

Table P1: Measuring Policy Coherence

Theme	#	Question	Answer	Points	Answer Criteria	Supporting Evidence
1. Political Commitment	1.1	Is there a clear political statement at the highest level of government demonstrating commitment to PCSD? <i>For example, an explicit commitment to PCSD in national strategic documents, policies or legislation, including at sectoral level.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	There is a clear political statement at the highest level of government demonstrating commitment to PCSD, but the level of implementation is incomplete. (e.g. Some elements may be missing, preventing full implementation of the commitment to PCSD. This could be due to unclear oversight mandates, roles and responsibilities, insufficient funding, capacities or data, regulatory burdens, normative gaps, or lengthy bureaucratic processes.)	The purpose of the Federal Sustainable Development Act, is to provide the legal framework for developing and implementing a Federal Sustainable Development Strategy that makes decision making related to sustainable development more transparent and subject to accountability to Parliament, promotes coordinated action across the Government of Canada to advance sustainable development and respects Canada's domestic and international obligations relating to sustainable development, with a view to improving the quality of life of Canadians. In 2021, the Government of Canada released its 2030 Agenda National Strategy. The National Strategy is Canada's whole-of-society approach to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Canada. Objective 1 of the National Strategy focuses on 'fostering leadership, governance, and policy coherence' (pg. 20) as one of the core pillars. This includes integrating the SDGs into federal strategies, policies, programs and initiatives.
	1.2	Has the government defined clear national priority areas for advancing PCSD? <i>For example, clear priority areas for addressing issues where trade-offs need to be managed or potential transboundary impacts need to be addressed, defined within a national policy, strategy, law or action plan for advancing sustainable development.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has defined clear national priority areas for advancing PCSD, but the level of implementation is incomplete. (e.g. Some factors may be preventing full implementation. These could include insufficient funding, capacity, data, siloed institutional approaches, normative or regulatory gaps, including at sectoral level, or lengthy bureaucratic processes.)	The Government of Canada has national priority areas for advancing overall Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD) within the federal government. The SDG Unit was founded to advance a number of PCSD priorities in collaboration with relevant departments and agencies, including integrating SDGs into the government's policy development tools and processes, departmental planning and reporting and federal budget priority setting.
	1.3	Has the government defined clear institutional roles and responsibilities for promoting, overseeing, and implementing PCSD? <i>For example, a law or administrative directive has established a central unit, ministry, or inter-ministerial committee that has the mandate to promote, oversee or implement PCSD.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has defined clear institutional roles and responsibilities for promoting, overseeing, and implementing PCSD. However, these roles have only been partially implemented. (Several challenges could be causing the partial implementation, including limited financial, human, or technical resources, resistance from existing institutional practices, lack of inter-ministerial collaboration, normative or regulatory gaps and insufficient capacity-building for staff involved in PCSD.)	In 2021, the Government of Canada published Canada's Federal Implementation Plan for the 2030 Agenda, which outlines Canada's contributions to advancing the National Strategy at the federal level. Within Canada's Federal Implementation Plan for the 2030 Agenda, the roles and responsibilities for advancing the 2030 Agenda and promoting policy coherence are clearly defined with leads and key contributing Departments for each of the SDGs.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 1. Political Commitment			9		

2. Long-term Vision	2.1	Has the government developed a strategic long-term vision for sustainable development to enhance policy coherence? <i>For example, a national vision statement, policy, strategy or action plan that sets objectives to identify, prevent, and mitigate actual and potential adverse impacts of decision-making on the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has developed a strategic long-term vision for sustainable development to enhance policy coherence, but the level of implementation is incomplete. (e.g. Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include poor integration into sectoral policies, undefined objectives, limited stakeholder engagement, inadequate monitoring, capacity constraints, normative gaps, and low public awareness.)	The Federal Sustainable Development Act identifies in section 5 a set of principles that shall be considered in the development of sustainable development strategies: (a) the principle that sustainable development is based on an efficient use of natural, social and economic resources and the need for the Government of Canada to integrate environmental, economic and social factors in the making of all of its decisions; (a.1) the principle that sustainable development (i) is a continually evolving concept, (ii) may be achieved by, among other things, the protection of ecosystems, prevention of pollution, protection of human health, promotion of equity, conservation of cultural heritage, respect for domestic and international obligations relating to sustainable development and recognition of the present generation's responsibility to provide future generations with a healthy and ecologically sound environment, and (iii) may be advanced by, among other things, taking into account the precautionary principle, the "polluter pays" principle, the principle of internalization of costs and the principle of continuous improvement; (b) the principle of intergenerational equity, which is the principle that it is important to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs; (c) the principle of openness and transparency, which is the principle that the release of information should be encouraged to support accountability and public engagement; (d) the principle that it is important to involve Aboriginal peoples because of their traditional knowledge and their unique understanding of, and connection to, Canada's lands and waters; (e) the principle of collaboration, which is the principle that it is important for stakeholders to collaborate in the pursuit of common objectives; and (f) the principle that a results and delivery approach — that allows for developing objectives, developing strategies for meeting those objectives, using indicators for reporting on progress towards meeting those objectives and establishing accountability — is key to meeting measurable targets. While the Act requires alignment with domestic and international obligations and coordination across the Government of Canada, it is federal rather than national in scope and there is no formal vision for how the federal policy aligns with that of other orders of government. Policy coherence between the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy and the Agenda 2030 National Strategy has advanced by aligning indicators as far as possible. In 2021, the Government of Canada released the 2030 Agenda National Strategy which includes an objective to "foster leadership, governance, and policy coherence". The National Strategy's Federal Implementation Plan for the 2030 Agenda establishes policy coherence as a cross-cutting objective of the Government of Canada's work on advancing the SDGs. This includes ensuring coherence within Canada's international efforts, as well as between international and domestic efforts, to support the advancement of the SDGs.
