	ZH				bbv group, Rey Holding, CADFEM International
Skribble	10.0	ICT	early stage	ZH	T			VI Partners, Acton
Sleepiz	6.2	medtech	early stage	ZH				Verve, ZKB, Höhle der Löwen Schweiz, US health insurance company
SmartHelio	4.6	cleantech	early stage	VD				Collab Fund, Serpentine, ACE & Company, Pegasus Tech Ventures, Gaingels VC, Soma Capital, private investors
Smeetz	3.8	ICT	early stage	VD	I			Privilège Ventures, NewOak, DAA Capital Partners, Akiden Ventures, SICTIC
Snipd	0.7	consumer products	seed	ZH				Wingman, Acequia Capital, Gian Reto à Porta
SoFlow	1.3	consumer products	later stage	SG				private investors (Höhle der Löwen)
SoHHytec	1.8	cleantech	seed	VD	V			Fund for Sustainability and Energy (FUND4SE)
SonarSource		ICT	later stage	GE				Advent International, General Catalyst, Insight Partners, Permira
Spacetek Technology	2.2	micro / nano	seed	BE				private investors, Aare Ventures
Sparta Commodities	5.6	ICT (fintech)	early stage	GE				Singular
Sportsparadise	n.a.	ICT	early stage	BE				crowdfunding
Stableton Financial	15.0	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZG				TX Ventures, C3 EOS VC, DEWB, private investors, SICTIC
Stash	n.a.	ICT	early stage	ZH				Serpentine
Stratos Technologies	n.a.	ICT	later stage	ZH				Serpentine
Strong.Network	5.2	ICT	early stage	VD				OpenOcean, Wingman
Swiss Ocean Tech	1.5	consumer products	early stage	AG				n.a.
Swisspod	n.a.	cleantech	seed	VS				ACE & Company, READ-HP Investments, Seldor Capital, NYC-based venture capital firm, Polysis Industries
Sygnum	82.4	ICT (fintech)	later stage	ZH	T			Sun Hung Kai & Co., Animoca Brands, Wemade, SBI Holdings, SCB 10X, Meta Investments
Synergy Quantum	n.a.	ICT	early stage	GE				Swiss and international private investors
Synhelion	22.0	cleantech	later stage	TI				SMS group, CEMEX, Eni, AMAG Group, SWISS
Syntheticus	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZH				Hammer Team
Taskbase	1.3	ICT	seed	ZH				SICTIC, private investors
Tech5	10.0	ICT	later stage	GE				TOTM Technologies
Terra Quantum (January)	54.9	ICT	early stage	SG				private and institutional investors, Lakestar, family offices
Terra Quantum (April)	14.0	ICT	early stage	SG				n.a.

