ANNUAL REPORT 2020

VENTURE KICK

VENTURE KICK

CONTENT

VENTURE KICK OFFICES

Venture Kick
c/o Venturelab, startup space
Wiesenstrasse 5, CH-8952 Schlieren – Zürich
+41 (71) 242 98 68

Venture Kick
c/o Venturelab, EPFL Innovation Park
Building C, CH-1015 Lausanne
+41 (21) 533 09 80

Venture Kick Foundation
c/o Fondation des Fondateurs
Kirchgasse 42, 8001 Zürich

VENTURE KICK

MORE IMPACT BY JOINING FORCES

2020 was a successful year for Venture Kick in every respect. The merger with the Volkswirtschaftsstiftung strengthens our shared vision and is a strong signal for the entire ecosystem. Not only the increasing number of high-quality applications shows that it is worth while to jointly support and promote the potential of deep tech innovation in Switzerland. The impact of our program is also demonstrated in the success figures of our startups, as our alumni companies raised CHF 4.2 billion in capital and created 8,105 new jobs by year end.

These numbers are achieved in the context of the coronavirus pandemic which reminds us of the financial crisis in 2008 shortly after the Venture Kick program was launched. Two third of the startup projects supported during this crisis times became a success. This shows the strong resilience of Swiss startups regarding fundraising, innovation and adaption in difficult times.

Venture Kick has one key vision: We want to make a substantial contribution to increase the number of high-quality startups in Switzerland and accelerate their market entry and growth. We kick startup ideas to global success with all the necessary support for the founders to advance their business.

We too constantly kick ourselves in order to offer the best possible support for our founders. In 2020 we initiated two pilot projects to strengthen the startup and innovation ecosystem in Switzerland. "Venture Kick Life Science" is a special track for Biotech and Medtech, both key assets of our country, with specific jury sessions. The new track is returning strong value for the startups as well as for the jury members and will therefore be continued in 2021.The pilot of the "Venture Briefing" events at the major Swiss universities, proved to be essential to securing a systematic pipeline of the best startup ideas from Swiss universities and will therefore be integrated into the Venture Kick program.

All the achievements and the work of Venture Kick is only possible by the generosity of our donors, the commitment of our jury members, the passion of our management team, as well as the courage and vision of the entrepreneurs at the heart of our initiative.

On behalf of Venture Kick, we thank all of you for your engagement to bring greater prosperity to our Swiss economy and society. Our mission to further increase the number of high-quality startups in Switzerland continues with united forces.

In the name of the Venture Kick Strategy Board

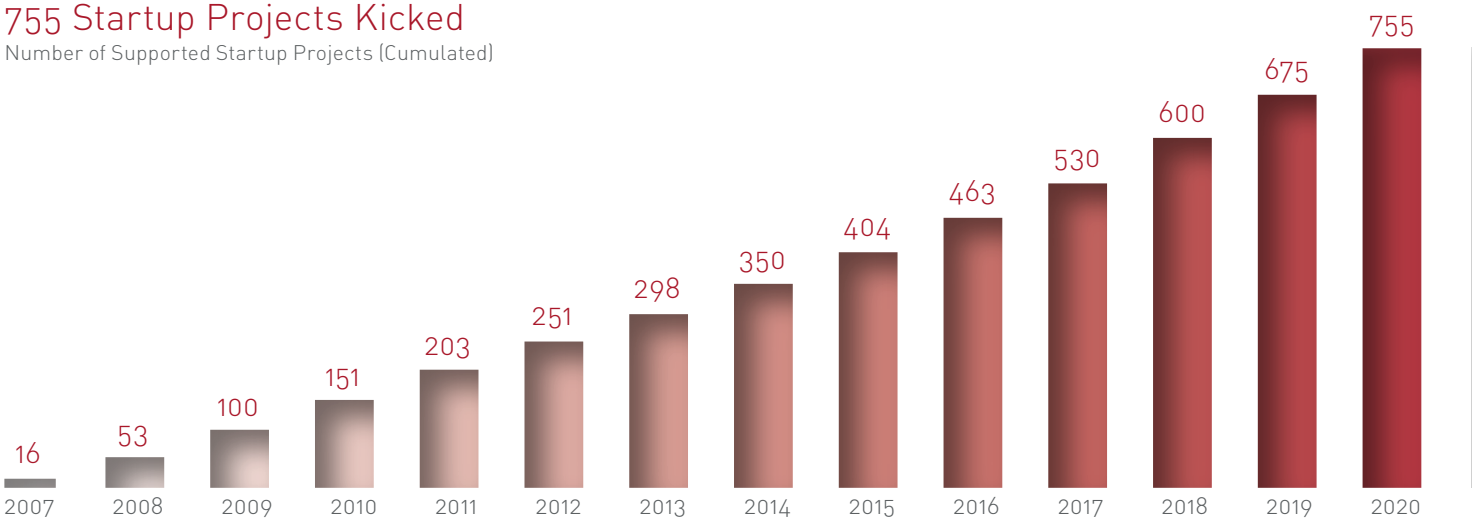
Dr. Pascale Vonmont
Strategy Board, Venture Kick
CEO, Gebert Rüf Stiftung

Dr. Suzanne Schenk
Strategy Board, Venture Kick
Deputy CEO, Ernst Göhner Stiftung

GROWING IMPACT

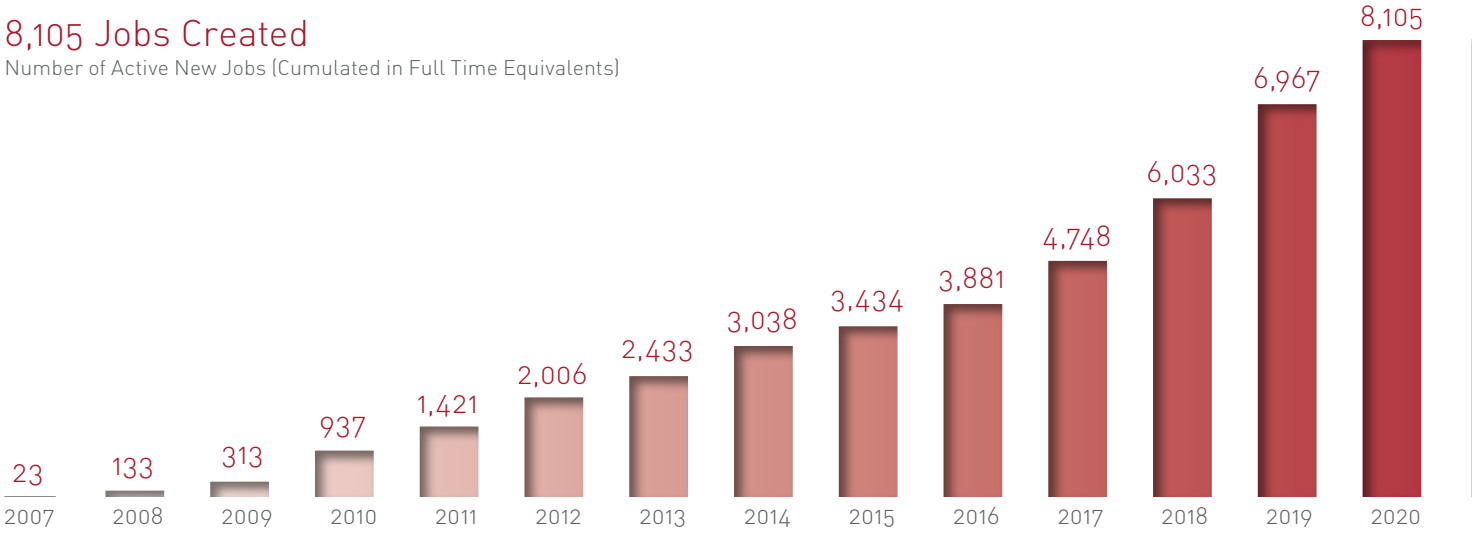
755 Startup Projects Kicked

Number of Supported Startup Projects (Cumulated)



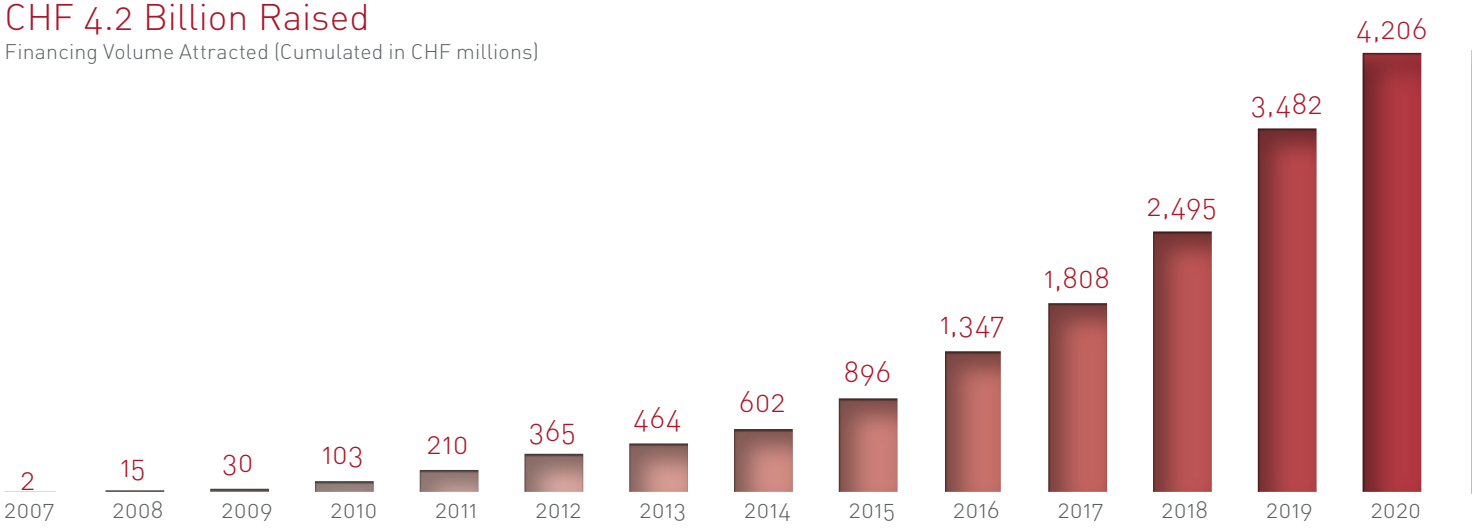
8,105 Jobs Created

Number of Active New Jobs (Cumulated in Full Time Equivalents)



CHF 4.2 Billion Raised

Financing Volume Attracted (Cumulated in CHF millions)



THREEFOLD MISSION

Unique Financing Approach

Venture Kick helps turn promising research projects into compelling business cases. We close the gap in the innovation chain that otherwise sees many start-ups struggle when they try to move from the lab to the marketplace.

Launching a company requires more than a product – it takes business knowledge and access to seed capital. Venture Kick delivers both. With our expert jury, we identify, support and promote innovative ideas that have big market potential. Our vision is threefold: to double the number of spin-offs from Swiss universities; to make these more attractive to investors; and to halve their time-to-market.

To achieve this, we collaborate closely with Swiss universities and all relevant organizations involved in high-tech entrepreneurship.

Global Impact

Venture Kick's impact in Switzerland is considerable: since 2007, we have supported 755 spin-off projects that have become 592 high-tech companies. These have created 8,105 active jobs and attracted investment totaling CHF 4.2 billion. The TOP 100 Swiss Startup Award included 53 of them in its most-recent ranking.

