

Clarity on Mergers & Acquisitions

Your annual Swiss M&A recap and outlook

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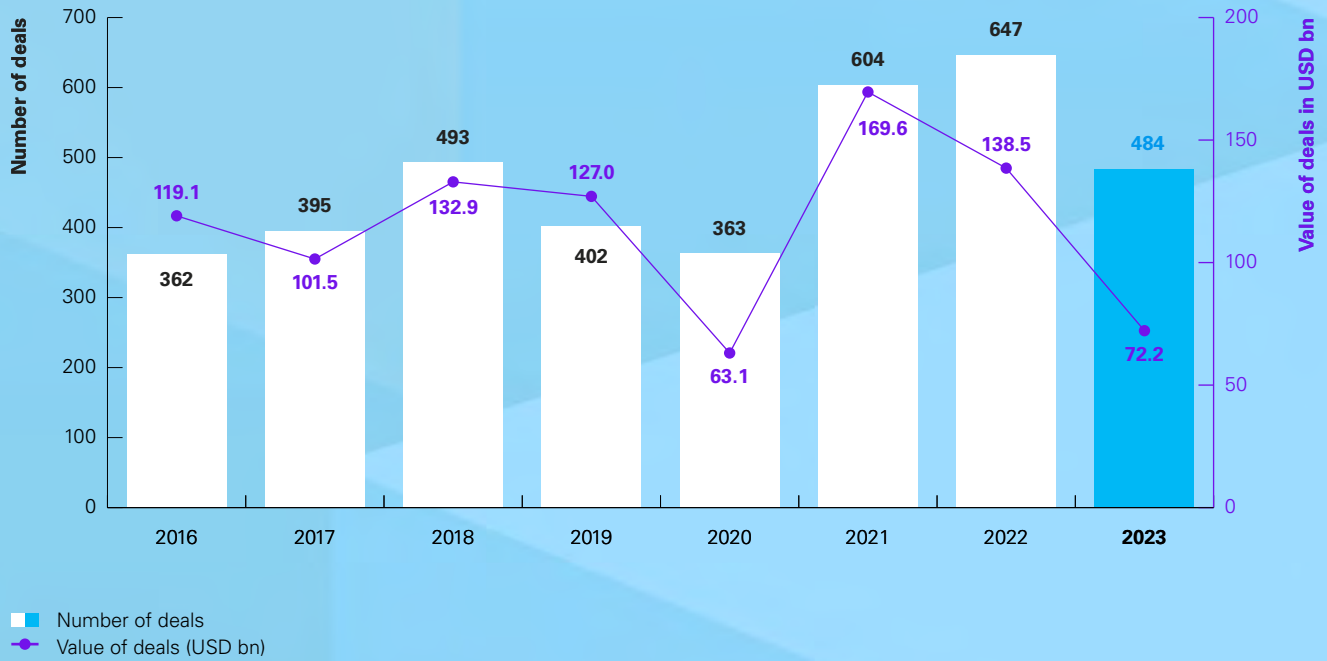
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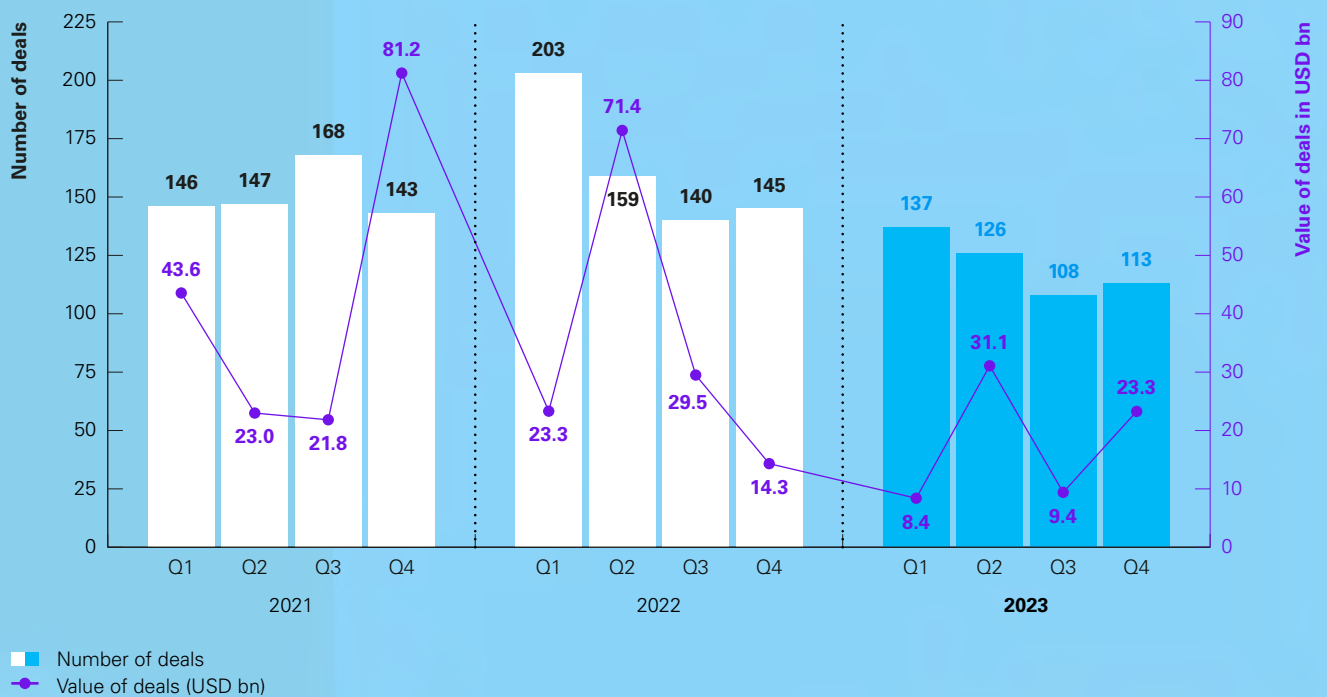
Top 10 Swiss M&A deals 2023

Announced Date	Target	Stake	Target country	Bidder	Bidder country	Seller	Seller country	Value USD m
1 Jun 23	Viterra Ltd	100%	Netherlands	Bunge Ltd	Bermuda, USA	Glencore plc, Canada Pension Plan Investment Board; British Columbia Investment Management Corporation	Switzerland, Jersey; Canada; Canada	17,253
2 Oct 23	Telavant Inc	100%	USA	Roche Holding AG	Switzerland	Pfizer Inc; Roivant Sciences Ltd	USA; Bermuda, USA	7,250
3 Nov 23	Elk Valley Resources Ltd	77%	Canada	Glencore plc	Switzerland, Jersey	Teck Resources Ltd	Canada	6,930
4 Mar 23	Credit Suisse Group AG	100%	Switzerland	UBS AG	Switzerland	–	–	3,471
5 Jun 23	Chinook Therapeutics Inc	100%	USA	Novartis AG	Switzerland	–	–	3,452
6 Dec 23	Carmot Therapeutics Inc	100%	USA	Roche Holding AG	Switzerland	–	–	3,100
7 Jul 23	Alnylam Pharmaceuticals Inc (Develop and commercialize zilebesiran)	–	USA	Roche Holding AG	Switzerland	Alnylam Pharmaceuticals Inc	USA	2,800
8 Jun 23	Novartis AG (XIIDRA, libvatrep and AcuStream)	–	Switzerland	Bausch & Lomb Corp	Canada	Novartis AG	Switzerland	2,500
9 Jun 23	Uponor Oyj	100%	Finland	Georg Fischer AG	Switzerland	–	–	2,298
10 Sep 23	Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG	50%	Germany	MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company SA	Switzerland	City State of Hamburg	Germany	1,710

Number and value of deals per year

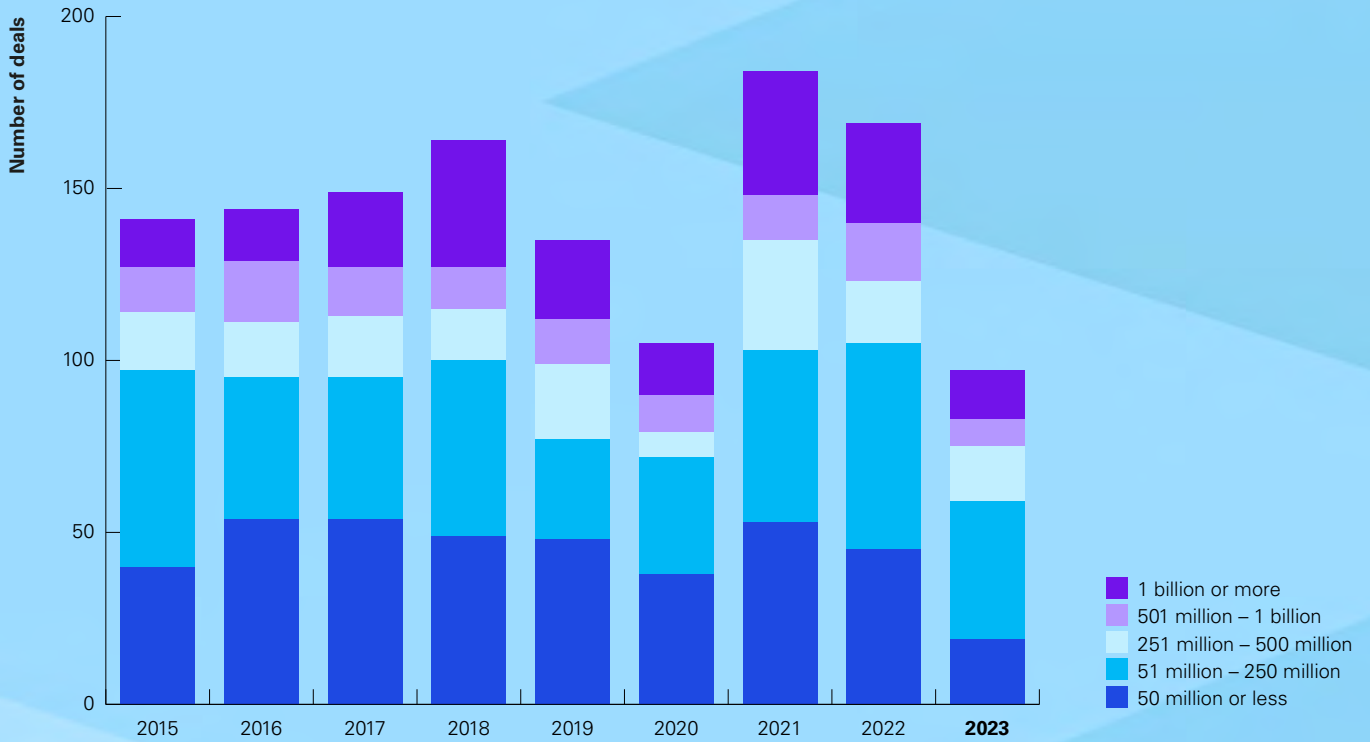


Number and value of deals per quarter



Number of deals

by deal size 2023 (with available deal value, in USD)



