

 founderful

 Kickfund

 **DSN** DEEP TECH
NATION
SWITZERLAND

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Swiss Deep Tech Report 2026

June 2026

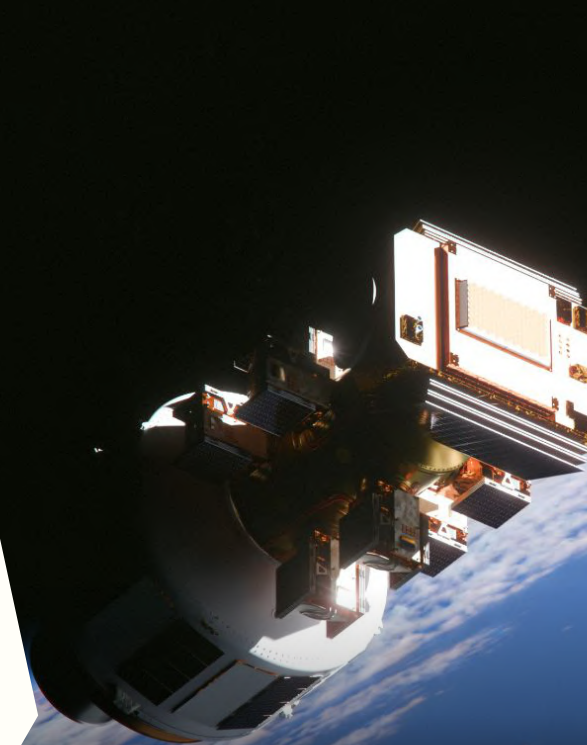


1 Introduction

2 The Swiss Deep Tech Ecosystem

3 Sector Deep Dives

4 Methodology and Resources



Builds orbital transfer vehicles powered by storable bipropellants to move satellites between orbits in under 24 hours

Insights



Founderful is Switzerland's leading early-stage venture capital firm. Initiated in 2019 by former founders and operators of firms like GetYourGuide and eat.ch, Founderful has invested in more than 70 Swiss technology companies from its two active funds with more than CHF 200m assets under management. With a team of 11, Founderful invests first, fast and founder-friendly as lead investor in the first financing rounds of Switzerland's most ambitious technology founders. With its Founderful Campus initiative it also supports students at the country's leading universities pre-incorporation. Learn more about Founderful: www.founderful.com



Kickfund is a Swiss venture capital firm investing Deep Tech startups emerging from Switzerland's leading academic institutions. Founded in 2023, Kickfund follows the logic of index investing, building broad, diversified exposure to Swiss deep tech by systematically backing startups as they emerge from the country's leading startup accelerator, Venture Kick. Launched in 2007, Venture Kick has supported over 1,000 startups including Climeworks, Scandit, Distalmotion, AMAL Therapeutics, and Kandou. Kickfund's portfolio comprises more than 100 high-potential companies across deep tech, digital, and life sciences. Learn more about Kickfund: www.kickfund.ch

Initiator



Deep Tech Nation Switzerland Foundation is a private, not-for-profit initiative backed by leading companies, foundations, associations, and universities. Our mission is to make Switzerland the world's leading deep tech nation. We work independently and systemically to strengthen the Swiss innovation ecosystem for the long term.

Acting as a neutral catalyst, we shape the future for Switzerland – so that others can invest, create, and scale. Learn more about this economic initiative: deeptechnation.ch/about

Data & Analytics



Startupticker.ch is the central information platform for the Swiss startup ecosystem. The platform offers daily news, directories of investors and support programs, as well as analyses such as the Swiss Venture Capital Report, the reference publication for startup investments in Switzerland.

The widely read newsletter highlights the most important news of the week. The platform is backed by the Startupticker Foundation, which is supported by the Swiss innovation agency Innosuisse as principal and 40 other organisations from the ecosystem.



Dealroom.co is a global intelligence platform for discovering and tracking the most promising companies, technologies and ecosystems. Clients include many of the world's foremost organizations such as Sequoia, Accel, Index Ventures, NATO Innovation Fund, NATO Diana, European Defence Fund, ESA, McKinsey, BCG, Deloitte, Google, AWS, Microsoft, Stripe.

Dealroom partners closely with local tech ecosystem development agencies and enablers, to create a comprehensive multi-dimensional blueprint of the tech ecosystem, including capital, talent, innovation, entrepreneurship and overall economic dynamism.

Foreword

“This is no longer a startup story. Look at the world's most valuable companies and what they actually do: chips, data centers, AI, robotics. Then look at where the biggest gains for humanity will come from: therapeutics, techbio, energy. Switzerland is one of the few places on earth where both move from world-class research to global companies.

What numbers cannot capture is the momentum. Over the past year, top founders, operators and investors have been relocating here, and global AI labs and major tech corporations are opening research centers at a pace we have never seen. The companies that will define the coming decades are being built in Switzerland right now. Read the findings, then come build and invest. There is plenty of room at the frontier.”

Meet the authors



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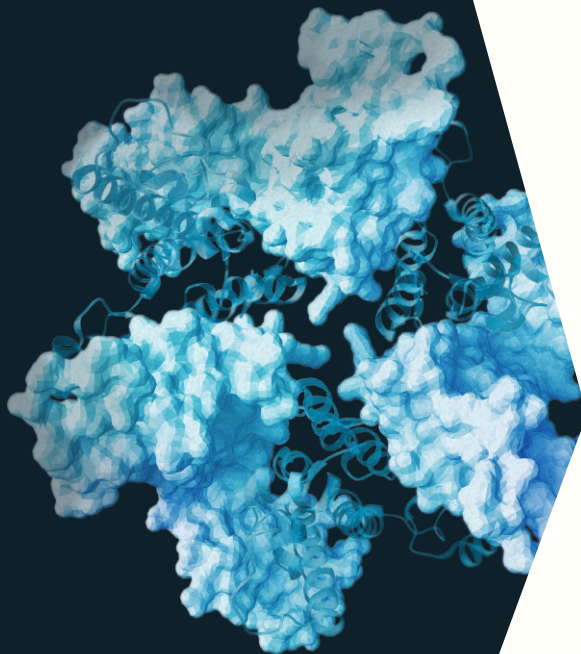
Robin Dechant,
General Catalyst

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**Phoenix Court, home of
LocalGlobe**

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EPFL spinout combining synthetic biology, nanofluidics, and AI to design and test proteins at scale for new drugs and enzymes.



Switzerland is where the world's next category winners are being built

“Zurich is emerging as a beacon in the Alps innovation cluster - the region in and around Switzerland.”

Having been involved in nascent venture ecosystems while building LocalGlobe and Seedcamp, the trajectory of this innovation ecosystem, the energy and talent dynamism reminded me of what we saw in Israel and the UK in the early 2000s. Europe's role in the global economy during the coming decade depends highly on our ability to accelerate such ecosystems and build global category winners.”



Saul Klein
Founding Partner
Phoenix Court, home of
LocalGlobe

“Switzerland is perfectly placed to lead in the most transformative Deep tech sectors of Robotics, AI, and Future of Compute.”

In our European Deep Tech report we highlight how Deep Tech is now solidly a defining pillar of European tech and driving nearly one-third of Europe's VC funding. Switzerland's excellence in critical sectors such as Robotics, AI, and Future of Compute perfectly aligns with the global trends and can create strong tailwinds for the country economy.”



Yoram Wijngaarde
Founder and CEO
Dealroom.co

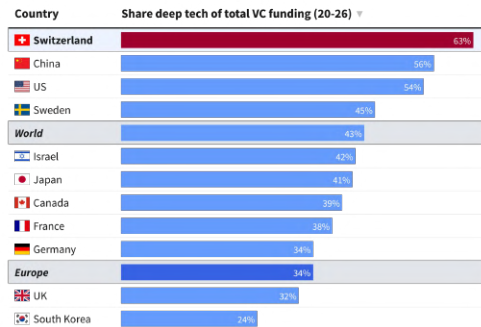
Key takeaways of the Swiss Deep Tech Report 2026

The world's most deep tech focused economy

Switzerland directs 63% of all venture capital to deep tech, the highest share of any country in the world, ahead of China at 56% and the United States at 54%. At \$1,470 invested per capita, it also leads Europe and ranks among the top three nations globally, alongside Israel and the US.

