



Environment and  
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et  
Changement climatique Canada

# CANADA'S NATIONAL ADAPTATION STRATEGY

Livable Cities Forum  
September 2023



Canada 

# THE STABLE CLIMATE UPON WHICH WE USED TO RELY ON IS OVER



- Canada's climate is **warming 2x faster than the rest of the world, 3x in the North**
- Impacts are **cross-cutting and serious**
- The impacts can be **extreme, slow-onset and cascading**
- **Certain regions, industries, and populations are at higher risk, especially marginalized groups**

# NATIONAL ADAPTATION STRATEGY (NAS)

- Released in June 2023, following two years of consultation.
- Sets whole-of-society direction for a resilient Canada.
- Aims to better align and coordinate efforts by different orders of government, Indigenous Peoples, the private sector, and civil society.
- Ensures progress overtime through cyclical design, a monitoring and evaluation framework, and progress reports.
- Priority actions to be advanced with key partners through related action plans.

## Canada's National Adaptation Strategy

Building Resilient Communities  
and a Strong Economy

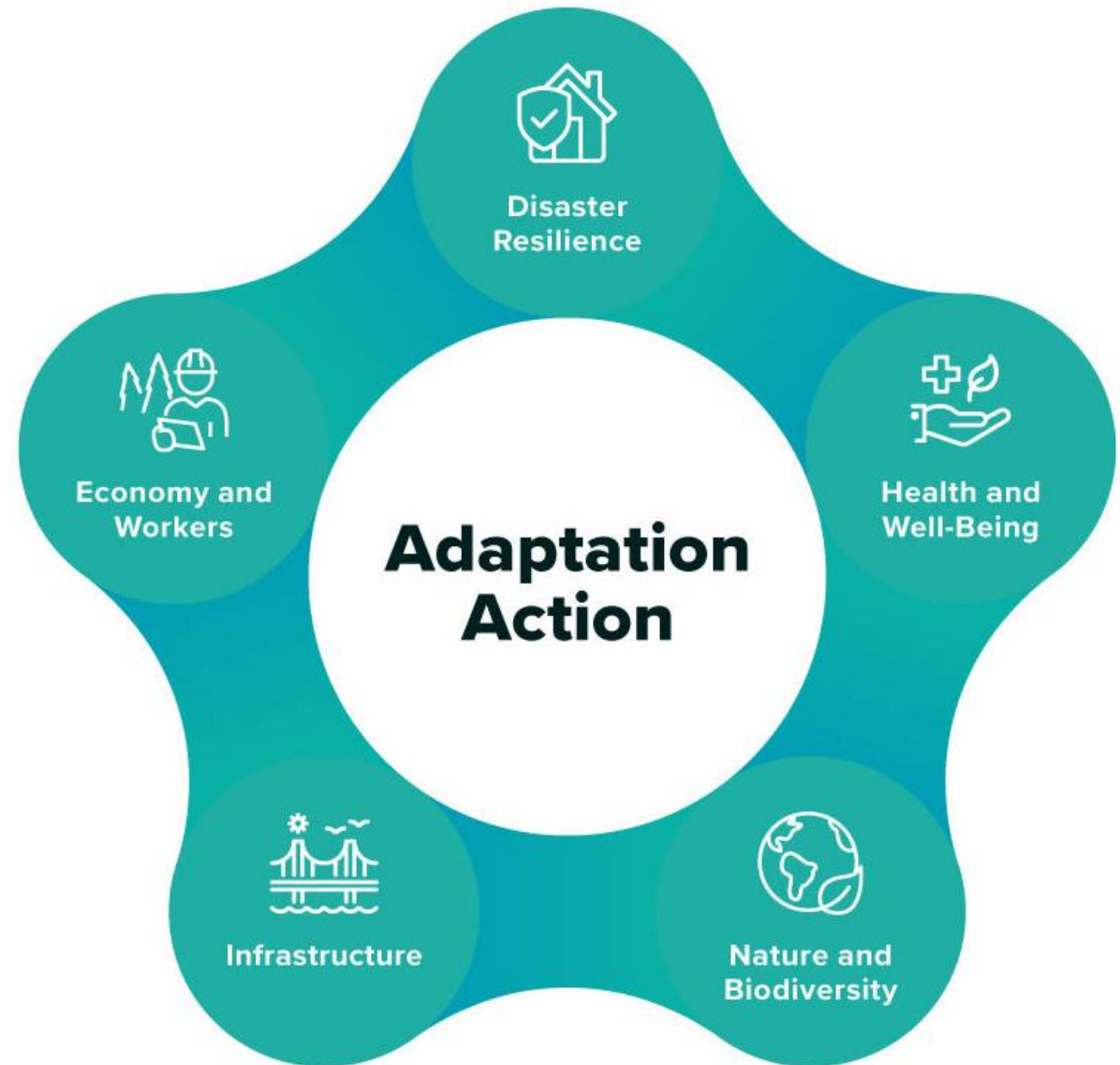


# NAS ELEMENTS

- **Overarching vision** for resilience in Canada

*All of us living in Canada, our communities, and the natural environment are resilient in the face of a changing climate. Our collective adaptation actions enhance our well-being and safety, promote justice, equity, and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, and secure a thriving natural environment and economy for future generations.*

- Underpinned by **guiding principles** for fair, inclusive, and equitable adaptation
- Transformational goals, objectives, and targets under **five key systems**

