

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH COWICHAN CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY

June 19th, 2024

URBAN
SYSTEMS

MUNICIPALITY OF
NORTH
Cowichan

AGENDA

1. Project Overview
2. Collaborating to Adapt
3. Adaptation Process
4. Climate Change in North Cowichan
5. Preparing North Cowichan
6. Implementation & Evaluating Progress



PROJECT OVERVIEW

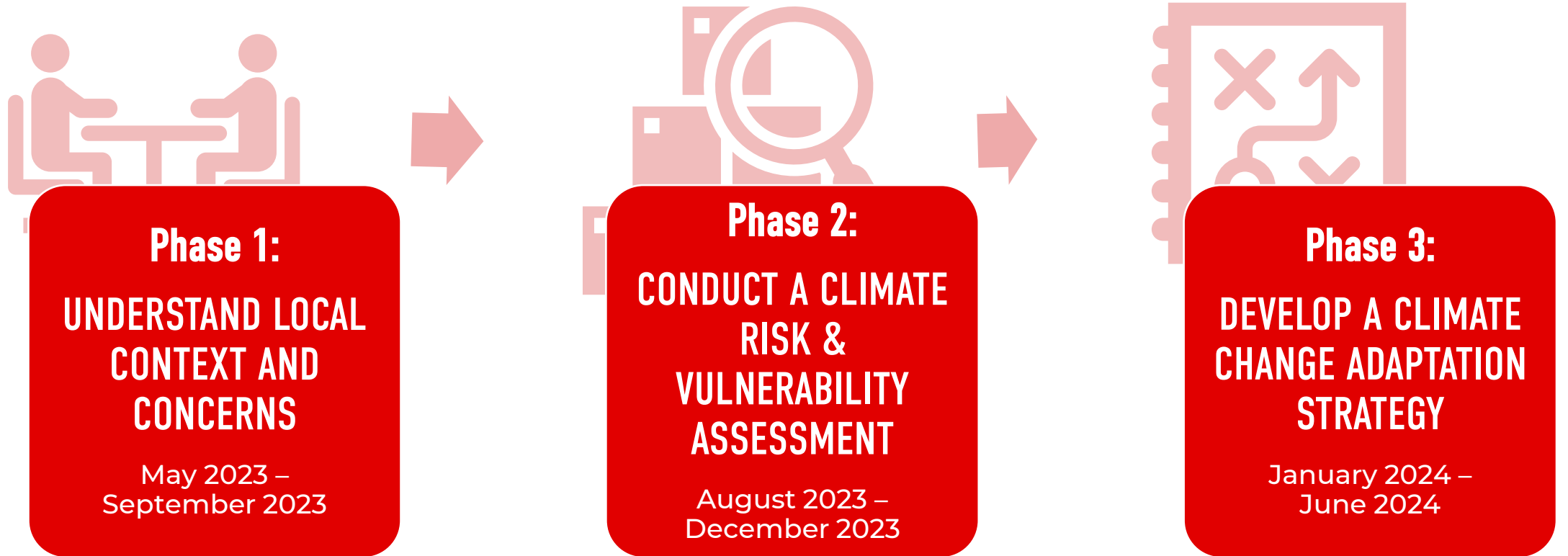
PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

To develop a climate change adaptation strategy that focuses on building resilience and reducing vulnerabilities and risks through implementation of actions through municipal service delivery.

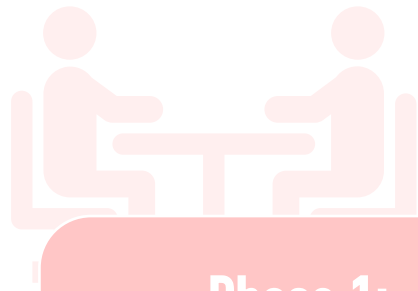
PRINCIPLES

- Understanding and building on **strengths**
- Identifying and addressing **gaps**
- Focusing on efforts that **balance effort and impact**
- **Collaborating** with others in the region