Funding has grown 5x in ten years to a record \$2.6 billion in 2025, with ETH Zurich and EPFL producing more new venture-backed spinouts than any other university in Europe.

Top global countries by Deep Tech share of VC funding (2020-2026)

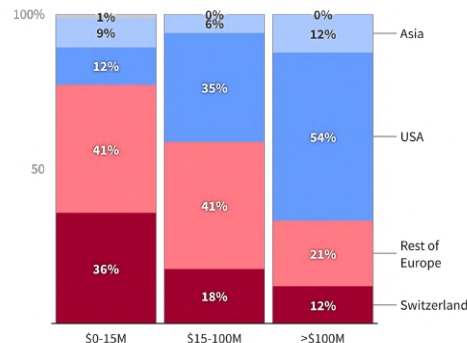


Global capital has already arrived

Foreign investors supply 88% of funding for Swiss deep tech rounds above \$100M, with US investors alone providing more than half of late-stage capital. Swiss investors back over a third of early-stage rounds, but their share falls to 12% at late stage.

The world's leading funds are already underwriting Swiss deep tech at scale. The remaining opportunity is domestic: larger Swiss tickets at late stage would keep more of the value created at home.

Deep Tech VC funding in Swiss startups by investor HQ and stage (2023-2025)

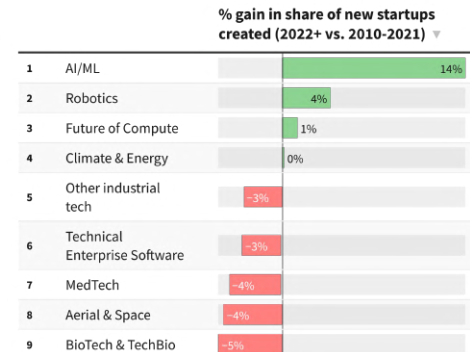


Founders are building the technologies reshaping the global economy

The fastest-growing segments for new Swiss startups are AI/ML, Robotics and Future of Compute, the technologies now dominating global venture funding. AI/ML accounts for one in four companies founded since 2022, and Robotics has nearly doubled its share. BioTech remains the ecosystem's largest base of VC-backed startups.

The shift adds to Switzerland's BioTech base rather than replacing it. BioTech still counts the most VC-backed startups in the ecosystem and the largest share of enterprise value created to date.

Top Swiss Deep Tech Segments by increase in % of companies created (2022+ vs 2010-2021)



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Spectral-filtering solar modules for greenhouses that generate clean power without reducing crop yield

Switzerland has become a global powerhouse in R&D for technologies driving our world's economy

Robotics

45+ VC-Backed startups
\$1.1B VC funding since 2020
\$3.8B Combined Enterprise Value

Notable domestic startups

MWbotics embotech* Flexion
ecorobotix mimic

Also building here

ABB BostonDynamics SONY
amazon Disney Research

Switzerland has created **5x more VC-backed robotics startups per capita** since 2020 than the UK, and 3.5x more than the US.

Artificial Intelligence

80+ VC-Backed startups
\$954M VC funding since 2020
\$4.4B Combined Enterprise Value

Notable domestic startups

ethon.ai LatticeFlow NEURAL CONCEPT
DeepJudge Archlet

Also building here

Google Meta Apple
OpenAI ANTHROPIC

Switzerland has the **highest density of AI researchers globally**, twice that of the UK and the US

Future of Compute

60+ VC-Backed startups
\$817M VC funding since 2020
\$2.3B Combined Enterprise Value

Notable domestic startups

CORINTIS chiralo kandou
Hera Quantum ZuriQ

Also building here

ST SENSIRION NVIDIA
IBM Research HUAWEI

Switzerland files **7x more European patents per capita** than the EU average, driven by its world-leading **microelectronics and high-precision sensor industries**

“Wafer-scale computing was a bet the entire industry thought was impossible.”

The engineering instinct behind it was shaped at EPFL, and Switzerland produces that kind of talent at a density few places on earth can match. For the first time, the companies spinning out of ETH and EPFL are staying, scaling and attracting serious capital. If you want to know where the next generation of compute and AI hardware gets invented, this is a place in the world worth watching.”













Jean-Philippe Fricker
Co-Founder and
Chief System Architect
Cerebras Systems

ETH and EPFL rank 1st and 2nd among Europe's universities by new Deep Tech spinout creation, outperforming most ecosystems and signaling a steady stream of IP-rich startups

Deep Tech spinout creation and value creation metrics by university in Europe since 2010

=> Explore [ETH](#), [EPFL](#) and [Swiss research](#) Deep Tech spinouts

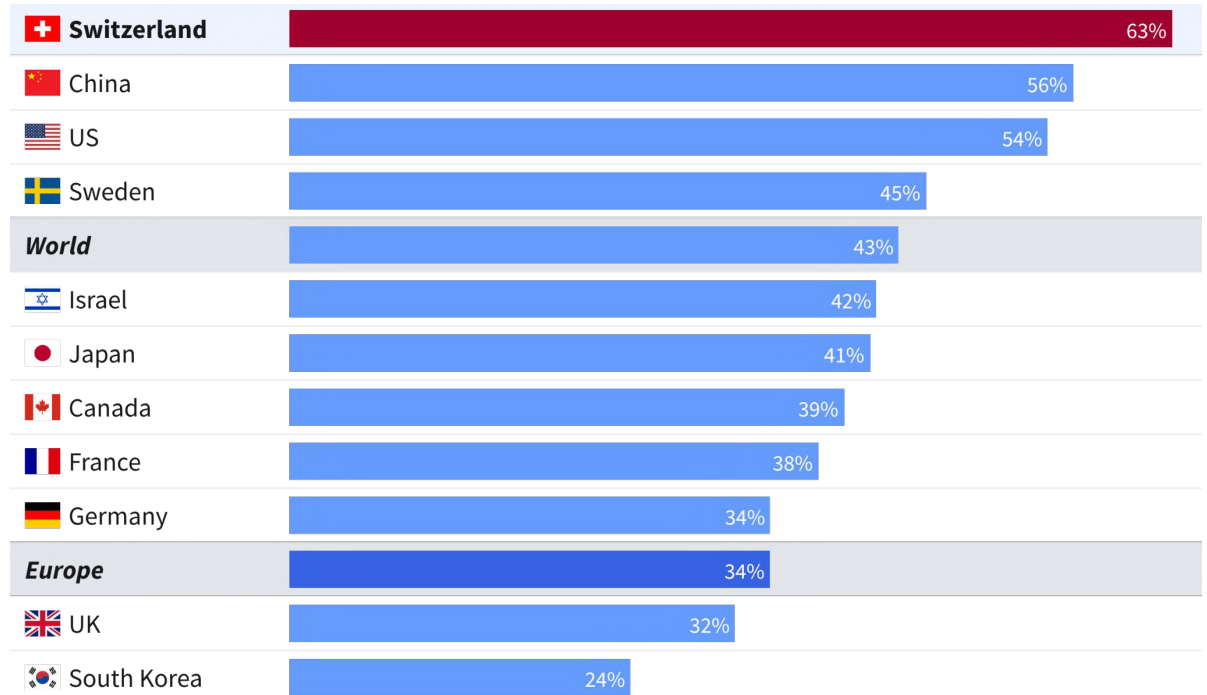
University	Number of VC-backed spinouts since 2023 ▾	Number of VC-backed spinouts since 2010	>=\$10M VC funding	Unicorns and \$1B+ exits	Total VC funding raised	Combined enterprise value
 ETH Zurich	24	152	52	1	\$2.3B	\$8.9B
 EPFL Lausanne	16	151	59	2	\$3.9B	\$11.3B
 University of Oxford	14	133	70	2	\$5.5B	\$20.2B
 University of Cambridge	12	149	81	3	\$5.3B	\$22.4B
 Technical University Munich	12	51	23	4	\$4.7B	\$23.0B
 University of Sheffield	7	23	5	0	\$109.5M	\$434.7M
 Aalto University	6	20	7	2	\$1.5B	\$5.0B
 Paris-Saclay University	6	52	12	0	\$1.4B	\$4.6B
 University College London	5	61	28	3	\$3.5B	\$13.0B
 Imperial College London	5	63	19	0	\$1.1B	\$4.4B

Source: Combined score and ranking methodology adapted from [the 2025 European Spinouts Report](#) by Dealroom, Atlantic, MITO Technology, CIC, OSE, and NG. Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

Switzerland ranks #1 globally for share of VC funding going to Deep Tech, followed by China and the US

Between 2020 and 2026, more than half of every venture dollars invested in Switzerland went into Deep Tech startups. For investors, this makes Switzerland a place to syndicate with experienced peers in Deep Tech.

