

PROGRESS & MUNICIPAL SUPPORT: 2026 UPDATE

NSFM Conference

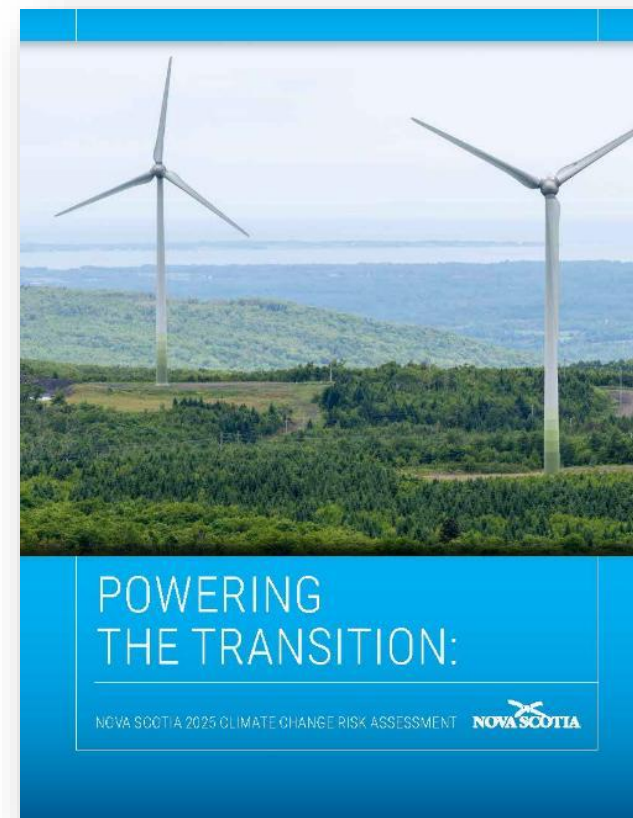
Lori Skaine, Executive Director

Climate Change Division, NS Environment and Climate Change

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2025 Climate Change Risk Assessment: What's New For Municipalities

- ▶ Released in December 2025
- ▶ Confirms increasing climate risks across Nova Scotia
- ▶ NEW: sub-county level data for local decision-making