PROJECT OVERVIEW

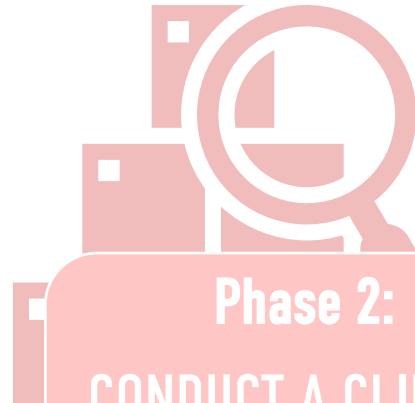


PROJECT OVERVIEW



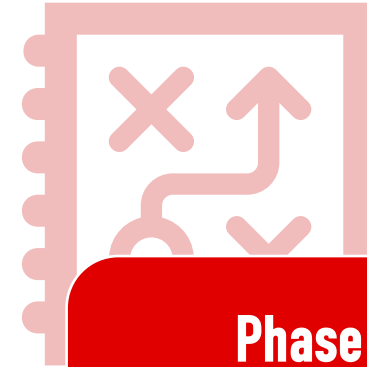
Phase 1:
UNDERSTAND LOCAL
CONTEXT AND
CONCERNS

May 2023 –
September 2023



Phase 2:
CONDUCT A CLIMATE
RISK &
VULNERABILITY
ASSESSMENT