Share of total VC funding allocated in Deep Tech (2020-2026)



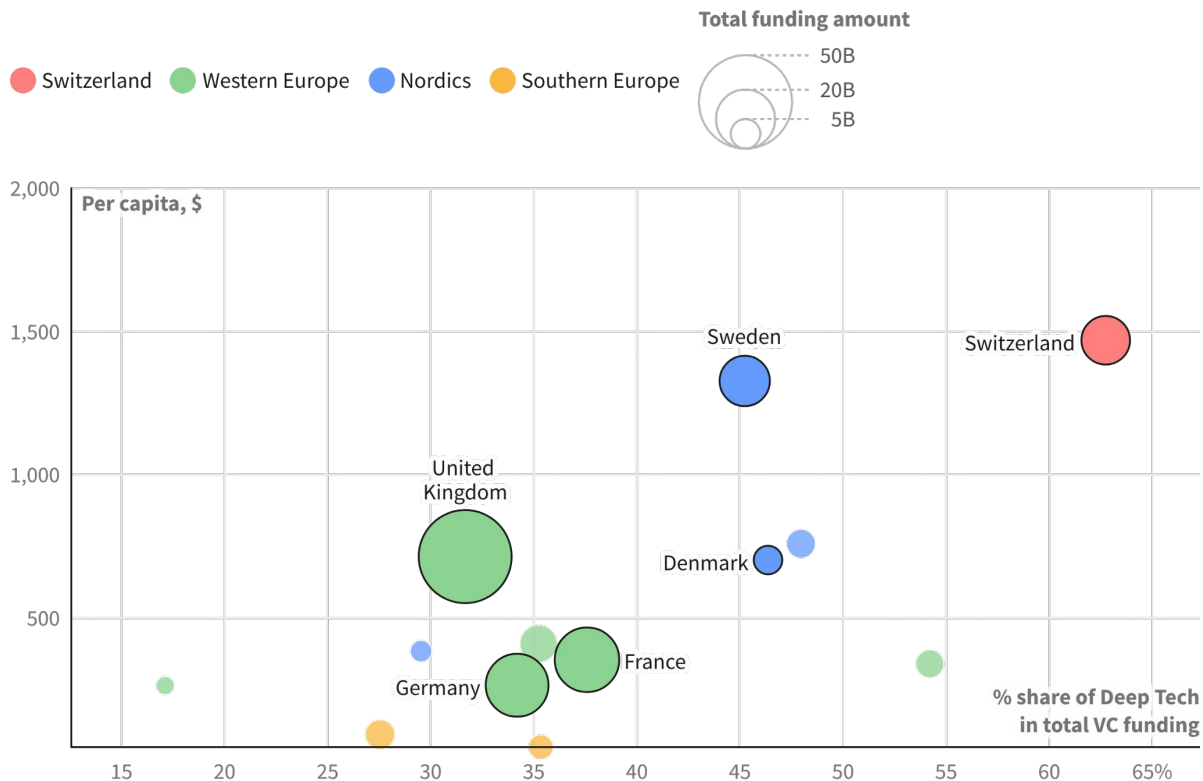
Dealroom.co Data as of May 21st 2026. Only countries with \$10B+ total Deep Tech funding over the 2020-2026 period are represented. US Deep tech share is strongly led by foundational model makers. Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

Switzerland is the ultimate European Deep Tech Nation

At \$1,470 invested per capita, Switzerland commits more to deep tech per head than any country in Europe, ahead of Sweden at \$1,328 and far exceeding much larger economies. Worldwide, that places it among the top three nations alongside Israel and the United States.

With 63% of all VC funding directed to Deep Tech, Switzerland allocates nearly twice the share of major economies like Germany, France and the UK.

Deep Tech VC funding per country (2020-2026) » [view online](#)



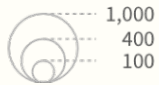
Dealroom.co Data as of May 21st 2026

Source: Only countries with \$1B+ total Deep Tech funding over the 2020-2026 period are represented
Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

The Swiss ecosystem sits at the core of the Alpine Tech Cluster

The Alpine Tech Cluster is one of Europe's two super clusters that can compete globally in the age of Deep Tech.

