



2023 to 2027 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy – Updated January 2026

Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada



Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada's 2023 to 2027 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy
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Executive Summary

Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC) is proud to support sustainable development across its various programs, projects, and funds, and strives to ensure that Canadians have sustainable, low-carbon, resilient, climate-smart, accessible, and inclusive public infrastructure through all of its investments. The 2023 to 2027 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy (DSDS) outlines HICC's commitment to an environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable future for Canada.

Through its portfolio, HICC contributes to goals, milestones, and implementation strategies to support sustainable development, as outlined in the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy (FSDS) and relevant to HICC's mandate. The 2023 to 2027 DSDS highlights how the Department's programs support the various Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). While some areas of the Department's portfolio touch on multiple SDGs, the DSDS spotlights specific programs under the SDG where they make the greatest impact.

More specifically, the 2023 to 2027 DSDS captures HICC's departmental actions to support the following SDGs: *(6) Ensure Clean and Safe Water for All Canadians; (9) Foster Innovation and Green Infrastructure in Canada; (10) Advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and Take Action on Equity; (11) Improve Access to Affordable Housing, Clean Air, Transportation, Parks, and Green Spaces, as well as Cultural Heritage; (12) Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles (ZEV); and (13) Take Action on Climate Change and its Impacts.*

HICC is aligning housing and public infrastructure investments to build more prosperous, socially just, and environmentally healthy communities. Through the delivery of housing and homelessness programming, HICC, in collaboration with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), is contributing to the resiliency and sustainability of communities, as well as helping individuals obtain and maintain affordable housing (SDG 11).

HICC strives to implement and deliver its portfolio while advancing initiatives that provide clean and safe water, invest in green infrastructure, and address climate change. Among its efforts, HICC has implemented programs and

initiatives to ensure that Canadians have access to clean and safe water (SDG 6). Through program investments and funding delivery, the Department is improving water treatment and storage systems to establish long-term stability and support future improvements.

HICC's investments in green infrastructure play a critical role in addressing climate change impacts by building resilience and reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and pollution (SDG 9). The Department ensures that Canada invests in projects fuelled by clean technologies that follow climate-resilient codes and standards. Further, HICC seeks to increase the capacity for communities to reduce GHG emissions and mitigate the impacts of natural disasters and extreme weather events, resulting in strengthened climate resilience (SDG 13).

HICC works with all orders of government as well as Indigenous organizations and communities to effectively deliver all of our programs (SDG 10). The Department is advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in Canada and taking action to reduce inequality by providing direct funding to projects led by and for Indigenous populations and communities.

Lastly, HICC invests in public transit and active transportation to connect Canadians, while driving economic, environmental, and social benefits by providing people with more sustainable access to jobs, schools, services, and recreation, and by supporting housing priorities. Additionally, HICC is strengthening its green procurement criteria by providing helpful guidance, tools, and training to public service employees (SDG 12).



SECTION 1:

Introduction to the Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy

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

In accordance with the objectives of the Act, to enhance transparency and accountability to Parliament in decision-making related to sustainable development, HICC supports the goals laid out in the FSDS through the activities described in this DSDS.

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

To promote coordinated action on sustainable development across the Government of Canada, this DSDS 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 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.



SECTION 2:

Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada's Sustainable Development Vision

HICC invests in public infrastructure to foster more inclusive and sustainable Canadian communities, including public transit and housing outcomes to prevent and reduce chronic homelessness.

To achieve this vision, HICC works with provinces and territories, municipalities, Indigenous communities, and other stakeholders to identify local infrastructure priorities and build projects that support sustainable development across communities of all sizes, from rural and remote communities to large cities.

Through investments, HICC will support Canada's commitments as outlined in the [Federal Sustainable Development Strategy \(FSDS\)](#). In particular, HICC's investments will contribute to SDG 6 (Ensure Clean and Safe Water for All Canadians), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

The Government of Canada's suite of National Housing Strategy (NHS) programs are designed to support the housing needs of Canadians. In addition, infrastructure investments are essential to build healthy communities where all Canadians can thrive. This is why the Department will tie access to infrastructure funding to actions by provinces, territories, and municipalities to increase housing supply and affordability. This will be advanced within the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) when agreements with provinces and territories are renewed, as well as future infrastructure programs, which may be introduced during the period covered by this DSDS. As such, there will be an even greater connection between the SDGs advanced by HICC's programs and housing, a key component of SDG 11.

As set out in this DSDS, HICC will use targeted objectives and implementation strategies to advance the 2022 to 2026 FSFS goals.



SECTION 3:

Listening to Canadians

Following the public consultations on the draft 2022 to 2026 FSDS held from March 11 to July 9, 2022, and as required by the *Federal Sustainable Development Act*, HICC has considered comments from a broad range of stakeholders. This included input from governments, Indigenous organizations, non-governmental organizations, academics, businesses, and individual Canadians in different age groups and of various backgrounds. HICC supports the federally established sustainable development priorities to respond to issues raised during the public consultations that affect Canadians.

What We Heard

Across the submissions received, HICC identified sustainable development priorities and issues that affect us. These priorities include the following:

- **Green infrastructure and innovation** – Canadians focus on the importance of constructing and upgrading green infrastructure and investing in innovative clean technologies that drive Canada’s decarbonization.
- **Sustainable cities and communities** – Canadians support housing, the electrification of public transportation, and active transportation. Canadians advocated for more ambitious and direct support for public and active transportation that increases safety and service quality, compensates for diminishing intercommunity transit, and prioritizes rural and smaller towns as well as disadvantaged and vulnerable people.
- **Reduce waste and transition to zero-emission vehicles** - Canadians have expressed the desire for the government to address barriers to the adoption of electric and zero-emission vehicles.
- **Climate action** – Canadians called for investments in long-term climate change solutions and support to green transition solutions to net zero.



- **Green procurement** – Canadians want to see the Government of Canada implement net-zero procurement to incentivize companies' voluntary engagement in the race to net zero.

