

# 2023 to 2027 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy

Health Canada

Health Canada is the federal department responsible for helping the people of Canada maintain and improve their health. Health Canada is committed to improving the lives of all of Canada's people and to making this country's population among the healthiest in the world as measured by longevity, lifestyle and effective use of the public health care system.

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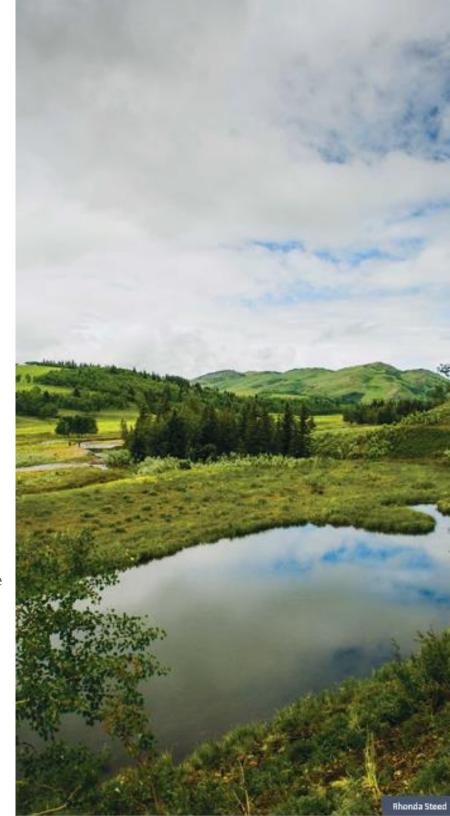
# Introduction to the Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy

The 2022 to 2026 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy (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, Health Canada 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 <u>7 principles</u> that must be considered in the development of the FSDS as well as DSDSs. These basic principles have been considered and incorporated in Health Canada's DSDS.

In order to promote 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 Canada's Annual Report on the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.



# Health Canada's Sustainable Development Vision

Health Canada has the responsibility to help Canadians maintain and improve their health. The Department recognizes that a healthy sustainable environment is integral for human well-being. It is with this goal in mind that the Department commits to making Canada's population among the healthiest in the world.

Health Canada's main responsibilities are as a regulator, a catalyst for innovation, a funder, and an information provider. Health Canada provides national leadership to foster sustainable health care systems that ensure access for Canadians to appropriate and effective health care. This is mainly achieved through partnerships with provincial/territorial governments and support through targeted funding agreements to organizations and key pan-Canadian health partners that are contributing to health system improvements. Health Canada works with domestic and international partners to assess, manage, and communicate the health and safety risks and benefits associated with health and consumer products, food, chemicals, pesticides, environmental factors, tobacco and vaping products, cannabis, and controlled substances. These risks are managed through rigorous regulatory frameworks and by communicating risks and benefits to Canadians so that they can make informed decisions.

# Supporting FSDS Goals and Targets

Health Canada advances work on multiple fronts where environmental health, social and economic sustainability and human health intersect. The Minister of Health is responsible for three FSDS targets related to mental health, cigarette smoking and air quality. In addition, the Minister of Health along with all Ministers, is responsible for five FSDS targets that are part of a whole of government approach related to federal leadership on responsible consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and climate resilience. The Minister of Health also supports the whole of government approach to climate change mitigation and adaption and the implementation of the *United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.

Health Canada contributes to seven of the seventeen goals identified in the FSDS:

# GOAL 2: SUPPORT A HEALTHIER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM

Food systems, including the way food is produced, processed, distributed, consumed, and disposed of, have direct impacts on the lives of Canadians and are integral to the well-being of communities. Health Canada is committed to supporting a sustainable food system by providing access to healthy and safe foods.

# GOAL 3: SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH AND ADOPT HEALTHY BEHAVIOURS

Establishing good health and promoting well-being at every stage in life is central for creating a sustainable and prosperous environment to thrive in. Health Canada helps Canadians maintain and improve their health by improving access to mental health services, promoting healthier lifestyles such as healthier eating, taking action on reducing tobacco use and vaping, and support to address substance use harms.

# GOAL 6: ENSURE CLEAN AND SAFE WATER FOR ALL CANADIANS

Clean drinking water is a fundamental human need, and ensuring all people in Canada have clean drinking water is a priority of the federal government. Health Canada works with provincial and territorial governments to establish maximum acceptable concentrations of contaminants in drinking water and action values for recreational water, which are used to determine the need for swimming advisories.

- GOAL 10: ADVANCE RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND TAKE ACTION ON INEQUALITY
  Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples is essential to addressing social, economic and environmental inequalities. Health Canada supports the implementation of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* to promote diversity, equity and inclusion.
- GOAL 11: IMPROVE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING, CLEAN AIR, TRANSPORTATION, PARKS AND GREEN SPACES AS WELL CULTURAL HERITAGE IN CANADA

Air pollution has an impact on human health and worsens health issues, such as asthma, for millions of people living in Canada. Health Canada's science and outreach activities support improvements to air quality and provide people in Canada with information to protect their health.

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

Health Canada supports efforts to transition to a more circular economy through programs such as the Chemicals Management Plan and actions to reduce plastic waste and pollution. The Department also takes steps in support of operations that are net-zero, resilient and green, in alignment with the Government of Canada's Greening Government Strategy.

# GOAL 13: TAKE ACTIONS ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

While all people in Canada are at risk from the health impacts of climate change, it is likely to exacerbate and create new inequities that impact health and well-being. Health Canada provides information, new science findings and tools to decision-makers, such as health regions and practitioners, to help protect human health and health systems from climate impacts. The Department also takes steps to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions from facilities and fleet in alignment with the Government of Canada's Greening Government Strategy.

# Supporting the UN 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the SDGs

The <u>2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</u>, adopted by Canada and all 193 United Nations member states in 2015, is a global framework centered around an ambitious set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), covering the interconnected economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. It aims to eradicate poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity by the year 2030. <u>The UN Global Indicator Framework (GIF)</u> sets targets to guide efforts in achieving the SDGs.

Moving forward Together: Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy was published in February 2021 and defines Canada's commitment to advancing progress on the SDGs through engagement and action. A <u>Federal Implementation Plan</u> has also been developed to articulate how the Government of Canada will contribute to the advancement of the National Strategy at the federal level and how it will report on progress to Canadians. Progress is measured through the <u>Canadian Indicator Framework (CIF)</u> established in 2021.

Health Canada contributes to the domestic implementation of the 2030 Agenda through ongoing policies, programs and initiatives under the following SDGs:

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-BeingSDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

SDG 13: Climate Action

Health Canada supports these SDGs by fostering sustainable health care; access to community-based substance use and mental health services; promoting healthier living; developing drinking water and recreational water guidelines and standards for air pollution; supporting the safe management of chemicals; and initiatives to build climate change resilience. Additional information about how the Department contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy, is included in Section 4 of this document.

# Listening to Canadians

As required by the *Federal Sustainable Development Act*, Health Canada has taken into account comments on the draft 2022-2026 FSDS that were provided 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. 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

Across the submissions received, Health Canada identified the key sustainable development priorities and issues. Suggestions for improvement focussed on the opportunity to expand the social dimension of sustainable development in the FSDS, for example the inclusion of mental health and healthy behaviours such as measures to address substance use related harms.

# What We Did

The above-mentioned issues were considered in the development of Health Canada's 2023-2027 DSDS and the relevant programs and performance indicators reflecting these priorities are profiled under the goals to which Health Canada contributes. Feedback and comments received as part of the public consultations, particularly the need to strike a better balance between all three dimensions of sustainable development, helped to shape the final 2022-2026 FSDS and were addressed by significantly restructuring the themes in Goal 3. The restructured focus of Goal 3 now encompasses actions related to mental health and healthy behaviours, which are further expanded upon in Health Canada's 2023-27 DSDS with specific performance measures.

Please find more information on the FSDS public consultation and its results in the FSDS Consultation Report

# Health Canada's Commitments

















### **FSDS Context:**

Under the *Food and Drugs Act* and *Food and Drug Regulations*, Health Canada contributes to this goal by ensuring Canadians have access to safe and healthy foods through implementing food safety and nutritional quality policies, regulations and standards for foods sold in Canada, including conducting pre-market safety assessments of products as a measure to protect the health and safety of Canadians. An example of providing safe access to food is the Total Diet Study that Health Canada leads, which is a surveillance program that monitors and helps identify contaminants in food sold in Canada, allowing informed risk management actions.

Health Canada continues to take steps to re-design food regulations to reduce barriers that prevent industry from bringing innovative products to market, while protecting the health and safety of Canadians and ensuring that Canadians have access to safe and healthy foods.

# Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal "Support a healthier and more sustainable food system" 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
Ensure the safety of Canada's food system	Re-design food regulations to reduce barriers that prevent industry from bringing innovative products to market	<b>Performance Indicator</b> : Percentage of current and emerging high-risk food safety and nutrition issues which generate the	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 2 - Support a Healthier and More Sustainable Food System by

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Ensure the safety of Canada's food system through regulations, monitoring and programming.	(e.g., foods that use new processes and technologies).  Program: Food and Nutrition	development of a regulatory or non-regulatory response  Starting point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)	implementing food safety and nutritional quality regulations and standards for all foods sold in Canada under the authority of the Food and Drugs Act and Food and Drug Regulations. Health Canada conducts pre-market safety assessments to ensure that decisions taken by the Department protect the health and safety of Canadians. The re-design of food regulations provides greater flexibility and agility to respond to advances in science and technology, and allow new paths to market (e.g., supplemented foods).  Relevant targets or ambitions:  GIF Target: 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.
	Continue to monitor concentrations of chemical contaminants in foods.  Program: Food and Nutrition	Performance Indicator: Percentage of Total Diet Study (TDS) Surveillance Data for priority chemicals uploaded to the publicly accessible Canadian Laboratory Information Network (CANLINE) database  Starting point: New indicator  Target: 100% (annual)	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 2 - Support a Healthier and More Sustainable Food System by identifying contaminants in foods that are typically consumed by Canadians. The Canadian Total Diet Study (TDS) is a food surveillance program that enables Health Canada to monitor the concentrations of contaminants in foods sold in Canada in order to determine the key dietary sources, assess trends, support the development of food safety policies and regulations. When food surveillance data sets are finalized they are posted to

