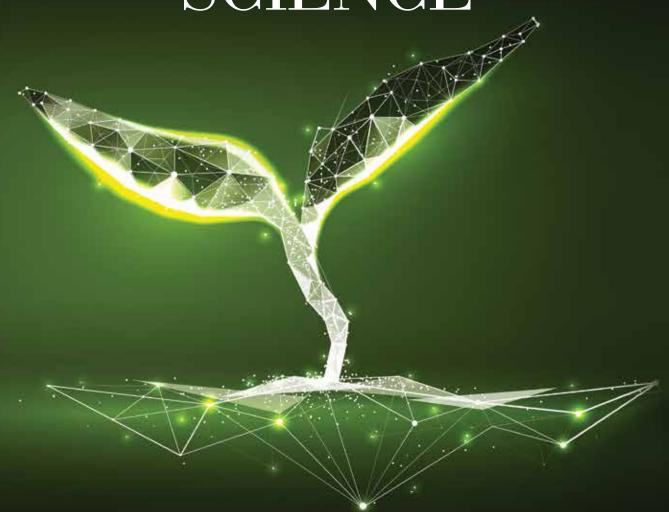
TAGCLIMATE

STARTUPS TO WATCH in CLIMATE SCIENCE



57 STARTUP COMPANIES OF NOTE

2023 EDITION

HOW I GOT INTO CLIMATE SCIENCE

BY DR. EDWARD AMOROSO, FOUNDER & CEO, TAG INFOSPHERE, INC.

n 1979, I began my studies at Dickinson College, about an hour from Three-Mile Island, and just weeks after that big nuclear facility almost melted down. I studied physics at Dickinson and the program of study included Professor Priscilla Laws guiding our class on a tour of TMI. We all got little buttons that said: "Friend of TMI." (I wish I could find mine now.)

One of my Dickinson physics professors, Neil Wolf, had a **tokamak**. Only a couple of the better students were allowed to study plasma—and I was not one of them. Once, when Professor Wolf was explaining fusion, I wanted to ask if atoms smashing together made any sound. But I felt it was a dumb question. (They do, by the way—a loud, eerie sound. *Cool*.)

Many years later, I was stepping off the stage at Radio City Music Hall, where I was introducing a session for some business event in roughly 2007, and to my surprise the next speaker was Al Gore, giving his Inconvenient Truth talk I sat backstage and I watched the talk—and I listened. Wow. *Wow.*

More recently, as I pondered the future of the NYC-based research and advisory company I lead, which is called TAG Infosphere, I wondered what problems would be best served by our unique blend of experience, expertise, community, and technology. *Cybersecurity?* Yes. *Al?* Yes. *Climate Science?* Most definitely.

And so for over a year now, our team at TAG Climate (formed as part of TAG Infosphere) has been meeting every day with multiple climate science startups. We listen to their stories and then map them to one or more of the empirical taxonomy subcategories that guide our day-to-day work.

This research is both fascinating and challenging. And we have learned that there is no easy path to success for these various companies, all of which are focused on sustainability and zero carbon. These are mostly startups and—well, you know the statistics: Almost half of startups don't make it to age five.

Continued

INTRODUCTION

Continued

The report you're reading was developed based on our research and it comes from our private notes. When we meet a startup that knocks our socks off, we note this—and the list of fifty-six included here all had that effect. We have no idea if any, some, or all of these companies will be financially successful, but we found them interesting. And promising.

So, please feel free to make use of this report in any way you see fit. We hope the companies included here benefit, but not because we will make money if they do. This is not a pay-for-play report. They did not pay to be included, although some have expressed interest in hiring us for webinars, reports, and the like. And we will be happy to work with them. But finance had nothing to do with their selection. It was the wow factor that did it.

As always, we hope you will share with us your views on this work. We love to hear from other entrepreneurs, chief sustainability officers, government officials, project managers, and academics. Our work here is for you, in the hope that together we can contribute to a more sustainable, carbon-free future.



Dr. Edward Amoroso, Founder & CEO, TAG Infosphere, Inc.