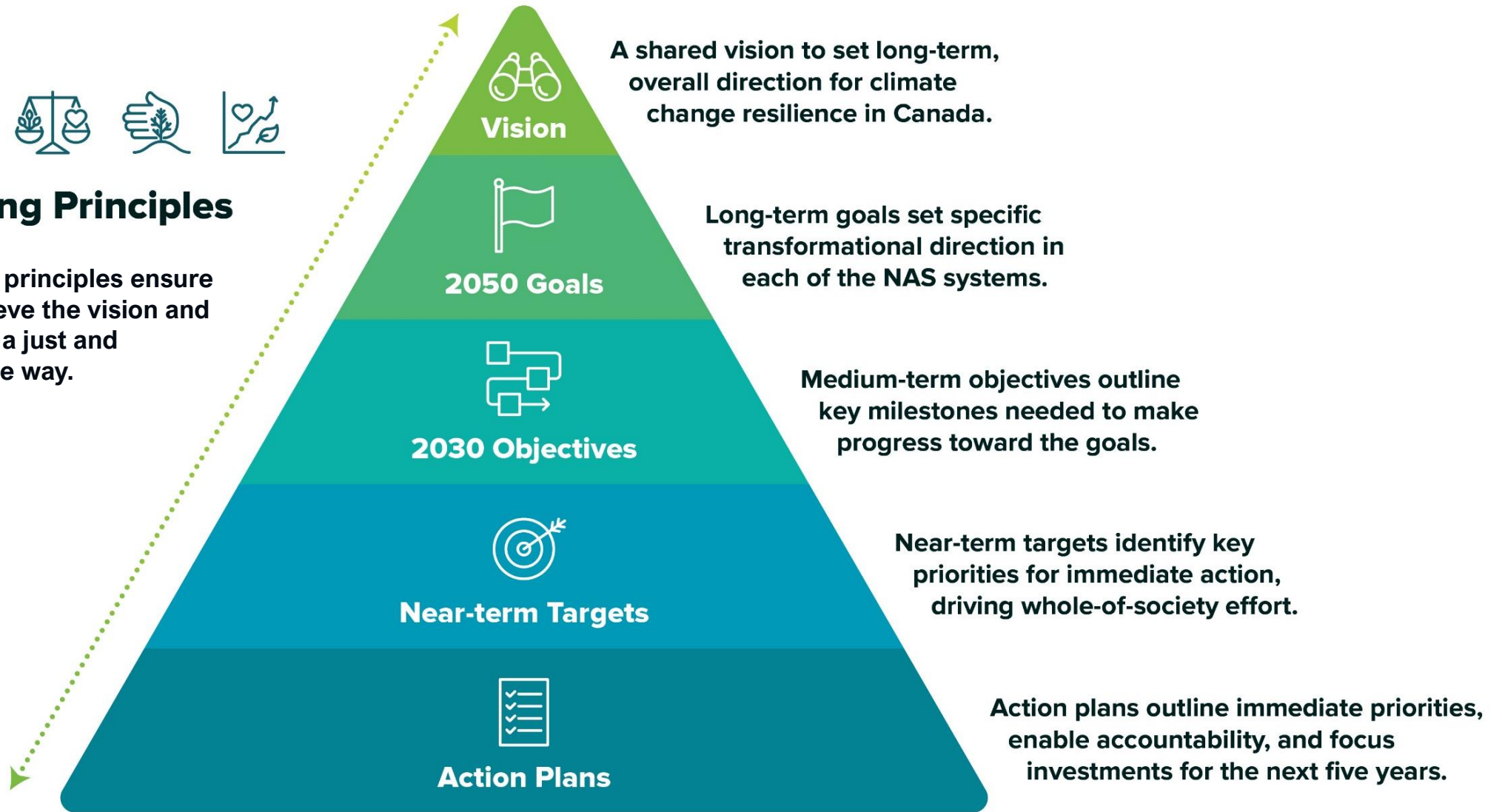


# NAS STRUCTURE

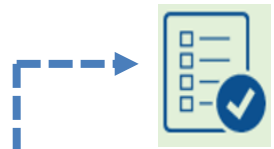


## Guiding Principles

Guiding principles ensure we achieve the vision and goals in a just and equitable way.



# IMPLEMENTATION WITH KEY PARTNERS



## **Government of Canada Adaptation Action Plan (GOCAAP)**

- Inventory of Government of Canada measures that will contribute to National Adaptation Strategy goals, objectives, and targets
- Includes new and existing investments and programming
- To be updated at least every 5 years



## **Indigenous Climate Leadership (ICL)**

- Transitioning to a partnership model to advance self-determined climate actions (including adaptation) by First Nations, Inuit and Métis
- Continue to support Indigenous adaptation action while co-development of ICL is ongoing



