swiss startup association

Relai

Education Session

How to fundraise and what to consider?

25.01.2024 | 12.00-13.00



Julian Liniger

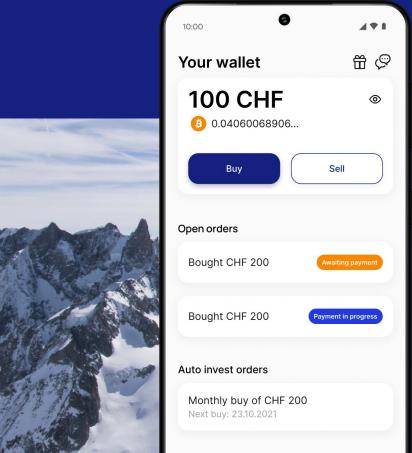
Co-Founder and CEO of Relai

LET'S START WITH THE PITCH!

It is the heart AND soul of Fundraising!

WHAT'S IN THE PITCH?

- Bold Company Statement: What is the startups name and why should investors know about it? → CH vs. US!
- Vision / Mission / Purpose: What does the team believe in and why is it worth getting up and taking risks every day? → Missionary vs. Mercenary
- Problem + Solution: What's the big problem in the market that is not yet addressed enough and how is this startup finally solving it? → Peter Thiel
- Success: What outstanding results have already been achieved? → Sales
- **Team**: Why is this the best group of people to work on that case? → *People*



EUROPE'S NR.1 BITCOIN APP

Made in Switzerland













and everyone should have easy access to it!



PROBLEM: BUYING BTC IS HARD

- Tedious onboarding processes
- Complicated user interfaces
- Too many different assets
- Bad customer support
- 2-3 days to buy & hold bitcoin

Relai



SOLUTION: WE MAKE BTC SUPER EASY

- 1 min to buy & hold bitcoin
- No registration or verification
- From €10 already and 24/7
- Auto-Invest plans
- Non-custodial bitcoin wallet



OUR USERS LOVE US

4

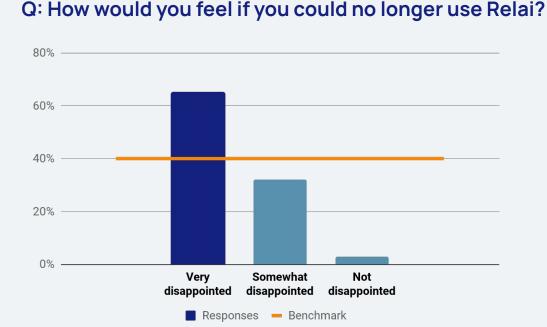
300K App Downloads



100K Active Users



20K Active Referrers





"Excellent" on Trustpilot



4.6 Stars on App Store

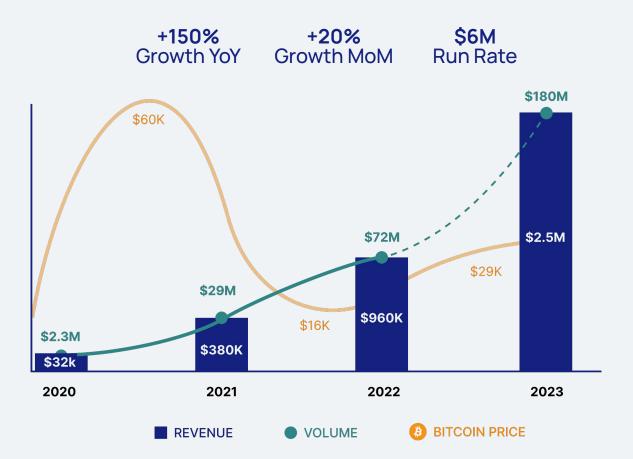


4.6 Stars on Play Store



Source: 2023 PMF test, 1,000+ Relai app users

SUCCESS





LEADERSHIP TEAM

(21 FTEs in total)

ADEM BILICAN



- PhD in Informatics
- Mobile Blockchain Engineer since 2016
- Founded & led his own software agency



CEO
JULIAN
LINIGER

- Forbes 30 Under 30
- Serial Entrepreneur
- MSc in Business Administration

CFO
PATRIK
GILLI



- Ex-Rothschild CFO
- Certified Public Accountant (PwC)
- MSc in Banking & Finance
- 15 years of Experience as CFO from start-ups to listed companies
- Ex-PwC Manager

IMO BÁBICS



- Ex-Bitpanda CMO
- BSc in Business & Marketing
- 15 years of Experience in B2C Marketing
- Ex-Universal Pictures



IT'S ALL ABOUT YOUR JOURNEY!

