Helix Labs

Stake once, earn everywhere—liquidity coordination layer unlocking yield across any blockchain

Investment summary

- **First-to-Market:** Bidirectional Chain Fusion between ICP and EVM networks (Ethereum, BNB HyperEVM).

- **Backed by:** DFINITY Foundation and five Web3 venture firms (Tribe, Taiko, Double Peak, Taureon, LD Capital) with $2M pre-seed round.

- **Market:** $50B+ in staked assets and liquidity opportunities.

- **Liquidity Coordination Layer:** Routes capital to AVS and stablecoin yields.

- **Helix Vault:** Provides liquid staking & restaking across ICP, Ethereum, Cardano, HyperEVM & BNB.

- **Expansion:** Move chains (Aptos, SUI) and Cairo-StarkNet.

- **Revenue:** Deposit fees, yield commissions, and liquidity services with token buybacks.

- **Traction:** 50K+ wallets in testnet within the first four weeks.

Opportunity

<u>Turning Under-Leveraged Assets into Global Yield Engines</u>

The global staking market has reached an inflection point. As of August 2025, over $149 billion is locked in proof-of-stake (PoS) networks across leading Layer-1 blockchains. Ethereum accounts for the majority (~$92B), but more than $50 billion is staked in non-Ethereum ecosystems such as ICP, Cardano, BNB Chain, Hyper EVM and emerging Move-based networks.

These non-Ethereum assets remain largely under-leveraged. While Ethereum's liquid staking derivatives (LSTs) already capture ~45% of its staked value, non-Ethereum LST adoption is still in early stages — representing a multi-billion-dollar gap in yield access and capital efficiency.

In August 2025, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) issued guidance clarifying that, under certain conditions, liquid staking does not constitute a security. This marks a potential turning point:

- New regulatory clarity lowers barriers for institutional adoption, including the integration of staking into crypto exchange-traded products (ETPs) and exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

- The decision directly benefits PoS assets such as Ethereum, Solana and other Layer-1 ecosystems by legitimizing staking yield as a permissible and non-securities-linked feature.
- The timing aligns with growing institutional interest in yield-bearing digital assets, especially when combined with interoperability solutions like Helix Labs.

Why this matters now:

- Institutional and retail staking participation continues to expand, yet cross-chain liquidity remains fragmented— a challenge known as liquidity siloing.
- Most non-Ethereum chains offer limited or no native options for restaking or participating in higher-yield decentralized finance DeFi opportunities.
- The rise of AVS, pioneered by Ethereum's EigenLayer, is creating a new market for restaking yield — one that non-Ethereum assets cannot yet access at scale.
- Stablecoins and interoperable infrastructure are driving demand for yield-bearing collateral that can move securely across ecosystems.

Helix Labs is positioned to address this gap by building the first liquidity coordination layer connecting Internet Computer and other non-Ethereum chains with high-yield opportunities historically limited to Ethereum. With $50B+ of underutilized assets and a clearer regulatory climate, the path to unlocking this market is more open than ever.

Problem

Billions staked, billions idle

1. **Liquidity Fragmentation**

   Staked assets, on non-Ethereum chains like ICP and Cardano, are locked in native validator nodes. This immobilizes capital and forces users to choose between network participation and yield generation. Without cross-chain pathways, these assets remain siloed. Lockup periods for validator staking and staking pools ranges from a few days to a few months.

2. **Yield Disparity**

   Ethereum stakers benefit from mature liquid staking infrastructure, with nearly half of all ETH in LST form. In contrast, non-Ethereum ecosystems lack equivalent tooling, leaving billions in staked value earning only base PoS rewards. The absence of staking derivatives options further limits potential returns.

3. **Lack of Restaking Access**

   AVS, pioneered by EigenLayer, creates new high-yield opportunities by securing additional networks with staked capital. Yet non-Ethereum assets have no seamless way to participate, cutting them off from a growing yield market.

4. **User Experience Barriers**

   Staking, liquid staking, and restaking often require complex multi-protocol interactions, high technical literacy, and reliance on insecure bridges. These barriers limit adoption among both retail and institutional users.

5. **Unused Potential in Stable Collateral**

   Stablecoins are becoming the universal settlement and collateral layer in DeFi, but most staking ecosystems lack integration with stable-backed yield strategies — missing the opportunity to combine stability with high-performance staking returns.

Solution

From Siloed to Seamless: Capturing the $50B Non-Ethereum Staking Opportunity

Helix addresses the five critical pain points in the staking market with a unified liquidity and interoperability platform:

1. Helix Vault – Native Liquid Staking & Restaking

Enables ICP, Ethereum, Cardano, HyperEVM and BNB Chain users to stake their assets natively while receiving a liquid representation, a Liquid Staked Token, that remains usable in DeFi.

- For ICP and other blockchains, vaults integrate directly with ICRC-1 token standards and Internet Identity authentication, ensuring security and native-chain compliance. This also includes other token standards for native integration like ERC20, BEP20, CIP0025, and HIP-1

- Supports bidirectional Chain Fusion communication with EVM chains — the first infrastructure of its kind.

2. Liquidity Coordination Layer – Unlocking Cross-Chain Yield

Connects LSTs to AVS, cross-chain DeFi protocols, and stablecoin lending markets. This allows non-Ethereum assets to access yield sources historically locked to Ethereum-based LSTs.