Number of deals

by industry sector 2023



Foreign acquirers of Swiss targets by region 2023



- Western Europe **64%**
- North America **21%**
- Asia-Pacific **8%**
- Middle East **3%**
- South America **2%**
- Central/Eastern Europe **1%**

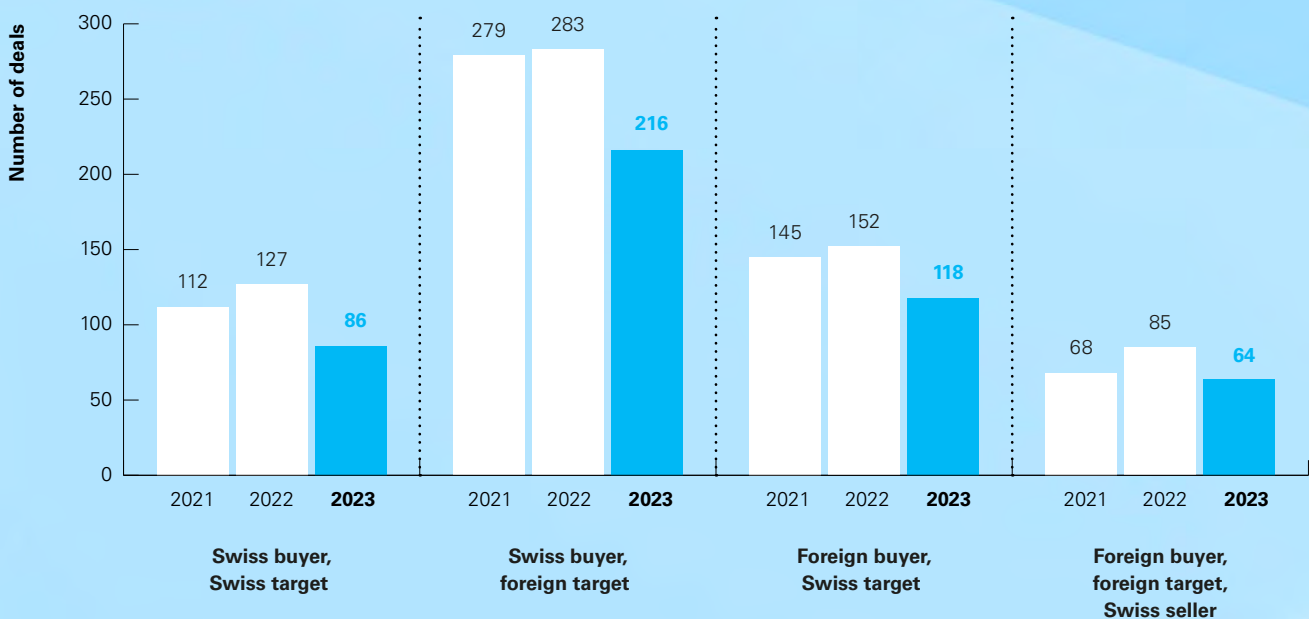
Foreign targets of Swiss acquirers by region 2023



- Western Europe **59%**
- North America **19%**
- Asia-Pacific **7%**
- Central/Eastern Europe **6%**
- South America **5%**
- Africa **2%**
- Middle East **2%**

Split of deals

by target/buyer/seller 2021 to 2023



Sector Reports

Clarity on Mergers & Acquisitions

The Swiss M&A landscape:
recap and outlook

Chemicals

Number of deals

7

Deal value

1.5

in USD billions

Top 3 Swiss Chemicals deals 2023

	Announced date	Target	Stake %	Target country	Bidder	Bidder country	Seller	Seller country	Value USD m
1	Oct 2023	Lucas Meyer Cosmetics SA	100%	Canada	Clariant AG	Switzerland	International Flavors & Fragrances Inc	USA	810
2	Feb 2023	Amyris Inc (Neossance business)	–	USA	Givaudan SA	Switzerland	Amyris Inc	USA	350
3	Jul 2023	Atlas Agro AG	*	Switzerland	Macquarie Asset Management Holdings Pty Ltd	Australia	–	–	325

* undisclosed

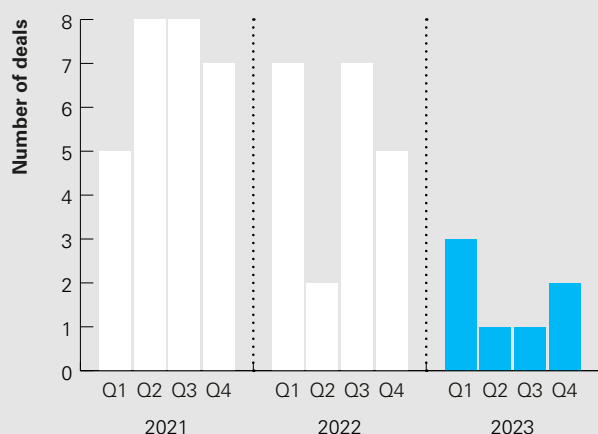
2023 review

- Deal activity in the Chemicals sector aligned with the overall slowdown in the Swiss M&A market. Despite the challenging market circumstances, both strategic buyers and private equity investors remained engaged in deals, emphasizing the ongoing strategic relevance of M&A for the Swiss chemical market.
- The substantial decrease in overall deal value can be attributed to the absence of mega transactions, which were previously an annual occurrence in the chemical sector. The largest deal in 2023 was Clariant's acquisition of Lucas Meyer Cosmetics for approximately USD 810 million in late October.

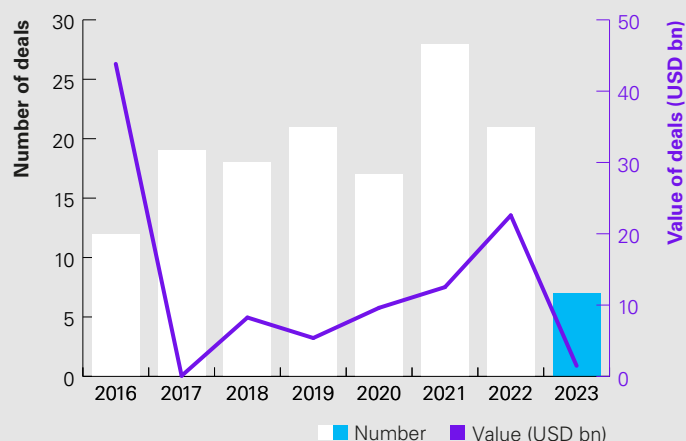
2024 outlook

- Activity will remain high with ongoing uncertainty leading to divestment of non-core business and consolidation as firms focus on reducing costs and bundling resources.
- We expect to see both strategic players and private equity investors on the sell and buy side.

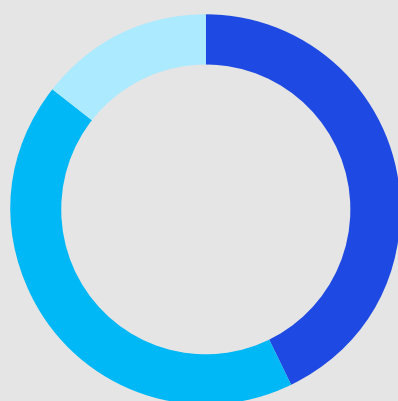
Number of deals per quarter



Number and value of deals per year

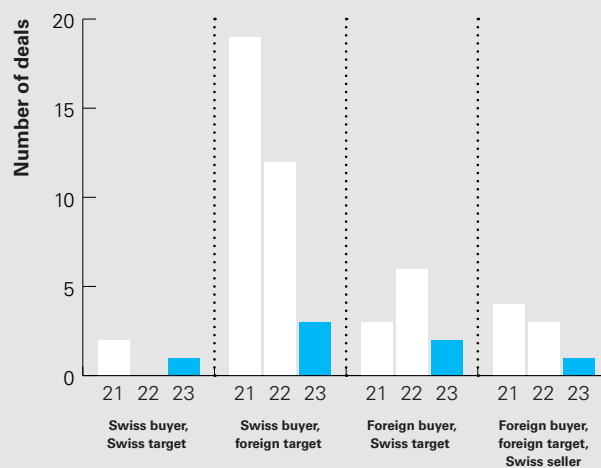


Number of deals per industry sub-sector 2023



■ Specialty chemicals **43%**
■ Agrochemicals and seeds **43%**
■ Industrial chemicals **14%**

Split of deals by target/buyer/seller



**For more information
please contact:**



Peter Dauwalder
 Partner, Deal Advisory,
 Head of Restructuring
 +41 58 249 41 80
pdauwalder@kpmg.com