Number of VC-backed Deep Tech startups*

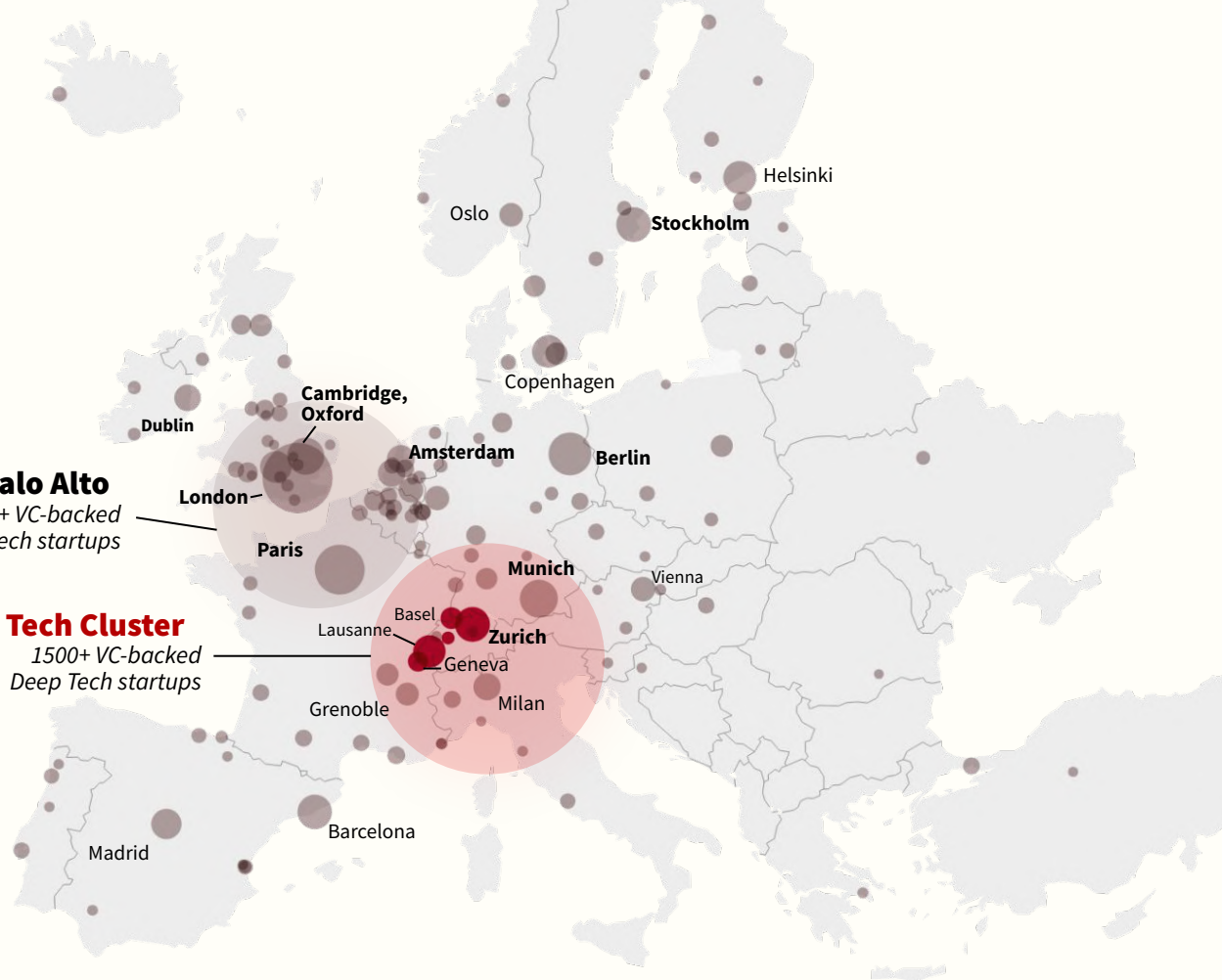


New Palo Alto

3400+ VC-backed Deep Tech startups

Alpine Tech Cluster

1500+ VC-backed Deep Tech startups

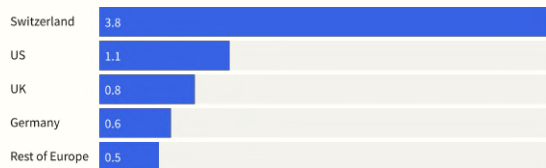


Switzerland is a global leader in robotics bringing together leading research institutes, global corporates, and grassroots initiatives to boost robotic innovation

Switzerland is the undisputed leader in robotic startup creation, thanks to leading research in the sector

Switzerland has created **5x more VC-backed robotics startups per capita since 2020** than European leaders like **the UK**, 6x more than **Germany**, and even **3.5x more than the US**.

VC-backed robotics startup created since 2020, per capita



KEY UNIVERSITIES & RESEARCH INSTITUTES FOR ROBOTICS

ETH

Autonomous Systems Lab (ASL)
Robotic Systems Lab (RSL)
Soft Robotics Lab (SRL)

EPFL

Biorobotics Laboratory (BioRob)
Learning Algorithms and Systems Lab (LASA)



Universität Zürich

Robotics and Perception Group (RPG)

Switzerland has a vibrant ecosystem of grassroots and institutional initiatives to boost robotics innovation

ETHRC

ETH Robotics Club is the fastest-growing robotics community in Europe to build next generation of robotic talent from the ground up

SWISS ROBOTICS ASSOCIATION

Swiss Robotics Association is the premier networking hub for the Swiss robotics ecosystem connecting key academic labs with cross-industry corporate members

SWISS ROBOTICS DAY

Swiss Robotics Day is Switzerland's premier robotics exhibition accelerating matchmaking between deep tech investors, startups, and academic researchers.

ZÜRICH ROBOTICS ROUNDTABLE

Zurich Robotics Roundtable is a bi-monthly 150 guests, invite-only community event for robotics builders & future founders

“

My bet is on Switzerland. Zurich is becoming Europe's robotics capital.

As President of the ETH Robotics Club, I've seen a clear shift: the next generation of founders doesn't want to move abroad. We want to build here. Give us the right institutional support, and we'll build the next generation of world-defining companies.

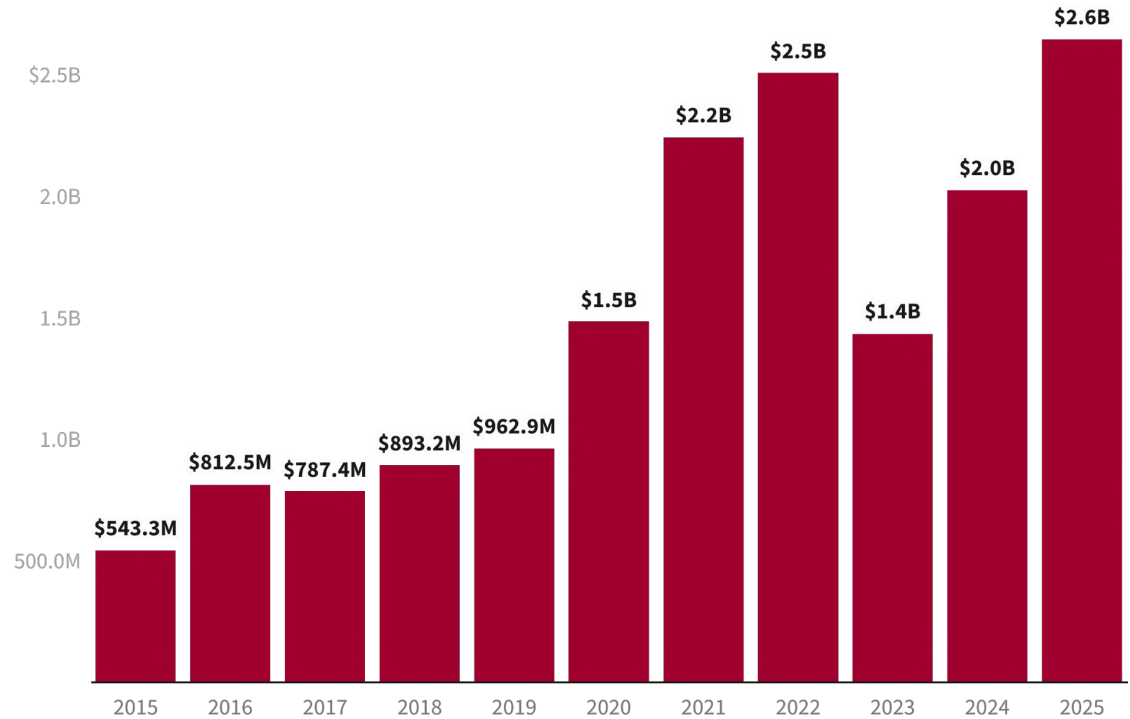


Declan Shine
Founder & President
ETH Robotics Club

Deep Tech funding in Switzerland has grown nearly 5x since 2015

2025 was the most active year ever for Deep Tech funding in Switzerland with \$2.6B, surpassing previous peak in 2022.

Deep Tech VC funding in Swiss startups












Source: Dealroom.co Data as of May 29th 2026
Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

Switzerland is producing a new wave of strong Deep Tech success stories










Unicorns and \$1B+ exits

» [view online](#)

 <p>Technical enterprise software</p>	 <p>Technical enterprise software</p>	 <p>Technical enterprise software</p>
 <p>Technical enterprise software*</p>	 <p>TechBio</p>	 <p>BioTech</p>
 <p>Future of Compute**</p>	 <p>Future of Compute</p>	 <p>Climate Tech & Energy</p>










Future Unicorns

» [view online](#)

 <p>Robotics</p>	 <p>Aerial & Space</p>	 <p>MedTech</p>
 <p>Robotics</p>	 <p>Aerial & Space</p>	 <p>Future of Compute</p>
 <p>Future of Compute</p>	 <p>AI/ML</p>	 <p>BioTech</p>

Rising stars

» [view online](#)

 <p>Robotics</p>	 <p>Climate Tech & Energy</p>	 <p>AI/ML</p>
 <p>Robotics</p>	 <p>BioTech</p>	 <p>Robotics</p>
 <p>Climate Tech & Energy</p>	 <p>Robotics</p>	 <p>Aerial & Space</p>

