

ADVANCING ADAPTATION

CLIMATE CHANGE
RESILIENCE
TRAINING FOR
ONTARIO
MUNICIPALITIES

PROJECT BROCHURE

ADVANCING ADAPTATION PROJECT

Climate change is already being experienced in communities throughout the Province – flooding, extreme heat, changing water levels, and increased storms – are only some of the impacts facing municipalities in Ontario and throughout Canada. It truly is one of the defining issues of our time.

Planning for a changing climate at the local level and implementing adaptation initiatives is challenging for many municipalities, and in particular smaller and rural municipalities that often lack the resources, capacity and knowledge to assess impacts, develop plans, and implement action to prepare for a changing climate. Moreover, municipalities and communities are at different levels of capacity and different stages of preparing for a changing climate. As a result, a one-size-fits-all approach to assisting municipalities as they prepare for climate change has limited utility.

With financial support from the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) alongside financial support of the Government of Canada through the federal Department of Environment and Climate Change Canada, ICLEI Canada is working to increase climate change resilience within Ontario municipalities. Over a 10- to 18-month period, ICLEI will engage up to 40 Ontario communities in three different cohorts aimed at building capacity on adaptation assessment, planning, and implementation.

THREE OPTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

1. The Train-the-Trainer – Risk and Vulnerability Assessment project is intended for local governments that have not yet undertaken a formal adaptation effort. The project will support municipalities in understanding climate projections, using and applying climate data and information from various sources, identifying climate impacts, and assessing their community's vulnerability and risk to climate impacts through a collaborative process.

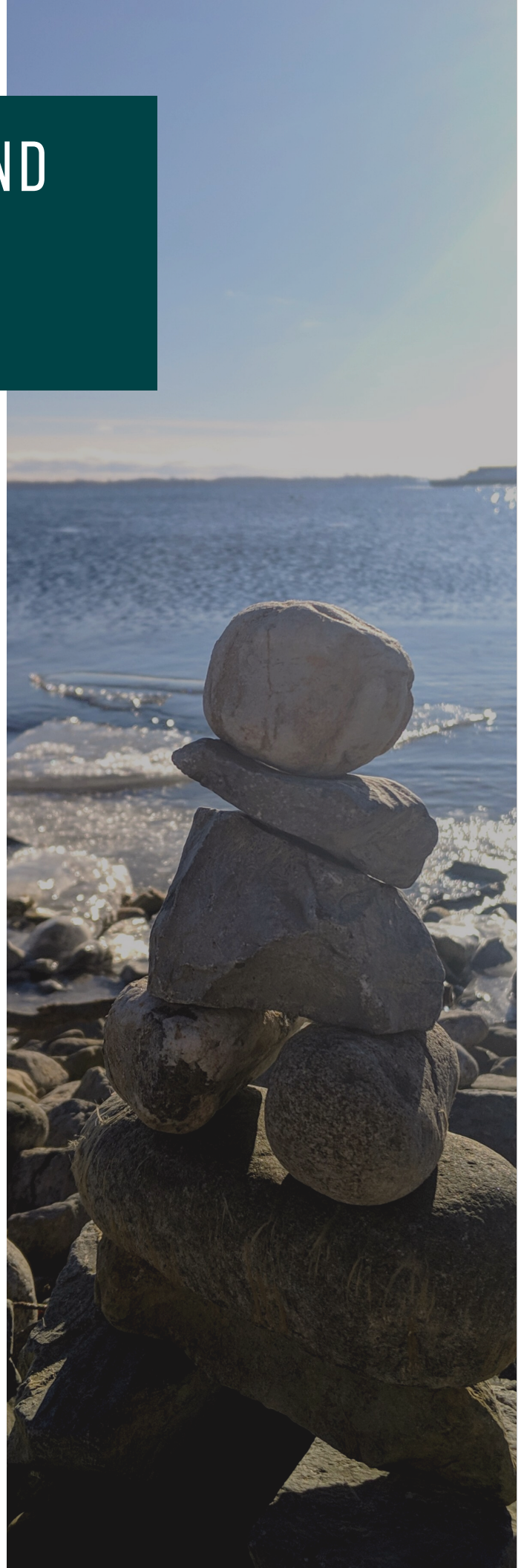
2. The Train-the-Trainer – Adaptation Planning project is intended for local governments that have already undertaken some form of risk or vulnerability assessment processes and will focus on the creation or integration of an adaptation plan/strategy to address the identified climate risks, with a particular focus on including implementation considerations and monitoring metrics.