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			CANLINE which is a searchable database for chemical, nutritional, and microbiological laboratory surveillance data. Posting the source data on CANLINE ensures that Health Canada's decision making about food safety is done in a transparent way and that all Canadians have access to the data that is used to support the decision making helping to ensure trust in the food supply, and ultimately supporting a sustainable and sufficient food supply.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  GIF Target: 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.
	Respond to food safety incidents, including foodborne illness outbreaks in a timely manner.  Program: Food and Nutrition	Performance Indicator: Percentage of health risk assessments provided to Health Canada partners within service standards  Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: at least 90% (annual)	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 2 - Support a Healthier and More Sustainable Food System by conducting food-related health risk assessments. The health risk assessments determine the presence of a certain substance or microorganism in food that poses a risk to consumers. If it is found that a substance or microorganism in food poses a human health risk, risk management actions are taken to reduce, and if possible, eliminate any risk that is posed to people that consume the food in question.  Relevant targets or ambitions:

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			GIF Target: 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.
	Strengthen food chemical safety oversight of food packaging materials.  Program: Food and Nutrition	Performance Indicator: Percentage of industry applicants who indicate that the updated Health Canada Guidelines for recycled plastics in food packaging was used to prepare a submission requesting a food safety opinion about the use of these materials in food packaging applications  Starting Point: New initiative  Target: at least 90% (annual)	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 2 - Support a Healthier and More Sustainable Food System through pre-market assessments of applications related to food packaging using recycled materials that are voluntarily submitted by industry. The use of recycled plastics was an area where a higher risk to food safety was identified. These assessments examine the chemical safety and the potential transfer of harmful chemicals from recycled food packaging to food. Pre-market evaluations of the safety of the use of recycled plastics in food packaging applications supports the use of these applications which can contribute to food sustainability via increased shelf-life while ensuring the safety of the food. Feedback from industry about the guidance provided is collected and analysed on an ongoing basis to facilitate its use.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  GIF Target: 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.



# GOAL 3: SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH AND ADOPT HEALTHY BEHAVIOURS

# **FSDS Context:**

In support of mental health, Health Canada provides funding to provinces, territories, and other stakeholders and monitors the impact of these federal investments on improving access to evidence-supported mental health, addictions, and substance use health services and supports for Canadians. Health Ministers have agreed to work collectively and with the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) to develop a focused set of common indicators to measure pan-Canadian progress on the agreed priorities of mental health and addictions, to be reported on annually to Canadians. These indicators will allow for tracking of trends over time. To monitor and measure progress in supporting access to mental health and substance use supports, the Department works with national research focused organizations such as CIHI and Statistics Canada.

Additionally, the Department also works with provinces, territories and regional stakeholders on a wide range of issues, including improving access to community based mental health and substance use health supports for populations with the greatest need, such as Integrated Youth Services (IYS), the development of national standards for mental health and substance use services, and evidence-based knowledge products that can be used by health care providers and organizations, decision makers and community-based organizations to address mental health and addictions.

Substance use-related harms continue to cause devastating health and social effects on Canadians from every walk of life. Through the Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy (CDSS) and the Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP), Health Canada supports harm reduction, treatment, and prevention by providing funding for community-based projects. The Department works with all levels of government, partners, stakeholders and people with lived and living experience to take a comprehensive approach in addressing substance use and the overdose crisis, including monitoring national trends in the use of alcohol, psychoactive pharmaceuticals and illegal drugs. Similarly, Canada's Tobacco Strategy aims to help people in Canada quit using tobacco and to protect the health of young people and people who do not smoke. The Department also addresses the health risks associated with the use of vaping products and works to prevent their use among youth. The Program supports scientific research, surveillance, policy and regulatory development,

public education and outreach, and compliance and enforcement activities for tobacco and vaping products; and supports work done around the world as a part of the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

The Department promotes healthy behaviours and healthy eating through resources to help people increase their knowledge and use of <u>Canada's food guide</u> in their everyday lives. Health Canada also continues to advance the Healthy Eating Strategy, which aims to improve healthy eating information; strengthen labelling claims; improve the nutrition quality of foods; and protect vulnerable populations.

**Target theme:** Mental health

**Target:** By March 2027, reduce the percentage of Canadians (aged 15+) with a mental disorder who have expressed that they have an unmet care need to 22% at most (Minister of Health)

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
Collect data and information to inform evidence-based decisions  Undertake research activities; and, monitor, collect and analyze scientific evidence to inform strategies, address emerging issues, and identify data gaps.	Monitor the impact of federal investments that support improving access to evidence-supported mental health, addictions, and substance use health services and supports for Canadians.  Program: Responsive Health Care Systems (Mental Health – Shared Health Priorities)	Performance Indicator: Proportion of individuals aged 15 and older who said that they had always or usually had the support* necessary to move within and between formal mental health and substance use (MHSU) services in the past year once they accessed services  *Support refers to receiving the guidance, assistance or resources needed to navigate MHSU services from a professional.  Starting point: 41% in 2022  Note: Annual reporting against the indicator.  Performance Indicator: Median number of calendar days that clients waited for ongoing counselling services from the date that the	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3- Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours and the mental health target by collecting data and information on a range of indicators that can help to identify gaps in access to mental health and substance use services. Health Ministers have agreed to work collectively and with the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) to develop a focused set of common indicators to measure pan-Canadian progress on the agreed priorities of mental health and addictions, to be reported on annually to Canadians. This will allow for the monitoring of trends over time to assess progress in supporting access to mental health and substance use supports. Access to supports and care is critical to allow for

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		initial referral was received to the date of the first scheduled counselling session  Starting point: 22 days in 2020-21  Note: Annual reporting against the indicator.  Performance Indicator: Number of individuals that are admitted to hospital or die due to self-harm  Starting point: 70 per 100,000 in 2020-21  Note: Annual reporting against the indicator.  Performance Indicator: Percentage of frequent* emergency room visits for help with mental health and substance use  *Frequent refers to at least four emergency room visits per year.  Starting point: 9.5% in 2021-22  Note: Annual reporting against the indicator.  Performance Indicator: Proportion of children and youth aged 12 to 24 with early mental health and substance use (MHSU) needs who accessed community-based MHSU services in the last 6 months  Starting point: 61% in 2022	early intervention, which is vital to effective treatment and recovery.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 3.7 Canadians have healthy and satisfying lives.  CIF Indicator: 3.7.1 Percentage of Canadians who perceived their mental health as very good to excellent.  CIF Ambition: 3.12 Canada prevents causes of premature death.  CIF Target: Reduction from the previous year in the incidence of opioid and stimulant overdose related harms.  CIF Indicator: 3.12.1 Incidence of opioid and stimulate overdose related harms.  GIF Targets:  3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being.  3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.
		Note: Annual reporting against the indicator.	

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
Work with partners and stakeholders to expand access to mental health services  Work with provinces and territories, partners and stakeholders to improve access to community-based mental health and substance use services, including access to virtual mental health services, for children and youth, and those living in rural and remote areas.	Provide funding for knowledge products that support inclusive, people-centred health care services.  Program: Healthy People and Communities (Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) Contribution Program)	Performance Indicator: Number of significant knowledge products* produced  *Knowledge products (e.g., webinars, training materials, case studies, research reports) are products that are created or transform prior knowledge and experience into a tangible artifact in order to present, communicate and teach new audiences. Knowledge products are a tangible resource based on high quality evidence and created for specific target audiences with the specific result in mind, such as increased awareness, increased knowledge, or influence on a policy or a practice. MHCC produces knowledge products in four priority areas: suicide prevention, population-based initiatives, engagement with Canadians and mental health & substance use (MHSU) integration.  Starting point: 92 in 2022-23  Target: 176* by March 31, 2024  *This includes knowledge products funded through sources other than Health Canada.  Note: this indicator is reported on annually, but targets set vary from year to year depending on the scope of the year's planned initiatives. Targets are not cumulative and are specific to each fiscal year.  Performance Indicator: Percentage of health care providers and organizations who report they are better equipped with the knowledge they need to address mental health and wellness issues as a result of knowledge products received	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 - Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours and the mental health target by supporting the activities of the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) to create evidence-based knowledge products and mobilize knowledge among health care providers and organizations, decision-makers, and community-based organizations. This helps to target under-addressed needs of the people they serve and can also test innovative approaches to improve services.  Healthcare providers that have acquired appropriate resources (including knowledge, skills, and tools), will adapt their health practices to better address the needs of their patients; decision-makers in communities and health organizations that have acquired knowledge apply inclusive peoplecentred improvements to policies and programs; and service providers may implement initiatives that better address the needs of their patients with MHSU needs. Further, healthcare providers having appropriate knowledge, skills, and tools that increase their capacity to support the population they serve allows an expanded number of Canadians to have access to evidence-based MHSU supports and services.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.

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
		Starting point: 80% in 2022-23  Target: 80% by March 31, 2024  Note: this indicator is reported on annually, but targets set vary from year to year depending on the scope of the year's planned initiatives. Targets are not cumulative and are specific to each fiscal year.	Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 3.7 Canadians have healthy and satisfying lives. CIF Target: Percentage of Canadians who perceived their mental health as very good to excellent.  CIF Ambition: 3.12 Canada prevents causes of premature death. CIF Target: Reduction from the previous year in the incidence of opioid and stimulant overdose related harms. CIF Indicator: 3.12.1 Incidence of opioid and stimulate overdose related harms.  GIF Targets: 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being. 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.

