

Economic Development Programming to Support Indigenous Involvement within the Clean Energy Sector

Indigenous Services Canada
Renewables in Remote Communities Conference
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Whitehorse, Yukon



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Economic Development Programming

- Community economic development programming is vital for First Nations and Inuit communities to achieve prosperity and self-determination. Communities under the Indian Act have limited access to mainstream capital and business development services.
- Working with our Regional Offices, support for First Nation and Inuit communities, located south of 60, is provided through two economic development programs:
 - Lands and Economic Development Services Program; and
 - Community Opportunity Readiness Program.



Lands and Economic Development Services Program

- The Lands and Economic Development Services Program (LESDP) provides funding to strengthen economic development, land, and environmental capacity, while supporting activities that create the conditions for economic development. LEDSP funding includes two types:
- **Core** funding (annual budget: \$53.7M*) is provided to nearly 600 First Nation and Inuit communities annually through funding agreements to assist them to plan and establish their own economic priorities.
 - Funding enables recipients to carry out community economic development planning and capacity development initiatives as well as economic development activities; develop proposals; and lever financial resources.
- **Targeted** funding (annual budget: \$700K*) is provided to undertake economic development activities including capacity development, community economic development planning, and land and environmental management to assist First Nation and Inuit communities in preparing for economic development opportunities.
 - Funding is provided on a proposal basis.
 - A portion of targeted funding (\$4.2 M) is also provided to six economic development organizations to assist First Nation and Inuit communities strengthen their capacity for economic development through activities such as training and partnership creation.

*Figures for 2020-2021



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Community Opportunity Readiness Program

- The Community Opportunity Readiness Program (CORP) (annual budget \$38M) provides project-based funding to eligible First Nation and Inuit communities for a range of activities to support their pursuit of economic opportunities. Eligible initiatives include support for:
 - Community economic infrastructure development (for more than one business);
 - The establishment, acquisition or expansion of a community owned business where there is an equity gap;
 - Business planning, advisory services and training, and market development for a single community owned business; and
 - To pursue economic opportunities.
- There are two pillars to the program:
 - Projects < \$250,000 – funding is allocated to Regions (annual budget of \$16.1M*) to support activities such as business planning, advisory services and training, and market development for community-owned businesses; and
 - Prioritization Framework – funds is allocated (annual budget of \$21.9M*) for projects over \$250,000 to create or expand community-owned businesses, economic opportunities generating community economic benefits and economic infrastructure, through formal calls for proposals and a national ranking process.

*Figures for 2020-2021



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Strategic Partnerships Initiative





Introducing SPI



- Launched in 2010, the Strategic Partnerships Initiative (SPI) works to increase Indigenous participation in **large, complex, multi-year economic opportunities** that span a range of sectors.
- SPI's flexible terms and conditions provide our **federal partners** with a way to **coordinate** their **efforts, pool resources** and reduce the administrative and reporting burden for recipients.
- This unique **federal program** is administered by ISC, but shared by a growing network of 22 federal partners.



SPI Partners

SPI BRINGS FEDERAL PARTNERS TOGETHER

Economic Development

- Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
- Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions
- Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
- Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario
- Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario
- Pacific Economic Development Canada
- Prairies Economic Development Canada

Sector-focused

- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Natural Resources Canada
- Parks Canada
- Transport Canada

Indigenous-focused

- Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
- Indigenous Services Canada
- National Indigenous Economic Development Board*

Other enablers of Economic Development

- Employment and Social Development Canada
- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Health Canada
- Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
- National Defence
- Public Services and Procurement Canada
- Women and Gender Equality Canada





What SPI is, and is not

- ✓ A **horizontal approach** to harmonize federal investments by supporting complex initiatives that involve multiple departments and partners
- ✓ A framework that **promotes collaboration** with Indigenous partners to support them in pursuing their economic development goals
- ✓ A way to **stimulate partnerships** between federal and non-federal partners by targeting industry, academia and provinces/territories in order to leverage funds and resources
- ✓ A fund and mechanism which supports federal investment strategies in addressing **programming gaps** of economic development opportunities

- ✗ Not application-based (e.g., no Call for Proposals) for project funding
- ✗ Not a program whose authorities and funds belong solely to ISC
- ✗ Not a fund which allows for SPI to be the sole funder of an initiative
- ✗ Does not override other program authorities and monitoring regimes



Who can receive funding through SPI?