3. The Implementation project is intended for local governments that have already identified adaptation actions or solutions. The focus of this project will be to support the implementation of a community-oriented adaptive action over the course of 18-months, and will include financial support and guidance on various implementation issues, such as overcoming obstacles, building local support, and identifying performance indicators.

1. VULNERABILITY AND RISK ASSESSMENT

Centered around sharing information, identifying local climate impacts, and assessing vulnerability and risk, the Train-the-Trainer: Risk and Vulnerability Assessment cohort will build capacity to identify, assess and prioritize climate impacts and risks to the municipality and broader community. Participants will take part in detailed training workshops on how to engage various stakeholders and partners on climate change assessment, communicate climate change-related information, work with community leaders, and overcome local challenges and barriers to assessing climate-related risks. These staff will then apply their knowledge and techniques they learned into localized workshops supported by ICLEI staff. These workshops will center around working with climate information, identifying impacts, and conducting vulnerability and risk assessments. These workshops will involve local partners such as colleagues from multiple city departments, conservation authorities, First Nations, utilities, local businesses, public health, researchers, etc.

This cohort will help those municipalities that are “new” to adaptation or that have done some preliminary work, but would like to move forward and get a better understanding of climate science and local climate change impacts through vulnerability and risk assessment. The output of this project will be a completed climate vulnerability and risk assessment report for each participating municipality.



Benefits

Participating municipalities will be provided with:

- Individual climate science data reports that summarize and coalesce localized climate science for both historical and climate projection data including summaries of projected changes to temperature, precipitation, intensity-duration frequency curves, and extreme events;
- Training workshops on the topics of climate change projections, climate impacts, vulnerability and risk assessment, as well as methods for collecting data and information through workshops and community engagement;
- Training materials to support impact identification, risk and vulnerability assessment, as well as how to access and apply climate data in assessment.
- Assistance in the planning, logistics, delivery, and reporting of localized workshops; and
- Full summary reports of workshop outcomes, vulnerability and risk assessment findings, lessons learned throughout the process.

Commitments

- Actively participate in all project-related workshops, meetings, and webinars;
- Spearhead the process of setting up a local vulnerability and risk training workshop;
- Identify a broad range of local partners and/or stakeholders (i.e. municipal staff colleagues, Conservation Authorities; Health Unit, researchers, local businesses, community groups, etc.).
- Lead and deliver local training with colleagues and identified stakeholders; and
- Report final results and lessons learned in an annotated way to be framed into a designed final report for broad dissemination.
- Estimated time commitment of approximately 10-15 working days over a 10-month period.

Timing

The TtT: Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Project will run from June 2021 - March 2022.



2. TRAIN-THE-TRAINER ADAPTATION PLANNING

Centred around the creation or integration of a local climate change adaptation plan, the Train-the-Trainer – Adaptation Planning cohort will support communities in identifying goals, actions, and implementation details for a community-wide climate change strategy. Participants will take part in detailed training workshops on designing a successful adaptation planning process, including examples and best practices from other municipalities, as well as tools to identify adaptation actions through collaborative engagement. These staff will then transfer their skills into localized workshops and processes to develop a strategy that addresses priority climate change risks within their local context. At the completion of the project, participants will have an implementation ready adaptation plan/strategy that can be used to guide implementation of adaptation interventions in the short-, medium-, and long-term.

This cohort will target those municipalities that have completed some form of climate vulnerability or risk assessment that expressly considers future climate. This may include municipalities who have undertaken:

- Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) process as part of their Emergency Management planning;
- Hazard-specific risk assessments (i.e., flooding, landslide, Urban Heat Island, etc.);
- Sector-specific vulnerability or risk assessment (e.g. climate change health vulnerability assessment); etc.

