# BNVT Capital launches $150 million fund to back AI solutions for global challenges



BNVT Capital has recently launched its debut investment fund valued at $150 million, with a pioneering focus on AI-driven and technology companies aiming to solve some of humanity’s most critical challenges. This fund marks a distinctive approach by marrying financial return with purpose, reflecting a growing trend in venture capital where addressing major societal problems is seen as a formidable investment opportunity rather than mere philanthropy.

At the heart of BNVT’s investment strategy lies a definitive study, co-authored by Harvard Business School professor Josh Lerner alongside academics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Oxford University. The extensive research analysed data from over 500 venture capital funds and 14,000 companies over the last 40 years. The key insight from the study reveals that only about 30% of venture-backed companies focus on addressing significant global challenges. However, these companies have delivered financial returns that are 51% higher on average than those of their peers, illustrating a powerful correlation between solving major social and environmental problems and achieving superior economic performance.

The fund was founded by three partners with strong backgrounds in both philanthropy and investment: Rory Mounsey-Heysham, previously affiliated with the Gates Foundation; Chris Corbishley, formerly of Hedosophia; and Nasir Alsharif, Executive Chairman of Sackville Capital with a history at Goldman Sachs and Investcorp. Sackville Capital, a global investment firm based in London, seeded the fund and continues to provide operational expertise and connectivity to global partners, leveraging its reputation for nurturing emerging investment vehicles.

BNVT Capital has already deployed capital into 11 innovative companies across Europe and the United States, including Swap Commerce based in the UK, Cloover in Germany, and Dawnguard in the Netherlands. The fund actively co-invests alongside established global firms such as TPG, Iconiq, Lowercarbon, and QED. This collaborative investment model not only amplifies their capital but also broadens their reach and impact.

This initiative is underpinned by the founders’ experiences and observations of investment trends among leading philanthropists and venture investors. Rory Mounsey-Heysham noted the approach of investors like Bill Gates, who have demonstrated that solving global problems can be a lucrative strategy. Meanwhile, Chris Corbishley highlighted how traditional venture capital has often been distracted by incremental technological innovations rather than transformative solutions. BNVT Capital’s "third way" strategy positions itself between conventional ESG investing and unfettered capitalism, aiming to harness the benefits of profit-driven ventures while fostering societal progress.

The investment thesis has garnered significant attention and backing from entrepreneurs and investment leaders, including figures from Shopify, Google, Octopus Energy, and Remitly. Moreover, BNVT Capital has secured institutional support from heavyweight firms like Starwood Capital and Investcorp, signalling confidence in its unique blend of financial and social returns.

Beyond financial investment, BNVT Capital is launching the Benevolent Disruption platform—a community initiative designed to bring together like-minded investors, entrepreneurs, and experts committed to using business as a force for good. Over the next two years, BNVT aims to expand its portfolio to 25 to 30 companies worldwide, reinforcing its commitment to identifying and scaling ventures that tackle urgent issues through technological innovation.

Notably, BNVT Capital’s strategy incorporates rigorous AI-driven due diligence and sector diversification to navigate the complex landscape shaped by the 2025 AI funding boom and tightening liquidity conditions in the markets. Their approach also involves stress-testing investments against regulatory scenarios to ensure resilience in a volatile economic environment, blending financial prudence with ambitious social objectives.

While BNVT Capital focuses on global challenges through advanced AI and technology investments, other funds with similar capital sizes have different regional and sector targets. For instance, Vietnam’s VinVentures Capital Fund, headed by the country’s richest person Pham Nhat Vuong, also recently launched a $150 million fund concentrated on AI, semiconductors, cloud computing, and digital startups primarily in Southeast Asia. VinVentures aims to support local and regional startups and provide strategic connections within the Vingroup ecosystem, illustrating the varied approaches to tech investing witnessed across the globe.