	2.2	Does the government use long-term strategic planning tools to enhance policy coherence? <i>For example, the use of tools such as impact assessments, strategic foresight, scenario development, integrated modelling tools or systems-thinking approaches in the formulation and implementation of strategies and policies to identify, prevent, and mitigate potential adverse impacts on the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government uses long-term strategic planning tools to enhance coherence. However, these tools have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include: resource constraints, insufficient political will, institutional resistance, normative gaps insufficient training, etc.)	Canada uses long-term strategic planning tools to enhance policy coherence and sustainability. The Cabinet Directive on Strategic Environmental and Economic Assessment requires departments to analyze the environmental and economic implications of new policies and programs before they go to Cabinet, helping identify and address potential long-term risks and trade-offs early in policy development. It also supports the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy. The Impact Assessment Act (2019) integrates environmental, social, health and economic factors into decisions on major projects and enables strategic and regional assessments to examine cumulative, system-wide impacts. Foresight capacity is embedded through Policy Horizons Canada, which uses strategic foresight, scenario development and systems thinking to help departments anticipate future disruptions and trade-offs. The Quality of Life Framework integrates a long-term wellbeing lens into budgeting and policy design, supporting evidence-based choices that consider equity and future generations through the application and development of the cross-cutting lenses. Federal modelling tools (e.g., for climate mitigation, energy transition and socio-economic forecasting) further help decision makers test scenarios and reduce unintended adverse impacts on sustainable development outcomes.
	2.3	Has the government established dedicated institutional arrangements or mechanisms to support a long-term vision for PCSD? <i>For example, independent bodies, a commissioner, council, or ombudsperson for future generations, can promote long-term vision for PCSD that outlives electoral cycles or government terms.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established dedicated institutional arrangements or mechanisms to support a long-term vision for PCSD. Their tasks are comprehensively implemented covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has established a dedicated body with clear mandates and resources to ensure its commitment to PCSD extends beyond electoral cycles and government terms. This body has clear objectives, adequate resources, and supports effective communication, strong leadership, stakeholder engagement, and coordination across Ministries or departments. It also has robust monitoring and evaluation systems and the flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances.)	Canada has institutional mechanisms that sustain a long-term vision for Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD) beyond electoral cycles. The Federal Sustainable Development Act, which came into force in 2008, provides a legal framework requiring the Government to develop a Federal Sustainable Development Strategy and report on progress every three years, embedding sustainability goals into ongoing planning and accountability to Parliament. The Act also requires 100 federal organizations produce a Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy that describes the actions it will take to contribute to meeting Federal Sustainable Development Strategy goals. The Act establishes the Sustainable Development Advisory Council. The Sustainable Development Advisory Council is an independent, multi-stakeholder body with representatives from different provinces and territories, Indigenous peoples, as well as environmental non-governmental organizations and business and labour organizations, to advise the Minister of Environment and Climate Change on the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy and strengthen whole-of-society perspectives. Members are appointed for 4-year terms. The Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development, part of the Office of the Auditor General, conducts independent audits and monitors the Government's sustainable development commitments, including policy coherence and future-oriented goals. Standing Committees of the House of Commons and Senate of Canada also monitor the implementation of the Federal Sustainable Development Act. In addition, interdepartmental Director General- and Assistant Deputy Minister-level committees maintain continuity in aligning the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy, the 2030 Agenda National Strategy, and the Quality of Life Framework, helping sustain a coherent long-term vision across government and policy cycles.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 2. Long-term Vision			10		
3. The Integration of Sustainable Development into	3.1	Does the government have a budgetary process that integrates sustainable development into sectoral policies, and to address synergies and trade-offs across economic, social and environmental policy areas? <i>For example, through the use of SDG budgeting (i.e. tagging budget measures, etc.) or checklists.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has developed a budgetary process to integrate sustainable development into sectoral policies, and to address synergies and trade-offs across economic, social and environmental policy areas, but its implementation remains partial. (e.g. Several challenges could be hindering full implementation, including the complexity of integrating sustainable development priorities into existing frameworks, difficulties in data collection, balancing resource allocation across competing goals, weak institutional capacity, insufficient political will and commitment, normative gaps, and financial constraints.)	Under the Cabinet Directive on Strategic Environmental and Economic Assessment, the government has a dedicated mechanism for integrating sustainable development into all major policy and funding proposals with significant environmental or economic impact. The Strategic Environmental and Economic Assessment outlines objectives, responsibilities, and requirements for considering environmental and economic impacts, including coherence with Canada's sustainable development priorities under the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy. As it relates to the federal budget process, proposals with significant environmental or economic impacts require a Climate Nature and Economy Lens assessment that travels with each proposal and describes how it may affect the governments sustainable development goals under the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy. Complementing this, the federal budget process also draws on Gender-Based Analysis Plus and Canada's Quality of Life Framework to identify who is affected by a proposal and in what ways. GBA Plus examines differential impacts across intersecting identity factors. The Quality of Life Framework situates each measure within core domains (Prosperity, Health, Environment, Society, and Good Governance) and identifies relevant indicators. Measures with environmental or gender-equality implications are explicitly tagged in the Impacts Report released with the budget, supporting transparency and enabling consistent reporting across proposals.
