Editorial

Dear Reader,

Our goal is to strengthen the Basel Area as a business hub, to promote innovation effectively and to anchor it firmly within the region – a mission that drives us on a daily basis.

At Basel Area Business & Innovation, we work day in, day out to kindle the interest of companies both at home and abroad in the Basel Area. When companies relocate and new companies set down roots here, this strengthens the region as a whole: attractive companies offer exciting jobs for well qualified talents. These people are drawn by the attractive labor market and the high quality of life. The talent pool in turn provides a strong argument for companies driven by innovation to settle in the cantons of Baselland, Basel-Stadt and Jura. An important part of our job therefore is to help pave the way for companies to move to the region and to support the founding and development of start-ups.

Ever more company founders are showing the courage to establish their own start-up. We support this gratifying development as part of our diverse range of activities to promote innovation. The Basel Area Business & Innovation team focuses on innovation in three key areas: In Therapeutic Innovation the primary focus is on drug development; Healthcare Innovation – DayOne has set itself the task of helping to shape the future of the healthcare sector; and Industrial Transformation is devoted to digitization in industry.

At the beginning of 2019, we also took over the operation of Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area. In this way, we were able to extend our services, offering a diverse range of offices, laboratories, co-working spaces and workshop rooms. Last fall, we opened a further site in the canton of Jura. However, Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area is more than the sum of its parts: The three sites in Allschwil, Basel and Jura form a cohesive system in which start-up founders, entrepreneurs, consultants and researchers can exchange views and experiences. It is also home to our tried-and-trusted accelerator programs. Optimum conditions for providing pragmatic assistance to innovations from the Basel Area.

It is also gratifying that our future development has received broad support. Over the last two years, the parliaments and governments of the three cantons involved took all the necessary decisions to allow the creation of Switzerland Park Basel Area. In the fall, the parliaments of Basel-Landschaft and Basel-Stadt also approved a state contribution to Basel Area Business & Innovation by a large majority. Thanks to the steady support from our three sponsoring cantons and the federal government, we can look to the coming years with optimism.

Basel Area Business & Innovation wishes you an interesting read.

Domenico Scala
President

Dr. Christof Klöpper
CEO
The year in figures

We are driving the Basel Area forward. In 2019, we again provided numerous start-ups with support in founding their companies, kindled the interest of international companies in the business location and boosted our outstanding network.

- **Companies that settled here**: 30
- **Planned jobs in 3 to 5 years**: 305* (estimates made by companies)
- **Countries of origin of companies that settled here**:
  - Belgium
  - Canada
  - Czech Republic
  - France
  - Germany
  - Great Britain
  - India
  - Netherlands
  - Singapore
  - South Korea
  - Sweden
  - Switzerland
  - USA
- **Consultations for clients considering settling here, start-ups and founders**: 948
- **Persons in network**: 24,511
- **Events**: 106
- **Participants**: 5,804
- **Company foundations supported**: 62
- **Planned jobs in 3 to 5 years**: 186* (estimates made by companies)
- **Basel Area Business & Innovation employees**: 35
- **Visits to the Basel Area by foreign companies**: 90
- **Companies visited abroad**: 194
How we have helped companies to grow in the Basel Area

What we do

Basel Area Business & Innovation provides innovation-driven start-ups, organizations and companies with support in establishing their business in the Basel Area. As a promotional agency for the region and innovation sponsor, the organization awakens the interest of international clients in the region and supports them from the very first contact until they settle here. Basel Area Business & Innovation also promotes specific initiatives to establish the region as the Swiss business and innovation hub of the future. All the services are free of charge both for clients wanting to settle here and for start-up founders.

In our Innovation Promotion business unit we run the Thera- peutic Innovation, Healthcare Innovation – DayOne and Industrial Transformation initiatives. All three initiatives organize their own accelerator programs, which showed further gratifying developments in 2019.

Basel Area Business & Innovation also operates Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area with sites in Ailschwil, Basel and Courroux.

Jura shaping up for the future

Since the opening of the new Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area site in Courroux near Delémont, in the canton of Jura, Basel Area Business & Innovation was an important door opener for Nutrix. I am neither from Basel nor from Switzerland, yet we found an amazing ecosys- tem and all the support is in place.

Ailschwil as a crystallization point

In 2019, Basel Area Business & Innovation and Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area finalized the future planning for the Ailschwil site: in 2022, the Innovation Park will move from its present site to the GRID Campus of Collaboration. The multifunctional building was designed by Herzog & de Meuron and is being developed together with Semn Resources AG. Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area is acting as strategic partner for the campus on Bach-graben in Ailschwil that covers 50,000 m2 and will play a central role in the future of the Basel region as a crystallization point for life sciences, biotech, public health and ICT.