Commodities

Number of deals

11

Deal value

24.9

in USD billions

Top 3 Swiss Commodities deals 2023

	Announced date	Target	Stake %	Target country	Bidder	Bidder country	Seller	Seller country	Value USD m
1	Jun 2023	Viterra Ltd	100%	Netherlands	Bunge Ltd	Bermuda, USA	Glencore plc; Canada Pension Plan Investment Board; British Columbia Investment Management Corporation	Switzerland, Jersey; Canada; Canada	17,253
2	Nov 2023	Elk Valley Resources Ltd	77%	Canada	Glencore plc	Switzerland, Jersey	Teck Resources Ltd	Canada	6,930
3	Apr 2023	Alumina do Norte do Brasil SA; Mineracao Rio do Norte	30%; 45%	Brazil	Glencore plc	Switzerland, Jersey	Norsk Hydro ASA	Norway	700

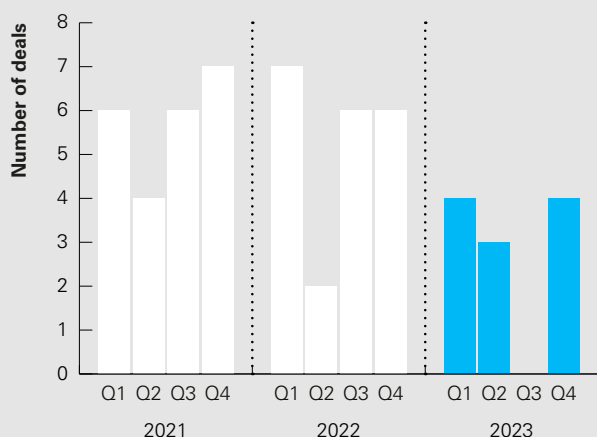
2023 review

- Geopolitical tensions in Ukraine and the Middle East increased uncertainty in commodity markets, which benefited oil and gas traders. Due to elevated inflation, high interest rates and the looming threat of a recession, dealmakers remained cautious. Commodity players continued embracing the green trend, as seen in Puma Energy's acquisition of OGAZ, a Zambian-based Liquefied Petroleum Gas company promoting lower carbon alternatives.
- Metal prices declined due to lower demand. The sector's focus on decarbonization and energy transition was evident in Glencore's investment in Mineracao Rio do Norte SA and Alumina do Norte do Brasil SA, a prominent low-carbon aluminum company supporting battery mass production. Additionally, Glencore's majority acquisition of Elk Valley Resources Ltd from Teck Resources Ltd for USD 6.9 billion in late 2023 showcased the company's commitment to consolidating its coal business.
- Despite improved supply chain conditions, extreme weather across the globe and Russia's exit from the Black Sea Grain Initiative led to market pressures. Bunge's merger with Viterra underscored the significance of scale in this market.

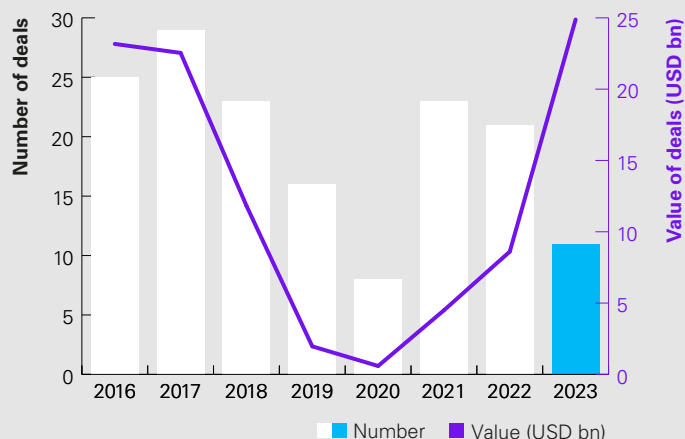
2024 outlook

- Although energy prices are expected to decrease due to subdued demand, they will remain high compared to historical levels. The M&A-driven consolidation is forecast to continue with a focus on strategic investments in assets aligned with ESG standards and aiming to achieve low/no-carbon emissions.
- Attractive commodity prices within the metals and mining sector are expected to sustain M&A investments, supported by generally low leverage across industry players.
- Food price index is expected to decline, as better global supply outlooks for grains and oilseeds ease pressures on markets and the impacts of El Niño subside.

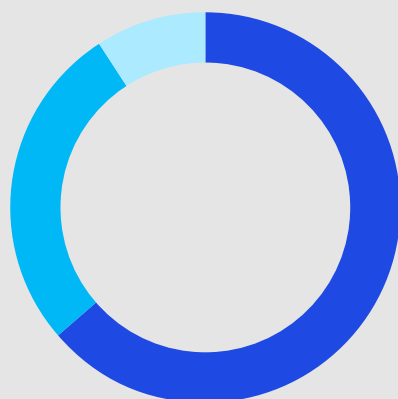
Number of deals per quarter



Number and value of deals per year

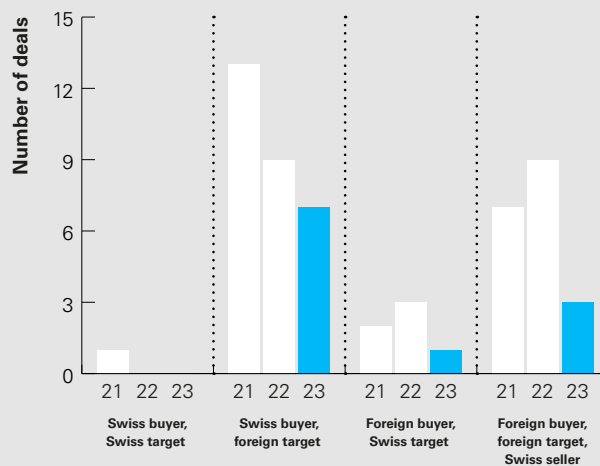


Number of deals per industry sub-sector 2023



■ Energy **64%**
 ■ Metals **27%**
 ■ Agriculture **9%**

Split of deals by target/buyer/seller



For more information please contact:



Jean-Christophe Pesser
 Partner, Deal Advisory
 Diligence Services
 +41 58 249 35 90
jpesser@kpmg.com



Stephan Grueber
 Partner, Deal Advisory
 Diligence Services
 +41 58 249 65 66
sgrueber@kpmg.com

Consumer Markets

Number of deals

39

Deal value

0.6

in USD billions

Top 5 Swiss Consumer Markets deals 2023

	Announced date	Target	Stake %	Target country	Bidder	Bidder country	Seller	Seller country	Value USD m
1	Feb 2023	YFood Labs GmbH	50%	Germany	Nestle SA	Switzerland	–	–	228
2	Jun 2023	Brown-Forman Finland Oy	100%	Finland	Coca-Cola HBC AG; CC Beverages Holdings II BV	Switzerland; Netherlands	Brown-Forman Corporation	USA	220
3	Dec 2023	Universal Geneve SA	100%	Switzerland	Breitling SA	Switzerland	Stelux Holdings International Ltd	China	68
4	Jul 2023	Holy Cow! Gourmet Burger Co	76%	Switzerland	NoHo Partners Oyj; Intera Equity Partners Oy; Better Burger Society	Finland	–	–	26
5	Feb 2023	ECCO Watch	70%	South Korea	Hublot SA	Switzerland	–	–	23

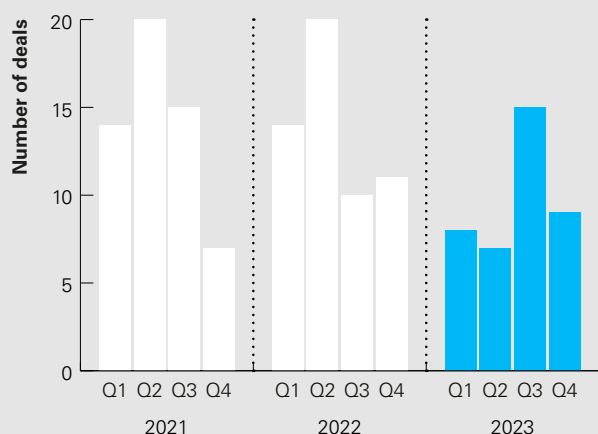
2023 review

- 2023 was rife with uncertainty for the Consumer Markets sector. Inflationary pressures, rising interest rates and slowing discretionary spending put pressure on consumer products companies and retailers alike. Geopolitical and economic uncertainty provided added headwind to the situation.
- While Switzerland's more stable interest rate environment provided some insulation against the chill affecting M&A activity in the sector globally, M&A volumes were down 29% overall year on year.
- M&A values decreased even more significantly, with total reported deal values falling below USD 1 billion in 2023 – a decade-long low for the sector. This Swiss development is consistent with the global sector trend, which has seen a significant slowdown in deals above USD 100 million in value. For Switzerland, however, there were some notable deals such as the creation of a joint venture for Nestlé's frozen pizza business in Europe and the acquisition of Bucherer by Rolex, for which no deal value was published. The latter deal was one of a number in the luxury sector, which was a rare brighter spot for M&A activity in the year.

