

SWISS BIOTECH SUCCESS STORIES

Celebrating and honoring major achievements



Dr. Dr. h.c. Henri B. Meier

Henri B. Meier has dedicated part of the last 25 years to Biotech. The inspiration came through the acquisition of Genentech in 1990 – the first successful Biotech-firm, which proved the principle of the recombinant DNA technology with the product of Insulin.

HBMPartners

The first 54 years

- Development aid (World Bank)
- Economist, Financial Analyst
- Electricity sector (Marketing)
- Investment Banking
- Pharma, CFO, Strategy & Board of Directors

Givaudan: When Henri B. Meier started as CFO at Roche (1986) the subsidiary Givaudan was a small fish in the pond of flavors & fragrances manufacturers. When he stepped down as the first Chairman of the now publicly listed Givaudan AG, Givaudan was the world market leader.

Start in Biotech

Acquisition of Genentech in 1990

- Initiator / Chief Negotiator
- Purchase of the world's first biotech company
- Two-thirds put/call options, which brought Roche CHF 5.4 billion in cash in 2000
- Roche purchased the remaining third in 2008 for USD 44 billion

After Retirement from 2000 onwards

- Founded HBM Healthcare Investments Ltd.
- HBM Partners Ltd.
- BioMedInvest Ltd.
- BioMedPartners Ltd.

- In total, over 20 start-ups, foundations and professorships, including the “Professorship for Financial Corporate Management and for Courses in Venture Capital” at the University of Basel

Swiss Future Fund

In Switzerland – with the highest saving rate – pension fund money is not used for financing future technologies. Approved by Parliament in 2014, the Swiss Future Fund was designed to invest into Swiss collective savings pools in the real employment-generating Swiss economy at the forefront of technical progress. The technological advantage of the USA is largely due to the fact that start-ups could be financed through pension funds.

Swiss All Star Team

In its December 2021 issue, the Handelszeitung published the “All Star Team Executive Management” from 160 years of Swiss history. Among the 16 selected individuals is Henri B. Meier for his pivotal role in shaping Swiss business through his leadership roles and contributions to innovation in biotechnology and finance.

Publications

Henri B. Meier has repeatedly published on his field of expertise, economics and finance. His latest publication, “Swiss Finance”, was completed 2023. His first, the dissertation “The Capital Market in Venezuela’s Economic Development”, was the first book on this topic. For his 70th birthday, his friends dedicated the commemorative publication “Striving for Value Creation” to him.

Award winner 2025

Henri B. Meier's
life principle:

Value
Creation!

Zug



SUCCESS CATEGORIES

- ★ Completed achievement with lasting impact
- ★ Scientific breakthrough
- ★ New technology
- ★ Strong impact on society
- ★ Product approval and sustainable revenues

- ★ Important IP, innovative deal-making, acquisition
- ★ Involvement of one or more Swiss citizens
- ★ Swiss-based company/institution
- ★ Creation of jobs in Switzerland
- ★ Other aspect with a direct link to Switzerland
- ★ Enabler for the biotech industry
- ★ Swissness: Think global, made in Switzerland