





Innovate UK Capital to Climate Impact Report

September 2025



Introduction

As part of the Financing Net Zero programme, Innovate UK, in collaboration with Climate Connection, developed the Capital to Climate event series.

The series was developed as a response to several key challenges identified as critical to accelerating investment in climate innovation, and is designed to inspire and connect stakeholders by highlighting emerging climate topics and integrating various aspects of the capital stack.

One such challenge involves informing investors about the extensive range of climate investment opportunities and bridging the gap between current investment levels and the sector's full potential. Raising awareness in this area is essential to unlocking new sources of capital and driving meaningful engagement.

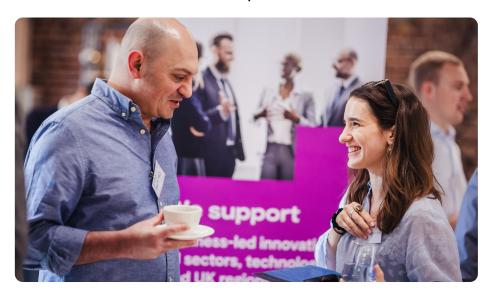
Another challenge is increasing dealflow by directly connecting investors with promising companies. Facilitating these connections helps streamline the investment process and supports the growth of innovative climate solutions.

Enhancing investment readiness for climate tech companies also emerged as a priority. Many ventures require targeted support to refine their strategies, strengthen their operations, and present compelling cases to potential investors. robust pipeline of scalable, high quality technologies.

Additionally, addressing both demand and supply challenges in the innovation landscape is vital. This includes cultivating investor interest while ensuring a robust pipeline of scalable, high quality technologies.

This impact report presents key findings from the Capital to Climate event series, developed in response to several challenges critical to accelerating climate investment.

The report reflects the collective experience of participants and offers a snapshot of progress, opportunities, and areas for continued collaboration across the climate investment landscape.



We need to unlock more investment into climate tech

50%

of the solutions required to reach Net Zero are still in the prototype phase.

£50-60 bn/yr

is the increase in private investment needed in UK alone to ensure these solutions can scale fast enough to make meaningful impact.

Yet accessing that finance is becoming increasingly difficult for companies, with timelines to secure funding more than doubling in just the past year.

That's why Innovate UK's role is so vital. Innovate UK is uniquely positioned to bridge the gap between innovation and capital. This is why we designed an event series to help investors understand the climate tech landscape - emerging technologies, the scale of opportunity, and the urgency of acting now.



The Goal: Create engaging events designed to catalyse investment into climate tech

Through these events we wanted to:

- Empower investors with knowledge: Investors should know about the challenges and opportunities within climate tech so they can make better investment decisions.
- Link investors together: New investors in each Capital to Climate have the opportunity to engage with power players.
- Share dealflow: Enable investors to share opportunities and promising companies with each other.

Designed for impact



Investors only

An investors-only space under Chatham House Rules sparks open dialogue on market trends and investment challenges.

Expert talks

We bring in scientists, sector experts, regulators, policymakers, innovation leads, seasoned investors and more to deepen investors' sector knowledge.



Dealflow sharing

We crowdsource startup names before the event, and we compile and share the full list afterward to support active dealflow.

Energy and interaction

With no more than 12 minutes of speaking at a time, the format keeps energy high and encourages constant interaction and conversation.



"My favourite thing about today would be that there is the opportunity to ask questions that you wouldn't normally be able to ask in this kind of environment. And you're able to have really truthful conversations about the challenges, but also the exciting opportunities."

- Michelle Robson, Investor at APVentures

Tangible Results & Impact to date

18

iterations of Capital to Climate over 3 years.

200+

new and returning investors have attended.

190+

companies were shared amongst attendees.

These 18 events focused on areas of climate tech that are that need additional investment.































"The thing that I'll take away from today's event is that there are a lot of people interested in this space, and that's great because we're going to need a lot of money, energy, enthusiasm and networks to actually make a difference."

Alex Hook, Senior Investment Director at NESTA



"We are not going to be able to make change without finance, and that's why you need to come to events like this so you can talk to other people in the space and really move the needle on reducing these emissions."