**Target theme:** Adopting healthy behaviours

**Target:** By March 2035, at most 5% of Canadians (aged 15+) are current cigarette smokers (Minister of Health)

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 Canadians in making healthier and more informed choices by: investing in multi-sectoral community based projects; providing access to tools and information; developing targeted public education campaigns and resources to help support healthy behaviours (for example, physical activity, healthy eating and tobacco cessation) and understand health risks; engaging in outreach activities; and fostering international collaboration and coordination on issues related to healthy living.  (Note: This implementation strategy includes departmental actions that support both the goal and the target.)	Invest in public education, raising awareness of substance use harms and the importance of reducing the stigma towards people who use drugs.  Program: Controlled Substances	Performance Indicator: Number of innovative and evidence-based health intervention projects related to substance use funded by the Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP)  Note: This indicator is being reviewed as part of the updated Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy (CDSS) to address substance use in Canada.  Starting point: 310 intervention projects (controlled substances, cannabis, tobacco, and vaping) funded in 2022-23  Target: A target will be established in 2023-24 as part of the updated CDSS	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 - Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours and the cigarette smoking target by providing funding to community-based organizations at the regional and national levels through the Substance Use and Addictions grant and contribution Program (SUAP). SUAP provides funding for a wide range of innovative and evidence-informed projects addressing problematic substance use prevention, harm reduction and treatment initiatives across the country. Projects target a range of psychoactive substances, including opioids, stimulants, cannabis, alcohol, nicotine and tobacco, at the community, regional and national levels. The objective of these projects are varied but in general they aim to support Canadians in adopting healthy behaviours.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 3.2 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours.  CIF Target: By 2023, less than 10% of students (grades 7-12) have used a vaping

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			product (e-cigarettes only) in the past 30 days.  CIF Indicator: 3.2.1 Prevalence of vaping among youth.
			CIF Ambition: 3.4 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours (prevalence of harmful alcohol use) CIF Target: (no specific target)
			CIF Ambition: 3.12 Canada prevents causes of premature death.  CIF Target: Reduction from the previous year in the incidence of opioid and stimulant overdose related harms.  CIF Indicator: 3.12.1 Incidence of opioid and stimulant overdose related harms.
			CIF Ambition: 3.13 Canada prevents causes of premature death. CIF Target: By 2035, less than 5% of Canadians (aged 15+) are cigarette smokers. CIF Indicator: Prevalence of cigarette smoking.
			GIF Targets: 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being. 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.

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			3.a. Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate.
	Provide information to Canadians and stakeholders to support them in using Health Canada's dietary guidance (e.g., Canada food guide).  Program: Food and Nutrition	Performance Indicator: Percentage increase in number of website visits that support the use of Canada's dietary guidance  Starting point: New indicator  Target: Target to be set following establishment of baseline in 2023-24	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 - Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours by communicating Health Canada's dietary guidance in relevant and accessible ways so as to support Canadians in using the guidance, and stakeholders in integrating the dietary guidance into their policies, programs and resources across Canada. This action supports adopting and maintaining healthy behaviours, specifically eating healthily, which can contribute to reducing the risk of noncommunicable diseases.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 3.1 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours.  CIF Target: By March 31, 2022, 30% of Canadians report eating fruits and vegetables 5 or more times per day.  CIF Indicator: Percentage of Canadians who report eating fruits and vegetables 5 or more times per day.  GIF Target: 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases through

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				prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being.

# Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal "Support mental health and adopt healthy behaviours" 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
Address substance use harms  Support prevention, harm reduction and treatment initiatives in communities across the country. Work with partners to improve access to services for people who use drugs and to counteract stigma.	Support greater access to prevention, harm reduction and treatment initiatives in communities.  Program: Controlled Substances	Performance Indicator: Percentage of total available contribution funding allocated*  Starting point: 84% of funding allocated in 2022-23 (\$154,083,629)  Target: 95% by March 31, 2024 (amount available only after March 31, 2024)  *Available contribution funding varies every year.	The departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 - Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours by providing funding for increased prevention, harm reduction and treatment capacity in communities, which contributes to healthier behaviours through the Substance Use and Addictions Program.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 3.12 Canada prevents causes of premature death.  .  CIF Target: Reduction from the previous year in the incidence of opioid and stimulant overdose related harms.  CIF Indicator: 3.12.1 Incidence of opioid and stimulant overdose related harms  GIF Targets: 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being.

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
			3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.
Collect data and information to inform evidence-based decisions  Undertake research activities; and, monitor, collect and analyze scientific evidence to inform strategies, address emerging issues, and identify data gaps and opportunities for disaggregated data to improve outcomes.	Monitor national trends in the use of alcohol.  Program: Controlled Substances	Performance Indicator: Absolute volume for total per capita sales of alcoholic beverages  Note: This indicator is being reviewed as part of the updated Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy (CDSS) to address substance use in Canada  Starting point: In 2021-22, the absolute volume for total per capita sales of alcoholic beverages was 8.1  Target: A target will be established in 2023-24 as part of the updated CDSS	The departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 - Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours by supporting ongoing monitoring of alcohol use to inform public health interventions and effective prevention strategies, that contribute to the adoption of healthier behaviours.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 3.4 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours.  CIF Indicator: 3.4.1 Prevalence of harmful alcohol use.  GIF Target: 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.
	Monitor national trends and conduct research studies in vaping and smoking  Program: Tobacco Control	Performance Indicator: Percentage of completed projects* that have been summarized into briefing materials and distributed to internal and external stakeholders  *Research and surveillance projects for smoking and vaping	The departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 - Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours by addressing tobacco and vaping product use in Canada. The Department contributes to scientific research and surveillance to support evidence-based decision making related to tobacco and vaping (excluding Cannabis vaping). The Tobacco Control Program

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
		Starting point: 83% in 2022-23  Target: 90% by March 31, 2024	monitors smoking and vaping trends based on socio-demographic characteristics. This information informs future regulatory and policy initiatives for effective interventions to help adopt healthy behaviours. For example, the Program works to address concerns regarding youth vaping and aims to protect youth and non-users of tobacco products from nicotine addiction.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 3.2 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours.  CIF Target: By 2023, less than 10% of students (grades 7-12) have used a vaping product (e-cigarettes only) in the past 30 days.  CIF Indicator: 3.2.1 Prevalence of vaping among youth.  CIF Ambition: 3.13 Canada prevents causes of premature death.  CIF Target: By 2035, less than 5% of Canadians (aged 15+) are cigarette smokers.  CIF Indicator: Prevalence of cigarette smoking.  GIF Targets: 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through

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
			prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being. 3.a. Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate.

# Initiatives advancing Canada's implementation of SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being

The following initiatives demonstrate how Health Canada'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
Canada's Healthy Eating Strategy aims to improve the food environment in Canada to make it easier for Canadians to make healthier choices. The strategy is made up of complementary initiatives to: improve healthy eating information, improve the nutritional quality of foods, protect vulnerable populations, and support increased access to and availability of nutritious foods.  Health Canada is implementing strategies to show Canadians how to use Canada's food guide and apply food guide recommendations in their everyday lives. This includes a social marketing campaign directed at youth and young adults from lower income and culturally diverse populations, to support them in developing their food skills including how to use recipes to cook healthy meals and snacks. As well, a food guide monthly enewsletter will prioritize 'hard to reach' populations, including newcomers to Canada.	This work contributes to advancing:  CIF Ambition: 3.1 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours.  CIF Target: By March 31, 2024, 30% of Canadians report eating fruits and vegetables 5 or more times per day.  GIF Target:  3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and wellbeing.
Through <u>Bilateral Agreements for Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addiction Services</u> with provincial and territorial governments, Health Canada continues to expand access to care at home and in the community, reducing reliance on more expensive facility-based infrastructure. These agreements also provide funding	This work contributes to advancing:  CIF Ambition: 3.7 Canadians have healthy and satisfying lives.  CIF Target: Percentage of Canadians who perceived their mental health as very good to excellent.

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS
for provinces and territories to expand access to community-based mental health and substance use services, with a focus on integrating services with primary care, expanding services for children and youth and for individuals with complex cases.  This work is strengthened through the establishment and application of standards for long-term care to ensure seniors, and those in care, live in safe and dignified conditions. Similarly, the development of national standards for mental health and substance use services, in collaboration with key partners and stakeholders, will enable the use of evidence-based tools to help ensure services meet a consistent level of care and are sensitive to a wide range of needs. Standards will also help to advance equity in the delivery of high-quality mental health and substance use services for diverse populations that face barriers to care.  The Wellness Together Canada portal helps to advance equitable access to quality mental health and substance use care for Canadians through mental health and substance use supports and services that can be easily accessed online, by phone or by text at no cost. This supports populations facing barriers to care, including those in isolated or remote areas.  The Government of Canada introduced Canada's first national dental benefit to improve access to dental care services for children under 12, since oral health is a major contributor to overall health and well-being and evidence has shown that socioeconomic factors, including income, education, employment, are determinants of oral health.	CIF Ambition: 3.12 Canada prevents causes of premature death. CIF Target: Reduction from the previous year in the incidence of opioid and stimulant overdose related harms.  GIF Targets: 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and wellbeing. 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.  This work contributes to advancing: CIF Ambition: 3 Canadians have healthy and satisfying lives.  GIF Target: 3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.
<ul> <li>Canada's Tobacco Strategy aims to help Canadians who smoke, to quit or reduce the harms of their addiction to nicotine and to protect the health of young people and non-smokers from the dangers of tobacco use.</li> <li>Health Canada continues to support organizations at the community, regional and national levels through the Substance Use and Addictions Program by furthering public education and awareness about the use of tobacco and vaping products through projects aiming to:         <ul> <li>inform Canadians about cessation interventions for people who smoke and youth who vape;</li> <li>encourage and support attempts to quit; and,</li> <li>address information or knowledge gaps such as the health impacts of vaping.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	This work contributes to advancing:  CIF Ambition: 3.2 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours. CIF Target: By 2023, less than 10% of students (grades 7-12) have used a vaping product (e-cigarettes only) in the past 30 days.  CIF Ambition: 3.13 Canada prevents causes of premature death. CIF Target: By 2035, less than 5% of Canadians (aged 15+) are cigarette smokers.  GIF Targets: 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being.