## **FPT Bilateral Action Plans**

- To establish bilateral mechanisms to support PT priorities under the NAS
- Focused on alignment, coordination and implementation of shared priorities to improve support for local needs


# GOVERNMENT OF CANADA ADAPTATION ACTION PLAN

Outlines the federal contribution to implement the National Adaptation Strategy

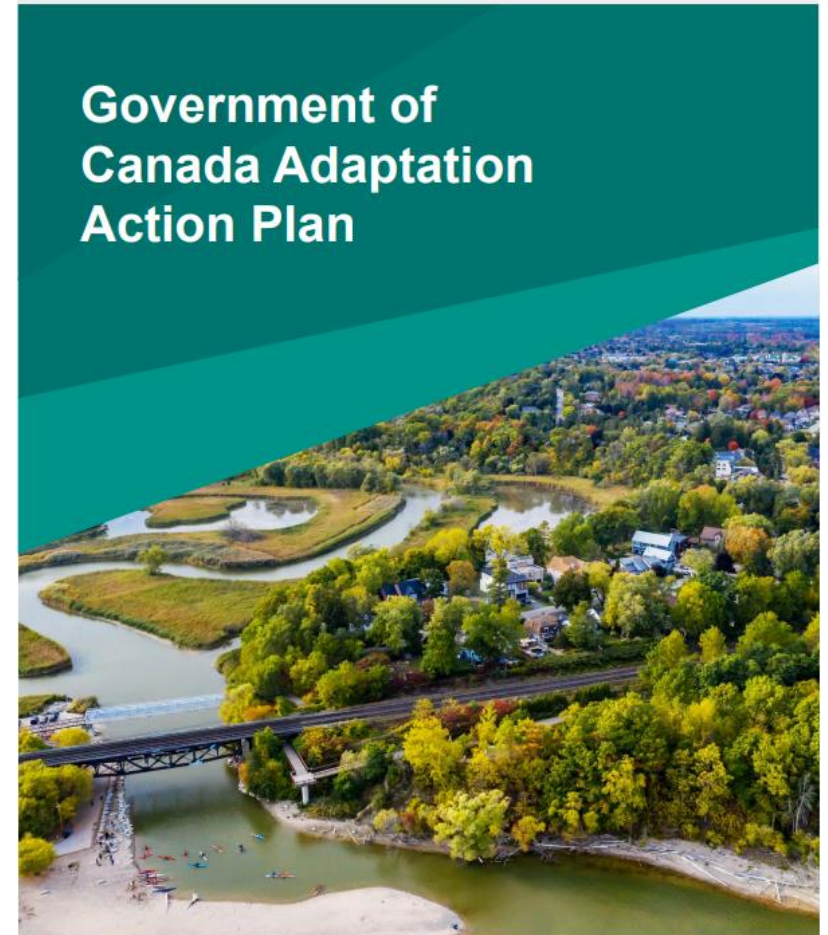
- Since 2015, the federal government has invested more than **\$6.5B in adaptation**. This includes **\$2 billion in Fall 2022 to implement** the National Adaptation Strategy. **New measures:**
  - **\$530 million** to expand the **Green Municipal Fund** to support community-based adaptation initiatives
  - **\$489 million** to top up the **Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund**
  - **\$164 million** to increase **Canada's resilience to flooding**