Supported startups continue addressing global challenges to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all of us. For example, scaling efficient clean energy technology, bringing treatments for global health priorities to market, and developing the diagnostic tools of the future. Beginning September, investment in Climeworks has been boosted from CHF 73 million to CHF 100 million. This breaks the record for the largest ever investment into direct air capture. The funding will be used to further scale and optimize Climeworks' direct air capture technology. STIMIT, developing a therapy and medical device to empower patients in intensive care to breathe, such as the numerous ones suffering from the effects of COVID-19, won a Life Science joker kick of CHF 150,000 to speed-up their go-to-market strategy. As another effect of the pandemic, GreenTEG that won Venture Kick stage 3 in 2009, saw a substantial increase of interest in their unique wearable non-invasively Core Body Temperature and Fever Monitoring solution. An innovation that can contribute to better contain or manage the current and future pandemics, also sending us to a new remote work era. Home Office was a driver for hackers and Exeon Analytics helps fight growing cyber-attacks by offering solutions, based on award winning algorithms developed at ETH Zurich, to secure corporate networks by rapidly detecting anomalies in web traffic and acting before data can be stolen. Or Synendos Therapeutics, a biopharmaceutical company developing a new class of small molecules aimed at restoring the natural functioning of the endocannabinoid system in the brain with the potential for treating a wide range of Central Nervous System (CNS) disorders, that announced in November having raised CHF 20 million in a Series A financing.

Our highlights (pages 8 to 27) share other such examples and give you an insight into the bold visions of the founders behind these Swiss startups. In enabling their innovations to become sustainable solutions for global problems lies the core of our mission.

SUPPORT MODEL

MUCH MORE THAN JUST MONEY

In 2020, the Venture Kick program supported 80 high-potential entrepreneurs, giving them a structured path towards building a winning startup. Venture Kick's model offers founders early-stage financing in three stages, alongside focused business support and access to a powerful network of investors.

Venture Kick grants innovative business ideas CHF 10,000. Solid business case development wins CHF 40,000 more. Structuring the best business plan earns winners a final kick of CHF 100,000 to launch their startup.

Between each stage, proven entrepreneurs coach winners on how to convince customers and investors. These intensive camps also let young founders' network with peers at similar stages of startup development.

Venture Kick connects participants with the best network of Swiss and international investors and industry experts.

An Holistic System of Support

The money the Venture Kick Foundation makes available to Swiss startups is allocated competitively by juries of professional investors. Our highly-qualified pool of jurors – private and institutional investors, startup experts and industry representatives – give feedback on all participants' pitches. To ensure the best ideas progress, founders know every pitch-session is tough: only half the projects presenting can win support to the next stage. The best founders therefore gain three experiences pitching to Venture Kick juries in preparation for future fundraising from private and institutional VC investors.

Venture Kick's unique program of competitive pitches interspaced by intense, entrepreneurial training and coaching, community-networking and business development deadlines, lasts approximately nine months. This blend of challenge and support is vital to building strong foundations for startups' longterm success.

"Not only the financial support of Venture Kick was very helpful but also the input and the critical view of the coaches were very much appreciated. Each discussion and feedback helped us to enhance our business idea and develop it further. Our vision is to provide an implant to urologists, allowing them to offer bladder reconstruction without adding additional harm to the patient's body. During the Venture Kick year, we identified the path to realize our vision."

Dr. Eva-Maria Balet
Regenosca SA, Venture Kick 2019

"Venture Kick provides a solid support both through the investment and through a very pertinent concrete personalized advice. In addition, it opens the doors to an incredible network of top level entrepreneurs and investors."

Amélie Béduer
Volumina Medical, Venture Kick 2018

Founders can receive as much as CHF 150,000 in pre-seed capital from Venture Kick: to date 755 Venture Kickers have benefited from this boost, adding a total of CHF 34,250,000 to their seed funding. Candidates winning at the first stage of Venture Kick can qualify for an additional CHF 150,000 from Gebert Rüf Stiftung's InnoBooster program: in 2020, 18 projects were supported with CHF 2,846,000.

Eight projects pitch their business ideas at stage 1. The expert jury rewards the four showing the greatest potential with 10,000 francs each. Winners can apply for an additional CHF 150,000 from Innobooster at grstiftung.ch

During the next three months, project teams target customers and strategic partners to build solid business cases. A new jury then decides if they deserve to be among the winning projects, selected to receive the second kick.

Six months later, the teams are ready to enter the market, with strong customer value propositions, convincing business plans, and secured intellectual property to win investment.

A Unique Entrepreneurial and Philanthropic Model

Venture Kick supports spin-off projects with a combination of grants and convertible loans at founder-friendly conditions. If founders exit their startups successfully or repay loans, all the proceeds flow back into Venture Kick's charitable fund, to increase the support for future generations of founders.

Advantage: Entrepreneurs

Venture Kick's model has three advantages. Firstly, the substantial support gives entrepreneurs the resources to accelerate at a critical phase of business development. Secondly, convertible loans give founders flexibility as they fundraise from investors. Thirdly, the pay-it-back model reinforces the foundation's philanthropic and entrepreneurial philosophy for long-term support: successful entrepreneurs that have benefited from the program assist future generations!

"Venture Kick was the first believer in our team, technology, and vision. The whole Venturelab team provided huge support since the inception of Versantis. Besides the funding, their critical guidance to successfully grow our startup into a mature biotech company was key.

Vincent Forster
Versantis AG, Venture Kick 2015

"The very-concrete feedback helped us improve immensely. It's also valuable to network with fellow founders at similar stages in completely different fields. They have the same problems, so we exchanged ideas, learned from each other and stay in touch."

Claudia Hoessbacher
Polariton Technologies AG, Venture Kick 2019

HIGHLIGHTS 2020

There is no doubt that the coronavirus crisis is a major hardship for Swiss startups. But history also shows that very successful start-ups were born in times of crisis – like Google that came out of the ashes of the Internet Bubble burst 2001. "This is now the third major crisis I face as an entrepreneur. And I am worried as well," says Beat Schillig, Co-Managing Director of Venture Kick. "but I am sure, that not even the Coronavirus crisis will be able to stop our Swiss startups!". In this context our Kickers still hit higher levels in 2020, raising multi-million investment rounds, winning international awards and prizes, sealing major commercial partnerships with industrial leaders, and exiting at strong valuations. This year, Venture Kick merged with the Volkswirtschaftsstiftung and will continue the previous activities under the umbrella of the Fondation des Fondateurs. The number of startups benefiting from Venture Kick support each year can thus be markedly increased. Finally, Venture Kick was honored with the Swiss Biotech Success Stories Award recognizing its outstanding achievements.

RAISING ROUNDS OF 15+ MILLION:

KANDOU BUS (USD 92.3 M)

Kandou, revolutionizing wired connectivity with greater speed and efficiency. closed an astonishing Series C round of USD 92.3 M. The funds will be used to bring their first silicon product, a USB-C® multiprotocol retimer solution with support for USB4™, to market to enable consumer and networking applications for electronic devices.

SCANDIT (USD 80 M)

Zurich-based Scandit raised USD 80 M to digitally transform traditional industries through computer vision and augmented reality. The new funding will further accelerate growth in new markets such as APAC and Latin America, as well as expand Scandit's footprint and operations in North America and Europe.

LIGHTBEND (USD 25 M)

Lausanne-based startup Lightbend closed a USD 25 M financing round led by Dell Technologies Capital. The new capital injection will support Lightbend to further scale the business and grow faster. The software is used by more than one million developers at companies such as Capital One, Fortnite, LinkedIn, PayPal and Verizon.

LUNAPHORE (CHF 23 M)

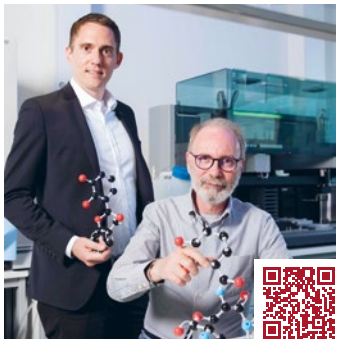
Lunaphore raised CHF 23 M in Series C financing to better diagnose and fight cancer. The Lausanne-based startup will invest in market and product expansion including a US market entry, the ramp-up of activities in Europe and the development of next-generation instruments.

SYNENDOS (CHF 20 M)

Synendos Therapeutics raised CHF 20 M in a Series A financing round. The biopharmaceutical company develops a new class of small molecules aimed at restoring the natural functioning of the endocannabinoid system in the brain with the potential for treating a wide range of Central Nervous System (CNS) disorders.

CUTISS (CHF 20 M)

CUTISS closed a CHF 20 M series B financing round. The life science spin-off of the University of Zurich develops personalized skin graft technologies for the treatment of skin defects. Its lead product candidate, denovoSkin™, has been tested in clinical trial on pediatric patients.

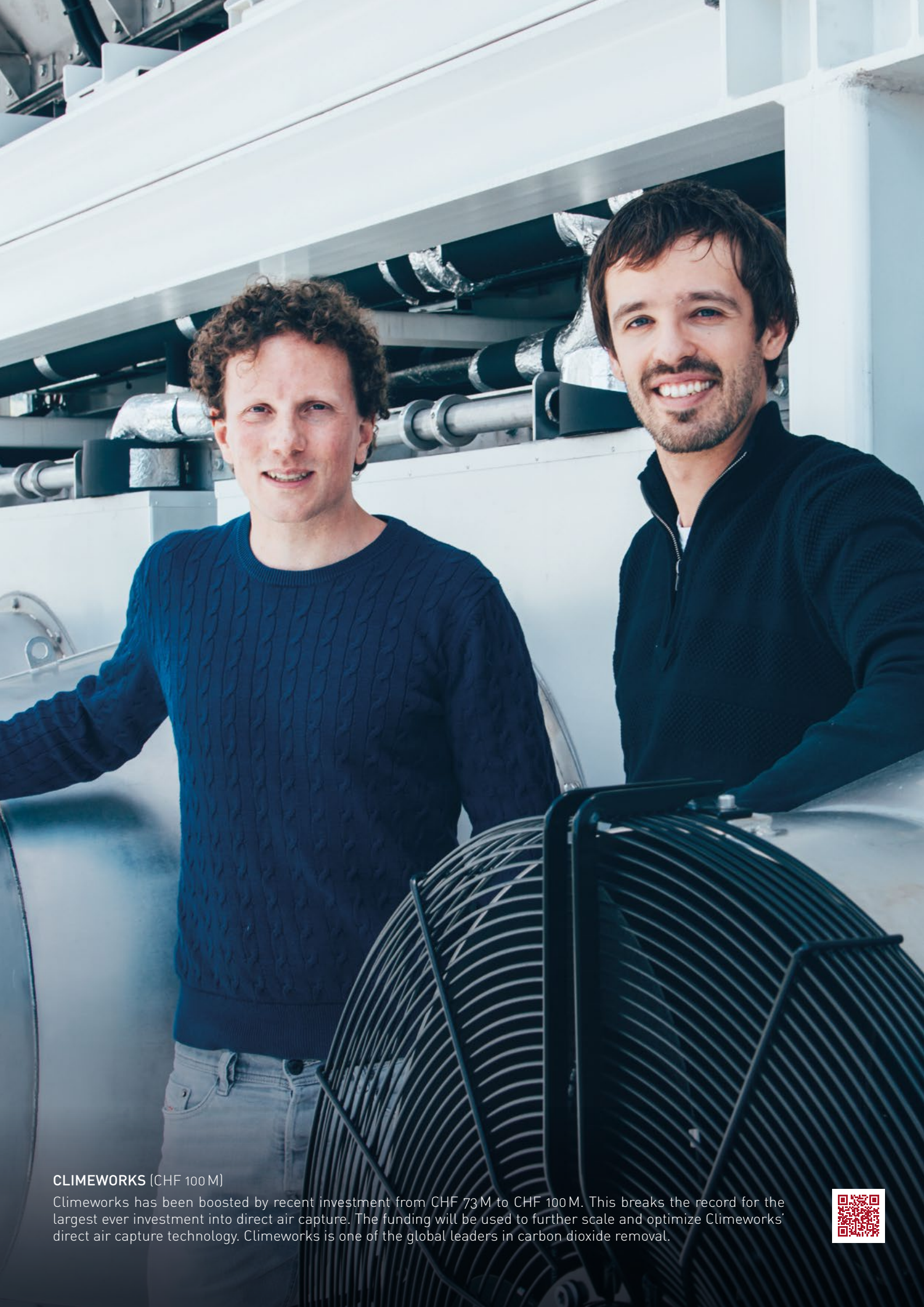


BIOVERSYS (CHF 19 M)

BioVersys completed a CHF 19M Series B financing round to advance its two lead assets of infectious disease candidates into first-in-human clinical trials. Tuberculosis, one of the top ten causes of death worldwide, is carried by billions and currently kills more people each year than HIV/AIDS.