Dealroom.co Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

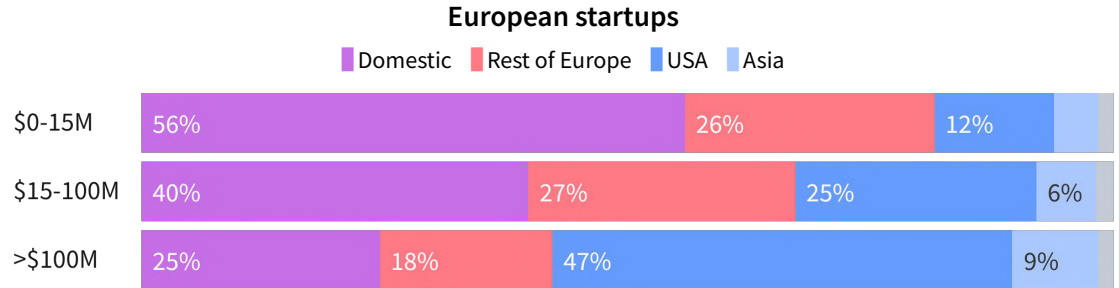
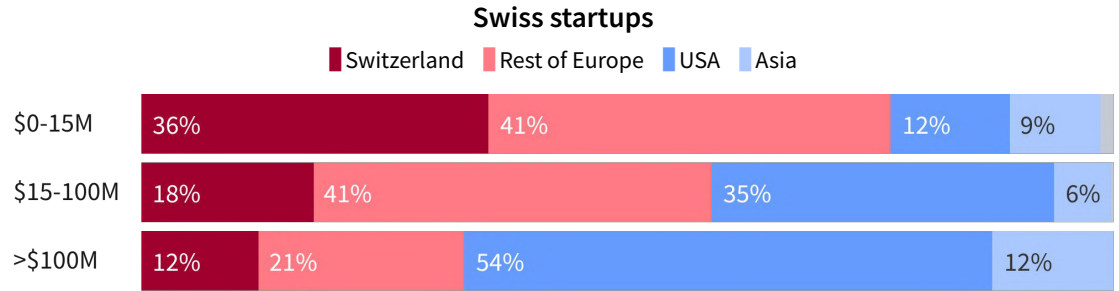
*Proton is not officially valued at \$1B+ but has reportedly reached over CHF200M in revenues and can be reasonably considered so **Terra Quantum announced a definitive business combination agreement at a \$3.5B valuation with SPAC vehicle Axiom Intelligence Acquisition Corp 1

Swiss Deep Tech startups attract significantly more international capital than their European peers at every stage

Foreign investors supply 88% of Swiss Deep Tech funding for rounds \$100M+, compared with 75% across Europe broadly.

Swiss investors account for just under a third of early stage capital, but their share falls to just 12 percent at late stage, signalling an opportunity for larger domestic tickets.








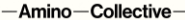




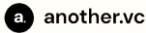




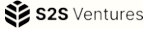









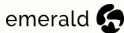
































Deep Tech VC funding by investor HQ and stage (2024-2026)



Dealroom.co Data as of May 29th 2026 Domestic refers to the HQ country of the startups (e.g. for a French startups that would be French investors, while for a UK one UK investors).
 Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

The Swiss ecosystem is driven by few, very active local VCs and a large group of European and US top-tier firms

[» view online](#)

	Swiss Investors				International Investors								
(Pre-) Seed													
													
													
Series A													
													
													
Series B+													
													

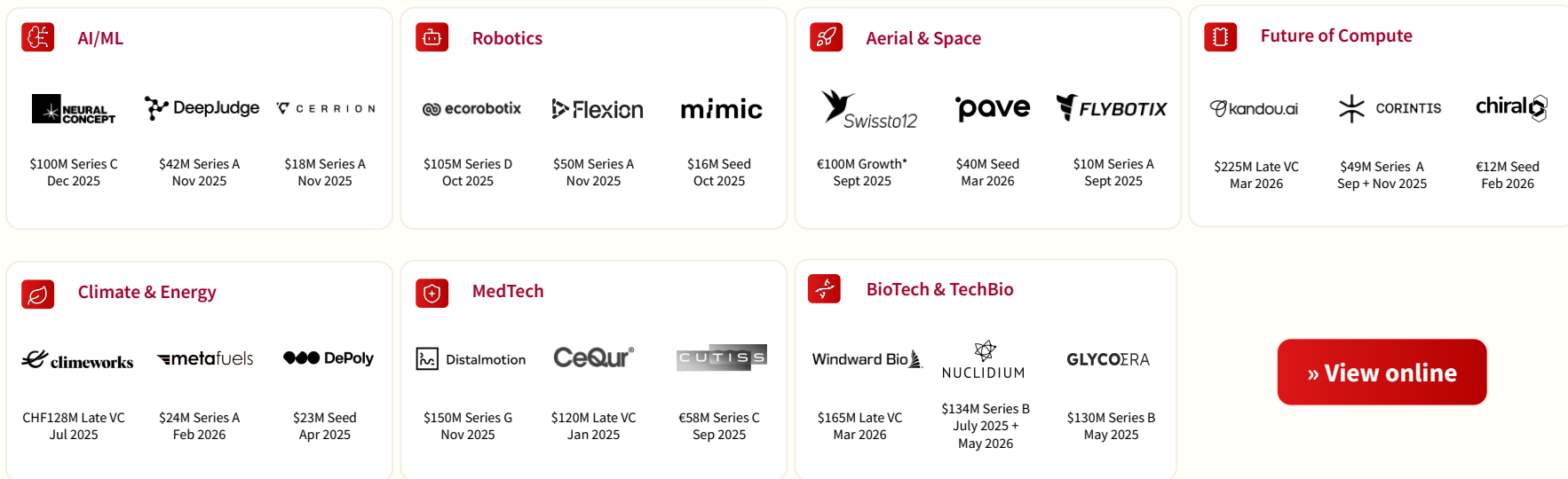
Funds selected based on number of rounds and amount invested in 2025-2026, number and amount invested since 2019, % of their total activity allocated to rounds Deep Tech from Dealroom information; as well as feedback from report partners on current not yet visible activity. Investors are shown only at the most common entry stage point. Global investors investing in Swiss Deep Tech startups. *Including accelerators **Only looking at direct investment activity, not LP activity in funds

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ETH spinout whose catalytic technology permanently destroys PFAS "forever chemicals" in water at a fraction of conventional energy use

The Swiss ecosystem has seen large VC rounds across all Deep Tech segments in 2025-2026



[» View online](#)

Dealroom.co *Swissto12 raise is composed by a €76M grant and a €23M debt portion.
 Not included in VC funding statistics in the report
 Deep Tech in this report includes both Deep Tech and Life Sciences in Dealroom

Swiss Deep Tech startup creation shifts toward AI and Robotics

AI/ML now makes up over double its previous share of newly founded Deep Tech companies and now represents the second largest segment for new startups, accounting for one in every four startups.

Robotics is also expanding quickly, nearly doubling its share of new companies and becoming the fourth largest sector.

BioTech & TechBio remains the most active segment, but its dominance is easing as the overall pipeline diversifies.

Main segments Swiss Deep Tech as % of startup created*

		Companies 2010-2021	Companies 2022-2026	% difference ▼
1	AI/ML	11%	25%	14%
2	Robotics	5%	9%	4%
3	Future of Compute	5%	6%	1%
4	Climate & Energy	12%	12%	0%
5	Other industrial tech	7%	4%	-3%
6	Technical Enterprise Software	6%	3%	-3%
7	MedTech	18%	14%	-4%
8	Aerial & Space	7%	2%	-4%
9	BioTech & TechBio	31%	26%	-5%

Dealroom.co Data as of May 29th 2026

Source: *Some segments overlap, resulting in double counting (e.g. AI drug discovery being both in BioTech & TechBio and AI/ML)



ETH Zurich spinout building two-wheeled autonomous robots that patrol outdoor sites, replacing scarce human security guards

Deep Dives in this section



AI/ML



Robotics



Future of Compute



Climate & Energy



MedTech



Aerial & Space



BioTech & TechBio

AI/ML overview in Switzerland

Novel AI models and architectures, foundational models, novel AI tools, AI computing chips, as well as deep scientific AI applications where novel AI innovations meets deep science and technology (e.g. AI drug discovery, AI material discovery).

Notable companies



Key Stats

80+

VC-backed startups

\$954M

VC funding since 2020, growing 98% in those five years. 2022 was the strongest year for fundraising.

