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Private & Confidential

Taiwan Insight: The Biomedical Industry

The Biomedical Industry

Here are the frequently asked questions about understanding and investing in the

Biomedical Industry

in Taiwan to be covered in this publication.



What is Taiwan?



What are the opportunities with Taiwan?



How is Taiwan's biomedical industry?



How are others investing?



What are the key information to know?



Who can help me to start investing?





01 |

What is Taiwan?

Understanding Taiwan and its interesting key facts



The Biomedical Industry

Compared to Wallonia at 3.6 million population, 16,845 square kilometers,

Taiwan is larger at

23 Million Population

36,197 Square Kilometers





Taiwan located in the West Pacific. It offers visa-free entry, landing visas, or visa privileges to citizens of 170 countries and territories, including Belgium.

? Did you know

Taiwan ranked #3 as the World's Best Destination for Expatriates.¹





¹ The Expat Insider of InterNations, 2022

The Economy





A Prominent Player in the Global ICT Industry

with the GDP Per Capita recorded at € 29,710¹



Trading with the European Union Accounted for 10% out of its € 343 billion

import, and 7% out of its € 402 billion export; the Taiwan's total trade volume was at € 745 billion.



Recommended as the Asia's #2 Profit Opportunity

as well as #6 in Economic Freedom, and #7 in Competitiveness



Did you know

Taiwan emerged as a prominent player in the global information and communication technology industries. Its total trade volume exhibited a 31% year-on-year increase from the COVID-affected period.





The Technology





An International Gateway to Asia Pacific

Taiwan is an attractive opportunity for global investors seeking to establish their presence in Asia Pacific



The Government Embraces Biotech & Medical Technology

as declared in the Six Core Strategic Industries currently being implemented since 2020



Highly Competitive in Technology, and Innovation

as the Technology Development Programs of Taiwan won R&D awards and ranked Asia's 1st for awards¹

Taiwan actively engages in digital transformation, fostering a thriving tech ecosystem. Its recognition of Biotech & Medical Technology Industries reflects the nation's commitment to innovation and advancement in such field.



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How is the biomedical industry?

Understanding the medical excellence journey

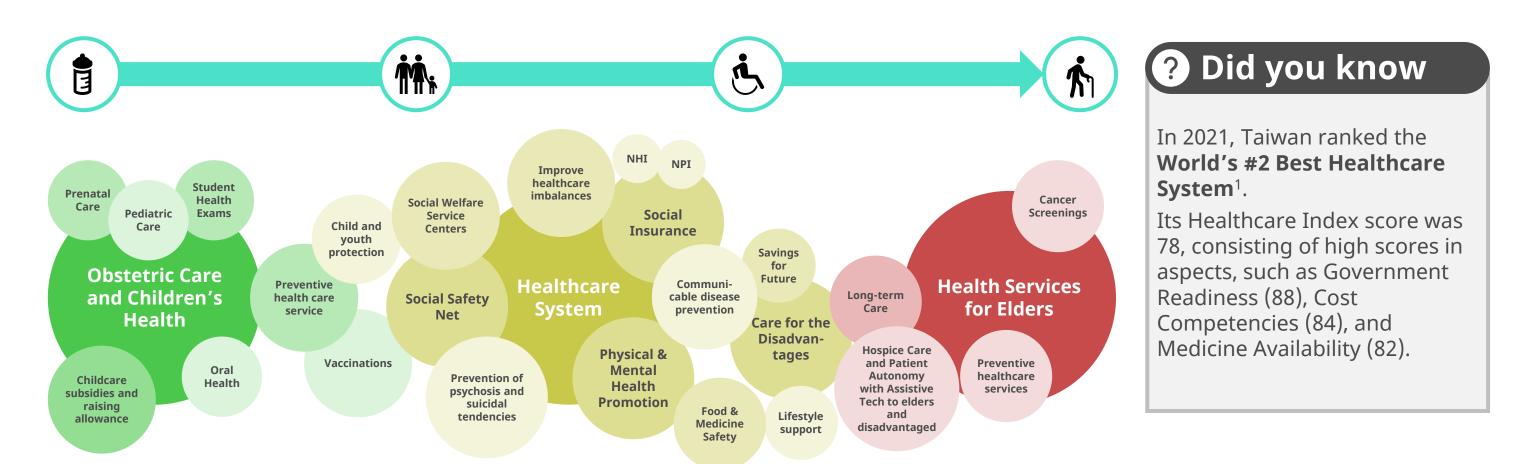




Taiwan's Healthcare System

Creating a livable environment for everyone





Taiwan's healthcare system stands out among the rest of the world as a shining example of comprehensive life-course care for every individual. This remarkable achievement can be attributed to the resounding success of Taiwan's National Health Insurance system.





