Strategic Plan 2021-2025

in brief

Renewing our trilateral commitment

and implementing the new

Free Trade Agreement

and its supporting

Environmental Cooperation Agreement

CEC . CCA . CCE

Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC)

The 2021-2025 Strategic Plan for the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) marks a renewed commitment by Canada, Mexico and the United States to work together on pressing regional and global issues related to trade and the environment within the framework of a new trilateral free trade agreement—and a new Environmental Cooperation Agreement (ECA).

The Strategic Plan represents trilateral guidance on effective trilateral cooperation on environmental issues of common interest and concern.

Population up 15% **Trade up 350%**

Over the last 25 years, North America's population has increased by more than **15%** (to nearly 500 million people), while trade in the region (exports of all commodities) has increased by over **350%** in the same period.

In considering international, North American, and national challenges, the CEC Council has defined the following **six strategic pillars for the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan**:

1 **Clear Air, Land and Water,** particularly addressing matters of mutual interest with respect to air quality and protection of the ozone layer.

2 **Preventing and Reducing Pollution in the Marine Environment,** particularly taking action to prevent and reduce marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics, and addressing ship pollution.

3 **Circular Economy and Sustainable Materials Management,** particularly the use of flexible, voluntary mechanisms to protect the environment and natural resources, such as conservation and the sustainable use of those resources.

4

Shared Ecosystems and Species,

particularly the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and protection of ecosystems.

5 **Resilient Economies and Communities,** including promoting environmental goods and services, improving environmental, economic and social performance, contributing to green growth and jobs, and encouraging sustainable development.

6

Effective Enforcement of Environmental Laws, including promoting public awareness of environmental laws and policies, and enforcement and compliance procedures.

Cross-cutting Approaches

The CEC recognizes that success of its strategic pillars will depend on the effectiveness of solutions, the positive impact on sustainable economic growth, and on engaging stakeholders and the public to harness their potential as catalysts for change and progress.

Cross-cutting Approaches:
Innovative and Effective Solutions

1 **Nature-based solutions**, resilience to extreme weather events, environmental conservation and biodiversity protection, carbon capture in the management of landscapes and seascapes.

2 **Sustainable innovation**, including entrepreneurial ideas rooted in sustainability, partnerships and networks, private sector engagement, involvement of academic institutions, access to knowledge and educational resources.

3 **Clean technologies and supply chains** to address pollution and its effects, green economic growth, resource-efficient and more circular economies.

Cross-cutting Approaches:
Diverse and Inclusive Stakeholder Engagement and Public Participation

Diverse and Inclusive Stakeholder Engagement and Public Participation

- Includes outreach strategies, opportunities with specific economic sectors, communications activities, and private sector partnerships, (i.e., sustainable innovation, clean technologies, and regional competitiveness).
- A priority is to apply and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) and Indigenous perspectives, including the views and wisdom of Elders.
- Direct engagement with local residents and recognizing the importance of gender and diversity perspectives.

Commission for Environmental Cooperation 2021-2025 Strategic Plan

Strategic Pillars

- Clean Air, Water, and Land
- Preventing and Reducing Pollution in the Marine Environment
- Circular Economy and Sustainable Materials Management
- Shared Ecosystems and Species
- Resilient Economies and Communities
- Effective Enforcement of Environmental Laws

Cross-cutting Approaches

Innovative and Effective Solutions

Diverse and Inclusive Stakeholder Engagement and Public Participation

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