\$4.4B

Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs

Zurich (ETH) and Lausanne (EPFL)

“Given its talent pool, Switzerland has been and remains a great place to build a technology business.


With today's vibrant and enthusiastic startup ecosystem, we are very close to creating multiple success stories like ours per year, and not just per decade.”




Olivier Gaudin
Founder
Sonar

ETH Zurich and EPFL turn world-class **AI/ML** research into venture-backed global breakthroughs


AI x Deep Tech companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**



AI-powered thermal cameras for early fire prevention
Zurich


AI decision intelligence for complex logistics operations
Zurich



AI video agents for real-time manufacturing monitoring
Zurich



Predictive maintenance for buildings and infrastructure
Zurich


AI-powered legal research and commentary workspace
Zurich


AI for real-time language translation
Zurich


Smart sensors and digital twins for wind turbine optimization
Zurich


AI-native learning platform for children aged 5-12
Freienbach


AI-powered operational intelligence
Zurich

“Switzerland has developed deep comparative advantages over decades and, with the rise of artificial intelligence, has found its stride.

With world-class technical universities attracting international talent, Swiss-based founders are tackling the problems of tomorrow across industries like robotics, industrial automation, energy and space technologies.

At Sequoia, we want to partner with founders from the earliest stages who are building the generational companies of tomorrow. That starts with deep access to talent, capital and a culture of innovation — all of which run deep in the Swiss ecosystem”



George Robson
Partner
Sequoia Capital

Robotics overview in Switzerland

Robotics innovation in both hardware and software, ranging from humanoids, soft robotics and novel actuators to robotics general intelligence and robotics training.

Drones, UAVs and Aerial are not included and considered separately in their own section.

Notable companies

 AM Robotics

 Ecorobotix

 Embotech*

 Mimic

 Flexion

Key Stats

45+

VC-backed startups

\$1.1B

VC funding since 2020, growing 470% in those five years.

Peak funding in 2025 with \$419M

\$3.8B

Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs

Zurich (ETH) and
Lausanne (EPFL)

“One of the key challenges in robotics is making machines that work in the real world, not just in the lab.

In Switzerland, we have spent more than twenty years building world-leading capabilities in walking and flying systems, learning-based control, and robot autonomy for robots to operate in rough and unstructured environments. What makes Switzerland special is that the research does not stop at the paper. The researchers and engineers we train realise complete physical AI systems, transfer the technology to startups and companies, and put robots to work on construction sites, in industrial and manufacturing facilities, and for logistics application around the world.”



Prof. Marco Hutter

Director Robotic Systems Lab
ETH Zurich



Precision heritage meets world-class talent: why **Robotics** is accelerating in Switzerland

Robotics companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**

ASC-INTO

Autonomous security robots for property surveillance

Zurich

Embodied AI

Robotic manipulation systems

Lausanne

LOKI

Autonomous cleaning robots for complex environments

Zurich

FLINK

AI-driven software enabling plug-and-play robots

Zurich

GRAVIS ROBOTICS

Automated heavy machinery

Zurich

Witty Machines

AI-powered manipulation software for food industry robots

Zurich

SAEKI

Robotic digital manufacturing (RDM) cells

Zurich

tethys ROBOTICS

Compact underwater drone for inspections

Lausanne

CO:PROD

Modular robotics platform enabling rapid hardware development

Lausanne

“I truly believe that we are living through one of the most exciting moments in the history of technology.

Physical AI and robotics are crossing an inflection point that will be as transformative as the cognitive AI boom.

Already, we are seeing robots operating across critical industries including healthcare, manufacturing and defence, improving outcomes for patients, transforming how goods are made, and strengthening democracies in an era of intensifying geopolitical competition.

The convergence of foundation models with hardware is unlocking things that simply were not possible eighteen months ago, and the pace of progress is accelerating every single day.

Switzerland is well placed to capitalize on this shift: world leading institutions and a precision manufacturing heritage. I've also seen first hand the ambition and talent of ETH students, and it leaves me energized about what this ecosystem is capable of building.”



Robin Dechant
Partner
General Catalyst

Future of Compute overview in Switzerland

Semiconductor chip design, manufacturing and materials, including photonics and neuromorphic chips. Quantum hardware, software, cryptography, communication and sensing.

Notable companies

 CORINTIS

 kandou

 ZuriQ

 chiral



Key Stats

60+

VC-backed startups

\$817M

VC funding since 2020.
2026 is already the best year ever
with \$267M.

\$2.3B

Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs

Lausanne (EPFL),
Zurich and Stäfa (ETH),
Geneva (CERN), Neuchâtel
(CSEM), Bern and Basel

“The AI and quantum revolution is impacting at an unprecedented pace all aspects of science, engineering, health, education, and society.”

This report makes clear that Switzerland, thanks to the ETH Domain and the Federal investments, is among the world's most concentrated hubs defining this future, with contributions to all layers of the stack, from the foundations in semiconductors and energy-efficient architectures, to leading open-source large language models and robots. At EPFL we see it every day: the discoveries made in our laboratories become the deep tech companies of tomorrow.”



Anna Fontcuberta i Morral
President
EPFL

Deep-physics density makes Switzerland brilliant at the **Future of Compute**

Future of Compute companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**



In-memory computing IP
(ComputeRAM)

Zurich



AI agents accelerating microchip
development

Zurich



Control systems for trapped-ion and
neutral-atom quantum computer

Zurich



Metal foam cooling for AI data centers

Zurich



Precision DWDM lasers

Zurich



Miniaturised cryogenic hardware for
scalable quantum computers

Villigen



Chip-scale multiwavelength lasers
replacing copper GPU interconnects

Zurich



Low-power spatial intelligence chips
for AR glasses and wearables

Zurich



Photonic chip foundry for thin-film
Lithium Niobate

Neuchâtel

“If you are a VC in 2026, it’s no longer good enough to focus on software and apps.”

Today’s problems and tomorrow’s generational companies are building with their hands. Semiconductors and photonics are cool again. We’ve run out of cheap performance from the transistor, so the next gains come from the physical layer: getting heat out of the chip, moving data with light instead of electrons, and finding better materials to build on. That’s materials science and photonics, is what Switzerland is brilliant at. The lineage from IBM through ETH and EPFL has given the country a density of deep-physics talent that almost nowhere else can match. At Cloudberry we backed PROUD, an EPFL spin-out growing diamond straight onto wafers to pull heat out of chips. The foundational layer of computing will be passing through Switzerland.”



Lawrence Lundy-Bryan
General Partner
Cloudberry VC

Climate & Energy overview in Switzerland

Sustainable solutions for emission and environmental impact reduction across energy, transportation, industry & advanced materials, food & agritech, water tech, carbon removal and much more.

Notable companies











Key Stats

95+ VC-backed startups

\$1.8B VC funding since 2020.
Peak funding in 2021-2022 but still strong activity and growing 197% over the last five years.

\$7.1B Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs Zurich (ETH), Lausanne (EPFL), Geneva (CERN)

“The AI race is an energy race. That makes demand for clean, abundant, cheap energy skyrocket, and opens an unprecedented market for the technologies that supply that energy and make it go further.”


This race will create generational companies, and they will be built where deep tech meets capital. Switzerland is one of the very few ecosystems that has both. Which makes it one of the most interesting regions in the current technology race.”



Tove Larsson
General Partner
Norrskan

Switzerland holds the foundations of the new industrial era in **Climate & Energy**

Climate Tech & Energy companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**

8inks 


Multilayer curtain coating for batteries

Zurich

 **BTRY**

Ultra-thin solid-state batteries

Zurich

 **FUSIONALITY**

Integrated tech for fusion operations

Lausanne

H55


Electric propulsion systems for aviation

Sion

 **insolight**

High-efficiency agrivoltaic solar modules

Lausanne

 **swisspod**


Hyperloop high-speed transportation

Monthey

UniSieve 

Energy-efficient molecular sieving membranes

Zurich

 **Seprify**

Biomaterials

Marly

Unbound Potential

Long-duration stationary energy storage

Zurich

“Switzerland combines the elements for success in deep tech: world-class technical universities (EPFL-ETH corridor), exceptional engineering talent, globally-relevant industrial companies, and ambitious founders eager to build beyond their domestic market.”