Taiwan's Healthcare System

Creating a livable environment for everyone







In Taiwan, comprehensive obstetric care, including reproductive health consultations, educational materials, and support through various channels is provided in a timely manner to parents before and during pregnancy following the Childbirth Accident Emergency Relief Act. The government also prioritizes nationwide newborn screening, fully subsidizing hearing exams, and offering routine vaccinations for 15 infectious diseases to ensure the healthy development of children in the country. Additional preventive healthcare services, fluoride treatments, and oral health programs are consequentially provided as children grow. In addition to the Ministry of Health and Welfare, other government agencies are also well aligned with the roadmap.

The Ministry of Education promotes health in schools and establishes Children's Development Joint Assessment Centers for early intervention in cases of developmental delays; and the Social and Family Affairs Administration (SFAA) offers child-raising allowances and childcare services to support working parents.



For the working ages, Taiwan provides social welfare for both physical and mental health with the areas of concern that include food safety, communicable diseases, and chronic illnesses. The MOHW launched the Social Safety Net Plan that uses community-based protection to prevent psychosis and suicidal tendencies and provide comprehensive support for all community members. Similarly, the disadvantaged groups are also protected based on the joint savings plan for education and development, where parents and the government contribute to the funds. The system has been established to identify and provide tailored services for people with disabilities, including living expense subsidies and various care options to enhance their quality of life and social participation.



Taiwan is also committed to create friendly cities particularly for elders, disabled and dementia patients. Accessible services and support are provided. Taiwan also provides end-of-life care with hospice and palliative care legislation, allowing terminally ill patients to have autonomy over their treatment choices.

Despite the government's implementation of the healthcare system, the unhealthy lifestyle persists in Taiwan, causing high rates of hypertension and hyperlipidemia. Taiwan is working on advocating a healthier lifestyle, emerging issues (such as internet addition) treatments, and vaccinations to prevent cancer.

●●● ●● Wallonia.be



Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

Taiwan's National Health Insurance

Learning from others, making it better





The National Health Insurance (NHI)

is modeled after the United States' Medicare system but Taiwan has been implementing it in a larger scale.



Safeguarding Health Using One Card

NHI highlights Taiwan's healthcare system as it covers physical and mental treatment through IPD, OPD, dental services, Chinese medicine, and prescriptions. The NHI system enhance medication safety and care quality, while allowing people to access their medical records and engage in self-health management. The card holds information between patients, healthcare providers, and the authority.



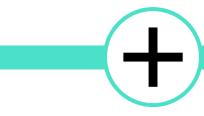
The National Health Insurance (NHI) in Taiwan exemplifies a remarkably efficient and synchronized healthcare scheme, empowering patients with the freedom to choose their treatments from an extensive array of options, including public, private, and specialized centers, delivering exceptional care to its people.





From Western Missionaries to Japanese Colonization and beyond











Western Missionaries

With the arrival of missionaries in 1800s, Hospitals were opened in Tainan, Changhua and Taipei, marking the beginning of western medicine in Taiwan.



Japanese Colonization

Under the Japanese colonization, the public health system was consecutively improved as to control epidemics at the time.

Post World War II

After the World War II, medical facilities were damaged. The Health Authority took measures to establish health stations, eliminate epidemics, apply public vaccination, and promote family planning. The health network was also introduced.

Taiwan Modern Days

In 1986, the government announced NHI to replace the 13 social insurances in Taiwan. The NHI Act was enacted later in 1994 stating that the NHI would be mandatory, single payer, and premiums financed.