August 2023 – January
2024



Phase 3:
DEVELOP A CLIMATE
CHANGE ADAPTATION
STRATEGY

January 2024 –
June 2024

COLLABORATING TO ADAPT

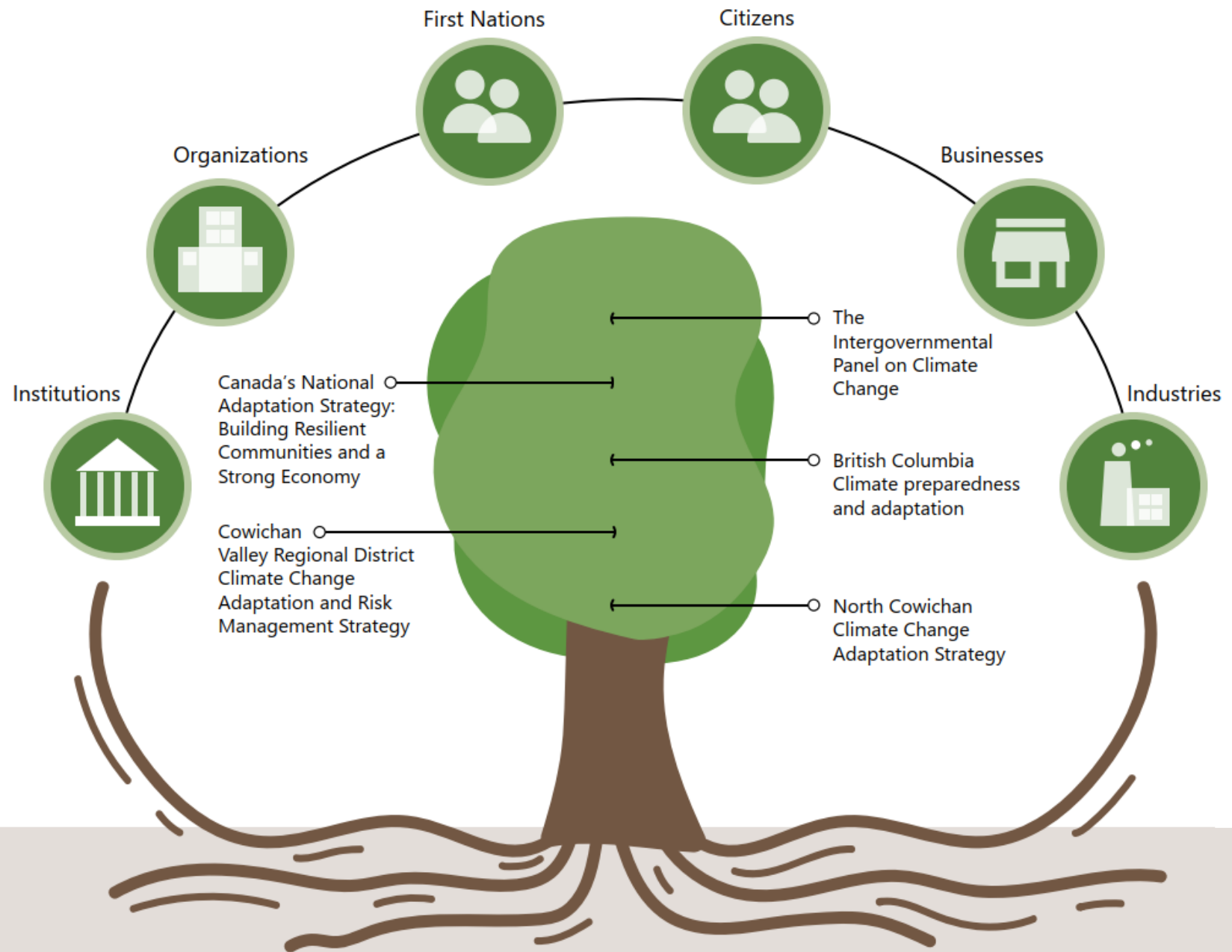
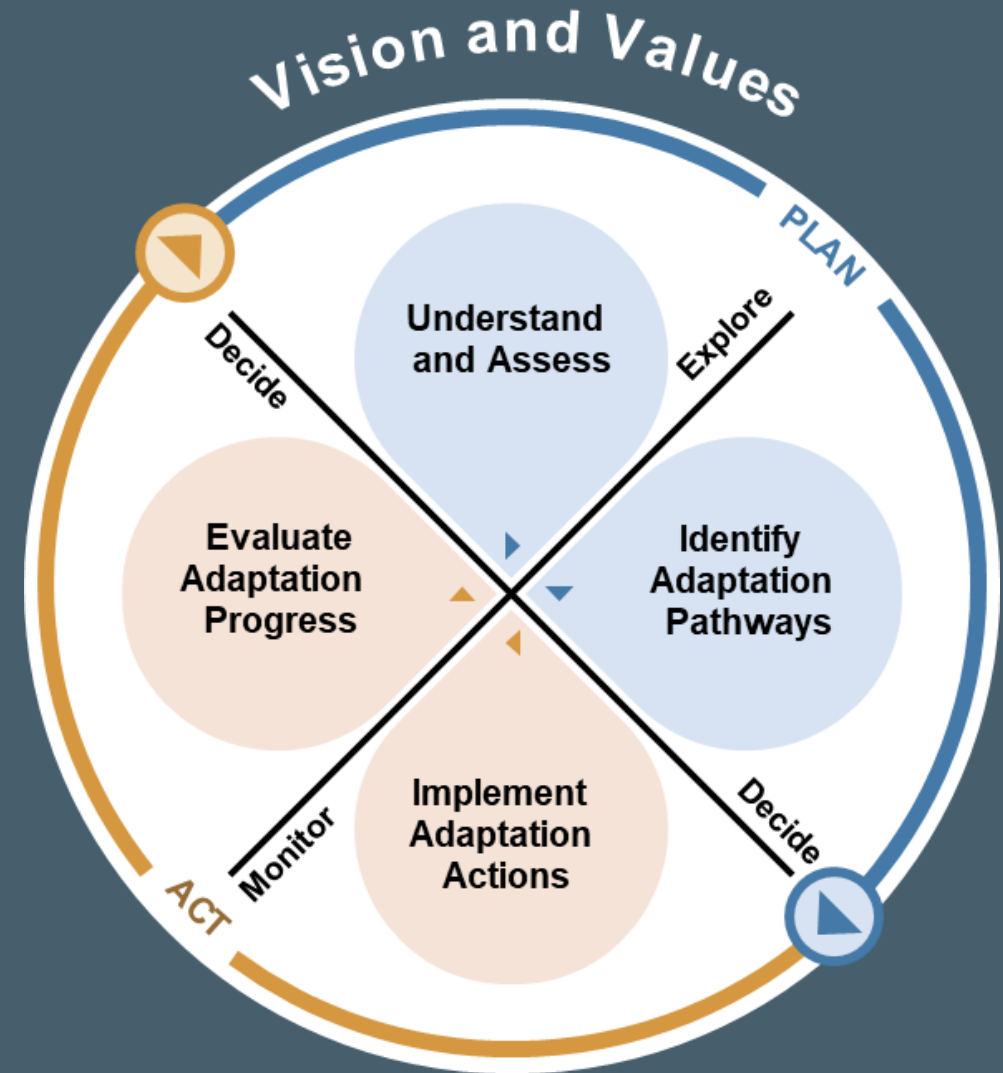
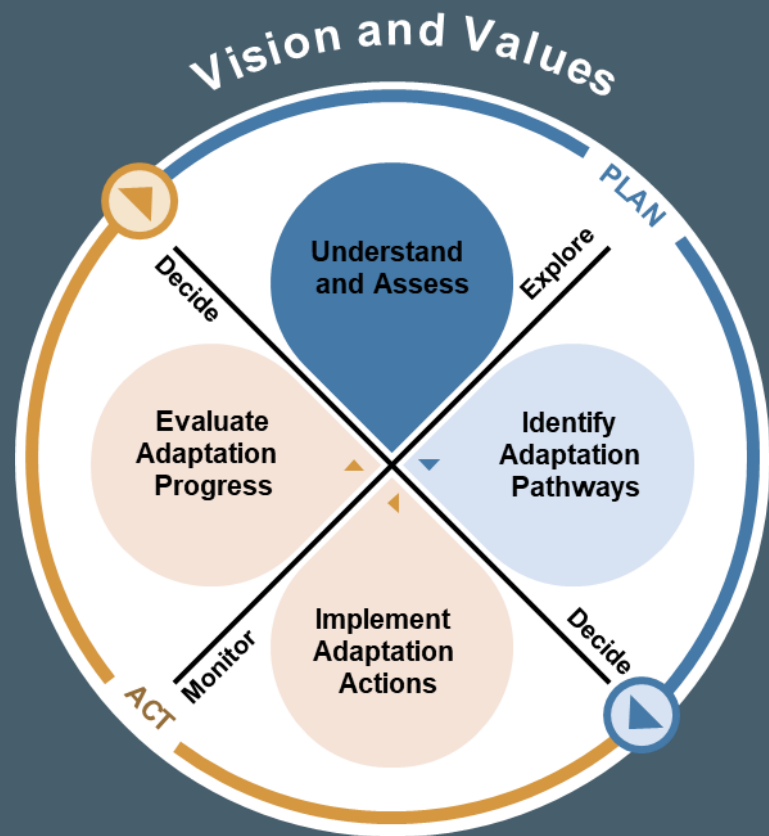