	3.2	Does the government have dedicated mechanisms or tools to integrate sustainable development into the sectoral or financing plans of line ministries? <i>For example, strategies, guidelines, regulations, provisions or coordination mechanisms for ministries and government agencies to align their mandates, policies and sectoral objectives with sustainable development priorities.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed dedicated mechanisms and tools to integrate sustainable development into the sectoral and financing plans of line ministries. These mechanisms have been comprehensively implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. Established mechanisms and tools have ensured that sustainable development priorities are integrated into every sector and financial plan, contributing to effective progress towards sustainable development goals. These mechanisms and tools also foster a culture of sustainability across all levels and sectors of government, driving continuous improvement and innovation in sustainable development practices.)	The Federal Sustainable Development Act establishes a whole-of-government framework through the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy, which is aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. It requires federal departments and agencies to develop Departmental Sustainable Development Strategies, which are three-year plans that describe how each organization's mandate, policies and actions align to the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy's goals and targets. Departmental plans and departmental results reports contain links to Departmental Sustainable Development Strategies, which contain information about organizations' contributions to Canada's Federal Implementation Plan on the 2030 Agenda and the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy.

Policy and Finance	3.3	Does the government have established mechanisms or measures to promote the mobilisation of public, private, domestic, and international resources for sustainable development? <i>For example, specific programmes or policies informed by policy coherence to enhance the contribution of domestic resources to sustainable development; incentives or frameworks to attract private investment for sustainable development projects; partnerships between the government and private sector to finance sustainable development initiatives, etc.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established mechanisms and implemented measures to promote the mobilisation of financial resources to support PCSD. These have been comprehensively applied, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The established mechanisms and implemented measures have resulted in specific programs or policies that enhance the contribution of domestic resources to sustainable development, or have created incentives to attract private investments for sustainable development or fostered public-private partnerships that support the mobilisation of financial resources to advance sustainable development.)	Domestically, the federal SDG Funding Program (\$58.8 million over 13 years) provides funding to projects led by provinces, territories, local governments, Indigenous peoples, not-for-profit organizations, and academia, among others to increase public awareness of the SDGs, support new partnerships, and identify and implement innovative partnership or initiatives to drive progress on multiple SDGs. More than 160 projects to date have raised SDG awareness, advanced inclusion, and supported community-driven sustainability solutions. Canada also fosters sustainable finance through sovereign green bonds, the Sustainable Finance Action Council (2021-24), and the Canada Infrastructure Bank, which attracts private capital for Clean Power and Green Infrastructure. Internationally, Canada promotes the mobilization of finance from all sources, including through the International Assistance Innovation Program, its climate finance commitments and its development finance institution, FinDev Canada. The International Assistance Innovation Program provides funding to private sector initiatives that contribute to economic growth and other development objectives to help reduce poverty. Since 2018, the International Assistance Innovation Program has supported 19 projects which are expected to mobilize approximately \$3.5 of private capital for every \$1 of federal money invested. These projects are expected to reach an estimated 4.8M people and reduce an estimated 27 million tons of greenhouse gases (GHGs), the equivalent to 8.2 million passenger vehicles removed from the street in a year. Canada's \$5.3B climate finance commitment 2021-2026 delivers 60% of programming through innovative finance instruments used to incentivize private sector investments in low-carbon activities, primarily in middle-income and lower-middle-income countries. One such example is the Canada-IFC Blended Climate Finance Program, which helps to de-risk projects and leverage private investment for the SDGs. Canada's development finance institution, FinDev Canada, provides financing, as well as technical assistance, to promote sustainable and inclusive growth in emerging and developing economies. As of December 31, 2024, FinDev Canada has US\$1.3 billion in total signed commitments made 36 investments totalling US\$658 million (approximately, serving 48 clients in Latin America & the Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa and the Indo Pacific region, across its priority sectors (agribusiness, sustainable infrastructure, the financial industry). Together, these tools align public spending and private capital with long-term sustainable development priorities. As part of Canada's efforts to unlock private capital investments in support of the SDGs, Canada led the Common Principles for Private Capital Mobilization, launched at the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development in July 2025. The principles provide a roadmap for mobilizing private investments more effectively in emerging markets and developing countries. Canada is also co-leading the Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development (SCALED) – a global platform designed to facilitate greater flows of private capital and contribute to closing the SDG-financing gap.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 3. The Integration of Sustainable Development into Policy and Finance			11		
4. Whole-of-government Coordination	4.1	Has the government established high-level coordinating mechanisms with clear mandates to ensure whole-of-government coordination for PCSD, including at sectoral level? <i>For example, a high-level coordinating mechanism or body whether located within the Centre of Government or a lead line ministry as appropriate, with a clear mandate, resources and capacities to anticipate and resolve policy divergences, including on potential negative impacts of policies, and tensions arising from diverging priorities and different sectoral interests.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established high-level coordinating mechanisms with clear mandates to ensure whole-of-government coordination for PCSD, including at sectoral level. However, these mechanisms have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Several challenges can lead to the partial implementation, including shifts in political leadership and priorities, insufficient technical resources, normative gaps, bureaucratic and stakeholder resistance; etc.)	Canada has high-level coordinating mechanisms with clear mandates to drive whole-of-government policy coherence for sustainable development. The Prime Minister and Cabinet sets overall strategic direction and ensures federal priorities are coherent across departments and sectors. Central agencies (Privy Council Office, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, and the Department of Finance) contribute to the successful formulation and implementation of government policies and programs. They oversee interdepartmental information sharing, consultation, and co-ordination. They also provide integrated advice and support to the Prime Minister and Cabinet on government-wide issues, supplemented with results focused data as needed or requested. The federal SDG Unit (at Employment and Social Development Canada) is the coordinating function for Canada's implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and the Sustainable Development Office (at Environment and Climate Change Canada) develops and maintains systems and procedures to monitor progress on implementation of the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy. Both support policy coherence analysis and convene interdepartmental Director General and Assistant Deputy Minister committees to align sustainable development efforts. The Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development provides parliamentarians and Canadians with objective, independent analysis, and recommendations on the federal government's efforts to foster sustainable development. It monitors the implementation of sustainable development strategies and reports, monitors federal progress toward sustainable development, and comments on the draft Federal Sustainable Development Strategy.
