



Quarterly Impact Report

Q3 July– September 2024

The vision

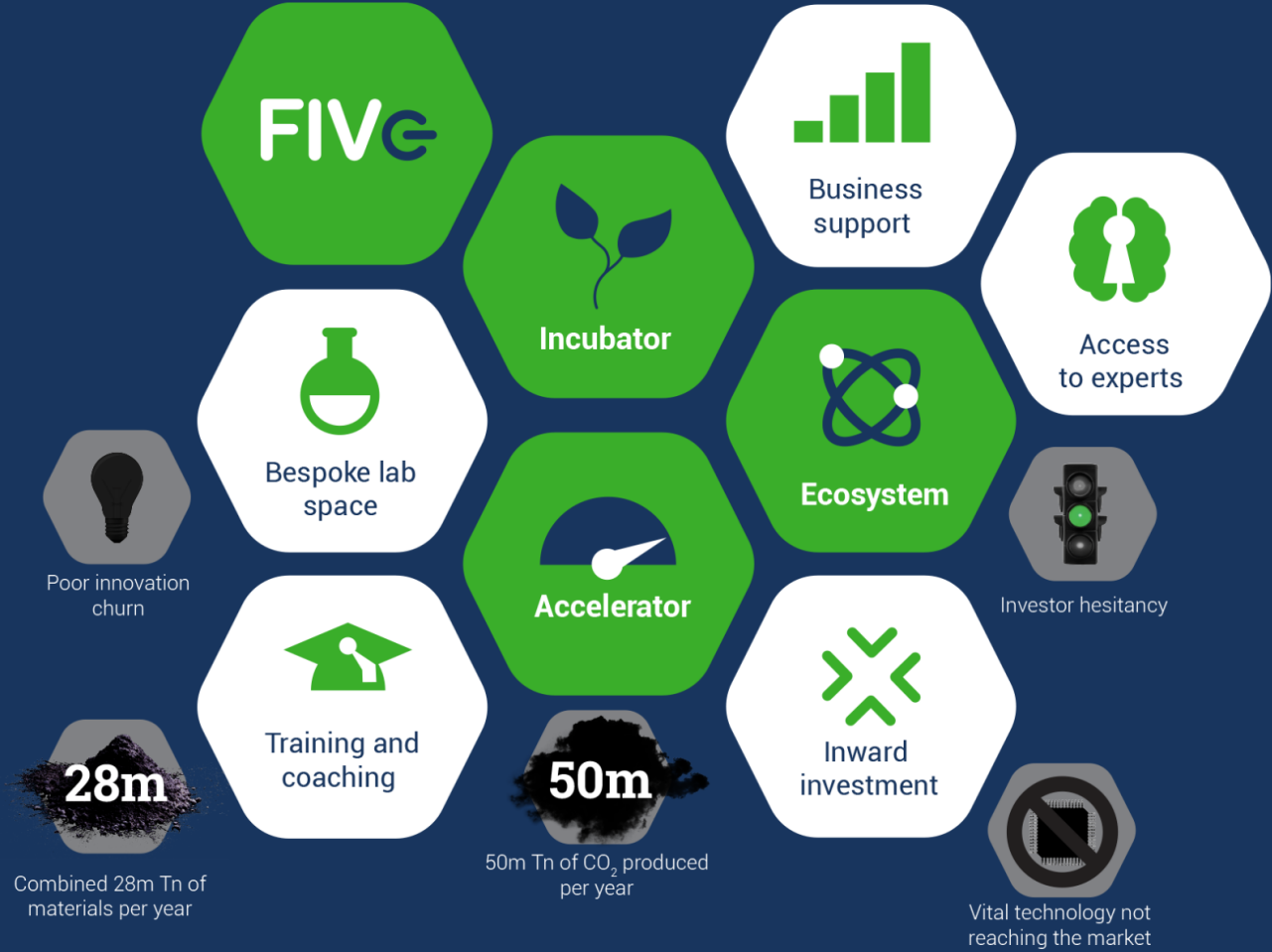
FIVe will:

Provide a flexible space to champion growth and expansion

Enable business growth through access to business support and services

Foster a culture of disruptive innovation and sustainable growth through connectivity and collaboration

Create a diverse vibrant community of industry experts, investors and researchers



Poor innovation churn



28m
Combined 28m Tn of materials per year



50m
50m Tn of CO₂ produced per year



Investor hesitancy



Vital technology not reaching the market


Focus for the quarter

This quarter, FIVE has focused upon...