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS
Health Canada will also contribute to strengthening the global implementation of the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) through its role as Regional Coordinator for the Americas for the Conference of the Parties to the FCTC.	3.a. Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate.
The <u>Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy</u> incorporates a comprehensive, collaborative, compassionate and evidence-based approach to drug policy with the aim	This work contributes to advancing:
to prevent and minimize substance use harms through initiatives that address substance use prevention, harm reduction and treatment.	CIF Ambition: 3.4 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours (prevalence of harmful alcohol use).
Health Canada continues to modernize the policies and operational procedures governing supervised consumption sites and services, to support those most vulnerable and impacted by the overdose crisis, including:	CIF Ambition: 3.12 Canada prevents causes of premature death. CIF Target: Reduction from the previous year in the incidence of opioid and stimulant overdose related harms.
<ul> <li>establishing temporary overdose prevention sites to help people stay safe from overdoses; and,</li> <li>establishing other harm reduction activities (drug checking/virtual supervision of drug consumption) to prevent overdoses and overdose deaths.</li> </ul>	GIF Target: 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.
Health Canada continues to support organizations at the community, regional and national levels to improve access to prevention, harm reduction and treatment services, naloxone training and distribution, and the safer supply of prescription opioids.	
There will be particular focus on priority populations (e.g., children and youth, men aged 20-60 working in trades, Indigenous Peoples, Black Canadians and other racialized groups, etc.) and applying an equity lens to data and policy.	



### **FSDS Context:**

Approximately 20% of the world's freshwater resources are in Canada, which amounts to 7% of the earth's renewable freshwater, making freshwater one of Canada's most valuable resources. Protecting water resources requires collaboration and partnership with provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples, municipalities, conservation authorities, and other governments and organizations.

Health Canada supports access to clean drinking water and recreational water through its work with federal, provincial and territorial partners to develop the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality and the Guidelines for Canadian Recreational Water Quality. These guidelines determine the maximum acceptable concentrations contaminants in drinking water and action values for recreational water, which are used by all jurisdictions to inform their own regulations and requirements.

# Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal **"Ensure clean and safe water for all Canadians"** 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
Work with partners on drinking water quality	Develop and/or update health-based drinking water and recreational water quality guidelines and guidance	<b>Performance Indicator</b> : Percentage of planned final water quality	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 6 - Ensuring Clean and Safe Water for All Canadians through work

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
Work with provinces and territories to develop the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality, which set out maximum acceptable concentrations of specific contaminants in drinking water. All provinces and territories use the guidelines as the basis for their regulations and requirements for drinking water quality and safety, ensuring that Canadians benefit from evidence-based decisions on Canadian fresh water.	documents in collaboration with Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) partners.  Program: Water Quality	guidelines/guidance documents published in Canada Gazette, Part I and online  Starting point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)	with other federal government departments and agencies and provincial and territorial governments to establish the science-based Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality. These guidelines are published in the Canada Gazette, Part I and online and are used by all jurisdictions in Canada as the basis for establishing their drinking water requirements and informing their recreational water requirements.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: Canadians have access to drinking water and use it in a sustainable manner.  GIF Targets: 6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all. 6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.

# Initiatives advancing Canada's implementation of SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation

The following initiatives demonstrate how Health Canada'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
Health Canada's Water Quality Program develops and updates health-based <u>Guidelines</u> for Canadian Drinking Water Quality and <u>Guidelines</u> for Canadian Recreational Water Quality in partnership with federal, provincial, and territorial partners for use by all jurisdictions in Canada to inform their own regulations and requirements.  Health Canada participates in the Strategic Water Management on Reserve Committee, which provides a key opportunity for meaningful engagement between the Assembly of First Nations and the federal government. The committee provides a forum for discussion and joint strategic action on safe drinking water and effective wastewater management in First Nations communities south of 60°.  Health Canada also works with Indigenous Services Canada to engage with First Nations organizations in the prioritization and review processes for drinking water guidelines.  Health Canada's international efforts to support global health initiatives to improve water quality include providing scientific advice and participating in collaborative research through fora such as the WHO Collaborating Centre on Environmental Health, the Pan-American Health Organization, and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.	This work contributes to advancing:  CIF Ambition: 6.2 Canadians have access to drinking water and use it in a sustainable manner  GIF Targets: 6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all. 6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.



# **FSDS Context:**

The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (the Act) came into force in June 2021 and contains three legal obligations, all to be carried out in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples. One of the three legal obligations is to take "all measures necessary" to ensure consistency of federal laws with the Declaration (section 5). For interim guidance, the Department of Justice provided a guide to support section 5 on how to conduct an analysis of initiatives on the rights and interests of Indigenous Peoples.

As part of the larger UN Declaration Implementation Strategy, Health Canada adapted the Department of Justice Guide to analyze new initiatives, including legislation and regulations. This adapted Guide allows employees to analyze initiatives for consistency with the UN Declaration and determine the depth of "consultation and cooperation" with Indigenous Peoples, and Health Canada tracks initiatives that support implementation of the Act.

In 2022, Health Canada established a new <u>Addressing Racism and Discrimination in Canada's Health System Program</u> to foster health systems free from racism and discrimination. The program provides contribution funding for projects that address current and emerging priorities related to addressing systemic racism and discrimination in Canada's health system in a way that is informed by the lived experience of Indigenous, racialized and marginalized communities. This includes support for activities such as developing anti-racism and discrimination training, tools and resources for health professionals, and developing standards and guidelines for cultural safety. The program also supports capacity development for Indigenous organizations to engage on their health priorities.

Health Canada recognizes that public servants are in a unique position to help build respectful relationships with Indigenous Peoples in Canada. Departmental employees have access to a suite of courses to increase cultural competency skills and awareness of issues related to First Nations, Inuit and Métis in Canada, and their knowledge of the UN Declaration. As part of Health Canada's commitment to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, the Department is preparing to implement an Indigenous Cultural Competency policy for Health Canada employees. This policy will help develop Health Canada employees' Indigenous cultural competency knowledge and skills in order to engage with Indigenous Peoples effectively and meaningfully and create culturally safe policies and programing.

To ensure an Indigenous lens is brought to Health Canada's programs and policies, the Department is advancing Indigenous recruitment efforts. In a co-development model with Health Canada's Indigenous Employee's Network, and working in partnership with the newly appointed Indigenous Career Navigator, the Indigenous Recruitment Team aims to attract Indigenous talent to enable managers to achieve a representative workforce and beyond by providing a pool of Indigenous talent for hiring managers.

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

**Target:** Between 2023 and 2026, and every year on an ongoing basis, develop and table annual progress reports on implementing *the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada)

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
Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act  The Government of Canada will work to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples. Federal organizations will support and implement the measures identified in the UN Declaration Act Action Plan, in accordance with their own mandates and the guidance provided by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Implementation Secretariat.	Consult and cooperate with Indigenous Peoples on the development of new/amended legislation and regulations.  Program: Healthy People and Communities	Performance Indicator: Percentage of new/amended legislation and regulations that included consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples  Starting Point: New initiative  Target: 90% (annual)	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 10 - Advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and Take Action on Inequality and the UN Declaration Act target by taking the necessary measures to ensure that the laws of Canada are consistent with UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: Canadians live free of discrimination and inequalities are reduced.  GIF Target: 10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.

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
	Participate in courses offered by the Canada School of Public Service to increase public servants' cultural skills and awareness of issues related to First Nations, Inuit and Métis in Canada, as well as the role and responsibilities of the Government of Canada towards these peoples.  Program: Internal Services	Performance indicator: Percentage of Health Canada employees who have completed the Canada School of Public Service(CSPS) courses in support of reconciliation and cultural competency  Starting point: 40% as of March 31, 2023 (based on CSPS data)  Target: Year over year annual increase	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 10 - Advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and Take Action on Inequality and the UN Declaration Act target by ensuring public servants within Health Canada learn about Indigenous history, heritage, cultures, and rights as well as how Indigenous perspectives can benefit policy.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: Canadians live free of discrimination and inequalities are reduced.  GIF Target: 10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.



# GOAL 11: IMPROVE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING, CLEAN AIR, TRANSPORTATION, PARKS, AND GREEN SPACES, AS WELL AS CULTURAL HERITAGE IN CANADA

### **FSDS Context:**

Improving air quality is an important part of making cities and communities sustainable. Exposure to air pollutants is particularly felt among visible minority and immigrant populations living in Canada's largest cities. The total economic cost of all health impacts attributed to air pollution is an estimated \$129 billion per year from issues such as medical costs and reduced workplace productivity.

Health Canada supports continuous improvement to air quality through the Air Quality Management System, which is the cornerstone of Canada's approach to addressing air pollution. It includes the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards that set health and environment based objectives for outdoor air concentrations of four pollutants: sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, fine particulate matter, and ground-level ozone. Outreach activities and health protection tools, such as the Air Quality Health Index, are designed to help Canadians make decisions to protect their health by limiting short-term exposure to air pollution and adjusting activity levels during increased levels of air pollution. Health Canada also works with other federal departments and countries to address air pollution that originates outside Canada's borders. For example, international agreements such as the Canada-United States Air Quality Agreement and the Gothenburg Protocol assist Canada in improving air quality by addressing pollutants from outside its borders that impact Canadian air quality.

Target theme: Air Quality

**Target:** Increase the percentage of the population across Canada living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards from 60% in 2005 to 85% in 2030 (Minister of Environment and Climate Change; Minister of Health)

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
Work with partners to address air pollution  Work collaboratively with provinces, territories, and stakeholders to develop and regularly update the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and associated tools and guidance	Use scientific evidence on the health impacts of air pollution to inform actions that improve outdoor and indoor air quality.  Program: Air Quality	Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned federal air quality health assessments, guidance documents, guidelines and standards published or distributed externally - related to outdoor air and indoor air quality  Starting point: 80% in 2022-23  Target: 85% (annual)  Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) reviewed and updated (i.e., for ozone and PM2.5)  Starting point: 50% in 2022-23  Updates to the CAAQS for ozone were completed in 2019  Target: 100% of planned CAAQS by December 31, 2025	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 11 - Improving Access to Affordable Housing, Ensuring Clean Air, Transportation, Parks and Green Spaces as well as Cultural Heritage in Canada and the air quality target by using Health Canada's science and outreach activities to inform actions that improve air quality. For example, the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) are outdoor air quality targets based on health and environmental objectives. Their purpose is to drive actions to reduce emissions of harmful air pollutants, such as the implementation of new regulatory requirements, and ultimately improve air quality across Canada. Health Canada works with the provinces, territories, and stakeholders to review and update the CAAQS as needed. Health Canada's work also informs action to improve indoor air quality in residential homes, office buildings and public spaces.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 11.3 Canadians live in healthy, accessible, and sustainable cities and communities.  CIF Target: Increase the percentage of Canadians living in areas where air pollutants concentrations are less or equal

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
			to the standards from 60% in 2005 to 85% in 2030.  GIF Target: 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.

# Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal "Improve access to affordable housing, clean air, transportation, parks, and green spaces, as well as cultural heritage in Canada" 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
Inform Canadians about air quality  Help Canadians make informed decisions related to their health and the environment by providing them with up to date and accurate information on local outdoor air quality and strategies to improve their indoor air quality.	Provide people in Canada with access to information that will enable them to take action to reduce impacts from air pollution.  Program: Air Quality	Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned knowledge transfer activities* completed related to health impacts of air pollution for indoor and outdoor air  *Activities where knowledge is transmitted to users to enable its application. Knowledge transfer activities can be passive such as peerreviewed publications, poster presentations, conference presentations, and patents, or active such as face-to-face meetings, interactive workshops, and networks.	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 11- Improving Access to Affordable Housing, Ensuring Clean Air, Transportation, Parks and Green Spaces as well as Cultural Heritage in Canada by using outreach activities to increase knowledge and raise awareness about the health impacts of air pollution, and helps inform actions by provinces, territories, municipalities, and other decision-makers to improve air quality. Work under this departmental action also helps people in Canada make decisions on how to protect

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
		Target: 100% (annual)  Performance Indicator: Number of people considered sensitive,* reached by AQHI (Air Quality Health Index) risk communications  *"People considered sensitive" are those most at risk from the health effects of air pollution, including people with pre-existing health conditions, children, and the elderly.  Starting point: 1,462,369 in 2022-23  Target: 4,000,000 by March 31, 2026  Performance Indicator: Percentage of people considered sensitive, reached by Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) risk communications who change their behaviour on high AQHI days to avoid exposure to outdoor air pollutants  Starting Point: 42% in 2020-21  Target: More than 42% by March 31, 2026	their health from outdoor air pollution with information from the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI), such as limiting short-term exposure to air pollution and adjusting their activity levels when there are increased levels of air pollution.  The AQHI also supports Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy through its particular focus on people who are considered sensitive to the health impacts of air pollution and provides them with advice on how to protect their health.  AQHI information is made available to schools and the general public and includes health protection messages for at-risk individuals.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 11.3 Canadians live in healthy, accessible, and sustainable cities and communities.  CIF Target: Increase the percentage of Canadians living in areas where air pollutants concentrations are less or equal to the standards from 60% in 2005 to 85% in 2030.  GIF Target: 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.
	Inform action on indoor radon exposure.  Program: Radiation Protection	Performance Indicator: Percentage of people in Canada surveyed who are knowledgeable about radon	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 11 - Improving Access to Affordable Housing, Ensuring Clean Air,

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
		Starting point: 69% in 2022-23 (based on the 2021 Households and the Environment Survey)  Note: Results of the 2023 Households and the Environment Survey will be made available in 2024-25 (reports every two years)  Target: 70% by March 31, 2025  Performance Indicator: Percentage of households in Canada surveyed who have tested their homes for radon.  Starting point: 9% in 2022-23 (based on the 2021 Households and the Environment Survey)  Note: Results of the 2023 Households and the Environment Survey will be made available in 2024-25 (reports every two years).  Target: 10% by March 31, 2026.	Transportation, Parks and Green Spaces as well as Cultural Heritage in Canada by raising awareness about the health impacts of radon. Exposure to high levels of radon in indoor air results in an increased risk of developing lung cancer. Health Canada participates in Radon Action Month every November by working with partners to raise awareness and inform people in Canada about actions they can take to reduce their risk from radon exposure.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 11.3 Canadians live in healthy, accessible, and sustainable cities and communities.  GIF Target: 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.
Research the impacts of air pollution  Support research that will enable Canadians and scientists to gain a better understanding of the impacts of air pollution on ecosystems, wildlife, and human health.	Monitor impact of air pollution on mortality.  Program: Air Quality	Performance Indicator: Number of deaths per year in Canada attributable to air pollution (per 100,000 population)  Starting point: 42 deaths per 100,000 population in 2020-21  Target: Less than an annual 42 deaths per 100,000 population by December 31, 2029	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 11 - Improving Access to Affordable Housing, Ensuring Clean Air, Transportation, Parks and Green Spaces as well as Cultural Heritage in Canada by helping to improve the understanding of the impacts of air pollution on human health. By disaggregating the data to better understand, for example, how age and location can impact mortality and illness resulting from air pollution, Health Canada supports Canada's 2030 Agenda

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
		Note: Results available every 3 years. Next reporting periods are 2023-24, 2026-27, and 2029-30	National Strategy so that informed actions can be taken to protect human health.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 11.3 Canadians live in healthy, accessible, and sustainable cities and communities.  CIF Target: Increase the percentage of Canadians living in areas where air pollutants concentrations are less or equal to the standards from 60% in 2005 to 85% in 2030.  GIF Target: 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.

## Initiatives advancing Canada's implementation of SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities

The following initiatives demonstrate how Health Canada'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

Health Canada's <u>Air Quality Program</u> supports actions to improve air quality and health for all Canadians by conducting research on the exposure of Canadians to air pollution and on the health impacts of air pollution, assessing the health risks from air pollutants and pollutant sources, and analyzing the health benefits of actions to improve air quality. This work enables the Program to contribute to updates to the <u>Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards</u>, which drive the continuous improvement of air quality across the country.

Health Canada conducts targeted research to better understand and address the needs of individuals disproportionately affected by air pollution and strives to identify and assess the health risks through its science, research, and assessment work.

Health Canada is working in collaboration with Environment and Climate Change Canada to identify priority areas for Indigenous communities with regard to air quality, including potential involvement in air quality monitoring and management based on recent research studies and consultation. This includes a project to support community-level adoption of effective interventions to mitigate health impacts of smoke from wildfires and wood heating that includes Indigenous, rural, and remote communities.

Health Canada's international efforts to support global health initiatives to improve air quality include:

- Providing scientific advice, participating in collaborative research, and sharing information through the WHO Collaborating Centre on Environmental Health, the Pan-American Health Organization, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.
- Reviewing the Canada-US Air Quality Agreement in collaboration with Environment and Climate Change Canada.

This work contributes to advancing:

CIF Ambition: 11.3 Canadians live in healthy, accessible, and sustainable cities and communities

CIF Target: Increase the percentage of Canadians living in areas where air pollutants concentrations are less or equal to the standards from 60% in 2005 to 85% in 2030

GIF Target: 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.



#### **FSDS Context:**

By transitioning to a cleaner and more circular economy that prioritizes reducing consumption and waste, negative impacts on the environment can be reduced. For example, plastic waste and pollution is a significant issue in Canada. Over 3 million tonnes of plastic was discarded as waste in Canada in 2016. Nearly 90% is neither recycled nor recovered, representing an economic loss of \$7.8 billion. The Canada-wide Strategy and Action Plans on Zero Plastic Waste aim to reduce plastic waste and pollution and recover the value of plastics, to advance a circular economy for plastics.

Health Canada supports these efforts through work with federal partners to address plastic waste and pollution, by assessing the impacts of plastic pollution on human health, and by developing risk management tools to address plastic waste and pollution at different stages of the lifecycle of plastic manufactured items (e.g., manufacture, import, sale, use and disposal). Within its own operations, Health Canada prohibits the use of single-use plastics at meetings and events, and the Department has developed an internal Policy on the Prohibition and Diversion of Single-use Plastic, which aligns with the objective of the comprehensive Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations that were released in December 2022. The Department has also implemented a recycling program for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at one of its Public Service Occupational Health Program clinics. The used PPE is sterilized, broken down into pellets and given a second life.

Health Canada's work on the Chemicals Management Plan, the Northern Contaminants Program, the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan, and the re-evaluation of pesticides against current health and environmental standards supports the management of waste, resources, and chemicals.

In addition, Health Canada recognizes the need to incorporate the principles of the circular economy in departmental operations by considering the full life cycle of our procurement decisions, identifying opportunities to right-size the departmental fleet and support the transition to zero-emission vehicles, and the importance of tracking, monitoring and reporting publicly on waste diversion, electricity consumption, and water use in order to identify opportunities to minimize the environmental impact of our operations. These are key

elements of the Government of Canada's Greening Government Strategy, which is driving the transition to government operations that are net-zero, resilient and green.

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 (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
Maximize diversion of waste from landfill  Analyze waste streams and implement waste diversion measures.	Assess the waste stream to inform future decisions and options to divert operational waste from landfills.  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Percentage of Health Canada custodial facilities with updated waste audits completed  Starting Point: As of 2021-22, waste audits had been completed for all custodial facilities but are required to be updated at least every five years.  Target: 100% (n=6) by March 31, 2026	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12- Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles and the waste diversion targets by ensuring the Department has well established baseline information related to the composition of various waste streams. The information gained from the quantification and characterization of operational waste can then be used to identify and prioritize options to further reduce and divert waste.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.  GIF Target: 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.

**Target:** By 2030, the Government of Canada will divert from landfill at least 90% by weight of all construction and demolition waste (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
Maximize diversion of waste from landfill  Analyze waste streams and implement waste diversion measures.	Track and disclose waste diversion rates annually.  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Percentage of construction and demolition waste diversion rates that are reported publicly*  * When projects meet the minimum threshold of \$5M and in areas where diversion facilities exist.  Starting Point: No projects met the minimum threshold in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)  Performance Indicator: Percentage of non-hazardous operational waste diversion rates for Health Canada's custodial buildings** that are reported publicly  * Diversion percentages will be based on industry average weight by waste stream multiplied by number of bins collected at each site.  **Applies to facilities over 10,000m2 within a municipality with a population of over 100,000 people.  Starting Point: Public reporting initiated in 2022-23 (52% diversion rate)  Target: 100% (annual)  ———————————————————————————————————	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles and the waste diversion targets by ensuring the Department has well established baseline information related to the composition of various waste streams. The information can then be used to identify and prioritize options to further reduce and divert waste, which in turn reduces emissions from landfill and transport hauling emissions, as well as emissions generated from the extraction and production of virgin materials.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.  GIF Target: 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.

