



OASIS

A PROGRAM TO PREVENT
AND REDUCE THE RISKS
ASSOCIATED WITH CLIMATE
CHANGE THROUGH GREENING

PROJECT PRESENTATION GUIDE – COMPONENT 2

NOVEMBER 2023



COORDINATION AND DRAFTING

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TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM

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Foreword

This document provides instructions for submitting an application for financial assistance under **component 2** of the OASIS Program (the Program). In the event of discrepancies between this document and the Program's normative framework, the latter prevails. The normative framework is available under Le Ministère > Nos programmes on the Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs (MELCCFP) website at www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/programmes/.

The OASIS Program

The Québec government acknowledges the importance for society to adapt to current climate change impacts, reduce anticipated impacts and prevent their repercussions on human health. It therefore adopted the 2030 Plan for a Green Economy and its implementation plan (IP) in November 2020. The OASIS Program falls within the scope of strategic priority 3, which seeks to strengthen Québec's resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Overview of the key provisions of the normative framework

General objective

The OASIS Program is funded by the Electrification and Climate Change Fund through the IP and falls within the scope of strategic priority 3, under initiative 3.1, which seeks to protect the health, security, and quality of life of individuals and communities.

The Program aims to enhance Québec communities' resilience to longer, more intense and more frequent heat waves, as well as more intense and more frequent heavy precipitation. To this end, it provides financial support to municipal bodies and Indigenous communities in planning, implementing and sustaining greening projects in Québec's communities.

The Program comprises three components. **This document deals solely with component 2**, i.e. support for the implementation of greening projects in urban and rural communities.

Component 2

Component 2 aims to facilitate the implementation of green infrastructure to prevent the risks associated with increasing heat waves and precipitation intensity in Québec's communities, and to reduce their negative impacts.

Duration of the Program

The OASIS Program will come into force when the Conseil du trésor approves it and will end on March 31, 2026. Projects must be completed no later than March 31, 2029.

Financial assistance

Under component 2, the financial assistance thresholds for each project range from a minimum of \$1 million to a maximum of \$25 million.

Eligible applicants

The following municipal bodies are eligible applicants under component 2:

- Agglomerations
- Indigenous communities
- Metropolitan communities
- Local municipalities
- Regional county municipalities (RCMs)

Eligible and ineligible projects

A project is considered eligible if it is focused on creating or improving green infrastructure to prevent and reduce the risks associated with climate change, and to strengthen the structural or natural capacity of communities to adapt to the impacts of heat waves or intense precipitation exacerbated by climate change.

Green infrastructure is considered eligible if it creates cold islands or manages rainwater at the source.

A project may combine several types of green infrastructure and must include greening measures.

The infrastructure must be public, defined as tangible capital assets, and primarily intended for public use or benefit.

The project must be carried out entirely in Québec.

A project is not eligible in the following cases:

- It does not primarily seek to prevent and reduce the risks associated with heat waves and intense precipitation.
- It focuses on flood risks that are covered by the Programme de résilience et d'adaptation face aux inondations of the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation (MAMH).
- It involves emergency service infrastructure.
- It is carried out for the benefit of a healthcare or an educational institution.
- It is required by law, regulation or decree.

Submitting an application

Step 1: Become acquainted with the Program criteria

Organizations wishing to apply must become acquainted with the normative framework of the Program. It can be consulted at: www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/programmes/oasis.

Step 2: Inform the MELCCFP

Municipal bodies wishing to participate in the program must notify the MELCCFP of their intention to submit an application by completing the project intent form found here: www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/programmes/oasis.

A municipal body is considered an applicant from the moment the MELCCFP receives the project intent form. **The MELCCFP will then send the applicant all the documents required** to submit their application file. MELCCFP advisors support applicants at every stage of the application process.

