

Summary of the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund “Impact Report 2023”

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Vermont Sustainable Jobs Funds (VSJF): A non-profit organization created in 1995 by the Legislature which “partner[s] with state government, private sector businesses, and nonprofits to build a thriving economic, social and ecological future for Vermont.”¹

Financial Report (July 1, 2022–June 30, 2023):

- **Revenue:** \$2,266,374
 - 88.1% from grants
 - 34.5% state
 - 21.3% federal
 - 44.1% foundation
 - 6.5% from fees for services
 - 5.4% from other sources
- **Expenses:** \$2,401,380
 - 46.7% for personnel
 - 37.2% for professional services
 - 11.1% for operations
 - 4.9% for other costs

Supported programs and projects:

- **Forest Products Program**
 - Forest Future Strategic Roadmap: A strategic initiative created by the Department of Forest, Parks, and Recreation that provides a “10-year strategic vision for how the industry will transform in the coming years, addressing market and demographic shifts.”
 - Career work: Outreach to CTE centers and collaboration with Advance Vermont to increase participation in the forestry industry. They utilize the newly created [Forest Economy Career Guide](#), which provides significant information about Vermont’s forestry workforce.
 - Wood-Based Textiles Market Opportunity Assessment: An examination of non-petroleum based textile resources. The report identified several exciting potential alternatives.

¹ Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, “Background,” Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, Accessed March 19, 2024, <https://www.vsjf.org/about-vsjf-vermont/background-history/>.

- **Coalition of Forest Innovation and Research**: A newly formed coalition of forest institutions across Vermont, Maine, and New Hampshire. VSJF is focused primarily on workforce innovation.
- **DeltaClimeVT Business Accelerator Program**: A program to help support climate economy and energy businesses that could help “solve some of Vermont’s most pressing energy and climate related challenges.”
 - In 2023, 8 companies were selected. They received 100+ hours of quality mentorship from Vermont utility and energy companies to help support their business.
 - 2017-2023 cohort breakdown:
 - 50% were BIPOC owned.
 - 39% were women owned or managed.
 - 7% were veteran owned.
- **Vermont Prosperity Project**: A collaborative project between VSJF and several other organizations focused on promoting human and environmental wellbeing in Vermont’s economy.
 - Shifting focus away from measures like GDP, which track solely economic growth, to more holistic definitions of progress.
 - In April, 95 organizations convened to discuss and explore the framework of [Donut Economics](#).² VPP believes that models such as this will help foster sustainable growth in Vermont and around the world.
- **Vermont RELEAF (Racial Equity in Land, Environment, Agriculture, and Foodways) Collective**: A membership based network that “cultivates connection, shares resources, and amplifies the voices of people of color in Vermont” in the areas of ecology and food production.
 - They have 330 members across Vermont
 - They provide community dinners, a regular newsletter, direct technical assistance, and more.
- **Farm to Plate Network**.

² Donut Economics proposes that economic growth be conceptualized between two boundaries. An inner ring, representing human wellbeing, and an outer ring, representing the ecological limitations of Earth.