What We Did

HICC is addressing the priorities and concerns expressed during the [public consultation](#) that align with our [departmental mandate and role](#) through investments that include:

- Working with provinces, territories, municipalities, and Indigenous communities to ensure federal infrastructure investments enable the construction and rehabilitation of water assets including collection, treatment, and distribution.
- Increasing the overall housing supply, while supporting access to housing that is affordable and strategically located near transit, employment, services, and amenities to meet the diverse needs of all Canadians.
- Supporting retrofits, repairs, or upgrades of existing infrastructure and construction of new community buildings that serve high-need communities across Canada.
- Supporting the construction, expansion, and improvement of public transit infrastructure to enhance its capacity, quality, safety, and accessibility, thereby fostering more sustainable and inclusive communities near transit.
- Improving the capacity and quality of pathways and active transportation infrastructure, while contributing to the quality of life of Canadians and the environment.
- Proactively addressing the concerns of Canadians about climate change by supporting Canada's path to net-zero emissions and a resilient future by advancing several initiatives including open-access climate toolkits, resilience requirements for funding programs, as well as guidance, standards, and codes for climate resilient and low-carbon infrastructure.

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

SECTION 4:

Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada's Commitments





Goal 6: Ensure Clean and Safe Water for All Canadians

FSDS Context ¹:

While Canada’s drinking water is among the safest in the world, access to clean drinking water remains a challenge in some small, remote, and Indigenous communities. Existing drinking water and water treatment systems require ongoing investment to ensure they meet the needs of Canadians across the country. When Canadians use water resources, they expect that the infrastructure in their community helps to keep the environment clean by preventing pollution of lakes and rivers, preventing water loss and conserving energy. Addressing sources of water pollution and contamination, such as under-treated wastewater and urban runoff can help ensure that lakes and rivers continue to provide services and opportunities for recreational and economic activities over the long term.

HICC has implemented several programs and initiatives to ensure our existing systems are up to the task of producing the high quality of water Canadians expect and reliably delivering it to households. For example, as pipes age and deteriorate over time, they become more prone to cracks and ruptures. Timely repair of these aging pipes can help prevent wasteful leakage of precious water resources and reduce the risk of water overflows due to pipe breakage. Investments in the replacement of old pipes support the efficient use of Canada’s water resources, reducing leakages and ensuring that potable water makes it to Canadian taps. HICC is also prioritizing investments in drinking water, wastewater, stormwater and solid-waste infrastructure construction and upgrades to ensure continued access to safe drinking water and to expand system capacity.

¹ January 2026: FSDS context revised to reflect current HICC programming.



HICC investments are helping ensure that, as new communities grow and new houses and businesses are built across the country, they are connected to clean and safe drinking water and systems that treat wastewater. HICC funds water and wastewater projects through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) and the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF). Further, HICC will consider SDGs and establish relevant targets and indicators during the development of future programming.

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

The following initiatives demonstrate how HICC programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

Planned Initiatives	Associated Domestic Targets or Ambitions and/or Global Targets
<p>HICC has invested in water and wastewater projects through the ICIP.</p> <p>ICIP has helped communities reduce air and water pollution, provide clean water, increase resilience to climate change and create a clean-growth economy. This program overall seeks to build strong, dynamic, and inclusive communities, while ensuring that Canadian families have access to modern, reliable services that improve their quality of life.</p> <p>Eligible projects include the construction and upgrading of water and wastewater treatment plants and pumping</p>	<p><i>CIF 6.1 Ambition</i> – Canadians have access to drinking water and use it in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><i>CIF 6.2.1</i> – Percentage of municipalities across Canada with sustained drinking water advisories. This indicator focuses on municipal owners of potable water assets by drinking water advisories that exceeded 15 days, urban and rural, and population size. There is no specific target identified.</p> <p><i>GIF 6.b</i> – Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.</p>



Planned Initiatives	Associated Domestic Targets or Ambitions and/or Global Targets
<p>facilities, water and wastewater transmission mains, water and wastewater pipes, water meters, water towers, water and wastewater collection systems and water reservoirs, water and wastewater storage facilities, and flood-proofing infrastructure.</p> <p>Funding is also being used to improve stormwater management through the construction and upgrading of treatment facilities, collection systems, and pipes.</p>	
<p>Investments made through the CCBF aim to provide long-term stability where needed and support planning for future systems improvements that contribute to the objectives of clean economic growth and prosperity.</p> <p>The CCBF is a permanent source of funding provided upfront, twice a year, to provinces and territories, which in turn flow this funding to their municipalities to support local infrastructure priorities, including drinking water and wastewater projects.</p>	<p><i>CIF 6.1 Ambition</i> – Canadians have access to drinking water and use it in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><i>GIF 6.1</i> – By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.</p> <p><i>GIF 6.b</i> – Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.</p>



Planned Initiatives	Associated Domestic Targets or Ambitions and/or Global Targets
<p>Beginning in 2024-25, HICC will invest in water and wastewater projects through CHIF.</p> <p>The core objective of CHIF is to enable increased housing supply through improved capacity of drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and solid waste infrastructure. The program will enable sustainable community growth by increasing the capacity, reliability, and efficiency of new, and/or existing systems in alignment with federal environmental and climate priorities.</p> <p>Eligible projects include drinking water systems, such as treatment, filtration, and distribution systems; wastewater, sludge, and stormwater systems, such as treatment and collection systems, sewer systems and controls; solid waste management systems, such as organic waste processing, landfill thermal treatment, waste collection and sorting. Natural infrastructure projects that increase system capacity will also be eligible for each asset class.</p>	<p><i>CIF 6.1 Ambition</i> – Canadians have access to drinking water and use it in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><i>CIF 6.2.1</i> – Percentage of municipalities across Canada with sustained drinking water advisories. This indicator focuses on municipal owners of potable water assets by drinking water advisories that exceeded 15 days, urban and rural, and population size. There is no specific target identified.</p> <p><i>GIF 6.b</i> – Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.</p>



Goal 9: Foster Innovation and Green Infrastructure in Canada

FSDS Context²:

Green infrastructure plays a key role in conserving natural resources and addressing climate change by reducing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions and by increasing climate resilience. As climate change continues, people in Canada need to be able to trust that their infrastructure can withstand climate impacts for decades to come. Investing in green infrastructure will provide that assurance and will be increasingly important to sustain economic, environmental, and social well-being. Green infrastructure, such as low-carbon transportation, natural infrastructure, clean energy, and climate-resilient and energy-efficient buildings, helps build healthy and resilient communities, promotes environmental sustainability, drives economic growth, and supports a net-zero economy. Supporting the development and implementation of climate resilient standards and codes is a key contributing factor to the enhancement of resiliency in buildings and infrastructure. Further, natural infrastructure has significant potential to provide additional benefits, by helping to keep infrastructure services reliable in a changing climate.

