

VI3HUB

Driving climate action through innovative finance and impact investing.



Vancouver Island Impact Investing Hub (VI3HUB) is an innovation hub at the intersection of climate action and impact investing. We generate knowledge, build capacity and facilitate connection between ecosystem players to expand access to impact capital and climate finance solutions.

OUR GOAL

Inspire and empower action through impact finance and climate-smart investment education and research to accelerate capital mobilization towards Canada's transition to a low carbon inclusive future.

OUR APPROACH

The hub acts as a collaboration platform and draws on multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral expertise from academia, industry and policy. We curate cutting-edge research insights and share information on best practices. The hub promotes active engagement with community partners. We bring people together to connect, learn, collaborate and take action.

THE BIG PICTURE

2020 marked the start of the **Decade of Action** to deliver the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. This is also a critical decade to avert the devastating climate scenarios of 'Business-As-Usual'. Canada is committed to the SDGs agenda and to tackling the climate emergency, but this will require massive capital mobilization.

Such capital is widely available in financial markets but not currently flowing at the scale and speed we need to meet the SDGs and the **Paris Agreement** objectives.

VI3Hub responds to the urgent call to action. We harness the power of research, education and partnerships to support capital mobilization for a zero-carbon future.

CONNECT

Reduce information barriers by connecting stakeholders and providing them with resources, tools and data to access capital or make climate-smart investment decisions.

COLLABORATE

Enable collaboration to facilitate multidisciplinary research, education and experiential learning alongside community partners to fill critical knowledge gaps.

CO-CREATE

Leverage regional and global connections to create awareness, develop future talent, and work with investors to create change through climate-smart finance.



THE OPPORTUNITY

Climate change is the most serious challenge of our time. Canada is one of over 125 countries committed to decarbonizing their economies to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

The transition to net-zero will drive climate-smart innovation and create significant investment opportunities in the clean economy. Private finance has a vital role to play in this transformation but many barriers remain to fully leverage this potential.

Our team of researchers and partners at VI3Hub will help remove barriers including lack of expertise, research and access to data to mobilize and scale impact investing, a fast growing trend of sustainable finance focused on contributing to solutions to societal challenges.

Our initial priority area is climate finance solutions in BC and beyond while promoting inclusive and just transition finance. The hub will support all UN SDGs as a framework for impact investing. Advancing climate solutions will help address many pressing environmental and social issues targeted by the SDGs.

“It is within our grasp to create a virtuous cycle of innovation and investment for the net zero world that people are demanding and that future generations deserve. Let’s seize it.”

– Mark Carney, United Nations Special Envoy for Climate Action and Finance

Impact investing

Investments made with the intention to generate positive, measurable social and environmental impact alongside a financial return (Global Impact Investing Network).

Climate finance

Local, national, or transnational financing—drawn from public, private, and alternative sources of financing—that seeks to support mitigation and adaptation actions that will address climate change (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change).

Climate solutions

Policies, actions and business models and activities including products, services and processes, aimed at either reducing greenhouse gas emissions or adapting to a changing climate. Investments in climate solutions, which include clean technologies and other environmental and social innovations, are wide ranging and permeate all sectors of the economy.



Who is involved?

The VI3Hub initiative is led by **Gustavson School of Business** in collaboration with faculty members from Engineering and Computer Science, Geography, Public Administration, Economics and other departments. The hub also leverages expertise from the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, Ocean Networks Canada and UVic Coast Capital Innovation Centre. Our extended engagement team is comprised of industry, government, community organizations, investors, accelerators/incubators and core partners.

For ways to get involved, please contact Dr. Basma Majerbi at majerbi@uvic.ca or for general information email VI3HUB@uvic.ca.