BNVT Capital’s emergence reflects a broader shift in the venture capital world, where addressing large-scale human and environmental challenges is increasingly recognised not only as a moral imperative but also as a rich source of investment returns. This paradigm challenges traditional notions of capitalism and ESG frameworks, advocating instead for an integrated model of "benevolent disruption"—where transformative innovation and financial success go hand in hand.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://pulse2.com/bnvt-capital-150-million-debut-fund-launched/), [[2]](https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2025/09/17/3151909/0/en/BNVT-Capital-launches-with-150M-fund-and-new-data-showing-the-financial-potential-of-tackling-humanity-s-biggest-problems.html), [[3]](https://vcwire.tech/2025/09/19/bnvt-capital-launches-with-150m-fund/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://pulse2.com/bnvt-capital-150-million-debut-fund-launched/), [[2]](https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2025/09/17/3151909/0/en/BNVT-Capital-launches-with-150M-fund-and-new-data-showing-the-financial-potential-of-tackling-humanity-s-biggest-problems.html), [[4]](https://www.startuphub.ai/ai-news/investor-news/2025/bnvt-capital-launches-150m-fund-armed-with-harvard-backed-study-showing-51-higher-returns-from-solving-global-challenges/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://pulse2.com/bnvt-capital-150-million-debut-fund-launched/), [[3]](https://vcwire.tech/2025/09/19/bnvt-capital-launches-with-150m-fund/), [[4]](https://www.startuphub.ai/ai-news/investor-news/2025/bnvt-capital-launches-150m-fund-armed-with-harvard-backed-study-showing-51-higher-returns-from-solving-global-challenges/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://pulse2.com/bnvt-capital-150-million-debut-fund-launched/), [[2]](https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2025/09/17/3151909/0/en/BNVT-Capital-launches-with-150M-fund-and-new-data-showing-the-financial-potential-of-tackling-humanity-s-biggest-problems.html), [[3]](https://vcwire.tech/2025/09/19/bnvt-capital-launches-with-150m-fund/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://pulse2.com/bnvt-capital-150-million-debut-fund-launched/), [[4]](https://www.startuphub.ai/ai-news/investor-news/2025/bnvt-capital-launches-150m-fund-armed-with-harvard-backed-study-showing-51-higher-returns-from-solving-global-challenges/), [[5]](https://www.ainvest.com/news/bnvt-capital-150m-fund-navigating-post-liquidity-tightening-benevolent-disruption-strategy-2509/)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://pulse2.com/bnvt-capital-150-million-debut-fund-launched/), [[2]](https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2025/09/17/3151909/0/en/BNVT-Capital-launches-with-150M-fund-and-new-data-showing-the-financial-potential-of-tackling-humanity-s-biggest-problems.html), [[3]](https://vcwire.tech/2025/09/19/bnvt-capital-launches-with-150m-fund/), [[4]](https://www.startuphub.ai/ai-news/investor-news/2025/bnvt-capital-launches-150m-fund-armed-with-harvard-backed-study-showing-51-higher-returns-from-solving-global-challenges/)
* Paragraph 7 – [[1]](https://pulse2.com/bnvt-capital-150-million-debut-fund-launched/), [[4]](https://www.startuphub.ai/ai-news/investor-news/2025/bnvt-capital-launches-150m-fund-armed-with-harvard-backed-study-showing-51-higher-returns-from-solving-global-challenges/), [[5]](https://www.ainvest.com/news/bnvt-capital-150m-fund-navigating-post-liquidity-tightening-benevolent-disruption-strategy-2509/)
* Paragraph 8 – [[5]](https://www.ainvest.com/news/bnvt-capital-150m-fund-navigating-post-liquidity-tightening-benevolent-disruption-strategy-2509/)
* Paragraph 9 – [[6]](https://www.forbes.com/sites/iansayson/2024/10/28/vietnams-richest-person-starts-150-million-fund-to-invest-in-tech-startups/), [[7]](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024/10/28/vietnams-vingroup-sets-up-150-million-fund-for-startups)
* Paragraph 10 – [[1]](https://pulse2.com/bnvt-capital-150-million-debut-fund-launched/), [[4]](https://www.startuphub.ai/ai-news/investor-news/2025/bnvt-capital-launches-150m-fund-armed-with-harvard-backed-study-showing-51-higher-returns-from-solving-global-challenges/), [[5]](https://www.ainvest.com/news/bnvt-capital-150m-fund-navigating-post-liquidity-tightening-benevolent-disruption-strategy-2509/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://pulse2.com/bnvt-capital-150-million-debut-fund-launched/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2025/09/17/3151909/0/en/BNVT-Capital-launches-with-150M-fund-and-new-data-showing-the-financial-potential-of-tackling-humanity-s-biggest-problems.html> - BNVT Capital has launched its inaugural $150 million fund, focusing on AI-driven companies addressing global challenges. The fund's strategy is supported by a study co-authored with Professor Josh Lerner of Harvard Business School and experts from MIT and Oxford University, analysing data from over 500 venture capital funds and 14,000 companies over four decades. The study found that only 30% of venture-backed companies tackle significant societal issues, yet these companies achieve 51% higher financial returns compared to their peers. The fund has already invested in 11 companies across Europe and the US, including Swap Commerce in the UK, Cloover in Germany, and Dawnguard in the Netherlands, co-investing alongside firms like TPG, Iconiq, Lowercarbon, and QED. The fund's thesis has attracted support from leaders at Shopify, Google, Octopus Energy, and Remitly, as well as institutional backers such as Starwood Capital and Investcorp. BNVT Capital plans to expand its portfolio to 25–30 companies globally over the next two years and is launching the Benevolent Disruption platform to build a community around its investment thesis.