	4.2	Are there formal governance structures or informal channels in place to support communication between sectoral ministries and departments for enhancing PCSD? <i>For example, inter-ministerial committees that stimulate open exchange of ideas and innovative thinking to address cross-cutting policy objectives and develop integrated solutions.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established formal governance structures or informal channels to support communication between sectoral ministries and departments for enhancing PCSD. However, these mechanisms have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Full implementation may be hindered by bureaucratic rigidities, inflexibility, resource constraints, poor communication, resistance to change, normative gaps, and external factors like political instability or economic downturns.)	The Government of Canada has both formal governance structures and informal collaboration channels to connect sectoral ministries and enhance policy coherence for sustainable development. Formal mechanisms include Director General and Assistant Deputy Minister level committees that bring together departments to advance sustainable development, and current and future well-being, such as the committees on the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy, the 2030 Agenda National Strategy, and the Quality of Life Framework to discuss cross-cutting priorities and resolve potential policy tensions. The Sustainable Development Office at Environment and Climate Change Canada convenes 100 federal organizations on the development and implementation of the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy. The SDG Unit at Employment and Social Development Canada convenes departments to align SDG implementation and reporting. Central agencies (Privy Council Office, Treasury Board Secretariat, Department of Finance) facilitate whole-of-government dialogue on cross-cutting initiatives and the alignment of priorities with outcome driven, results-based decision making. Informal channels, such as policy working groups, ad hoc task forces, and communities of practice across environment, social, and economic portfolios, enable peer learning, early exchange of ideas, and innovative approaches to integrated policy solutions. This includes a dedicated interdepartmental SDG Working Group. These combined forums allow federal organizations to share ideas, test integrated options, and foster synergies across economic, social and environmental policy areas in line with the 2030 Agenda.
	4.3	Are there specific capacity-building programs or other resources in place for public servants, government officials, or staff to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development? <i>For example, to improve skills that take civil servants beyond their traditional operating environment and challenge them to think and act in new, cross-disciplinary ways to foster coherence in policymaking.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed capacity-building programs or other resources for public servants, government officials, or staff to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development. These programmes have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. Competency frameworks have been designed to target cross-disciplinary knowledge and skills to foster coherence in policymaking. Training has been developed to strengthen these skills, and rolled out to all relevant civil servants.	In July 2025, the Government of Canada launched a course for federal public servants in the Canada School of Public Service entitled "Advancing the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development." The course includes information on policy coherence for sustainable development, including how to integrate the SDGs into government policies, programs, and decision-making. The Government of Canada has also released a number of job aids through the Canada School of Public Service, which outline how public servants can support the 2030 Agenda by incorporating the SDGs into various stages of policy, program, and service development. In particular, the jobs aids encourage policymakers to assess how proposals impact the SDGs and identify gaps, co-benefits, synergies, and trade-offs. Policy Horizons Canada is mandated to help the Government of Canada develop future-oriented policy and programs that are more robust and resilient in the face of disruptive change on the horizon. Horizons conducts foresight studies on cross cutting issues identified as being potential sources of disruptive change, such as sense-making, the life course, the bio-digital convergence and the future of value. Policy Horizons also works to build the capacity of public servants to use foresight in their work by supporting a network of foresight practitioners, partnering with departments/agencies on foresight projects, and providing training.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 4. Whole-of-government Coordination			10		
	5.1	Are there provisions or mechanisms in place to align national and sub-national plans, policies, budgets, or regulatory frameworks for sustainable development? <i>For example, National Sustainable Development Strategies outline relevant action and mandate sub-national engagement; or data exchanges and other engagements between government levels are institutionalised in other ways.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The provisions or mechanisms are in place to align national and sub-national plans, policies, budgets, and regulatory frameworks for sustainable development, but are only partially implemented. (The full implementation of government mechanisms can be hindered by challenges including resource constraints, lack of political will, institutional resistance, insufficient training, complex legal or political frameworks, normative gaps and inadequate engagement.)	The federal government engages provinces and territories through the First Ministers' Meeting, regular Federal-Provincial-Territorial ministerial tables (e.g., environment, energy, health, housing, infrastructure), and specialized intergovernmental bodies such as the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, the Pan-Canadian Public Health Network Council, and the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada. The federal government also works with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and uses bilateral and multilateral agreements, for example on health, childcare, housing, and infrastructure, to align funding and policy outcomes with long-term sustainable development goals. Policy-specific forums such as the National Adaptation Strategy advisory tables and Committee on Internal Trade further facilitate horizontal and cross-jurisdictional collaboration. While participation is voluntary, these mechanisms create structured spaces for dialogue, information exchange (including data and indicators), and negotiated agreements that help align national and sub-national efforts toward the 2030 Agenda and sustainable development. The legislated public consultation on each draft Federal Sustainable Development Strategy provides an opportunity for other orders of government to provide input on its goals and targets thereby facilitating policy coherence.