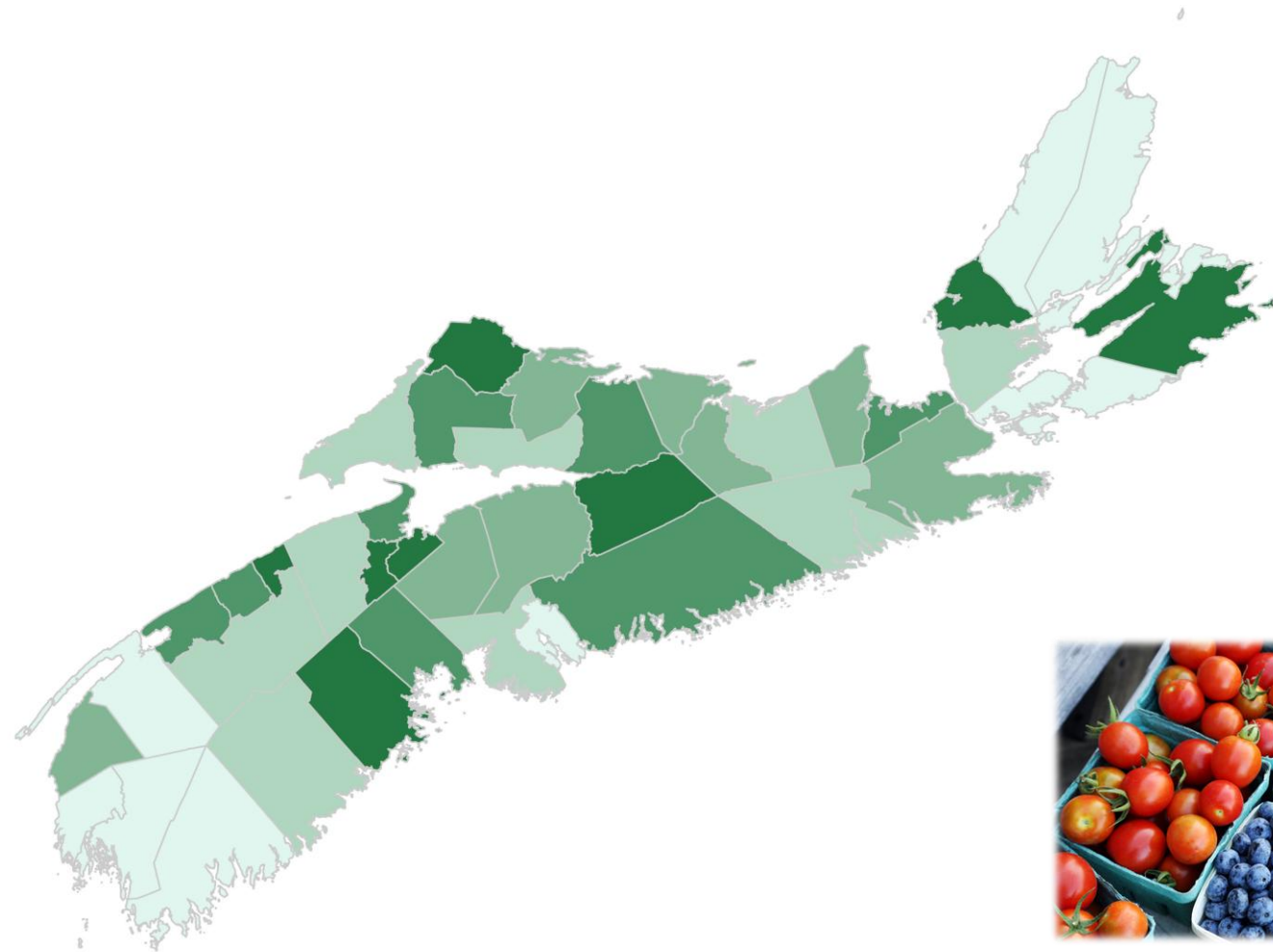
Turning Data into Local insight

Example: Increased Growing Season (2050s)