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Introduction	2	Napigen	15
TAG Climate Taxonomy	5	NoPalm Ingredients	15
		Northvolt	16
AquaGreen	6	Oort	16
Apkudo	6	One Click LCA	16
BluAct	7	ORPC	17
BluWave-ai	7	OPO	17
CarbiCrete	7	Pivot Bio	17
Carbon Clean	8	PlantD	18
ChargePoint	8	Pozzotive	18
Climavision	8	Raincoat	18
Contech	9	Recycllux	19
Cultivatd	9	Regrow Ag	19
EdgeGrid	9	Rivian	19
Eco-Tech Ceram	10	Salinnova	20
Eco2logy	10	Seaborg	20
Electra	10	Solar Cube	20
Emitwise	11	TAG Climate	21
Emrgy	11	Terra Forma	21
Entocycle	11	Terrapin Geothermics	21
Fervo Energy	12	Toledo Solar	22
Heartee	12	Tokamak Energy	22
Heirloom	12	Utopia Plastix	22
HyPoint	13	Upside Foods	23
Impossible Foods	13	Urban Volt	23
LanzaTech	13	VIA	23
Leading Edge	14	Weave.Ai	24
Loam	14	WindESCo	24
Looptworks	14	Xampla	24
Maeko	15	Yolele Foods	25

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TAG CLIMATE TAXONOMY

We developed our *TAG Climate Taxonomy* iteratively based on research into various aspects of the entrepreneurial landscape around climate science. We focused on areas where founding teams (or creative group leads within larger companies) are innovating for the dual purpose of making the world a better place and creating a profitable new business for stakeholders and investors.

Our research identified 57 areas of climate science entrepreneurship, organized into nine different groupings. No matter how potentially attractive, we avoided initiatives designed to advance climate science objectives, influence policymakers, or drive buyers toward responsible decisions—unless such initiatives were part of a new startup plan to create business value. Our goal is to focus on entrepreneurship, not evangelism.

1.0 Sustainable Energy	4.0 Alternative Fuels	7.02 Recycling	
1.01 Next Generation Fission	4.01 Carbon-Free Hydrogen	7.03 Solid/Liquid Waste Purification	
1.02 Fusion	4.02 Advanced Biofuels	7.04 Water Treatment Technologies	
1.03 Solar Energy	4.03 Electrofuels	7.05 Life Cycle Analysis for production	
1.04 Wind Energy	4.04 F-gas Free Coolants	8.0 Food Systems	
1.05 Hydropower	5.0 Energy storage	8.01 Plant-Based Meat	
1.06 Geothermal Energy	5.01 Battery Technologies	8.02 Lab-Grown Animal Protein	
1.07 Biomass	5.02 Thermal Storage	8.03 Vertical Farming	
1.08 Marine Hydrokinetic	5.03 Fuel Cells	8.04 Tolerant Food Crops	
2.0 Carbon Capture & Sequestration	6.0 Sustainable materials	8.05 Precision Ag-Tech	
2.01 Direct Air Capture	6.01 Energy-Efficient materials	8.06 Composting	
2.02 Point Source Capture/Storage	6.02 Energy-Efficient Technology	9.0 Technology & Services	
2.03 Soil-Based Sequestration	6.03 Carbon-Neutral Fertilizer	9.01 Sustainable Building Management	
2.04 Mineralization	6.04 Zero-Carbon Plastics	9.02 Sustainability/ESG Consulting	
3.0 Electrification	6.05 Zero-Carbon Steel	9.03 Climate Industry Advisory	
3.01 Vehicles	6.06 Zero-Carbon Concrete	9.04 Climate Intelligence Software	
3.02 EV Charging Infrastructure	6.07 Sustainable Building Materials	9.05 Climate Insurance	
3.03 Smart Grid	6.08 Zero-Carbon Oils	9.06 Forest Management	
	6.09 Sustainable Packaging	9.07 Carbon Accounting/Verification	
	7.0 Repurpose & Reuse	9.08 Green Biotechnology	
	7.01 Electronic Waste	9.09 Sustainable Infrastructure	

Figure 1. TAG Climate Taxonomy

While TAG Climate researchers made every effort to identify a full slate of startups, we only included a representative subset here for our readers. Rest assured, however, that subsequent issues of this publication will increase coverage of mapped startups.

