High-Quality Startups Raise Record Money

3.5 billion Swiss francs – that’s the amount of money the 675 spin-off projects supported by Venture Kick have raised since 2007. Only last year 987 million francs were added by the startups - a 31 percent increase compared to 2018.

In 2019, the jury members of Venture Kick selected 75 new projects from Swiss universities to enter the 9-month support program and allocated 4.35 million francs to the innovative startup projects. Since the beginning of 2019, 150,000 Swiss francs per start-up are paid out.

Since it’s launched in 2007, Venture Kick has provided a total of 29.25 million francs in direct financial support to 675 spin-off projects, thanks to the philanthropic engagement of private donors. This has triggered 3.5 billion francs of further investment into these startups, a 118-multiplying factor.

Ten Venture Kick startups raised a combined 200 million francs in 2019, in rounds each exceeding 10 million:

Beekeeper AG raised $45 million to expand its team in Europe and the U.S. Beekeeper is one of the world’s fastest-growing SaaS startups.

Polyneuron Pharmaceuticals AG raised CHF 22.5 million from famous French and U.S. investors. The Basel life-science startup’s pioneering therapeutic approach treats autoimmune diseases of the nervous system.

SWISSto12 SA raised CHF 18.1 million to accelerate the industrialization and the commercial deployment of its space-ready, 3D-printed components.

Teralytics AG raised $17.5 million. The world’s leading provider of multimodal mobility intelligence uses data from telecommunications networks to support cities and transportation services.

BioVersys AG received CHF 16 million to strengthen its programs to fight tuberculosis and hospital-acquired infections.

Versantis AG has raised CHF 16 million for the development of its liver cirrhosis therapy. Worldwide, 850 million people live with liver disease and 2 million die each year.

L.E.S.S. SA raised CHF 14 million to industrialize production of its ultra-bright and ultra-thin lights.

DEPsys SA raised CHF 13.2 million to expand its power grid software globally.

Gamaya AG raised CHF 12 million in a strategic round with India’s biggest tractor-maker.

Insolight SA won € 10.6 million to scale its space-grade rooftop solar panels.

In 2020, Venture Kick will not only increase the funding amount to CHF 5 million to finance 80 new projects (from 4.35 million in 2019), but also launch a pilot project with a special "Venture Kick Life Science* track. This special track will focus on biotechnology and medical technology projects, both key factors in our country. In addition, we plan to focus more on providing relevant technological solutions for a sustainable environment and tomorrow's food.
“As a fully private and philanthropic initiative Venture Kick was probably the most active Seed investor in Europe over the last decade. It is great to see now, that the original investment of 30 million francs has been multiplied by a factor of 118 by follow-on investments and that 7'000 new jobs have been created by very innovative Swiss startups that solve global problems!” said Beat Schillig Venture Kick’s co-managing director.


**About Venture Kick**

The philanthropic initiative Venture Kick provides up to CHF 150,000 in seed funding to Swiss startups. In addition, it offers a well-structured entrepreneurial path towards building a winning business. Startups pitch to expert juries at three stages to obtain funding, gaining direct feedback and access to an international network of successful entrepreneurs and investors.

Since its launch in 2007, Venture Kick has supported 675 Swiss startup projects with 29.25 million francs. The program of financial support, training and network, has led to the creation of 519 companies and 6,967 jobs. Venture Kick alumni companies have attracted a total of 3.5 billion francs, and represent 54 companies ranked in the [TOP 100 Swiss Startups 2019](https://venturekick.ch).

In 2020, Venture Kick will pay out 5 million francs to idea-stage startup projects to bring Swiss science to global markets. More information in the [Venture Kick annual report](https://venturekick.ch).

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[venturekick.ch](http://venturekick.ch)

**All startup projects supported by Venture Kick**

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