

Climate change remains a critical pressure on our fisheries and oceans. It is imperative that we tackle this by ensuring we have a strong evidence- base to inform climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts in our oceans

Canada is supportive of international efforts to incorporate climate change into policies and programming to anticipate change, reduce uncertainties of climate change impacts, and to identify opportunities.

Canada supports the FAO's work to address climate change impacts on the coastal communities most vulnerable to climate change. Approximately three years ago Canada provided \$2 million to a project that will strengthen small-scale fisheries in the Pacific Islands. This project will help to increase the resilience and adaptability of local harvesters in order to protect their livelihoods and food security.

This Pacific project provides a gender lens to climate change, for example how women, including in small scale fisheries, can better prepare and adapt to climate change related disasters or shocks.

Another good example of FAO work is evident in the FAO technical report on Adaptive management of fisheries in response to climate change, it identifies helpful practices for adapting fisheries management regimes to be more flexible and responsive to unforeseen environment and ecosystem changes that result from climate change.

The FAO is continuing this kind of work, and we encourage efforts to seek more examples from the field of how fisheries managers are adapting to climate change, and how to ensure fisheries management plans incorporate and adjust for the effects of climate change.

Canada also strongly encourages further FAO work on how to mainstream climate change into the ecosystem approach to fisheries.