Includes more than 70 actions across 22 federal departments and agencies

Clarifies the federal role in meeting adaptation goals and objectives

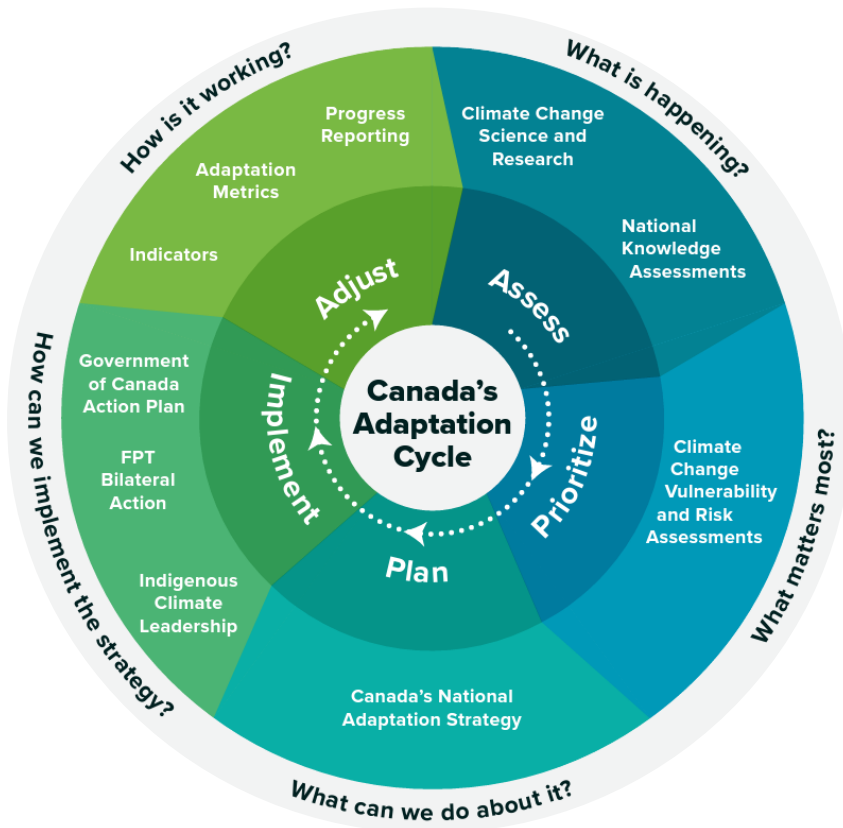
 Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

## Government of Canada Adaptation Action Plan



Canada 

# NAS MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E)



Adaptation Policy Cycle

- The NAS M&E framework includes 22 near-term **targets** and 13 **indicators**
  - Targets measure direct adaptation actions or outcomes
  - Indicators are cross-cutting and measure “state of adaptation”
  - Almost all measured at the national level; some include regional disaggregation
- The M&E framework was developed based on international best practices and expert advice (e.g., [Expert Panel on Climate Adaptation and Resilience Results](#))
- Main challenges:
  - Data availability and diversity
  - Equity and inclusiveness
- The federal government will work with provinces, territories, municipalities, Indigenous Peoples, and experts to improve the NAS M&E framework on an ongoing basis
  - Expand data collection and types of indicators (process, output, outcomes)
  - Respond to new knowledge and risk assessments
  - Monitoring new policies and programs



# SELECT LIST OF NAS TARGETS

## Health and Well-Being

By 2026, 80% of health regions will have implemented evidence-based adaptation measures to protect health from extreme heat

## Nature and Biodiversity

Establish 15 new national urban parks by 2030 to conserve nature, connect people with nature, and advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples

## Infrastructure

Starting in 2024, resilience to climate change impacts is factored into all new federal infrastructure funding programs

By 2026, additional climate change resiliency considerations are incorporated into 3 Canadian Codes (National Building Code, Canadian Highway Bridge Design Code, and Canadian Electrical Code)

By 2030, 80% of public and municipal organizations have factored climate change adaptation into their decision-making processes

