

IMPACT INVESTING MONTHLY

June 2025

Your monthly update on impact investing

Impact Investing at AOWM

Seeking companies that
turn a profit making a
sustainable impact on
society and the
environment

June's update includes a company highlight on Iroquois Valley Farmland REIT, videos on organic agriculture, and links to further resources on these fronts. As always, if you would like to talk about impact investing in general or your impact portfolio specifically, please do not hesitate to email me.

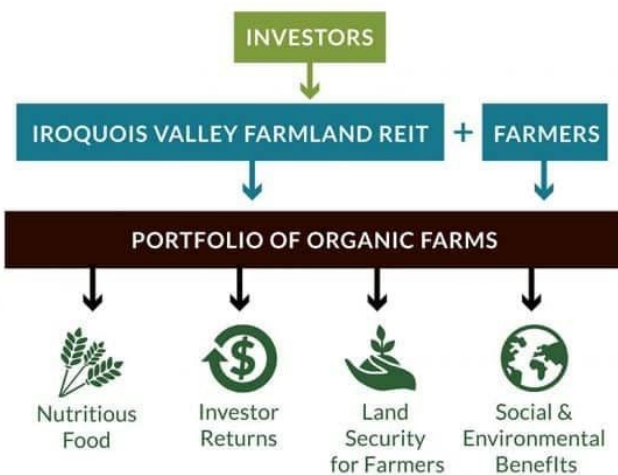
Grace and Peace,



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Iroquois Valley Farmland REIT

Iroquois Valley (iroquoisvalley.com) is a regenerative farmland finance company that “provides capital to organic, regenerative, and transitioning farmers across America through long-term leases, flexible mortgages, and post-investment support.”¹ Founded 18



years ago in Iroquois County, IL, Iroquois Valley “envisio[n]s an agricultural system transformed through land stewardship, rooted in organic farmland, for the health of people, communities, and our planet.” Iroquois Valley’s portfolio includes 70+ farmer relationships across 20 states and covering more than 36,000 acres of farmland that is either already [USDA certified organic](#) or transitioning to become certified organic. Iroquois Valley is a [Certified B Corporation](#) and is incorporated as a [public benefit corporation](#). You can see more about Iroquois Valley farms [here](#), and even explore goods from the farms it supports: [Buy Direct From Our Farms](#).

¹ Iroquois Valley Farmland REIT, Public Benefit Report 2024

Videos of the Month

This month we have three videos about organic agriculture. Click on each respective image below for a TED Talk on regenerative agriculture, a webinar from Iroquois Valley, and a CNBC video on organic food.



Resources

Organic FAQs
Rodale Institute
2025

*“Iroquois Valley CEO, Chris Zuehlsdorff,
on Farm Friendly Financing”*
Regeneration Rising podcast
March 21, 2025
(30 min listen)

ESG, Reincarnated
How We Survive podcast
Marketplace
April 23, 2025
(24 min listen)

*U.S. Organic Production, Markets,
Consumers, and Policy, 2000-2021*
USDA Economic Research Service
March 2023
(70 pg read)

What is Impact Investing?

The term **“Impact Investing”** focuses on investments made *“with the intention to generate positive, measurable social and environmental impact alongside a financial return.”*¹ Many people talk about this intersection of social, environmental, and financial values as a focus on the **triple bottom line** of **people, planet, and profit.**² Others also highlight the ways that environmental, social, and financial values are really **“blended values,”**³ given that the operations, products, and services of any business always have effects (whether positive or negative) on society, the environment, and the financial bottom line.

“ESG” is a term that stands for “Environmental, Social, and Governance” factors that can affect a company’s long term financial health as well as well-being for broader society and the environment. The term ESG was coined in a 2004 United Nations report entitled, “Who Cares Wins: Connecting Financial Markets to a Changing World,” and this report highlights the ways *“successful investment depends on a vibrant economy, which depends on a healthy civil society, which is ultimately dependent on a sustainable planet.”*⁴

ESG analysis usually focuses primarily on how a changing world (socially and environmentally) might affect a company’s financial return. Impact analysis usually focuses on how a company’s operations and products affect society and the environment. The two types of analysis are distinct but complementary and can be used to help you blend your values with your investments. A guiding definition for **“sustainability”** is “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”⁵

Sources

¹ [Thegiin.org](https://thegiin.org); see also rockefellerfoundation.org/from-the-archives/global-impact-investing-network-giin/

² “Triple bottom line,” *The Economist*, Nov 17, 2009. economist.com/news/2009/11/17/triple-bottom-line

³ [Blendedvalue.org](https://blendedvalue.org)

⁴ [UNepfi.org/fileadmin/events/2004/stocks/who_cares_wins_global_compact_2004.pdf](https://unepfi.org/fileadmin/events/2004/stocks/who_cares_wins_global_compact_2004.pdf)

⁵ *Our Common Future*, UN World Commission on Development and Environment, 1987

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