 Juliet Flamank, Associate Director at the Green Finance Institute

Tangible results & impact to date

We collect rigorous data through on-site surveys, achieving a 60% response rate for Capital to Climate events in 2025. Here's what the data revealed:

90%

of investors gained a deeper understanding of the space.

up to 60%

of investors leave the room more likely to invest in the sector.

9/10 ★

satisfaction rating was consistently given by investors.



"These events really help to build connections between startups, investors and corporates to understand the challenges we're facing today, and then some of the solutions so we can identify commercial collaboration opportunities in the future."

 Max Harris, Group Head of Strategy & Sustainability at Associated British Ports

All the content is filmed and available for investors to share with their teams and keep learning

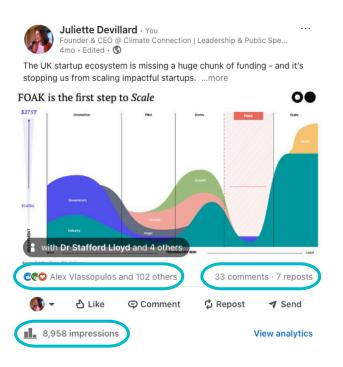
The keynotes given by the speakers at all the Capital to Climate events are professionally filmed and edited for investors who attend. After each event, the videos are stored on Innovate UK's website and on Climate Connection's website.

You can access them here.

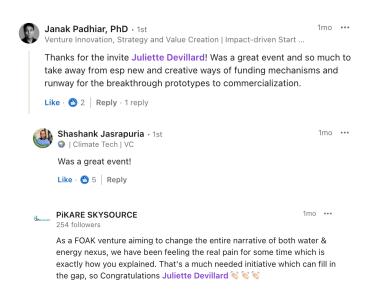
Social media exposure:

We're raising awareness about key issues in climate tech and investing

Climate Connection uses LinkedIn to share insights on key topics in the climate tech ecosystem. For the Capital to Climate events, we publish pre- and post-event posts that average up to 102 engagements and 9,000 impressions.



Post comments:



Post statistics:

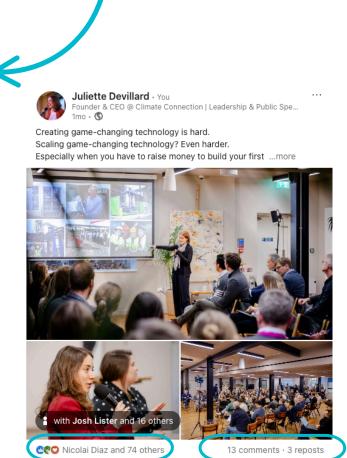
- 8958 impressions
- 103 reactions
- 33 comments
- 7 reposts

∆ Like

3,481 impressions

Comment

🖒 Repost



Send

View analytics

Testimonials and video: End-of-year in review

To celebrate the year and highlight how the Capital to Climate events have accomplished its goals, we've put together a recap video for this year.

As we look forward into the next year, we hope to continue running these events to unlock more capital into the climate tech ecosystem.



What investors say

"The breakout sessions after each talk were well structured and engaging. They really helped me to bridge perspectives and connect with new people." "I loved the collaborative environment led by Innovate UK. and how this event allowed stakeholders to openly discuss opportunities and risks."

"It was really valuable to have the details of startups and companies shared with us after the event."

"It was great to have case studies, they give so much colour to the topics and it helps to ground the topic in real-world examples."

"Always a great opportunity to meet new and existing contacts. Good variety of attendees-investors, policy makers, and industry leaders."



Sarah Tennison
Head of Clean Growth
Strategy and Impact
at Innovate UK

We created this event series to connect investors with each other and with world-leading experts, helping them confidently navigate the diversity in the climate tech landscape. By combining Innovate UK's convening power with the networking strength of Climate Connection, we've collectively seen a measurable boost in investor confidence in UK climate tech.







Join our thriving community of business innovation.

For more information about how Innovate UK can support you or your business, visit our website or contact us on:

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