HICC funds projects to foster innovation and green infrastructure through a number of its programs, notably the Canada Public Transit Fund (CPTF), the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF), the Natural Infrastructure Fund (NIF), the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) program, the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF), the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) and the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF).

² January 2026: FSDS context revised to reflect current HICC programming.



The CPTF will provide sustained, integrated and predictable investments in transit and support land use planning to help create housing supply. The fund specifically aims to enhance transit services, reduce car dependency, contribute to climate change mitigation and increased resilience as well as improve sustainable transportation options for all.

Through programs like CHIF, HICC invests in housing-enabling drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and solid waste infrastructure, including natural infrastructure projects. Natural infrastructure is a win-win investment that economically supports traditional infrastructure outcomes, such as stormwater management, while delivering valuable co-benefits, such as climate change resilience, reduced pollution, and carbon sequestration.

NIF supports natural and hybrid infrastructure projects to further Canada's commitment to climate change resilience while contributing to national biodiversity goals and targets while also creating, enhancing, and expanding access to nature. By supporting natural infrastructure, such as conserving and restoring wetlands and marshes, projects funded through NIF can help prevent climate change impacts such as flash floods and support the conservation and recovery of wildlife species, including species at risk. Furthermore, NIF helps to build awareness and increase the use of natural and hybrid infrastructure, by creating, expanding, or enhancing community access to nature, furthering climate change resilience and mitigation, improving environmental quality, and protecting biodiversity.

The GICB program aims to improve energy efficiency in existing community buildings and support the construction of new net-zero carbon ones, particularly in areas with populations with higher needs. The GICB program supports the construction and adaptation of community buildings across Canada to reduce carbon emissions, advance greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation measures and encourage best practices in building design for climate change resilience. The program is accelerating the rate of retrofits to achieve deeper emissions reductions and energy efficiency.

DMAF invests in structural and natural infrastructure projects to help communities prepare for and cope with natural disasters driven by climate change, increase resilience, prevent infrastructure failures, and safeguard Canadians.

The ICIP Green Infrastructure Stream provides funding for climate change mitigation projects, and for projects that enable greater adaptation and resilience to the impacts of climate change and climate-related disaster mitigation. It



also ensures that more communities can provide clean air for their citizens. ICIP projects include those that improve the resilience of communities and facilitate the transition to a clean growth economy, while also improving social inclusion and socio-economic outcomes for Canadians.

The CCBF allows for local project selection in 19 eligible categories, including public transit and community energy systems projects. The fund promotes investments in increased productivity and economic growth, a clean environment, and strong cities and communities.

HICC also fosters research and knowledge-based collaboration, supporting innovative projects for climate mitigation and adaptation. For example its Research and Knowledge Initiative strengthens the evidence base on infrastructure and climate resilience challenges.

The Department has also been funding research to increase resilience to climate impacts of buildings and infrastructure through new and updated design data, construction specifications, decision tools, guidelines, standards, and changes to national codes. Specifically, HICC coordinates the implementation of the Climate Resilient Built Environment (CRBE) initiative led by the National Research Council (NRC) and the Standards to Support the Resilience of Infrastructure Program (SSRIP) led by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC).



Target theme: Green infrastructure and innovation

FSDS Target: By fiscal year 2027-2028, the federal share of the value of green infrastructure projects approved under the Investing in Canada Plan will reach \$27.6 billion (Minister of Housing and Infrastructure³)

Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
<p>Invest in green infrastructure.</p>	<p>Deliver HICC’s programming that contributes to green infrastructure. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Water and Wastewater Fund (2016) • Codes, Guides and Specifications for Climate-Resilient Public Infrastructure (2016) • Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (2018) • Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (2021) 	<p>Performance indicator: Value of green infrastructure projects approved under HICC programs since April 2016.</p> <p>Starting point: \$12.9 billion (as of March 31, 2023).</p> <p>Target:</p>	<p>This indicator tracks the HICC programs that invest in projects that support green infrastructure, which includes greenhouse gas mitigation, adaptation, resilience and disaster mitigation and environmental quality.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>GIF Target 9.4 –</i></p>

³ As of May 13, 2025, the Honourable Gregor Robertson was appointed as the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure. All targets previously linked to Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities have been updated to reflect this change.



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
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Infrastructure Fund (Investing in Canada Plan portion only, since 2016) • Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Green Infrastructure Stream (2016) • Municipal Asset Management Program (2017) • Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (2017) • Natural Infrastructure Fund (2021) • Smart Cities Challenge (2017) • Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Initiative (2017) <p>Note: some of HICC’s programming is included in the Investing in Canada Plan.</p>	<p>\$16.8 billion by 2027-28 (this target represents HICC’s portion of the Investing in Canada Plan Green Infrastructure Stream, as well as funding under additional HICC programs that support green infrastructure).</p>	<p>By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities.</p> <p><i>GIF Target 11.7</i> – By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive, and accessible, green, and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.</p>



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
			<i>GIF Target 13.1</i> – Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.
<p>Develop and implement climate-resilient codes and standards</p>	<p>HICC coordinates the implementation of the Climate Resilient Built Environment (CRBE) initiative led by the National Research Council (NRC) and the Standards to Support the Resilience of Infrastructure Program (SSRIP) led by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC).</p> <p>The CRBE initiative is developing climate resilience guidance in 8 areas: nature-based solutions, flooding, resilience of dams, urban</p>	<p>Performance indicator: Number of codes, standards, and guidance developed and released.</p> <p>Starting point: 65 climate-informed codes, standards, guidance, and decision-support tools have been developed (as of March 31, 2023).</p>	<p>Since 2016, HICC has been funding world-leading research to increase resilience to climate impacts of buildings and infrastructure through new and updated design data, construction specifications, decision tools, guidelines, standards, and changes to national codes.</p> <p>This work continues under the CRBE and SSRIP</p>