STARTUPS TO WATCH in CLIMATE SCIENCE

BIOMASS

AQUAGREEN

(Denmark)

AquaGreen pioneers the conversion of biomass and waste products, like sewage, into valuable renewable energy sources. Their innovative methods produce soil-enhancing biochar that sequesters atmospheric CO2 and activated carbon. This transformative process establishes a circular, sustainable energy cycle, harnessing the potential of otherwise discarded materials to fuel a greener future.







ELECTRONIC WASTE

APKUDO (Baltimore)





Apkudo develops a platform that optimizes the utilization of connected devices and mitigates the generation of new e-waste. Their Circular Industry Platform enables sustainable practices throughout devices' lifecycles within enterprise and partner ecosystems. Apkudo aims to revolutionize the industry and champion a future free from unnecessary electronic waste by maximizing value and promoting eco-friendly solutions.

SOLID/LIQUID WASTE PURIFICATION

BLUEACT (Zurich)



BluAct, an innovative water purification company, specializes in removing contaminants from potable water supplies and industrial wastewater. With cutting-edge technology, they possess the expertise to eliminate radioactive nuclear wastewater, extract arsenic from water utilizing milk protein, and eradicate other substances, including fluoride. Their solutions ensure cleaner and safer water sources for diverse applications.

ENERGY-EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGY

BLUWAVE-AI (Ottawa)



BluWave-ai, provides an artificial intelligence (AI) product that helps electricity utilities, commercial and industrial enterprises, and electric fleet operators intelligently optimize their smart grid assets. We provide AI-powered predictions and optimization to control smart grid assets such as renewable energy generation, battery energy storage systems, and EV charging.

ZERO CARBON CONCRETE

CARBICRETE

(Quebec)





CarbiCrete produces cement-free, carbon-negative concrete. The company offers precast concrete manufacturers the process, materials, and support to produce concrete in their existing plant in a manner consistent with zero carbon objectives.

POINT SOURCE CAPTURE/STORAGE

CARBON CLEAN (London)





Carbon Clean specializes in developing, constructing, financing, and operating industrial carbon capture systems. With a focus on helping industrial groups achieve net-zero emissions, the company offers various essential services, including its renowned process design package (PDP), essential equipment, and end-to-end implementation.

EV CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE

CHARGE POINT

(California)





ChargePoint develops and manufactures cutting-edge technology deployed within an expansive electric vehicle (EV) charging network. With a focus on creating an open EV network, they cater to the needs of businesses, fleets, and individual drivers across the United States.

—Chargepoint—

CLIMATE INTELLIGENCE SOFTWARE

CLIMAVISION

(Louisville)





Climavision leverages advanced modeling techniques to predict weather patterns and facilitate informed decision-making proactively. By providing real-time weather data and comprehensive observational datasets, the company enables businesses to access accurate forecasts. Climavision empowers organizations to tackle the complexities posed by extreme weather conditions.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING MANAGEMENT

CONTECH (Ohio)







Contech provides site solutions for engineers, contractors, and developers on building projects in North America, emphasizing drainage, erosion control, and stormwater management. Contech's primary focus in building management is addressing sustainability and cost-related concerns.

AGTECH BROKERS & INVESTMENT

CULTIVATD (Canada)





Cultivatd is an exclusive AGTech Broker catering to the vertical farming sector. The company's main objective is to facilitate connections between buyers and sellers, enabling the sale of indoor farms, vertical farming technologies, and agricultural services.

Cultivatd achieves this goal by ensuring the most advantageous pricing arrangements.

SMART GRID

EDGEGRID (Hyderabad)







EdgeGrid, a clean-tech company, directs its attention to the energy grid, specifically focusing on the last mile to end-users. The company collaborates with customers to enable them to pay solely for the energy they consume through an open platform. This platform supports a shared energy model, facilitating transactions between businesses and citizens.

THERMAL STORAGE

ECO-TECH CERAM (France)



Eco-Tech Ceram specializes in helping large manufacturing and industrial production companies convert energy into stored heat for later conversion back into usable energy. With expertise in energy efficiency, the company can store heat at high temperatures, reaching 1000 degrees Celsius.