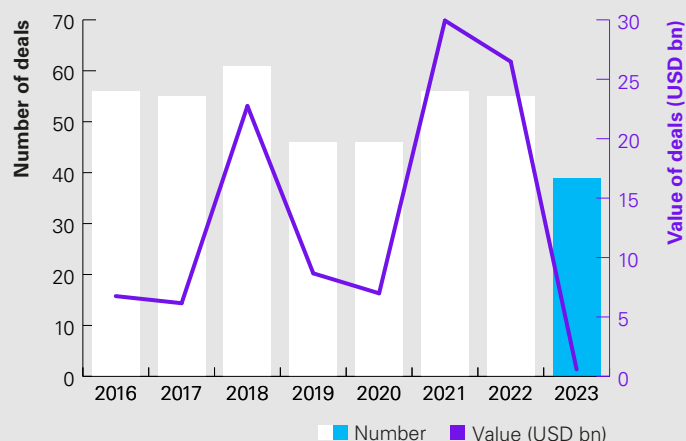
2024 outlook

- The factors that sowed uncertainty in 2023 are starting to stabilize with raw material price increases moderating and the expectation that the interest rate cycle will start to reverse. However, it is difficult to foresee any significant catalyst for an uptick in M&A activity in the sector until the second half of 2024.
- The need for portfolio transformation, expansion of omni-channel and digital capabilities, and interest in investments in particular in-demand categories such as pet food and health/wellness should all trigger activity when the uncertainty levels do reduce.
- While the luxury sector weathered the storm in 2023, we also expect to see M&A activity in this sector to slowdown in 2024 reflecting stalling sales for some of the larger players. We expect the retail sector activity to remain muted, but would look to the consumer goods producers as being the first sector likely to see some rebound in activity.

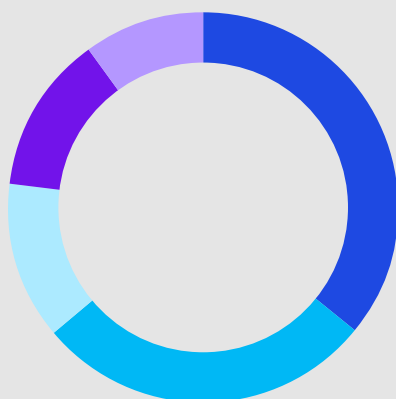
Number of deals per quarter



Number and value of deals per year

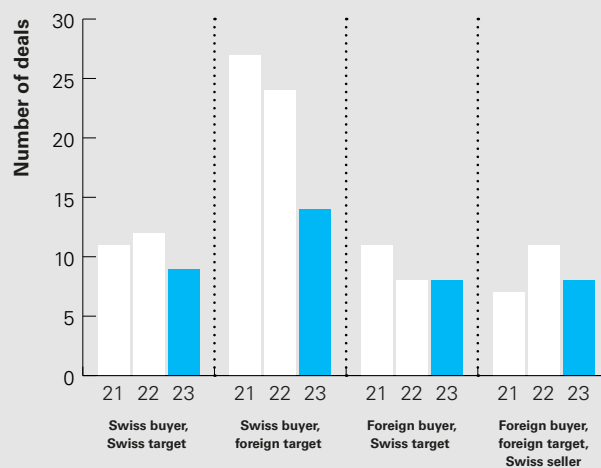


Number of deals per industry sub-sector 2023



■ Food **36%**
 ■ Retail **28%**
 ■ Apparel **13%**
 ■ Luxury goods **13%**
 ■ Other **10%**

Split of deals by target/buyer/seller



For more information please contact:



Joshua Martin
 Partner, Head of Deal Advisory
 Global Consumer & Retail
 +41 58 249 35 76
jmartin12@kpmg.com



Sarah Stierle
 Director, Deal Advisory
 Global Strategy Group
 +41 58 249 78 03
[sstierle@kpmg.com](mailto:ssstierle@kpmg.com)

Financial Services

Number of deals

23

Deal value

5.1

in USD billions

Top 5 Swiss Financial Services deals 2023

	Announced date	Target	Stake %	Target country	Bidder	Bidder country	Seller	Seller country	Value USD m
1	Mar 2023	Credit Suisse Group AG	100%	Switzerland	UBS AG	Switzerland	–	–	3,471
2	Nov 2023	Kraft Lake Insurance Agency Inc; Western Star Insurance Services Inc; Farmers General Insurance Agency Inc; Farmers Insurance Exchange (Flood program servicing arm)	100%	USA	Zurich Insurance Group Ltd; Farmers Group Inc	Switzerland	Farmers Insurance Exchange	USA	760
3	Nov 2023	Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Co Ltd	51%	India	Zurich Insurance Group Ltd	Switzerland	Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd	India	488
4	May 2023	Zurich Insurance Group (annuity portfolio in Chile)	–	Chile	Constellation Insurance Holdings Inc; Ohio National Seguros de Vida SA	USA; Chile	Zurich Insurance Group Ltd	Switzerland	208
5	Dec 2023	Credit Suisse Hedging-Griffo Real Estate	100%	Brazil	Patria Investments Ltd	Cayman Islands	Credit Suisse Group AG	Switzerland	132

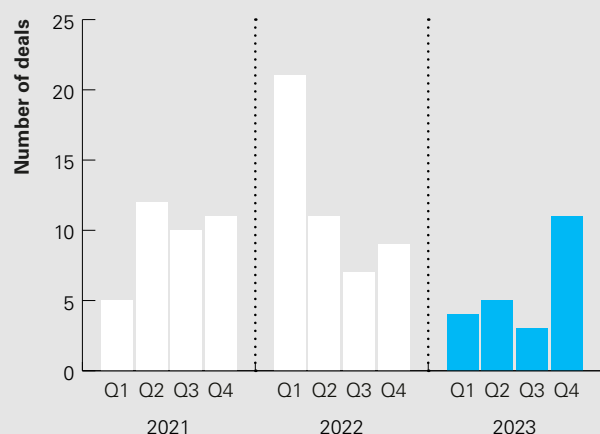
2023 review

- The standout event of 2023 was UBS's acquisition of Credit Suisse Group AG for USD 3.5 billion. This deal represents the first-ever merger of two global systemically important banks.
- In banking, the year witnessed very limited M&A activity. The surge in interest rates proved advantageous for smaller banks, while larger institutions strategically focused on leveraging the integration of Credit Suisse into UBS. Aggressive hiring initiatives by the larger private banks have diverted attention away from M&A pursuits.
- On a global level, Zurich Insurance Group has completed several transactions to realign its global insurance portfolio. In Switzerland, we have seen health insurance companies invest in their healthcare ecosystems.

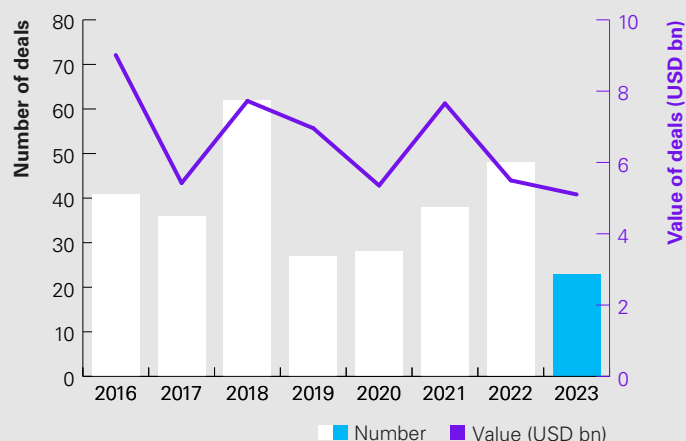
2024 outlook

- Private banking is anticipated to experience an uptick in M&A activity in 2024, driven by some bank owners reassessing their strategic positioning. Moreover, some owners are trying to sell at high prices due to increased profits from improved net interest income.
- In the realm of investment management, consolidation is expected to continue with numerous smaller and mid-sized transactions, often involving private equity-backed consolidators.
- With the exception of global insurance groups, we mostly expect local ecosystem transactions from Swiss insurance companies within the mobility, home and health ecosystems. However, as costs of capital have increased, the generation of positive cash flows will be key for these investments.

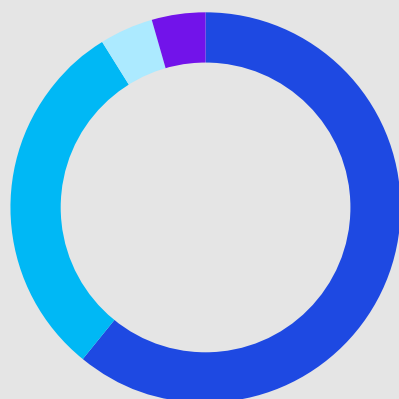
Number of deals per quarter



Number and value of deals per year

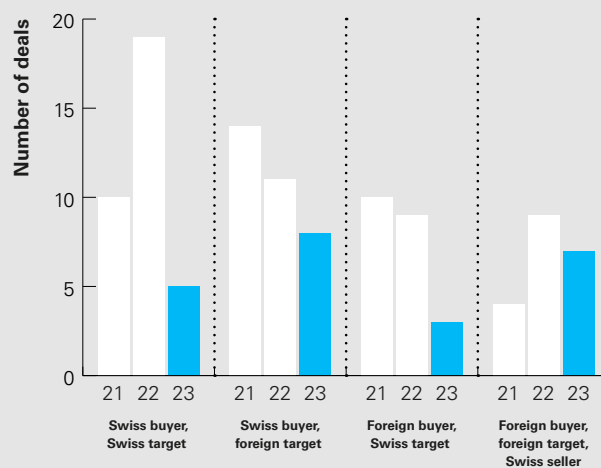


Number of deals per industry sub-sector 2023



- Investment management **61%**
- Insurance **31%**
- Banking **4%**
- Other **4%**

Split of deals by target/buyer/seller



For more information please contact:



Christian Hintermann
Partner, Head of Financial
Services Deal Advisory
+41 58 249 29 83
chintermann@kpmg.com



Manuel Rüdisühli
Senior Manager, Financial
Services Deal Advisory
+41 58 249 75 81
mruedisuehli@kpmg.com