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
	<p>transit, wildland-urban interface design (related to wildfire risk), targeted guidance for northern, remote, and Indigenous communities, tools and technical solutions for public infrastructure management.</p> <p>The SSRIP program is advancing standardization strategies related to community climate resilience in the areas of extreme weather, resilience, frameworks for risk assessment and management, resilient transportation systems, nature-based solutions, and low-carbon resilience.</p>	<p>Target: 75 new or updated codes, standards, guidance, and decision-support tools by March 31, 2028.</p>	<p>initiatives and with additional support through the National Adaptation Strategy.</p> <p>Priority areas for new research, guidance, codes, and standards by 2026 include nature-based solutions, flooding, resilient dams, Wildland-Urban Interface design, targeted guidance (transit, Northern), tools and technical solutions for public infrastructure management and specifications.</p> <p>Work is also underway to translate these technical documents and initiatives to</p>



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
			<p>use data that can be readily applied to infrastructure decision-making. HICC continues work to encourage early adoption of climate-informed guidelines, standards, and codes.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition 13.3</i> – Canadians are well equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change.</p> <p><i>GIF Target 13.1</i> – Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.</p>



GOAL 10:

Advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and Take Action on Inequality

FSDS Context ⁴:

Social, economic, and environmental inequalities persist in Canada. These inequalities disproportionately affect people with multiple intersecting identity factors such as gender identity and expression, race and ethnicity, faith community, Indigeneity, disability, sexual orientation, and low socioeconomic status. Reconciliation with Indigenous peoples is essential to addressing these inequalities and achieving substantive equality for Indigenous peoples.

HICC fulfills the constitutional duty to consult and, where appropriate, accommodate Indigenous peoples, while also respecting federal environmental legislative and regulatory requirements for all projects receiving HICC funding. When possible, HICC relies on existing government processes or prior Indigenous engagement efforts of funding applicants to assist the department in fulfilling the duty to consult and, where applicable, accommodate Indigenous peoples. For example, if there are existing or planned consultation processes led by funding applicants such as provinces and territories, or by regulatory agencies (e.g., Fisheries and Oceans Canada), HICC will rely on these processes to the extent possible. If there are no existing processes, recipients of HICC funding could be asked to undertake or participate in Indigenous engagement and consultation activities, or, in specific circumstances, HICC may coordinate and lead Canada's Crown-Indigenous consultation process. These engagement and consultation efforts continue to support the advancement of reconciliation and HICC's implementation of the *United Nations Declaration Act* and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.

⁴ January 2026: FSDS Context revised for clarity.



HICC continues to support retrofits of existing community buildings and the construction of new resilient and net-zero buildings and outdoor facilities. Due to investments in community assets, Canadians will be able to gather safely in their communities, including Indigenous communities, as the country continues to move towards a net-zero carbon and climate-resilient future.

Given the over-representation of Indigenous peoples among those experiencing homelessness, *Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy* will continue to fund and support organizations working to address Indigenous homelessness, including through the delivery of Indigenous-specific homelessness programming. HICC will collaborate with Indigenous partners to identify and advance priorities that meet the unique needs of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

HICC recognizes the distinct role that community infrastructure plays for the well-being and self-determination of Indigenous peoples. As such, the Department ensures that a minimum of 10% of the direct-funding program envelopes for the GICB Program, DMAF, and the NIF, as well as the Active Transportation Fund (ATF) and the Rural Transit Solutions Fund (RTSF), is allocated to Indigenous projects led by and for Indigenous populations and communities. As of, 2024-25, a minimum of 10% of the direct-delivery funding stream of CHIF will be dedicated to Indigenous recipients. Additionally, HICC will continue to support the implementation of the Government of Canada's commitment to have 5% of the total value of contracts awarded annually to Indigenous businesses.

To advance reconciliation and take action to reduce inequality, HICC has also taken steps to establish internal practices that contribute to reducing the disproportionate impact of social, economic, and environmental inequalities on Indigenous peoples. HICC is committed to acquiring talent that contributes to the representation of designated groups, including Indigenous peoples, which meets or exceeds workforce availability.

Further, HICC offers departmental awareness activities to foster cultural awareness and provide a space to support Indigenous peoples and intends to review its Harassment and Violence Prevention Policy to ensure that it aligns with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.



Implementation strategies supporting the goal

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

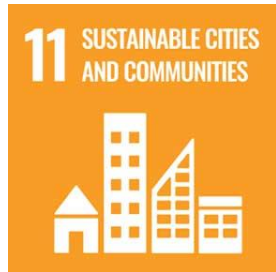
Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
Implement the <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act</i>	HICC is committed to providing departmental competency training on the <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act</i> (UNDA). Delivery of the briefings and completing the training will provide HICC senior management and staff with a clear understanding of how UNDA requires the department to collaborate with Indigenous partners in coordination with other federal departments and	Performance indicator: Senior management and staff are briefed and made aware of UNDA commitments, including obligations to consult and cooperate with Indigenous Peoples. Starting point: Briefing to Senior Management on UNDA starting with Directors’ Governance Committee in	Advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples will be supported by improving employee awareness of HICC’s roles and responsibilities in implementing the <i>UNDA</i> through regular competency training and guidance tools. Relevant targets or ambitions: Not applicable.



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
	agencies to support the implementation of the Act. ⁵	<p>2023 and moving up the governance chain (e.g., Directors General Management Committee (DGMC), Deputy Minister’s Executive Committee (DMEC)). Delivery of UNDA training to HICC staff.⁶</p> <p>Target: One (1) update per year to Senior Management on UNDA implications for the department.</p>	

⁵ January 2026: Departmental Action revised for clarity to include HICC staff in the scope.

⁶ January 2026: Starting point revised to include staff in the scope.



Goal 11: Improve Access to Affordable Housing, Clean Air, Transportation, Parks, and Green Spaces, as well as Cultural Heritage in Canada

FSDS Context⁷:

Making cities and communities sustainable means improving access to public transit and active transportation, parks and green spaces, cultural heritage, clean air and water, and affordable housing. As Canadians face the challenges of a rapidly changing climate, the need for resilient community spaces where people can connect, engage, and support one another has never been greater.

Safe, modern, and efficient public transit systems remain important for the health and sustainability of communities. Public transit is an important option for Canadians to get where they need to go, whether that is to work or school, a healthcare appointment, or a social engagement with family and friends. When Canadians choose to take public transit, they expect convenient, dependable, and efficient travel. Federal transit funding supports public transit systems and active transportation networks, creates jobs, and makes communities more accessible and liveable for all. Since 2015, the federal government has committed to building thousands of public transit and active transportation projects across the country.