The perfect process only exists in textbooks!

THE IDEAL WORLD

U Funding Round	Pre-Seed	Seed	Series A	Series B	Series C
Stage Focus	Proof of Concept/ Prototype	Product to the Market	Revenue Growth	Growth	Large Scale Expansions
Common Elements of Growth	Validating & Iterating	Market Entry, First Sales	Development, Operations, Branding & Marketing	Hiring, Market Expansion	International Markets
Amount of Investment	10k – 300k €	100k – 1M €	10M €	15M – 25 €	≈ 50M €



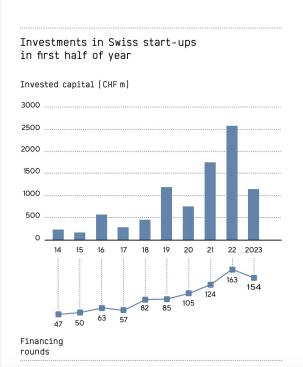
THE REAL WORLD

Pre-Pre-Seed	Pre-Seed	Seed	Crowdfunding	Seed Extension	Pre-Series A
Proof of	Minimum	First Traction and Growth	Good Traction	Product	Market
Concept	Viable Product		& Community	Expansion	Expansion
Founding	Angel	Venture Capital	Angel and	Venture Capital	Venture and
Angel	Investors and	Investors	Retail	Investors	Angel
Investors	Friends	\$2.7m	Investors	\$2.5m	Investors
\$20k	\$300k		\$2m		\$2.5m



THE VC MARKET

Investments



In the first six months of 2023, Swiss start-ups generated CHF 1,195.5 million in 154 financing rounds. Although this invested capital decreased by 54% compared with the previous year, the number of financing rounds fell by only 5% to 154.

However, the stability of in terms of financing rounds should not be overestimated. The relatively stable number is probably due not least to the fact that start-ups closed rounds after the first commitments from investors in order to rule out the risk that they might pull out. For example, instead of a series A round, this resulted in a seed plus round, a pre-series A round and the first closing of a series A round. This led to a stable number of rounds overall, but fewer than last year. Accordingly, the median across all financing rounds fell from CHF 3 million to CHF 2.48 million.

In addition to this broad-based decline, top investments were also significantly smaller. In the first six months of 2022, CHF 1.133 billion francs went to the three largest rounds – similar to the amount invested in all financing rounds in 2023. In comparison, only CHF 331 million went to the three largest rounds in 2023.



MY LEARNINGS AFTER 3 YEARS AND \$10M OF FUNDRAISING!

Trust & embrace the process, once you start it will never end.



WHAT YOU SHOULD DO!

- Take Responsibility as CEO: It is your job to keep the company financed, assume no one will help you with that! → Vision, People, Cash
- Network, Network, Network: Build a great investor network through meetings and personal branding! → What you know vs. Who you know
- Never give up: Always keep going, even if you don't need money right now, after the round is before the round! → You only lose if you quit

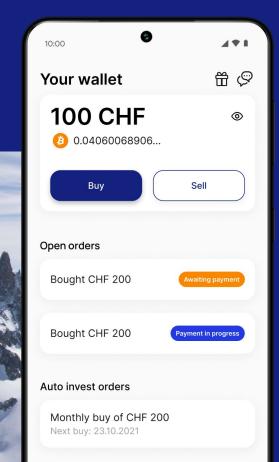


WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT DO!

- Raise Money from the wrong Investors: Easier said than done, but always make sure Investors are a good fit to your team! → It's like a marriage
- Compromise your Principles: Don't change your values, beliefs and strategies just to win an investor! → Strong characters always win
- Focus on Cost Savings: Grow your revenues to 7 digits before you think about profitability! → Gotta spend money to make money







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CONTROL OF YOUR FUTURE