Industrial Markets

Number of deals

98

Deal value

6.0

in USD billions

Top 5 Swiss Industrial Markets deals 2023

	Announced date	Target	Stake %	Target country	Bidder	Bidder country	Seller	Seller country	Value USD m
1	Jun 23	Uponor Oyj	100%	Finland	Georg Fischer AG	Switzerland	–	–	2,298
2	Jun 23	ARAG Srl	100%	Italy	Nordson Corp	USA	Capvis AG	Switzerland	1,048
3	Jan 23	ABB Ltd (Power Conversion division)	–	USA	Acbel Polytech Inc	Taiwan	ABB Ltd	Switzerland	505
4	Aug 23	Schaffner Holding AG	100%	Switzerland	TE Connectivity Ltd	Switzerland	–	–	365
5	Aug 23	Von Roll Holding AG	100%	Switzerland	ALTANA AG; SKion GmbH	Germany; Germany	Von Finck family	Germany	344

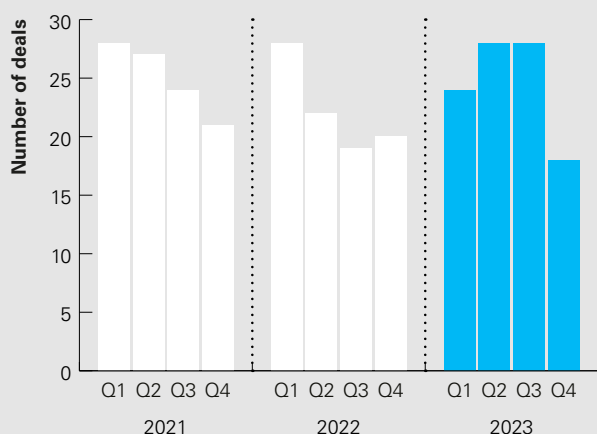
2023 review

- Following what was already a fairly active year in 2022, the number of industrial deals picked up once again to reach almost a new record in 2023.
- Developments were driven to some degree by continued private equity interest in mid-market businesses and, in particular, corporates' efforts to reshape their portfolios.
- Despite some larger, transformational deals, overall deal value remained at a lower level in 2023.

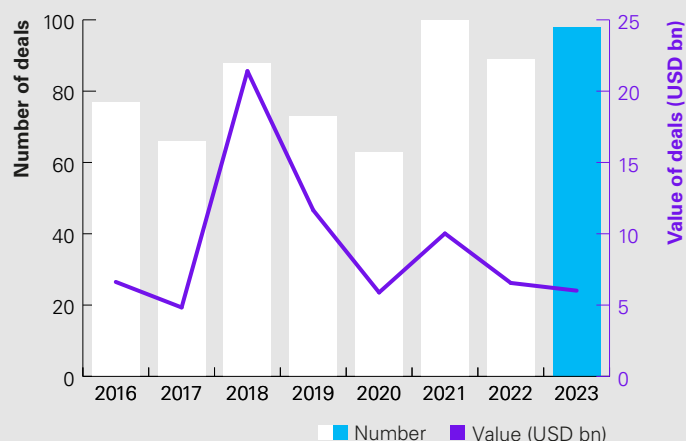
2024 outlook

- Swiss industrial firms will continue looking for ways to utilize their cash reserves and maintain their technology advantages.
- Overall, we expect the number of deals in 2024 to mirror the level of 2023, with the focus likely to remain on bolt-on acquisitions to acquire new skills and optimize geographical coverage.

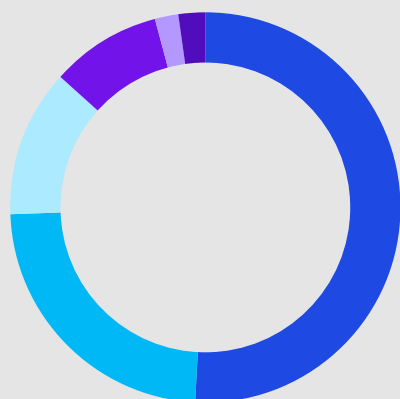
Number of deals per quarter



Number and value of deals per year

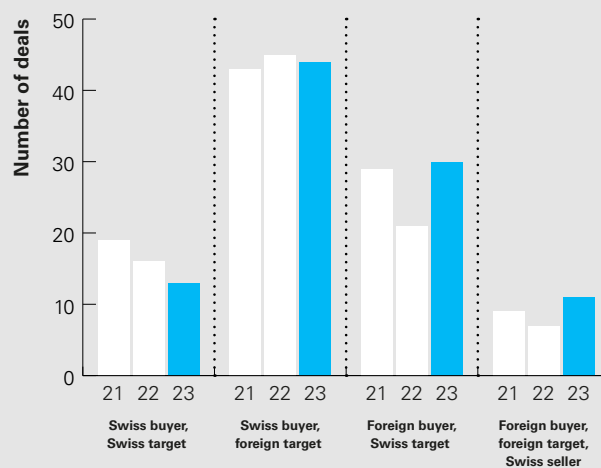


Number of deals per industry sub-sector 2023



- Industrial products & services **51%**
- Manufacturing & machinery **24%**
- Electronics (industrial types such as robotics) **12%**
- Automotives **9%**
- Automation **2%**
- Other **2%**

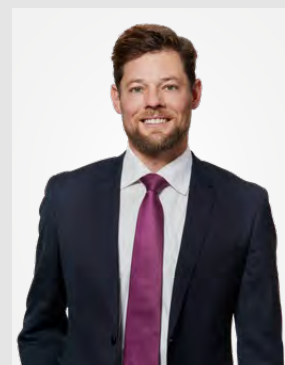
Split of deals by target/buyer/seller



For more information please contact:



Reto Ringli
Director, Deal Advisory
Mergers & Acquisitions
+41 58 249 52 81
rringli@kpmg.com



Remo Huser
Director, Deal Advisory
Mergers & Acquisitions
+41 58 249 68 35
rhuser@kpmg.com

Pharmaceuticals & Life Sciences

Number of deals

72

Deal value

24.9

in USD billions

Top 5 Swiss Pharmaceuticals & Life Sciences deals 2023

	Announced date	Target	Stake %	Target country	Bidder	Bidder country	Seller	Seller country	Value USD m
1	Oct 2023	Telavant Inc	100%	USA	Roche Holding AG	Switzerland	Pfizer Inc; Roivant Sciences Ltd	USA; Bermuda, USA	7,250
2	Jun 2023	Chinook Therapeutics Inc	100%	USA	Novartis AG	Switzerland	–	–	3,452
3	Dec 2023	Carmot Therapeutics Inc	100%	USA	Roche Holding AG	Switzerland	–	–	3,100
4	Jul 2023	Alnylam Pharmaceuticals Inc (Develop and commercialize zilebesiran)	—	USA	Roche Holding AG	Switzerland	Alnylam Pharmaceuticals Inc	USA	2,800
5	Jun 2023	Novartis AG (XIIDRA, libvatrep and AcuStream)	—	Switzerland	Bausch & Lomb Corp	Canada	Novartis AG	Switzerland	2,500

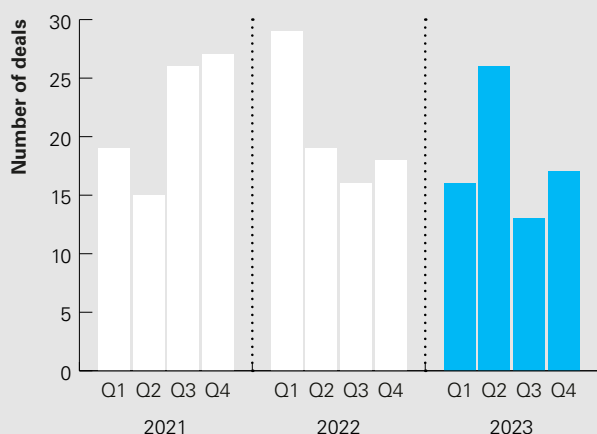
2023 review

- While the number of deals was slightly lower than in 2022, total deal value almost doubled in 2023, with several deals over USD 1 billion.
- Pharmaceuticals and biotech deals dominated the year – a large increase in their number and value was accompanied by a decline in clinics/healthcare deals compared to 2022.
- Roche and Novartis were involved in all five top deals of the year. Roche, in particular, continued to source biotechnology innovation externally, and Novartis returned to acquisitions.

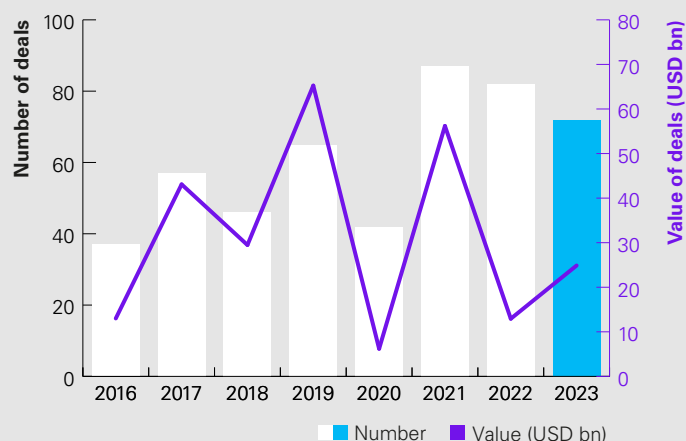
2024 outlook

- We expect continued pharmaceutical deal flow in 2024 with multiple opportunities remaining for big pharma to strengthen its pipeline.
- Several Swiss-based biotechnology companies are ready for listing, and the cautiously optimistic outlook for 2024 may allow the opening of the IPO window.
- In healthcare, consolidation may offer the efficiency gains sought by market participants.