FINANCING ROUNDS

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I	V	T*	Investors
Taylor	6.5	ICT (fintech)	later stage	ZH				Ilavaska Vuillermoz Capital (IVC), Weisshorn Asset Management, family offices, private investors
The Faction Collective	8.0	consumer products	later stage	VS		T		private investors
The Food Detective	5.2	ICT	seed	GE		T		Prediction Capital, 4SeeVentures, angels
Tie Talent	1.2	ICT	early stage	VD				Spicehaus, Innovationsfonds Schwyzer Kantonalbank, business angels, SICTIC
Tinamu	2.0	micro / nano	early stage	ZH				private investors, SICTIC
tipi technologies	n.a.	ICT	seed	ZH				Serpentine
Token Flow Insights	11.3	ICT (fintech)	early stage	GE				Electric Capital, Delta Blockchain Fund, UDHC
Twenty Pay	0.7	ICT (fintech)	seed	VD				private investors, business angels
Typewise	0.5	ICT	early stage	ZH				Y Combinator, private investors, SICTIC
TYXIT	2.0	ICT	seed	VD				Privilege Ventures, ACE & Company, Business Angels Switzerland, existing investors
uniqFEED	n.a.	ICT	later stage	ZH				Patinex
Unique	6.0	ICT	early stage	ZH				Pictet (on behalf of clients), Constantin Sturdza, VI Partners
Unit8	n.a.	ICT	later stage	VD				Sagard NewGen
Urban Connect	n.a.	ICT	early stage	ZH				Helvetia Venture Fund
vatorex	1.1	cleantech	later stage	ZH		T, V		EIC Fund, Mike Keller, BLKB
Vector BioPharma	28.2	biotech	early stage	BS				Versant Ventures
Vestr	10.0	ICT (fintech)	later stage	ZG				Elevator Ventures, family offices, EquityPitcher Ventures, ZKB, SIX Fintech Ventures
vidby	n.a.	ICT	early stage	ZG				Crowdfunding (Aktionariat)
Visense	0.8	ICT	seed	SH				Serpentine, AI Startup Incubator, SICTIC, Business Angels Switzerland
vlot	0.4	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZH				private investors, SICTIC
Voltiris	1.4	cleantech	seed	VD		V		Serpentine, BAS, SICTIC
Volumina Medical	n.a.	biotech	early stage	VD		T		Clinique La Prairie, Skyviews Life Science, existing investors
WattAnyWhere	1.3	cleantech	seed	VS		V		n.a.
We Play Sport	n.a.	consumer products	early stage	VD				DART Labs Ventures
Wearonize	1.7	ICT (fintech)	early stage	LU				crowdfunding (Companisto), SICTIC, private investors
WeCan.Fund	1.7	ICT (fintech)	later stage	GE		V		new shareholders including Michel Reybier
Wefox		ICT (fintech)	later stage	ZH				Mubadala, EDBI, Eurazeo, LGT, Horizons Ventures, OMERS Ventures, Target Global
WeGaw	1.0	cleantech	seed	VD				Bstartup (Banco Sabadell), Katapult.vc, Great Stuff Ventures, Business Angels Switzerland
WestHive	6.0	ICT	early stage	ZH				Fairway Family Office, MA Ventures, private and institutional investors
WYTH	1.6	ICT	seed	TI		T		Privilege Ventures, DAA Capital Partners, DART Labs Ventures, Gentian Investments, angel investor
Xfarm Technologies	16.8	ICT	early stage	TI		T		Swisscom Ventures, Neva, Emerald Technology Ventures, NovaCapital, Grey Silo Ventures, United Ventures
Yasai	1.6	consumer products	seed	ZH		V		crowdfunding (Crowdcube)

FINANCING ROUNDS

Company	Amount (CHF m)	Sector	Phase	Canton	I V T*	Investors
Yokoy Group	74.9	ICT (fintech)	later stage	ZH	T	Sequoia Capital, Speedinvest, Visionaries Club, Zinal Growth, business angels, Balderton Capital, SIX FinTech Ventures, Left Lane, Swisscom Ventures, SICTIC
Yoordi	n. a.	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZH		Fortyone, SICTIC, private investors
Yourasset	n. a.	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZH		Moshe Schlisser, family office, angel investor
Zaphiro	6.5	cleantech	early stage	VD		ABB Technology Ventures, UBS Growth Advisory, CDP Venture Capital SGR, Club degli Investitori, Excellis, Technologiefonds
Zapter	0.9	ICT	early stage	ZH		private investors, SICTIC
ZenOwn	0.4	ICT	seed	ZG		private investors, SICTIC
Zippsafe	n. a.	cleantech	later stage	ZH		Unorthodox Ventures
Zynnon	0.8	healthcare IT	seed	SZ		n. a.
Zytlyn Technologies	n. a.	ICT	later stage	GE	T	Velocity Ventures, SICTIC

Non-disclosed financial rounds:

this year, we have again evaluated confidential information. Our research partners, including Verve Partners and SICTIC, provided us with data on individual financing rounds. We checked this data for plausibility and compliance with our criteria in a multi-

stage process. Most of the confidential information concerns the amounts invested in financing rounds identified as n. a. in the above list. The total amount of confidential investment amounts to CHF 100.9 million; in addition, we also took into account 18 confidential financing rounds.

Strategic investment: when a large company participates in and works with a start-up, it is not a typical venture capital investment that seeks a return via an exit. Thus, these investments are listed here separately and not included in the analysis.