The beginning of the project will focus on filling gaps in information as needed within these existing assessments as they related to climate change projections, slow-onset impacts, and other climate change-specific considerations.



Benefits

Participating municipalities will be provided with:

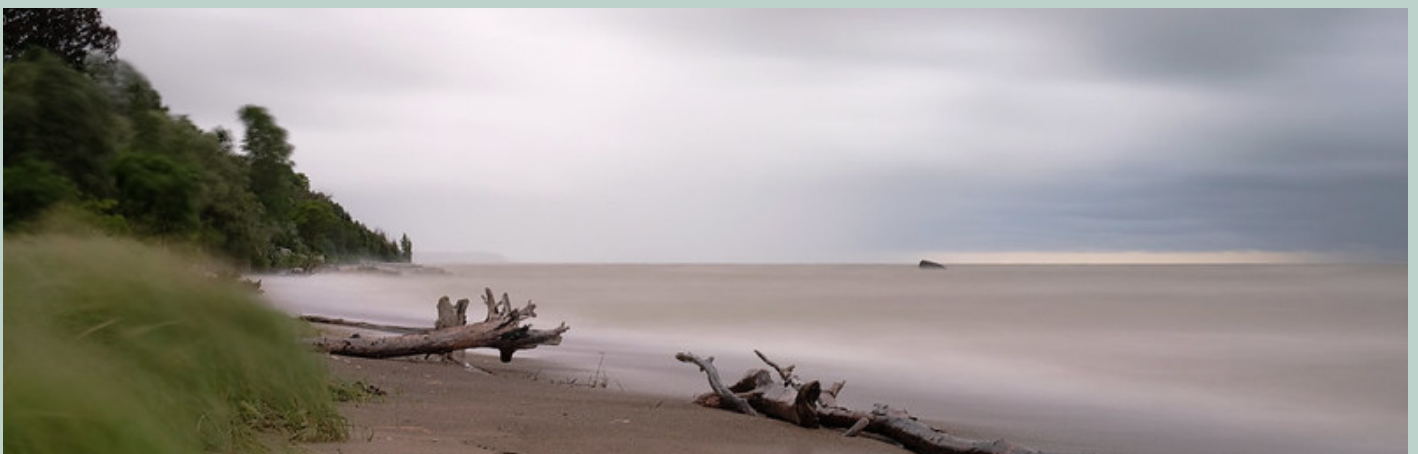
- Support in assessing existing materials and outputs of local climate change assessments, and work to identify and fill information gaps on climate projections, impacts, vulnerability and/or risks;
- Training workshops to educate participants on the fundamentals of adaptation planning, best practices from other municipalities, and methods for codeveloping plans with internal and external stakeholders;
- Training materials to support identifying adaptation actions, setting goals and objectives, identifying implementation partners, refining adaptation actions, identifying implementation schedules, developing monitoring and evaluation metrics;
- Assistance in the planning, logistics, delivery, and reporting of localized workshops;
- Assistance in the drafting of an adaptation strategy or plan to identify priority climate change risks and actions to address them; and
- Guidance on the dissemination and communication of the final adaptation strategy.

Commitments

- Actively participate in all project-related workshops, meetings, and webinars;
- Identify a broad range of local partners and/or stakeholders (i.e. municipal staff colleagues, Conservation Authorities; Health Unit, researchers, local businesses, community groups, etc.) to involve in the planning process;
- Spearhead the process of setting up and delivering local workshops on action identification, prioritization, implementation schedules, and measuring progress;
- Lead the drafting of an adaptation plan/strategy to identify priority climate change risks; and
- Develop a strategy for the dissemination and communication of the final plan.
- Estimated time commitment of approximately 15 working days over a 10-month period.

Timing

The TtT: Adaptation Planning cohort will run from June 2021 – March 2022.



3. IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH COLLABORATION

The Implementation cohort is intended to help municipalities move from planning to action by supporting the implementation of a specific adaptation action in each of the selected communities. Support with implementation can be an often overlooked component of capacity building, which leaves municipalities struggling with how to determine the most appropriate interventions, identify responsibilities, and engage partners in implementation. In this cohort, each participating municipality will be eligible to receive up to \$15,000 of funding to support the design and implementation of a specific adaptation intervention (this funding must be matched by the municipality through a combination of cash and in-kind support). Throughout the 18-months of this cohort, ICLEI Canada will support municipalities in identifying and selecting adaptation interventions, defining implementation plans, designing monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and ultimately assisting municipalities with overcoming barriers and seizing opportunities throughout the implementation process.

The scope and type of adaptation intervention can vary, ranging from communication and outreach actions, 'shovel in the ground' projects, technology solutions, green infrastructure projects, and more. All projects must be community facing, meaning they must either involve or affect members of the community, and cannot be solely an internal, corporate intervention.





Benefits

Participating municipalities will be provided with:

- Funding to support the implementation of the selected adaptation action (up to \$15,000).
- Supporting and training materials (eg. on indicators, partnerships, and implementation readiness);
- Ongoing access to ICLEI staff to assist with implementation;
- Access to specialists and experts in the identified field of practice;
- Formally produced and designed case study profiling the selected and implemented action – for each community; and
- Broad-scale dissemination and promotion of the case study and associated outcomes.

Commitments

- Cost-share the specific action initiative/project that is chosen (matching \$15,000 in cash or in-kind support);
- Identify and select an adaptation measure or project to be implemented;
- Actively participate in all project related workshops, meetings, and webinars;
- Supporting the peer-to-peer network through online and offline collaboration with other communities;
- Spearhead the process of implementation in their community;
- Lead and deliver any required meetings with local partners and stakeholders; and
- Report final results and lessons learned to peers and ICLEI Canada.
- Estimated time commitment of approximately 25 working days over an 18-month period.

Timing

The TtT: Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Project will run from June 2021 - December 2022.

APPLICATION PROCESS

STEP 1: CHOOSE WHICH PROJECT YOU WOULD LIKE TO APPLY FOR AND ENSURE YOU MEET THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

PROJECT	REQUIREMENTS
Train-the-Trainer: Risk & Vulnerability Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be a local or regional government in Ontario• Must involve community members in the risk and vulnerability assessment process• Commitment of approximately 10-15 days of staff time over 10 months.
Train-the-Trainer: Adaptation Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be a local or regional government in Ontario• Must have completed some form of risk and vulnerability assessment that considers either climate change or extreme weather• Must involve community members in the identification and/or implementation of actions in the final adaptation plan or strategy• Commitment of approximately 15 days of staff time over 10 months.
Implementation through Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be a local or regional government in Ontario• Must commit to implementing a community-facing project.• Provide matching cash or in kind-support of \$15,000 (in combination of cash and in-kind) over the course of the project• Commitment of approximately 25 days of staff time over 18 months.

STEP 2: FILL OUT THE APPROPRIATE APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

- [TtT: Risk & Vulnerability Assessment Questionnaire](#)
- [TtT: Adaptation Planning Questionnaire](#)
- [Implementation through Collaboration Questionnaire](#)

STEP 3: E-MAIL THE COMPLETED APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE TO: JENNIFER.LOTZ@ICLEI.ORG

The deadline for submissions is June 11, 2021. ICLEI Canada will send you confirmation once your application has been received. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

TIMING FOR APPLICANTS

The three projects will run simultaneously as they are meant to target and support communities at various stages of the adaptation continuum from assessment, planning to implementation. Both of the Train-the-Trainer projects will run from June 2021 – March 2022, and the Implementation project will run from June 2021 – December 2022.

Below is a table outlining key dates and timing surrounding the Call for Applications and project start dates.

APPLICATION PROCESS TASK	DATE
Call for Applications open	May 3, 2021
Webinar (to support application process)	May 19, 2021
Call for Applications close	June 11, 2021
Successful participants notified	June 18, 2021



QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions
about the Advancing
Adaptation Project, please
contact Jenny Lotz at
jennifer.lotz@iclei.org