ADVANCED BIOENERGY CARBON CAPTURE & STORAGE (BECCS) STARTUP

ECO2LOGY (U.S.)





Eco2logy's carbon-negative system transforms organic waste, such as biomass and municipal solid waste, into low-cost, renewable energy. It also captures carbon emissions, offering the potential for permanent carbon sequestration, reducing the overall carbon footprint.



ZERO CARBON STEEL

ELECTRA (Boulder)







Electra produces clean iron with low emissions using low-grade ores and intermittent renewable energy. The company electrifies the refinement of low-grade iron ores to high-purity iron by leveraging proven industrial-scale electrochemical and hydrometallurgical processes.

CARBON ACCOUNTING/VERIFICATION

EMITWISE (London)





Emitwise provides a carbon accounting platform that enables companies to optimize their sustainability goals within their supply chain. The platform empowers customers to measure, track, report, and reduce carbon footprints, particularly in relation to Scope 3 emissions.

Emitwise ©

HYDROPOWER

EMRGY (Atlanta)





Emrgy focuses on developing technology that supports twin vertical axis turbines to optimize the efficiency of water-to-wire conversion. The company emphasizes the need for low-cost hydropower to balance intermittent renewables in the distributed grid environment.

emrgy

FOOD SYSTEMS

ENTOCYCLE (London)







Entocycle is a pioneering company dedicated to sustainable agriculture through insect-based technologies. Harnessing the natural capabilities of insects, Entocycle develops innovative solutions to transform food waste into high-quality, nutrient-rich feed for animal consumption and leads the way in insect farming and sustainable protein production.

GEOTHERMAL

FERVO ENERGY

(Houston)





Fervo Energy actively develops, owns, and operates next-generation geothermal assets, with a specific focus on providing sustainable alternatives to fossil fuel combustion. Fervo excels in designing geothermal wells, showcasing its expertise as a superior capability.

SOLAR POWERED CONTAINER FARMS

HEARTEE (Canada)







Heartee revolutionizes agriculture by transforming shipping containers into thriving farms cultivating gourmet mushrooms across North America. With 14 mushroom varieties, including rare finds absent in grocery stores, they utilize substrates like spent coffee grounds or coconut coir for cultivation. Their business model prioritizes local production and distribution, ensuring freshness by minimizing the time between harvest and consumption.

CARBON MINERALIZATION

HEIRLOOM

(San Francisco)





Heirloom leverages limestone to remove carbon dioxide through direct air capture (DAC) and produce rock via carbon mineralization. The company capitalizes on the abundance of limestone and the safe and permanent storage potential of embedding CO2 into mineralized formations.

Heirloom

FUEL CELLS

HyPoint

(California)





HyPoint specializes in constructing hydrogen fuel cells, employing cutting-edge high-temperature membrane (HTPEM) technology instead of low-temperature membranes. This innovation enhances cooling system efficiency, offering a remarkable improvement of up to 300%. The company's turbo air-cooled fuel cells are particularly suitable for flight vehicles, including drones, air taxis, and similar applications.

PLANT-BASED MEAT

IMPOSSIBLE FOODS

(Redwood City)





Impossible Foods offers plant-based alternatives to meat products, including sausage, beef, and chicken. Founded in 2011, the company has experienced substantial growth, forging partnerships with major companies like Burger King and obtaining certifications such as Kosher certification in 2018.

ADVANCED BIOFUELS

LANZATECH (Illinois)





LanzaTech specializes in transforming waste carbon into valuable materials, including sustainable fuels and other products. Their innovative approach involves utilizing trillions of carbon-hungry microbes to convert carbon emissions into desired outputs, such as fuel and other valuable products.

LanzaTech

CLEAN ENERGY/SOLAR ENERGY

LEADING EDGE





Leading Edge is a real estate consultancy that integrates sustainability and wellness across the built environment to shape the future through values—driven excellence. With a holistic approach, Leading Edge assesses, educates, implements, and communicates ESG initiatives and guides companies on sustainability.

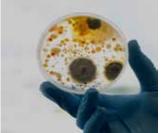
LEADING A EDGE

SOIL-BASED SEQUESTRATION

LOAM (Australia)







Loam supports the use of microbial carbon sequestration technology. The company inoculates crops with symbiotic microorganisms that improve a plant's fertility and disease resistance. Loam combines this technology with carbon removal from the air to produce a circular process.