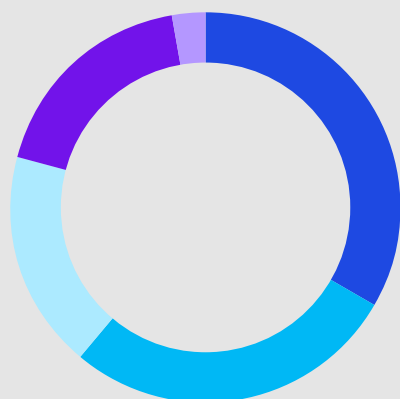
Number of deals per quarter



Number and value of deals per year

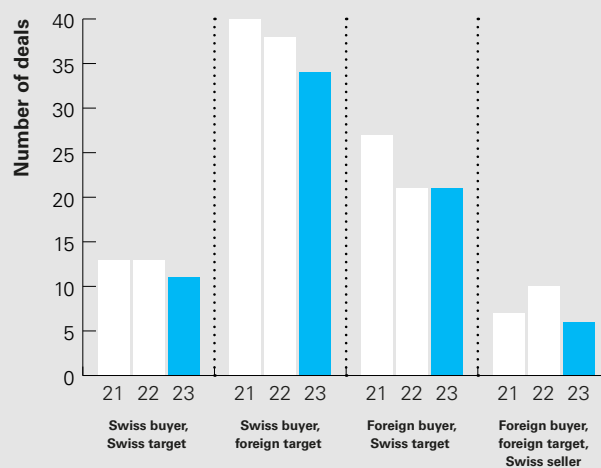


Number of deals per industry sub-sector 2023



- Pharmaceuticals **33%**
- Biotech **28%**
- Clinics/healthcare **18%**
- Medical technology and lab equipment **18%**
- Other **3%**

Split of deals by target/buyer/seller



For more information please contact:



Tobias Valk
Partner, Deal Advisory
Head of Advisory and Member
of the Executive Committee
+41 58 249 54 61
tobiasvalk@kpmg.com



Roger van den Heuvel
Partner, Deal Advisory
EMA Life Sciences
Strategy Lead
+41 58 249 78 11
rogervandenheuvel@kpmg.com

Power & Utilities

Number of deals

30

Deal value

2.1

in USD billions

Top 5 Swiss Power & Utilities deals 2023

	Announced date	Target	Stake %	Target country	Bidder	Bidder country	Seller	Seller country	Value USD m
1	Dec 2023	Eni Plenitude SpA Societa Benefit	9%	Italy	Energy Infrastructure Partners AG	Switzerland	Eni SpA	Italy	768
2	Sep 2023	Juniper Green Energy	*	India	Vitol Group; AT Capital Group	Switzerland, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Singapore	–	–	350
3	Sep 2023	East London Energy Ltd; Equans DE Holding Co Ltd	100%	United Kingdom	Swiss Life Holding AG; Swiss Life Asset Management AG; Schroders Greencoat LLP	Switzerland; Switzerland; United Kingdom	Bouygues SA	France	322
4	Jun 2023	ERG Power Srl	100%	Italy	Achernar Assets SA	Switzerland	ERG SpA	Italy	224
5	Mar 2023	Prodiel SL	100%	Spain	SMARTENERGY Group AG	Switzerland	–	–	211

* undisclosed

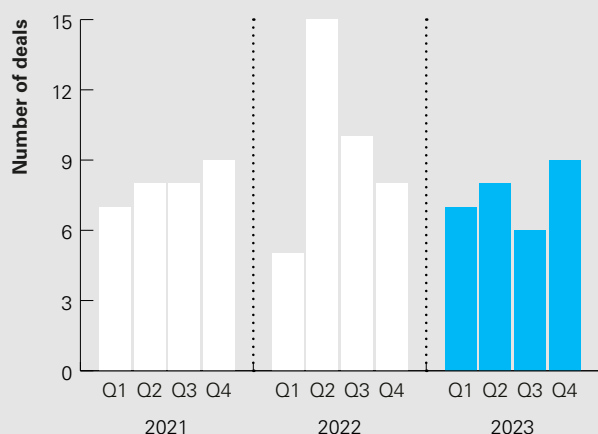
2023 review

- The majority of transactions include a Swiss buyer investing in renewable energy production or projects abroad.
- The lower number of transactions also reflects increased interest rates in 2023.
- Due to slow changes in the regulatory environment in Switzerland, potential projects/transactions in the renewable sector were postponed.

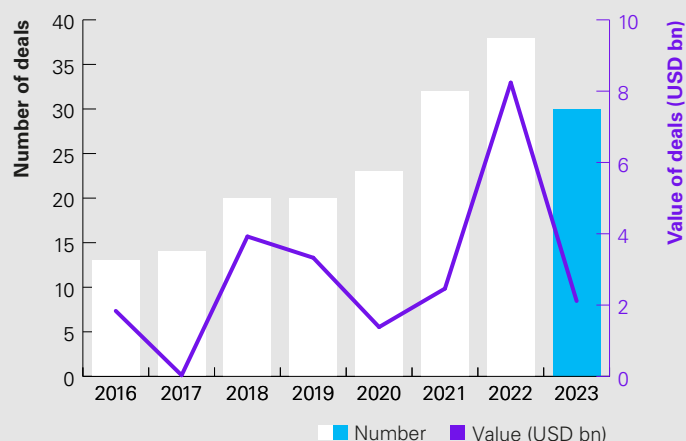
2024 outlook

- The push toward decarbonization will increase demand for renewable energy production facilities. Against this background, companies will need to decide whether to develop their own projects or buy existing production facilities.
- The regulatory environment, including subsidies, can indirectly boost transactions, subject to specific investment projects being made, e.g. solar projects in the Alps.
- A more difficult economic environment could slow down or limit the number of transactions.

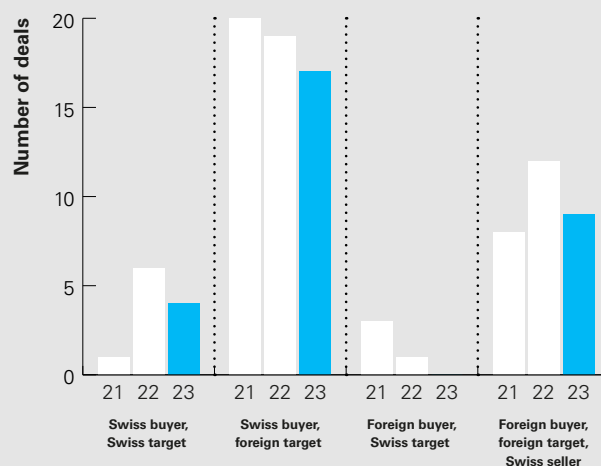
Number of deals per quarter



Number and value of deals per year



Split of deals by target/buyer/seller



For more information please contact:



Rolf Langenegger
Director, Deal Advisory
Valuation/Financial Modelling
+41 58 249 42 71
rlangenegger@kpmg.com



Urs Meier
Director, Deal Advisory
Diligence Services
+41 58 249 62 70
umeier@kpmg.com

Private Equity

Number of deals

112

Deal value

4.8

in USD billions

Top 5 Swiss Private Equity deals 2023

	Announced date	Target	Stake %	Target country	Bidder	Bidder country	Seller	Seller country	Value USD m
1	May 2023	VectivBio Holding AG	100%	Switzerland	Ironwood Pharmaceuticals Inc	USA	Versant Venture Management LLC; OrbiMed Advisors LLC; Forbion Capital Partners	USA; USA; Netherlands	1,158
2	Jun 2023	ARAG Srl	100%	Italy	Nordson Corp	USA	Capvis AG	Switzerland	1,048
3	Dec 2023	Eni Plenitude SpA Societa Benefit	9%	Italy	Energy Infrastructure Partners AG	Switzerland	Eni SpA	Italy	768
4	Aug 2023	nChain AG	*	Switzerland	The Ayregroup	Canada	–	–	574
5	Sep 2023	Firmum Capital SA (Car parks)	49%	Spain	Brookfield Corp; Partners Group Holding AG	Canada; Switzerland	Firmum Capital SA	Spain	426

* majority stake

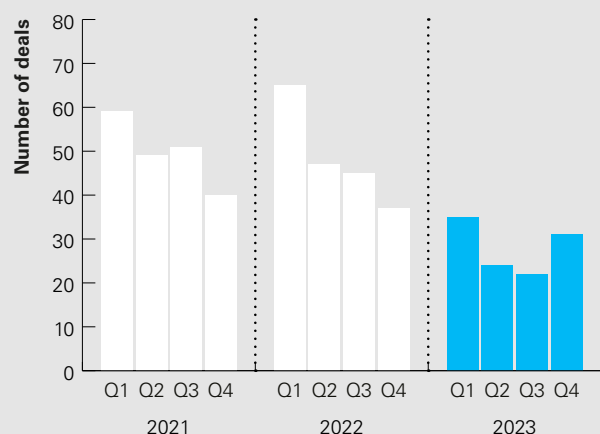
2023 review

- Elevated interest rates and economic uncertainty exerted a notable influence on private equity dealmaking in 2023, resulting in a substantial decline in both the volume and value of deals compared to 2022.
- The landscape in 2023 did not include many very large deals, with only a limited number exceeding USD 1 billion in value.
- Notably, outbound deals experienced a significant decrease, underscoring the less favorable interest rate environment beyond Switzerland.

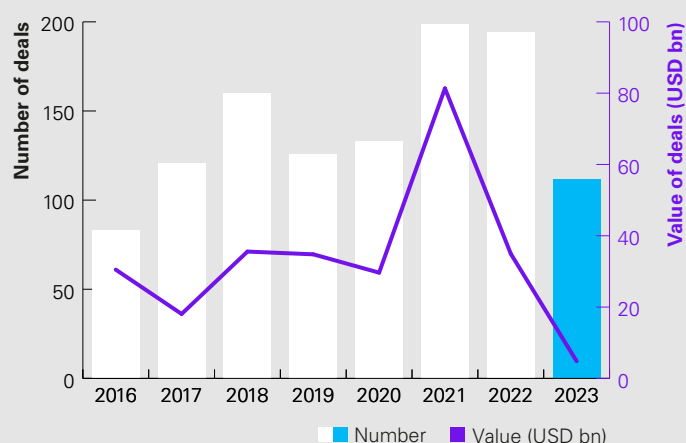
2024 outlook

- Elevated deal costs will continue to keep deal activity relatively low in the initial months of 2024. Nevertheless, investors are incorporating inflation and interest rate constraints into their valuation models, while sellers are adjusting pricing expectations in response to the high-interest environment. This alignment is expected to contribute to a narrowing of the gap between buyer and seller price expectations.
- Anticipated improvements in the financing landscape during the second half of 2024, coupled with a substantial amount of unallocated dry powder awaiting deployment, are poised to provide an additional impetus to private equity deal activity.

