



Business Programme Tours

Date: Tuesday 20 June 2023
Schedule: 13:15 to 21:30 (including cocktail)
Price: CHF 200/participant

Geneva, home of innovation

Time: 13:15 to 21:30

Visit: [CERN](#) and [Campus Biotech](#)

Available places: 25

Transport: Transport to and from the visits is ensured by the organizer

Catering: Coffee breaks are planned during the afternoon

In recent years, Switzerland has performed very well in the Global Innovation Index (GII, ranking world economies according to their innovation capabilities) for the past years, ranking 1st among the 51 high-income group economies, and 1st among the 39 economies in Europe in 2021. Geneva is a major contributor to this ranking, as the city and the region are one of the country's economic engine.

The tour will start off at **CERN**, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, home of – between others - the world's largest and most powerful particle accelerator. Participants will gain deeper knowledge of CERN and its activities through an **introductory presentation and Q&A**. They will then move on to an **immersive multimedia** experience to discover the Synchrocyclotron – CERN's first accelerator, operated between 1957 and 1990. After the visit, the participants will **meet representatives of CERN's Knowledge Transfer group for a lively discussion** on the innovations and societal applications stemming from the Laboratory's technologies.

The second visit of the afternoon will be at the **Campus Biotech**, a centre of biotechnology and life sciences research. The Campus works as a giant incubator, bringing together academic, clinical, industrial, and entrepreneurial actors together. Affiliated member of Switzerland Innovation Park-Network West EPFL – a platform positioning Western Switzerland as an international hub for Innovation -, it was founded in 2013 by a Consortium composed by the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), the University of Geneva (UNIGE), the Bertarelli Family and Hansjörg Wyss. **Mr Dubuis, Director of the Campus Biotech, will lead a discussion around the Fondation du Campus Biotech** and participants will discover **GliaPharm**, a biotechnology company, as well as the **Human Neuroscience Platform**.

Each visit will end with a **networking cocktail at the Maison de la Paix** (literally House of Peace), **in the presence of Mrs Salles, Director of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies**, and **Mr Jean-François Manzoni, President of the International Institute for Management Development**. Thought as a place to meet, think, and act the Maison de la Paix, opened by the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in 2013 enables synergies to foster innovative and efficient solutions to promote peace, human security and sustainable development.

