

Funding Freezes, Filibusters, and Fungi



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REGENERATIVE

By Sherrell Dorsey

Bite-sized case studies and insights on disruptive climate innovators, investment trends, and the policies shaping our green future.

We've barely started the week, and already the environmental news is a firestorm. **Leaked** USDA memos reveal a ban on terms like 'solar energy' and 'water pollution,' effectively silencing critical research. Add to that Trump's continued **funding freeze** on environmental justice initiatives and Senator Booker's passionate filibuster highlighting reduced protections, and it's clear: impact investing faces a turbulent week. **Following my time** at the Impact Capital Manager's gala a few weeks ago and the **Nuclear Energy Institute's** Communicator's Forum, investors are staying the course, albeit moving cautiously, as federal dollars in the green space remain uncertain and under scrutiny.

Make it matter,



Company Spotlight

Mycocycle is Building a \$100 Million Dollar Business Using Mushrooms to Break Down Commercial Waste

Mycocycle presents a unique intersection of innovative technology and significant market potential. The company's ability to convert harmful substances like plastics and PFAS into usable resources offers a compelling narrative of circular economy innovation. With partnerships like the one with Tarkett, Mycocycle is demonstrating the scalability of its "mushroomtech," hinting at a future where waste becomes a resource, not a burden.

Key Takeaways for Climate Investors and Business Leaders:

- **A Vast, Untapped Market:** The sheer scale of the waste and materials industries represents a substantial market opportunity for climate-focused investment, ripe for disruption by Mycocycle's technology.
- **Tangible Environmental Impact:** The company has already demonstrated measurable CO2e mitigation, with projections of significant future reductions, showcasing the real-world impact of their innovation.
- **Strategic Partnerships for Scalability:** Collaborations with industry giants like Tarkett validate the technology and pave the way for widespread adoption, signaling a potential for exponential growth.

[Learn more](#)

CAPITAL FLOW REPORT

- **Real Estate Fund Exceeds \$2.5 Billion for Affordable Housing** - While acknowledging the immense capital needed to tackle the crisis, Vistria's ability to build a scalable platform signals a potential model for private investment to play a crucial role in expanding affordable housing supply through strategic acquisitions and conversions.

- **TPG Rise Invests in Siemens's Wind Unit** - TPG Rise's acquisition of a majority stake in Siemens Gamesa's onshore wind turbine business in India and Sri Lanka strategically positions the firm to capitalize on India's ambitious renewable energy goals, specifically its push to significantly increase wind power capacity by 2032.
- **XGS Energy, a Palo Alto, CA-based enhanced geothermal developer, raised \$13m** in Series B funding from Constellation Technology Ventures, Valo Ventures, VoLo Earth Ventures, Aligned Climate Capital, ClearSky, and other investors.
- **Topanga**, a Los Angeles, CA-based provider of an enterprise technology platform that helps kitchens reduce waste and save more, raised \$8m in Series A funding.

INDUSTRY EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

- **FIT's Sustainable Business and Design Conference: Charting a course toward circularity.** April 7-8. [Learn more.](#)
 - **SPARK Cleantech Accelerator Cohort 4**: Apply by April 15 to join the SPARK Cleantech Accelerator's fourth cohort, a 12-week program supporting early-stage cleantech startups with mentorship, funding opportunities, and access to prototyping facilities.
 - **Elemental Interactive.** Every year, Elemental invites exceptional founders and investors to highlight progress and accelerate action. April 22. [Learn more.](#)
 - **Climate Tech Investors Summit** at San Francisco Climate Week. April 22. [Learn more.](#)
 - **TOTAL IMPACT SUMMIT:** Invest in Transformative Impact. May 14-15. [Learn more.](#)
 - **SOCAP 25** features a day-one focus on creating capital connections for LPs and GPs. Oct 27-29. [Learn more.](#)
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