Source: Ministry of Health and Welfare

COVID-19 Management



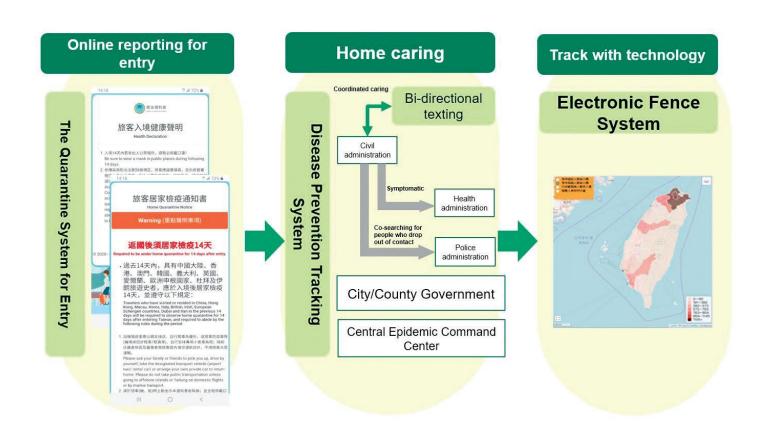


Measures Against COVID-19

In December 2019, Taiwan's CDC learned about a disease outbreak and quickly took immediate action, such as onboard quarantine for flights from Wuhan, formed a response team, and requested reports of suspected cases with travel history.

As the situation progressed, they intensified border control, utilized technology for managing home quarantine, and integrated travel history with the health insurance system.

Taiwan utilize digital tracking and reporting mechanism for updates. These measures supported frontline workers in containing the outbreak and ensuring effective response.







COVID-19 Management





Measures Against COVID-19

Taiwan also locally developed Medigen Covid-19 vaccine that was introduced across the entire island, available to individuals aged 20 and above. It also manufacture Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and has become a crucial supplier of anti-epidemic products to countries in need.

In terms of diplomatic, Taiwan has aided several Latin American countries. It shared disease prevention experience through online resources and gained support from other nations for its participation in the WHO. Additionally, Taiwan has donated a wide range of medical supplies to over 80 countries in need.







COVID-19 Management

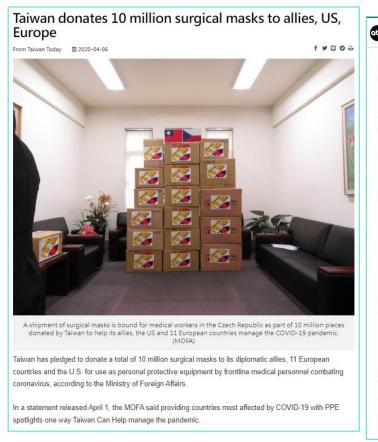


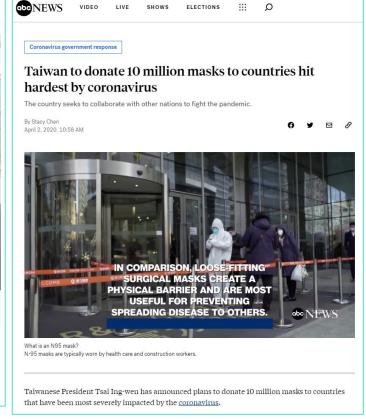


Donation of six million masks to allies in Asia, Europe, and Americas

Taiwan had the ability to produce up to 13 million face masks a day and donated 7 million masks to Europe, including Italy, Spain, France, Germany, Belgium, and the U.K. Additionally, 2 million masks were also donated to the U.S., with the rest going to other smaller countries with diplomatic ties.

Taiwan also held a video conference with the U.S., EU, Czech Republic, and Canada to discuss the research and development of COVID-19 test kits, vaccines, and reagents.









The journey to be continued





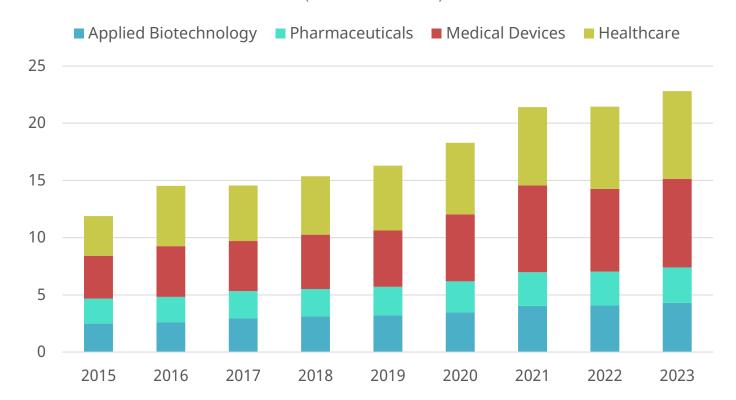
The Biomedical Industry Holds Immense Potential

The industry is experiencing and continuing an impressive rise. In 2021, the total revenue surpassed € 20 billion, almost double the figure from 2012. The Health and Welfare and Medical Devices aspects contribute significantly, comprising nearly 70% of the industry.