Higher
Opportunity



Lower
Opportunity

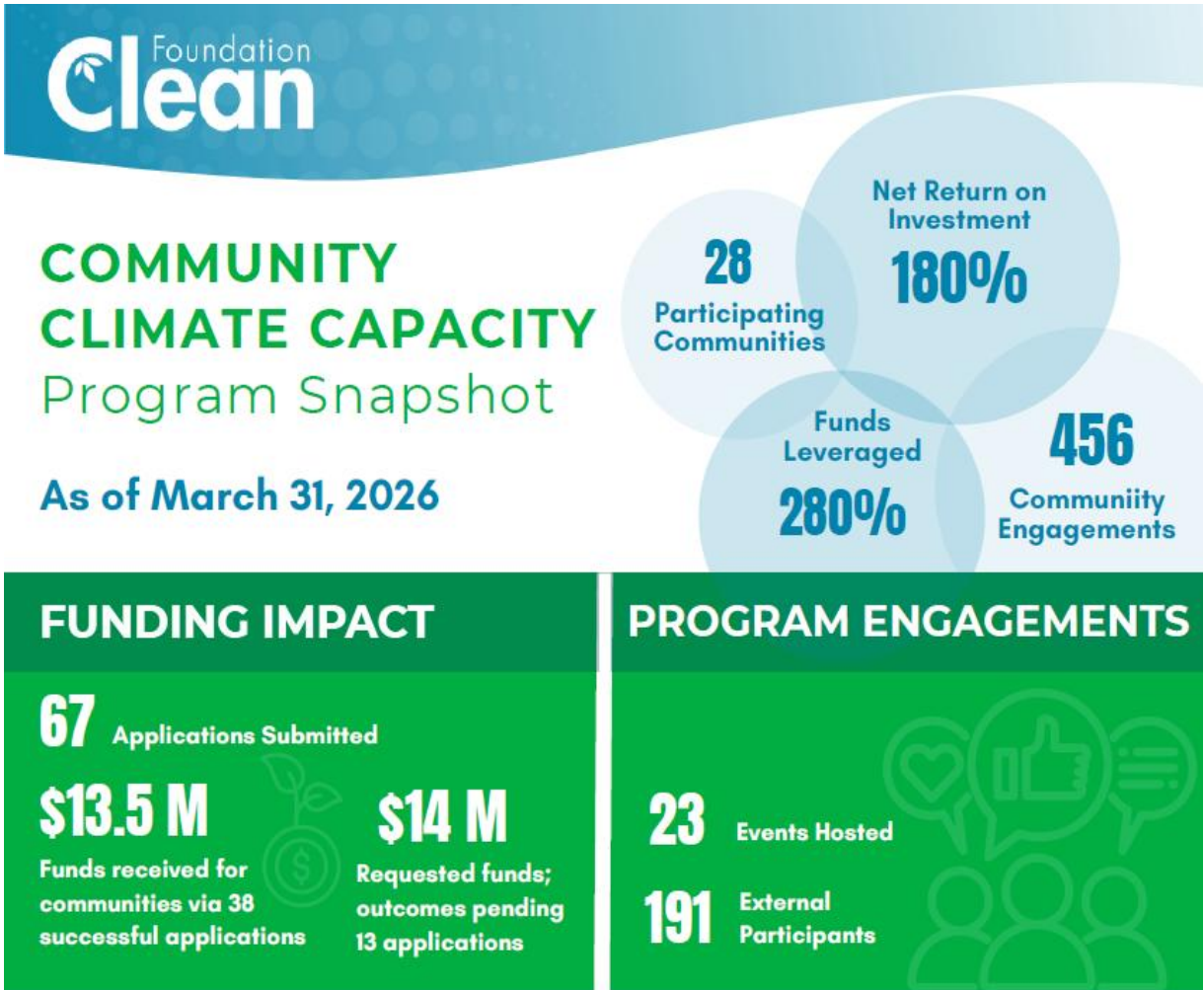


Sub-county projections enable targeted local planning

*High emissions scenario, mid-century

Community Climate Capacity Program (CCCP)

- ▶ Additional \$7.3M investment added 9 New Communities in Coastal Cohort.
- ▶ Resulted in on-the-ground action



Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund (SCCF) Fund Results Since 2022

- ▶ In Partnership with NSFM...
- ▶ \$12.8 million invested in 50 projects since 2022
- ▶ Strong focus on coastal and shoreline protection
- ▶ Round 3 being announced/Round 4 in preparation



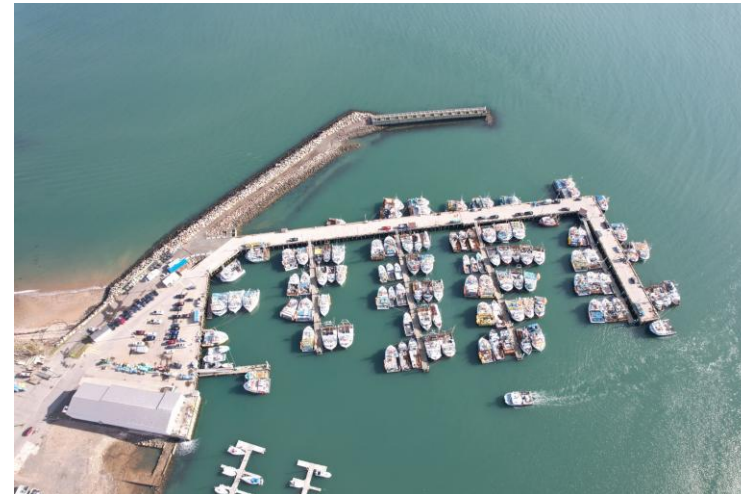
Sustainable Communities
Challenge Fund

What SCCF Looks Like in Action

- ▶ The Hall's Harbour Community Development Association
- ▶ The Digby Harbour Port Association