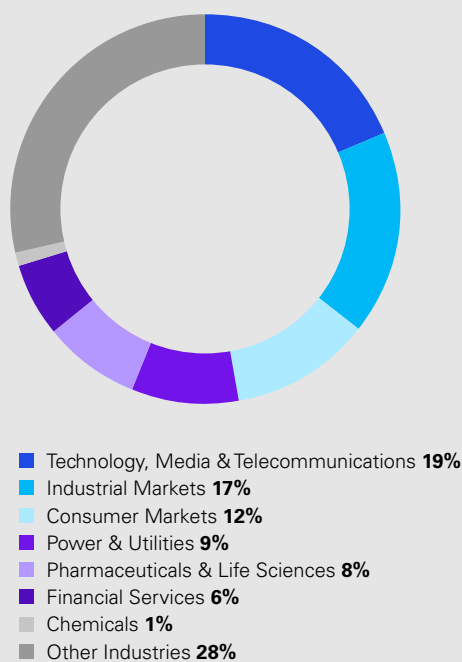
Number of deals per quarter



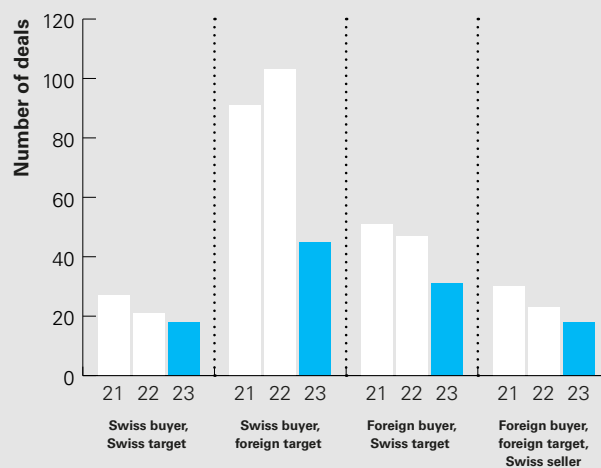
Number and value of deals per year



Number of deals per industry sub-sector 2023



Split of deals by target/buyer/seller



For more information please contact:



Timo Knak
Partner, Deal Advisory
Head Deal Advisory and
Head of Mergers & Acquisitions
+41 58 249 42 04
tknak@kpmg.com



Hannes Kurz
Director, Deal Advisory
Diligence Services
+41 58 249 63 27
hkurz@kpmg.com

Real Estate

2023 review

- Due to the interest rate shock, the transaction volume in Switzerland has fallen significantly in 2023. Given the low volume, information on the development of transaction prices is very heterogeneous, ranging from -10% to +1% according to various analysts and depending on the market segment.
- Successful transactions are mainly reported in the residential segment, where prices remain relatively robust, buoyed by high immigration, insufficient supply and inflation effects that boost rents. Commercial properties in good locations with long-term leases also remain fairly stable. On the other hand, B and C locations for office and retail properties are being significantly penalized in terms of price due to the structural aspects of digitalization. In general, the wheat is being separated from the chaff, as sustainability ratings are increasingly having a significant influence on real estate prices.
- The effects of higher interest rates, falling prices and higher construction costs are a game changer for the real estate market. While we observe major upheavals abroad, the impact in Switzerland has so far been marginal. One exception is the insolvency of Signa in 2023, whose collapse will also be felt in Switzerland.

For more information
please contact:



Ulrich Prien
Partner, Deal Advisory
Head of Real Estate
+41 58 249 62 72
uprien@kpmg.com

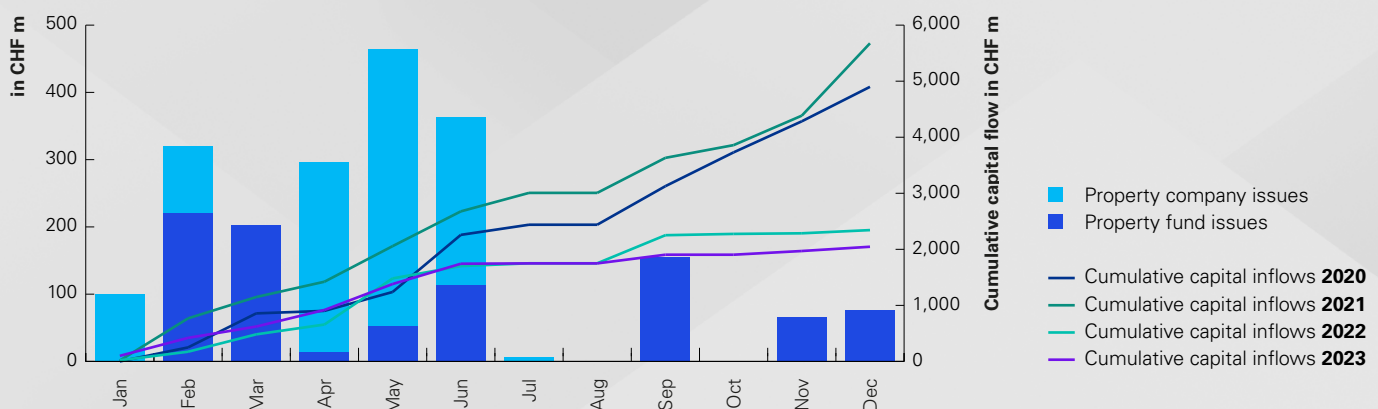
2024 outlook

- The inflation rate fell significantly lately. The cycle of interest rate hikes thus appears to be over for the time being, resulting in a more stable transition phase. Next year, the Swiss-resident population is likely to break the nine-million mark. The expected GDP growth of 1.0% to 1.5% in 2024 is therefore attributable to breadth. In per capita terms, Switzerland's GDP is currently stagnating.
- Despite exceptions such as the insolvency of Signa, we do not see major distress in the Swiss real estate market and expect the current repricing phase to be soon completed. With the possibility of interest rate cuts in 2024, an increase of investment volumes can be expected as bid-ask spreads may further consolidate.



Beat Seger
Partner, Deal Advisory
Real Estate
+41 58 249 29 46
bseger@kpmg.com

Flow of capital into listed property investments in Switzerland 2023



Technology, Media & Telecommunications

Number of deals

76

Deal value

1.1

in USD billions

Top 5 Swiss Technology, Media & Telecommunications deals 2023

	Announced date	Target	Stake %	Target country	Bidder	Bidder country	Seller	Seller country	Value USD m
1	Aug 2023	nChain AG	*	Switzerland	The Ayregroup	Canada	–	–	574
2	May 2023	Metaco SA	100%	Switzerland	Ripple	USA	–	–	250
3	Nov 2023	CREALOGIX Holding AG	100%	Switzerland	Vencora UK Ltd	United Kingdom	Richard Dratva (Private Individual); Bruno Richle (Private Individual); Daniel Hiltbrand (Private Individual); Peter Suesstrunk (Private Individual); Mayfin Management Services SI	Switzerland; Switzerland; Switzerland; Spain	124
4	Mar 2023	Clear Channel Outdoor Holdings Inc (Switzerland Business)	–	Switzerland	Goldbach Group AG	Switzerland	–	–	94
5	Mar 2023	Sentric Music Limited	100%	United Kingdom	Believe SA	France	Utopia Music AG	Switzerland	51

* majority stake

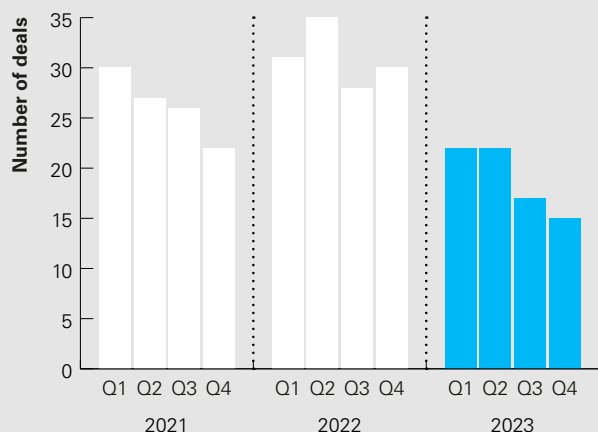
2023 review

- Software remained by far the most active sub-industry within TMT, while consolidation in IT services and transformation in domestic media both continued.
- M&A volumes were down 40% year on year, back to average pre-Covid levels after three consecutive years of strong growth. M&A values saw a shockingly sharp drop of over 90%, calling into question the rather solid position of the Swiss market.
- Several deals collapsed or were aborted due to offers not matching still high value expectations, reflecting current uncertainty in the market, together with a challenging environment especially in terms of financing larger transactions. Overall, this resulted in a lack of mega deals and a hit on deal values, which fell to a decade-long low for the sector. Nevertheless, there were still some notable larger deals such as Partners Group's sale of Civica to Blackstone, for which no deal value was published.