This growth showcases Taiwan's expertise as a leader in cutting-edge research, advanced technology, and high-quality healthcare services. Embracing and nurturing this industry will contribute to the further advancement of biomedical science and healthcare, benefiting both Taiwan and the world.

Historical and Projection of Revenue²

(Unit: EUR billions)







Taiwan's Initiatives

Policy analysis



The policies have fostered growth

by providing tax incentives and advancing precision health initiatives until 2031.

The "Act for the Development of Biotech and New Pharmaceuticals Industry," implemented in July 2007, provided tax incentives to companies involved in new drug research and biotech development. Subsequent revisions in January 2017 and 2021 expanded its scope to include high-risk medical devices, emerging biopharmaceutical products, and provisions for regenerative medicine, precision medicine, and digital medicine. The Act also allowed biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies to undertake entrusted development and manufacturing.

In May 2021, the Executive Yuan approved the Six Core Strategic Industries Promotion Plan, aiming to establish Taiwan as a global benchmark for precision health care. This plan involves creating a vast genetic and health insurance database for developing precision preventive diagnosis and treatment systems, precision pandemic prevention products, and expanding international biomedical business opportunities, showcasing Taiwanese pandemic prevention brands to the world. The implementation period for these initiatives has been extended through 2031.





03

What are the key information?

Understanding its landscape and specializations



Taiwan's Focus on Biomedical

The policy highly supports research, development, and innovation





Precision Health is one of the Six Core Strategic Industries

along with Information and Digital, Cybersecurity, National Defense and Strategic, Green and Renewable Energy, and Strategic Stockpile.



Biomedical is one of Taiwan's Innovative Industries Program

along with Asia Silicon Valley, Smart Machinery, Green Energy, National Defense, Circular Economy, and Culture.

Six Core Strategic Industries

Taiwan's government has announced the Six Core Strategic Industries, preparing for its Innovative Industry Program and aiming to be the first to seize post-COVID-19 opportunities.

Innovative Industries Program

Biomedical, a key part of Taiwan's Innovative Industries Program, strives to position the country as the Asian epicenter for groundbreaking biomedical research and development. It is a visionary government initiative that fosters robust networks and partnerships, propelling Taiwan to the forefront of the global biomedical landscape.





Taiwan's Focus on Biomedical

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Biomedical Sectors:

Biomedical Subfields:



Applied Biotechnology

Agriculture, food, contract services, environmental biotechnology, and specialty chemicals



Pharmaceuticals

Small molecules drugs, biologics, active pharmaceutical ingredients, traditional Chinese medicine.



Medical Devices

Diagnosis and monitoring, surgery and treatment, in-vitro diagnostics, disease prevention and health promotion, and other miscellaneous devices.



Healthcare

Healthcare products, and healthcare promotion and services



Regenerative Medicine

Digital Medicine Dedicated Innovative Technology Platform

CDMO

New Drug & New Dosage Form

High-Risk Medical Device Other Strategic Products





Taiwan's Medical Care Statistics

Hospitals and clinics



There are 23,278 Medical Care Institutions in Taiwan

consisting of 478 hospitals and 22,800 clinics

Private clinics (22,377)

Public hospitals (81), Public clinics (423), Private hospitals (397)

Western medicines (12,308)	Dental (6,923)	Chinese (4,047)
 11,835 clinics 473 hospitals This consists of 152 general hospitals, 267 hospitals, 3 specialized hospitals, 40 psychiatric hospitals, 1 psychiatric teaching hospitals, and 10 chronic hospital. 	6,922 clinics1 hospital	4,043 clinics8 hospitals





Taiwan's Medical Care Statistics

Beds in hospitals and clinics



There are 170,710 Beds in Hospitals and Clinics in Taiwan

which is 73.03 beds per 10,000 population

General Beds (100,813)

Special (37,626)

Clinics (32,268)

General beds includes

Acute General Beds	76,387
Acute Psychiatric Beds	7,409
Chronic Beds	3,158
Chronic Psychiatric Beds	13,689
Chronic T.B. Beds	2
Hansen's Disease Beds	168

Special beds includes

Intensive care beds, burn care beds, burn intensive care beds, infant care beds, emergency observation beds, palliative care beds, chronic respiratory care beds, subacute respiratory care beds, acute T.B. Beds, psychiatric intensive care beds, general isolation beds, positive-pressure isolation beds, negative-pressure isolation beds, bone marrow transplantation beds, sex offender treatment beds, post-acute care beds, hospitalist ward beds (integrative medicine), inmate medical care beds, ether beds, nursery bassinets, hemodialysis beds, peritoneal dialysis beds, and others

Beds in clinics includes

-	Observation beds	18,042
	Nursery bassinets	1,748
	Hemodialysis beds	11,483
	Peritoneal dialysis beds	4
	Maternity beds	991





Taiwan's Medical Care Statistics

Health professionals



There are 278,877 Health Professionals in Taiwan

out of its 23,375,314 population, accounted for more than one percent.