METACO (USD 17 M)

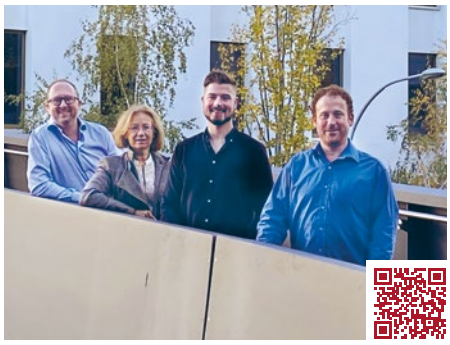
Metaco raised USD 17 M in a Series A round. The cryptography startup is the leading provider of security-critical infrastructure enabling financial institutions to enter the digital asset ecosystem. The funding will strengthen the presence in the US, South East Asia, and Western Europe.



CLIMEWORKS (CHF 100 M)

Climeworks has been boosted by recent investment from CHF 73 M to CHF 100 M. This breaks the record for the largest ever investment into direct air capture. The funding will be used to further scale and optimize Climeworks' direct air capture technology. Climeworks is one of the global leaders in carbon dioxide removal.

RAISING 4 TO 15 MILLION:



POLYNEURON (CHF 14 M)

Basel-based Polyneuron will use the proceeds to advance its lead product candidate PN-1007, a potential treatment for anti-MAG neuropathy, a serious nervous system disease with a high unmet medical need, through Phase I/IIa clinical development.

BEEKEEPER (USD 10 M)

The company, touting itself as being the "first communication and operations platform designed specifically for frontline workers", announced a USD 10 M Series B extension that sums up to the USD 45 M financing round closed in September 2019.

VIROMETIX (CHF 7.5 M)

The startup developing a new generation of vaccines and immunotherapeutic drugs for the prevention of oncology diseases has raised a CHF 7.5 M Series B equity financing round bringing its total funding to CHF 17.8 M.

FLYABILITY (EUR 7 M)

Flyability, specialized in drone-based B2B inspection solutions for companies in energy, power generation, chemical, mining, and maritime industries has secured a EUR 7 M Series C round to accelerate global expansion.

CREAL (CHF 6.5 M)

The new funding will enable CREAL's to ultimately offer cutting edge Augmented Reality (AR) glasses.

HEMOTUNE (CHF 5.1 M)

hemotune closed a CHF 5.1 M Series A to develop HemoSystem, a blood purification platform based on nanoengineered magnetic beads.

INSOLIGHT (CHF 5 M)

The Series A financing round will enable Insolight to start producing and selling their flat solar panels establishing world-record efficiency of more than 29 %.

UNISIEVE (USD 4.6 M)

UniSieve's technology enables customers in the chemical and energy industry to reduce waste, significantly lower CO_2 emissions, and to reduce operational costs. The financing allows UniSieve to establish pilot production and co-finance industrial testing at customers' chemical sites.

MAXWELL (CHF 4 M)

MaxWell Biosystems develops cell imaging systems empowering scientists in pharma and academia to reveal the function of neuronal networks in a dish. The Series A round will be allocated to further industrialize and scaleup the production of their consumables.

1.5 TO 3 MILLION:

BLOOM BIORENEWABLES (EUR 2.9 M)

The investment will be used to complete their biomass fractionation pilot project and secure pre-sales agreements with players from textile, packaging and fragrances industries across Europe.

MOBBOT (CHF 2.9 M)

The CEO Agnès Petit has secured CHF 2.9 million that will be used to accelerate the development and commercialization of its patented mobile robot for 3D-concrete printing.

GNUBIOTICS (CHF 2.6 M)

The new funds will accelerate the commercialization activities of Gnubiotics' first pipeline candidate, AMObiome, an animal milk oligosaccharide biosimilar to be used as nutritional support for microbiome diversity and crucial for the life-long gut health of animals.

MEDUSOIL (CHF 2 M)

MeduSoil is specialized in the construction-tech business to produce and commercialize smart material that mineralizes carbon underground. The CHF 2 M Seed financing round will help ramp up commercialization.

VATOREX (EUR 1.6 M)

Vatorex has received EUR 1.6 M from the European Commission's Horizon 2020 program to implement Vatorex's beekeeping platform and chemical-free varroa treatment technology.

FLYBOTIX (CHF 1.5 M)

Lausanne-based Flybotix raised CHF 1.5 M to bring to market its inspection drones operating inside industrial assets while offering twice the flight time, compared to traditional drones.

LESS THAN 1.5 MILLION:

- **Comphya**, the developer of the first neuromodulator to treat erectile dysfunction, raised CHF 1.3 M for clinical trial execution. The bridge financing round includes investment from existing shareholders and the Fondation pour l'Innovation Technologique (FIT) Growth Loan.

- **DePoly** raised a CHF 1.3 M Pre-Seed round to revolutionize PET plastic recycling globally. The EPFL spin-off and chemical technology startup, tackles the spectrum of recycling by turning low valued materials (PET waste) into high-valued chemicals like TPA creating a circular economy.

- **Lymphatica Medtech**, a vascular medical device development startup, closed a CHF 1.2 M Series A financing round to advance clinical validation aiming at revolutionizing the treatment of chronic lymphedema.

- The Zurich based ETH spin-off **Tinamu Labs** providing fully automated inspection solutions, has secured seed funding of CHF 1.1 M to fuel the internal and international growth, especially in the US market.

- The cleantech company **Skypull** based in Ticino has announced the closing of a seven-figure financing round to accelerate the development of its core Drone or UAV technology (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) with the help of Shibumi International, a Dubai based venture capital firm.

- **Annaida Technologies** raised CHF 1 M to validate their non-invasive embryo screening technology for in vitro fertilization, thanks to magnetic resonance.

- Life-sciences startup **SEED Biosciences** raised CHF 1 M in a Series A fundraising round. The capital will support the company's growth ambitions, product industrialization, and further develop its proprietary technology. Read our full interview on page 19.

- **Gilytics**, optimizing energy and transportation infrastructure projects with game-changing spatial data cloud software solution, raises CHF 1 M in Seed investment. The funds will be used to to further develop features to support construction monitoring and operations for solar and wind projects, while also expanding their distribution network.

- **Largo Films**, an EPFL spin-off developing an analytical platform for the movie industry, has closed a CHF 550 K seed financing round to launch the new SaaS platform. On top, the Lausanne-based company has received the Innobooster CHF 150,000 grant from Gebert Rüf Stiftung.

INDUSTRY DEALS:

MIRAEX

EPFL-based startup Miraex has joined the IBM Q Network, which is a global community of Fortune 500 companies, academic institutions, startups, and national research labs working with IBM to advance quantum computing and explore practical applications.

EXEON ANALYTICS

SIX, the infrastructure provider for the Swiss banking systems, is partnering with Exeon. Customers from financial services, logistics, medical technology and IT services, rely on Exeon's network detection and response software to defend against cyber attacks.

BCOMP

Bcomp is a Swiss clean tech company that develops, manufactures, and sells sustainable lightweighting solutions for high-performance applications. They recently collaborated with McLaren and Porsche that use Bcomp's sustainable alternative to carbon fibers for the automotive industry.

RETINAI

RetinAI Medical announced a multi-year collaboration with Novartis Pharma under which RetinAI's IT solutions and artificial intelligence tools shall be employed to support multiple projects in ophthalmology and digital health.

EXITS:

ANDREW ALLIANCE

In January 2020, the Swiss robotic medtech company Andrew Alliance was acquired by US company Waters Corpoation (NYSE:WAT). Commenting on the exit, the co-founder and CEO Piero Zucchelli states: "We are thrilled to join the Waters family. We have found the right partner to bring our vision of connected laboratories to life. Waters' combination of instruments and chemistries will help us accelerate the delivery of our innovative software and hardware technologies to customers as mass spectrometry increasingly moves into the hands of more and more users."

ROLL2GO

ETH Zurich spin-off Roll2Go, offering data-centric mobility platforms, was acquired in August by BOND Mobility, a premium shared mobility operator that provides e-bikes that go up to 45 kph. The micromobility data fusion and predictive analytics solution of the Zurich-based startup will be integrated to the operator to become a key part of its data intelligence. The co-founders Lukas Ballo and Dr. Haitao He will join BOND, as Head of Data Analytics and Scientific Advisor respectively. This investment strengthens the shared mobility operator as a data-driven company, with solid understanding of the underlying mobility elements.

AWARDS:

EBAMED

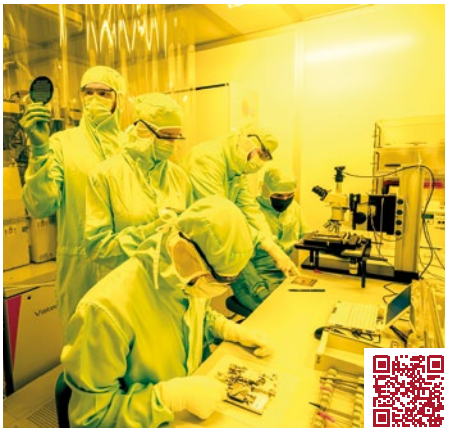
EBAMed has been awarded EUR 2.4 million in a non-dilutive grant by the Enhanced European Innovation Council (EIC) to develop its cardiac motion management product for the non-invasive treatment of heart arrhythmias. The grant enables EBAMed to optimize the product's hardware and software components and to perform a first-in-human study, which is planned to begin in 2021.

MIRAEX

Miraex, a pioneer in photonic sensing solutions, has been awarded a CHF 2.8 M project from the Swiss and Brazilian Innovation Agencies (Innosuisse and Embrapii), as part of a larger collaboration with EPFL, HEIG-VD, Instituto Eldorado and Chipus Microelectronics, to miniaturize its photonic sensor edge controller for mass scaling.

TERAPET

Terapet together with their clinical partners, ranked 2 out of 500 projects across Europe by European Commission, received a total EUR 700 K (500 K to Terapet) non-dilutive grant to continue on their successful path. The grant will finance a 3-year consortium between Terapet and the Nobel Prize-awarding Karolinska Institute, one of the world's most prestigious medical universities, and the Skandion Clinic – Scandinavia's first proton therapy facility.



XRNANOTECH

XRnanotech won the third edition of the successful entrepreneurship program Swiss Business Incubation Centre (BIC) of CERN Technologies of Switzerland Innovation Park Innovaare. The deeptech company XRnanotech, headed by the Göttingen physicist Dr. Florian Döring, was founded in 2020 and uses nanostructured X-ray optics to achieve outstanding precision in the high-tech sector.

RESISTELL

Resistell, the startup developing world's fastest phenotypic antibiotic susceptibility test (rapid AST) won the Special Life Science Award in Swiss Innovation Challenge 2020.

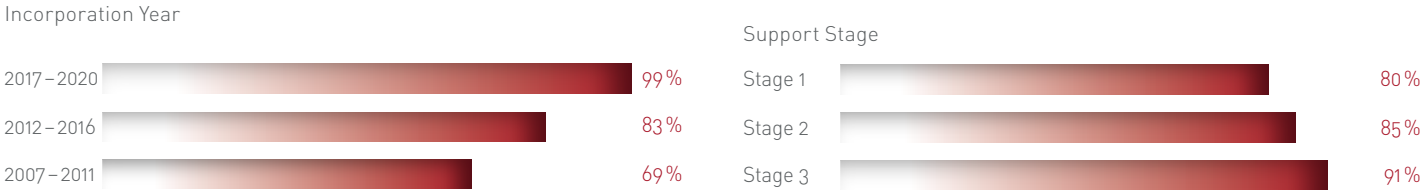
TINAMU LABS

Tinamu Labs offering an environment-independent, drone-based, end-to-end data acquisition platform won the special award Construction of the Swiss Innovation Challenge, which is endowed with CHF 10,000 by the Ulrich Stamm Charitable Foundation.

