



# Actuate Climate to merge with the Prime Coalition

*Actuate Climate will become Prime's Early Climate Infrastructure program; merger will catapult systems innovation for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in time at scale*

Palo Alto, CA – April 25, 2023 – [Prime Coalition](#), a nonprofit organization that steers and influences capital to support scalable solutions to climate change, and Actuate, a nonprofit that runs large-scale experimental programs to accelerate societal-scale solutions, are thrilled to announce that Actuate Climate will spin out of Actuate to merge with Prime, becoming Prime's [Early Climate Infrastructure \(ECI\) program](#). Actuate Climate CEO Lara Pierpoint will leave Actuate to run ECI at Prime, along with Senior Research Associate for Actuate Climate, Emily Lewis O'Brien.

"Mergers and acquisitions in the nonprofit space are rare occurrences, but we have determined that moving Actuate Climate under the Prime umbrella presents a singular opportunity to accelerate and expand the work of Actuate Climate: to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in time and at scale," says Pierpoint.

Founded in 2014, Prime introduced catalytic capital to the climate space. Since its inception, Prime has partnered with over 200 philanthropic organizations to mobilize over \$300MM of catalytic capital for climate solutions. Prime's investments support high-potential companies and projects that otherwise would be overlooked by traditional investors.

With this deep understanding of both the financial landscape and what's needed to support climate solutions, Prime began to shape a new program, ECI, in 2021. ECI



aims to address a gap in infrastructure project funding and scaling, as many infrastructure projects in the demonstration phase do not fit into classic venture, growth, or project finance investment criteria.

“Prime’s first ten years were focused on bringing impact-first capital to the earliest stages of company formation and we learned so much,” says Sarah Kearney, Prime’s Executive Director. “Commercializing and deploying climate solutions represents an acute need that has never been more critical than today. We are filled with gratitude to have found partners at Actuate Climate who share our vision and can build a catalytic investment and systems barrier-breaking practice at Prime around these complex and critical needs for the field.”

Founded in 2019, Actuate conducts goal-driven innovation with rigorous experimentation that initiates structural change. The Actuate Climate program has worked to design large-scale experimental programs that tackle emissions reduction across sectors. Actuate Climate programs experiment on – and demonstrate new approaches to – the market, policy, technology, and social contexts of each solution that needs to scale to meet the most critical GHG reduction targets. Yet the focus isn’t to scale a single technology or a single company, but rather to improve the playing field so that whole classes of GHG-reducing solutions can achieve a scale the planet notices many times sooner than they otherwise would.

Actuate Climate, as the Prime ECI team, will continue to pursue a portfolio of bold programmatic opportunities to effect systems change for entire classes of climate mitigation solutions.