Funding for transit also helps to improve labour productivity and grow the economy by generating direct and indirect jobs, reducing traffic congestion, and providing people with more mobility options. Expanded transit service gives businesses access to broader labour markets with diverse skills, gives people access to more jobs and businesses, and directly reduces costs for businesses and households. When travel is faster and easier, people can dedicate more time to productive activities, like working, relaxing, socializing, and physical activity. Easier and shorter commutes

⁷ January 2026: FSDS context revised to reflect current HICC programming and for clarity.



improve worker performance by reducing stress, fatigue, and absenteeism, leading to a higher sense of job satisfaction and improved employee engagement. Reducing congestion encourages people to take more trips for shopping, dining out, and leisure activities, leading to higher revenue for businesses and potentially employment growth.

Federal investments under past programs continue to roll out and support thousands of public transit and active transportation projects across the country, expanding, rehabilitating, and greening systems. Through its transit initiatives, the Government is supporting the purchase of more than 13,000 buses, including over 8,700 zero emission buses. In the process, Canada has seen a 31% increase in the number of electric buses and a decrease of 16% in the number of diesel buses used in public transit. Transit networks are also expanding to keep pace with Canada's population growth: three quarters of our population now lives within 500 metres of a public transit stop.

Looking to the future, the Government has committed to provide permanent funding for public transit, with an average of \$3 billion per year ongoing, beginning in 2026-27, to improve public transit and active transportation networks through the Canada Public Transit Fund (CPTF). The CPTF will deliver stable, predictable funding to expand public transit and active transportation in support of long-term goals:

- Increase the use of public transit and active transportation relative to car travel.
- Increase the housing supply and affordability as part of complete, transit-oriented communities.
- Help mitigate climate change and improve climate resilience.
- Improve public transit and active transportation options for all.

The CPTF is designed to meet the unique needs of communities of all sizes, from large metropolitan areas to mid-size and smaller communities, including rural, remote, northern, and Indigenous communities. The CPTF's three funding components (Metro-Region Agreements, Baseline Funding, and the Targeted Funding) will provide provinces, territories, municipalities, transit agencies, and other partners with the resources they need to plan and implement key public transit projects over the long term. Building complete, transit-oriented communities will enable more people to live near public transit, providing access to important services and opportunities in their communities. It will also enable increased housing supply by encouraging higher density near transit: communities seeking to stable,



predictable funding through the CPTF will be required to take actions that directly unlock housing supply where it is needed most.

Through Metro-Region Agreements, the Government of Canada will work with partners across a metropolitan region to support the long-term development of public transit and active transportation infrastructure in large urban areas, including major expansion projects. Baseline Funding will provide predictable, long-term funding to communities with existing transit systems to support routine investments, with an expected focus on public transit and active transportation system expansions, improvements, and state of good repair. Targeted Funding will provide flexible, call-specific funding to address federal priorities that meet local needs, such as rural transit, active transportation and zero-emission solutions.

HICC will continue to support projects that were approved under the ATF, RTSF, and Zero Emission Transit Fund (ZETF), programs which were first announced in 2021 and are now targeted funds under the CPTF:

- In support of Canada’s National Active Transportation Strategy, the ATF is funding new and expanded networks of pathways, bike lanes, trails, and pedestrian bridges, in addition to supporting active transportation planning and stakeholder engagement activities.
- The RTSF is supporting the development of locally driven transit solutions including new transit agencies, on-demand services, publicly owned ride shares, and volunteer community carpooling to help people in rural areas get around their communities more easily and connect with other communities nearby.
- Further, the ZETF is delivering funding to public transit and school bus operators to electrify their fleets by helping them purchase zero-emission buses and build supporting infrastructure, including charging infrastructure and facility upgrades. This program complements the Canada Infrastructure Bank’s Zero-Emission Buses Initiative to accelerate the adoption of over 5,000 zero-emission transit and school buses through low-cost flexible loans. HICC also continues to deliver remaining funding to provinces, territories, and municipalities through the Public Transit stream of ICIP. The CPTF will continue to enable rural and Indigenous communities to seek funding in support of active and transit projects and will continue to provide communities



with funding to purchase vehicles, build and upgrade supporting infrastructure, and undertake planning activities to decarbonize their public transit fleets.

In addition, the Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure stream of ICIP provides provinces, territories, and municipalities with funding for infrastructure projects that will improve social inclusion, such as new, expanded, or renewed community, cultural, and recreational installations, and facilities. Cultural infrastructure facilities support opportunities to highlight the richness of Canada’s diversity, including facilities aimed at supporting off-reserve Indigenous populations.

Having access to affordable housing is important for the wellbeing of Canadians. The National Housing Strategy (NHS), represents Canada's commitment to ensuring that people across the country have greater access to safe, affordable, and inclusive housing. Launched in 2017, the NHS includes a range of complementary programs and initiatives that address diverse housing needs. The NHS includes affordability criteria for its housing supply programs, ensuring rents are more affordable for local households. The NHS is anchored in the *National Housing Strategy Act* which requires consideration of the key principles of a human rights-based approach to housing. In addition to the NHS, the Government of Canada launched Canada's Housing Plan in April 2024, to make housing more attainable and affordable for Canadians by building more homes, making it easier to rent or own a home, and supporting Canadians who cannot afford a home. In January 2025, the Government of Canada launched the Canada Green Buildings Strategy (CGBS), a complementary strategy setting a vision and next steps for greener, energy efficient, resilient, and affordable homes and buildings. In support of the NHS and Canada’s Housing Plan, HICC collaborates with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) in the development and delivery of affordable housing programs to address diverse housing needs, such as:

- The Affordable Housing Fund, which provides low-interest and/or forgivable loans and contributions for new and repaired affordable and community housing. It includes priority funding for Indigenous communities, Black-led organizations to increase housing that benefits Black households, and women and children's shelters and transitional housing. Additional investments in 2024 to the Fund’s Rapid Housing Sub-Stream will support affordable housing, supportive housing, and shelter for those in the greatest need. The Apartment Construction



Loan Program, which aims to increase housing supply through low-cost financing to support the construction of, and conversion to, rental housing. The program focuses on standard rental, seniors housing and student housing projects in Canada where there is a need for additional rental housing supply.

