



CRI

Centre for Regulatory Innovation

Regulators' Capacity Fund

Technology to Streamline Mining

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Lead Organization:

Natural Resources
Canada (NRCan)

Timeline:

Oct 2020 – Mar 2022

Funding:

\$634,000

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 improve the efficiency of the mining permitting process through the adoption of digital technologies. This initiative focused on developing tools to streamline data management, enhance decision-making, and improve stakeholder engagement.

The Challenge:

The mining permitting process is complex and time-consuming, often involving multiple stakeholders and extensive documentation. Inefficiencies in data management and communication can lead to delays and increased costs.

The Approach:

NRCan conducted a comprehensive analysis of the mining permitting process, identifying key areas for improvement. The project developed several prototype digital tools, including a semi-autonomous data extraction database and a regulatory navigation tool. These tools were designed to enhance data accessibility, streamline workflows, and facilitate better communication among stakeholders.

The Impact:

The project helped improve the efficiency of the mining permitting process. The prototype data extraction database allows information to be pulled from the public domain and made more searchable, helping to fill data gaps. The prototype regulatory navigation tool consolidates

guidance for multiple federal permitting processes in one place, reducing the effort required by the mining industry to understand their permitting responsibilities.

Lessons Learned:

Data Management: Effective data management tools can significantly reduce processing times.

User-Centered Design: Involving stakeholders in the design process ensures the tools meet their needs.

Collaboration: Promoting collaboration among stakeholders enhances the overall efficiency of the permitting process.

This project demonstrates the power of digital technologies to streamline complex regulatory processes, improving efficiency and stakeholder satisfaction.