RECYCLING

LOOPTWORKS

(Portland)







Looptworks collaborates with businesses to establish a zero-waste circular system that transforms and recycles surplus textiles into usable materials. The company tackles downcycling by deconstructing materials, engaging in fiber-to-fiber recycling to convert textile waste into new fibers, and embracing upcycling to create new products from existing items.

LOOPTWORKS

COMPOSTING

MAEKO (Malaysia)





Maeko provides businesses and homes with composting solutions that enable them to repurpose food waste as fertilizer for farms. The company dedicates itself to addressing the significant challenge in Malaysia, where daily food waste generation amounts to 15,000 tons, most ending up in landfills rather than being composted into valuable resources.

GREEN BIOTECHNOLOGY

NAPIGEN (Wilmington)





Napigen utilizes bioengineering techniques for diverse applications, including developing hybrid wheat crops. The company promotes non-genetically modified seeds in non-hybrid crops by employing hybridization technology, reducing the global deforestation rate for cereal grains, and contributing to environmental

SUSTAINABLE INGREDIENTS/OILS

NoPalm Ingredients

(Netherlands)

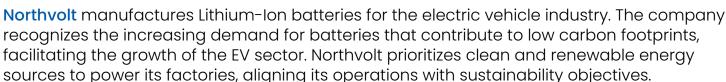


NoPalm Ingredients specializes in producing a sustainable and locally sourced alternative to palm oil. The company creates customized yeast oils and fats derived from agri-food waste streams. These innovative products are substitutes for palm oil in various applications, including food, cosmetics, and home care products.

BATTERY TECHNOLOGIES

NORTHVOLT (Sweden)





northvolt

CARBON FREE HYDROGEN

OORT (Boston)

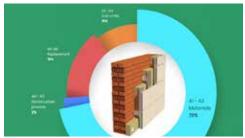


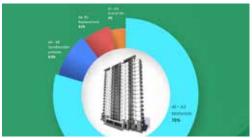


Oort pioneers the production of "green hydrogen," which offers various benefits such as long-duration storage, support for heavy-duty transport and shipping, and industrial applications, all achieved without carbon emissions. The company capitalizes on the growing recognition of hydrogen's role in advancing sustainability initiatives.

LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT FOR PRODUCTION

ONE CLICK LCA





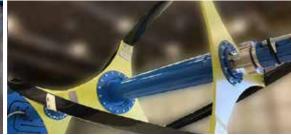
One Click LCA provides an automated life cycle assessment software solution that helps organizations calculate and reduce the environmental impact of their building or infrastructure project. The company leverages the growing need for product, corporate, and portfolio metrics in sustainability.

One Click LC

MARINE HYDROKINETIC

ORPC (Maine)





ORPC specializes in marine energy technology, aiming to generate power for the grid while minimizing land impact, navigation disruptions, and harm to marine life. One of their notable products is Rivgen Power, designed to produce emission-free electricity by harnessing river currents, thereby reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

VERTICAL FARMING

ONE POINT ONE (Arizona)





One Point One (OPO) provides vertical farming solutions to farmers, real estate operators, retail companies, grocers, biopharma companies, wholesalers, and distributors. Their offerings include a modular vertical farming product and expert consultation support from OPO professionals. This solution enables clients to implement and optimize vertical farming practices in their respective industries.

CARBON NEUTRAL FERTILIZER

PIVOT BIO (California)





Pivot Bio provides farmers with efficient and sustainable nitrogen solutions. The company's primary focus is replacing synthetic nitrogen through a microbial-powered process. This innovation targets the production of corn, wheat, and rice, which collectively account for half of the applied synthetic nitrogen usage in agriculture.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING MATERIALS

PLANTD (North Carolina)





PlantD specializes in providing carbon-negative materials for constructing new homes and buildings. They achieve this by cultivating grass to create durable building materials, such as structural panels used in homebuilding. These innovative products offer a sustainable alternative to wood and rival wood in terms of cost and performance.

