



**Great Lakes Protection Fund**

1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 1370, Evanston, Illinois 60201

Tel 847-425-8150 Fax 847-424-9832 [glpf.org](http://glpf.org)

**Funded Project**

# Building the Great Lakes Impact Investment Platform

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Project No.	1203
Timeline	2019 – 2020
Award Amount	\$75,000
Team Leader	Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers
Project Website	<a href="https://greatlakesimpactinvestmentplatform.org/">https://greatlakesimpactinvestmentplatform.org/</a>

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This was a design project to develop an impact reporting and tracking dashboard for a Great Lakes Impact Investment Platform. The platform offers investment products that contribute to the vitality of the Great Lakes and generate competitive financial returns for investors. These include equities, environmental impact bonds, and “blue bonds.” The platform also tracks the performance of these investments against key environmental outcomes for the Great Lakes.

In the design phase the team: analyzed currently available data and methodologies, identified gaps, and selected the parameters to be included in the dashboard; hosted two workshops with Great Lakes data and impact investing experts; planned a reporting system for the dashboard that tracks impact; and submitted a proposal to the Fund.

This design project successfully led to an implementation project. The Fund's Board of Directors made a subsequent award of up to \$371,000 to this team to develop the dashboard.

This work ultimately will provide investors a mechanism to invest in the health of the Great Lakes, track that impact, and generate an attractive financial return.