Company	Sector	Phase	Canton	Investor
Antion Biosciences	biotech	later stage	GE	Allogene Therapeutics
Alpian	ICT (fintech)	early stage	GE	Intesa Sanpaolo Group
BigOmics Analytics	healthcare IT	early stage	TI	Eppendorf
Criptonite Asset Management	ICT (fintech)	later stage	GE	Wave Financial LLC and Geneva-based Criptonite Asset Management
Digipharm	healthcare IT	early stage	BL	Gawah Holdings
Edge Laboratories	ICT (fintech)	later stage	VD	J. P. Morgan Private Bank
Evooq	ICT (fintech)	later stage	FR	J. P. Morgan Private Bank
Forteus (numeus)	ICT (fintech)	seed	ZG	Schroders
GRZ Technologies	micro / nano	later stage	FR	Auto AG Group
iNovitas	ICT	later stage	AG	Rhomberg Sersa Rail Group, Geoterra Gruppe
Loriot	ICT	later stage	ZH	WIKA
MESH	micro / nano	later stage	ZH	Sika, PERI
Neuron	cleantech	later stage	AG	Elektrizitätswerke des Kantons Zürich (EKZ)
Nexenic	consumer products	early stage	ZH	Genossenschaft ZFV-Unternehmungen
Phytocann Group	biotech	later stage	VD	Pharmasimple
Popety	ICT	early stage	GE	Vaudoise
Proxipel	cleantech	early stage	VD	Romande Energie
Resolve	ICT (fintech)	early stage	GE	CAFPI
Rigitech	micro / nano	seed	VD	n. a.
Swiss Wood Solutions	cleantech	later stage	UR	DG Nexolution
Sympheny	cleantech	early stage	ZH	Industrielle Werke Basel (IWB)
TOFWERK	micro / nano	later stage	BE	Bruker
Velocorner	ICT	later stage	BE	TCS
Xeltis	medtech	later stage	ZH	Grand Pharmaceutical Group
Yapeal	ICT (fintech)	early stage	ZH	Abacus

Methodology: the analysis takes into account only Swiss start-ups – that is, those independent companies that have their legal headquarters in this country. In addition, a senior person with decision-making authority, such as a C-level manager or a board member, must be based in Switzerland. Exceptions may be made if the decision makers are not active in the country of the legal headquarters outside Switzerland, but instead

the top managers and board members are based in Switzerland. The report focuses exclusively on venture capital investments by for-profit investors and of at least CHF 100,000. Pre-seed equity deals with accelerator programmes are excluded. The company must already be registered in the commercial register. Buy-out financing and private equity investment in established companies are also excluded; this applies even if the

established company is growing strongly. The financing must also be in the form of equity. The information published in *Swiss Venture Capital Report* is based on communications from start-ups and investors, research in publicly available sources and the results of a survey. Those parties mentioned explicitly in communications, sources and the survey are named as investors.

Tech4Eva: Fostering disruptive technologies and solutions for women's health



The result of a partnership between Groupe Mutuel and the EPFL Innovation Park, Tech4Eva is a global FemTech community and a 9 month equity free start-up acceleration program with international reach for companies developing innovative solutions to improve technologies relating to women's health.

Key figures

234 applications & **58** Seed to series A start-ups
17 leading industry partners
34 expert mentors with **500+** meetings
200+ Investor Introductions
90+ Events and workshops

Call for Application for Tech4Eva 2023 Program

Calling all women's health start-ups to apply by February 1, 2023.

More info: www.tech4eva.ch/

About the EPFL Innovation Park

The Park is positioned as the main innovation and entrepreneurship centre in Western Switzerland. It supports disruptive innovation and technology transfer from EPFL and other regional academic partners. It is a dynamic workplace that hosts 200 high-tech start-ups, SMEs and R&D centres of large companies and their 2500 employees. Over the years, the Park has developed a series of unique start-up training (i.e. Business Concept, Startup Board Academy), incubation (La Forge) and acceleration programmes (Tech4Trust & Tech4Eva).

More info: www.epfl-innovationpark.ch/

Success stories

- CHF67+ Million raised by 2021 cohort to date
- EmbrLabs raised \$ 22 Million
- Woom acquisition by Apricity in 2022
- b-rayZ raised CHF 4 Million
- Aspivix closed Series A + round \$ 5 Million

Areas

Fertility & Infertility	Pregnancy & post-partum
Mental health & wellbeing	Oncology
Menopause	Family life
Prevention & treatment	Brain & bone health
Immune & Heart Diseases	Period Health

Products & Services

Application software, apps, B2C information platforms, therapeutics/wearable devices, IoT preventive medicine, diagnostics, monitoring equipment, AI services, consumer non-durables, personal products, outcome management, InsurTech

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Meet this year's cohort and 2021 alumni



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For over 50 years, EPFL has been at the forefront of Swiss innovation, with entrepreneurship and groundbreaking research at its core. The Startup Launchpad offers funding, support and passion to the next generation of entrepreneurs – helping turn promising ideas into the companies of tomorrow.