Figure 1. North Cowichan's interconnected climate adaptation strategy

AN ADAPTATION PROCESS FOR NORTH COWICHAN, BY NORTH COWICHAN



CLIMATE CHANGE IN NORTH COWICHAN



WHAT HAVE WE OBSERVED?







WHAT CAN WE EXPECT TO SEE?

- CLIMATE RISK AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

WHAT HAVE WE OBSERVED?



WHAT CAN WE EXPECT TO SEE?

-  3°C increase in annual average temperature by the 2050s.
-  Warmer winters with less snow (63% decrease in number of frost days).
-  Increased rain falling less frequently, but in more intense storm events (30-65% more precipitation on very wet days).
-  Sea level rise (1-2.5m).
-  Longer, hotter, drier summers and more heatwaves (more than doubling the average number of summer days above 25°C).
-  Longer growing season for crops (28% increase).

CLIMATE RISK AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

83 risk statements

- 7 **very high**
- 14 **high**
- 39 **medium**
- 22 **low**
- 1 **special**

5 THEMES

Community & Lifestyle

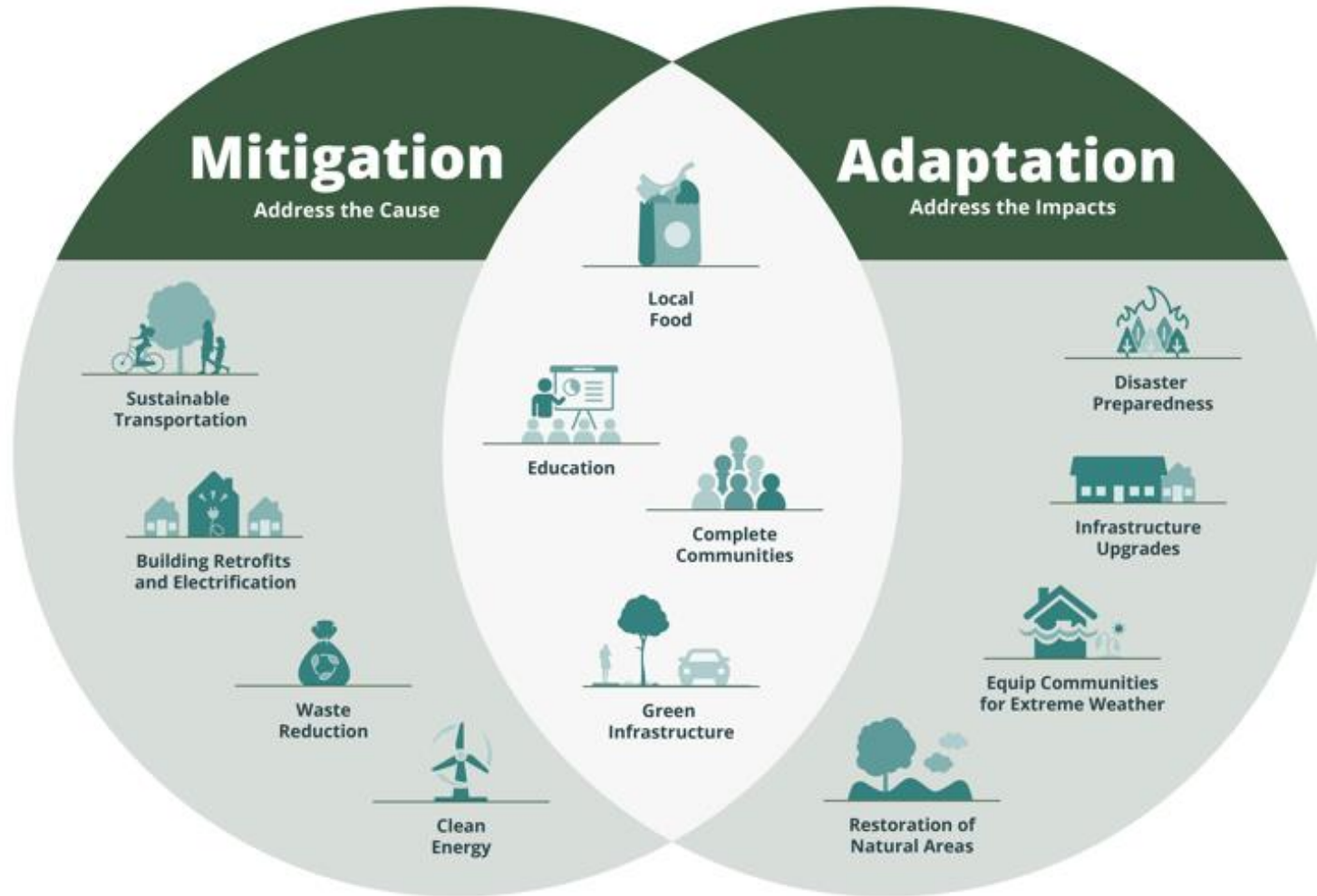
Natural Environment

Local Economy

Municipal Services

Public Health & Safety

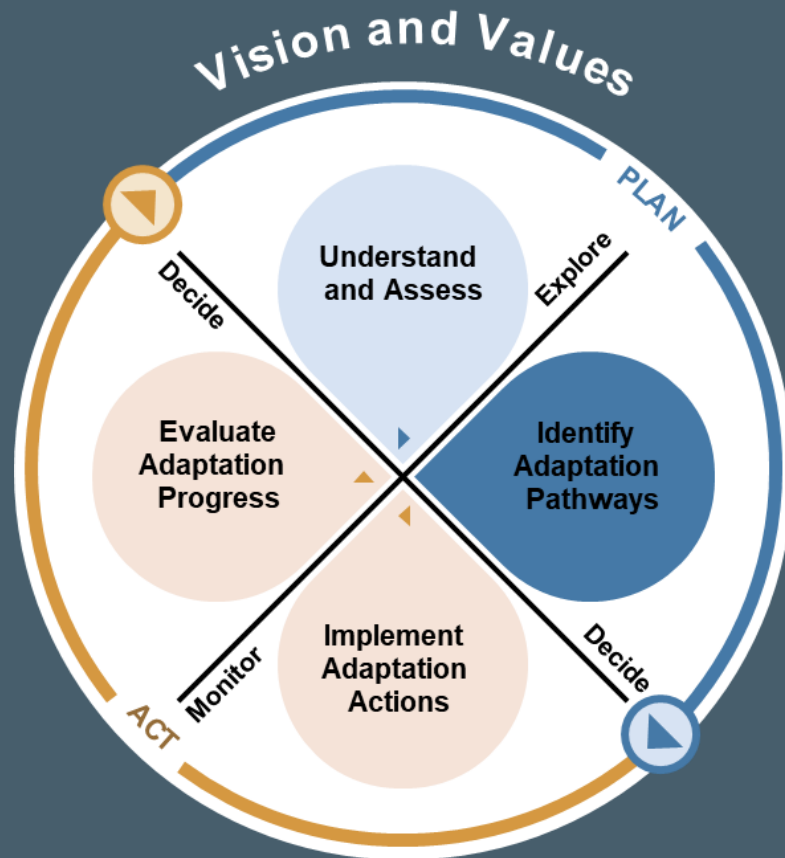
WHAT CAN WE DO?