- building our Science and Innovation Network (FIVengage),
- disseminating our market research to stakeholders, and
- gathering, collating and communicating our evidence on the regulatory barriers facing sustainable materials innovators and solutions to help them scale up on their commercialisation journeys.

This has included bringing together innovators and investors for a workshop and networking event, promoting our work with an eco-engineering start-up, and sharing our findings around regulatory barriers with government and stakeholders through events, talks and campaigns.

90-day commitment



Show how FIVE
can help
you...

Regulatory Barriers

To further unblock barriers to commercialisation, FIVe has delivered a Regulatory Science and Innovation Network (FIVengage) with funding from Innovate UK, to better inform pro-innovation policies, introduce flexible performance-based standards, and support the delivery of pilot projects to demonstrate new innovations at scale. Work includes;

- A review of the current regulatory landscape in partnership with AMION and Civikas saw us host three online FIVengage workshops with discussions identifying economic, industrial, institutional challenges and possible solutions. The learnings from this review and FIVengage network can be seen in two reports here <https://fiventures.org/news/regulation-&-innovation-reports-/>



FIVe

Regulation and Innovation

Understanding the regulatory opportunities and barriers to innovation in the Foundation Industries



FIVe

Regulatory Barriers for the Foundation Industries

FIVe commissioned AMION and CIVIKAS to undertake a research project into the regulatory barriers to innovation within the foundation industries. This will support FIVengage's future activities and will provide research-based insights to support future interventions or activities.

This document summarises the network engagement and research exercise looking at regulatory barriers to innovation for the foundation industries.



Civikas.

Regulatory Barriers (cont)

- Our first FIVengage in-person workshop and networking event in London in partnership with Sensicon Ventures bringing together innovators, investors and pioneering cement spinouts to talk about early-stage journeys, barriers to innovation and how they secured funding. Read more about the event here <https://fiventures.org/news/innovators-&-investors-work-together-at-successful-london-workshop-&-networking-event/>
- Sharing the findings of our review with key stakeholders and through our first newsletter and by using the evidence in discussions at events including Decarb Tech Invest in America and The Labour Party Conference. Read more here <https://fiventures.org/news/>



FIVE Community Update



Social Media: 32 posts, average 7.66% Click-Through-Rate (CTR) (target 2-5%) & 10.26% engagement

Thought leadership: 4 articles, 1 podcast, average 3.5% CTR

Events: 2 events, +91 new followers (15.4% increase in followers)

Partnership marketing: 3 articles

Growing the FIVE Community

Thought Leadership & partnership marketing

- Seven recommendations to make standards fit for purpose for science and engineering
- Fuelling start-ups and spinouts for a sustainable tomorrow
- Equity Edge Podcast: Celebrating Women in Engineering
- The top three issues we hope the new Labour Government will address to boost innovation & sustainability across the Foundation Industries
- Key takeaways from Decarb Tech Invest
- Looking back at The Labour Conference

High FIVE – the delivery team (from left) Charlie Pheasant (Gates Cambridge), Sarah Connolly (FIVE), Peter Allen (Durham University), Lucy Smith (FIVE) and Daniel Ferrant (BlueCube).

Fuelling start-ups and spinouts for a sustainable tomorrow

A Teesside incubator and accelerator that helps the foundation industries (FI) to decarbonise has helped its first start-up and brought together leading industry voices for a key event.

Foundation Industries Ventures (FIVE) launched in January to support start-ups and spinouts working in the energy, intensive cement, metals, chemicals, paper, ceramics and glass industries to develop innovative new materials, processes and technology to help reach net zero.

And Cardiff's BlueCube became the first start-up to benefit from tailored training last month supported by Innovate UK at FIVE's incubator in The Materials Processing Institute (MPI).

Led by ecologist Dr Ruth Callaway, BlueCube uses high-performance concrete (JHPC) to transform sea walls and defences into thriving habitats for marine life.

