



 OpenMinds
January 2025

We began three years ago by [defining the Dual Challenge](#). Our definition is rooted in data, tested and tried by diverse perspectives, trusted by climate and energy experts alike.

We spent the next year modeling a unique framework to select the [highest priority Dual Challenge solutions](#), always focused on next-decade potential – progress by 203X.

In 2024, we transitioned from analysis to impact.

We finished the year with eight in-flight projects to address key bottlenecks to progress for our top solutions. The expertise of our steering committees and collaborators at Bain & Company drove their selection. Our strengthening team provides the knowledge and horsepower for full potential.

Data-driven, unbiased analysis is one hallmark of OpenMinds. Another is accountability. We assigned each project meaningful KPIs that are achievable **this year** – and we will provide regular updates.

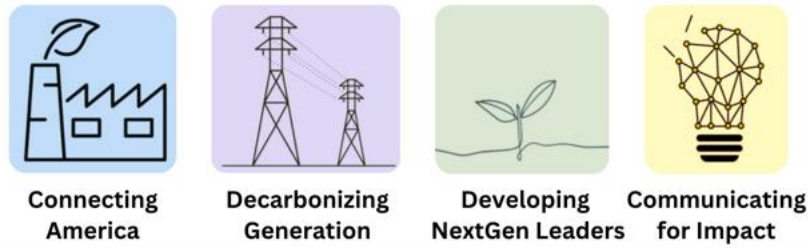
2024 highlights:

- Established steering committees across our four impact pillars
- Mobilized eight impact projects
- Convened the first class of NextGen Leaders
- Obtained 501c3 nonprofit status
- Spoke at Bain's Global Leadership Summit
- Developed our P50 Climate + Energy Forecast model
- Debuted our public brand
- Grew our network – and the partnerships within it

2024 Year in Review

Driving Impact

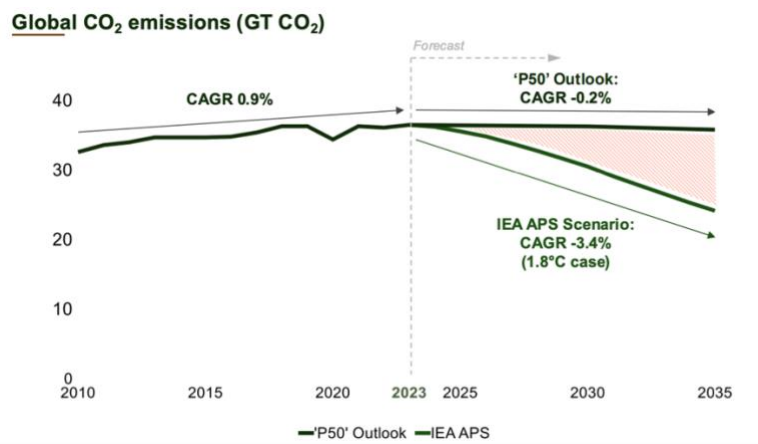
We developed four steering committees to drive our impact work. Together, their mandates provide full-system coverage for our top solutions. **More than 50 OpenMinds experts now serve across these four committees.**



The committees identified bottlenecks to progress and launched a specific set of projects to remove them, each with expert company leadership:

- Prove and Catalyze CCS
- Develop the Market for Multi-Day Storage
- Accelerate Permitting Reform
- Improve Community Benefits of Transmission
- Launch the NextGen Program
- Scale the NextGen Community
- Develop a Dual Challenge Dashboard
- Advance OpenMinds' Launch

Meanwhile, we partnered with Bain's Intersect Team to develop our [“P50” Climate and Energy Forecast model](#), a realistic view of the current most-likely path for energy demand, supply mix, emissions, and resultant global temperature increases. The P50 Forecast was heavily reviewed by diverse organizations including GE Vernova, ExxonMobil, and Clean Air Task Force.



Importantly, our P50 forecast also models what can be done to improve the current trajectory, bolstering our solutions framework. It is a unique tool to inform our impact work, and we offer it as a clear and unbiased resource – for our network and beyond.

