



2023 to 2027 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy

Courts Administration Service

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Executive Summary

The Courts Administration Service 2023 to 2027 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy (DSDS/the strategy) outlines the organization's sustainable development goals, targets, short-term milestones and implementation strategies. It is the first such strategy for the Courts Administration Service (CAS) and the first to be developed under a strengthened Federal Sustainable Development Act (the Act). The strategy sets out the actions that CAS is committed to taking to make progress toward its DSDS's goals and targets.

It also aligns with the Government of Canada's sustainable development priorities, including achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions. It will continue to evolve over time and is informed by the consultations on the 2022 to 2026 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy (FSDS) conducted from March 11 to July 9, 2022. To reflect future policy decisions, the online version of the DSDS will be updated to incorporate new or renewed targets.

Over the next four years, CAS will continue to implement the strategy following the department's mandates. How the strategy has been implemented and the progress made toward its goals and targets will be updated and published on the department's website.

SECTION 1

Introduction to the Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy

The [2022 to 2026 FSDS](#) presents the Government of Canada's sustainable development goals and targets, as required by the [Federal Sustainable Development Act](#). This is the first FSDS to be framed using the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda and provides a balanced view of the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development.

In keeping with the purpose of the Act, to make decision-making related to sustainable development more transparent and accountable to Parliament, CAS supports the goals laid out in the FSDS through the activities described in this Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy (DSDS).

The [Federal Sustainable Development Act](#) also sets out [7 principles](#) that must be considered in the development of the FSDS as well as DSDSs. These basic principles have been considered and incorporated in CAS's DSDS.

In order to support coordinated action on sustainable development across the Government of Canada, this departmental strategy integrates efforts to advance Canada's implementation of the 2030



Agenda National Strategy, supported by the Global Indicator Framework (GIF) and Canadian Indicator Framework (CIF) targets and indicators. The strategy also now captures SDG initiatives that fall outside the scope of the FSDS to inform the development of the Canada's Annual Report on the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

SECTION 2

Courts Administration Service's Sustainable Development Vision

CAS acknowledges that sustainable development and environmental sustainability contribute to the organization's ability to achieve its strategic outcomes. To this end, CAS's vision for sustainable development is integrated into its management and operational practices and is achieved through a multitier approach which includes:

- Probing opportunities to integrate sustainable development perspectives and practices in its operations.
- Promoting responsible management of resources, sustained economic practices and healthy communities through education and awareness building.
- Exploring opportunities to introduce sustainable practices through corporate and program-based initiatives.

Building on ongoing efforts and practices in facility and procurement management, the initiatives described in this strategy will be achieved while supporting the judicial independence of the Federal Court of Appeal, Federal Court, Court Martial Appeal Court of Canada and the Tax Court. CAS will also ensure to maintain consideration for each Court's distinct requirements and itinerant nature.

SECTION 3

Listening to Canadians

As required by the Federal Sustainable Development Act, CAS has taken into account comments on the draft 2022-2026 FSDS made during the public consultation held from March 11 to July 9, 2022. During the public consultation, more than 700 comments were received from a broad range of stakeholders, including governments, Indigenous organizations, non-governmental organizations, academics, businesses, and individual Canadians in different age groups and of various backgrounds. The draft FSDS was also shared with the appropriate committee of each House of Parliament, the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development, and the Sustainable Development Advisory Council for their review and comment.

What We Heard

Incorporating the submissions received, CAS identified sustainable development priorities and issues that affect us. As suggested by those consulted, the CAS DSDS uses the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the strategy's frame and attempts to strike the right balance between the three of sustainable development – integrating, where possible social and economic targets and indicators.

First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities, suggested using a distinctions-based approach when discussing Indigenous priorities and challenges in the FSDS. As such any initiative outlined in this strategy involving first nation peoples will incorporate working independently with First nation people, Inuit, Métis Peoples and Intersectional peoples in recognition of their unique attributes.

CAS will also account for longer-term goals and future generations when measuring policy impacts. The department will ensure that its facilities projects are being undertaken to advance sustainable development in Canada and will include additional perspectives from equity-seeking groups such as racialized and 2SLGBTQI+ communities.