In partnership with its sister company Cubes Industries, it manufactures textured (bio receptive) UHPC tiles that become home to barnacles, algae, moss, crabs and other sea life to increase biodiversity.

With successful eco-engineering projects across the UK including in the Mumbles and Portcawl in Wales and Dublin Harbour, the company wanted strategic support to help it grow.

Over three days they worked with FIVE's strategic business development partner Peter Allen, an associate professor and innovation fellow at Durham University Business School who works with businesses including Boeing and the chemicals and process industries.

Charles Pheasant, BlueCube's technical director, said: "It was brilliant to take time out of the office to focus and to think. Peter made us think strategically and 'out of the box' and following management tools and models helped us better understand our business through critical thinking."

Teess Business

"We were able to evaluate BlueCube and the successes and mistakes we'd made and what we need to do in the future. He helped us understand our customers and routes to market and unearthed the processes we need to go through to get there."

"Getting this training is like getting help from our friends; FIVE is a key network that has links and partnerships with all the right people to help those in the sustainability space."

"They foster a great environment for entrepreneurs and innovators to come together and learn from each other. Peter gave us the tools to understand our business and we know a lot more than we did before the sprint, which will help us grow our business."

FIVE co-founder Lucy Smith said: "Our team has worked in the FI for many years and we felt the need to shake things up. That's why we established FIVE and set about creating vibrant, collaborative environments for start-ups and spinouts. "By providing flexible office and lab space, essential support services including finance, IP, legal, HR, networks and

tailored support like BlueCube received, we hope to meet the needs of the companies now and in the future."

The need for stronger networks and collaboration identified through a number of FIVE workshops into regulatory barriers facing the FI has led to the launch of FIVEngage.

The first network to unite innovators, industry, investors and universities to tackle industry-specific and FI-wide challenges, saw leading industry voices join the first FIVEngage workshop in London's Royal Dock's Centre for Sustainability.

Run in partnership with award-winning venture partner for start-ups and venture capitalists Sensicon Ventures, the unique event included pioneering cement spinouts Cambridge Electric Cement and Biceroc talking about their early-stage journeys, the barriers they face and how they secured seed funding.

Sarah Connolly, FIVE co-founder, said: "It was a great event with plenty of lively discussions around the regulatory barriers stifling innovation."

The purpose of FIVEngage is to bring people together in an inclusive, supportive community, so we were overwhelmed by the positive response of attendees keen to have opportunities like this to network and meet others working in innovation and sustainability.

"We plan to grow the network to deliver regulatory science research, training and networking, so we become the trusted network influencing policy."

Find out more at fiventures.org

THE EQUITY EDGE

Shaping tomorrow's foundation industries

“The biggest thing for me recently has been allyship.”

DR LUCY SMITH
Head of Transformation
Materials Processing Institute

Market Research

AMION Consulting have led the development of market research and a business case which provides independent verification of customer needs and potential operating models.

Over 30 stakeholders were consulted across the Foundation Industries which showed there is a need for FIVE to help address the challenges facing industry.

This quarter, the report has been finalised and shared with partners for feedback including the Foundation Industries Sustainability Consortium (FISC).

This work was funded through the EconoMISER project as part of the Transforming Foundation Industries Challenge, Delivered by Innovate UK, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council and Economic and Social Sciences Research Council, part of UKRI.



FIVE

Market Research and Business Case

October 2024

Focus for Q4 2024

Next quarter, our focus will be on **impact and community building**. Including;

- Sharing our market research and evidence about regulatory barriers and opportunities with the community for feedback and next steps.
- Showing how FIVE is impacting policy and supporting hard-tech commercialisation.
- Hosting a winter social and NE roundtable, and
- Growing the FIVE Advisory Board



Impact and
community
building

FIVE Community Update

Engaged with:



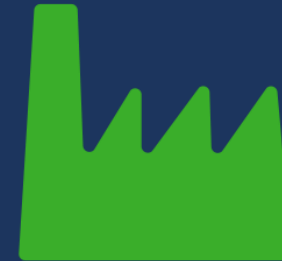
19 Spinouts



14 Investors



9 Universities



16 Companies



4 Letters of support
from industry investors