3. <https://vcwire.tech/2025/09/19/bnvt-capital-launches-with-150m-fund/> - BNVT Capital, a global venture capital firm, has launched its debut $150 million fund to invest in AI-first and technology-driven companies solving humanity’s most pressing challenges. The fund is seeded by Sackville Capital, a global investment firm based in London. BNVT Capital has already invested in 11 companies across Europe and the US, including Swap Commerce (UK), Cloover (Germany), and Dawnguard (Netherlands), co-investing alongside global firms such as TPG, Iconiq, Lowercarbon, and QED. The fund's thesis has attracted support from leading entrepreneurs and investors, including founders and leaders at Shopify, Google, Octopus Energy, Remitly, and institutional support from Starwood Capital, Investcorp, TPG, and others. The firm is also launching the Benevolent Disruption platform and community.
4. <https://www.startuphub.ai/ai-news/investor-news/2025/bnvt-capital-launches-150m-fund-armed-with-harvard-backed-study-showing-51-higher-returns-from-solving-global-challenges/> - BNVT Capital has launched its debut $150 million fund to invest in AI-first and technology companies tackling humanity’s most pressing challenges. The launch is supported by a groundbreaking study revealing that such companies represent a vast, untapped source of financial value. The study, titled “Benevolent Disruption: The Fortune in Solving the World’s Biggest Problems,” was co-authored with Professor Josh Lerner of Harvard Business School, VenCap International PLC, and academics from MIT and Oxford. Analyzing over 40 years of data from 500+ VC funds and 14,000 companies, it found that while only 30% of venture-backed companies address major global problems, they have historically delivered 51% higher returns than their peers. BNVT Capital was founded by Managing Partners Rory Mounsey-Heysham (formerly of the Gates Foundation), Chris Corbishley (formerly of Hedosophia), and Co-Founder Nasir Alsharif (Chairman of Sackville Capital), which also seeded the fund. The fund has already invested in 11 companies across Europe and the US, including Swap Commerce (UK), Cloover (Germany), and Dawnguard (Netherlands), co-investing with leading firms like TPG, Iconiq, Lowercarbon, and QED. The fund’s thesis has attracted support from leaders at Shopify, Google, and Octopus Energy, as well as institutional backers including Starwood Capital and Investcorp. The firm is also launching the Benevolent Disruption platform (benevolentdisruptors.com) to build a community around its investment thesis.
5. <https://www.ainvest.com/news/bnvt-capital-150m-fund-navigating-post-liquidity-tightening-benevolent-disruption-strategy-2509/> - BNVT Capital's debut $150 million fund targets AI/tech startups addressing climate and health, merging profit with purpose. The 'third way' strategy bridges ESG and traditional investing, backed by Harvard research on 51% higher returns for problem-solving ventures. Diversified across 11 global companies with TPG/Iconiq co-investments, it uses AI-driven due diligence to mitigate liquidity risks. Regulatory-aligned stress-testing and sector diversification ensure resilience amid 2025's $280B AI funding boom and market volatility. With plans to expand to 30 companies, the fund redefines capitalism by proving social impact can drive financial returns in post-liquidity tightening markets.
6. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/iansayson/2024/10/28/vietnams-richest-person-starts-150-million-fund-to-invest-in-tech-startups/> - Pham Nhat Vuong, chairman and founder of Vingroup, has launched a venture capital firm to fund artificial intelligence and digital startups in Vietnam and the region in a bid to broaden his technology businesses. VinVentures Capital Fund, jointly sponsored by Pham and Vingroup, will focus on AI, semiconductors, cloud computing, and other high-tech products. The fund, which will invest in startups, has $150 million in assets under management, two thirds of which are 'inherited investment' from the Vingroup’s existing portfolio. The remaining $50 million will be deployed over the next three to five years. 'Beyond providing capital, VinVentures offers startups a unique advantage by facilitating connections within the Vingroup ecosystem,' Le Han Tue Lam, managing director of VinVentures, said in the statement. VinVentures initially targets the Vietnamese market, focusing on startups with local founding teams in the early stages, according to its managing director. It aims to expand its scope to include startups in regional markets with development traits similar to Vietnam, such as Singapore, Indonesia, and the Philippines.
7. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024/10/28/vietnams-vingroup-sets-up-150-million-fund-for-startups> - Vietnamese conglomerate Vingroup JSC is starting a $150 million fund to back technology startups across Southeast Asia that focus on areas including artificial intelligence, semiconductors and cloud computing, according to an emailed statement. Vingroup is financing the fund, VinVentures, with $100 million from a previous investment portfolio, the company said. Vingroup founder Pham Nhat Vuong, Vietnam’s richest man, will gradually add another $50 million to the fund from his personal wealth, according to the company.