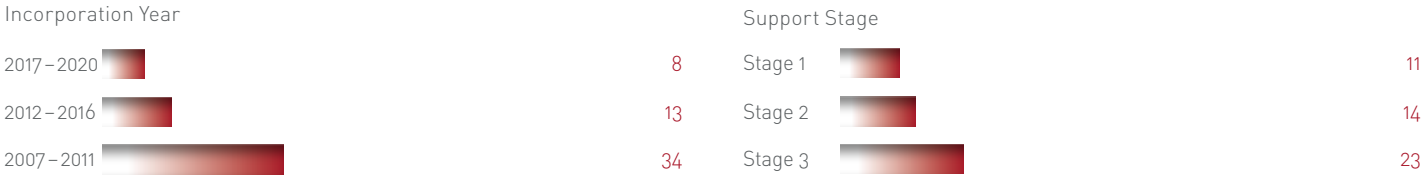
THIRTEEN YEARS OF IMPACT

Venture Kick has provided Swiss university spin-offs with seed capital, coaching, and access to a wide network of Swiss and international professional investors since 2007.

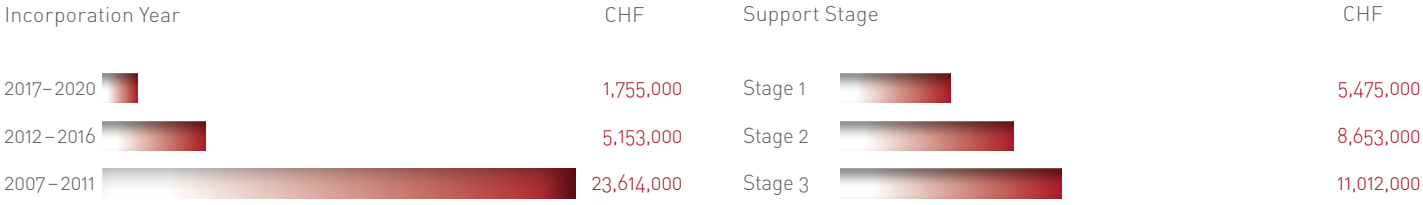
84 % SURVIVAL RATE OF INCORPORATED STARTUPS



18 JOBS CREATED PER STARTUP



CHF 7.42 MILLION INVESTMENT PER STARTUP



→ **4,687 APPLICATIONS**
received from more than 20 Swiss universities

→ **2,462 CANDIDATES**
pitched at 449 jury sessions

→ **755 STARTUP PROJECTS**
supported with CHF 34,250,000 in pre-seed capital

→ **592 NEW STARTUPS**
incorporated

→ **8,105 NEW JOBS**
(full-time-equivalents) created

→ **CHF 4,206,000,000**
in financing raised by the supported startups

→ **CHF 122**
invested by others for every CHF 1 of seed money from Venture Kick

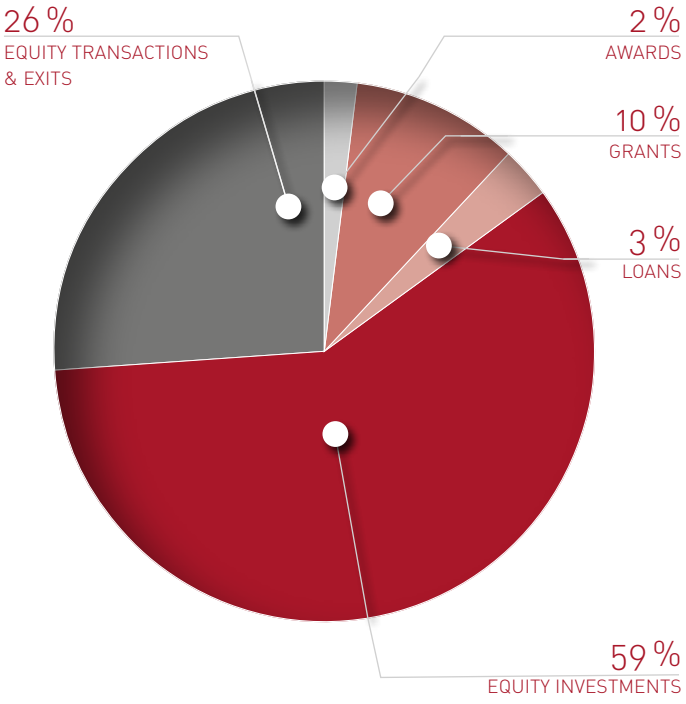
Throughout the past 13 years, jury members, selected from a pool of more than 160 Swiss and international investors and start-up experts, reviewed 2,462 startup pitches, and selected the strongest startup projects in 449 jury sessions. In addition to seed funding, the selected startups have received introductions to investors and hands-on coaching in 487 Kickers Camps.

This multi-faceted support has a demonstrable impact. To date, the 755 supported spin-off projects have led to 592 incorporations creating 8,105 jobs. At this year's TOP 100 Swiss Startup Award the ranking was well-represented with Venture Kick alums – 53 this year, including 8 among the TOP 10 positions.

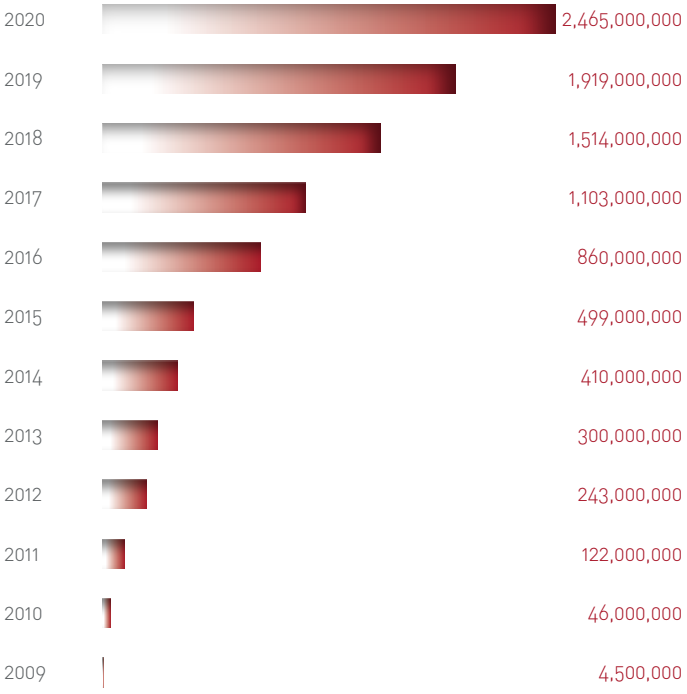
122x Investment Multiplier

Venture Kick's cumulated CHF 34.25 million of support has triggered CHF 4.2 billion of investment into these startups. That's the equivalent of CHF 122 invested by others, on top of each Swiss franc of seed money from Venture Kick.

TOTAL MONEY INVESTED 2007 – 2020



EQUITY INVESTMENT



High Survival Rate and Strong Growth

Statistics show that more than 50 % of startup projects cease activity within their first five years. The Venture Kick population has a much higher survival rate. From the 755 projects supported between 2007 and 2020, only 25 % (188) has stopped. Of these, 96 have ceased while still at the project phase, meaning only 92 disappeared following incorporation.

As for job creation, we see that Venture Kick startups typically begin growing strongly four years after incorporation. Most startups use the first years to get their technology market-ready and win investors before they hire staff. The oldest companies that started between 2007 and 2011 have created an average of 34 jobs each to date.

The data shows the jury does a good job of selecting the best startups. Of the 175 companies that received all funding stages, only 15 have ceased (9 %) and the remaining 160 have created an average of 23 jobs. Even the Venture Kick startups that don't reach the final stage are stronger than average – of the 249 companies that received only the stage 1 support, 198 are active, with an average of 11 jobs created.

Attractive Investment Opportunities and Acquisition Targets

Venture Kick startups have demonstrated their ability to win substantial investments, having attracted CHF 4.2 billion to date. Equity investments from business angels and venture capitalists (a cumulative CHF 2.46 billion) account by far for the biggest source of financing (60 %). Venture Kick startups also have proven to be attractive acquisition targets for industry leaders with transactions & exits amounting to CHF 1.09 billion up to date.

Looking at the investment per active startup, the amount is low during the first four years (an average of CHF 1.75 million), then grows rapidly in the following years. Venture Kick startups supported between 2012 – 2016 already report attracting an average of CHF 5.6 million in investment, while this number is more than quadrupled for the older companies from 2007 – 2011 having attracted on average CHF 23.61 million in funding each.

The 160 active startups that received Venture Kick's maximum support have so far raised a total of CHF 1.76 billion, an average of CHF 11.01 million per startup. The startups that only received CHF 10,000 from Venture Kick are also successful having raised a combined CHF 1.08 billion (CHF 5.48 million on average).

INTERVIEW

EXEON ANALYTICS

SMART NETWORK DETECTION AND RESPONSE

Exeon Analytics protects enterprise IT landscapes through AI-driven security analytics. The Zurich-based company develops the ExeonTrace Network Detection and Response platform that strengthens cybersecurity by continuously monitoring the security of networks, immediately detecting threats, and effectively defending digital assets. David Gugelmann founded Exeon Analytics in 2016 with the goal to become Europe's Leader in Network Detection and Response (NDR).

David, you left the academic world and your postdoc studies to become an entrepreneur. Why?

I have always found it more fascinating to not only talk or write about novel ideas on a theoretical level but also see how they come to life and perform in practice. Thanks to my PhD studies and a short period as a postdoc at ETH Zurich, I had gained enough theoretical knowledge to start building our security analytics software. Thus, it was the next logical step for me to apply my knowledge in practice by founding Exeon. Furthermore, I was in the lucky situation that a first customer had already confirmed a project before I even founded the company, so the initial financial risk was small.

You won Venture Kick in 2017, shortly after starting Exeon Analytics. How has Venture Kick laid the foundation for Exeon Analytics' successful growth?

Venture Kick was fundamental to the successful growth of Exeon. First, because I met the business angels who financed the expansion of Exeon through Venture Kick, and they have been supporting me ever since. Second, because of the business development coaching I received through the program: The most important – and to be honest, initially also a bit frustrating – learning was that building technically outstanding software is not enough; one also needs to be able to sell the software to customers.

While this learning sounds obvious when it's written down, as in this interview, it's, in fact, subtler during everyday work. For example, most entrepreneurs probably have an ever-growing list of open tasks, and there will never be enough time to get them done all. When starting Exeon, I realized that I had a tendency toward cherry-picking the more technical tasks, as this was what I felt more comfortable doing; meaning, I implicitly prioritized technology over business development. This has changed in the meantime; in fact, nowadays, I often have more fun solving business development challenges than technical ones.

The pandemic has shown us the importance of digitalization – and the risks that come with this transformation. How has COVID-19 affected your industry and Exeon Analytics' plans?

Our NDR software is primarily used by larger companies. For example, among our current customers are two of Switzerland's top five banks and some large Swiss industrial and logistics companies. Many larger companies initially stopped new projects when the COVID-19 lockdown started, which slowed down our growth in spring and summer. On the other hand, the number of cyber attacks – in particular ransomware attacks – is increasing rapidly. As a result, many companies realized this year that they need a solution like ours to understand what is happening in their own IT networks and protect their IT infrastructure from advanced cyber attacks. In sum, there is an increasing demand for our solution, and Exeon showed strong growth in 2020, despite COVID-19.

"Venture Kick was fundamental to the successful growth of Exeon."

David Gugelmann,
Exeon Analytics CEO

What are the next steps in Exeon Analytics' journey?

We'll further expand in Europe – with a digital approach. One of the very few positive things that the COVID-19 crisis brought is that it changed some rather old-fashioned business practices. In particular, before COVID-19, it was often expected that one had to personally visit a customer multiple times before one could even suggest a Proof of Value. With COVID-19, it has become the new normal that such meetings can take place via video calls. In fact, we're running multiple successful projects right now, where we've never physically met the customer. This enables a business development strategy that no longer has such a strong geographic focus but allows us to concentrate on specific verticals across Europe.

"Our ExeonTrace software is like an alarm system for IT networks: It finds cyber attacks in millions of regular activities."

David Gugelmann,
Exeon Analytics CEO


CREDIT

MAXWELL BIOSYSTEMS

HIGH-CONTENT ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY PLATFORMS

Neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and multiple sclerosis are serious challenges in our aging societies, but the brain's complexity makes it difficult to develop treatments. MaxWell Biosystems – founded by Dr. Urs Frey, Dr. Michele Fiscella, Dr. Jan Müller, and Dr. Marie E. Obien in 2016 – develops cell imaging systems that empower scientists to reveal the function of neuronal networks in a dish to better understand the brain and accelerate the development of drugs targeting our most complex organ.