North Cowichan
Climate Action
and Energy Plan
(CAEP)

North Cowichan
Climate
Adaptation
Strategy

PREPARING NORTH COWICHAN



THREE ADAPTATION PATHWAYS



1. MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING MUNICIPAL SERVICES



2. PRESERVING AND PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT



3. AMPLIFYING ACTION THROUGH COLLABORATION



TEN OBJECTIVES

ADAPTATION ACTIONS

UNDERWAY

EARLY STAGES

FUTURE

23

11

38



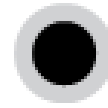
1. Maintaining and enhancing municipal services



Underway



Early Stages



Future

1

Protect the health and well-being of community members and staff

3

2

2

Integrate climate adaptation into planning and policy

3

2

6

3

Enhance the resilience of built assets and services

5

2

8

4

Maintain the continuity of critical services

3

3

5

Expand staff training and resources to support adaptation

1

1

3



2. Preserving and Protecting the Environment

6

Steward and preserve ecosystem functions

7

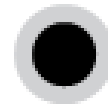
Foster climate resilient natural systems



Underway



Early Stages



Future

3

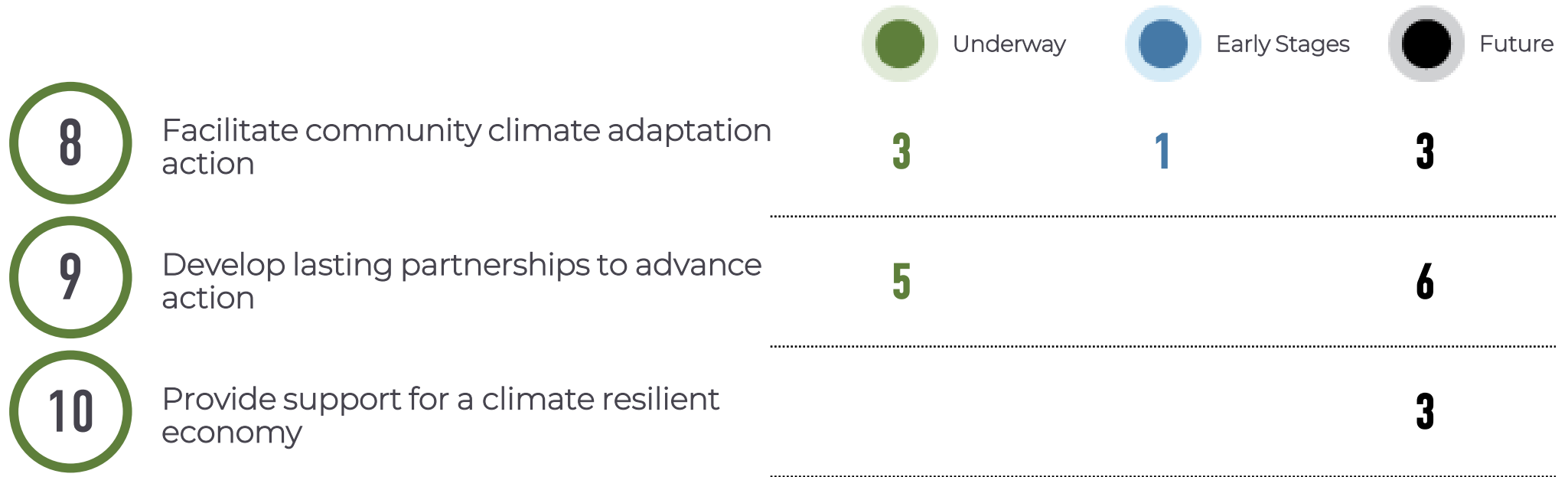
1

2

3



3. Amplifying Action through collaboration



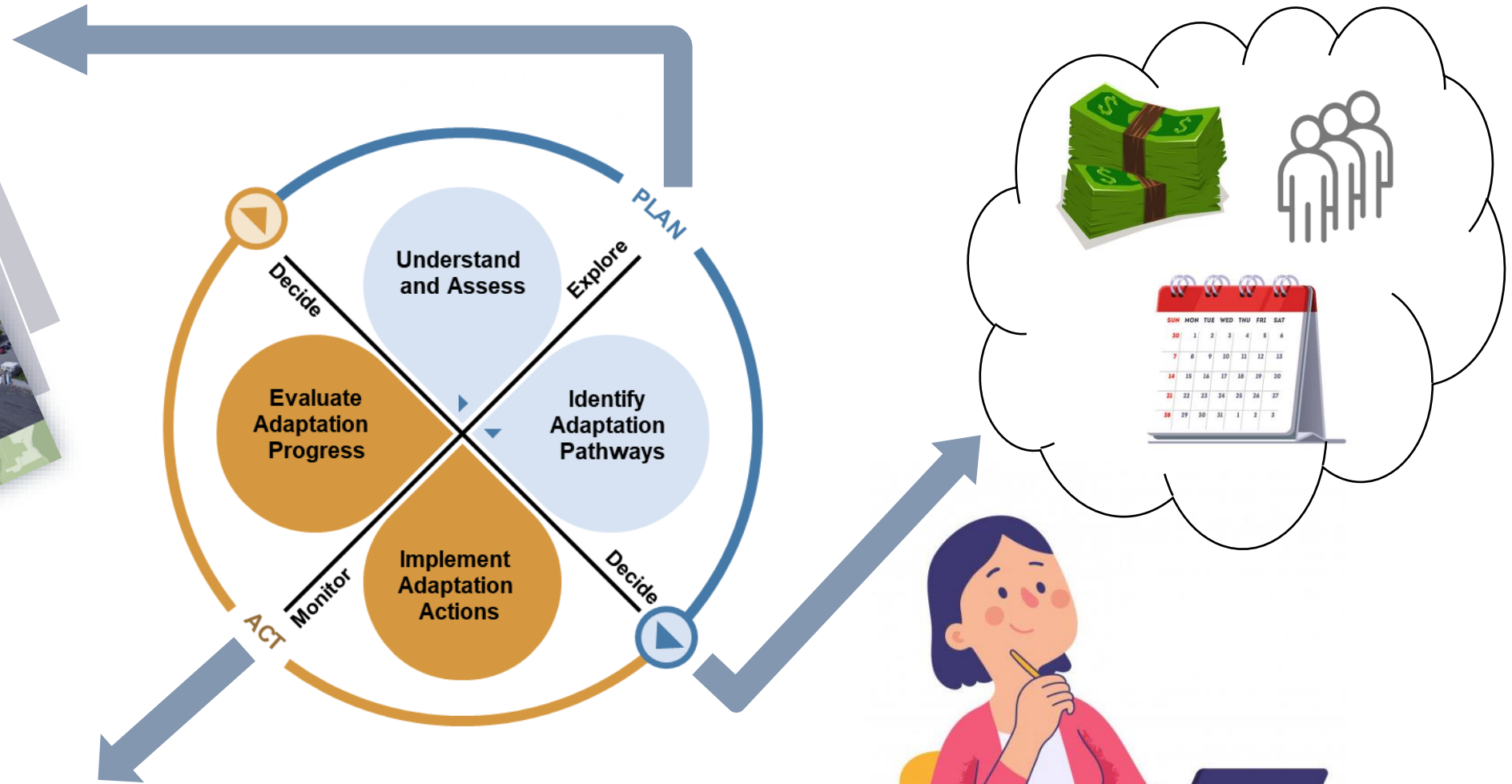
IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATING PROGRESS



IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

MEASURING PROGRESS AND EFFECTIVENESS

IMPLEMENTING THE CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY



Execute Annual Business Plans

MEASURING PROGRESS AND EFFECTIVENESS



Implementation
Progress

the extent to which the adaptation plan has
been **put into action**.



Action
Effectiveness

the **outcomes and impacts** of climate
adaptation actions.

THANK YOU!