5. Sub-national Engagement	5.2	Are there formal governance structures or informal channels in place to support communication between national and sub-national levels of government for enhancing PCSD? <i>For example, interterritorial commissions, the participation of local governments in National Councils for the 2030 Agenda, and focal points for the implementation of SDGs at the regional and local level.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established formal governance structures or informal channels to support communication between national and sub-national levels of government, but are only partially implemented. (e.g. The full implementation of government mechanisms can be hindered by a lack of political will, insufficient resources, bureaucratic resistance, poor coordination, normative gaps or inadequate engagement.)	Canada has a mix of formal governance structures and informal channels to support communication between the federal government and provinces, territories, and municipalities on sustainable development. Many federal departments maintain dedicated Federal-Provincial-Territorial offices or secretariats that engage with their counterparts, providing opportunities to exchange data, align priorities and strengthen coordination. These relationships are further supported by First Ministers' Meetings and focused Federal-Provincial-Territorial ministerial tables, which foster dialogue and joint action on cross-cutting sustainability issues, including topics such as social services and early learning and childcare. Municipal engagement occurs indirectly through provinces and directly through partnerships with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, supported by federal funding programs that advance SDG-related priorities. In addition, policy-specific advisory tables, such as those created under the National Adaptation Strategy, and ad hoc task forces enable technical exchange and collaboration on long-term sustainable development challenges. These mechanisms help maintain multi-level dialogue and coordination.
	5.3	Are there mechanisms or processes in place to ensure coordinated action between national and subnational agencies on international initiatives or development co-operation for sustainable development? <i>For example, national agencies provide advisory services, networks, or matchmaking for sub-national entities engaging in international initiatives or development cooperation.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established mechanisms or processes to coordinate national and sub-national action on international initiatives or development cooperation for sustainable development, but these are only partially implemented. (e.g. The full implementation of government mechanisms can be hindered by insufficient resources, bureaucratic resistance, poor coordination among ministries or departments, inadequate engagement, or complex legal frameworks.)	Canada has various mechanisms to coordinate and support sub-national engagement in international sustainable development initiatives. Global Affairs Canada provides policy advice, guidance and partnership opportunities for provinces, territories and municipalities on international development cooperation and trade-related sustainability initiatives. Federal departments maintain regular liaison with their sub-national counterparts to share intelligence on global agreements (e.g., climate, biodiversity, health security) and to align Canadian positions. The Council of the Federation and First Ministers' Meetings offer venues for aligning national and sub-national priorities on global files, while intergovernmental tables (e.g., Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, Pan-Canadian Public Health Network) facilitate coordinated input on multilateral commitments. Municipalities are engaged indirectly through provinces and directly through partnerships with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, whose International Programs (supported by federal funding) help local governments participate in sustainable development cooperation abroad. These processes provide advisory support, networking and funding channels that encourage coordinated Canadian action internationally. Moreover, Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy includes improving policy coherence as one of its five core objectives. Canada's Federal Implementation Plan for the 2030 Agenda enhances collaboration and alignment among federal departments by establishing roles and responsibilities and defining the federal reporting process on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. Through Canada's Federal Implementation Plan for the 2030 Agenda, the Government of Canada enhances policy coherence and supports effective cooperation with other levels of government and other stakeholders.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 5. Sub-national Engagement			9		
	6.1	Are there participatory mechanisms in place to ensure stakeholders are informed and engaged proactively in different phases of the policy cycle for sustainable development, or in the development of PCSD initiatives through a whole-of-society approach? <i>For example, dedicated laws, public consultations, advisory committees, focus groups, online platforms, regular meetings or other means enable engagement and participation in decision-making making, to gather feedback, address coherence issues, and collaborate on solutions involving different levels of society.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The participatory mechanisms are in place for stakeholder engagement in sustainable development policy-making through a whole-of-society approach, and in the development of PCSD initiatives, and these mechanisms are fully implemented through participatory approaches. (e.g. Dedicated forums and opportunities are in place to develop recommendations for enhancing policy coherence and to provide analytical and strategic input on sustainable development, supported by dedicated normative provisions. Engagement concerns relevant representatives from civil society, academia, the private sector and trade- and employers' unions, in coordination with government Ministries. Consultations are mandated to take place in a comprehensive manner at various stages of the policy cycle. Preparatory information and feedback on the outcomes of the process is provided to involved stakeholders.)	Canada has strong whole-of-society engagement mechanisms to support sustainable development and policy coherence initiatives. Federal policies, regulations and legislation are typically subject to public consultation, including pre-publication of draft regulations in the Canada Gazette and open comment periods on major policy proposals. For example, during the development of each Federal Sustainable Development Strategy there is a legislated 120-day public consultation period. The public is informed about how their comments shape the final strategy and public input also informs the development of Departmental Sustainable Development Strategies. The SDG External Advisory Committee provides an independent multi-stakeholder forum to advise the Government on advancing the 2030 Agenda, including improving policy coherence for sustainable development. Furthermore, the 28-member Sustainable Development Advisory Council is comprised of representatives of each province/territory, environmental non-governmental organizations, business and labour organizations and Indigenous Peoples. Its mandate is to advise the Minister on any matter related to sustainable development, including matters referred to it by the Minister. Stakeholder participation is also built into impact assessments under the Impact Assessment Act, which require early and meaningful engagement of the public, Indigenous peoples, and other affected groups. The Government also uses online consultations, open data platforms (e.g., the SDG Data Hub, GCInfobase), roundtables, and targeted focus groups to inform decisions and measure progress. Together, these mechanisms create opportunities for Canadians and key partners to inform decision-making, identify policy trade-offs, and shape more coherent and sustainable outcomes.