Western Medicine Physicians (52,124)

Registered Professional Nurses (138,190)

Other professionals

Doctors of Chinese medicine (7,467), Dentists (15741)

Other professionals include

Pharmacists, Assistant Pharmacists, Medical Laboratory Scientists, Medical Laboratory Technicians, Medical Radiation Technologists, Medical Radiation Technicians, Registered Nurses, Registered Professional Midwives, Midwives, Dental Technology Assistants, Dietitians, Physio-therapists, Physiotherapy Technicians, Occupational Therapists, Occupational Therapy Technicians, Clinical Psychologists, Counseling Psychologists, Respiratory Therapists, Speech Therapists, Audiologists, Dental Technologists, Dental Technicians, Optometrists, and Optometric Technicians





Taiwan's Top Hospitals





MacKay Memorial Hospitals

MacKay Memorial Hospital is a renowned medical institution under the Presbyterian Church. The hospital consists of 2 main branches (namely Taipei and Tamsui) and an international medical service center. It was founded in 1880 as the first hospital in northern Taiwan.

1,200 Total number of beds



Chang Gung Medical Foundation

Consisting of 9 hospitals and 5 affiliated institutions, CGMF was founded in 1973 to meet the major international hospital standards providing professional services. The hospitals claimed to be the largest and the most comprehensive healthcare services which is recognized as the powerhouse and the pioneer in remedial innovation, research, and teaching.

10,050
Total number of beds
8,200,000
Annual outpatient visits
2,400,000
Annual number of inpatient



National Taiwan University Hospital

The hospital excels in biotechnology and medical technology, including endoscopy, mini-scope surgery, ultrasound, organ transplantation, artificial organs, artificial joints, molecular diagnosis, and genetic screening. In the past six years, it has established six "common laboratories" that facilitate research collaboration.

1,819
Total number of beds
2,509,291
Annual outpatient visits
112,501
Annual number of inpatient



Taipei Veterans General Hospital

The hospital takes pride in its medical skills, services, and research, showcasing facilities and innovative treatments. They are the first teaching hospital with a medical research department, improving clinical teaching and inspiring other hospitals. They provide international and domestic medical aid in disaster-stricken areas.

2,947
Total number of beds
2,463,732
Annual outpatient visits
121,980
Annual number of inpatient





Taiwan's Medical Device Statistics

Number of devices



There is still no

Clini-MACS

Heavy Charged Particle

Therapy Device

Stand-alone Proton

Therapy System

450	CT Scanners Computerized Tomography Scanner	39	Radiation Brachytherapy Machine
272	MRI Magnetic Resonance Imaging	2	Proton Therapy System for Multi-Treatment Room
178	High-energy Teletherapy Machine	259	Obstetric Delivery Bed
146	SPECT Single-Photon Emission Computed Tomography Scanner	1,592	Operating Table
116	HBOT Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Device	1,881	Dental Unit
65	PET Positron Emission Tomography Scanner	6,715	Outpatient Consultation Room





04]

What are the opportunities?

Understanding the investment climates and potentials



Rapid growth of the domestic market and as a steppingstone to Asia



A Lucrative Opportunity for Foreign Investors, not just in Taiwan, but in the Asia-Pacific Market

In 2020, Taiwan's biotech, health, and wellness sector achieved significant growth, reaching € 180 billion, with an annual average growth rate of 7.4%. The region's increasing elderly population and the growth of emerging economies in China and Southeast Asia have led to a rising demand for medical care, home care, health improvement, and disease medications in the Asia-Pacific market. Foreign investors can take advantage of Taiwan's strategic location, skilled workforce, and technology parks, along with government support measures like tax incentives and R&D subsidies outlined in the "Act for the Development of Biotech and Pharmaceutical Industry." Taiwan aims to become a production base and regional headquarters, facilitating accelerated access to the Asia-Pacific market.