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
		Performance Indicator: Percentage of plastic waste diverted* from Health Canada's custodial buildings** is reported publicly  * Pending clarification regarding the industry standard for co-mingled waste streams at the point of collection.  ** Applies to facilities over 10,000m2 within a municipality with a population of over 100,000 people.  Starting Point: New initiative  Target: 100% (reporting based on completion of waste audits)	
	Implement initiatives to increase waste diversion from Health Canada's operations.  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Percentage of Health Canada custodial buildings with a mask recycling program  Starting Point: New initiative  Target: 100% (n=6) by March 31, 2024  Performance Indicator: Number of compositing pilot programs implemented  Starting Point: New initiative  Target: 1 by March 31, 2024	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles and the waste diversion targets by ensuring the Department has well established baseline information related to the composition of various waste streams. The information can then be used to identify and prioritize options to further reduce and divert waste, which in turn reduces emissions from landfill and transport hauling emissions, as well as emissions generated from the extraction and production of virgin materials.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.

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
			GIF Target: 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.

**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 (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
Transform the federal light-duty fleet  Fleet management and renewal will be optimized with the objective that the conventional light-duty on-road fleet comprises 100% zero-emission vehicles by 2030, including battery electric, plug-in hybrid, and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.	Increase the percentage of departmental fleet that are zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) or hybrid, whenever operationally feasible.  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Percentage of new executive vehicle purchases that are ZEVs or hybrids. Priority is to be given to ZEV.  Total number of executive vehicles in the fleet.  Total number of new executive vehicles purchased.  Total number of ZEV or hybrid executive vehicles purchased  Starting Point: In 2022-23, no executive vehicles were purchased, and Health Canada had three executive vehicles, one of which was ZEV or hybrid.  Target: 100% (annual)	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles and the net-zero procurement target by using the Department's purchasing power to continue to support Canada's transition to zero-emission vehicles and further reducing transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.  GIF Target: 12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities.

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
		Performance Indicator: Percentage of new light-duty vehicle purchases that are ZEVs or hybrid  Total number of vehicles in administrative fleet.  Total number of new light-duty unmodified administrative fleet vehicles purchased.  Total number of ZEV or hybrid light-duty vehicles purchased  Starting Point: 100% (8/8) in 2022-23 and the total number of vehicles in the administrative fleet was 156.  Target: 75% (annual)	
	Assess opportunities for fleet and vehicle right-sizing.  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Percentage of compatible and/or applicable vehicles logged via telematics data  Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)  Performance Indicator: Develop and maintain a Strategic Fleet Greening Plan to 2030  Starting Point: New initiative  Target: March 31, 2024	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles and the net-zero procurement target by ensuring that Health Canada continues to identify opportunities to right-size the departmental fleet and invest in infrastructure to support the transition to zero-emission vehicles. For example, the analysis of telematics data helps to inform decisions and planning related to fleet purchases, which facilitates replacement of conventional vehicles over their lifetimes with ZEVs and hybrids.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.

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
			GIF Target: 12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities.

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
Strengthen green procurement criteria  Develop criteria that address greenhouse gas emissions reduction for goods and services that have a high environmental impact; ensure the criteria are included in procurements; and support green procurement, including guidance, tools and training for public service employees.	Promote environmental sustainability by integrating environmental performance considerations into departmental procurement processes, including planning, acquisition, use and disposal, and ensuring there is the necessary training and awareness to support green procurement.  Program: Internal Services  Ensure material management and specialists in procurement have the necessary training and awareness to support green procurement.  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Percentage of procurement related documents, guides, and tools posted on Health Canada's Materiel and Assets Management intranet site reviewed and updated to reflect green procurement objectives, where applicable  Starting point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)  Performance Indicator: Percentage of specialists in procurement and materiel management who have completed training on green procurement or have included it in their learning plan for completion within a year  Starting point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)	These departmental actions contribute to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles, and the net-zero procurement target by incorporating environmental considerations into purchasing decisions, which can motivate suppliers to reduce the environmental impact of the goods and services they deliver, and their supply chains.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.  GIF Target: 12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities.

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
	Ensure that the process for procurements over \$25 million, including taxes, induces suppliers to measure and disclose their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adopt a science-based target to reduce GHG emissions in line with the Paris Agreement as part of participating in the Net-Zero Challenge or in an equivalent initiative or standard.  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Percentage of procurements over \$25 million that included an incentive for suppliers to disclose their GHG emissions and adopt a science-based target to reduce emissions  Starting Point: New initiative*  *The Standard on the Disclosure of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the Setting of Reduction Targets took effect on April 1, 2023.  Target: 100% (annual)  Note: Public Services and Procurement Canada's contracting authority and Health Canada's technical authority play lead roles in achieving this target.	
	Identify the main categories of goods and services purchased by Health Canada  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Complete an identification of Health Canada's procurement spending to identify the main categories where 'greening' opportunities could be applied  Starting Point: New initiative  Target: March 31, 2024	

# 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
Assess and manage risks from chemicals and harmful substances  Assess new substances and address existing substance priorities to determine risks to Canadians and the environment, develop and implement regulatory and non-regulatory instruments to manage those risks, and communicate relevant information in a timely and clear way to Canadians, the private sector and governments.	Assess and manage, where appropriate, the potential health risks associated with chemical substances.  Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals	Performance Indicator: Percentage of existing chemicals addressed within targeted timelines  Starting point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)  Performance Indicator: Percentage of new substances (chemicals, polymers and animate products of biotechnology) assessed within prescribed timelines  Starting point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)  Performance Indicator: Percentage of actions taken in a timely manner to protect the health of Canadians from substances found to be a risk to human health  Starting point: 95% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles by reducing the risks posed by chemicals to people in Canada and their environment. Through the Chemicals Management Plan, Health Canada assesses substances for potential health and environmental impacts and develops risk management actions, such as new regulatory requirements, to mitigate the risks of harmful substances.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.  GIF Target: 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.
	Provide funding for research studies to monitor contaminant levels in wildlife and people in the Canadian North.  Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals	Performance Indicator: Provide funding for research studies under the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP)  Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23 (six	This departmental action supports FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles through the Northern Contaminant Program (NCP), which provides funding for research and

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
		Target: 100% of funding allocated by the end of the fiscal year (annual)	contaminants of concern in Canada's North and inform national and international chemicals risk management.
			The research findings provide data to inform risk assessment and risk management of substances and are also used to influence the development and implementation of international agreements to reduce and/or eliminate the production, use and release of contaminating substances into the environment. This funding is provided through a competitive process to individual researchers. Ultimately the program objective is to reduce and, where possible, eliminate contaminants from the Arctic environment.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.  GIF Target: 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the
			environment.
	Conduct research, monitoring and surveillance (including biomonitoring) in order to better understand and manage the health risks of harmful substances.	Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned knowledge transfer activities * completed related to research on chemicals of concern	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles by informing decision making on chemicals of

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
	Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals	*Activities where knowledge is transmitted to users to enable its application. Knowledge transfer activities can be passive such as peerreviewed publications, poster presentations, conference presentations, and patents, or active such as face-to-face meetings, interactive workshops, and networks.  Starting point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)  Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned knowledge transfer activities* completed related to monitoring and surveillance on chemicals of concern  *Activities where knowledge is transmitted to users to enable its application. Knowledge transfer activities can be passive such as peerreviewed publications, poster presentations, conference presentations, and patents or active such as face-to-face meetings, interactive workshops, and networks.  Starting point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)	concern. Health Canada's research, monitoring, and surveillance related to harmful substances helps inform decisions by providing information to stakeholders (e.g., policy analysts, regulators, decision makers, international partners, and the public). For example, it provides new data for scientists and health and environment officials to use in assessing exposure to environmental chemicals and in developing and assessing policies aimed at reducing exposure to toxic chemicals.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.  GIF Target: 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.
Continue review of pesticides  Re-evaluate pesticides currently on the Canadian market by applying modern, evidence-based scientific approaches to assess whether they are still acceptable,	Manage potential health risks associated with pesticides and assess the extent to which regulatory decisions and actions are keeping the risks posed by pesticides within acceptable limits.	Performance Indicator: Percentage of pesticide re-evaluations that are completed within specified timelines.  Starting Point: 76% in 2022-23	This departmental action contributes FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles by helping to ensure that pesticides continue to be re-evaluated against current health

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
and when alerted to potential issues, conduct a special review to determine continued acceptability. Implement regulatory decisions to protect the health of Canadians and the environment from risks associated with the use of pesticides.	Program: Pesticides	Performance Indicator: Percentage of pesticide special reviews that are completed within specified timelines  Starting Point: 0% in 2022-23  Target: 80% (annual)  Performance Indicator: Percentage of post-market decisions implemented within specified timelines to protect the health of Canadians from pesticides found to be a risk to human health and the environment  Starting Point: 83% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)	and environmental standards and assessed in a timely manner.  Once a pesticide has been registered, it becomes subject to a system of postmarket risk management controls under the Pest Control Products Act. This includes re-evaluations and special reviews, compliance and enforcement activities, and reporting of health and environmental incidents.  Post-market re-evaluations are a key legislative tool in protecting Canadians and the environment from risks associated with pesticides. Under the reevaluation program, new methodologies, data, and scientific approaches are incorporated into the assessments to ensure that registered pesticides continue to meet modern standards for health and environmental protection and have value.  When certain legislated criteria are met, a special review may be conducted to determine continued acceptability of implicated pesticides. When a pesticide is found to have unacceptable risk, Health Canada is responsible for taking action to protect human health and the environment through post-market regulatory decisions (e.g., cancellation of products, label changes, and voluntary withdrawals). Post-market review decisions are then published on the Health Canada website.