6. Stakeholder-engagement	6.2	Are there mechanisms in place to reach out to marginalised and vulnerable groups in society and advocate for their needs and participation in decision-making to advance inclusive sustainable development? <i>For example, to consult or engage different groups as co-designers on action plans that mainstream, in an integrated manner, the principle of leaving no one behind in public policies and reform measures, placing emphasis on targeted measures which support those who are furthest behind and promote human rights, gender equality and social inclusion.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established mechanisms to reach out to marginalised and vulnerable groups in society and advocate for their participation in decision-making, to advance inclusive sustainable development. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. These initiatives have been rolled out to key marginalised and vulnerable groups. Findings have been fed back into strategies designed to advance inclusive social and economic development, such as action plans that mainstream, in an integrated manner, the principle of leaving no one behind in public policies and reform measures, placing emphasis on targeted measures which support those who are furthest behind and promote human rights, gender equality and social inclusion.)	Canada has mechanisms to engage marginalised and vulnerable groups and to integrate the principle of leaving no one behind into sustainable development decisions. Since 1995, the Government of Canada has committed to the application of Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) in all government decision making, throughout the policy cycle. GBA Plus necessitates the incorporation of multiple equity lenses (e.g. age, indigeneity, disability) in decision making, and reporting on the impacts of government programs as per the Canadian Gender Budgeting Act (2018), which lays the groundwork for engagement with communities impacted by programs. The Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat and the Privy Council Office also require that memoranda to Cabinet and Treasury Board submissions include GBA Plus. The federal Climate, Nature and Economy Lens requires departments to assess how new proposals may affect Indigenous Peoples, their lands and traditional territories, and to identify any consultation obligations linked to potential or established Aboriginal or treaty rights, taking into account the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan. Measure 50 of the Action Plan requires the Government to develop the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples. The Climate, Nature and Economy Lens also asks departments to examine positive and negative effects on equity and inclusion when assessing contributions to the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy which is directly aligned with the 17 SDGs. Broader engagement is supported by the SDG Unit, which runs whole-of-society consultations and funds projects that amplify the voices of those furthest behind, and by requirements in the Federal Sustainable Development Act to consult Indigenous Peoples, civil society, and other stakeholders when developing the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy. Together these mechanisms help bring marginalised groups into policy design and evaluation, ensuring their perspectives inform Canada's sustainable development actions.
	6.3	Has the government put mechanisms in place to promote stakeholder engagement in policy coherence for sustainable development at various levels of governance, to advance best practice and encourage peer learning? <i>For example, engagement through global or national campaigns, policy dialogues, intergovernmental processes, capacity building initiatives, and societal mobilisation.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has in place mechanisms for collaboration with various stakeholders on initiatives to raise public awareness, mobilise support, and advocate for policy coherence for sustainable development at various levels of governance, but these have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Several factors can limit implementation. These could such as insufficient political will, normative gaps and inadequate stakeholder engagement.)	Canada has established mechanisms to promote stakeholder engagement in policy coherence for sustainable development. The 2030 Agenda National Strategy commits to a whole-of-society approach, engaging civil society, academia, municipalities, Indigenous partners, youth, and the private sector. One example is the SDG Connection Series, an online event that allows external stakeholders to share best practices, knowledge, and expertise. Canada also operates an SDG funding Program to support community-led initiatives, build local capacity, and raise awareness. In addition, the federal government engages stakeholders through its national campaign to produce the Annual Report on the 2030 Agenda, which integrates input from diverse partners and highlights best practices across sectors. Canada's participation in the Voluntary National Review process further extends this engagement, using national multi-stakeholder consultations to inform global reporting and exchange lessons internationally. The SDG External Advisory Committee provides an independent multi-stakeholder forum to advise the Government on advancing the 2030 Agenda, including improving policy coherence for sustainable development. Under the Federal Sustainable Development Act, the government must consult broadly when preparing each Federal Sustainable Development Strategy. Engagement includes provincial and territorial governments, Indigenous organizations, non-governmental stakeholders, and the public. Federal departments also prepare their own Departmental Sustainable Development Strategies, which align with the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy and respond to public input received during the consultation period, thereby, reinforcing whole-of-government coherence and ensuring stakeholder perspectives are incorporated across the government. The 28-member Sustainable Development Advisory Council is comprised of representatives of each province/territory, environmental non-governmental organizations, business and labour organizations and Indigenous Peoples. Its mandate is to advise the Minister on any matter related to sustainable development, including matters referred to it by the Minister.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 6. Stakeholder-engagement			11		

7. Impact Assessment	7.1	Does the government have any mechanisms or tools in place to conduct regular policy impact assessments to identify any positive and negative impacts on sustainable development? <i>For example, established tools such as cost-benefit analysis, indicator frameworks for tracking policy effectiveness, or other tools such as Regulatory, Environmental, Gender and Social Impact, and Strategic Assessments are regularly used across government sectors to evaluate and align policies with sustainable development objectives.</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed mechanisms or tools to conduct regular policy impact assessments to identify any positive and negative impacts on sustainable development. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has integrated principles of sustainable development into Regulatory Impact Assessments, and made these mandatory for legislative proposal by ministries. Available data is used to measure impact and make informed decisions on resource allocation, performance improvement, incentive changes and cost reductions. This leads to an important feedback loop for the policy design and delivery phases. Sufficient technical capacity and methodological skills have been built to facilitate the use of these impact assessment tools.	Canada's federal government has a range of mechanisms and tools in place across the development, implementation, and evaluation phases of policy to assess both the positive and negative impacts on sustainable development. During the development stage, the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement is a key tool under the Cabinet Directive on Regulation, requiring departments to analyze economic, environmental, and social effects of new regulations, including cost-benefit analysis and consultation with stakeholders. Broader strategic assessments under the Impact Assessment Act and the Climate, Nature and Economy Lens are used to evaluate the sustainability implications of new policies and plans before they are implemented. Tools such as Gender-based Analysis Plus, and Strategic Environmental and Economic Assessment, and dialogue on the tracking of implementation outcomes as well as results and delivery facilitated by central agencies, further ensure social and equity impacts are considered. These ex-ante tools build the capacity of the public service to anticipate impacts and align proposed initiatives with Canada's sustainable development objectives. They are also used by central agencies through mandatory assessments to confirm due-diligence and inform government's decision making through, for example, Treasury Board Submissions, Budget proposals, and Memoranda to Cabinet. During implementation and monitoring, departments are required to set measurable indicators under the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy and corresponding Departmental Sustainable Development Strategies. These frameworks compel departments to track environmental, social, and economic outcomes, thereby institutionalizing sustainability monitoring. Complementary monitoring mechanisms exist in regulatory and environmental follow-up programs, which verify whether predicted impacts materialize and whether mitigation measures are effective, and for all programs through the Policy on Results, which requires departments to maintain program inventories, designate officials responsible for performance measurement, and conduct regular performance monitoring. Finally, in the evaluation stage, the Policy on Results requires departments to designate officials responsible for evaluation, and conduct evaluations of programs. The Treasury Board Secretariat provides guidance and oversight, ensuring evaluations incorporate relevant government-wide policy considerations including sustainable development, and feed into continuous improvement.