The dynamics of startups over the past five years



147
startups created



1970
MCHF raised

Success story

Corintis uses integrated chip-cooling technology to reduce the carbon footprint of the IT and technology industries. The team started working with the Startup Launchpad in early 2021. In addition to funding, it benefited from the expertise and support of external consultants.

“The Startup Launchpad was invaluable for us as started to build Corintis,” said Sam Harrison, one of the company’s co-founders.

“Not only did they ask the right questions, but they helped us explore and build mitigation plans for the challenges ahead of us. They put us in touch with a business advisor who mentored us and gave us recommendations and networking connections. We worked with a communications expert who helped us understand our key audiences and refine the story we were telling prospective clients.”

Since working with the Startup Launchpad, Corintis has incorporated and been named one of the top Swiss startups of 2022.

Startup accelerator

The blaze startup accelerator hosts a group of promising student startup projects each semester, providing the tools for their market entry, including business and design coaching. The programme’s success is based on the customisation of its coaching offer, its flexibility to ensure the entrepreneurs’ commitment is compatible with the rhythm of their studies study, as well as the wide network of the EPFL Vice Presidency for Innovation.

Community

The Startup Launchpad has expanded its reach with the creation of The Station – an on-campus hub for entrepreneurship and startups at the university. As well as being the home for regular workshops, events and accelerator programmes, The Station acts as the ideal meeting place. With co-working spaces, private rooms and a thriving community, The Station offers an inspiring place to meet, connect and learn.

Visit our website startup.epfl.ch or contact us startup@epfl.ch

EPFL

The Basel Area – Europe’s most vibrant ecosystem of innovation

We break down barriers that hinder innovation in biotech, digital health and industry 4.0 through a combination of industry-dedicated events, projects and accelerators.

Unfold your innovation potential

Basel Area Business & Innovation help startups, scale-ups and established businesses unfold their innovation potential. We guide and support new ventures, and activate ecosystems to expedite innovation that positively impacts the world.

Several billion raised by Basel-based life sciences companies

Global leaders such as Novartis and Roche call the Basel Area at the tri-national border between France, Germany and Switzerland their home. Additionally, Basel has one of the highest proportions of venture capital-supported startups in Switzerland. Some of which we are proud to have helped along their way by supporting their development and providing them with access to talent and funding. Over the last few years, several billion of investments, both from venture funds and public markets, have gone into Basel-based biotech companies.

Are you the next success story?

Are you a startup entrepreneur? With us, you find the right network and expertise you need to grow your business. We bring together innovators around transformational themes, ranging from business topics such as startup financing and intellectual property to technical themes such as 3D printing and robotics, and broader themes such as health data ethics and value-based healthcare. If you are ready to turn your idea, innovation or startup into real impact, apply for one of our industry-specific accelerators, listed on the right.

Would you like more information and event invitations? Sign up now to our newsletter and follow us on social media. baselarea.swiss/newsletter-signup



Questions? Reach out to us:

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• BaseLaunch – building the next generation of biotech ventures

We help launch and grow exceptional biotech ventures developing cutting-edge therapeutics. Join Europe’s most successful biotech incubator to secure financing of up to USD 500,000, connect with our partners and investors, and gain access to the infrastructure and labs you need. → baselaunch.ch

• DayOne – join our mission to shape the future of health

We support ventures that use groundbreaking technology in digital health and medtech to solve healthcare’s grand challenges. Join to secure financing of up to USD 100,000, and gain access to infrastructure, expertise and connections to our industry-leading life sciences partners. → dayone.swiss

• i4Challenge – industrial transformation in the era of smart technology

The i4Challenge is an accelerator for SMEs, startups and new ideas focused on innovative solutions and next-generation products and services for Industry 4.0 transformation. Winning the i4Challenge secures you a number of benefits for a successful commercial launch and business success. → i4challenge.com

• Venture Mentoring – turn your innovation into a successful business with expert advice

We support startups in the area and those relocating from abroad by providing access to experts, advice and introductions to key partners, suppliers and distributors. Services are free to qualified applicants. → innovateinbasel.com

BASEL
AREA 
MORE TO **DISCOVER**

Switzerland's most modern Innovation Park enriches the Basel Area

Three years after the groundbreaking ceremony, the Main Campus of Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area has opened its doors. As part of the most dynamic life sciences cluster in Europe with more than 700 companies in the Basel region, the Main Campus with 50,000 m² of space is a lighthouse, workplace and meeting place for biotech and healthcare pioneers.