Step 3: Preparing the application for financial assistance

The application for financial assistance must include the project submission form and the requested appendices:

- Project submission form, with all sections duly completed
- KML file to geolocate the project site(s)
- Financial forecast documents for the project
- Project schedule
- Additional documents detailing the steps taken, such as those supported under component 1, including a risk analysis, a planning document for adaptation solutions and a green infrastructure resilience assessment. The risk analysis and resilience assessment must comply with (or be similar or equivalent to) Québec's methodologies detailed in the following documents: *Guidelines for planning territory-wide greening projects and analyzing risks related to heat waves and heavy rainfall* and *Guidelines for fostering the resilience of green infrastructure*. A resolution confirming that the application submitted for the Program has been authorized by the council the applicant represents (municipal council, band council, MRC council or other) and that the council undertakes to pay its share of eligible expenses must be attached. The resolution must also include the name of the person authorized to sign all documents, including the financial assistance agreement between the parties.
- In the case of a project submitted by a group of eligible municipal bodies, resolutions by the various councils confirming their commitment to the project
- Letters of support from partners describing their commitment to the project and specifying the amount or nature of their contribution, if applicable.

Step 4: Submit your application for financial assistance

The application must be emailed to: oasis@environnement.gouv.qc.ca.

Applicants will receive an acknowledgement of receipt no later than five business days following receipt of the application.

Deadline for submitting financial assistance applications

Financial assistance applications must be sent no later than noon (12 p.m.) on March 31, 2025. No applications will be accepted after that date.

Instructions for submitting an application

The project submission form must be completed in accordance with the instructions set out below. Note: The application must contain all essential information indicated above in step 3.

1. General information about the applicant

In this section, you must enter all the information requested regarding the municipal body applying for financial assistance, as well as the contacts representing the body and managing the project.

Be sure to comply with the eligibility criteria stipulated in the Program's normative framework (Appendix 1).

2. Brief description of the project

Indicate here the title of the project, the anticipated duration, the total allowable costs of the project and the amount of the financial assistance requested under component 2 of the OASIS Program.

Please ensure that the allowable expenses comply with procedures set out section 6.6 of the Program's normative framework, and that the amount of the financial assistance requested does not exceed the maximum allowable amount indicated in section 6.7.

You must submit a summary of the project that clearly indicates its objectives, activities and anticipated outcomes.

3. Issue and context

3.1 Targeted issue and impacts of the future climate

You must describe the issue your project is focused on. Please specify the climate-related risks you are facing or will face, the physical and social vulnerabilities in your area and the anticipated climatic hazards. You must also describe how your project will provide solutions for adapting to or reducing the impacts of heat waves or heavy rainfall, while taking into account the identified vulnerabilities.

3.2 Project basis, territorial analysis and adaptation solutions

Please describe the analysis, knowledge and experience on which the adaptation solutions chosen for your project are based. Your project must be based on a risk analysis that complies with (or be similar or equivalent to) Québec's methodologies detailed in the *Guidelines for planning territory-wide greening projects and analyzing risks related to heat waves and heavy rainfall*.

Your explanations can also be based on different types of documents, such as:

- An analysis of possible adaptation solutions to prevent the risks associated with heat and precipitation
- An integrated planning document for adaptation solutions
- A cost-benefit analysis
- An analysis of the resilience of the green infrastructure contemplated
- Other relevant analyses

You must attach the risk analyses and supporting documents to your application.

4. Detailed project description and proposed adaptation solutions

4.1 Project objective

Please present the overall objective of your project.

4.2 Proposed adaptation solutions

Please describe the proposed solutions and explain how they are best suited to helping you achieve your objectives and address the issue in question. Here are some aspects to think about and questions you should ask yourself to help guide the solutions you are considering:

- How will the proposed solutions address the issue?
- Have the chosen adaptation solutions been tested and documented?
- How did you choose the best adaptation solution(s) to prevent the risks targeted by the project?
- Are the solutions included in your planning? If so, you can present relevant planning tools, such as a tree policy, a heat island map, a planting scenario, a greening or urban forestry plan or policy, a natural environment conservation plan, a specific urban planning program, or a natural environment and urban forest master plan.
- What are your green infrastructure targets and commitments in relation to the issue(s) being targeted?

