

Climate Change Funding Programs

Supports and Resources Guide

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview on the main climate change programs currently offering funding to Indigenous communities. This document also includes a table with links to other climate change and energy funding programs, as well as resources that may be useful in specific circumstances.

Updated: March 2024



Indigenous Services
Canada

Services aux
Autochtones Canada

Canada

First Nation Adapt Program

Program Goal:

The central goal of the program is to improve resiliency to climate change by improving knowledge of the issues facing First Nations, in order to better plan for the future.

Program Summary:

This program aims to provide First Nation communities located below the 60th parallel to assess and respond to climate change impacts on community infrastructure and disaster risk reduction. This program works with First Nation communities to identify region-specific priorities, impacts, and opportunities for climate change projects.

Supported Program Activities:

- Risk assessments of climate change impacts on community infrastructure or emergency management
- Development and assessment of adaptation options
- Cost benefit analysis of adaptation options
- Project team and community involvement
- Flood mapping

Climate Change Impact Areas:

- Inland flooding and shoreline erosion
- Forest fires
- Drought
- Sea level rise, coastal flooding and erosion
- Winter roads
- Fisheries

Available Funding:

Proposals are accepted on an on-going basis. Funding availability may change overtime. For this reason, please communicate with the program's main contact for specific funding information.

Note: Currently the program's funding is fully allocated.

** The program does not fund the implementation of structural mitigation measures in First Nation communities.*

Additional Program Information:

Lead Department	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Program Webpage	First Nation Adapt Program (rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca)
Program Funding Guidelines	https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1520877017867/1594751383101
General Program Email	aadnc.adaptation.aandc@canada.ca
Program Main Contact	Erica Weterings, FNAP Program Lead (erica.weterings2@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca)
Regional Indigenous Services Canada Contact	Shelly Johnson, Senior Environmental Specialist (shelly.johnson@sac-isc.gc.ca)

Indigenous Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program

Program Summary:

This program provides funding to support Indigenous peoples in the design, implementation, or expansion of long-term community-based climate monitoring projects. The program supports community-led projects to monitor climate and the environmental effects of climate change on communities and traditional territories. The program also facilitates access to tools and best practices, enhances collaboration and coordination among initiatives, and supports Indigenous participation in program oversight. The program funds emerging and experienced communities.

Supported Program Activities:

- Community engagement
- Developing a monitoring plan
- Hiring and training of community members to work on the project
- Rental or purchase of monitoring equipment
- Monitoring key climate indicators
- Assessing and managing Indigenous knowledge and science-based data
- Communicating climate monitoring results
- Networking

Key Climate Change Indicators:

- Weather
- Land and water
- Wildlife and vegetation
- Others may also be considered

Communities self-determine what indicators they want to monitor based on their priorities.

Program only Funds Projects that:

- Are community-lead and community-based
- Relate to monitoring climate change
- Co-apply Indigenous knowledge systems and science
- Build capacity for youth and other in climate monitoring and related areas
- Facilitate knowledge transfer between generations and foster cultural continuity

Available Funding:

The next call for proposal will be in the fall of 2023 for new projects starting 2024-2025. Funding availability may change overtime. For this reason, please communicate with the program's main contact for specific funding information.

Note: Currently the program's funding is fully allocated.

Additional Program Information:

Lead Department	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Program Webpage	Indigenous Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program (rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca)
Program Funding Guidelines	https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1599744238033/1599744301848
General Program Email	aadnc.surveillanceclimat-climatemonitoring.aandc@canada.ca
Program Main Contact	Lucie Meunier-Doyon, Program Officer (lucie.meunier-doyon@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca)
Regional Indigenous Services Canada Contact	Shelly Johnson, Senior Environmental Specialist (shelly.johnson@sac-isc.gc.ca)

Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund

Program Summary:

This program is a national, competitive, and merit-based contribution program intended to support infrastructure projects designed to mitigate current and future climate-related risks and disasters triggered by climate change.

