

What is the Lee Chin Institute?

The Michael Lee-Chin Family Institute for Corporate Sustainability (LCI) is a research centre at the Rotman School of Management that helps business leaders - current and future - integrate sustainability into business strategy and practices.

As a research centre, the LCI conducts academic and applied research on sustainability, disseminates our research and the leading thinking of others, and engages students through curricular and extra-curricular activities.

[Find out more about us on our website.](#)

What do we mean by “Sustainability”?

For the LCI, sustainability is about **environmental, social and governance risks – and opportunities** – for companies. We help business leaders make strategic choices about sustainability issues, actions and investments.

We focus on three key subjects:

- Sustainability Strategy,
- Social Entrepreneurship/Social Enterprise and
- Responsible Investment and Impact Investment.

What do these individual concepts mean?

Sustainability Strategy

- For companies, sustainability strategy is about making choices – which sustainability issues to focus on, which actions to take, and how to access the right financial and other resources.

Social Entrepreneurship/Social Enterprise

- Social enterprises are businesses that use market-oriented solutions to solve social and environmental problems, like education, agriculture or health care. Social entrepreneurs build, run and grow social enterprises with the intent to create a meaningful societal change at scale through a self-sustaining business model.

Responsible Investment and Impact Investment

- Responsible investments take into account ethical, social, environmental and governance factors in making investment decisions.
- Impact investments are a relatively new subset of responsible investments made with a clear intent to create positive impact beyond financial return. Impact investors seek out companies that create and measure meaningful social and environmental impacts and, at the same, generate a return on investment.