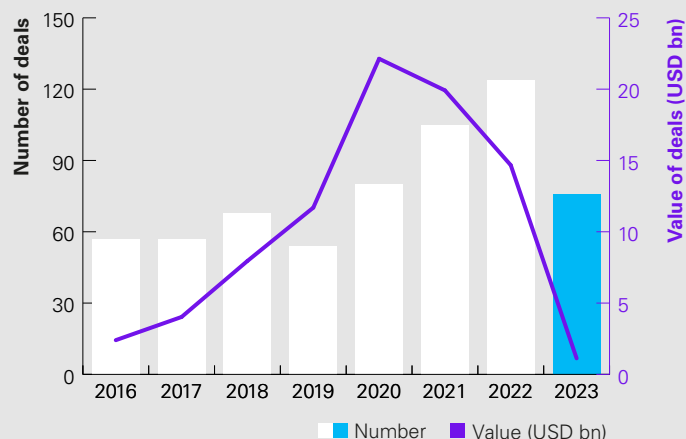
2024 outlook

- The drivers in TMT M&A remain strong and we expect to see a gradual rebound in deal activity in the second half of 2024, likely supported by private equity firms, which seem currently more bullish than strategic investors.
- Software will remain the most active area in technology, driven by digitalization / transformation and cybersecurity. The hype around artificial intelligence will spur deal flow as the pressure for AI-enhanced solutions is overwhelming and the battle for targets just began.
- Major portfolio streamlining activities in domestic media have been completed but will continue as a source for deals in the coming years. The development of digital verticals will remain a key topic for large Swiss media houses; this is inevitable if they are to compete against domestic and even more so against international players and is expected to result in more activity.
- We expect the M&A activity in telecoms to remain muted in 2024. The domestic market is dominated by three large players, but we might see some consolidation amongst smaller peers to reach more scale.

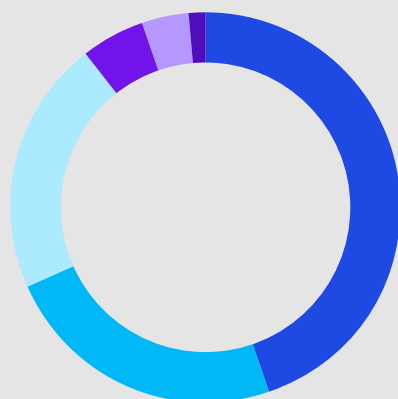
Number of deals per quarter



Number and value of deals per year

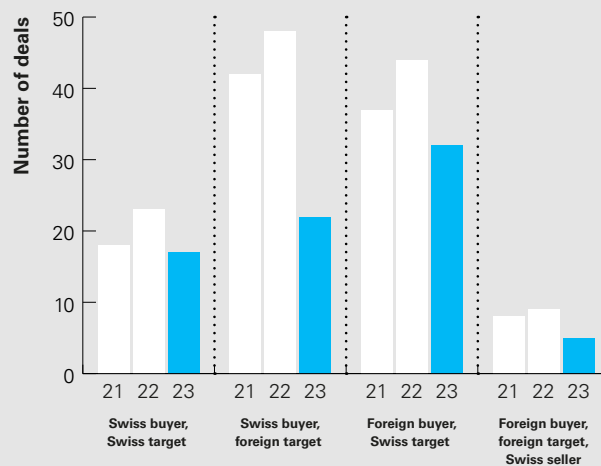


Number of deals per industry sub-sector 2023



- Software **45%**
- IT services **24%**
- Media/internet **21%**
- Telecoms **5%**
- Hardware and electronics **4%**
- Other **1%**

Split of deals by target/buyer/seller



For more information please contact:



Johannes Post
Partner, Deal Advisory
Global Head of Valuations
+41 58 249 35 92
jpost@kpmg.com



Adrian Bieri
Director, Deal Advisory
Mergers & Acquisitions
+41 58 249 28 19
adrianbieri@kpmg.com



Methodology

This study is based on the Mergermarket, Refinitiv Eikon and KPMG databases, focusing on deals announced in 2023 but also providing historical data drawn from previous editions of Clarity on Mergers & Acquisitions (formerly M&A Yearbook).

The consideration of individual transactions and their allocation to specific industry segments are based on our judgment and are thus subjective. We have not been able to extensively verify all data and cannot be held responsible for the absolute accuracy and completeness thereof. Analysis of different data sources and data sets may yield deviating results. Historical data may differ from earlier editions of this Clarity on Mergers & Acquisitions as databases are updated retroactively for lapsed deals or for transactions that were not made public at that given time; we have also aligned some of the selection parameters and industry segmentation more closely to those applied by the above-mentioned databases, which can also lead to differences in historical data representation. The following notes pertain to data contained in this publication.

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1

Deals are included where the deal value is equal to or greater than the equivalent of USD 7 million.

2

Value data provided in the various charts represent the aggregate value of the deals for which a value was stated. Please note that values are disclosed for approximately 20 percent of all deals.

3

Where no deal value was disclosed, deals are included if the turnover of the target is equal or greater than the equivalent of USD 14 million. In cases where sales figures were not disclosed, we approximated the target's turnover based on factors such as the number of employees or any other publicly available size indicators.

4

Deals are included where a stake of 30 percent or more has been acquired in the target. If the stake acquired is less than 30 percent, the deal is included if the value is equal to or exceeds the equivalent of USD 140 million.

5

Deals are included in their respective industry sector based on the industry of the target's business.

6

All deals included have been announced but may not necessarily have closed.

7

Activities excluded from the data include restructurings where ultimate shareholders' interests are not affected.

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We thank all our clients for their trust

BUCHERER

Bucherer

KPMG Deal Advisory

acted as sole M&A lead advisor and provided sell-side financial, tax, real estate, valuation and pension services to the shareholder of Bucherer on the divestment to Rolex

Announced



ACQUISITION COMPANY

VT 5 Acquisition Company AG

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided a De-SPAC fairness opinion to VT 5, the first listed SIX-listed Swiss Special Purpose Acquisition Company ("SPAC"), in connection with the business combination with R&S Group

November 2023



medmix AG

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial and pensions due diligence support to medmix AG in connection with its acquisition of a minority stake in AARDEX Group SA and its fully owned subsidiary AARDEX Group (Switzerland) SA

November 2023



Zurich Insurance Group

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial and tax due diligence services to Zurich Insurance Group for its strategic investment in the Belgium based insurtech Qover

July 2023



Visana AG

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial, tax and commercial due diligence as well as valuation services for Visana on the acquisition of a minority stake in Swiss Medical Network

July 2023



Impact Healthcare SA

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial, tax, IT, payroll and social security due diligence services to Impact Healthcare SA in connection with their investments in AMAD Homecare Sàrl and PROXYSERVICE SA

June 2023



SoftwareOne

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial, tax and legal due diligence, as well as SPA and tax and legal structuring advice, to SoftwareOne on their acquisition of Beniva Consulting Group

May 2023

**Sauter****KPMG Deal Advisory**

provided financial, tax and commercial due diligence support to Sauter AG on their acquisition of a majority stake in T4 Mechanical and Electrical Ltd., React 4 Group Ltd., and Lidex Control Systems Ltd.

May 2023**Datacolor AG****KPMG Deal Advisory**

provided financial and tax due diligence support to Datacolor on their acquisition of matchmycolor LLC

May 2023**Alltech Inc.****KPMG Deal Advisory**

advised Alltech Inc. with financial and tax due diligence services as well as SPA advice in connection with their acquisition of AGOLIN SA and Agolin Ireland Limited

May 2023**Société des Produits
Nestlé SA****KPMG Deal Advisory**

provided financial and separation due diligence support to Nestlé SA on their establishment of a joint venture with PAI Partners for Nestlé's frozen pizza business in Europe

April 2023**Pacojet Group****KPMG Deal Advisory**

acted as sole M&A lead advisor to the shareholders of Pacojet Group on the sale to Groupe SEB

April 2023**Mimacom Flowable Group****KPMG Deal Advisory**

acted as sole M&A lead advisor and vendor assistance provider to the shareholders of Mimacom Flowable Group on the divestment to Ardian

April 2023**Swissport International AG****KPMG Deal Advisory**

advised Swissport International Ltd on their acquisition of Flughafen Düsseldorf Cargo GmbH with financial and tax due diligence as well as tax structuring and SPA advice

March 2023**Shop Apotheke Europe N.V.****KPMG Deal Advisory**

provided financial and tax due diligence support to SHOP APOTHEKE EUROPE N.V. in entering into a strategic relationship with Galenica to establish a joint venture, combining Mediservice AG and shop-apotheke.ch

March 2023**SGS Société Générale
de Surveillance SA****KPMG Deal Advisory**

provided financial, legal and tax vendor assistance and separation services to SGS on their disposal of the Automotive Asset Assessment and Retail Network Services business to Macadam Europe

March 2023



OC Oerlikon Corporation AG

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial, tax and pensions due diligence support, as well as SPA advice, to OC Oerlikon Management AG in connection with their acquisition of Riri SA

March 2023



Société des Produits Nestlé SA

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial, ESG and tax due diligence support to Nestlé on their acquisition of a stake in Yfood Labs GmbH

March 2023



Norline AG

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial vendor assistance support to Norline AG on their sale of a majority stake to Argos Wityu

February 2023



KLK Kolb

KPMG Deal Advisory

acted as sole M&A lead advisor and legal, financial vendor assistance, separation and tax services provider to KLK Kolb on the sale of its Paper Process Chemicals Business to Solenis

February 2023



Kantonsspital St. Gallen

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial and tax due diligence services, as well as M&A support to Kantonsspital St. Gallen in its acquisition of Geriatriische Klinik St. Gallen

February 2023



Schurter Holding AG

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial and pension sell-side assistance to the shareholders of SCHURTER Group on their transaction with Capvis

January 2023



Bucher Industries

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial and tax due diligence support in connection with Bucher Unipektin's acquisition of B&P Engineering Sp. z o.o.

January 2023



Autoneum Group

KPMG Deal Advisory

provided financial and pension due diligence support to Autoneum on their acquisition of the automotive business of Borgers Group

January 2023



Affidea B.V.

KPMG Deal Advisory

advised Affidea B.V. with financial, tax and pension due diligence services in connection with their acquisition of Plastic Surgery Group AG

January 2023



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