MaxWell Biosystems just closed a Series A financing round. Can you tell us more about it?

Together with Sensirion Holding and other existing shareholders and business angels, we closed a CHF 4 million Series A financing round in December. With this Series A, and with Sensirion as a shareholder and partner, we are taking a big step toward enabling high-throughput applications, which our customers need to screen more neuroactive compounds and more cell lines, save time and resources, and increase the statistical significance of their results.

What are the next steps for MaxWell Biosystems?

Our fabulous team has grown rapidly over the last four years – from 4 to 29 employees. We just moved to Zurich, where we have found our new headquarters that includes bio and tech laboratories.

We are scaling our tech and scientific R&D, production, quality control, data analysis, sales, and marketing while expanding our user base globally. Building the infrastructure that supports our users is an important milestone for us. We also continue to boost our position as a technology leader, providing high-content electrophysiology platforms for scientific advancements and drug discovery and development.

You won Venture Kick in 2017. What is a lesson that you still apply today?

Beat and Jordi kept on kicking and kicking us to have better and better investor pitches during this journey! One piece of advice still stuck in my head is the importance of adapting the message of such pitches to always fit the targeted audience. In the case of an investor pitch, the audience usually has less of a scientific background than many of us early-days founders are used to from our days at universities.

The most valuable part was the Kickers Camps. Thanks to all the kicking, we are able to formulate our value proposition from the perspective of solving customers' problems instead of highlighting the most advanced features that our products have.

"Every cell has a story to tell. We empower scientists with tools to easily track and analyze their cells."

Urs Frey,
Maxwell Biosystems CEO and co-founder

SEED BIOSCIENCES

NEXT-GENERATION SINGLE-CELL DISPENSING

SEED Biosciences enables personalized medicine: The biotech startup makes innovative pipetting robots allowing scientists to isolate single cell lines – three times faster and ten times cheaper than existing solutions. Single-cell analysis is critical for preserving the integrity and viability of the cells to identify cell populations or discover unique characteristics of individual cells. With a recent product launch and fundraising round, the Lausanne-based Venture Kick winner continues to be on track to reach profitability in 2022.

SEED Biosciences supports scientists around the world to develop safer and more efficient biotherapies faster and at lower costs. "We aim to become a leader in the growing field of single-cell biology," explains Dr. Georges Muller, bioengineer and SEED Biosciences CEO. Together with microengineer and CTO Dr. David Bonzon, he founded SEED Biosciences in 2018. The two first met in 2013, during their PhD theses at EPFL, under the supervision of Philippe Renaud and Yann Barrandon. Prof. Barrandon, a pioneer in personalized medicine, discussed the need for an instrument to isolate single stem cells for cell therapy. Muller and Bonzon teamed up and turned that instrument into a simple pipette. Four years later the two not only had their PhD theses but also a product that was validated by first customers and experts, a team, and some capital from grants – including Venture Kick. "All the stars were aligned," explained Muller.

SEED Biosciences won Venture Kick in 2018, and the money and training contributed to a substantial part of the pre-seed round in 2019. In April 2020, the team around Muller and Bonzon launched their first product, DispenCell, SEED Biosciences' unique single-cell dispenser.

"Simple is beautiful' is our mantra. But the simplicity of the product can only be judged by the person who's paying for it. That's why we always get customer validation as soon as possible."

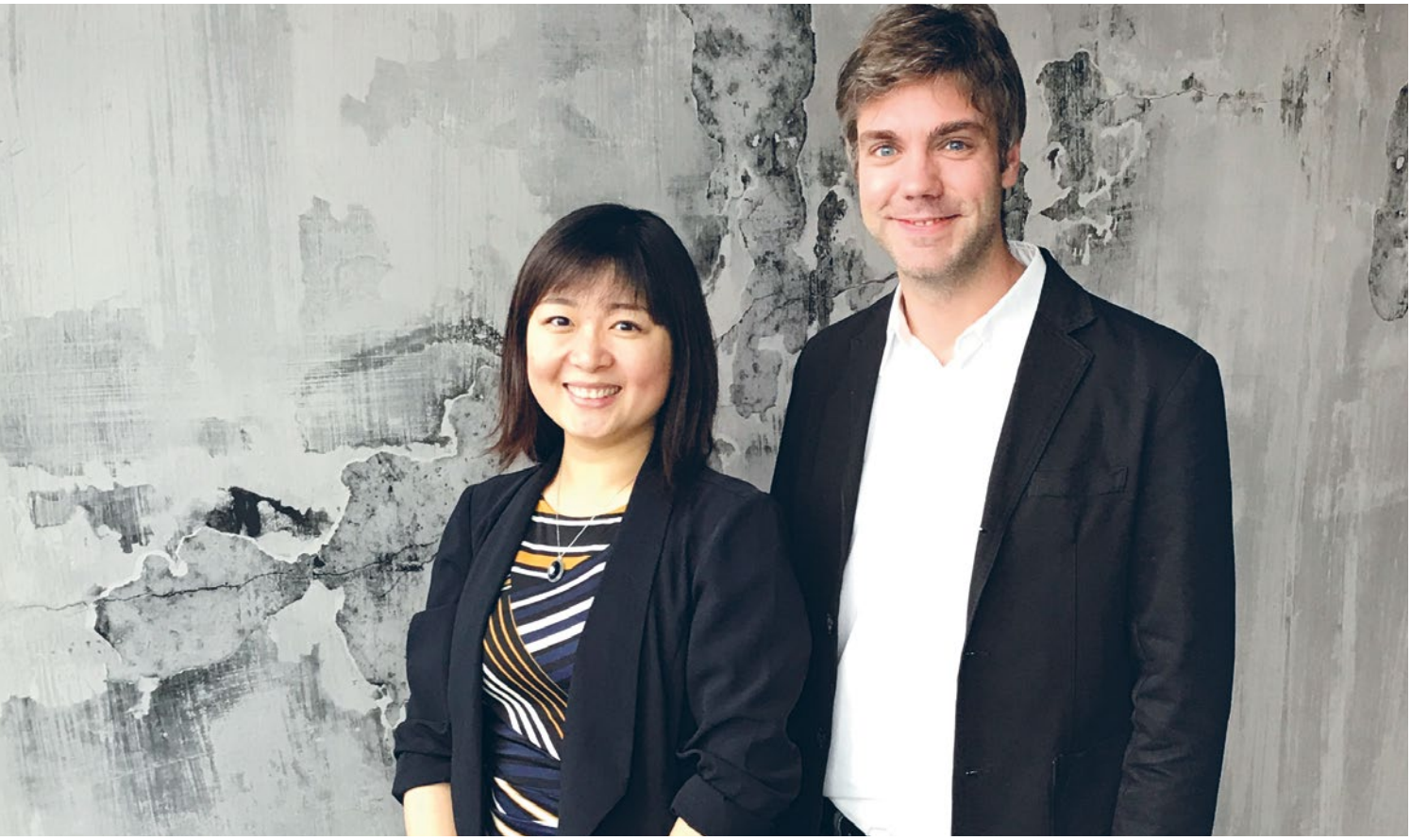
Dr. George Muller,
SEED Biosciences CEO and co-founder

SEED Biosciences keeps on growing: Their team of engineers, scientists, and sales and marketing experts continue to refine DispenCell and invest more resources into sales and manufacturing. Earlier this year, the startup raised a Series A fundraising round and welcomed a new chairman of the board of directors. "With this Series A, we have taken on board a series of very experienced businessmen and entrepreneurs. I expect to learn a lot from them," said Muller.

INTERVIEW

TERAPET

REVOLUTIONIZING PROTON THERAPY FOR CANCER TREATMENT



Geneva-based Terapet is developing a novel medical device that will be the eyes of the doctors during proton therapy for cancer treatment and provide cancer patients with a safer, more precise, and time-saving proton therapy. The medtech startup was founded in 2019 by Dr. Christina Vallgren, Dr. Marcus Palm, and Prof. Raymond Miralbell, and it aims to guarantee real-time 3D analysis of protons to allow more precise treatments with lower doses and faster outputs.

Christina, what made you and your team become entrepreneurs?

The concept of having an in-vivo real-time dose monitoring during proton therapy treatment is not new. Different methods, with different precision, advantages, and limitations, have been proposed at CERN and in Heidelberg already 15 years ago. But so far, there is no commercial medical device available for proton therapy to localize the dose during treatment. This limits the real potential of proton therapy and slows down its growth. Our goal is to bring the research from the lab to reality and help patients.

You won Venture Kick in August of this year. In July, you closed the seed round. How did the Venture Kick experience help you raise the seed round?

Venture Kick has been playing an important role in our company's progress, and we met several of our investors at the pitch sessions. Of course, Venture Kick is not only about money. It is the broad visibility, credibility, and network Venture Kick provides to young startups like us.

What are Terapet's next goals?

Besides closing the seed round of CHF 1 million, we also got non-dilutive support from Innosuisse for three years of R&D collaboration with CERN to develop our first full-scale prototype and getting it ready for clinical validation. In November, Eurostars awarded EUR 500,000 non-dilutive funds to Terapet and a SEK 2 million (EUR 197,000) research fund to our partners, Skandion Clinic and Karolinska Institute in Sweden.

Our goal is to see our device being a standard safety tool in every proton therapy facility. We want to bring proton therapy to the next level and ensure that every patient receives the right dose every time.

"Venture Kick provided us with the business tools and knowledge we never learned as physicists. The competitive and demanding program accelerated our idea and made it possible to transform it into a real venture!"

Dr. Christina Vallgren,
TERAPET CEO and co-founder

A KICKERS' WORLD

THE VENTURE KICK'S WEBSERIE THAT GIVES A VOICE TO ENTREPRENEURS

A Kickers' World introduces some of the startups and entrepreneurs that have won Venture Kick's financial support and training. Scan the QR-code to watch their interview and get to know their project, team and work environment better.

FLOWBONE

LOCAL BONE STRENGTHENING

XR NANOTECH

WORLD RECORD FOR HIGHEST PRECISION X-RAY

LIFEMATRIX

BIOMIMETIC SOLUTIONS FOR LIFE

NATURLOOP

DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE BIO BASED MATERIALS

TERAPET

IMPROVING PROTON THERAPY FOR CANCER TREATMENTS

MIRAEX

PHOTONIC AND QUANTUM SENSING SOLUTIONS

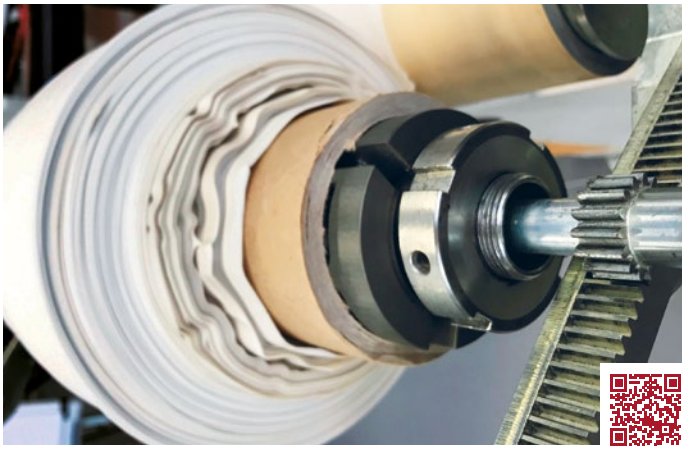
GLOBAL GAME CHANGERS

DEEPCDR BIOLOGICS

Currently, drug-developers searching for new therapeutic antibodies use time-consuming, experimental screening processes that can take years to develop candidates ready for clinical trial. DeepCDR's co-founders Derek Mason, Simon Friedensohn, Sai Reddy, and André Mercanzini, combine gene editing, deep sequencing and deep learning to radically accelerate the therapeutic antibody discovery process. This ETH-spin-off's patented discovery workflow combines drug screening in mammalian cells with deep learning to generate thousands of optimized lead candidates at ten-times the speed of current technology, focusing on the USD 100 billion monoclonal antibody market.

deepcdr.com

DIMPORA



Actively exploring nature comfortably requires apparel that is both waterproof and breathable. The performance laminate sector is a USD 1.5 billion market dominated by Gore-Tex material and Dermizax fabric. Friends Mario Stucki and Anna Beltzung, both PHDs from ETH Zurich, co-founded dimpora to pairs Stucki's membrane engineering knowledge with Beltzung's understanding of polymer synthesis. Dimpora's membranes are waterproof and breathable, without using dangerous chemicals. The patented processes may also allow the material to be biodegradable and for apparel-makers to protect their clothes without seams in the membrane.

dimpora.com

L.E.S.S.