	7.2	Has the government established ex-ante and ex-post policy impact assessments that consider transboundary impacts? <i>For example, established tools such as cost-benefit analysis, transboundary impact assessments, multistakeholder consultations, indicator frameworks or other tools are regularly used across government sectors to evaluate the transboundary impacts of policies on sustainable development.</i>	In place, not implemented	2	The government has established ex-ante and ex-post policy impact assessments that consider transboundary impacts, but these are not implemented. (e.g. These mechanisms or tools are not used to inform decision-making in the policy and planning process due to limited capacity, resources, or training or normative gaps.)	Canada has impact assessment mechanisms that allow for the consideration of transboundary impacts. However, implementation is constrained by limited resources and guidance on how to account for transboundary impacts in policy development and planning. The Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development serves as an effective mechanism for ex-post assessments of federal government policies and programs related to environmental stewardship and sustainable development. Operating within the Office of the Auditor General of Canada, the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development conducts audits that assess the implementation of initiatives, monitoring and reporting on progress toward sustainable development. Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development reports have included analysis of spillover effects. The Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development reports provide independent assessments of government actions, fostering accountability and transparency while offering recommendations for improving policy progress and resource allocation. The Climate, Nature, and Economy Lens functions as a key ex-ante assessment tool in Canada, enabling federal departments to evaluate the sustainability implications of new policies and initiatives before implementation. It provides a structured framework for integrating environmental, economic, and social considerations, helping to identify potential impacts and align proposed initiatives with Canada's sustainable development goals, including consideration for the magnitude and location (i.e. local, regional, national, or international) of impacts. The Climate, Nature and Economy Lens process incorporates stakeholder perspectives, facilitates informed decision-making, and establishes performance indicators for monitoring effectiveness, ultimately supporting proactive and sustainable policy development. The Canadian Gender Budgeting Act (2018) requires ex-ante and ex-post gender and diversity impacts reporting for all new budget measures, tax expenditures and existing government programs. Cabinet policy submissions require mandatory assessments including Gender Based Analysis Plus, Results and Delivery, and Strategic Environment and Economic Assessments (which include the Climate, Nature and Economy Lens and statements that highlight where the proposal impacts Federal Sustainable Development Strategy goals and targets, Assessment of Modern Treatment Implications, Official Languages, and a United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act consistency analysis, where applicable. In addition, the Quality of Life Framework gathers data and evidence to inform priority setting and guide decision-making in various policy areas, including the budgetary process. The Framework comprises five domains—prosperity, health, environment, society and good governance—and two cross-cutting lenses: fairness and inclusion, and sustainability and resilience. The Framework has been incorporated in the budgetary process since 2021, and quality of life impacts of Policy initiatives have been publicly reported through annual Budget Impacts Reports. The Quality of Life Framework complements existing tools that support impact assessment by providing a multidimensional view of the quality of life impacts of policy initiatives.
