Monitoring and Evaluation for Adaptation

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Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Results

• The Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Results - August 2017 – March 2018

• …“to recommend a suite of indicators to measure progress on adaptation and climate resilience in Canada”

• Align with adaptation and climate resilience pillar of the Pan-Canadian Framework

• Include implementation - Chapter 7

• SCALABLE
Why Monitoring and Evaluation for Climate Change Adaptation?

• Tangible and reportable changes to levels of risk/vulnerability, and…

• Learning from implemented measures and subsequent need to change tact

• Do benefits outweigh costs (ROI)

• Policy accountability

• Learning about a dynamic system (climate- and non-climate). RISKS CHANGE!
A Framework for Adaptation Monitoring and Evaluation

1. Purpose and Context
2. Develop Indicators
3. Collect Data
4. Data Analysis and Evaluation
5. Communicate Results
6. Continually Improve

Adaptation M&E Framework
Step 2: Indicator Refinement/Development

- Indicators for adaptation can be process- and outcome-based.
- Should be developed or refined through a series of criteria that assesses them for context suitability (municipal?)
Indicator Suitability

✓ Practical – quantifiable
✓ Clear – reporting in positive or negative direction
✓ Meaningful – actionable insights
✓ Cost-effective – measured at reasonable cost
✓ Dis-aggregable – disaggregation based on eg. population, regions
✓ Measurable – presence of metrics and data
✓ Designed to drive adaptation in a positive direction
Step 6: Continually Improve

- M&E is not an end. Rather, the results are an integral part of adaptation management and decision-making on the ground.
- Adjustments following the first iteration of the M&E program.
Challenges and Key Considerations for Adaptation Monitoring and Evaluation

• **Uncertainty** associated with future impacts presents significant variability across the breadth of regions, communities and economies.

• The **long timescales** over which climate change unfolds also challenges the relatively short duration of policy and program drivers for adaptation.

• The **ability to measure avoided impacts** is difficult.

• **Diversity of concepts** and definitions associated with adaptation.

• The **availability of data** to support ideal indicators.

• The **lack of a clear objective, goal or end state** (unlike GHG reduction or carbon sink enhancement for mitigation).

• **Resource constraints** (human, temporal, financial and technical etc.)
Moving Forward

• A robust M&E program for climate change adaptation provides the supporting and enabling mobilization framework through which indicators can be applied to measure changes to levels of climate risk.

• The process of M&E is a living one – iterative and ongoing to support a sustained effort on improving climate resilience across regions and municipalities.

• Additional effort is required to address this discrepancy for M&E, to support climate change adaptation.
Thank you

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