- The Co-operative Housing Development Program supports the creation of new non-profit co-operative housing through forgivable and low-interest loans. The program is estimated to support the development of thousands of affordable rental co-operative housing units by 2028.
- The Affordable Housing Innovation Fund, which supports new ideas and approaches to evolve the affordable housing sector, creates below-market housing units using innovative business approaches and building techniques.
- The Federal Community Housing Initiative provides support to affordable housing providers to help maintain existing affordable housing. Additional flexibility in the program was introduced in 2024 to ensure that eligible housing providers can access funding to maintain housing affordability for low-income tenants and co-op members.

In 2024-25, HICC established a new transfer payment program, the Canadian Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF), for provincial, territorial, municipal governments, Indigenous communities, and other eligible recipients to invest in drinking water, wastewater, stormwater and solid waste infrastructure that are needed to support increased housing. The core objective of the CHIF is to enable increased housing supply through improved capacity of drinking water, wastewater, stormwater and solid waste infrastructure. This program will play a critical supporting role within Canada's Housing Plan and the broader NHS.

Under the NHS, HICC also provides funding and support to urban, Indigenous, rural, and remote communities to prevent and reduce homelessness, including chronic homelessness, through Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy, launched in 2019. HICC also helps to address Veteran homelessness through the Veteran Homelessness Program, launched in 2023, which provides rent supplements and wraparound support to Veterans experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness, including chronic homelessness. The Veteran Homelessness Program also supports projects that aim to build organization capacity and undertake research on Veteran homelessness.



With unsheltered homelessness and encampments growing across the country, HICC launched the Unsheltered Homelessness and Encampments Initiative with \$250 million from 2024-25 to 2025-26. This initiative provides funding to targeted communities to implement human rights-based, Housing First Community Encampment Response Plans to reduce unsheltered homelessness. To implement this initiative, HICC worked closely with provinces, territories and municipalities, which provide cost-matched funding.

More information on NHS programs that support access to affordable housing is available at [Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada - Canada's National Housing Strategy](#).

Target theme: Affordable Housing and Homelessness

Target: By 2028, reduce chronic homelessness by 50% (Minister of Housing and Infrastructure)

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
Prevent and address homelessness	Continue the implementation of Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy and the Veteran Homelessness Program.	Performance indicator: Percent change from a baseline of shelter users experiencing chronic homelessness.	Federal homelessness programming allocates funding to communities across Canada to deliver various services and supports to people



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
	<p>Program(s): Homelessness Policy, Homelessness Investment, Homelessness Funding Oversight (Reaching Home; Veteran Homelessness Program)</p>	<p>Starting point: 26,866⁸ (December 31, 2016).</p> <p>Targets: (1) Reduce chronic homelessness by at least 31% by March 2024; and, (2) Reduce chronic homelessness by 50% by 2028.</p>	<p>experiencing or at risk of homelessness. This helps individuals obtain and maintain housing and, as a result, contributes to the reduction of the number of people experiencing homelessness, including chronic homelessness.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition/Target 11.1 – Canadians have access to quality housing/Reduce chronic homelessness by at</i></p>

⁸ January 2026: The starting point has been revised to reflect a more precise figure.



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
			<p>least 31 percent by March 2024.</p> <p><i>CIF Indicator 11.1.1 – Percent change from a baseline of people experiencing chronic homelessness.</i></p> <p><i>GIF Target 11.1 – By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe, and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.</i></p>

Target theme: Public Transit and Active Transportation



Target: By 2030, 22% of commuters use public transit or active transportation (Minister of Housing and Infrastructure)

Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
<p>Invest in public transit and active transportation</p>	<p>Invest in long-term public transit, rural transit, and active transportation solutions to provide reliable, fast, affordable, and clean ways for people to get around.</p> <p>Program(s): Canada Public Transit Fund, Active Transportation Fund, Rural Transit Solution Fund, Zero Emission Transit Fund, Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - Public Transit Infrastructure Stream</p>	<p>Performance indicator: Value of public transit and active transportation projects approved under grants and contribution agreements since April 2018.</p> <p>Starting point: \$21 billion as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target:</p>	<p>Make contributions to public transit priorities in support of a carbon-neutral economy as well as convenient and sustainable access to jobs and services. Support active transportation systems and improvements to public transportation.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition 11.5</i> – Canadians live in healthy,</p>



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
		<p>\$32 billion of public transit and active transportation projects approved under grants and contribution agreements by March 31, 2030.</p> <p>Performance indicator: Percentage of the population using public transit or active transportation for commuting.</p> <p>Starting point:</p>	<p>accessible, and sustainable cities and communities.</p> <p><i>CIF Indicator 11.5.1 – Percentage of the population using shared or active transportation for commuting.</i></p> <p><i>CIF Target 11.5 - By 2030, 22% of commuters adopt shared or active transportation.</i></p> <p><i>GIF Target 11.2 – By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible, and sustainable transport</i></p>



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
		<p>In 2021, 13.9% of commuters used public transit or active transportation.</p> <p>Target: By 2030, 22% of commuters use public transit or active transportation.</p>	<p>systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention paid to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.</p>



Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

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

Planned Initiatives	Associated Domestic Targets or Ambitions and/or Global Targets
<p>In partnership with the Canada Infrastructure Bank’s zero-emission bus initiative, support the purchase of zero-emission buses through the ZETF and HICC’s other transit programs that aim to support Canadian transit agencies and school bus operators in reducing their operating emissions and transitioning to zero-emission fleets.</p> <p>These investments align with both the near-term 2030 emission reduction targets and the long-term objective of net zero by 2050, as the Government of Canada seeks to decarbonize its transportation sector.</p>	<p><i>CIF Ambition 13.1</i>– Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
<p>Invest in projects through HICC’s ATF and ICIP that build new and expanded networks of pathways, bike lanes, trails, and pedestrian bridges.</p>	<p><i>CIF Target 11.5.1</i> – Percentage of the population using shared or active transportation for commuting.</p>