Finally, targets will be strengthened by being more outcome-based; they will and ensure that associated time frames go beyond the four-year FSDS cycle, and take into consideration the need for strong accountability and reporting, as suggested by the consultation

What We Did

CAS took the above-mentioned key priorities and issues into consideration in this DSDS. The organization has also appointed a lead for the development of its DSDS and a Designated Officials (SDOs) with responsibility for ensuring that projects, real property, procurement and materiel are managed in a manner that sustains **environmental objectives**.

Please find more information on the FSDS public consultation and its results in the [FSDS Consultation Report](#)

SECTION 4

Courts Administration Service's Commitments





GOAL 10: ADVANCE RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND TAKE ACTION ON INEQUALITY

FSDS Context: This FSDS Goal which focuses on taking action on inequality and advancing reconciliation with First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities draws inspiration form the United Nation’s SDG Global Indicator Framework

CAS’s DSDS focuses on 10.3 in the strategy outlined below:

10.3: Ensures equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and actions in this regard.

Target theme: Advancing reconciliation with First Nations, Inuit, and the Métis communities

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “**Advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and take action on inequality**” but not a specific FSDS target

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS)
Construct a court facility with infrastructure that better supports indigenous legal needs and traditions.	Program: Judicial and Registry Services	Performance indicator: Existence of a facility in Saskatoon.	The construction of a facility with amenities that support indigenous legal needs and traditions will improve

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		<p>Starting point: There currently is 0 court facility in Saskatoon.</p> <p>Target: Construct a new facility in Saskatoon by end of fiscal 2027</p>	<p>indigenous peoples’ access to Canada’s justice system.</p>

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities

The following initiatives demonstrate how CAS’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS
<p>Court Facilities Modernization Program inclusive of the construction of a new court facility in Saskatoon which is supported by funding approved in Budgets 2019 and 2022.</p>	<p>Program completion by fiscal 2028</p>



**GOAL 12:
REDUCE WASTE AND TRANSITION
TO ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLES**

FSDS Context: To implement net-zero emissions in real property and conventional fleet operations,¹ the Government of Canada will reduce absolute Scope 1 and Scope 2² GHG emissions by 40% by 2025 and by at least 90% below 2005 levels by 2050. On this emissions reduction pathway, the government will aspire to reduce emissions by an additional 10% each 5 years starting in 2025.

Target theme: Federal Leadership on Responsible Consumption

Target: By 2030, the Government of Canada will divert from landfill at least 75% by weight of non-hazardous operational waste

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
Achieve LEED Gold at all modernized court facilities	Program: Corporate Services/PSPC	<p>Performance indicator: Certification obtained</p> <p>Starting point: April 1, 2023: The court facility located in Toronto is the only LEED Gold certified facility in CAS's real property portfolio.</p>	The granting of this certification confirms that a waste diversion strategy was in place during construction, that construction methodologies promoted waste avoidance, and that ongoing building operations are aligned to a low carbon footprint and low waste creation.

¹ The 40% and 90% absolute emission reduction targets do not apply to the National Safety and Security fleet.

² Scope 1 GHG emissions are the greenhouse gases produced directly from sources that are owned or controlled by the Government of Canada (for example, from the combustion of fuels in vehicles or in heating buildings). Scope 2 GHG emissions are those generated indirectly from the consumption of purchased energy (electricity, heating and cooling). Scope 3 GHG emissions are indirect emissions resulting from an organization's operations.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
		<p>Target: All projects included in the Court Facility Modernization Program will be LEED Gold certified or higher.</p>	

Target: By 2030, the Government of Canada will divert from landfill at least 90% by weight of all construction and demolition waste

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
Achieve LEED Gold at all modernized court facilities	Program: Corporate Services/PSPC	<p>Performance indicator: Certification obtained</p> <p>Starting point: April 1, 2023 The court facility located in Toronto is the only LEED Gold certified facility in CAS’s real property portfolio.</p> <p>Target: All projects included in the Court Facility Modernization Program will be LEED Gold certified or higher.</p>	The granting of this certification confirms that a waste diversion strategy was in place during construction, that construction methodologies promoted waste avoidance, and that ongoing building operations are aligned to a low carbon footprint and low waste creation.