	7.3	Does the government have any mechanisms in place to build capacity in the public service to collect and analyse evidence on how different policies, laws or regulations impact sustainable development? <i>For example, training designed to allow civil servants to strategically address positive and negative impacts of policies, laws or regulations on sustainable development.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has mechanisms in place to provide capacity building for the public service to collect and analyse evidence on how different policies, laws or regulations impact sustainable development, but these mechanisms have only been partially implemented and rolled out to civil servants. (e.g. Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include resource constraints or insufficient political will.)	Canada has mechanisms in place to build capacity within the federal public service to collect and analyze evidence on how policies, laws, and regulations impact sustainable development. The Policy on Results requires departments to establish results frameworks, program inventories, and performance indicators, embedding evidence collection and evaluation into decision-making. Through mandatory evaluations, senior officials responsible for performance measurement, and governance committees, the policy strengthens analytical capacity across government. Similarly, the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy and corresponding departmental sustainable development strategies require departments to set sustainability targets, monitor indicators, and report on progress, thereby creating a mechanism that allows public servants to address the positive and negative impacts of their policies on sustainable development. Through working groups, Director General and Assistant Deputy Minister committees, capacity is built to understand sectoral policies in the context of the development and implementation of a whole-of-government strategy. Central Agencies such as the Privy Council Office and the Treasury Board Secretariat at the Privy Council Office in support also offer support and guidance to departments related to or of results measurement. Capacity building is also supported through training and advisory mechanisms. The Canada School of Public Service provides courses and learning events on sustainable development, performance measurement, evaluation, results measurement, and data literacy, equipping public servants with tools to strategically assess sustainability impacts. Together, these mechanisms provide both structural requirements and targeted training, ensuring Canada's public service has the capacity to analyze how government actions advance or hinder sustainable development.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 7. Impact Assessment				9	
8. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting	8.1	Does the government have any information management systems or similar mechanisms in place to coherently identify and centralise data, indicators and (or) other information for monitoring progress on sustainable development? <i>For example, centralising existing reliable data, indicators, and information to monitor economic, social, and environmental externalities imposed beyond national borders (transboundary impacts).</i>	In place, fully implemented	4	The information management systems or similar mechanisms exist, and the government has identified data, indicators and (or) other information to monitor transboundary impacts. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has identified reliable and timely data and indicators to effectively monitor progress on sustainable development. Information management systems or their mechanisms are in place and they facilitate the public availability, accessibility and comparability of centralised and harmonised data on sustainable development. This may include indicators used to monitor trends in based on income and resources flows that impact the well-being of people in other countries. For example, on trade and aid (Official Development Assistance, remittances, imports of goods) and environment and resources (fossil fuel imports, imports of metals, greenhouse gas footprints).)	Canada has centralised information systems to support coherent monitoring of sustainable development. The flagship platforms are Statistics Canada's two SDG Data Hubs, which consolidate and publish data on Canada's progress toward the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals through both the Global Indicators and its domestic complement, the Canadian Indicator Framework. Following the 2018 federal budget, the first version of the Data Hub disseminating Canada's progress on the Global Indicators was published to serve as the central point for assembling, analysing, and disseminating reliable economic, social and environmental data. Since then, an interactive data hub leveraging the Open SDG platform was released in 2021 to disseminate Canada's progress on the domestic indicators and in 2025 an updated data hub leveraging the Open SDG platform was also released to enhance Canada's reporting on the Global Indicators. Statistics Canada continually works with federal departments, international bodies and other partners to expand and improve indicator coverage and the granularity of the reporting. The platforms are publicly accessible and are available in both official languages. In addition, the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy requires departments to report against common indicators, and these results are compiled centrally to support transparency and policy coherence. Indicators used in the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy are aligned as much as possible with the Canadian Indicator Framework and Quality of Life Framework. In addition, departmental plans and departmental results reports contain links to Departmental Sustainable Development Strategies, which contain information about organizations' contributions to Canada's Federal Implementation Plan on the 2030 Agenda and the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy.
	8.2	Does the government have mechanisms in place to provide regular and transparent reporting to relevant national bodies (e.g. Parliament, ministerial or other bodies) on progress on PCSD? <i>For example, regular reports to the parliament, ministerial or other bodies about progress on PCSD. Information on progress can also be included in VNRs and in reporting on development co-operation activities.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The mechanisms for regular and transparent reporting to relevant national bodies are in place, but are only partially implemented. (Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include the administrative burden or a lack of regular data collection, normative gaps.)	Canada has formal mechanisms for regular and transparent reporting on sustainable development and policy coherence. Under the Federal Sustainable Development Act, the Government tables a Federal Sustainable Development Strategy every three years and reports to Parliament once during every three year period on its implementation. The Federal Sustainable Development Strategy itself is designed to support Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD) by setting government-wide goals and targets, requiring departments to align their own strategies, and reporting on cross-cutting progress to Parliament on their Departmental Sustainable Development Strategies. In addition, the federal SDG Unit publishes an Annual Report on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, a whole-of-society report that provides the opportunity to share Canada's progress in implementing the SDGs and policy coherence. Canada also has the mechanism to report internationally through Voluntary National Reviews at the United Nations, while the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development conducts independent audits and reports to Parliament on how well federal actions advance sustainable development and policy coherence.
	8.3	Does the government have mechanisms in place to ensure that findings on PCSD are regularly evaluated and used to take adaptive action, including with regards to synergies and potential trade-offs between sectoral policies? <i>For example, evaluation systems systematically assess the coherence of policies with different sectoral priorities and policies, providing actionable insights for policymakers.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The mechanisms are in place for the evaluation of PCSD, including synergies and potential trade-offs between sectoral policies, but they are only partially implemented and used to inform decision making and ensure that adaptive action is taken. (Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include the administrative burden, limited technical capacity or a lack of data, normative gaps persist, or the mechanisms are not yet fully used to take adaptive action)	Canada has mechanisms to evaluate policy coherence for sustainable development and use findings to adapt decisions, though these are not yet fully systematic across all sectors. The Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development conducts independent audits of federal sustainable development strategies and programs, assessing implementation gaps, cross-sectoral trade-offs, and coherence with long-term sustainability commitments; its recommendations inform adaptive action by departments and central agencies. The Federal Sustainable Development Strategy includes a mandatory monitoring and assessment cycle: departments report annually on progress, and results are reviewed to adjust goals, targets, and actions in subsequent Federal Sustainable Development Strategy cycles. Tools such as the Climate, Nature and Economy Lens and the Cabinet Directive on Strategic Environmental and Economic Assessment provide ex-ante analysis of synergies and trade-offs, while periodic reviews of frameworks like the Quality of Life Framework and the Canadian Indicator Framework support indicator alignment, and interdepartmental Director General and Assistant Deputy Minister committees support cross-sectoral learning and course correction.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 8. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting				10	
Total Score				79		

