

# Advancing Implementation Training Initiative (AITI) Questions & Answers

## Questions & Answers from the February 4, 2025 Information Webinar

1. Is it open to all municipalities from every size and setting (i.e. population size and urban/rural setting?)

Yes, this program is open to any local or regional government regardless of size and location. We also encourage First Nations Communities to apply.

2. Can this cohort review existing documents? i.e. if I have a draft implementation report, can this project review specific costs.

The AITI project is a perfect program to help you build out your implementation plan and prioritize actions. The tools and resources developed will support you define specific costs.

3. What if you are in the middle of updated climate risk and vulnerability assessment and adaptation plan?

Eligibility is for at minimum a preliminary climate vulnerability and risk assessment to be completed. I would encourage you to refer to earlier versions and current status of your climate vulnerability and risk assessment in the application. It will also be important to note that you have an existing list of adaptation actions that will be continuing after the finalized update. These adaptation actions do not have to be held within an adaptation plan but may have been identified in other master planning documents to support climate change resiliency.

4. What are some ways to hold leadership accountable for commitments made?

I'd like to refer you to the new [ICLEI's Climate Communications Toolkit](#). Building local support behind adaptation actions will help keep climate action a priority. AITI will work with participants to help build the local support needed to move forward. Additionally, part of the capacity training delivered as part of the project will be focused on navigating political changes and creating support the funding and delivery of adaptation projects.

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5. What are the minimum expectations with regards to vulnerability and risk assessments and adaptation actions?

This project starting point is with an assessment of existing documented adaptation actions. The adaptation actions don't have to be from a dedicated adaptation plan but can also reside in other master planning documents such as Urban Forestry Master Plans, Stormwater Management Plans, etc. It is expected that the adaptation actions are addressing a known climate change vulnerability and risk associated with your local community. The municipality should be able to identify their climate risks and vulnerabilities but does need a stand-alone assessment to apply.

6. Are Conservation/Health Authorities eligible to apply?

Conservations and Health Authorities are welcome to apply in conjunction with a local government or First Nations community.

7. Will there be a second intake for this program?

Our current funding is for a one-time intake.

8. Do you expect to have enough interest from First Nations communities? How often have you engaged with First Nations communities?

Several First Nations communities have shown early interest by registering for the webinar. We do hope that First Nations join the program, as we hope to support communities across the Country but we also recognize the wealth of knowledge we can also learn from the First Nations Communities. The program also will support First Nations Communities with travel to Halifax.

ICLEI Canada is actively engaging First Nations communities through the [ORCCA \(Ontario Resource Centre for Climate Adaptation\)](#) project and the recently launched [Pacific North Shore & Sunshine Coast Regional Climate Collaborative Project](#).

Our team has also worked with a number of First Nations communities on other individual projects.

9. Should we select specific adaptation actions within our adaptation plan, or will this training help identify which ones to focus on?

The early phases of this program will guide Communities to assess and prioritize actions based on several criteria. These early phases may support the build out of an implementation plan. By the October, we expect that the Communities will have prioritized 1-3 actions to move forward with more detailed project scoping and design.

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10. Is there a cost to participate?

There is no cost to participate.

11. How many communities can you support through this project?

Our goal is to support 48 communities.

12. How will French speaking communities be supported?

With enough interest, we aim to have a French speaking Cohort which will be lead through ICLEI Canada's Montreal office. However, we know that the success of the project will be the on-going learnings between Cohorts. Within our budget we have set aside funding for translation services, which will be used to translate supporting tools and resources to ensure access to all participants.