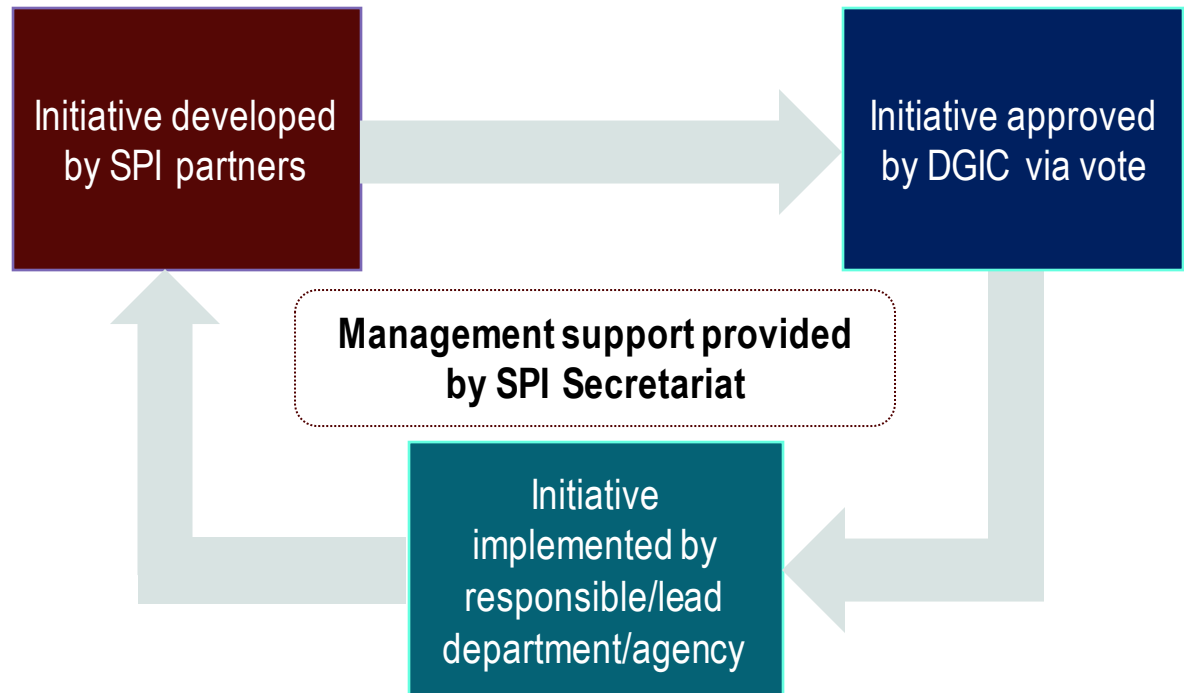




How initiatives are developed

SPI initiatives:

- are focused on economic development
- bring together multiple federal partners
- are complex with benefits for many Indigenous beneficiaries

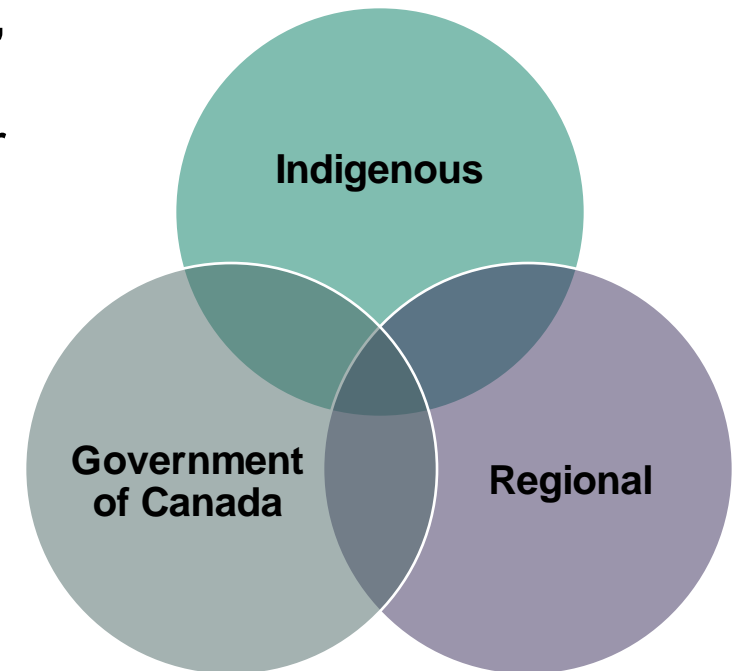




SPI Investment Framework

- Enables strategic decision-making by DGIC, SPI Secretariat, and partners when assessing, approving, and planning Initiatives
- Evergreen process of updating priorities under three pillars:
 - *Indigenous Priorities*
 - Broad e.g. National Indigenous Economic Development Board
 - Specific e.g. Affected Indigenous communities
 - *Government of Canada Priorities*
 - Reconciliation, Economic Recovery, and Environment
 - Mandate letters, Budget, etc.
 - *Regional Priorities*
 - Regional growth strategies
 - Provinces and Territories

