



CRI

Centre for Regulatory Innovation

Regulators' Capacity Fund

Developing Foresight Capabilities

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Lead Organization:

Environment and Climate
Change Canada (ECCC)

Timeline:

Aug 2020 – Mar 2022

Funding:

\$180,000

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 project aimed to build internal capacity within ECCC to apply foresight tools and methodologies. This initiative sought to enhance ECCC's ability to anticipate future trends, identify emerging issues and develop insights describing factors that may shape the future to inform regulatory policy development.

The Challenge:

Achieving ambitious environmental objectives, such as developing clean technologies, requires a forward-looking regulatory framework. Traditional approaches may not adequately address future challenges and opportunities, making it essential to adopt innovative foresight tools.

The Approach:

ECCC engaged experts to provide training and develop guidance materials on foresight methodologies. The project included workshops, case studies, and roundtable discussions with external experts to explore how foresight can be integrated into policy development and regulatory processes.

The Impact:

The training and guidance provided to ECCC staff laid the foundation for continued foresight application across the department's priority areas. This enhanced capacity allows ECCC to better anticipate and adapt to future challenges, supporting the development of more effective long-term public policies.

Lessons Learned:

Innovation: Foresight tools enable proactive policy development.

Training: Building internal capacity is crucial for successful foresight application.

Collaboration: Engaging external experts enriches the foresight process.

This project demonstrates that strategic foresight is an effective tool to support forward thinking by allowing assumptions about future trends to be challenged, and the development of insights describing factors that may shape the future