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
			Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.
			GIF Target: 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

Remediate high-priority contaminated sites  Reduce environmental and human health risks from known federal contaminated sites and associated federal financial liabilities, focusing on the highest priority sites.	Provide human health advice to other federal departments that are responsible for assessing and remediating contaminated sites.  Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals	Performance Indicator: Percentage of times the review of site-specific scientific and technical documents within the document-specific agreed-upon time frame is met  Starting point: 94% in 2022-23  Target: 90% (annual)	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 -Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles through the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP), which carries out activities to reduce the amount of waste generated during the clean up of contaminated sites. Health Canada serves as an Expert Support Department by providing guidance, guideline development, training, and advice related to human health risks from exposure to various contaminants on federal contaminated sites, in the air, water, soil, sediment, dust and country foods. This includes the review of site classifications, which are used to prioritize risk management and remediation activities, and other site-specific scientific and technical reports as they relate to human health. By providing guidance and advice, Health Canada supports the remediation of contaminated sites.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.  GIF Target: 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.
Research innovative solutions for plastics	Conduct and fund research on potential impacts of microplastics on human health.  Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals	Performance Indicator: Percentage of implicated federal decision-makers who indicate that they have more information available for consideration in evidence-	This departmental action supports the FSDS Goal of Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles by helping to inform decisions and by providing

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
Undertake innovative approaches, including conducting new research and fostering domestic capacity to reduce and better manage plastic waste. Conduct studies to identify gaps, challenges and best practices related to circular economy for plastics to inform decision making that will result in implementing regulatory measures around the circularity of plastics in Canada.		based decision making related to impacts to human health or the environment from plastic pollution including microplastics (intramural research)  Starting point: New initiative  Target: 70% by March 31, 2027  Performance Indicator: Percentage of implicated federal decision-makers who indicate that they have more information available for consideration in evidence-based decision making related to impacts to human health or the environment from plastic pollution including microplastics (contribution program research)  Starting point: New initiative  Target: 70% by March 31, 2027	information to stakeholders (e.g., policy analysts, regulators, decision makers, international partners, and the public) about the potential harms and impacts of microplastics on the health of people living in Canada. For example, it provides new data for scientists and health officials to use in assessing potential impacts of microplastics on human health.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.  GIF Target: 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.
	Identify priorities for existing chemicals additives in plastics to inform risk management measures as needed.  Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals	Performance Indicator: Percentage of identified priorities for which a plan of action has been approved.  Starting point: New initiative  Target: 100% by March 31, 2025	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles by identifying chemical additives in plastics that could be harmful to human health, and prioritizing action on those substances that are found to be harmful. When chemicals additives in plastics are prioritised and addressed in a timely way,

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
			the results can be used by the Government and stakeholders to inform risk management measures as needed.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.  GIF Target: 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

# Initiatives advancing Canada's implementation of SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production

The following initiatives demonstrate how Health Canada'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

The Government of Canada's <u>Chemicals Management Plan</u> (CMP) aims to protect human health and the environment by reducing risks related to chemical substances in air, water, soil, and consumer and industrial products and processes. Key activities include risk assessment, risk management, compliance promotion and enforcement, research, monitoring and surveillance, and collaboration, outreach, and engagement.

Health Canada continues to conduct research to better understand the effects of microplastics on human health and to support the Government of Canada's agenda for reducing plastic waste.

Health Canada will also continue to learn more about early life exposures to environmental chemicals in Canadians. For the first time, the Canadian Health Measures Survey will collect data on exposures in children aged one to two years, providing key information to support future health protection efforts.

Work is also underway in CMP risk assessment and risk management activities to enhance consideration of disproportionately impacted populations who, due to greater susceptibility or greater exposure, may be more vulnerable to experiencing adverse health effects from exposure to chemical substances. New guidance will be developed for risk assessors, as well as improved communication tools to better communicate work in this area to Canadians.

Under the CMP, the Government has committed to advancing enhanced and meaningful engagement with Indigenous partners, including:

- seeking dialogue with National Indigenous Organizations on distinctionsbased approaches to Inuit, Métis, and First Nations' chemicals management priorities; and,
- provision of dedicated contribution funding to support the participation of Indigenous partners in the CMP and environmental health programs, thereby enriching the Program with diverse Indigenous perspectives.

Health Canada continues to advance the engagement of the Canadian health sector in developing a global framework on the sound management of chemicals through participation in:

 the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), including the Intersessional Process to establish a new framework for the global sound management of chemicals; and, This work contributes to advancing:

CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.

GIF Target: 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS
<ul> <li>the WHO Chemicals and Health Network.</li> <li>Health Canada also provides technical and policy expertise to strengthen international and intersectoral collaboration on environmental determinants of health, including chemicals, air, water, and climate change, by:         <ul> <li>collaborating with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development on chemical safety and biosafety programs and initiatives; and,</li> <li>hosting the WHO Collaborating Centre on Environmental Health.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
In support of both Chemicals Management Plan and its 2021 pesticide regulation commitments, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) Transformation Agenda has launched a water sampling program to inform the development of a national water monitoring program for pesticides. This program will collect surface water and groundwater samples supported by a network of sampling partners across Canada.  Additionally, a framework is being developed to collect, monitor, analyze and publicly report on pesticide use information in Canada. Data from these initiatives will help to better inform pesticide risk assessment and risk management decisions and contribute to strengthening protection of human health and the environment from risks posed by pesticides. Health Canada is integrating the application of an equity lens to pesticide data and policy to address disproportionately impacted populations such as children and youth, Indigenous Peoples, and migrant workers.	This work contributes to advancing:  CIF Ambition: 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.  GIF Target: 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.



#### **FSDS Context:**

The World Health Organization identified climate change as the greatest threat to global health in the 21st century. Older adults, Indigenous populations, those living with pre-existing physical and mental health conditions, people facing financial hardship and members of equity seeking groups are among those most at-risk. Climate change impacts the health of individuals, and also threatens the capacity of the health systems they rely on to provide care when it is needed, due to extreme events, such as extreme heat, floods, and wildfires.

The development of Canada's first National Adaptation Strategy (NAS) provides a vision to lead Canada into a more climate resilient future by working with provinces, territories, municipalities, business, Indigenous partners, and all residents of Canada to implement adaptation measures in the coming years. Health Canada commits its efforts through the NAS to contribute to this goal by increasing knowledge, capacity and tools, which helps decision-makers, such as health regions, develop and implement evidence-based adaptation measures to protect human health and health systems from climate impacts such as extreme heat.

Health Canada also has a role in translating and disseminating new science findings about climate change impacts on health, the most vulnerable in society and needed health interventions so that health sector decision-makers and practitioners can take actions to prepare for future impacts and move towards low-carbon health systems. For example, the Global Consortium for Climate and Health Education, Health Canada, the Pan American Health Organization and the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research co-organized a Pan American Climate Resilient Health Systems course which was offered in 2023. The Department is also working with partners in British Columbia to develop a pilot intensive short course, providing information about climate change impacts on health, and building climate-resilient health systems.

Within its own operations, Health Canada is committed to minimizing disruptions and damage to its assets, services, and operations related to the impacts of climate change. The Department has completed a comprehensive assessment to identify risks and is taking action to reduce these risks through the development of an Adaptation Plan. Health Canada is also taking steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from facilities and fleet by measuring, tracking and reporting on emissions, and improving the environmental performance of

custodial buildings. These are key elements of the Government of Canada's Greening Government Strategy, which is driving the transition to government operations that are net-zero, resilient and green.

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
Modernize through net-zero carbon buildings  All new federal buildings (including build-to-lease and public-private partnerships) will be net-zero carbon unless a life-cycle cost-benefit analysis indicates net-zero-carbon-ready construction.	Support the transition to net-zero carbon buildings by ensuring that all major building retrofits prioritize low-carbon and climate resilience.  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Percentage of major* construction projects for which the amount of embodied carbon in the structural materials was disclosed  * Projects in which changes proposed to the building envelope and HVAC systems or the proposed value of work is more than 50% of the assessed value of the building  Starting Point: No projects met the minimum threshold in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and Its Impacts and the net-zero carbon operations target by taking steps to disclose and reduce the embodied carbon for major construction projects. This means the CO2 or GHG emissions associated with extraction, manufacturing, transporting, installing, maintaining, and disposing of construction materials and products, which helps to expand the market for alternative/greener methods and encourages industry to adopt low carbon extraction, production and disposal practices.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 13.1 Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.  GIF Target: 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.

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
Implement the Greening Government Strategy through measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve climate resilience, and green the government's overall operations  Departments may report on these and other Greening Government Strategy commitments via their departmental sustainable development strategies	Manage departmental operations to minimize GHG emissions and improve environmental performance of custodial facilities.  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Percentage of clean electricity used by producing or purchasing renewable electricity  • Electricity consumption (kWh) • Electricity consumption (kWh) from non-emitting sources (including renewable energy certificates)  Starting Point: New initiative  Target: 100% by March 31, 2025  Performance Indicator: Percentage change in GHG emissions from facilities from fiscal year 2005-06 • GHG emissions from facilities (ktCO2e)  Starting Point: GHG emissions from facilities in fiscal year 2005-06 = 20.8ktCO2e (8.01 ktCO2e in 2022-23)  Target: 40% below 2005 levels by 2025 (includes fleet and facilities)  Performance Indicator: Percentage change in GHG emissions from fleet from fiscal year 2005-06 • GHG emissions from fleet (ktCO2e)  Starting Point: GHG emissions from fleet in fiscal year 2005-06 = 1.6 ktCO2e (255 tCO2e in 2022-23)	This departmental action contributes FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and the net-zero carbon operations target by reducing the demand for energy or supporting the switch to lower carbon sources of energy to reduce GHG emissions. These contributions are made by establishing processes to track and publicly report on GHG emissions from Health Canada-owned facilities; facilitating planning to ensure that environmental performance can be reported; and increasing awareness about opportunities to improve the energy efficiency and environmental performance of custodial buildings.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition: 13.1 Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.  GIF Target: 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.