Planned Initiatives	Associated Domestic Targets or Ambitions and/or Global Targets
<p>In addition, support active transportation planning activities that can lead to more sustainable transportation choices and contribute to modal shift that advances the decarbonization of the transportation sector.</p>	
<p>Through transit programming, improve the capacity of public transit that provides Canadians with sustainable transportation options that meet the needs of their communities.</p> <p>Increasing the capacity of public transportation systems allows Canadian communities to continue to grow while reducing congestion and reliance on personal vehicles contributes to a modal shift that reduces transportation emissions and builds more sustainable and complete communities.</p>	<p><i>CIF Ambition 11.5</i>– Canadians live in healthy, accessible, and sustainable cities and communities.</p>
<p>HICC collaborates with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) in the development and delivery of affordable housing programs. These and other housing initiatives support the objective that Canadians have access to quality housing. These initiatives will enable</p>	<p><i>CIF Ambition 11.2</i> – Canadians have access to quality housing.</p>



Planned Initiatives	Associated Domestic Targets or Ambitions and/or Global Targets
<p>housing supply growth and improved access to existing housing.</p> <p>Housing programs, by design, increase the supply of acceptable housing available to Canadian households. Current and upcoming programs will support the creation of new units, as well as improving the affordability of existing units.</p>	



Goal 12: Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles

FSDS Context⁹:

Transportation accounts for a quarter of Canada’s greenhouse gas emissions, with the majority coming from the on-road sector, including light, medium and heavy-duty vehicles. One way to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions is to replace vehicles powered by fossil fuels (internal combustion engines, or ICEs), with Zero-Emission Vehicles (ZEVs). It is important to ensure that the life-cycle carbon footprint associated with producing, powering, and recycling ZEVs and their components, such as lithium-ion batteries, is lower than that of ICE vehicles.

As a department, HICC supports the Government of Canada’s transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient operations, while also working to reduce environmental impacts beyond carbon. HICC has invested in modernizing its small fleet by using low-carbon mobility vehicles. The Department encourages its employees to use climate-resilient assets, services, and operations, as well as green goods and services that consider sustainability.

HICC investments are facilitating the development of low-carbon communities where Canadians can choose public transit to meet their transportation needs. This includes investments in zero-emission buses, which help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, curb air pollution, and protect our environment.

The ZETF supports clean procurement by offering support to public transit and school bus operators electrifying their fleets through providing funding for planning fleet electrification, the purchase of zero-emission buses and the construction of supporting infrastructure, including charging infrastructure and facility upgrades.

⁹ January 2026: FSDS context revised to reflect current HICC programming



Going forward, the new CPTF will continue to provide funding that supports the transition of transit vehicles to zero emissions fleets. The CPTF will also support planning and enabling infrastructure costs for a well-executed transition that reduces waste as well as emissions.

Target Theme: Federal Leadership on Responsible Consumption

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	Transform HICC’s fleet towards ZEVs and plug-in hybrids. Program(s): Corporate Services - Procurement	Performance indicator: Percentage of the fleet that is ZEV or plug-in hybrid. Starting point: 0% of the fleet is ZEV or plug-in hybrid (as of March 31, 2023).	HICC will be retiring HICC gas-only vehicles and is planning to have a 100% ZEV fleet by March 31, 2026. Fleet management will be optimized, including by applying life cycle analysis (looking at mileage and years of usage) to determine when



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
		<p>Target: 100% of the fleet is ZEV or plug-in hybrid by March 31, 2030.</p>	<p>vehicles are scheduled to be replaced.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition/Target:</i> 12.1 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner (Target: Zero-emission vehicles represent 10% of new light-duty vehicle sales by 2025, 30% by 2030, and 100% by 2040).</p> <p><i>CIF Indicator:</i> 12.1.1 – Proportion of new light-duty vehicle registrations that are zero-emission vehicles.</p>



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
<p>Strengthen green procurement criteria</p>	<p>Ensure procurement and/or material management employees are provided with green procurement training.</p> <p>Program(s): Corporate Services - Procurement</p>	<p>Performance indicator: Percentage of specialists in procurement and/or material management who have completed Canada School of Public Service (CSPS) training on green procurement.</p> <p>Starting point: 100% of specialists in procurement and/or material management</p>	<p>Support for green procurement will be strengthened, including guidance, tools, and training. Green procurement incorporates environmental considerations into purchasing decisions and is expected to motivate suppliers to reduce the environmental impact of the goods and services they deliver and of their supply chains.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions:</p>



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
		<p>have completed the CSPS training on green procurement in 2023-24.</p> <p>Target: Maintain the 100% of specialists in procurement and/or material management who have completed CSPS training on green procurement each fiscal year.</p>	<p><i>CIF Ambition/Target:</i> 12.2 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><i>CIF Indicator:</i> 12.2.1 – Proportion of businesses that adopted selected environmental protection activities and management.</p>



Goal 13: Take Action on Climate Change and Its Impacts

FSDS Context ¹⁰:

The effects of human-caused climate change are being felt across the country. Canadians are experiencing more extreme temperatures and precipitation, as well as an increase in the frequency and severity of wildfires, heatwaves, droughts, and flooding. Canada is warming at twice the global rate, with even higher rates in the Canadian Arctic. Meanwhile, rising sea levels are putting coastal cities at risk. An increasing number of Canadian communities from coast to coast have experienced significant weather-related disasters triggered by climate change.

Infrastructure failures from natural hazards and extreme weather events can pose threats to health and safety, the destruction of homes, interruptions in essential services, significant disruptions in economic activity, and high costs for recovery and replacement. More resilient infrastructure will help communities better withstand damage caused by climate change and extreme weather events while keeping Canadians safe, protecting local businesses, and supporting strong local economies. HICC is investing in projects that will protect Canadians and communities from current and future climate conditions.

HICC is working to ensure that Canadians have a resilient, climate-smart, accessible, and inclusive public infrastructure by targeting investments at key points along the infrastructure value chain: investing in data, evidence, and knowledge, supporting the creation of climate-informed codes, standards, and guidance, helping build integrated planning capacity, and providing capital funding for projects. These investments are made through programs, such as

¹⁰ January 2026: FSDS context revised to reflect current HICC services



DMAF and the GICB Program dedicated to supporting projects that increase the resilience of communities and safeguard against future severe weather events, while also helping meet climate goals.

