

Canada

Climate Lens



TYPE OF TOOL
*Methodology/
Guidelines/
Requirements*



MAIN SECTORS
All sectors



THEME
*Green;
Resilience*



INFRASTRUCTURE GOVERNANCE PILLARS
Asset performance throughout its life

In a nutshell



OBJECTIVE: The Climate Lens assessment is aimed at guiding integration of climate change considerations into the planning of infrastructure projects.



Agency in charge
Infrastructure Canada



Levels of government
Federal



Year of implementation
2018



Current status
Fully operational

Overview

To deliver low-carbon and climate-resilient infrastructure, it is important to integrate consideration of climate impacts into the planning of infrastructure projects. Systematic evaluation of each project's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and/or resilience to the impacts of climate change brings to light key considerations, risks, and mitigation strategies, which facilitate better decision making in both current and future infrastructure projects. In 2018, Infrastructure Canada developed the Climate Lens, an assessment framework aimed at guiding planning of infrastructure projects to minimize GHG emissions and ensure resilience to climate change. The assessment helps decision makers understand the GHG impact and climate change risks associated with the design, construction and operation of proposed infrastructure projects. The Climate Lens is a horizontal requirement applicable to Infrastructure Canada's *Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program* and the *Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund*. It has two components: the GHG mitigation assessment, which measures the anticipated GHG emissions impact of an infrastructure project, and the climate change resilience assessment, which employs a risk management approach to foster decisions that anticipate, prevent, withstand, respond to, and support quicker recovery from climate change related disruptions or impacts. The resilience assessment encourages systematic analysis, pursuit of co-benefits such as use of natural infrastructure and avoidance of maladaptation. Infrastructure Canada provides guidance to applicants of applicable projects on the completion of a Climate Lens assessment. The objectives of this guidance are to explain the purpose of the Climate Lens and which projects are subject to the requirement; provide information on when and how to submit completed assessments to Infrastructure Canada; and describe the requirements for completing the climate change mitigation and resilience assessment components of the Climate Lens. The prescribed assessments serve to encourage project proponents to incorporate climate change considerations into their project. The Climate Lens also enable the Government of Canada and proponents to better communicate the anticipated outcomes of federally supported infrastructure projects to Canadians with respect to climate change efforts.

REFERENCES:

- Infrastructure Canada (2019), *Climate Lens*, <https://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/pub/other-autre/cl-occ-eng.html>