For Voyager, Switzerland is one of the most important deep tech ecosystems in Europe, and we've been spending time there identifying the next generation of category-defining companies. We've seen particularly strong innovation in energy storage, advanced materials, robotics, physical AI, and industrial technologies—all areas foundational to the new industrial era.”



Sierra Peterson
General Partner
Voyager VC

MedTech overview in Switzerland

Medical devices for surgery, patient monitoring, medical imaging and clinical decision support.

Notable companies



Key Stats

135+ VC-backed startups

\$2.3B VC funding since 2020.
Growing 164% over the last five years, reaching \$569M in 2025.

\$9.1B Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs Zurich, Lausanne, Geneva

“There is no better place in the world than Switzerland to develop groundbreaking novel technologies at the interface of human physiology, technology, and science.”

For MedTech in particular, this basis goes hand in hand with strong access to global markets and international capital.”



Ronja Müller-Bruhn
Founder
STIMIT

Switzerland turns complex research into **MedTech** products that ship

MedTech companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**



Minimally invasive guidewire for stroke treatment

Geneva



Soft implantable brain-computer interfaces

Geneva



Real-time intraoperative imaging for brain surgery

Geneva



Data-driven planning for bone fracture surgery

Zurich



AI-guided ultrasound for endometriosis diagnosis

Zurich

M Y N E R V A

Wearable neurostimulation for diabetic neuropathy

Zurich

oncobit

Precision cancer diagnostics and monitoring

Zurich

polaresmedical

Transcatheter mitral valve hemi-replacement

Lausanne



Ultra-compact brain PET imaging

Zurich

“Switzerland has all the ingredients needed to build outstanding MedTech companies: world-class universities, strong hospitals and clinical networks, deep engineering know-how, and a long-standing culture of precision, quality and scientific excellence.

What makes the Swiss ecosystem particularly attractive is its ability to translate complex research into products that can meet demanding clinical, regulatory and commercial requirements. MedTech is never a quick path, but Switzerland offers exactly the kind of talent, infrastructure and long-term orientation that breakthrough healthcare innovation requires. From our perspective, it remains one of the most promising locations in Europe for ambitious MedTech founders.”



Andreas Kastenbauer

Partner
MIG Capital

Aerial & Space overview in Switzerland

Drones, UAVs, sustainable aviation and other Aerial innovation, as well as Space companies from launch vehicles to debris removal.

Notable companies

Auterion

 FLYABILITY

pave

 Swisst012

verity

Key Stats

40+

VC-backed startups

\$791M

VC funding since 2020.
Growing 700% over the last five years, reaching \$311M in 2025.

\$2.7B

Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs

Zurich (ETH) and
Lausanne (EPFL)

“The future of the space economy will be built by countries that combine scientific excellence with entrepreneurial execution.”

Switzerland is uniquely positioned to do both, especially with a growing community of venture and angel investors helping amplify and accelerate the entrepreneurial energy emerging from our universities and research institutions. We are already seeing a new generation of companies, including ventures such as Stellar Alpina and PAVE, emerge from an ecosystem where world-class research meets global ambition. The opportunity is not simply to participate in the space sector, but to lead in selected areas where Swiss precision, innovation, and trust create a competitive advantage. If we continue to connect research, entrepreneurship, and investment, the next decade could become Switzerland's strongest chapter yet in space!”



Thomas Zurbuchen
Director
ETH Zurich | Space

ETH and EPFL talent is pushing Switzerland to the front of **Aerial & Space**

Aerial & Space companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**

AITHON
ROBOTICS

Drones for
hazardous tasks

Zurich

CDDS

Autonomous kinetic interceptor drones

Zurich

MinWave

Metamaterial-based RF components for
satellite and 5G

Lausanne

DPHI
SPACE

Hosting platform for space payloads

Lausanne

C clearspace
today

Active space debris removal and
in-orbit servicing

Lausanne

Stellar Alpina

Rotating detonation rocket engines for
next-generation in-space mobility

Zurich

A Avientus
revolutionizing aerial transport

Fixed-wing autonomous logistics
drones

Zurich

DUFOUR AEROSPACE

Hybrid-electric tilt-wing VTOL drone for
cargo and critical missions

Visp

SWISSDRONES 

Long-range unmanned helicopter
systems

Zurich

“The third leg of the space economy is now in full swing, with orbital infrastructure, data centers, and in-space manufacturing at its core.

We're excited to keep investing behind this mega-shift, following our first bet in the category with PAVE Space.

Switzerland produces world-class technical talent out of ETH and EPFL, and is quickly becoming one of the more credible global launchpads for deep-tech founders.

At Creandum, we look to back the most ambitious founders at the earliest stages and we are finding ourselves spending more and more time in Switzerland, which is exciting.”



Katharina Wilhelm

Partner
Creandum

BioTech & TechBio overview in Switzerland

Development of drugs and therapies for diseases.

Notable companies

 Adaptyv

GLYCOERA

neurimmune



NUCLIDIUM

cradle

Key Stats

295+ VC-backed startups

\$6.0B VC funding since 2020.
2025 most active year ever and overall very sustainable activity through the years.

\$75B Combined Enterprise Value

Top Hubs Basel (pharma hub), Zurich, Lausanne, Geneva

“We built Lunaphore on science that came out of an EPFL lab, and within a few years our technology was running in laboratories around the world.”

Switzerland is one of the few places where world-class science, entrepreneurial talent, capital, and industry expertise come together within such a compact geography. The proximity of institutions like EPFL and ETH, alongside leading biotech and pharmaceutical companies, creates a unique environment where ideas can move rapidly from the lab to global markets. This density creates a powerful advantage for founders. It is why Switzerland consistently produces companies that begin locally but go on to compete and win on the global stage.”



Déborah Heintze


Co-founder / VP
Lunaphore / Bio-Techne


The rare intersection of life science, engineering and AI driving Swiss **BioTech & TechBio**


BioTech & TechBio companies to watch
*startups launched since 2020**


T cell engager therapies
Zurich


Human-derived multi-specific antibodies
Zurich


Inhibitors for neurological diseases and cancer
Basel


High-throughput RNA sequencing kits
Lausanne


Infrared & mass spectrometry platform for rapid molecular identification
Lausanne