Strategically located in the Bachgraben innovation area, in close proximity to inspiring neighbours such as the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Skan, Abbott and Idorsia, the state-of-the-art Main Campus will revolutionise the way people work. The pioneering architecture by Herzog & de Meuron, developed by Senn, actively promotes lively exchange and offers an attractive working environment for startups, scale-ups and established companies.

Thanks to flexible office and laboratory infrastructure, companies of all sizes and business phases can implement their ideas. The building is an architectural masterpiece and, with its authenticity, transparency and motivating effect, more than just an innovation centre. The area is efficiently developed, connected to public transport and has a parking garage for cars and bicycles. It also offers an excellent work-life balance with contemporary catering facilities, nearby sports facilities, social infrastructure and shared services.

Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area is part of the national innovation park of Switzerland Innovation and has four locations: Allschwil, Basel, Jura and Novartis Campus in Basel. The focus is on biotechnology, medical technology, digital health, healthcare technology and industrial transformation.

Learn more at
www.switzerland-innovation.com/baselarea



“This dynamic hub for life + science houses more than 30 companies and institutions that actively help shape the future.”

Karin Crisanto, Head of
 Innovation Space & Infrastructure



Startup or scale-up in Lucerne – smart ecosystem in the heart of Switzerland

Lucerne is the centre of Central Switzerland's startup scene: entrepreneurs from all over the world meet here to develop their businesses. The young companies take advantage of attractive conditions and live in a fantastic environment. Quality of life and innovation combine here.

Lucerne is not only popular and well-known among international visitors. More and more companies – including startups – are discovering Lucerne as their ideal business location. They benefit from attractive framework conditions such as low corporate tax rates, access to an attractive talent pool and close proximity to their peer group in the European markets.

Lucerne stands for ease of doing business:

- Low tax rates for companies
- Qualified professionals
- Cooperation with universities
- Network and support for startups
- Located in the heart of Europe
- Highest quality of life

Success story – health startup Impli decided to move to Lucerne

Impli, the personalised health startup specialising in developing implantable sensors the size of a grain of rice, has chosen Technopark Lucerne to expand in continental Europe. Proximity to the right ecosystem and partners was the key.

Technopark Lucerne

As a startup incubator, Technopark Luzern offers companies an all-embracing package: from assistance with entrepreneurial issues and legal matters to strategy coaching and investor searches.

Due to the expanded modular infrastructure, they can concentrate fully on market development and keep market entry costs low.

*zündler startup accelerator

The programme gives selected startup projects the opportunity to participate in a training series over 10 months and to benefit from intensive support by coaches with practical experience. In a structured qualitative process, startup companies increase their strength and prospects of success.



Lucerne-based startup HammerDrum won the *zündler award 2022

Venture Club Central Switzerland (VCI)

The aim of the VCI is to support the financing of startup companies and to connect them to a selected network of entrepreneurs and investors from the region. The specific needs of young companies with a high growth potential are the focus of their mission.

LAC² – Lucerne AI & Cognitive Community

LAC² makes the AI ecosystem visible and builds up a member-based, collaborative community. Its purpose is to support and assist companies by generating value through the application of AI technology.



Innovative antibiotics research at Tech Park Basel

25+ companies, 310+ entrepreneurs, +40 nations, 6,700 m² state-of-the-art office and lab space, and access to a unique ecosystem – that’s the Tech Park Basel. Our tenants are early-stage tech companies that transform knowledge into marketable products and services. We offer a collaboration-friendly yet business-driven environment.



The Basel-based pharmaceutical company BioVersys is dedicated to the fight against antimicrobial resistance and is developing new antibiotics. Dr Marc Gitzinger, CEO of BioVersys, appreciates Basel as a location.

Dr Gitzinger, what is the vision of BioVersys?