Hall's Harbour



Digby Harbour

Coastal Planning Support Program

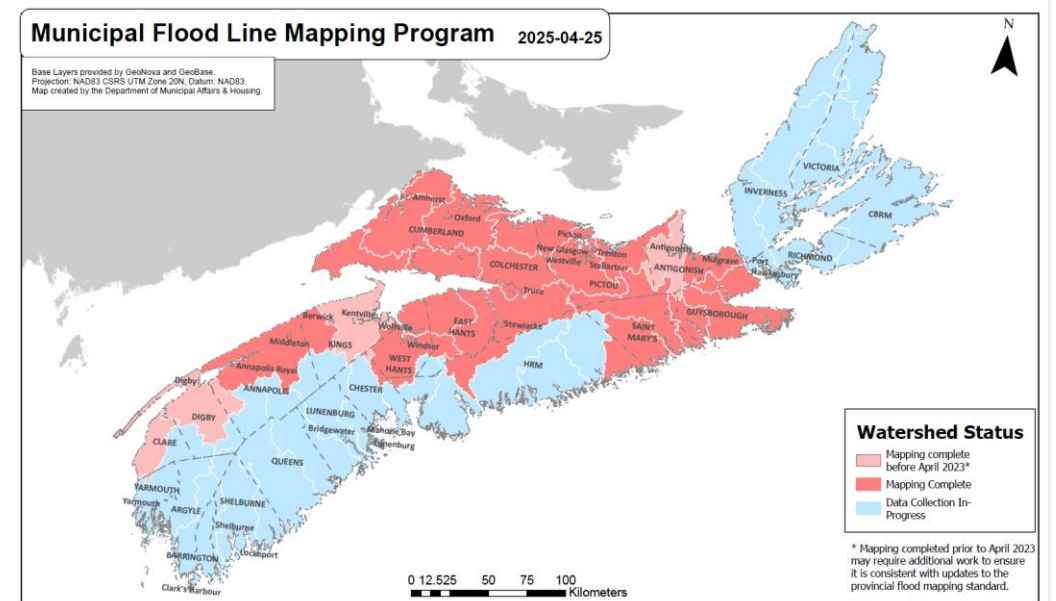
- ▶ \$1M provincial funding to NSFM
- ▶ \$20K per municipality for coastal land-use by-law planning and implementation
- ▶ Supports by-laws, policies, and implementation
- ▶ 25 applications from 15 municipalities

The **Coastal Planning Support Program** provides funding for municipalities to hire consultants to support coastal land use planning initiatives.

- Data & Decision support
- Collaboration & Coordination
- Community Engagement & Communications

Coastal Tools and Flood Mapping

- ▶ Direct support: Coastal Hazard Map, Coastal Navigators, and Climate Services Specialist
- ▶ Mapping is complete for 75% of the province
- ▶ Every municipality in Nova Scotia has watershed-level flood information
- ▶ All mapping will be complete by March 2027



Supporting Municipal Stormwater Management

- ▶ NSFM led Stormwater Community of Practice (launched March 2026)
- ▶ Practical tools via Practitioner's Corner (Website)
- ▶ Guidance tailored to municipal needs

Municipal Leadership is Driving Change

- ▶ Municipalities on the front lines of climate adaptation
- ▶ Strong uptake of coastal tools and funding
- ▶ Strong Municipal Leadership:
 - ▶ Early adopters leading by example (e.g. MODL, Queens)
 - ▶ Annapolis Royal, Pictou County



Supporting Sustainable Development



- ▶ Modernize NS's Environmental assessment process
- ▶ Strong consideration of climate change impacts in decision making
- ▶ Extended public and Mi'kmaq consultation
- ▶ Introduced a phased industrial process for metal mining projects
- ▶ Provides Clearer expectations, reduced delays, and supports economic development while protecting air, water, and communities



Thank-you

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