Therapeutic solutions for male and female infertility
Lausanne


DNA Damage Response inhibitors for treatment-resistant cancers
Basel


AI-driven SaaS platform to map drug candidate chemical space
Basel


Precision parasiticides for animal health using structural biology
Villigen

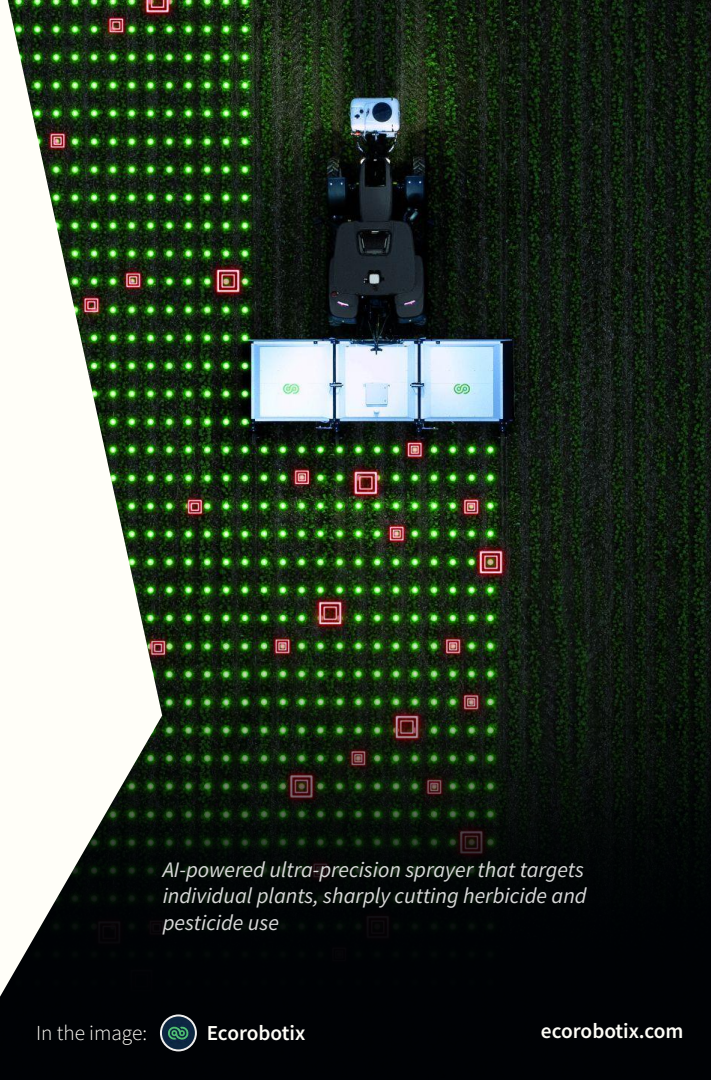
“We see biotech opportunities across the US, Europe and Asia, and Switzerland competes with the best of them.

Its deep life-science base now sits alongside real strength in engineering and AI, and the founders at that intersection are among the most compelling we meet, in rising number and quality. That combination is still rare globally, and a large part of why we invest from Basel. To build on it, close cooperation with the wider European ecosystem is critical in a biotech industry that is fundamentally global.”



Anja Koenig
Global Head
Novartis Venture Fund

- 1 Introduction
- 2 The Swiss Deep Tech Ecosystem
- 3 Sector Deep Dives
- 4 Methodology and Resources**



AI-powered ultra-precision sprayer that targets individual plants, sharply cutting herbicide and pesticide use

Explore Swiss Deep Tech startups and trends by cities, cantons and sectors

» explore the dashboard

Switzerland Deep Tech Dashboard

This dashboard tracks Switzerland's deep tech ecosystem — sectors, regions, and companies. Browse by **Sector**, by **Canton** or **City**, or explore the **Map**.

— BY THE NUMBERS

848

VC backed companies tracked

\$2.6B

2025 VC investment

\$103B

2025 enterprise value

+22%

EV growth since 2020

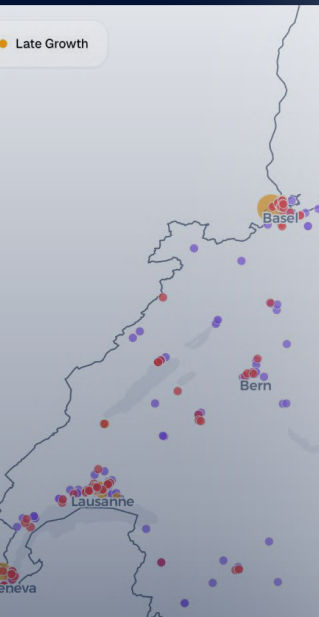
OVERVIEW RECAP

A fast read on Switzerland's deep tech ecosystem

This page is the starting point for understanding the dashboard. It introduces the headline ecosystem signals above, then helps you decide where to go next for deeper analysis by region, sector, or company location.

What the tools are for

- **Locations:** Compare cantons and cities by company count, investment, and enterprise value.
- **Sectors:** See which deep tech categories are attracting capital and creating value.
- **Map:** Explore where companies are based and identify geographic clusters.



Sector ↕	Early stage ↓
	Nr. Companies
BioTech & TechBio	162
MedTech	96
Climate Tech	74
AI/ML	56
Future of Compute	50
Technical Enterprise Software	40
Robotics	32
Aerial & Space	27

Rows per page: 20 Showing 1-8 of 8 rows

Location ↕	Early stage ↓
	Nr. Companies
Zurich	176
Lausanne	148
Basel	44

Suggested reading on Deep tech and Spinouts in Europe

The 2026 European
Deep Tech Report

» explore the full report

European Spinouts
Report 2025

» explore the full report



Methodology

What are startups and scaleups?

Startups are companies designed to grow fast. Generally, these companies are backed by VC investments and, sometimes, can become very big, (e.g. with \$1B+ valuations). When startups are successful, they develop into **scaleups**. In this report, scaleups are considered companies that raised above \$15M in total VC investment and/or are companies that reached \$1B valuation. This also includes unicorns and \$1B exits. Only companies founded since 1990 are included in this report.

» [Read definition](#)

What is a unicorn?

Unicorns are former startups that have reached \$1B in valuation or achieved an exit of \$1B or more.

» [Read definition](#)

Swiss based

In this report we consider as Swiss-HQ startups those that have their headquarters in Switzerland and maintain a significant presence in the country. We also include companies that might be registered elsewhere solely for legal reasons, but whose entire C-team and operations are in Switzerland. The nationality of the founders and the origin of the technology are not relevant to being considered Swiss startups. Swiss founders who have started a company fully abroad are not in scope. In addition to this, we look at founding location. This is used to track startups that used to have their HQ in Switzerland but later moved their headquarters elsewhere. These companies are included only in some statistics; in those cases the label will say “HQ and founded”.

Venture Capital, Investors

Investments are referred to by their round labels, such as Seed, Series A, B, C, late stage, and growth equity. VC investments exclude debt, non-equity funding, lending capital and grants. Exits (M&A, IPOs) are not considered part of VC financing and are analyzed separately.

Deep Tech definition

Deep Tech is defined as novel scientific or engineering breakthroughs making their way into products and companies for the first time. The technology is based on tangible engineering innovation or scientific advances and discoveries applied for the first time as a product, often aiming to solve society’s biggest issues.

In this report we look also at Life Sciences in a broader scope of Deep Tech. More details in the following slide.

Underlying Data

Dealroom’s proprietary database and software aggregate data from multiple sources: harvesting public information, user-submitted data verified by Dealroom, data engineering. All data is verified and curated with an extensive manual process. The data on which this report builds is available via app.dealroom.co. For more info please visit dealroom.co or contact support@dealroom.co.

Deep Tech defined

Deep Tech is technology that is based on **tangible engineering innovation or scientific advances and discoveries** applied for the first time as a product, often aiming to solve society's biggest issues.

Practically, a company is considered Deep Tech based on:

Primary criteria

Time to market / Complexity: The company is working with a technology that takes a **long time to reach market-ready maturity** due to the **complexity and novelty of the research and development** involved. It thus employs a lot of highly educated staff early on and may create novel hardware or intellectual properties.

Capital requirement: The company's technology should **require substantial investment** to fund the research, development, testing, and scaling of the product or service.

Secondary criteria

IP and spinouts: companies holding significant IP and commercializing research innovations are more likely to be Deep Tech.

Scope of this report: In this report, we explore innovations in **Deep Tech**, as defined above, as well as in the **Life Sciences sector**.

Differences in risk profile Deep Tech vs Regular Tech startups*

Development times

Longer initial development phase

Capex intensity

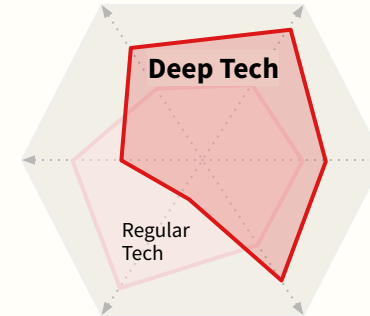
Often heavy CapEx ahead of revenues and PMF

Market risk

If the technology solves one of the world's biggest problems, there will be ample demand

Team risk

Academic and scientific backgrounds may have less commercial experience



Competition risk

Often the strong technology edge prevents competition

Technology risk

New technologies don't always work as expected

 founderful

 Kickfund

 **DSTN** DEEP TECH
NATION
SWITZERLAND

 dealroom.co

startupticker.ch