Target: The Government of Canada’s procurement of goods and services will be net-zero emissions by 2050, to aid the transition to a net-zero, circular economy

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
<p>Develop criteria that address greenhouse gas emissions reduction for goods and services that have a high environmental impact. Transform light duty fleet to meet Canada’s 2030 Greening Government Fleets objective – net zero emission vehicles.</p>	<p>Program: Corporate Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: 100% of vehicles purchased are hybrid, electric or zero emission.</p> <p>Starting point: Data fleet log updated in 2023-2024.</p> <p>Target: Incremental progress towards further greening of vehicle fleet. Transform fleet of seven vehicles from gas powered to hybrid vehicles by 2026/2027.</p>	<p>CAS will aim to meet the following transformational goals and within the schedule prescribe below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hybrid vehicle by end of 2023-2024 fiscal year • 3 hybrid or electrical vehicles by the end of 2024-2025 fiscal year • 1 hybrid or electrical vehicle by the end of the 2025-2026 fiscal year • 2 hybrid or electrical vehicles by the end of the 20226-2027 fiscal year. <p>By meetings its target CAS will be on track to meet Canada’s agenda of Greening Government Fleets by 2050.</p>
<p>Strengthen green procurement criteria, ensure the criteria are included in procurements; and support green procurement, including guidance, tools and training for public service employees.</p>	<p>Program: Corporate Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of purchases that utilizes standing offers and supply arrangements available to federal department that includes criteria that address environmental considerations. • Percentage of light-duty-on-road fleet that comprises zero-emissions vehicles, including battery, electric, plug-in hybrid, and hydrogen fuel. 	<p>Strengthening procurement criteria will help CAS and the GoC meet its net-zero emission objective by 2050.</p>

		<p>Starting point: \$ Value of expenditure through Standing Offers and Supply Arrangements (SOSA) that includes environmental criteria in 2023-2024. 2. Each year, at least 75% of purchases of new light-duty, on-road fleet vehicles for the conventional fleet will be zero-emission vehicles or hybrids, where suitable options are available and meet operational feasibility. Priority is to be given to purchasing zero emission vehicles.</p> <p>Target: Net-zero procurement of goods by 2050 in line with the GoC target.</p>	
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Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “Reduce waste and transition to zero-emission vehicles” but not a specific FSDS target

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
Support of the government’s “Greening of Government Strategy” through update of CAS’s net-zero climate-resilient real property portfolio plan every 5 years.	Program: Corporate Services/PSPC	<p>Performance indicator: CAS has a revised real property portfolio plan in place every 5 years.</p> <p>Starting point: 2024-2025</p> <p>Target:</p>	Will help CAS identify opportunities for portfolio rationalization; sharing facilities; maximizing energy efficiency, and switching to lower carbon fuels all geared

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
		Updated net-zero climate-resilient real property portfolio plans will ensure that climate risks to critical and high-value assets are assessed as soon as possible (and no later than 2030), and measures to these reduce risks are implemented no later than 2035.	towards supporting the net-zero target by 2050. Will help CAS determine the most cost-effective pathway to achieve net-zero by 2050.

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

The following initiatives demonstrate how CAS’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS
Court Facilities Modernization Program (funding approved in Budgets 2019 and 2021).	Program completion by 2028.



GOAL 13: TAKE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

FSDS Context:

Taking action on climate change by reducing emission of greenhouse gases and short-lived climate pollutants and building resilience that directly supports the [United Nation's SDG Global Indicator Framework](#)

Targets:

13.1: strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters

13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

13.3: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

Target theme: Federal Leadership on Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions and Climate Resilience