ZERO CARBON CONCRETE & RECYCLING

P0ZZ0TIVE

(New York)





Pozzotive® is a ground glass pozzolan and industrial filler made from 100% recycled post-consumer glass. It is a safer, sustainable, and higher-performing material that dramatically reduces embodied CO2 emissions in concrete. By incorporating Pozzotive into concrete, the environmental benefits are substantial and far-reaching.

TECHNOLOGY, SERVICES INSURANCE & CLIMATE-RELATED DISASTERS

RAINCOAT





Raincoat is a passionate team of engineers, scientists, UX designers, and insurance experts enabling the next generation of parametric insurance at scale. Their mission involves connecting insurance providers, reinsurers, distributors, and end-users to deliver comprehensive climate protection and resilience to all.

Raincoat

RECYCLING

RECYCLLUX (Romania)





Recycllux harnesses Earth Observation, AI, and Blockchain to address the marine plastic waste crisis. Our solution connects socially responsible companies seeking climate change mitigation with fishermen, local NGOs, and recycling companies. Together, they collect, sort, and transform the waste into second-generation materials.

PRECISION AGTECH

REGROW AG (Boston)







Regrow Ag provides a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) platform that empowers regenerative agriculture practices. Their objective is to facilitate farming and ranching in alignment with sustainable principles and nature. To achieve this, Regrow Ag relies on a team of scientists, agronomists, and other experts who work together to support and advance regenerative agriculture.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE

RIVIAN (California)



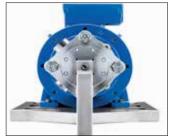




Rivian is an emerging electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing company that produces products like sport utility vehicles (SUVs) and pickup trucks. Although the company trades publicly on the Nasdaq, it is still considered a startup due to the complex challenges of establishing a new automotive company.

WATER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES

SALINNOVA (Germany)







Salinnova specializes in seawater reverse osmosis (SWRO) and brackish water reverse osmosis (BWRO), offering an innovative product known as SALINO, which provides a reliable source of fresh and drinkable water. This high-pressure pump and recovery system desalinates seawater while prioritizing low emissions and sustainable operation.

SALÛNNOVA

NEXT GENERATION FISSION

SEABORG

(Copenhagen)





Seaborg is a leading developer of next-generation nuclear reactor technology, specifically focusing on the Compact Molten Salt Reactor (CMSR). The CMSR complements other electricity sources within a distributed grid of variable renewables. Currently in the detailed design stage, Seaborg plans to deploy the CMSR between 2026 and 2028.

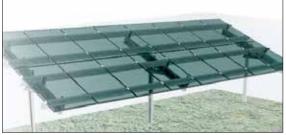


SOLAR ENERGY

SOLAR CUBE

(Athens)





Solar Cube is a recognized brand in the solar industry with deep knowledge of Photovoltaic system development and storage solutions. With dedicated and experienced teams and a worldwide reach, Solar Cube company provides its clients with reliable and cost-effective PV technologies and solutions.

CLIMATE INDUSTRY ADVISORY

TAG CLIMATE (NYC)



TAG Climate, the employer of this study's researchers, is a research and advisory company that performs independent analyses of climate science issues and challenges. TAG Climate is part of TAG Infosphere, which addresses the world's greatest challenges, including cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.

COMPOSTING

TERRA FORMA

(Maryland)



Terra Forma specializes in closed-loop, on-site composting units. Their innovative solutions enable businesses to adopt sustainable practices for managing food waste while effectively reducing greenhouse gas emissions. With Terra Forma's composting units, companies can embrace environmentally friendly alternatives, reduce disposal costs, and positively impact the planet.

Terra Forma

THERMAL STORAGE

TERRAPIN GEOTHERMICS

(Alberta)



Terrapin Geothermics is a pioneering company at the forefront of geothermal energy solutions that provide sustainable heating and cooling solutions. Terrapin offers efficient and environmentally friendly systems for residential, commercial, and industrial applications by tapping into the natural heat stored beneath the Earth's surface.

SOLAR ENERGY

TOLEDO SOLAR (Ohio)





Toledo Solar manufactures solar panels for rooftop systems based on a unique CdTe photovoltaic process. The company is part of a new wave of solar manufacturing in the United States spurred on by Solar Investment Tax Credits. Toledo focuses on delivering a fast payback for customers.