Supported Program Activities:

- New construction of public infrastructure and/or modification or reinforcement of existing public infrastructure including natural infrastructure that prevent, mitigate, or protect against the impacts of climate change, disasters triggered by natural hazards, and extreme weather.
- Projects must be aimed at reducing the socio-economic, environmental and cultural impacts triggered by natural hazards and extreme events taking into consideration and potential future impacts of climate change in communities and infrastructure at high risk.

** This program does not support projects of emergency services infrastructure and man-made disasters.*

Key Climate Change Events:

- Floods
- Wildland Fires
- Droughts
- Seismic Events
- Avalanche
- Erosion
- Extreme Weather
- Hurricane
- Landslides
- Permafrost Thaw
- Sea Level Rise
- Storm
- Tsunami, and
- Other

Projects are Assessed Through Merit Criteria, such as:

(For more details, please refer to program webpage)

- Natural hazard risk
- Extent to which the project strengthens community resilience
- Return on investment
- Project rational
- Promote the use of innovation including natural infrastructure
- Project hazard risk transfer management measures
- Alignment with relevant plans, strategies and frameworks
- Project co-benefit

Available Funding:

Funding is provided for both small-scale projects (i.e. Total eligible costs between \$1 million-\$20 million) and large-scale projects (i.e. Total eligible costs of \$20 million or above). The next assessment period for applications has not been announced. *Note: Funding availability may change overtime. For this reason, please communicate with the program's main contact for specific funding information.*

Additional Program Information:

Lead Department	Infrastructure Canada
Program Webpage	Infrastructure Canada - Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund: Program details
Program Funding Guidelines	https://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/alt-format/pdf/dmaf-faac/dmaf-faac-applicant-guide-demandeur-en.pdf
General Program Email	dmaf-faac@inf.gc.ca
Regional Indigenous Services Canada Contact	Shelly Johnson, Senior Environmental Specialist (shelly.johnson@sac-isc.gc.ca)

Lands and Economic Development Services Program

Program Summary:

The Lands and Economic Development Services Program (LEDSP) provides support to First Nation and Inuit Communities to assist with enhancing the economic development, land and environmental capacity of communities and to support the establishment of the conditions for economic development to occur, increasing their participation in the economy. This program includes two funding streams being:

- 1) LEDSP Core Allocations (Operational Funding)
- 2) LEDSP Targeted (Project-Based)

LEDSP Core Allocations (Operational Funding):

- Funding allocations to First Nation and Inuit communities and organizations they mandate to deliver economic development services on their behalf. Allocations are intended to enable recipients to carry out community economic development planning and capacity development initiatives, develop proposals and lever financial resources, and carry out economic development activities.
- Funding allocations to First Nations to support communities' desire to take on a broad scope of land and environmental responsibilities, including land use planning, environmental management and compliance, on behalf of the Minister and under the Indian Act.
- Funding allocations to signatories of the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management, on the Schedule to the First Nations Land Management Act (FNLMA)

LEDSP Targeted (Project-Based) Funding: funding that provides lands, environmental and economic development support services to assist in achieving LEDSP's objectives of supporting First Nation and Inuit communities. These services will assist with:

- Enhancing the economic development, land and environmental capacity of communities
- Supporting the establishment of the conditions for economic development to occur
- Increasing participation in the economy

Funding Eligibility:

- 1) LEDSP Core Allocations (Operations Funding):
 - Capacity Building
 - Community Economic Development Planning
 - Development of Proposals to raise financial resources

2) LEDSP Targeted (Project-Based) Funding:

- Economic development
 - Initiatives that support FNs and Inuit communities undertake economic development activities including, capacity building, community economic development and planning.
- Land Support
 - Initiatives that support the development of land and resources under community control and access to opportunities from lands and resources not under community control (ATRs that support economic development).
 - Initiatives that support compliance with the statutory positions of the Indian Act, undertaking the land designation process and the processing of land administrative instruments such as leases and permits.
- Environment Management Support
 - Initiatives that enhance environmental planning, awareness and support efforts towards pollution prevention on reserve.
 - Initiatives that support environmental management best practices with land and community assets on reserve.
 - Initiatives to improve environmental regulatory compliance on reserve.

