



Advancing Blue Economy Technologies in Eastern North Carolina



NC EcoTech's Mission

NC EcoTech's mission is to drive innovation, translation, and workforce development for the Blue Economy in Eastern North Carolina



Education



Connections



Innovation



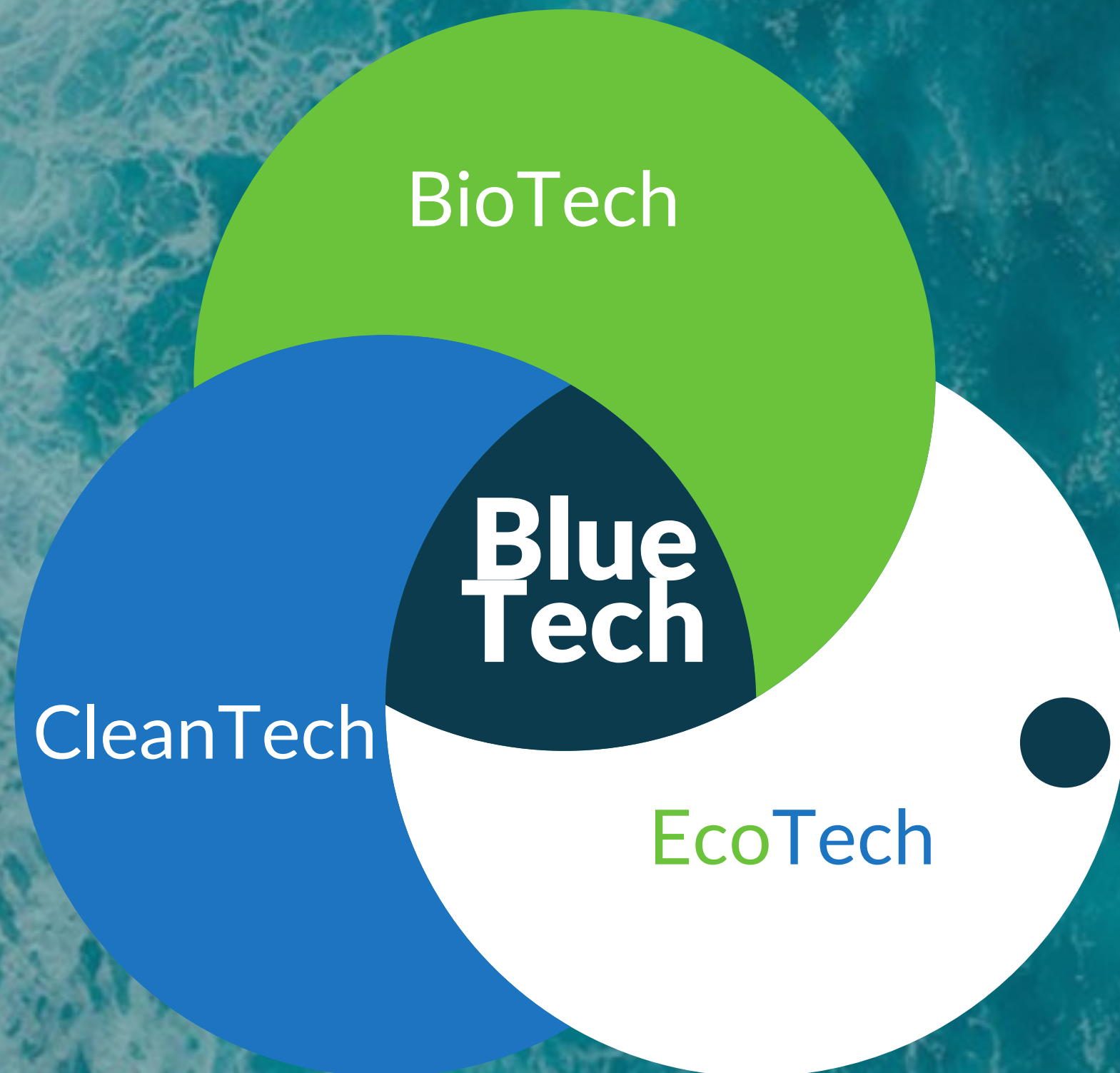
Workforce



Community



What is EcoTech?



Ecosystem

Technology

Combines understanding of living ecological systems with technological advances to ensure safe and sustainable solutions.