4.3 Potential impact and ecosystem services provided

Please describe the potential benefits related to the social or physical vulnerabilities identified. The following questions may help you complete this section:

- Who will benefit from the new green infrastructure?
- Which vulnerable populations will see their resilience improved?
- What percentage of canopy coverage will be created or reached with the project, and in what timeframe?
- What is the potential impact in terms of cooling?
- What surface area will be demineralized?
- What is the potential for rainwater infiltration (volume of water)?
- What surface area will be planted?
- What ecosystem services are anticipated or targeted by this project? (Please refer to Appendix 3 of this document for a description of ecosystem services.)
- What measures are planned to ensure that the design of landscaping and infrastructure does not generate negative collateral effects, such as green gentrification, increased allergenic pollens, the introduction of invasive exotic species or a reduction in biodiversity?

4.4 Alignment of proposed adaptation solutions with local planning

Please show how the project is aligned with local green infrastructure planning:

- What are your objectives in terms of rainwater management, combating heat islands and using green infrastructure?
- What planning tools support these objectives (e.g. tree policy, urban plan, zoning by-law, adaptation plan or development plan)? Please attach these documents to your funding application. If they can be consulted online, please provide the link to the documents.
- What measures will you take to prevent the issue from exacerbating in your area or to limit damage to existing green infrastructure and natural environments?
- How does the project support or even enhance your efforts to prevent and reduce the risks associated with heat waves and precipitation?

4.5 Describe how the green infrastructure will benefit the public

Please demonstrate how the public will benefit from the green infrastructure:

- Is the funded infrastructure intended for public use?
- Will the green infrastructure be accessible to people with reduced mobility?

5. Planned activities

5.1 Activities related to the implementation of adaptation solutions


Please describe the different stages of the project's implementation. You can also number them and enter them in the schedule (Excel) included in the application form.

5.2 Details of project implementation

Please provide details about the owner of the green infrastructure to be funded. If it is not the municipal body, please indicate who will own it. Please describe the nature of land ownership, such as the percentage of private, commercial and municipal land, and who will monitor, supervise and maintain it. You can also add any other information you feel is relevant.

A KML file must be attached to the application. This is a file containing the digital spatial representation of the project's location, produced using geographic information system software for websites. It allows you to spatially represent a variety of data points, polygons and lines in detail, so you can accurately display the location of all of the project's components.

Creating a KML file on Google Earth:

1. Open Google Earth on your computer.
2. On the left, click **Projects** .
3. Click **New project**.
4. Click **Create KML file** > **Add to project**.
5. Select **Add placemark**, **Draw a path or polygon** or **Fullscreen slide**.

<https://support.google.com/earth/answer/9398104?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&sjid=12036816467885436219-NA#zippy=%2Ccr%C3%A9er-un-projet%2Ccr%C3%A9er-un-fichier-kml>

5.3 Project outcome monitoring activities

Please describe the monitoring and evaluation measures for the project. These are activities aimed at measuring the achievement of results, improving the project, assessing the value of the project and carrying out reporting:

- What monitoring indicators are useful for measuring the achievement of the project's objectives?
- Who is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the project?

5.4 Project management activities

Please provide a detailed description of the project management activities contemplated.

- Who is responsible for project management?
- Will one or more committees ensure that the project runs smoothly?

6. Risks and mitigation strategies

Please complete the table on the form, indicating the risks and obstacles that could affect the project and the mitigation strategies contemplated to deal with them.

7. Project sustainability

Please describe the sustainability strategy for the funded green infrastructure, i.e. the measures deployed during and after the project to ensure the sustainability of the green infrastructure put in place during the project.