Available Funding:

1) LEDSP Core Allocations (Operations Funding):

Contact Regional Office for deadlines as they vary.

2) LEDSP Targeted (Project-Based) Funding:

Contact Regional Office for deadlines as they vary.

Additional Program Information:

Lead Department	Indigenous Services Canada
Program Webpage	Operational Funding: Lands and Economic Development Services Program: Operational funding (isc-sac.gc.ca) Targeted Funding: Lands and Economic Development Services Program: Project-based funding (isc-sac.gc.ca)
Program Funding Guidelines	Program Guidelines - Lands and Economic Development Services Program (LEDSP) (isc-sac.gc.ca)
Regional Indigenous Services Canada Contact	Shelly Johnson, Senior Environmental Specialist (shelly.johnson@sac-isc.gc.ca)

Clean Energy in Indigenous, Rural and Remote Communities

Program Summary:

This program provides funding for renewable energy and capacity building projects and related energy efficiency measures in Indigenous, rural and remote communities across Canada. The program is working to reduce the use of fossil fuels for heating and electricity by increasing the use of local renewable energy sources and energy efficiency.

Examples of Projects Types:

- Renewable Energy Technologies (Includes: solar, wind, hydropower, energy storage, innovative technologies such as grid modernization, ocean energy or hydrogen)
- Capacity Building (Includes: training, skills and curriculum development, energy coordinators, energy literacy, energy planning, workshops, events, and engagements, and research and feasibility studies)
- Energy Efficiency (Includes: building upgrades and retrofits, measures like LED lights and efficiency equipment, emerging technologies, and energy audits)
- Heat (Includes: biomass heating, district heating, and combined heat and power systems, biomass supply chains, geothermal and solar thermal)

Available Funding:

An additional \$300 million is currently available until 2027 for clean energy projects in Indigenous, rural and remote communities across Canada. **There is no deadline to apply. This program reviews applications on an ongoing basis. Request an application by email (nrcan.remoteenergy-energieadistance.nrcan@canada.ca).**

Additional Program Information:

Lead Department	Natural Resources Canada
Program Webpage	Clean energy in Indigenous, rural and remote communities - Canada.ca
General Program Email	nrcan.remoteenergy-energieadistance.nrcan@canada.ca
Regional Indigenous Services Canada Contact	Tebesi Mosala, Senior Environmental Specialist (tebesi.mosala@sac-isc.gc.ca)

Indigenous Clean Energy Social Enterprise

Summary:

Indigenous Clean Energy Social Enterprise (ICE) is a pan-Canadian not-for-profit platform that promotes Indigenous inclusion in Canada's energy futures economy. ICE does this by advancing Indigenous leadership and broad-based collaboration with energy companies, utilities, governments, development firms, cleantech innovators, the academic sector and capital markets.

Available Support:

- Clean Energy Capacity Building and Project Development Support
- Promoting Indigenous Youth Clean Energy Leadership
- Building Connections for Clean Energy Impact
- Sharing Knowledge and Fostering Collaboration

Available Programs:

- **202/20 Catalyst** – Indigenous clean energy capacity-building program.
- **Global Hub** – Initiative to build connections, share learnings, and promote global cooperation among Indigenous groups.
- **Bringing It Home** – A national program working to scale up energy efficiency in Indigenous communities.
- **Generation Power** – A program that encourages Indigenous youth to explore careers in clean energy and fosters their leadership potential to advance a sustainable and equitable energy future.
- **ImaGENation** – A capacity-building program that supports Indigenous youth to launch clean energy projects grounded in cultural identity, mentorship, and peer-to-peer support.
- **ICE Mentorship** – Connects eligible ICE program participants with industry-leading experts from across the spectrum of the clean energy space.
- **Charge Up** – Initiative to accelerate the implementation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in Indigenous communities across Canada.

