

Impact Investors Living Lab

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THE CHALLENGE

- To achieve resilient societies, with sustainable inclusive prosperity, we need food systems that build health for people and for natural systems.
- Many consumers would like to have sustainable food that leads to better health, but this is not what the everyday economy presents them with.
- Market incentives surround people with unhealthy choices.
- Prices also direct people away from healthier, more sustainably produced food.
- We need to discover and operationalize new business models that connect health and resilience outcomes with everyday life in communities.
- Cities can play a role in leveraging incentives, to ensure impact investment helps create scale, reach, and accessibility.

Our Way of Working



Sharing Ideas

Participants in the Impact Investors Living Lab come together to share knowledge about challenges, innovations, and opportunities, and to identify the business strategies and financial arrangements that can unlock capital to shift urban food systems toward healthy, sustainable standards.



Non-Attribution

In the Impact Investors Living Lab, we ask all participants to refrain from attributing specific insights to specific individuals or entities, and to respect the right of individuals or entities to be the sole arbiter of whether sensitive information is released to the public.



Shared Discovery

We aim to capture, refine, and compile new additional insights that emerge from interactions between Lab participants, given their varied perspectives, experiences, and ways of working. Participants will have the chance to review Lab outputs.

Deliverables

FINAL REPORT

summarizing the findings of knowledge and ideas produced by the Lab, including:

- Urban food system impact **measurement framework**
- **Index of impact functions** of different investor types and stakeholders in city-level food system impact investment
- A brief outlining **investment instruments and adjacent services** for investors and policy-makers for the pilot interventions of urban food system transformation



Emerging Questions

- Impact functions of institutions and stakeholders
- Critical food system interventions as investable opportunities in city budgets
- Measurement of overlapping impacts—health, nutrition, climate, local economies
- Tracing cascade effects through time, to give impact investors actionable pathways
- Community-level enterprise opportunities
- Alignment between national strategies and local food systems transformation