Basel Area Business & Innovation, the regional promotion office of Standortförderung Baseland, the Department of Biomedical Engineering of the University of Basel, the architectural offices of Herzog & de Meuron and Semn Resources AG have opened the Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area showroom. At the present site in Ailschwil, visitors can see for themselves various new solutions in robotics, laser technology and virtual reality and find out more about further projects and start-ups at the three sites of the Innovation Park. The showroom also offers a glimpse into the future of Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area on the GRID Campus of Collaboration.

The future of healthcare requires a rethink

The initiative Healthcare Innovation – DayOne is the mainstay of innovation in the healthcare sector. The aim of the initiative is to help shape the future of the healthcare sector based on the needs of the patient. To achieve this, DayOne brings together specialists from a variety of disciplines, offering them a unique package made up of a dynamic and engaged community, events, accelerator, Catalyst Projects, workspace and investment promotion. All the different parts dovetail seamlessly and reinforce the ecosystem.

At the center of the initiative is the growing DayOne community with more than 2,000 members, who meet at conferences, workshops and seminars to address the most relevant challenges in the healthcare sector. In the open panel discussion DayOne Experts, for example, specialists and participants consider specific problems from the perspective of researchers, patients, entrepreneurs and industry.

We started with a course on building a company in Switzerland with Basel Area Business & Innovation and took full advantage of the many opportunities that have been offered to us since: During the Venture Mentoring we worked with an IP expert, which was key for us. We pitched at the DayOne Conference and were chosen to take part in the DayOne Accelerator.

Being introduced to the expert network through Basel Area Business & Innovation was an important goal for us. I am neither from Basel nor from Switzerland, yet we found an amazing ecosys- tem and all the support is in place.

The DayOne Conference has long since achieved a high level of recognition. In 2019, more than 332 participants addressed, among other things, the question of how due account can be taken of ethical demands under the conditions of the global competition for innovation. Participants from different backgrounds came to grips with this issue in the workshops.

In the Catalyst Projects, interdisciplinary groups deal with technological and conceptual problems. Here it is all about solving complex problems and at the same time promoting collaboration in the regional healthcare system. In the DayOne Acceleration, companies are provided with support in the development of products and services. DayOne also runs the DayOne Lab in the Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area. This collaborative work environment is available to teams, companies, founders and specialists from the healthcare sector.

DayOne is run in close collaboration with the canton of Basel-Stadt. Other partners include Centre Suisse d’Électronique et de Microtechnique (CSEM), the University of Basel, the Swiss
Johnson, the Novartis Venture Fund, Pfizer, Roche and Roivant Healthcare Innovation was also welcomed on board as a new partner. Each of the carefully selected projects receives funding of up to 88 million Swiss francs in investment capital: Anaveon 35 million, Versarema 6.4 million, Allenis 12.5 million, T3 Pharmaceuticals 12 million and PolyNeuron 22.5 million. All the sponsored companies remain active in the Basel Area, predominantly in the Technology Park Basel and Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area.

The joint search for innovative solutions for the industry of the future

Digitization in the working environment presents challenges for many companies. Basel Area Business & Innovation offers consultations, workshops and seminars to support entrepreneurs and SMEs in the search for innovative solutions, products, technologies and manufacturing processes. To promote innovations in the field of Industrial Transformation, Basel Area Business & Innovation organized the i4Challenge competition for the second time together with InterEx as part of the Upper Rhine 4.0 project, the tri-national competence network for Industry 4.0. Thirty companies from the region submitted entries; of these the jury selected six finalists: Axiom (cargo monitoring in real time), Crevisor (robotization of precision machines), LCB Sàrl (human-machine interfaces), Qiio (internet of things), UniteLabs (automation solutions for the life sciences) and United Planet (software for Industry 4.5). The winners presented their innovations at the Salone Industriales du Futur in Mulhouse.

Entrepreneurship can be learned

The founder courses that are offered in Innovation and Entrepreneurship are free of charge and open to anyone from the Basel Area who is interested. Venture mentoring in turn is closely linked with the focus issues and accelerators of Basel Area Business & Innovation. Targeted individual supervision and advice are provided by a panel of experts so that innovative entrepreneurs quickly find answers to key strategic questions.

Global presence

Basel Area Business & Innovation follows the markets and expanded its representative offices in 2019: we now have a representative working the Korean market and a further representative office in Silicon Valley working the west coast of the US. Basel Area Business & Innovation also targeted the Canadian market with its own roadshow for the first time. Since Canada is also a focus market of the national promotional agency Switzerland Global Enterprise as of 2020, this could give rise to interesting synergistic effects. Prestigious international events, such as the J.P. Morgan Healthcare Conference in San Francisco, BIO Europe in the spring and BIO USA in the fall, were used to cultivate contacts and interest companies in the Basel region. In 2019, Basel Area Business & Innovation was present at BIO Asia in Tokyo for the first time and also invited to the reopening of the Swiss embassy in Seoul in a building designed in Basel.