- **Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative (IODI)** - A clean energy training and funding program that supports Indigenous-led climate solutions in remove Indigenous communities that currently use diesel or other fossil fuels for heat and power. IODI is delivered by the ICE and the federal government.
 - **IODI will provide:**
 - Up to \$1,525,000 in funding for community clean energy training, planning and projects
 - Participation in the 20/20 Catalyst program, delivered by the ICE
 - Unique opportunities for collaboration, peer-to-peer leaning and access to mentors.
 - **Who can apply?**
 - Individuals and teams from remote Indigenous communities in Canada that are interested in becoming Clean Energy Champions.
 - **What is the Commitment?**
 - IODI is a multi-year program with 3 phases. Ten spots are available in the 2022/2023 Cohort.

Phase 1 Summer 2023 \$25K in funding	Phase 2 Fall 2023-Spring 2025 \$500K in funding	Phase 3 Spring 2025 onwards Up to \$1M in funding
Individual Energy Champions complete clean energy training through the 20/20 Catalysts program	Funding and resources for community engagement, training, team salaries, and Clean Energy Planning	Champion teams lead their communities in planning and implementing community-scale clean energy and energy efficiency projects

- **Contact for more information:** nrcan.remoteenergy-energieadistance.nrcan@canada.ca

Additional Program Information:

Lead Department	Natural Resources Canada
Program Webpage	Home - Indigenous Clean Energy Clean Energy for Rural and Remote Communities Program (nrcan.gc.ca)
General Program Email	nrcan.remoteenergy-energieadistance.nrcan@canada.ca
Regional Indigenous Services Canada Contact	Tebesi Mosala, Senior Environmental Specialist (tebesi.mosala@sac-isc.gc.ca)

Other Climate Change/Energy Funding Programs

Funding Program	Department	Summary	Link
Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program	ISC	Designed to build capacity for climate change adaptation by funding community-designed and driven projects. The program funds FNs and Inuit communities' efforts to build capacity to adapt to the health impacts of climate change.	Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program (sac-is.gc.ca)
Emergency Management Assistance Program	ISC	Provides funding to First Nations communities to build resiliency, prepare for natural hazards and respond to them using the 4 pillars of emergency management - mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. EMAP aims to be flexible, culturally sensitive, responsive to the unique strengths and customs of FNs communities, and adaptive to the evolving challenges resulting from emergency events.	Emergency Management Assistance Program (sac-is.gc.ca)
Climate Action and Awareness Fund	ECCC	Supports Canadian-made projects that reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions and raise awareness of climate change. The Climate Change Action and Awareness Fund is designed to support projects that can create middle class jobs for Canadians who work in science and technology, academia and at the grassroots community level.	Climate Action and Awareness Fund - Canada.ca
The Low Carbon Economy Fund	ECCC	Provides fund to Provinces and Territories to adopt the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change. This funding will help with commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Also funds project that leverage ingenuity across the country to reduce emissions and generate clean growth.	Low Carbon Economy Fund - Canada.ca

Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund	ECCC	<p>Support for projects that restore wetlands, peatlands, and grasslands to store and capture carbon and support biodiversity. This fund is meant to reduce 2-4 megatons of greenhouse gas emissions annually.</p> <p>The fund will achieve this by supporting projects that conserve, restore and enhance wetlands, peatlands, and grasslands to store and capture carbon. Projects will focus on conserving, restoring and enhancing the management of important habitat for migratory birds, species at risk and other species of cultural and/or socio-economic importance to local communities.</p>	Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund - Canada.ca
EcoAction Community Funding Program	ECCC	<p>Designed to provide financial support to non-profit and non-government organizations for Canadian communities to take on local action- based projects that produce measurable, positive environment and to build the capacity of communities to sustain these activities in the future.</p>	EcoAction Community Funding Program - Canada.ca
Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk	ECCC	<p>The Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk (AFSAR) was established in 2004 and supports the development of Indigenous capacity to participate actively in the implementation of the Species at Risk Act (SARA).</p> <p>The Act recognizes the important role that Indigenous peoples play in wildlife conservation and the need to consider Indigenous knowledge in the assessment of which species may be at risk, as well as in the development and implementation of protection and recovery measures.</p>	Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk - Canada.ca
Indigenous Guardians Funding Program	ECCC	<p>his program provides Indigenous Peoples with a greater opportunity to exercise responsibility in stewardship of their traditional lands, waters, and ice.</p> <p>The Pilot supports Indigenous rights and responsibilities in protecting and conserving ecosystems, developing and maintaining sustainable economies, and continuing the profound connections between the Canadian landscape and Indigenous culture.</p>	Indigenous Guardians Pilot - Canada.ca