Marc Gitzinger: We want to offer a solution to antimicrobial resistance, also known as the “silent pandemic”. It should still be possible to treat bacterial infections the way we humans are used to: with antibiotics that work efficiently and quickly. Without effective antibiotics, many interventions, whether those needed for simple surgery or for cancer therapy, would be associated with a very high risk. This risk is, unfortunately, becoming commonplace in more and more countries because there are more and more resistant bacteria. New figures show that on a global scale, antibiotic resistance has increased much more than previously thought.

This year, you have closed a significant financing round of CHF 24.2 million. How does this contribute to the realisation of your vision?

We can now take two of our projects through clinical phase II. This phase is crucial because it is the first time in our sector that new compounds are substantially tested on patients. Our first project is intended to treat lung infections caused by hospital germs, and the second is intended to target resistant tuberculosis pathogens. Clinical phase II should last about a year. Ideally, then, we can apply for marketing authorisation in three to four years.

What are your biggest challenges in development?

On top of the scientific challenge, recruiting patients for clinical trials is difficult. When dealing with hospital germs, we have to work with people who are very sick and are most often in intensive care. In addition, there are exclusion criteria and country-specific issues, which make research challenging. Naturally, funding is also crucial. In the biotech sector, the need for financing is substantial; development takes a long time. At the same time, obtaining funding for antibiotic studies is difficult because these drugs are essential to produce but should be taken as rarely as possible. That’s why new reimbursement models are needed.

BioVersys has been in Tech Park Basel since 2012.

What do you like about this location?

We have no reason to move out because we have the facilities we need for our work here. We have been able to grow moderately but well. Tech Park Basel’s flexibility is great and we are happy to be based here.

Access full interview



www.techpark.ch

Find and invest in world-class tech startups at FONGIT – Switzerland’s premier innovation platform



Key figures

- **250+ overall supported projects**
- **CHF 700 m+ capital raised by our startups in the past eight years**
- **1,500+ jobs created in the past 10 years**
- **150+ products, patents and IP**

Who we are

The Geneva Foundation for Technology Innovation – FONGIT is Switzerland’s premier innovation platform, supporting innovative tech ventures in Geneva with an excellent track record of building successful companies since 1991. As a private, non-profit foundation, benefiting from the support of the State of Geneva, the foundation’s mission is to transform technological innovation into social and economic value in the Geneva region. Fongit is one of the rare platforms able to provide a full service, including hosting, coaching, admin, legal, governance and financial support.

Fongit as a journey accelerator

Supporting startups is complex. The highest mortality rate for companies is in the five to six years after foundation. These are the most critical years, but also the years where little to no support is given in general. Fongit is there when startups need the most support. It takes time to build a company and it takes support at the right stages. For example, it took Selexis, a global leader of cell line development, more than 10 years to reach its current stage, and it took Proton, global leader in encrypted services, 8 years to become the company it is today. Fongit has been present at every step of the process to support the success of these companies.

Our broader positive impact: SDGs

The United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been at the forefront of guiding our impact work since the beginning. All Fongit-supported startups are required to ensure that they directly or indirectly contribute to the achievement of the SDGs through their work. Our commitment has been recognised by our UN partners.

The value of state support

Since 2020, Fongit-supported startups have become one of the top creators of employment in Geneva. The State of Geneva continuously receives a return on investment (ROI) from the supported startups not only in direct and indirect employment creation, the attraction of talents, foreign investment and the creation of a competitive marketplace and a thriving innovation ecosystem, but also directly through a tangible significant fiscal return. Fongit’s work would not be possible without the state’s support.

We push to the next stage: changing the face of seed funding

The Fongit Innovation Fund (FIF) is the latest financing tool launched by Fongit in 2021. It responds to the necessity of startups for additional funding when they most need it. It aims to accelerate innovation processes within universities, applied universities and other Geneva-based research institutions, within startups, and within scale-ups experiencing rapid growth in a technological environment.

The FIF responds to the need to break silos and bring together private and public entities in order to finance and support technology startups. The private sector is a key player and partner of Fongit in ensuring a thriving innovation ecosystem. The FIF is the mechanism by which to achieve it.

We invite all private sector players to join us in this mission by supporting the FIF.



Partner with us and source de-risked, vetted deals!

For a full view of what we do, visit www.fongit.ch, read our impact report www.fongit.ch/impact or contact us at info@fongit.ch



You've only just raised
new capital,



and now you've made a
change to the commercial
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