By 2030, robust guidance, codes and standards covering the top climate change risks for key public infrastructure systems are available to be adopted by all infrastructure decision-makers

## Disaster Resilience

By 2025, 60% of Canadians, including northerners and Indigenous Peoples, are aware of the disaster risks facing their household

By 2028, the federal government, provinces, and territories have worked collaboratively to prioritize at least 200 higher-risk flood areas for new flood hazard maps / regional level modelling, and have taken evidence-based risk mitigation actions in accordance with scientific guidance

Communities, including northern and Indigenous communities, in zones of high risk, as identified by provinces and territories, develop wildfire community prevention and mitigation plans by 2030, with up to 15% implemented by 2028

## Economy and workers

By 2027, 80% of coastal communities and 60% of businesses located in coastal regions are implementing adaptation actions to increase climate resilience and reduce the economic impacts of climate change

By 2027, 70% of the members of relevant professional associations (e.g., civil engineers, planners, landscape architects, accountants, and others) have the capacity to apply climate change adaptation tools and information and communicate the business case for adaptation measures to their clients or target audiences

# SELECT LIST OF NAS INDICATORS

## Foundational

Percentage of people in Canada with strong sense of belonging to local community

Relevance: a strong sense of belonging leads to resilience against shocks and disruptions, including those related to climate change.

## Nature & Biodiversity

Status of key fish stocks

Relevance: as climate change continues to affect the temperature and chemistry of Canada's oceans, sustainable fisheries and continued opportunities to harvest fish hinges on the status of key fish stocks

## Health & Well-being

Percentage of households with cooling systems

Relevance: as extreme-heat events increase, access to reliable cooling systems will help people withstand the worst effects of these events in their own homes.

## Infrastructure

Percentage of public and municipal organizations that factored climate change adaptation into decision-making processes for infrastructure

Relevance: factoring adaptation into decision-making processes for municipal infrastructure assets is a first step in the process of ensuring their resilience to climate change.

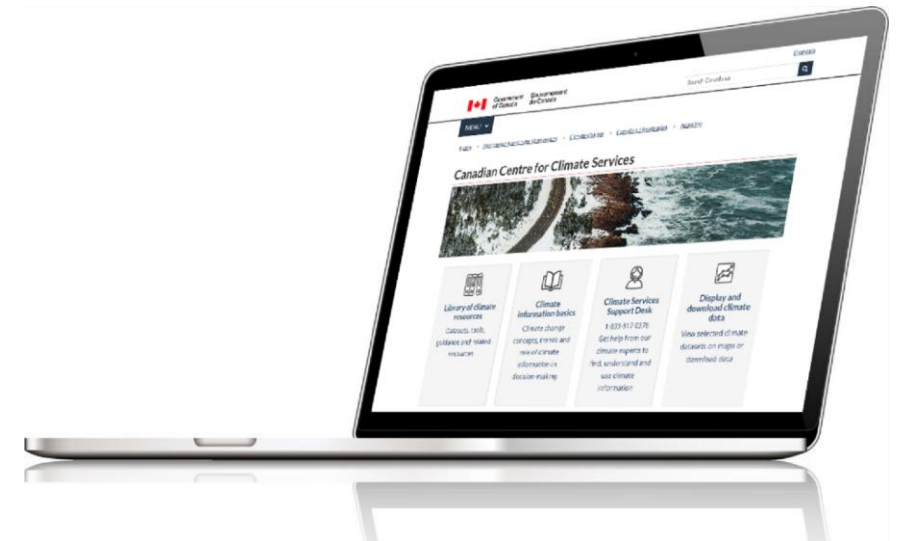
Number of long-term drinking water advisories for public systems on reserve

Relevance: sustainable delivery of drinking water through public systems on reserves affects the capacity of Indigenous communities to sufficiently prepare for the impacts of climate change.

# CANADIAN CENTRE FOR CLIMATE SERVICES

- **Support Desk** to [answer questions](#) and navigate resources
- **Website:**
  - [Climate datasets and climate data portals](#) for a variety of users
  - [Library of 300+ climate resources](#)
  - Intro to [climate information concepts](#)
- **Training [resources](#)** and on-demand workshops
- **Climate Resilience Assessment Worksheets**
- **Tailored products**
- **Map of Adaptation Actions** with Canadian [case studies](#) on how Canadian communities and sectors are adapting to climate change

**“Provides Canadians with information and support to consider climate change in their decisions.”**



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