Clients from Asia, Europe and the US settling in the region

Last year, Basel Area Business & Innovation provided 30 companies with support in setting up their business in the Basel region, including Czech biotech firm Sotio. Likewise new to the region is Indigo Agriculture from the US, which offers pioneering technologies for the agricultural sector. Basel Area Business & Innovation accompanies the clients from the first moment of contact, puts them in touch with the appropriate experts, advises on cantonal procedures and assists in the search for suitable offices and laboratories. The Basel Area Business & Innovation has been operating the Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area since the beginning of 2019, allowing two of the companies newly settled here to move into premises on the Allschwil site of Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area: the biotech firm Hamilton Bonaduz AG and Coretag Holding AG, which is active in the field of personalized healthcare.

BaseLaunch helps biotech companies get ahead

In the area of Therapeutic Innovation, Basel Area Business & Innovation operates the BaseLaunch Accelerator to promote start-up companies in drug development. Since the program was launched in 2017, experts have reviewed applications from a total of 250 teams. Each of the carefully selected projects receives funding of up to 250,000 francs, access to the program partners, customized advice and the opportunity to advance their research in cutting-edge laboratories. Partners from the healthcare sector include Johnson & Johnson, the Novartis Venture Fund, Pfizer, Roche and Roivant Sciences. The BaseLaunch Accelerator is supported not only by the three sponsoring cantons, but also by the Gebert Rüf Foundation, the companies KPMG and Infos HT, the Technology Park Basel, Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area and the law firms Vischer and Vossius & Partner.

Since its launch, the BaseLaunch Accelerator has supported nine companies with funding and access to laboratories. After the start-up funding, these nine companies raised more than 100 million Swiss francs, mostly from venture funds, but also from private investors. In 2019 alone, former BaseLaunch participants acquired more than 88 million Swiss francs in investment capital: Anaveon 35 million, Versarema 6.4 million, Allenis 12.5 million, T3 Pharmaceuticals 12 million and PolyNeuron 22.5 million. All the sponsored companies remain active in the Basel Area, predominantly in the Technology Park Basel and Switzerland Innovation Park Basel Area.

We evaluated several European business locations – in the end, Basel stood out as the most convenient location for Sotio. The region has a large talent pool, which is an important criterion for us. We plan to add top biotechnology professionals to our global team. The business environment is very friendly, and the international community and the proximity to Germany and France are a big plus.

BaseLaunch Accelerator

Institute of Bioinformatics, University Hospital Basel, the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland, the Department of Biosystems Science and Engineering (D-BSSE) of ETH Zurich and the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute based in Basel. In 2019, the University Children’s Hospital Basel was also welcomed onboard as a new partner. Healthcare Innovation – DayOne also works closely with International Markets and Business Affairs, so that companies in the healthcare sector are able to settle smoothly in the Basel region.

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In December 2019, Basel Area Business & Innovation had 35 employees working in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, International Markets and Business Affairs, Innovation Space and Infrastructure, Marketing and Communications and Shared Services. In addition, six representatives and three external employees work for Basel Area Business & Innovation.

The Basel Area Business & Innovation management board comprises Frank Kumli, Head of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Gabriela Gönterodt, Head of International Markets and Business Affairs, Christof Klöpper, CEO, Julia Meyer, Head of Marketing and Communications, Saskia Cecchi, Head of Shared Services.

In December 2019, the Board was made up of the following members: Domenico Scala, President, Chairman of the Board with Oettinger Davidoff AG and Basilea Pharmaceutica AG, Samuel Hess, Vice-President, Head of Economic Affairs, Economy and Labour Industry of Canton Basel-Stadt, Pierre-Alain Barret, Head of Jura Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Adrian Bult, President Bank Council BKB, Martin Dätwyler, Director Chamber of Commerce and Industry of both Basel, Martin Frey, Executive Vice President EMEA, Fossil Group Europe, Inc., Thomas Kübler, Head of Inward Investment Promotion for Baselland, Arnaud Maître, CEO and of the Board with Louis Bélet SA, Ahmet Muderris, Managing Director Composites Busch SA, Dieter Regnat, CEO Getec Park.Swiss AG, Claude-Henri Schaller, Head of the Office of Economy and Employment of the Canton of Jura, Domenico Scala, President, Chairman of the Board with Oettinger Davidoff AG and Basilea Pharmaceutica AG, Samuel Hess, Vice-President, Head of Economic Affairs, Economy and Labour Industry of Canton Basel-Stadt, Pierre-Alain Barret, Head of Jura Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Adrian Bult, President Bank Council BKB, Martin Dätwyler, Director Chamber of Commerce and Industry of both Basel, Martin Frey, Executive Vice President EMEA, Fossil Group Europe, Inc., Thomas Kübler, Head of Inward Investment Promotion for Baselland, Arnaud Maître, CEO and of the Board with Louis Bélet SA, Ahmet Muderris, Managing Director Composites Busch SA, Dieter Regnat, CEO Getec Park.Swiss AG, Claude-Henri Schaller, Head of the Office of Economy and Employment of the Canton of Jura.

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