8. Resources allocated to the project

8.1 Municipal body's project-related experience

Please indicate any relevant previous experience that shows your ability to implement the project.

8.2 Municipal body's human resources

Please provide information on the internal and external human resources who will be assigned to the project or who will contribute directly to it, specifying their respective roles and skills.

8.3 Financial and other partners

Please provide a list of project partners, along with their areas of expertise or key experiences, and describe the roles and contributions of each in carrying out the project. To help you do this, here are a few ideas and questions you should consider in order to present your partners and the value of their contribution:

- Have you worked with them on previous projects?
- How can the partners' contributions meet the project's needs?
- Will the project create or strengthen ties among local stakeholders?

9. Assessing climate change resilience

A resilience assessment is an important step in developing a project. It aims to ensure that the risks posed by climate change are taken into account when designing green infrastructure. This will help ensure the project's success and longevity. In this section, you must provide the requisite information regarding the climate change resilience assessment.

If all resilience criteria have not already been assessed, you will need to produce a climate change resilience assessment for the project submitted, in accordance with the guidelines provided on the Program's web page, i.e. the *Guidelines for fostering the resilience of green infrastructure*. If this exercise has already been carried out, you must attach the resilience assessment to your application.

10. Results and indicators

The following indicators should be included in those you measure during the project:

1. Length or surface area over which green infrastructure has been created or improved to prevent or reduce the impacts of heat waves and intense rainfall.
2. Number of vulnerable people protected by the installations. You need to set a target, the progress of which can be measured over the course of the project.

Data related to property of a linear nature, i.e. property that can be measured in linear units rather than numbers, and is not located in a specific place, must be provided in terms of length. Use kilometres (km) as the unit of measurement.

11. Schedule

You must use the schedule template. Schedule data must allow for the sequence of planned activities to be understood. All activities described in section 5 of the form must appear in the schedule.

12. Budget

Use the project budget template provided for this purpose and enter the information requested in each section of the form.

The rules governing financial assistance and eligible and ineligible expenses, set out in the Project's normative framework, must be complied with.

Budget items should be as detailed as possible. Budget items over \$50,000 must be broken down or justified by providing bids, for example.

Tab 1, "Instructions," provides directions for completing tab 2, "Budget."

Details of certain eligible expenses and budget item categories

Wages, salaries and benefits

Compensation for internal staff involved in the project, including employee benefits, is eligible. Please indicate the hourly rate and the number of hours worked on the project in brackets to justify the amounts indicated.

External services and contracts

Professional fees paid to a legal entity for a specific task or service (e.g. contracts for drawings and specifications, planning, execution, control and project support) are eligible expenses.

Rental costs for tools, equipment and machinery may be included in this section.

Technical fees

Technical fees include all expenses incurred to acquire the materials required for the project.

Please note that the cost of materials and work related to the development of green infrastructure on municipal or private land, including the purchase of plants and substrate and, where applicable, irrigation equipment, must represent at least 50% of the total amount of financial assistance. Financial assistance granted under the Program must significantly support the development of green infrastructure.

Additional landscaping and stationary equipment

Other types of additional equipment and landscaping that are incorporated into the green infrastructure and necessary for the project's purpose are eligible. However, expenses on these are limited to 5% of the total amount of financial assistance. Examples of eligible equipment:

- Misters
- Drinking fountains
- Permanent sunshades
- Fixed furnishings for rest and recreation
- Landscaping to promote active transportation and universal accessibility, such as trails

Structural reinforcement work

The cost of structural reinforcement work that is essential to project completion is eligible, up to 5% of the total amount of financial assistance. This work mainly involves reinforcing roofs or walls to enable the addition of materials required for green roofs or walls. This work must comply with Régie du bâtiment du Québec building standards.

Soil decontamination

Soil decontamination costs for green infrastructure are eligible, up to 5% of the total amount of financial assistance.

