



CRI

Centre for Regulatory Innovation

Regulators' Capacity Fund

Biogas Navigation Study

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Lead Organization:

Agriculture and Agri-Food
Canada (AAFC)

Timeline:

July 2021 – Mar 2022

Funding:

\$205,000

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 analyze and address regulatory barriers impacting agricultural biogas development in Canada. This project focused on identifying regulatory challenges, evaluating their impact on project development, and proposing solutions to streamline the regulatory process for biogas projects.

The Challenge:

Agricultural biogas projects face numerous regulatory barriers, including long regulatory timelines, rigid definitions of biogas, lack of government support, and complex permitting processes. These barriers hinder the development and expansion of biogas projects, affecting the sector's growth and environmental benefits.

The Approach:

AAFC conducted an in-depth analysis of provincial regulations, engaged stakeholders through surveys and workshops, and evaluated the effectiveness and complexity of existing regulatory frameworks. The project identified common barriers and proposed tools and approaches to overcome these challenges, including regulatory harmonization and increased collaboration among government departments.

The Impact:

The study highlighted key regulatory barriers and provided actionable recommendations to improve the regulatory environment for biogas projects. By addressing these barriers, the project aims to facilitate the development of biogas projects, contributing to environmental

sustainability and economic growth. The study also emphasized the importance of educating stakeholders and fostering collaboration to enhance regulatory processes.

Lessons Learned:

Harmonization: Regulatory harmonization across provinces can streamline project development.

Education: Educating stakeholders on the benefits of biogas is crucial for gaining support.

Collaboration: Increased collaboration among government departments improves regulatory processes.

This project demonstrates the importance of addressing regulatory barriers to promote the development of sustainable energy solutions like biogas, highlighting the need for a supportive and streamlined regulatory environment.