3. Stable Yield Streams – Combining Stability & Performance

Offers predictable stablecoin-denominated yield products backed by restaked capital across multiple chains. Provides a bridge between DeFi-native Annual Percentage Yield (APY) seekers and traditional finance (TradFi)-aligned investors who require stable, predictable returns.

4. Security & Governance Alignment

Built on ICP's governance model via the Network Nervous System (NNS), with transparent vault upgrade processes. Backed by a DFINITY Foundation developer grant, ensuring alignment with ICP's core ecosystem growth.

5. Future-Proof Expansion

The architecture is designed for future integration with Move-based chains and other Long Tail Blockchains such as (Aptos, SUI, and more), enabling Helix to expand into high-growth ecosystems while maintaining first-mover status in ICP <> EVM staking liquidity.

Technology & Differentiators

From Chain Fusion to chain freedom -redefining assets mobility

1. First Bidirectional Chain Fusion Deployment for ICP <> EVM

Helix is the first project aiming for full bidirectional communication between ICP and EVM-compatible chains (Ethereum, BNB Chain, HyperEVM, Cardano).

- Why it matters: Removes reliance on wrapped assets or centralized bridges, enabling native asset mobility between ICP and Ethereum ecosystems.

- Powered by ICP's Chain Fusion, Helix Vaults execute transactions and track balances across chains directly from ICP canisters.

2. Native ICRC-1 & Internet Identity Integration

Helix Vaults on ICP use ICRC-1 tokens for liquid staking representations, ensuring compatibility with the ICP DeFi ecosystem. User authentication via Internet Identity provides secure, passwordless access while preserving privacy.

3. AVS Integration

Helix connects non-Ethereum assets to the AVS economy pioneered by EigenLayer, unlocking yield opportunities previously inaccessible beyond Ethereum's staking derivatives. This adds new APY streams without removing assets from their native chain.

4. Liquidity Coordination Layer

A proprietary routing system that:

- Identifies the highest risk-adjusted yield opportunities across chains.

- Layers stablecoin yield strategies on top of restaking.

- Allows ecosystems to access liquidity from Helix Vault users.

5. Modular, Future-Proof Architecture

Helix is designed for integration with Move-based chains and other high-performance ecosystems such as StarkNet. This modular approach shortens time-to-market for new integrations and positions Helix for continued expansion.

6. Proven Early-Stage Scalability

The Helix Labs testnet (March–April 2025) onboarded 50,352 wallets in under four weeks, validating technical scalability and demand ahead of mainnet launch.

Revenue Model

Turning TVL growth into recurring revenue

Helix operates with a clear, recurring-fee structure that aligns our growth with ecosystem adoption:

1. Deposit Fees – Percentage-based fees on assets deposited into Helix Vaults.

2. Yield Commissions – Performance fees on rewards from restaking, AVS participation, and cross-chain DeFi deployments.

3. Liquidity Service Fees – Ecosystem partners pay to access Helix's Liquidity Coordination Layer to source TVL for their protocols.

These revenue streams scale with TVL growth, chain integrations, and partner adoption.

LIX Token Utility

- **Governance:** Participate in protocol decisions such as vault creation and parameter updates.

- **Validator Incentives:** Support Helix Operators and AVS security by staking LIX.

- **Fee Participation:** Access a share of protocol fees from deposits, yield, and liquidity services.

- **Priority Access:** Early participation in new vaults and product launches.

Disclaimer: LIX Tokens do not represent equity, dividends, or shareholder rights in ZK Network Limited. They are designed solely for protocol-level utility within the Helix ecosystem.

Roadmap

Q3 2025

- Submit SNS proposal and finalize tokenomics with community feedback.
- Launch mainnet hstICP DeFi pool with initial strategic liquidity mining campaign.
- Onboard first wave of partner protocols for hstICP integrations (DEXes, lending).
- Kick off vault education series — showing users how to propose and govern vault creation.

Q4 2025

- Expand Helix Vault deployment to BNB Chain, Cardano, Ethereum, HyperEVM with hstICP bridging live.
- Secure 2–3 liquidity sharing agreements with LST providers and cross-chain yield protocols.
- Run co-marketing campaigns with ICP hubs and multi-chain partners.
- Present at ICP Global Conference and a major Ethereum/EigenLayer event.

Q1 2026

- Launch multi-asset Helix Vaults (ckBTC, ckETH, and other LSTs) alongside hstICP.

- Integrate EigenLayer Actively Validated Services (AVS) restaking flows for non-Ethereum assets via Helix.

- Begin Helix Operator Program for AVS and LRT validators.

- Start research and testnet for community vault factory.

Q2 2026

- Position hstICP and other Helix-issued LRTs as collateral in major DeFi protocols.

- Host Helix Summit, bringing ICP, Cardano, Hyper EVM, BNB, Move and multi-chain DeFi builders together to showcase integrations.

- Roll out vault factory for community-created cross-chain staking vaults.

- Secure enterprise-level liquidity partner (custodians, treasuries, or staking providers).

Disclaimer:

Legal Entity Disclosure This Token Purchase Agreement is issued by ZK Network Limited (BVI), with protocol development and operations led by ZK Foundation Ltd. (Cayman Islands). Both entities are aligned under the same governance and offering documents.

Token Generation Event (TGE) Helix is targeting a TGE within 12 months of this offering's close, aligned with its roadmap milestones (Testnet → Mainnet → TGE). If not achieved in this timeframe, the company may seek investor-approved extensions or alternative liquidity events. Treasury reserves are earmarked to support unwind obligations, though repayment is not guaranteed.