Draft Logic Model for Water Quality and Aquatic Ecosystems Health

Developed to support the Evaluation of Water Quality and Aquatic Ecosystems, 2014-15 – not approved for other purposes

Strategic Outcome

Expected Result 1.2

Threats to Canada's water resources and aquatic ecosystems are minimized and the sustainability of the resource is maintained

Final Outcome

Canada's water resource policies and programs are informed by water quality and aquatic ecosystems health data and information from ongoing research and monitoring of waters under federal jurisdiction or responsibility

Intermediate Outcomes

- Water resource managers use timely and relevant science-based information and data to support decisions on policies, programs and regulations related to water quality and ecosystems within the federal mandate
- Key risks associated with water quality and aquatic ecosystems health are identified, assessed or managed

Immediate Outcomes

- Research capacity is maintained in areas that align with ECCC's and federal government priority areas
- High-quality science-based knowledge and data are made available to address Canada's legislated mandates and commitments related to water quality and aquatic ecosystems health
- Risk-based mechanisms are in place to support water quality monitoring, using cooperative and integrated approaches within ECCC, other federal government departments, other levels of government (provincial, territorial) as well as other stakeholders for sustainable water resource management

Target Audiences

- Research community (i.e., universities, researchers)
- Provinces and territories
- Environment Canada, and other federal government departments
- Transboundary authorities (e.g., inter-provincial water boards, Great Lakes Water Quality Board)
- Private sector (e.g., industry)
- Other stakeholders, including international organizations (e.g., US government), First nations, media)

Outputs

- Science-based knowledge that identifies risks and trends related to water quality and aquatic ecosystems health
- Data generated on the status and trends of water quality and aquatic ecosystems, including emerging issues and threats (e.g., reports, studies)
- Tools, frameworks and guidelines and trend analysis for risk-based water quality monitoring
- ECCC reporting and contributions (Boards, CESI, Canada Water Act, etc.)
- Proposed revisions to agreements or establishment of new agreements as needed
- Engagement, and communication products to inform decision-makers and data users

Key Activities

- Conducting research to generate and disseminate science-based knowledge related to water quality and aquatic ecosystems
- Conducting assessments on the risks of water contaminants and impacts on ecosystems for humans and the environment
- Monitoring and reporting of water quality and ecosystems health, using a risk-based approach
- Providing analytical, laboratory and research support (field logistics) services in support of research and monitoring activities
- Participating and engaging on inter-provincial water boards, and related committees
- Developing partnerships, collaborations and stakeholder engagement