



CRI

Centre for Regulatory Innovation

Regulators' Capacity Fund

Regulatory Discovery Tool Project

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Lead Organization:

Environment and Climate
Change Canada (ECCC)

Timeline:

Sep 2020 – Mar 2022

Funding:

\$250,000

ABOUT THE RCF

The CRI's Regulators' Capacity Fund empowers federal regulators to better consider economic, competitiveness, and resilience factors in regulatory design and implementation.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Regulatory Discovery Tool Project aimed to address the lack of regulatory metadata and inform the development of a public-facing web-based tool to enable stakeholders to easily access regulatory information. This project involved extensive consultations, metadata labelling, and prototype

The Challenge:

Navigating the vast landscape of federal regulations can be daunting for businesses and stakeholders. The lack of a centralized, accessible platform for regulatory information hampers compliance and efficient decision-making.

The Approach:

ECCC developed a comprehensive metadata labelling framework and collaborated with the Canada School of Public Service to prototype a metadata labelling tool. The project involved extensive consultations with stakeholders to identify their needs for regulatory information.

The Impact:

The project successfully labelled 1,919 regulations from 22 departments, creating a robust metadata repository. The prototype tool, although facing initial security and accessibility challenges, demonstrated the potential to significantly streamline regulatory information access, aiding businesses and stakeholders in compliance and regulatory navigation.

Lessons Learned:

User-Centric Design: Engaging stakeholders early ensures the tool meets user needs.

Metadata Management: A robust labelling framework is critical for effective information retrieval.

Prototyping: Iterative development and testing help address challenges early.

This project demonstrates the potential of innovative tools to improve regulatory transparency and accessibility, supporting more effective compliance and decision-making.