L.E.S.S. develops an ultra-thin, ultra-bright lighting technology based on a nano-active fiber adapted to specific market needs. In 2017, the revolutionary potential of the nano-active fiber technology has been displayed for the first time on a demo car at the Geneva International Motor Show. Since then, they have been working tightly with different players of the car industry to reach the necessary milestones to enter the automotive market. In 2020, L.E.S.S has been chosen by a jury of 25 growth investors as one of the 25 most promising scale-ups in Switzerland.

less-sa.com

LIFEMATRIX TECHNOLOGIES

Globally, one out of 100 children is born with a heart defect. In severe cases the diseased cardiovascular tissue needs to be replaced surgically. The currently used synthetic or animal derived materials do not grow or regenerate with the patient, cause severe clinical problems and need to be replaced several times. LifeMatrix Technologies has developed a unique tissue engineering technology to grow human replacement tissues. When implanted, the patient's own cells will transform the LifeMatrix Technologies tissue into living heart valves and blood vessels which can grow and regenerate with the patient.

lifematrixtechnologies.com

MIRAEX

Miraex develops photonic and quantum solutions for next-generation sensing, networking, and computing. The EPFL spin-off enables companies to detect anomalies in infrastructure located in hostile environments. The young startup was founded in 2019 by Dr. Nicolas Abelé, Dr. Clément Javerzac, and Karel Dumon. Miraex's solutions provide critical data and analytics to help businesses make data-driven maintenance decisions while avoiding downtime and increasing safety in demanding environments. Miraex sensors are Micro Opto-Mechanical Systems (MOMS), capable of measuring a variety of physical parameters: vibrations, pressure, temperature, electromagnetic fields, and radio waves.

miraex.com

OXYPREM

A million preterm babies die each year, and many more of those surviving early birth suffer brain damage related to oxygen starvation. OxyPrem is developing a non-invasive device to help prevent this by measuring brain oxygenation continuously, and alerting medical staff when levels breach normal ranges. Supported by the Wyss Zurich and the Uniscientia Foundation, OxyPrem is working with key opinion leaders in 12 European countries within the SafeBoosC-III trial, which is currently assessing the benefits of brain-monitoring in a group of 1,600 extremely preterm infants. OxyPrem will obtain medical device certification and start screening for viable industry partners in the near future.

oxyprem.com

SYNPLE CHEM

Chemical synthesis is essential for the discovery of new drugs, materials and agricultural compounds. Synple Chem has developed an automated reagent cartridge-based synthesizer for chemcial structures for chemical laboratories e.g. drug discovery laboratories, which works in analogy to a very well known coffee capsule system. With their device researchers can synthesize new molecules much faster, cheaper and more efficient than with manual methods. This has the potential to speed up drug discovery cycles to bring new medicines faster to the patient.

synplechem.com

TECHNIS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the need to control the number of customers in shops has drastically increased and Technis was able to adapt their business and offer customer oriented solutions to support daily operations in the retail sector. The EPFL spin-off recently closed a Series A investment at CHF 3.2 million as COVID-19 boosted turnover by 20 % per month. Technis not only raised funds, but also won a strategic partner. m3 GROUPE, founded and managed by the Geneva businessman Abdallah Chatila, became the exclusive distributor for Switzerland of the solutions developed by Technis.

mytechnis.com

53 VENTURE KICKERS
IN THE TOP 100 IN 2020

1 CUTISS
→ cutiss.swiss
The first automate-produced, personalized skin tissue therapy to treat patients that suffer from large and deep skin defects
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 11.8.15

3 PIAVITA
→ piavita.com
State of the art sensor technologies allowing for easy and precise remote measurement of vital signs of horses.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 9.12.14

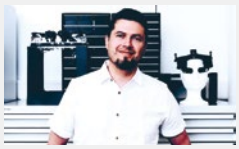
4 EXEON ANALYTICS
→ exeon.com
AI-driven security analytics to quickly detect and eliminate cyber threats before damage occurs.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 4.10.16

5 VERSANTIS
→ versantis.ch
A new generation of medicines and diagnostics to revolutionize the care of patients with liver disease.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 4.3.14

7 GAMAYA
→ gamaya.com
Digital solutions for precision agriculture increasing the efficiency and sustainability of crop production.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 14.1.14

8 RESISTELL
→ resistell.com–
The world's fastest antibiogram saving lives by finding the right antibiotic on time.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 30.1.18

9 CREAL
→ creal.com
A novel smart eyewear display for true optical depth in virtual and augmented reality for a seamless fusion of real and virtual objects.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 20.6.17



10 INSOLIGHT
→ insolight.ch–
Solar panels with record efficiency using concentrated space-grade solar cells.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 8.12.15

13 ARARIS BIOTECH
→ ararisbiotech.com
A novel antibody-drug conjugate (ADC)-linker technology allowing the attachment of any payload to "off the shelf" antibodies.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 10.7.18

14 AGROSUSTAIN
→ agrosustain.ch
Biological fungicides that harness the power of nature to enhance the quality of fruits and vegetables
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 8.8.17

17 EYEWARE TECH
→ eyeware.tech
Eye-tracking software that enables machines and devices to understand user attention and intention for eye-gaze controlled interactions.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 8.12.15

18 HAELIXA A
→ haelixa.com-
Proprietary and innovative solutions to physically mark, trace, and authenticate products from producer to retail creating transparency along the entire supply chain.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 2.2.16

22 AVRIOS INTERNATIONAL
→ avrios.com
Comprehensive fleet management software helping operators of commercial vehicles to utilize their assets as efficiently as possible.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 3.2.15

25 MOBBOT
→ themobbot.com
Mobile 3D concrete printing systems for precast and construction companies.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 10.07.18

26 ANNAIDA TECHNOLOGIES
→ annaida.ch
Magnetic resonance at the scale of a human embryo, enabling non-invasive viability screening.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 26.6.18

27 PHARMABIOME
→ pharmabiome.com
Unique technologies to access the entire range of intestinal bacteria for the design and production of functional microbiome therapies.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 28.4.15

29 VOLUMINA MEDICAL
→ volumina-medical.ch
Innovative tissue reconstruction technologies enabling minimally invasive repair of 3D soft tissues in reconstructive and plastic surgery.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 4.9.17

30 LUCKABOX
→ luckabox.com
Customer-centric logistics platform for online retailers to offer their customers on-demand and last-mile deliveries.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 11.7.17

32 DOTPHOTON
→ dotphoton.com
Lossless raw image compression solution for professional applications.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 4.9.17

36 ONWARD MEDICAL
(formerly G-Therapeutics SA)
→ onwd.com
An implantable stimulation system and a 3D overground body weight support training program to rehabilitate individuals with spinal cord injury.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 24.9.13

37 PLANTED FOODS
→ planted.ch
Sustainable, healthy and cruelty-free plant-based meat.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 21.5.19

38 SEVENSENSE ROBOTICS
→ sevensense.ch
Visual navigation system for the next generation of service robots.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 30.10.18

40 INVOLI
→ involi.com
Enabling the safe integration of drones into the airspace creating the bridge between the airplane world and the drone world.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 28.2.17

43 HAYA THERAPEUTICS
→ hayatx.com
Translating long noncoding RNA discoveries into breakthrough therapies to monitor and treat patients with debilitating diseases caused by fibrosis.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 3.10.17

45 APIAX
→ apiax.com
Powerful and flexible tools to master complex financial regulations digitally.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 8.8.17

46 FUTURAE TECHNOLOGIES
→ futurae.com
A user authentication platform for degree security and data privacy while allowing seamless user journeys.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 5.4.16

47 MICROCAPS
→ microcaps.ch–
Microencapsulation with Swiss precision for pharmaceutical, biomedical, probiotic, and food markets.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 26.6.18

48 NEURAL CONCEPT
→ neuralconcept.com
The first 3D deep learning software dedicated to computer-assisted engineering and design.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 12.6.18

55 VOLIRO
→ voliro.com
Advanced flying robots to perform inspection and maintenance tasks more safely, cost-effectively and faster.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 12.6.18

56 FLYBOTIX
→ flybotix.com
Revolutionary indoor inspection drone solution aiming to double the flight time.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 20.11.18

59 MAXWELL BIOSYSTEMS
→ mxwbio.com
Next-generation high-content electrophysiology platforms to facilitate detailed investigation of cells in vitro.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 5.7.16

61 ERACAL THERAPEUTICS
→ eracal.ch
Developing an efficacious and well-tolerated appetite suppressant to treat obesity and its comorbidities.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 20.3.18

63 SYNPLE CHEM
→ synplechem.com
New automated synthesizers using revolutionary reagent capsules to make the synthesis of molecules faster and more efficient.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 22.11.16

65 AVATRONICS
→ avatronics.com
Groundbreaking active noise cancellation technology capable of selectively canceling all annoying noises without compromising the quality of music or speech.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 12.3.19

68 XORLAB
→ xorlab.com
Harnessing machine intelligence to stop even the most sophisticated email attacks at first sight.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 3.3.15

70 LARGO FILMS S
→ largofilms.ch
Data-driven intelligence to content creators during film production processes for ROI uplift and reduction of risk.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 6.6.17

71 SCAILYTE
→ scailyte.com
Artificial intelligence technology for the discovery of complex disease patterns from single-cell data.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 20.6.17

72 ALTOIDA AG
→ altoida.com
Proven technology offering the most precise identification of cognitive impairment and the early identification of an individual's path toward cognitive impairment.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 6.5.14

74 ARTIRIA MEDICAL
→ artiria-medical.com
Cutting edge technologies to bring micro-motion deep in the brain arteries, enabling seamless navigation and stroke treatment.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 8.1.19

75 MIRAEX
→ miraex.com-
Photonic and quantum solutions for next-gen sensing, networking and computing to access the inaccessible.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 26.6.19

79 PREGNOLIA
→ pregnolia.com
Simple, reliable and easy to use diagnostic device to fight the burden of preterm birth.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 11.8.15

80 RAW LABS
→ raw-labs.com
Enabling companies to rapidly build and deploy data-driven applications without having to invest time and money in new and expensive data lakes and data warehouses.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 14.1.14

81 IDUN TECHNOLOGIES
→ iduntechnologies.ch
Accurate and comfortable sensors for wearable devices allowing enabling the internet of humans.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 16.5.17

82 FIXPOSITION
→ fixposition.com
Simplifying autonomous navigation by increasing reliability and expanding the availability of positioning.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 21.11.17

85 NAGI BIOSCIENCE
→ nagibio.ch
The first "Organism-on-Chip" technology as an ethical alternative to animal testing and a key to boosting innovation and efficiency in the pharmaceutical, cosmetic, and chemical industries.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 20.3.18

88 DAPHNE TECHNOLOGY
→ daphnetechnology.com
Technology platform to reduce emissions from all fuels, minimizing both air- and sea pollution for the maritime industry.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 28.2.17

90 HEMOTUNE
→ hemotune.ch
Developing a revolutionary medical device for blood purification to provide the means to treat critically ill patients and save lives.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 5.7.16

91 IMVERSE
→ imverse.com
Turning people into live 3D holograms enabling the 3D future of content and communication.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 31.1.17

92 GRZ TECHNOLOGIES
→ grz-technologies.com
A dense, safe and affordable hydrogen storage module to overcome the problem of fluctuating renewable energy sources.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 22.11.16

94 SEERVISION
→ seervision.com
Software for camera automation designed to make live video production effortless.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 2.2.16

95 SONECT
→ sonect.ch
A location-based matchmaking platform connecting those who want to withdraw cash with those who want to deposit it.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 1.11.16

96 ASPIVIX SA
→ aspivix.com
A next-generation surgical instrument for gentle and modern gynecological procedures.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 12.12.17

98 DEPOLY
→ depoly.ch
Innovative technology that can recycle all PET plastic wastes regardless of their source and state creating a sustainable circular economy for PET.
START VENTURE KICK SUPPORT: 20.8.19

SUPPORTED PROJECTS IN 2020

BIOTECH

Abologix
Ignacio Faus – University of Geneva (UNIGE). New antibodies for the treatment of cancer to increase the overall survival of lymphoma patients.