The Next Generation:

We recruited our first class of 30 NextGen Leaders, representing ten top universities, diverse nationalities, and a range of academic disciplines. The class met at a June Houston Boot Camp and undertook year-long group projects with company sponsors.



The NextGen program is designed to identify, support, and build trust among the next generation of climate and energy leaders and innovators, who will **drive OpenMinds' collaborative, data-driven, results-oriented approach into the future.** With annual classes, the cohort will grow to 300 within a decade.



Project leaders shared interim findings at our Impact Summit.

Communicating Progress:

We published [our website](#) and debuted on [LinkedIn](#). The Communications Steering Committee developed a brand and messaging guide, and in November, we hired Heidi Lauterbach to support OpenMinds' marketing efforts. **Broadly communicating the reality of the Dual Challenge and the potential of our solutions magnifies our impact.**



On the main stage at Bain's Global Leadership Summit

We shared our work with key influential audiences, strengthening the OpenMinds network and seeding pragmatic, informed, collaborative action. In October, Jeff Katz and David Baldwin, hosted by Pete Guarraia and Dianne Ledingham, spoke before more than 1,500 international partners at Bain's Global Leadership Summit. **Bain & Company's investment in OpenMinds continues to be a crucial accelerant to our growth and impact.**

Network Growth:

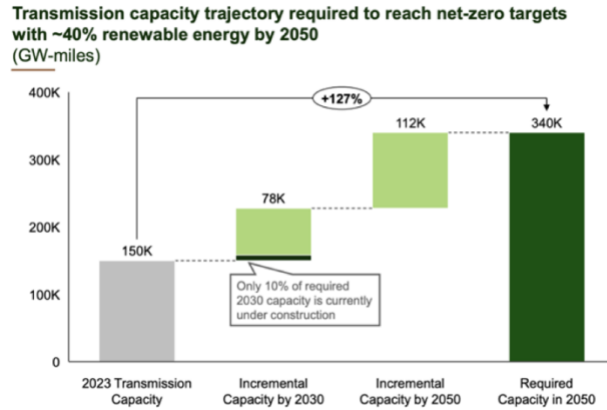
Throughout 2024, we **welcomed more than two dozen strategic experts and steering committee leaders to our network.** Importantly, we saw new partnerships form between network members as a direct result of OpenMinds involvement.



Q4 Progress

We published analysis demonstrating the [benefits of increased electric transmission infrastructure](#), led by the Connecting America Steering Committee. We've learned that this data was shared broadly with legislators assessing the Energy Permitting Reform Act (EPRA), and that it **enhanced understanding and alignment as a trusted non-partisan resource.**

While the EPRA did not pass, a group of OpenMinds experts traveled to DC to meet with its co-sponsor, outgoing senator Joe Manchin, to assess the range of opportunities to advance permitting reform. Reform is crucial to ensure clean, abundant energy across the United States.



We developed a core presentation, “[Accelerating Climate and Energy Progress](#)” with close review from a range of OpenMinds experts. Please feel free to use and share the presentation within your own networks. It demonstrates:

- i. A balanced outlook for both energy and climate
- ii. What we can do, practically, to improve the current trajectory
- iii. How OpenMinds is driving progress

Congratulations to Greentown Labs, the largest climatetech incubator in North America, on [closing a crucial round of funding](#) – and to OpenMinds co-founder David Baldwin, one of the lead funders and a new Greentown Labs board member.

This quarter, eight new experts and Steering Committee members joined OpenMinds. We are grateful for their partnership and look forward to working together:



Pablo Vegas
CEO
ERCOT



Kristi Hobbs
VP, System Planning
and Weatherization
ERCOT



Abhishek Sharma
Head of Energy Strategy
Amazon Web Services



Amanda Leland
Executive Director
Environmental Defense Fund



Joe Bonfiglio
Executive Director, US Region
Environmental Defense Fund



Benji Backer
Founder, Executive Chairman
American Conservation Coalition



Jeanne-Mey Sun
Founder and Principal
JTNL Advisory, LLC



Aaron Bielenberg
Head of Portfolio Management
Generate