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
		Target: 40% below 2005 levels by 2025 (includes fleet and facilities)  Performance Indicator: Percentage of potable water consumption at custodial buildings that is tracked and disclosed  Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23 (66,682 m3 in 2022-23)  Target: 100% (annual)  Performance Indicator: Percentage of custodial buildings where energy use is metered  Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23 (62,073,663 kwh in 2022-23)  Target: 100% (annual)  Performance Indicator: Completion of the Halocarbon Containing Equipment Inventory to inform and prioritize next steps related to the conversion or replacement of Halocarbon Containing Equipment in heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems  Starting Point: New initiative  Target: March 31, 2024	

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
Apply a greenhouse gas reduction lifecycle cost analysis for major building retrofits  All major building retrofits, including significant energy performance contracts, require a greenhouse gas reduction lifecycle cost analysis to determine the optimal greenhouse gas savings. The lifecycle cost approach will use a period of 40 years and a carbon shadow price of \$300 per tonne.	Identify opportunities to improve the environmental performance, including energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions, of Health Canada's custodial buildings.  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Percentage of major building retrofits* that use RETScreen energy performance improvement technology and greenhouse gas reduction technology to inform decisions about opportunities to improve environmental performance  * Projects in which changes proposed to the building envelope and HVAC systems or the proposed value of work is more than 50% of the assessed value of the building.  Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and Its Impacts and the net-zero carbon operations target by taking steps to measure, track and report on energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions. These efforts help Health Canada reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the environmental performance of custodial buildings.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 13.1 Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.  GIF Target: 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.

**Target:** The Government of Canada will transition to climate resilient operations 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
Reduce risks posed by climate change to federal assets, services and operations  Departments and agencies are required to assess risks posed by the impacts of climate change to federal assets, services	Take steps to understand, assess, communicate and adapt to risks from climate change to the department's assets, services and operations.  Program: Internal Services	Performance Indicator: Completion of Health Canada's Climate Change Adaptation Plan to address risks to assets, services and operations	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and the climate resilient operations target by supporting the department's ability to adapt to change climate and factoring climate variability and change into policies, programs, plans

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
and operations on a regular basis and ensure that actions to reduce these risks are implemented.		Starting point: Health Canada's Climate Change Risk Assessment was completed in 2022-23.  Target: March 31, 2024	and operations. This departmental action also recognizes the importance of communicating risks and adaptation measures to departmental employees and reporting on progress to senior management to support effective implementation of actions to improve the climate resiliency of departmental assets, operations and services.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 13.3 Canadians are wellequipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change.  GIF Targets: 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries. 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

# 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
Collaborate on emergency management and disaster risk reduction  Continue to collaborate on emergency management and disaster risk reduction at the national and international levels by preparing for, and responding to, emergencies and disasters, strategizing cost-effective resilience measures, conducting research and analysis, providing warnings, data, and information, and aiding in recovery efforts.	Collaborate with other federal partners and provincial authorities to strengthen nuclear emergency preparedness and response.  Program: Radiation Protection	Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned nuclear emergency preparedness drills and exercises completed  Starting point: 100% in 2022-23  Target: 100% (annual)	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and its Impacts by helping federal authorities to be prepared to manage the federal response to a nuclear emergency and provide coordinated support to provinces and territories to minimize the impact on public health, safety, property, and the environment. This preparation is done through a series of drills and exercises to test the response to various nuclear emergency scenarios to identify gaps so issues can be resolved prior to a real emergency situation.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition 13.3 Canadians are well-equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change.  GIF Target: 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.
Support climate change adaptation across Canada  Take action to support adaptation to climate change impacts.	Provide support to governments, public health professionals and Canadians in preparing for, and adapting to, the impacts of climate change.  Program: Climate Change	Performance Indicator: Percentage of health system actors who state that their climate-resilience is increasing  Starting point: New initiative (baseline to be set by March 31, 2025)  Target: 20% above baseline by March 31, 2028	This departmental action contribute to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and its Impacts by working with regional, municipal, and provincial and territorial health authorities across the country to build capacity and share best practices to address the impacts of climate change on the health of Canadians. This

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
			work is part of the National Adaptation Strategy.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition 13.3 Canadians are wellequipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change.  GIF Targets: 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries. 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning. 13.3 Improve education, awarenessraising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.
	Increase knowledge, capacity, and tools to support evidence-based adaptation measures to protect health from extreme heat as a result of climate change.  Program: Climate Change	Performance Indicator: Percentage of health regions implementing evidence-based adaptation measures to protect health from extreme heat  Starting point: 79% in 2022-23 (a new baseline to be set by March 31, 2025)  Target: 20% above baseline by March 31, 2028	This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and its Impacts by helping decision-makers, such as health regions, develop and implement evidence-based adaptation measures to protect health from extreme heat resulting from climate change. For example, Health Canada's efforts support the creation and maintenance of heat alert and response systems, the dissemination of heat health information, and the development of

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
			training for health professionals and pharmacists. These efforts are important in protecting health since the frequency of extreme heat events in many Canadian locations is modelled to at least double by 2050.  Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.  Relevant targets or ambitions:  CIF Ambition 13.3 Canadians are well-equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change.  GIF Targets:  13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.  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.

## Initiatives advancing Canada's implementation of SDG 13 - Climate Action

The following initiatives demonstrate how Health Canada'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
Health Canada's <u>Climate Change Program</u> aims to increase knowledge, capacity, and tools on the human health impacts and adaptation approaches to climate change available to healthcare and public health professionals, emergency preparedness officials, and provincial and local decision-makers across Canada. The Program also aims to increase the level of awareness among Canadians, including disproportionately impacted populations, of climate change and health risks (e.g., from extreme heat), and ways to protect themselves and reduce health risks. Climate-related hazards (e.g., floods, extreme heat events, wildfires, hurricanes, drought, sea-level rise, and melting permafrost) can affect the physical and mental health of people in Canada, and health systems.  Health Canada supports the Health and Well-being component of the Government of Canada's first National Adaptation Strategy, which will incorporate justice, inclusion, diversity, and equality considerations for adaptation action.  Health Canada's international efforts in support of global climate change and health initiatives include collaboration with the WHO and other partners, for example:  • Co-chairing the Climate Resilient Health Systems working group of the Alliance on Transformative Action on Climate and Health, focusing on building climate resilience and adaptation to help inform countries' efforts to protect their populations from current, emerging, and future health impacts and threats of climate change.  • Informing the development of technical publications to support the WHO Collaborating Centre on Environmental Health to build sustainable health systems and strengthen climate resilience in response to countries' requests for technical support.	This work contributes to advancing:  CIF Ambition: 13.3 Canadians are well-equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change.  GIF Targets: 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries. 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.

**SECTION 5** 

# Integrating Sustainable Development

Health Canada incorporates sustainability in multiple facets of its operations, programs, and activities.

Health Canada's Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) Champion of Sustainable Development and Climate Change plays an important oversight and communication role regarding the Department's sustainable development commitments, as well as the application of Health Canada's Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Policy. Outreach to ADM colleagues and employees helps facilitate dialogue within the department and identify potential improvements to the SEA process and practices, as well as additional opportunities to integrate sustainability considerations into decision-making.

Health Canada continues to take steps to incorporate the commitments from the Government of Canada's <u>Greening Government Strategy</u> in policies, standards, operations, and procedures. In 2022-2023, Health Canada completed a comprehensive Climate Change Risk Assessment that helped to better understand the risks posed by the impacts of climate change on assets, services, and operations. The next step involves prioritizing, mitigating, and managing the identified risks through the development of Health Canada's adaptation plan. Health Canada also updated its internal Policy on the Reduction and Diversion of Single-Use Plastics and a supporting Directive for meetings and events to align with the <u>Single-use Plastics Prohibitions Regulations</u>.



The Department's Solutions Fund, an initiative for employee-led innovation and experimentation at Health Canada, will continue to be leveraged to tap into the ideas and creativity of employees to address various environmental and sustainability issues in the Department.

Health Canada has a comprehensive intranet site dedicated to sustainable development that is available to all employees. It includes examples of employee-led sustainability initiatives as well as policies and guidance related to Strategic Environmental Assessment and single-use plastics, frequently asked questions, and reference materials.

Direct outreach to Health Canada employees occurs on an ongoing basis through various mechanisms, including messages from the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Champion; promotion of events such as Environment Week and Waste Reduction Week; and the use of a GCconnex Sustainable Workplaces Forum where employees can post questions and share ideas. Health Canada also hosts lunch and learn events that are open to all employees. These sessions provided an opportunity for employees to learn more about what the Department is doing to improve its environmental performance and how efforts fit into the larger Government of Canada 'sustainable development picture'.

### Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

Health Canada will continue to ensure that its decision-making process includes consideration of FSDS goals and targets through its SEA process. A SEA for a policy, plan or program proposal includes an analysis of the impacts of that given proposal on the environment, including on relevant FSDS goals and targets.

Health Canada has a coordinator for SEA who provides guidance to proposal leads about the application of the SEA process and requirements of *the Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program Proposals*. Health Canada's SEA Policy defines a proposal as a Memorandum to Cabinet, a Treasury Board Submission, a regulatory proposal, memoranda to the Minister that are seeking concurrence, and any other strategic document seeking Ministerial or Cabinet approval.

A series of questions prompts the proposal lead to consider if their proposal has potential positive, negative or uncertain impacts on FSDS goals and targets; this part of the process results in the completion of a Preliminary Scan. The departmental SEA coordinator helps to play a challenge function to ensure that the assessment of potential environmental impacts is comprehensive and robust, and that full consideration is given to potential direct and indirect environmental impacts. If the Preliminary Scan indicates that the proposal is likely to have a positive or negative impact on the environment, or if the impact is uncertain, a Detailed Analysis is required.

Public Statements on the results of Health Canada's assessments are prepared when an initiative that has undergone a detailed SEA. 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.

The Department offers various forums for SEA training. An online course is available to all departmental employees to provide information on Health Canada's SEA Policy, the Cabinet Directive, and roles and responsibilities of the parties involved. In addition, an inclass course includes case studies and scenarios relevant to the Health Canada context, that aim to generate discussion and to enable participants to apply what they have learned through the online course. Health Canada's Office of Sustainable Development offers targeted training sessions to key groups across the department to respond to specific questions. Employees are encouraged to incorporate SEA training opportunities into their Learning Plans as part of their Performance Management Agreements.

Health Canada tracks compliance with the SEA Policy and provides quarterly reporting to the ADM Champion of Sustainable Development and Climate Change. This helps to identify potential challenges, implement corrective measures, and encourages ongoing engagement with senior managers across the Department.