Intersection of Priorities

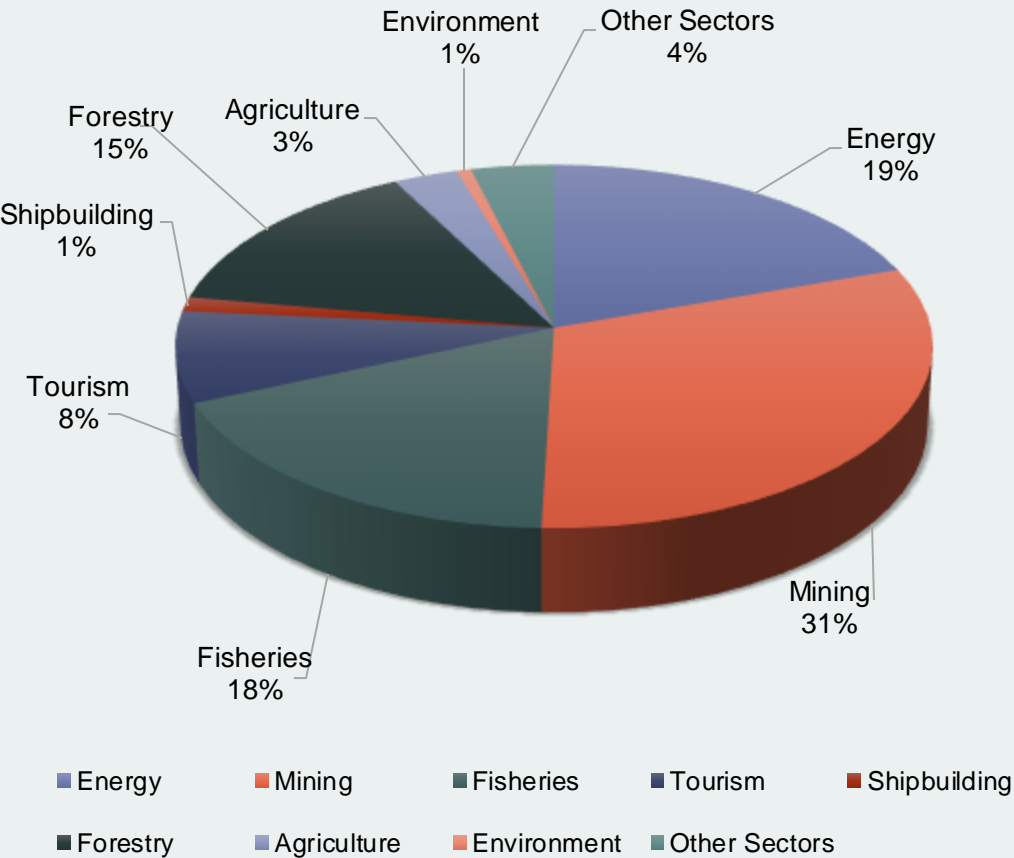




SPI by the Numbers

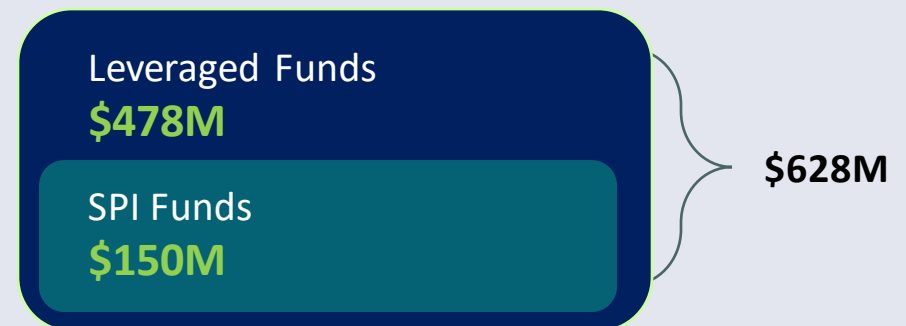
SPI's Annual Budget **\$14.45M** + SPI's O&M Budget **\$2.3M**

SPI investment areas since 2010



50 SPI initiatives since 2010
400+ communities involved
214 partnerships created

Funds flowed from 2010 to 2021



In 2019-20 alone, SPI leveraged an average of \$4.83 from other sources for every SPI dollar

BC Indigenous Clean Energy Initiative

2016-2022 | Investment: \$15.4M | Lead: PacifiCan/WED – BC Region



- ✓ Since 2016, BCICEI has supported 63 communities, which include 36 remote, off-grid or diesel dependent communities, to advance projects related to solar, biomass, hydro, geothermal, and wind.
- ✓ The projected economic benefits achieved to date include 1,983 jobs created, 735 people trained, \$2M related to energy bills saved, and \$16.4M generated in profit for First Nation communities.
- ✓ These projects have saved 424K tonnes of CO₂, reduced the need for diesel by 2.8M liters, and generated 134K Mwhr/year of clean energy, all positive steps towards achieving a net-zero carbon economy.
- ✓ Projects have successfully raised an additional \$20M in community investments to attain energy independence and new economic development opportunities for their members.



SPI Clean Energy

- Through Budget 2021, SPI was allocated an additional \$36 million, over three years, to build capacity for local, economically-sustainable clean energy projects in First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities and support economic development opportunities. Engagement with regional officers is on-going.





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Thank you!

Rachelle Boone
Senior Development Officer
Strategic Partnerships Initiative – Clean Energy
Indigenous Services Canada
rachelle.boone@sac-isc.gc.ca