"Hub of Asia by 2025"





Healthcare and medical devices



Mature Supply Chain & Favorable Market Conditions Welcomes Foreign Medical Device Companies

Taiwan offers a mature supply chain for the development of Type II medical devices, presenting opportunities for foreign companies to collaborate on system integration and high-value medical equipment. Investing in Taiwan enables accelerated product development and marketing with high quality and fair prices, leveraging the country's marketing experience to access emerging markets like China.

Additionally, Taiwan's aging population, accounting for over 14% of the total, has spurred the adaptation of policies and regulations to accommodate medical trials and innovative service models, opening new business prospects in the senior citizen market. Taiwan's high-quality medical-care systems and strong ICT foundation support the establishment of infrastructure for intelligent health services, including monitoring platforms and information system services.





Business Opportunities



Prescription Drugs

The global drug market is projected to reach € 1.35 trillion by 2023 due to the increasing aging population and advancements in therapeutic approaches.

Notable regulatory changes in 2011:

Updated regulations related to medical technology-based testing and laboratory medical instruments to include laboratory development tests and support cell treatments.

Draft of the act for the development of the biotech and new pharmaceutical industry that expanded the scope of incentives to include CDMOs.

Medical Equipment

The global medical equipment market is projected to reach € 428 billion by 2022, with the Americas, Western Europe, and Asia Pacific being the leading markets.

Taiwan's ICT industry boasts significant advantages, including a robust supply chain and well-developed industrial clusters.









Healthcare and Medical Devices are the largest sector within the biomedical industry.

In 2021, healthcare accounted for € 6.8 billion in revenue in 2021 and medical devices accounted for with € 7.6 billion in revenue.



As of August 2021, Taiwan had a total of 128 listed biotech and medical care companies valued at \$38.94 billion. Among them, 75 companies were registered on the emerging stock market, while 20 companies were registered on the GISA stock market. Through various channels for capital market fundraising, including operational and research and development funds, the value of Taiwan's public capital market continues to grow.





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How are others investing?

Understanding the cases and success stories





CHC Healthcare Group





CHC Healthcare Group holds a prominent position as Taiwan's leading professional healthcare service provider and is the preferred partner for major medical institutions and international medical brands. With a commitment to offering reliable healthcare management services, CHC Healthcare Group has also established itself as the frontrunner in healthcare equipment, technology, and services across the Asia-Pacific region.

In 2016, It became a distributor of Belgian PhysIOL intraocular lens in Taiwan.







Pharmaceutical companies











Formosa Laboratories Inc. began as an API business and has since become a leading API manufacturer, serving global customers. Over the years, the company has gained recognition for its GMP-compliant facilities, undergoing inspections by regulatory authorities worldwide.

Today, Formosa offers a comprehensive CDMO service, expanding its capabilities from APIs and ADCs to include aseptic liquid filling and lyophilization for both cytotoxic and non-cytotoxic injectables.

ScinoPharm. renowned company recognized worldwide for its production of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) focused on cancer treatment, boasts advanced cGMP production facilities that have successfully passed stringent quality inspections from esteemed regulatory bodies like the Taiwan FDA, EU EMA, EDQM, US FDA, Australian TGA, Japanese PMDA, Korea FDA, and German authorities.

Its commitment to quality and exceptional professional services has garnered trust and recognition from partners across the globe.

China Chemical & Pharmaceutical (CCPC) Ltd. pharmaceutical company with expertise lies in generic pharmaceutical and healthcare products for both human and animal use, widely utilized in hospitals households, and contributing to improved health and quality of life.

The company aims to provide niche and high manufacturing complexity API/generic drugs and 505(b)(2) new drugs to the US market, leveraging technology developed in Asia and partnering with US-based CMOs and CROs for regulatory approval.

TTY Biopharm is a pharmaceutical company that specializes in developing high barrier drugs, specialty drugs, and new drugs. They have expanded their operations beyond the Taiwan market since 2005 and actively sought collaboration partners in Europe, America, and Asia.

TTY Biopharm's strong capabilities, improved manufacturing and processes, marketing enable expertise collaboration partners maximize the value technology introduction, leading to mutually beneficial outcomes.





Vaccine and bio-drugs companies











Adimmune is a prominent player in epidemic prevention, having supplied over 30 million doses of their influenza vaccine, AdimFlu-S (OIS), to meet Taiwan's domestic demand. Adimmune remains dedicated to advancing vaccine technology, focusing on recombinant protein subunit vaccines and cell-cultured products.

