

Building tools to address climate change

Reducing carbon emissions is central to our sustainability agenda – but it will also protect and enhance the long-term value of our investments.



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The global drive to address the threats posed by climate change is gaining momentum. As an investor with interests in scores of companies, Ardan has a social obligation to play a leading role in these efforts, both within our own business and by helping our portfolio companies transition to lower carbon-intensity ways of operating.

We are collaborating on research into how we can reduce the carbon intensity of our companies, notably via the latest phase of our Augmented Infrastructure project, "Digital For Climate". We are also developing tools internally to measure carbon emissions from our investee businesses and help us develop strategies to reduce them.

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Addressing our climate impact is part of our social responsibility as a business. But it also illustrates our pragmatic, practical approach to confronting the major threat facing the world today. We firmly believe that tomorrow's winners will be the companies that take the lead in reducing carbon emissions and find ways to grow that are much less carbon intensive. Those that lag behind will struggle to attract investment and will see their value impaired.

It is therefore critical to develop ways to measure companies' direct and indirect carbon emissions and gain a comprehensive view of their climate impact. Digitalization and data feeds are the key ingredients. Using these tools, we can model emissions accurately in real time, unlocking the essential data that will inform constructive dialogue between all stakeholders to find sustainable solutions.

Air Carbon

Air Carbon is a data-analysis tool that provides real-time estimates of airports' carbon emissions from all sources – ranging from aircraft movements to ground operations. It will soon also include the infrastructure itself as well as passenger travel to and from the airport. Ardan Infrastructure designed the tool in collaboration with university students from HEC, Ecole Polytechnique and Ecole 42 to help airport management teams quantify the impact of their existing activities and proposed investments, and collaborate more effectively with other stakeholders, such as public transport authorities, to reduce emissions.



Although originally developed for use with our Infrastructure team's airport investments, we intend to apply tools such as Air Carbon across all our investment activities. Our aim is to multiply the impact of innovations like this as far as possible. Using data analysis tools such as Air Carbon, we intend to transform the way we analyze companies across all sectors and help them accelerate their transition to less carbon-intensive ways of operating.

"I developed the original Air Carbon project with two other students and I'm now rolling it out to the airports in our portfolio and improving it to include very granular data on road travel as well as aircraft movements. We're taking existing data and automating the process of turning it into concrete metrics. This lets us quantify the challenges of addressing carbon emissions and enable our stakeholders to make data-driven and impactful decisions."



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