FUSION

TOKAMAK ENERGY





Tokamak Energy (develops affordable and competitive fusion energy solutions, focusing on producing a compact and spherical tokamak, a type of fusion reactor. Additionally, Tokamak Energy specializes in High-Temperature Superconducting (HTS) magnets, which find numerous applications in industries and various technological fields.

Tokamak Energy

ZERO CARBON PLASTICS

UTOPIA PLASTIX

(Oklahoma)





Utopia Plastix offers a next-generation, plant-based alternative to traditional plastics, focusing on developing a sustainable and eco-friendly compounded resin derived from plants. This innovative resin requires minimal modifications to existing manufacturing equipment, making it a convenient choice for manufacturers transitioning to more sustainable materials.

LAB-GROWN ANIMAL PROTEIN

Upside Foods

(California)





Upside Foods is a food technology company specializing in meat cultivation using biotechnology. The company has obtained a pre-market certification from the US Food and Drug Administration, allowing them to offer their cultured chicken to customers in the United States. While full approval is still pending, Upside Foods is making significant strides in bringing its innovative meat product to the market.



ENERGY EFFICIENT MATERIALS

URBAN VOLT

(Dublin)





Urban Volt specializes in energy-related services, offering various sustainable solutions, including Light-as-a-Service, where they upgrade the energy systems of facilities by installing energy-efficient LED lighting. This upgrade reduces energy consumption and supports a more environmentally friendly approach. The company also offers Solar-as-a-Service to commercial and industrial businesses.

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

VIA

(Massachusetts)



VIA supports a variety of sustainable infrastructure applications, including verification, data ingestion, and analysis in the context of utility asset management, critical infrastructure management, and energy provision. The company leverages Web3 technology to provide real-time data verification.

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

WEAVE. AI

(Washington)







WEAVE.AI

Weave.Ai is a collective of business leaders and scientists working on groundbreaking AI technology. Their mission is to empower businesses by providing advanced tools that facilitate better decision-making. With their revolutionary approach, Weave.AI ensures that relevant information is surfaced in the appropriate context and delivered precisely when needed.

WIND ENERGY

WINDESCO

(Boston)





WindESCo specializes in developing operational technology (OT) software tailored for the wind energy sector. Their software provides continuous monitoring and optimization capabilities for wind assets, enhancing their performance and reliability. WindESCo also offers a unique technical solution known as Swarm, which enables turbines to work collaboratively, minimizing wake interference.

WindESCo

SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING

XAMPLA (U.K.)





Xampla excels in developing advanced natural materials that seamlessly replace plastics in single-use packaging. Their innovative resin provides an excellent alternative to plastics, and its outstanding performance allows for its utilization in the production of various items such as microcapsules, coatings, and films.

TOLERANT FOOD CROPS

YOLÉLÉ FOODS

(Brooklyn)



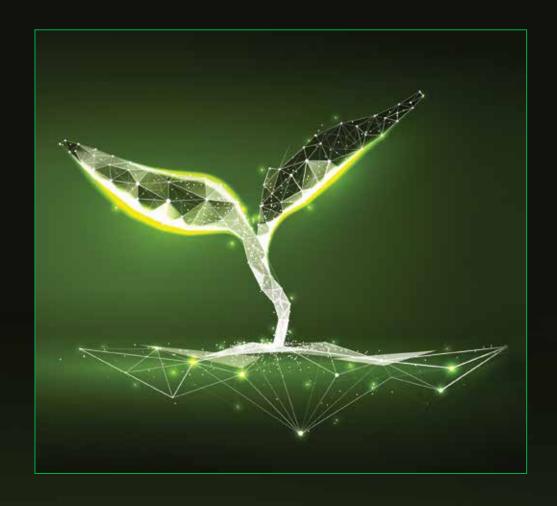


Yolélé Foods, an African food company, focuses on developing climate-resistant ingredients, including West African grain. Using these ingredients, the company crafts food products that align with local preferences while promoting biodiverse and regenerative farming systems.





STARTUPS TO WATCH in CLIMATE SCIENCE





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