Indigenous Forestry Initiative	NRCAN	<p>The Indigenous Forestry Initiative (IFI) provides financial support to Indigenous-led economic development projects in Canada’s forest sector.</p> <p>Benefits of the program include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increased Indigenous participation in forestry-related opportunities, businesses, careers and governance - increased engagement and economic development for Indigenous communities and peoples involved in the forest sector - increased investment and collaboration between Indigenous peoples and other natural resource development stakeholders, including governments, industry and non-governmental organizations 	Indigenous Forestry Initiative (nrcan.gc.ca)
Funding for Indigenous-led clean production capacity projects	NRCAN	<p>A distinct process with measures to increase funding of Indigenous-led clean production capacity projects in Canada.</p>	Funding for Indigenous-led clean production capacity projects (nrcan.gc.ca)
Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program	NRCAN	<p>Provides direct financial support to eligible renewable energy and grid modernization projects during the construction phase. Projects must use market ready technologies and apply workplace equity, diversity, and inclusion components.</p>	Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program (nrcan.gc.ca)
Building Capacity with the Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program	NRCAN	<p>Through the SREPs capacity building stream, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) provides funding for projects that build knowledge and skills related to renewable energy and grid modernization technologies, and also support equity, diversity and inclusion activities. These projects will enable communities and individuals to participate in the Canadian electricity and energy sector’s transition to low carbon. SREPs aims to support projects across the country while encouraging the participation and leadership of First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities.</p>	Building Capacity with the Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program (nrcan.gc.ca)

<p>Clean Energy for Rural and Remote Communities: Capacities Building Stream</p>	<p>NRCAN</p>	<p>This program supports community-level capacity building that will increase clean energy opportunities, including renewables and energy efficiency, and contribute to reducing diesel reliance in rural and/or remote communities.</p> <p>This program also offers a new initiative called Clean Energy in Indigenous, rural and remote communities, focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous, rural and remote areas that use fossil fuels for heat or power; • Indigenous-owned or led projects, or projects with community partnerships; and, • Support for all project stages and a variety of technology types (i.e. solar, wind, hydropower, energy storage, and innovative technologies). 	<p>Clean Energy for Rural and Remote Communities: Capacity Building Stream (nrcan.gc.ca)</p> <p>Clean energy in Indigenous, rural and remote communities - Canada.ca</p>
<p>Energy Efficiency Manitoba</p>	<p>Province of Manitoba</p>	<p>Efficiency Manitoba will assist with training on how to identify energy efficiency opportunities and make use of the programs for the communities' benefit. Over the two-year period, Efficiency Manitoba provides support and guidance for the Advocate.</p>	<p>Indigenous Community Energy Efficiency Program — Efficiency Manitoba (efficiencymb.ca)</p>

Other resources for Climate Change/Energy Funding Opportunities:

Environment and Climate Change Canada Funding Programs	ECCC funding programs - Canada.ca
Indigenous Climate Hub (Other Funding Opportunities)	Funding - Indigenous Climate Hub
Natural Resources Canada – Green Infrastructure Programs	Green infrastructure programs (nrcan.gc.ca)
Natural Resources Canada – Current Funding Opportunities	Current Funding Opportunities (nrcan.gc.ca)
Manitoba Resource Library (The MRL is a comprehensive database of available funding, services and training opportunities found within turtle island. This interactive website provides tools and information to help communities design and implement their Comprehensive Community Plans.)	Manitoba Resource Library