Adiposs
Andrej Babic – University of Geneva (UNIGE). A new CT contrast agent that enables early detection of cachexia before patients lose body weight.

Alithea Genomics
Daniel Alpern – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). High throughput transcriptomics solutions for research and biomarker discovery.

Bionomous
Frank Bonnet – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Automatically inspect and sort miniature biological entities, in particular zebrafish eggs.

Ceidos
Sébastien Walpen – University of Bern (UNIBE). Automated manufacturing of "living drugs" for cancer treatment ensuring better outcomes at a much lower cost.

deepCDR Biologics
Derek Mason – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Gene editing, deep sequencing, and deep learning combined for antibody discovery and engineering.

Endotelix Diagnostics
Karim Brandt – Hôpitaux universitaires de Genève (HUG). Providing fast and reliable diagnostic solutions and treatments for Antiphospholipid Syndrome.

HemostOD
Faouzi Khechna – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Donor-free, stem cell-derived, ex vivo platelets as a standardized alternative to blood donor platelet transfusions.

mimiX Biotherapeutics
Marc Thurner –AO Foundation. Next-generation bio fabrication technology enabling tissue manufacturing for therapeutic and diagnostic purposes.

REN Therapeutics
Rikke C Nielsen – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Oral microbiome therapies to treat chronic kidney disease.

Swiss Medical Union
Daniil Golubev – University of Geneva (UNIGE). Human-on-a-chip platform to test the interaction, efficiency and safety of new medical products and select the right personalized therapies.

TrophiGraft
Nicolò Brembilla – University of Geneva (UNIGE). A personalized stem cell-based solution for difficult-to-treat chronic ulcers.

ViRelieve Therapeutics
Ivan Ivanov – HES-SO Valais-Wallis. Innovative therapeutic solutions to treat respiratory virus infections.

Xemperia
Marie Bertrand – University of Fribourg (UNIFR). Novel blood-based test for breast cancer detection.

CLEANTECH

Bloom Biorenewables
Florent Héroguel – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Making biomass a true alternative to petroleum for the production of sustainable and cost-competitive bio-based materials for the chemical industry.

Cowa Thermal Solutions
Remo Waser – Hochschule Luzern (HSLU). Compact thermal energy storage based on phase change materials.

Enerdrape
Margaux Peltier – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Turning underground garages into renewable heat sources.

Exnaton
Liliane Ableitner – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Software for local peer-to-peer energy communities for trading renewable energy in the neighborhood.

iWin - innovative Windows
Paolo Corti – Scuola Universitaria Professionale della Svizzera Italiana (SUPSI). Innovative windows that integrate a PV venetian blind to protect buildings from overheating while simultaneously producing renewable energy on-site.

LIBREC
Jodok Reinhardt – Berner Fachhochschule (BFH). Safe collection and recycling of e-car batteries with full recovery of cobalt, nickel, lithium and manganese.

Peroprint & Upero
Anand Verma – EMPA. Digitally printed customizable solar cells.

SmartHelio
Govinda Upadhyay – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). A cost-effective, easy-to-install monitoring solution to better monitor the performance of solar systems and ensure rapid maintenance.

SoHHytec
Saurabh Tembhurne – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). A cleaner and cost-effective system for onsite solar fuel and power production.

Up Green Recycling
Luca Fazzone – HES-SO Master. Organic waste bin equipped with a vacuum system to prevent smell and decomposition.

ELECTRONICS, MECHANICS

Bota Systems
Klajd Lika – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Plug and play force sensing solutions for robots that need to interact with humans and their environment.

IMITec - Automatic Aircraft Inspection
Christian Dürager – EMPA. Innovative remote-controlled aircraft structure inspection device to move aircraft maintenance into the digital future.

Isochronic
Melvin Haas – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Industrial robots capable of transporting multiple parts simultaneously.

Mithras Technology
Franco Membrini – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Making wearables energy-autonomous by converting heat into electricity.

No-Touch Robotics
Marcel Schuck – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Next-generation of robotic grippers that work without mechanical contact.

ratioX
Simon Faneco – IMD Lausanne. Automatic gearbox for simple, reliable and carefree cycling.

ShadeMe
Yujie Wu – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Decentralized and anti-glare smart blinds for office buildings.

Studio KOH
Raphaël Briner – University of Neuchâtel (UNINE). A smart device that reinvents video conferencing with a new 360° experience.

TerraRad Tech
Derek Houtz – Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL). Drone-based soil moisture mapping for smart agriculture.

INTERNET, MOBILE

CareerLunch
Simon Hofer – University of St. Gallen (HSG). The platform where top talents meets top employers authentically.

Neia
Blas Pegenaute – HES-SO Genève. A new community marketplace for home chefs to share their meals.

Ratyng (Onloan)
Matthias Schaller – University of St. Gallen (HSG). Highly efficient and accessible SME risk assessment.

We Play Sport
Adam Scholefield – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). AI-driven video platform to broadcast, analyze and discuss your sports matches.

MATERIALS, CHEMICALS

IxsirGas
Guido Zichittella – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Transforming natural gas into liquid chemicals and fuels.

NaturLoop
Daniel Dinizo – Berner Fachhochschule (BFH). Sustainable, natural biocomposites made from agricultural by-products.

NEMATX
Raphael Heeb – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Introducing the next generation in high-performance polymer 3D printing.

Recyclist Workshop
Sven Kannler – University of St. Gallen (HSG). Pioneering cotton clothing recycling.

MEDTECH

4i Labs
Gabriele Gut – University of Zurich (UZH). Functional diagnostic reports to improve decision making in oncology.

aiEndoscopic
Philippe Ganz – University Hospital of Zurich. Assistive device for safer and easier tracheal intubations.

ArcoScreen
Margaux Duchamp – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Novel discovery platform for drug screening targeting cell membrane receptors.

Aseptuva
Henry Twerenbold – University of Zurich (UZH). Combating hospital infections through a novel UVC technology for disinfection of medical devices.

autonomyo
Fabian Bischof – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Lower limb exoskeleton enabling people with muscular and neurological deficiencies to walk again.

C-MedTEC
Stefania Konstantinidi – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). An innovative method for the detection and monitoring of brain concussions to promote and provide a safer sports practice.

CustomSurg
Thomas Zumbrunn – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Patient-specific solutions in complex trauma surgery.

DeepPsy
Sebastian Olbrich – University of Zurich (UZH). Better treatment decision support in mental diseases.

EarlySight
Timothé Laforest – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). A medical device to help doctors detect and treat eye diseases at an early stage thanks to precise retinal imaging.

Emovo Care
Luca Randazzo – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Emovo grasp is a portable and lightweight hand orthosis to support daily living independence of people with hand motor impairments.

epyMetrics
Edith Schmid – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Diagnostic wearable to monitor your bodies' heat balance and to prevent heat stress.

Exomotion
Mohsen Falahi – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Allure is an electric wheelchair allowing users to move in any direction with absolute motion freedom.

flowbone
Ulrike Kettenberger – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Injectable biomaterial for the minimal-invasive augmentation of fragile bones for repair and fracture prevention.

Genknowme
Semira Gonseth – Centre hospitalier universitaire vaudois (CHUV). Revolutionary epigenetic test to measure the reversible impacts of lifestyle on biological age.

LifeMatrix Technologies
RobinMüller – University of Zurich (UZH). Next-generation implants to treat patients with cardiovascular disease, the leading cause of death globally.

Nemosia
Awa Diagne – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Positron emission tomography (PET) tracers for early diagnostics of neurological disorders.

Neurosoft Bioelectronics
Nicolas Vachicouras – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). A new generation of soft implantable electrodes that can seamlessly interface with the nervous system.

Nostic Solutions
Tobias Minder – Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz (FHNW). Using AI to automate and increase the quality of X-ray diagnostics in dentistry.

Nutrix
Maria Hahn – Centre Suisse d'Electronique et de Microtechnique (CSEM). A high tech nanosensor for glucose monitoring that will revolutionize the world of preventive medicine.

Parithera
Weida Chen – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Minimally invasive, inexpensive and highly actionable precision cancer diagnostics.

peakPCR
Philippe Bechtold – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Novel PCR devices for faster and more accessible DNA analysis.

PeriVision
Jan Stapelfeldt – University of Bern (UNIBE). Innovative AI-based glaucoma monitoring system to facilitate visual field tests required for early detection.

Regenosca
Mattias Larsson – Centre hospitalier universitaire vaudois (CHUV). Developing a safe and body-friendly implant that allows surgeons to successfully reconstruct the bladder.

Resmonics
Peter Tinschert – University of St. Gallen (HSG). AI-based digital biomarkers for respiratory diseases.

ribolifeDx
Siew-Veena Sahi – Hôpitaux universitaires de Genève (HUG). Making sexual health accessible with self-diagnostic test kits for STDs.

SELPH
Marius Jatautas – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). A convenient and accurate self-testing device for Sexually Transmitted Diseases.

STIMIT
Ronja Bruhn – University of Basel (UNIBAS). Non-invasive diaphragm solution empowering patients to breathe.

SurgeonsLab
Fredrick Johnson Joseph – University of Bern (UNIBE). Patient-specific treatment planning and strategy for microsurgery and micro-interventions.

Terapet
Christina Vallgren – Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire (CERN). Innovative medical device for safer proton therapy, monitoring the delivered proton dose inside the patients in 3D.

MICRO-, NANO TECHNOLOGY

ELDICO Scientific
Eric Hovestreydt – PSI Paul Scherrer Institut. Diffractometers for the analysis of solid chemical compounds to obtain relevant information fast, with better quality and at a low cost.

INERGIO Technologies
Mahmoud Hadad – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). High autonomy, high reliability and eco-friendly power sources based on fuel cell technology for off-grid and mobile applications.

Infrascreen
Henri de Lalande – Centre Suisse d'Electronique et de Microtechnique (CSEM). Nanotech light filters for climate control in greenhouses.

Luminesys
Nicolas Descharmes – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Next-generation microscopy slides for more reliable and faster medical analyses.

matriq
André Bernard – NTB Buchs. The unique watermark for plastics addressing authenticity and security.

Miraex
Clément Javerzac-Galy – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Photonic and quantum solutions for next-gen sensing, networking and computing.

Pi Imaging Technology
Michel Antolovic – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Creating highly efficient photon counting arrays enabling designs with an unlimited number of pixels and adaptable architectures.

Silent Laser
Pierre Brochard – University of Neuchâtel (UNINE). Ultra-stable and compact laser source for many applications such as spectroscopy, optical clocks or quantum technologies.

Swistor
Clara Moldovan – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Ultra-fast charging, long-lasting, green battery replacement.

XRnanotech
Florian Döring – PSI Paul Scherrer Institut. Nanostructured X-ray optics with outstanding precision for high-tech applications.

OTHERS

Bertify
Robert Schreiber – University of St. Gallen (HSG). More efficient alternative protein sources without having to make any compromises.

Capskin
Oliver Glauser – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Sensor socks for better footwear.

Concept | Iris
Fabian Christmann – Hochschule Luzern (HSLU). Creating reusable, functional and well-designed coffee-to-go-cups.

condenZero
Denys Sutter – University of Zurich (UZH). Revolutionary fast-cooling sample holders for cryo-electron microscopes to advance research.

Helvitek Labs
Théo-Tim Denisart – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Creating the next-generation urban life masks.

Planted Foods
Pascal Bieri – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Sustainable, healthy and cruelty-free plant-based meat.

SmartBreed
Adrian Bertschi – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Fully automated and standardized breeding solutions for insect breeders.

SOFTWARE

Agrinorm
Daria Reisch – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Machine learning for quality predictions of fruits.

AICA
Lukas Huber – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Artificial intelligence software to simplify robot programming.