Value of NC EcoTech

Why Now?



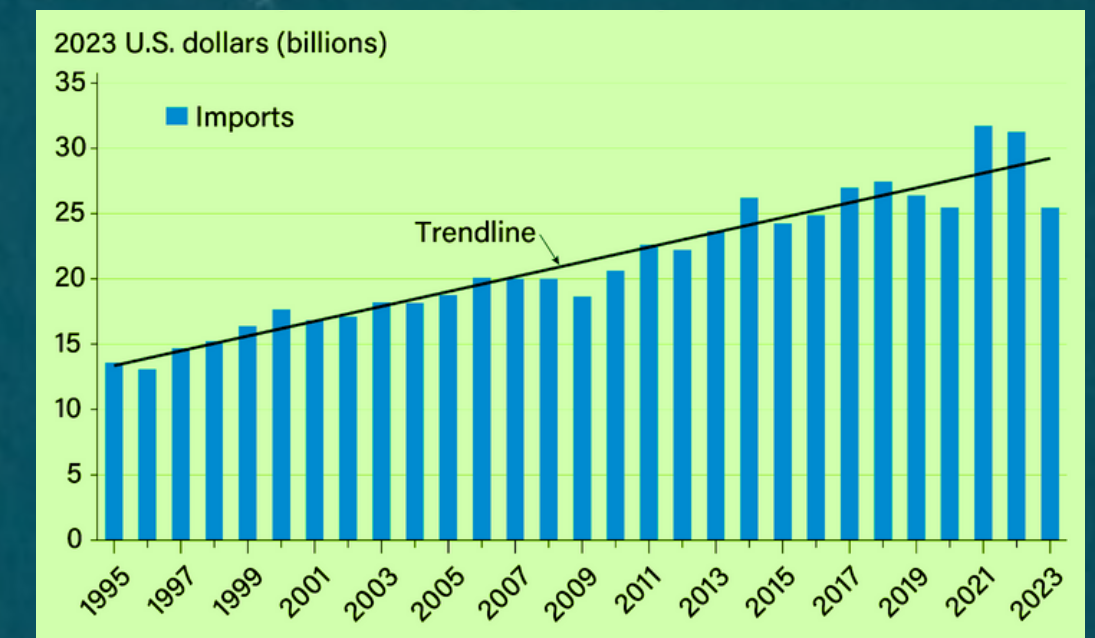
For every \$1 spent on mitigation and resilience, \$13 is saved on disaster recovery and rebuild costs.
US Dept of Commerce, 2024



Projected investments in Blue Economy by 2032 = \$3.2 trillion

Increased focus on Blue Economy

US Office of Competitiveness will host Blue Economy meeting in 2025.



Seafood has one of the most significant trade deficits for any market sector, amounting to \$20.3 billion in 2023.
USDA Economic Research Service 2024



NC EcoTech Partners

Founding Institutions



Community Partners



Entrepreneurial Partners



Blue Economy Hub Concept



Each Hub consists of:

HUB Concept

- Hands-on Innovation and Co-Development
- Unveiling Demonstrations and Venture Concepts
- Building Workforce Training



Aquaculture Development Center



Coastal Resilience Living Shoreline



Prototyping Lab

Innovation Hub Services

- New Innovation Development
- Co-development with industry partners, entrepreneurs, universities
- Public Private Partnerships
- Vendor / Business/ Entrepreneur Prototyping and Testing Services
- Demonstration for Entrepreneurs, Venture Capital, Industry
- Workforce Development and Training

NC ECOTECH Services

Ecosystem Tracking, Connections, Opportunity Matching, Process Tracking, Project Management, Regional Stakeholder's alignment, Inter-disciplinary coordination, Funding Management, Engagement, Prioritization



Engine Projects

Nature-Based Solutions

Flood Mitigation
Erosion Control

Sustainable Aquaculture

Shellfish
Finfish
Aquatic Plants

Technology Innovations

Sensors
Drones
Automation

Capacity Building

Market Development
Infrastructure
Logistics



Next Steps

NC EcoTech

- 5 year plan to build infrastructure for Innovation Hubs
- Build processes that track NC EcoTech support functions
- Align opportunities for co-development, industry development and PPP
- Continue fund raising efforts to support Coalition



Questions

Q & A