Notably, Adimmune has been in operation since 1965 and was the first company in Taiwan to comply with GMP standards set by the FDA and the EU.

Medigen Biotechnology Corp. (MBC), founded in 1999, focuses developing innovative therapies for liver diseases and cancers. Over the years, MBC has evolved into a comprehensive biopharmaceutical corporation with expertise in new drug development, drug discovery, molecular diagnostics, vaccines, and generic drugs. Its subsidiaries dedicated to vaccine production, molecular diagnostics, and medical supply. achieved Notably, MVC has significant milestones in vaccine development, including the Phase 3 MRCT clinical trial for EV71 and obtaining approval for its COVID-19 vaccine in Taiwan.

Mycenax Contract is Development and Manufacturing Organization (CDMO) specializing in biopharmaceutical services. Operating in various Asia-Pacific regions, Europe, and the United States, the company offers drug production development and solutions to a wide range of customers. Initially focusing on biosimilars and new biopharmaceuticals, Mycenax transitioned to incorporate advanced technology platforms and expand GMP plants to meet international standards. This shift allows the company to cater to diverse customer requirements, providing customized and efficient CDMO services.

EirGenix Inc. prioritizes health for all individuals, leading them to create two business units with the common objective of promoting well-being. The first unit focuses on contract development and manufacturing, where EirGenix assists clients in producing their biologics. The second unit, dedicated product to development, aims to leverage their team's expertise in biologics encompass biosimilars. biobetters, and novel drugs. Ultimately, EirGenix's overarching mission is to make high-quality biopharmaceutical drugs accessible to every patient, emphasizing affordability quality.





Biotech and medical devices companies











Founded in 1980, TCI Co., Ltd. initially operated as an ODM company before transitioning into a CDMO and becoming publicly listed in 2013. By the end of 2021, the company boasted a workforce 884 employees. itself distinguishes through unique product designs and advanced R&D technology, allowing them to create special formulations and innovative products for their clients.

Formosa Biomedical Technology Corporation, established in 2004, aims to develop and produce high-tech, safe, and high-quality products by leveraging resources of Formosa Group in manufacturing, academic studies, and clinical research & services. The company envisions creating a platform that integrates research, clinical trials, and manufacturing, presenting new opportunities in Biomedical Technology. addition to producing detergents and materials, it specializes in cosmetics and functional texture continue plans to collaborations. The company also intends to explore research in protein drugs and vaccines in the future.

In 1990, APEX entered the global stage with a mission to provide reliable and innovative medical equipment worldwide. Over the years, their healthcare products have significantly enhanced the lives of patients and caregivers across the globe. Now, under the new name Wellell, they aim to set even more ambitious goals by expanding digital well-being in collaboration with valued partners for the benefit of humanity. Their vision for the future is to continue improving outcomes for both inpatients and outpatients, enabling them to lead healthy and carefree lives with the support of Wellell's advancements in medical technology.

Founded in 1988 as a precision fastener manufacturer, INTAI has grown into a thriving company with over 400 employees, catering industries various automotive, aerospace, precision hardware, medical devices, and electronic communication. Their stems their from success commitment innovation. to technical expertise, and integrated engineering solutions. With a culture of continuous improvement and efficient global development teams, INTAI offers a one-stop-shop service customers, relying on close communication and timely delivery from their headquarters in Taichung, Taiwan.





Foreign Investment Cases

Wearable Medical Device for Parkinson's Disease and Essential Tremor





Locus Cell, a joint venture between MetaTech (AP) Inc. and Taiwan Hitachi Asia Pacific Co., Ltd., will open a large automated cGMP manufacturing plant in Hsinchu in 2024.



Foxconn will collaborate with UK-based GyroGear Ltd. to produce the GyroGlove, a pioneering wearable medical device using aerospace technology to aid those with hand tremors.



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Who can help me?

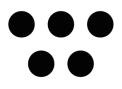
Understanding AWEX and relevant agencies



Agencies to Support

Contact AWEX and Taiwan's agencies for more information





Wallonia.be



Biotechnology & Pharmaceutical Industries Promotion Office

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Wallonia Export and Investment Agency (AWEX) can help Belgian businesses connect with potential business partners to import and export products, as well as setting up businesses in Taiwan.



Industrial Development Bureau

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