



CRI

Centre for Regulatory Innovation

Regulators' Capacity Fund

Risk-Based Inspection Planning Web Application

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Lead Organization:

Natural Resources
Canada (NRCan)

Timeline:

May 2021 – Mar 2022

Funding:

\$275,000

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 enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of inspection activities in the mining sector by developing a risk-based approach. This initiative focused on prioritizing inspections based on risk factors, ensuring that resources are allocated where they are needed most.

The Challenge:

Traditional inspection methods in the mining sector often involve routine checks that do not account for varying levels of risk across different sites. This can lead to inefficient use of resources and potential oversight of high-risk areas.

The Approach:

NRCan collaborated with industry stakeholders and experts to develop a risk-based inspection framework. The project involved identifying key risk factors, developing risk assessment tools, and training inspectors on the new approach. The framework was piloted in several mining sites to test its effectiveness and refine the methodology.

The Impact:

The risk-based inspection framework significantly improved the allocation of inspection resources, focusing efforts on high-risk areas. The pilot phase demonstrated a 30% reduction in low-risk inspections and a 25% increase in the identification of high-risk issues. This approach not only enhanced the effectiveness of inspections but also contributed to safer mining operations and better regulatory compliance.

Lessons Learned:

Prioritization: Focusing on high-risk areas ensures efficient use of inspection resources.

Training: Proper training is essential for the successful implementation of new methodologies.

Stakeholder Engagement: Collaboration with industry stakeholders improves the relevance and acceptance of new approaches.

This project demonstrates the importance of risk-based approaches in regulatory inspections, ensuring that resources are used effectively to enhance safety and compliance in the mining sector.