DMAF is a national, competitive and merit-based contribution program that helps protect and prepare communities against the impact of climate change including disasters triggered by natural hazards and extreme weather events. This includes droughts, earthquakes, erosion, extreme temperatures, floods, permafrost thaw, storms, and wildland fires. DMAF strengthens the resilience of Canadian communities at risk of infrastructure failure caused by those hazards. By investing in climate-resilient infrastructure, DMAF helps communities increase their resilience against the effects of climate change and protect them and the critical services they rely on to stay safe, healthy, and prosperous. One way DMAF-funded projects increase resilience is through natural infrastructure, which can help mitigate climate-related risks and extreme weather events. These projects often integrate co-benefits such as improved access to nature, the creation of recreational facilities, and the preservation of sites of cultural heritage.

As part of the National Adaptation Strategy, the Government of Canada Adaptation Action Plan provided funding for several resilience-building initiatives including open-access climate toolkits and resilience requirements for funding. Launched in October 2024, the Climate Toolkit for Housing and Infrastructure has been offering key services to several communities and organizations, helping them navigate persistent challenges in incorporating climate considerations in the definition, planning, and development of infrastructure and housing projects. Core services include:

- The Climate Help Desk – a direct service that responds to inquiries from communities, helping them understand HICC climate requirements, promoting best practices and guiding users to climate tools and data.
- The ClimateInsight.ca platform – an open-access online resource offering geospatial visualization of climate and socioeconomic indicators and infrastructure assets, a new tool to identify infrastructure options, and a library of curated tools, guidance, and case studies.
- The Roster of Climate and Infrastructure Experts – a mechanism to connect communities with specialized infrastructure experts to help strengthen the implementation of low-carbon resilient options in their projects.



In addition, HICC oversees the development of guidance, standards, and codes for climate-resilient and low-carbon infrastructure with the National Research Council of Canada, through the Climate Resilient Built Environment Initiative, and the Standards Council of Canada, through the Standards to Support Resilience in Infrastructure Program.

Through GICB, HICC supports green and accessible retrofits, repairs, or upgrades of existing public buildings or construction of new publicly accessible community buildings that serve high needs and underserved communities across Canada. The GICB Program supports the first pillar of the Strengthened Climate Plan by improving the places in which Canadians live and gather by making life more affordable, supporting thousands of good jobs, and cutting pollution by reducing GHG emissions, increasing energy efficiency, building resiliency to climate change and encouraging the construction of new builds to net zero standards.

HICC is taking action to pursue the National Adaptation Strategy target that “Starting in 2024, resilience to climate change impacts is factored into all new federal infrastructure funding programs.” In this regard, HICC is building on the lessons learned from its Climate Lens initiative to develop resilience requirements for funding programs across the department. These requirements will ensure that all HICC funds go to projects that have analyzed current and future climate conditions in their geographic locations to identify any risks that climate change may pose to the project. For each of the identified risks, they are asked to consider and propose appropriate mitigation measures to help withstand, respond to, recover from, or adapt to climate change impact.

To support emissions reductions in the built environment, HICC continues to apply GHG emissions assessments and reduction measures with a focus on infrastructure project types and sizes where there is the greatest opportunity for emissions reductions. This supports the objectives of the 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan both by directly reducing emissions associated with individual projects and by more broadly supporting GHG best practices on the part of infrastructure owners and developers. HICC is implementing measures to support the use of low-carbon materials and design in major projects, as part of the federal Buy Clean policy approach.



The resilience requirements and GHG measures are intended to encourage project development that considers climate change and climate impacts to support Canada’s mid-century goals of a clean growth low-carbon economy.

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

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



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
<p>Implement the Greening Government Strategy through measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve climate resilience, and green the government’s overall operations</p>	<p>Increased awareness of green considerations in the purchase of goods.</p> <p>Program(s): All programs.</p>	<p>Performance indicator: Percentage of initial contract scoping for goods that have a green consideration.</p> <p>Starting point: In 2022-23, HICC currently does not have a target for green consideration when buying goods and materials.</p> <p>Target: By 2024-25, 100% of contract considerations for goods will include green impacts.</p>	<p>The purchase of goods will be optimized, including initial purchase as well as disposal strategy when considering the green impact.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition 12.1</i> – Canadians consume sustainably.</p>

Implementation strategies supporting the goal.



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

Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
<p>Collaborate on emergency management and disaster risk reduction</p>	<p>Provide funding for communities to increase their ability to adapt to and withstand climate change impacts, disasters triggered by natural hazards and extreme weather events.</p> <p>Program(s): Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund, Natural Infrastructure Fund, Green and Inclusive Community Buildings, Zero Emissions Transit Fund, Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, Canada Community Building Fund, Projects with green energy or disaster mitigation as a standard category.</p>	<p>Performance indicators: Percentage of municipalities that built or enhanced their capacity to reduce GHG emissions and adapt to climate change as a result of federal funding.</p> <p>Starting point: 11.1% as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target:</p>	<p>Provide funding for large-scale infrastructure projects supporting mitigation of natural disasters and extreme weather events and strengthening climate resilience.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition 13.3</i> – Canadians are well-equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change.</p> <p><i>Indicator 13.3.1</i> – Proportion of municipal organizations who factored climate change</p>



Implementation Strategy	Departmental Action	Performance Indicator Starting Point Target	How the Departmental Action Contributes to the FSDS Goal and Target and, where applicable, to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and SDGs
		12.5% to be achieved by March 31, 2028 (program data).	adaptation into their decision-making process. <i>Target 13.1</i> – Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.



SECTION 5:

Integrating Sustainable Development

HICC will continue to ensure that its decision-making process includes consideration of FSDS goals and targets through its Strategic Environmental and Economic Assessment (SEEA) process. A SEEA for a policy, program or regulatory proposal includes an analysis of the climate, nature, environmental and economic effects of the given proposal.

To implement the SEEA Cabinet Directive of April 2024, HICC has developed an internal policy and supporting review processes involving different expertise areas within the Department to ensure that appropriate SEEA analysis is conducted on all relevant proposals and submissions.

Public statements on the results of HICC's assessments are issued when an initiative that was the subject of a detailed Strategic Environmental and Economic Assessment is implemented or announced ([Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada - Public statements of Strategic Environmental and Economic Assessments](#)). The purpose of the public statement is to demonstrate that the environmental and economic effects, including contributions to the FSDS goals and targets, of an initiative have been considered during proposal development and decision making.

HICC has issued 9 public statements for proposals that were subject to a detailed SEEA during 2024-25.

