Summary Impact Analysis
Energy & Environment Accelerator

1. Introduction to the accelerator

The Energy & Environment Accelerator supports innovative startups in the energy and environment industry by providing access to talents, industry partners and investors.

It combines a set of curated events to meet industry leaders, investors, potential employees and co-founders, academia partners, other startups and further ecosystem players. An investment readiness program, consisting of several workshops to prepare for the final investor pitches, is offered. Individualized coaching from a variety of different experts, adapted to the needs of each selected startup, is provided. Additionally, startups have access to a co-working space and are invited to meet with other startups in the ecosystem during regular informal founder exchanges. The program prepares participating startups for growth and fundraising. An important element of the accelerator is the strong collaboration with its partners. The program is supported by corporate, public and institutional partners from the Swiss energy and environment landscape. The participating startups were selected through an application and evaluation process that identifies high-potential teams with scalable solutions and measurable impact potential.

The selected startups of the first cohort (fall 2025 to spring 2026) were: Hivoduct, MOOST, AMP IT, Zählerfreunde, Yuon Control, SensorX Solutions, Windworks and BCHAR.

2. CO_2e reduction potential

During the accelerator, the projected CO_2e reduction potential of all participating startups in the first cohort during the next 5 years was collected. The defined values were analyzed on a per-startup basis and adapted in collaboration with a Sustainability Manager specialized on sustainability data and processes from ZHAW sustainable.

Across all scenarios, the participating startups forecast strong growth potential and environmental impact. In the worst-case scenario, the combined annual CO_2e reduction potential reaches more than 205,000 t CO_2e in 2030. Under the most likely scenario, the portfolio reaches nearly 500,000 t CO_2e of annual reductions by 2030, while the best-case scenario indicates a potential impact exceeding 1.1 million t CO_2e per year.

The analysis highlights not only the scalability of the individual solutions but also the strength of the portfolio. The participating startups address climate challenges across multiple sectors, including energy generation, energy efficiency, mobility, industrial infrastructure, emissions monitoring, heating systems, and carbon removal. This diversification reduces dependence on any single technology pathway and creates a balanced portfolio of solutions that can contribute to climate mitigation through different mechanisms and at different stages of the energy transition.

The results demonstrate the importance of supporting innovative startups during their early growth phases. While many of the participating companies are still in the early stages of commercialization, their projected impact increases exponentially as market adoption grows. Even under conservative assumptions, the cohort generates substantial environmental benefits. The most likely and best-case scenarios illustrate how successful scaling of climate technologies can translate into transformative emission reductions over a relatively short period of time. Overall, the findings underline the significant role of entrepreneurship and innovation in achieving climate goals.

3. Accelerator partners

The accelerator team would like to express its thankfulness to its manifold partners for their valuable contributions to the accelerator. Without them, this accelerator could not have been realized:

Main Partner

Bloom Foundation

Corporate Partners

BKW, electro suisse, TECHNOPARK® WINTERTHUR

Public Partners

Kanton Zürich Baudirektion, zhaw, Stadt Winterthur

Supporting Partners

Start Up Energy Transition, swisspower, INNOVATION MONITOR, CROSSTOWN H2R, energie bewegt winterthur, ENERGY Startup Day, energie ZUKUNFT SCHWEIZ