Target: The Government of Canada will transition to net-zero carbon operations for facilities and conventional fleets by 2050 (All Ministers)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
<p>Implement the Greening Government Strategy through measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve climate resilience, and greening of the government's overall operations</p>	<p>Program: Corporate Services</p> <p>Reduce GHG emission from federal government facilities and fleet by 40% below 2005 levels</p> <p>Ensure all procurement officers and decision makers have necessary training and awareness to support green procurement.</p>	<p>Performance indicator: Percentage of procurement specialists and material management specialists who have completed training on green procurement.</p> <p>Starting point: In baseline year 2022-2023, percentage of procurement specialist and material management specialists trained in green procurement.</p> <p>Target 100% procurement specialist and material management specialist</p>	<p>Implement a fleet reduction plan within CAS inventory to reduce fleet GHG emission. Plan will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install telematics on all fleet vehicles to collect and analyze vehicle usage data • Eliminate old or underutilized vehicles • Replace current inefficient fuel consuming vehicles with more fuel efficient including use of hybrid and /or all electric models. • Train fleet managers on vehicle fleet best practices • All new executive vehicles purchases will be ZEV or hybrid
<p>Modernize through net-zero carbon buildings</p> <p>CAS will work with PSPC to analyze current carbon footprint.</p>	<p>Program: Corporate Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Availability of carbon foot print data for all CAS buildings 2. Confirmation that CAS is occupying buildings that have a net zero footprint. <p>Starting point:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CAS currently does not have this data. 2. CAS currently is not occupying any net zero space. 	<p>Engagement on net-zero carbon buildings with PSPC will promote a preference for zero carbon buildings as future opportunities present.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
		<p>Target:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Obtain the data before the end of fiscal 2025. 2. All CAS space is net zero by 2050. 	
<p>Apply a greenhouse gas reduction life-cycle cost analysis for major building retrofits</p>	<p>Program: Corporate Services/PSPC</p>	<p>Performance indicator: LEED Certifications obtained on court facility modernization projects.</p> <p>Starting point: The court facility located in Toronto is the only LEED Gold certified facility in CAS's portfolio at the time of publication.</p> <p>Target: All projects included in the Court Facility Modernization Program will be LEED Gold certified or higher.</p>	<p>Through understanding the current carbon footprint, CAS will be able to target investments where there is influence within the department to reduce emissions and outside of direct influence, support PSPC decisions as appropriate.</p> <p>In the long term, adopting a net zero posture internally will provide the basis for promoting net zero solutions when engaging with PSPC for future real estate acquisitions and lease renewals.</p>
<p>Implement the Greening Government Strategy through measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve climate resilience, and green the government's overall operations</p>	<p>Program: Corporate Services/PSPC</p>	<p>Performance indicator: LEED Certifications obtained on court facility modernization projects.</p> <p>Starting point: The court facility located in Toronto is the only LEED Gold certified facility in CAS's portfolio at the time of publication.</p>	<p>The granting of this certification confirms that a waste diversion strategy was in place during construction, that construction methodologies promoted waste avoidance, and that ongoing building operations are aligned to a low carbon footprint and low waste creation.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
		<p>Target: All projects included in the Court Facility Modernization Program will be LEED Gold certified or higher.</p>	

Target: The Government of Canada will transition to climate resilient operations by 2050

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
<p>Reduce risks posed by climate change to federal assets, services and operations</p> <p>Undertake an analysis on the impact of climate change to the CAS facility portfolio.</p>	<p>Program: Corporate Services / PSPC</p>	<p>Performance indicator: Availability of details on potential impacts of climate change on court operations.</p> <p>Starting point: CAS currently does not have data and/or details on the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Target: Obtain details on the impacts of climate change by the end of fiscal 2025.</p>	<p>Understanding the impacts of climate change will allow CAS an opportunity to fully assess the impacts on Court operations and make relevant recommendations to mitigate any risks.</p>

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal **“Take action on climate change and its impacts”** but not a specific FSDS target

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
<p>Undertake an analysis on the impact of climate change to the CAS facility portfolio.</p>	<p>Program: Corporate Services /PSPC</p>	<p>Performance indicator: Availability of detailed report with relevant data on potential impacts of climate change on court operations.</p>	<p>Understanding the impacts of climate change on court operations will allow CAS an opportunity to fully assess the impacts and make relevant recommendations to mitigate any risks.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS
		<p>Starting point: CAS currently does not have data and/or details on the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Target: Completion of analysis having reach objective to fill the data gap by the end of fiscal 2025.</p>	

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 13 – Climate Action

The following initiatives demonstrate how CAS’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS
Study on the impacts of climate change on court facilities and the operations of the courts.	N/A

SECTION 5

Integrating Sustainable Development

CAS will continue to ensure that its decision-making process includes consideration of FSDS goals and targets through its Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process. An SEA for a policy, plan or program proposal includes an analysis of the impacts of the given proposal on the environment, including on relevant FSDS goals and targets.

Public statements on the results of CAS's assessments are made public when an initiative that has undergone a detailed SEA (see [here](#)). The purpose of the public statement is to demonstrate that the environmental effects, including the impacts on achieving the FSDS goals and targets, of the approved policy, plan or program have been considered during proposal development and decision-making.