Axentless
Amjad Mallisho – Hochschule Luzern (HSLU). Advanced algorithmic technologies to enable interactive speech therapy practice for stroke victims.

BeWear
Verena Ziegler – Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK). AI sewing pattern software for customized fashion.

Calicarpa
El Mahdi El Mhamdi – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Developing fast and robust machine learning algorithms and software that customers can trust.

DeepJudge
Paulina Grnarova – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). The next-generation AI-powered legal search engine.

Inanna
Amra Waegli – University Hospital of Zurich. Improving the outcomes of IVF fertility treatments through machine learning.

incon.ai
Timothy Sandy – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Precision augmented reality for all measuring and working steps for complex construction.

KickTheMap
Jérémie Locquet – Hautes école vaudoises. A mobile service that turns your device into a professional grade 3D scanner.

Klepsydra Technologies
Pablo Ghiglino – Others. Accelerating embedded software engineering to build advanced autonomous applications more efficiently and reliably.

LogicFlow
Lucas Fiévet – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Automated code migration helping companies to modernize and standardize their IT systems with minimal risk and cost.

Magma Learning
Maxime Gabella – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Intelligent learning solutions for effective learning in organizations thanks to machine learning.

Meloncast
Sven Boesiger – University of St. Gallen (HSG). The intelligent-decision-making tool for your marketing content strategy.

Musa
Silvia Lama – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). Musa is a 3D game to make learning musical instruments fun and accessible.

OncoGenomX
Wolfgang Hackl – University of Basel (UNIBAS). Intelligent decision support für tailored breast cancer treatment.

Python Upskilling
Benjamin Russell – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). A SaaS-based platform offering near human-level AI mentoring for coders.

SYLVA
Jessica Sudo – University of Zurich (UZH). A fully integrated learning and assessment platform that automates all tedious processes in education.

UrbanDataLab
Patrick Schirmer – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). The cloud platform for individualized location analytics and business intelligence.

Uzufly
Romain Kirchhoff – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). 3D modeling of infrastructure and urban projects to enhance engagement and collaboration during the planning phase.

VAY
Joel Roos – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH). State-of-the-art AI that understands human motion.

PROJECT SELECTION

→ **706 APPLICATIONS IN 2020**
for Venture Kick

→ **59 APPLICATIONS**
per month

→ **61 %**
from German-speaking Switzerland

→ **35 %**
from French-speaking Switzerland

→ **57 %**
of supported projects are from ETH Zurich or EPF Lausanne

→ **36 %**
of supported projects have women in the founding team.

The number of projects applying to join Venture Kick increased year-on-year by 22 % percent, to 706 (from 579 in 2019). The majority, 61 % percent, came from the German-speaking part of Switzerland, 35 % percent from the French-speaking and the remaining 4% percent from Italian-speaking Ticino.

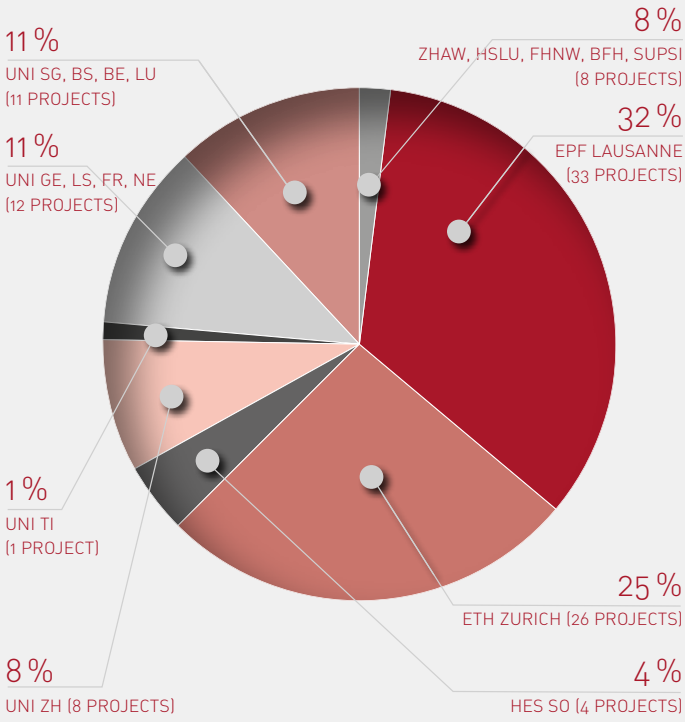
Venture Kick has national coverage and attracts applicants from all Universities across the country: a quarter of applications originate from the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology in Zurich and in Lausanne, with the other three quarters coming from projects distributed among 41 other academic institutions.

Applications come from all high-tech sectors. The diversity is very high with a strong representation of ICT and life sciences, encompassing biotech and medtech. Good applications around AI and machine learning, as well as drones and sustainability are trending.

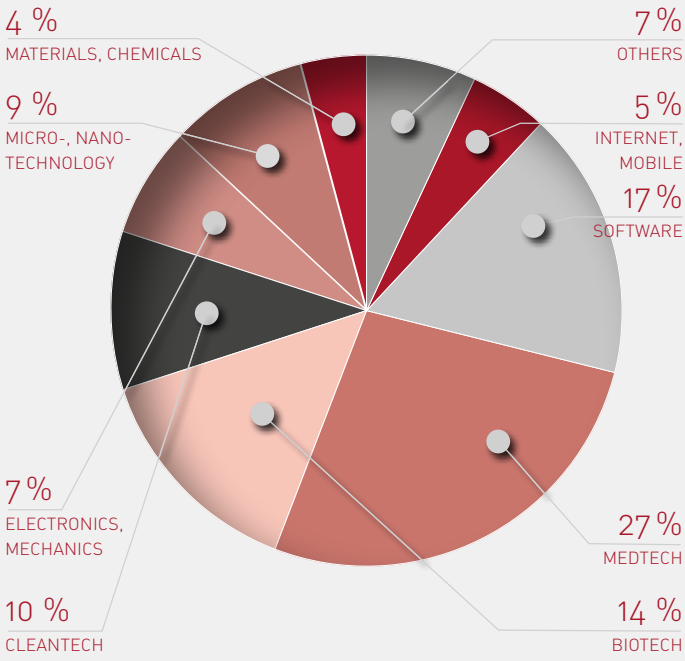
Selection is competitive. Projects from the two Federal Institutes of Technology represent 57 % percent of those selected by Venture Kick's juries, which is still high but lower than 2019 (69 %).

41 % of supported projects are in the life sciences; 22 % concern information and communication technologies; 11 % cover electronics, mechanics and micro/nano-technologies; 10 % are cleantech projects but many others have a strong cleantech component even if not classified in this category; and material and chemicals innovations represent 4 %.

SUPPORTED PROJECTS
BY UNIVERSITY



BY SECTOR



FINANCES

DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS TO STARTUP PROJECTS

	ACTUAL 2020		BUDGET 2021	
CASH SUPPORT FOR STARTUPS	**5,000,000**	71.5%	**5,500,000**	71.9%
Grants of CHF 10,000	800,000		860,000	
Convertible loans of CHF 40,000	1,800,000		2,040,000	
Convertible loans of CHF 100,000	2,400,000		2,600,000	

INDIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS TO STARTUP PROJECTS

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT FOR STARTUPS	**1,650,000**	23.6%	**1,800,000**	23.5%
Review of approximately 700 project applications, feedback to candidates				
Presenting to investors and supporters at 46 jury sessions in 2020, and 48 juries in 2021				
Personal introductions to industrial and pilot customers				
Individual coaching and support at 56 Kickers Camps and Kickers Briefings				
Written feedback and pitch videos, monthly reporting, startup hotline				
Support for portfolio of invested startup companies				
Press releases and articles for startups to create national and international visibility				
Promotion of startup portraits via multiple national and international channels (social media, online and print)				
Business tools, checklists and templates				

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	**345,000**	4.9%	**350,000**	4.6%
Planning/Team management/Reporting				
Promotion at all Swiss universities and partners				
Startup Portfolio Management/Financial returns/Donations				
IT/Website development and maintenance				
Fondations des Fondateurs Audit/Accounting				

TOTAL (excluding VAT)	**6,995,000**	100%	**7,650,000**	100%

THE PHILANTHROPIC INITIATIVE OF A PRIVATE CONSORTIUM

ORGANIZATION

Transforming scientific innovation into commercial activity and jobs is the foundation of social and economic prosperity. Early-stage startups bear high risks that aren't covered by public money or private investors. Supporting such seed-stage startups therefore fills a crucial gap and performs a philanthropic role in society.

Purpose

Venture Kick aims to promote entrepreneurship at Swiss universities and encourage the creation of highly innovative, science-based startups. Venture Kick helps excellent discoveries and research get funded at the crucial, early stage of their business development.

Legal Structure

Venture Kick is the philanthropic initiative of a private consortium, organized as a charitable foundation and hosted by the Fondation des Fondateurs, an umbrella charity that is monitored by the Swiss Federal Supervisory Board of Foundations.

Fondation des Fondateurs

The Fondation des Fondateurs board of trustees supervises Venture Kick's business activities based on detailed annual reports. It is composed of Dr. Dr. Thomas Sprecher (PRESIDENT), Dr. Philipp Egger (VICE-PRESIDENT), and Evelyn S. Braun. The trustees have delegated all strategic and managerial competencies to Venture Kick's strategy board.

Venture Kick's Strategy Board

The strategy board of successful entrepreneurs and supporting partners' representatives defines Venture Kick's medium and long-term objectives and strategy. It is composed of Dr. Pascale Vonmont, representing the Gebert Rüf Stiftung, delegate; Dr. Suzanne Schenk, representing the Ernst Göhner Stiftung; Philip Bodmer, representing the Volskwirtsschaftstiftung; and Dr. Igor Fisch of Selexis SA.

Pool of Experts

Juries of successful investors and proven business experts evaluate Venture Kick applicants' projects at regular jury sessions. The composition of each jury varies from session to session, and is drawn from a pool of experts listed at www.venturekick.ch/jury.

Venture Kick Management

Venture Kick's strategy board has mandated Venturelab Ltd to manage operations. Co-managing directors Beat Schillig, Jordi Montserrat and Philip Hassler built the program and share responsibility for Venture Kick's successful execution.

OUTLOOK

For 2021 we plan the following:

→ **650 APPLICATIONS**

→ **281 PROJECTS PITCHING**
at 48 jury sessions
(144 stage 1/86 stage 2/51 stage 3)

→ **163 PROJECTS FUNDED**
(86 at CHF 10,000/51 at CHF 40,000/26 at CHF 100,000)

→ **CHF 5,500,000**
in seed-funding for startup projects

→ **45 KICKERS CAMPS**
2-day workshops in small groups

→ **11 KICKERS' BRIEFINGS**
Workshops at Swiss universities

Venture Kick's major challenge is to secure sustainable funding for the coming years. In addition to existing commitments, we constantly seek further financing to leverage the full value of Swiss universities' growing innovation potential, and to respond to the increase in high quality applications seen in recent years.

Foundations, private individuals and companies are invited to join Venture Kick's successful initiative as donors helping to bridge this financing gap.

We have set the following cumulative targets to achieve by the end of 2027:

→ **1,000**
active high-tech companies

→ **15,000**
high-quality and sustainable jobs created

→ **CHF 7,200,000,000**
of investment raised by Venture Kick alumni

→ **CHF 2,700,000,000**
annual revenue produced by these companies

5,500,000

TO GIVE 163 KICKS TO STARTUPS IN 2021 AND BRING SWISS DEEP TECH TO GLOBAL MARKETS

Since its launch in 2007, Venture Kick has provided 755 Swiss university spin-offs with CHF 34.25 million of pre-seed capital. To date 592 have incorporated, creating 8,105 jobs. These startups have attracted CHF 4.2 billion in extra investment.

The private initiative Venture Kick is financed by:

WISSENSCHAFT. BEWEGEN
GEBERT RÜF STIFTUNG

ERNST GÖHNER STIFTUNG

Hauser-Stiftung

André Hoffmann

Hansjörg Wyss

Martin Haefner

Fondation ProTechno

esa business incubation centre Switzerland

ENGAGEMENT
A DEVELOPMENT FUND OF THE MIGROS GROUP

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