As part of its goal to support decarbonization of labs worldwide, the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories has created Labs2Zero, a suite of tools and information that will help laboratory managers, designers, and engineers reduce the energy and emissions associated with their facilities and operations through benchmarking, scoring, assessment, and certification of lab building performance.

As I2SL works to develop and enhance the benchmarking and informational databases and program infrastructure needed to support this major effort, we are relying on input and support from a variety of lab owners, consultants, and service and technology providers to make Labs2Zero viable. Nearly 100 volunteers from I2SL’s membership are participating in several Technical Advisory Councils, overseeing tool development, evaluating lab improvement measures, and beta testing the scores and other tools. Labs2Zero is also supported by over 30 Founding Sponsors who provided funding to initiate this important work.

Partner With Labs2Zero
I2SL is offering a partnership opportunity to companies, institutions, and other organizations that contribute data to help develop Labs2Zero benchmarking, promote Labs2Zero to their constituents, and help establish the program across the globe. Labs2Zero partnership is free, but there are requirements for partners to remain in good standing, including the reporting of data using the I2SL Laboratory Benchmarking Tool (LBT) and other Labs2Zero reporting mechanisms or the promotion or licensing of Labs2Zero tools. No funds are required to partner with Labs2Zero, although partners may also be sponsors of the Labs2Zero program or users who eventually pay for access to specific Labs2Zero tools.

Labs2Zero has four different types of partnership, and each category of partners is asked to commit to the program in different ways:

- **Owner Partners:** Entities that own or manage laboratories can become Owner Partners, as long as they agree to share anonymized lab facility, energy, and—where appropriate—operational and/or embodied emissions data to better inform benchmarking and Labs2Zero tool development. Owner Partners include:
  - Research or academic institutions—U.S. or international public and private academic institutions or research funding organizations such as foundations or the National Institutes of Health.
  - Corporate entities—private companies that own chemical, biopharma, or other lab facilities, as well as real estate investment trusts (REITs) in life sciences.

To remain in good standing, Labs2Zero Owner Partners must provide data, either through the LBT on an annual basis, or by providing embodied emissions data supporting the development of an Emissions Score for labs. This data will be anonymized.
• **Consulting Partners:** Consultants that support lab owners with design, engineering, and energy or emissions consulting and are authorized to share their clients’ lab energy or emissions data can become Labs2Zero Consulting Partners. Architects, engineers, and other consultants must be authorized to share data on the energy or embodied emissions associated with the buildings they design, assess, or renovate and are required to update facility and energy data annually into the LBT or provide embodied emissions data. This data will be anonymized to prevent identification of the lab owner or building.

• **Promotional Partners:** Nonprofit trade and professional organizations that represent potential users of the Labs2Zero offerings can become Labs2Zero Promotional Partners if they commit to share information about Labs2Zero with their constituents and promote new tools as they are created. Municipal, state, or federal government agencies and academic institutions may also be Labs2Zero Promotional Partners.

• **International Partners:** Nonprofit or governmental organizations outside the United States that qualify to license and offer the Labs2Zero program in their country or region can become International Partners. There may be licensing fees or revenue sharing arrangements. Sustainable Labs Canada is the first Labs2Zero International Partner.

**Why Become a Labs2Zero Partner?**

In exchange for providing data and promoting the Labs2Zero program aspects, I2SL will recognize Labs2Zero Partners on its website, in program materials, and through various virtual and in-person outlets. Partners will receive a branded Labs2Zero Partner logo to post on their websites and materials, as well as talking points for how to refer to their participation in the program. Partners will also have the opportunity to participate in a community of practice with other lab owners concerned about reducing energy and emissions from lab facilities, as I2SL provides a forum for discussing the challenges and innovations associated with reducing the environmental and emissions footprint of labs.

In order to sign a partnership agreement, Labs2Zero Partners must agree to have their organization listed on the I2SL website and their logo included in various Labs2Zero materials and online tools. Where possible, I2SL will post Promotional Partners’ events and efforts related to lab decarbonization on the I2SL website, as appropriate.

**How Do We Sign Up?**

Partnership will begin upon completion and signature of a Labs2Zero Partnership Agreement with I2SL and will continue as long as the annual data collection requirements or promotional efforts are met. Organizations must have a qualified representative sign a Labs2Zero Partnership Agreement with I2SL, indicating their ongoing support for the program and providing data or promotions for Labs2Zero.

Labs2Zero Owner and Consulting Partners must have the authority to provide energy use, building information, and operations data to I2SL where requested. I2SL agrees to maintain the integrity and building anonymity of data entered into the LBT or embodied emissions data provided. Promotional and International Partners must have the authority to commit their organization to promoting Labs2Zero among constituents.

For more information about partnering with the Labs2Zero program, please email info@i2sl.org.