Please note that for major soil decontamination projects, applications can be made to the ClimatSol Plus program – Part 2, which aims to facilitate the decontamination of land that has economic development potential and help owners of contaminated land rehabilitate it. We encourage you to learn about this program to see if it better meets your needs.

Communication activities

Expenses associated with communication activities directly related to the project are eligible, up to 2% of the total amount of financial assistance. This includes all project presentation, unveiling and public announcement activities, as well as press releases and media announcements.

Travel expenses

Transportation, meal and accommodation expenses within Québec, when necessary for the project, are eligible and must adhere to the reimbursement limits set by the Québec government in the Directive concernant les frais de déplacement des personnes engagées à honoraires par des organismes publics [Directive regarding travel expenses for fee-based professionals contracted by public bodies].

Administrative expenses

Justified administration expenses directly related to the project are eligible, up to 2% of the total amount of financial assistance. These include, for example, costs related to administrative support, accounting, payroll, facility rental costs, stationery, mail services and telephone services.

13. Mandatory documents to be submitted

The titles to use when naming your documents (application and appendices) before submitting your file by email are listed in the “Document title” column in the following table:

| | Description | Document title |
|--|---|-----------------|
| Application | Project submission form | 0_Project_form |
| Appendices required for all applications | Activity schedule | 1_Schedule |
| | Forecasted budget | 2_Budget |
| | Resolution authorizing the submission of the project for the Program confirming the applicant's commitment to pay its share of the costs and designating a person to sign all project-related documents, such as the financial assistance agreement | 3_Resolution |
| | Partners' letters | 4_Partners |
| | KML file to geolocate sites | 5_KML |
| | Analysis of risks related to heat waves and intense precipitation | 6_AR_risks |
| | Assessment report on the climate change resilience of the green infrastructure contemplated as part of the project | 7_AR_resilience |
| Optional appendices | Agreements between the applicant and private landowners | 8_Agreements |

| | | |
|--|--|--------------|
| | Strategies for initiatives, planting or other adaptation solutions | 9_Strategies |
| | Any other supporting documents for the project | XX_xxxx |

14. Useful information

Please refer to this section of the form to find out how to submit your request.

Project selection

Projects submitted under component 2 will be analyzed according to the following stages:

- **Determining eligibility:** The applicant's eligibility and the admissibility of their application and project are first validated (Appendix 1).
- **Evaluation:** Eligible projects (Appendix 2) are then evaluated by the program management team, in collaboration with external experts and MELCCFP representatives. Recommendations for improvements will be sent to applicants whose projects do not meet all the evaluation criteria.
- **Ministerial approval:** Once the project has been approved by the Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks, the latter will approve the financial assistance agreement granted and the disbursement terms for each project, and notify the applicant by letter to confirm that the financial assistance has been awarded under the agreement.

Project handling under component 2

The following table illustrates the steps in the project handling process, from sending in the project intent form to the final payment of financial assistance.

| Project phase | Applicant body | MELCCFP |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| Application planning | Submitting a project intent form | Support and transmission of documents |
| Submission of the project | Submission of the project to the MELCCFP | Validation of admissibility |
| Analysis of the project | Adjustments to the project, if necessary | Analysis and request for adjustments, if necessary |
| | | Preparation and sending of award letter for ministerial approval |
| Initiation of the project | Receipt of award letter | |
| | Approval of the financial assistance agreement | |
| | Signing of the financial assistance agreement | |
| | | First payment of financial assistance |
| | Development of the project monitoring and evaluation plan | Approval |
| | Project implementation | Project follow-up and support |
| Interim reporting | Preparation and submission of annual progress report (first and second year) | Analysis and approval of progress report |
| | | Second or third payment of financial assistance |
| Final reporting | Conclusion of project activities | |
| | Preparation and transmission of final report, including audit | Analysis and approval of final report |
| | | Final payment of financial assistance |

Project follow-up

Financial assistance recipients must submit information to the MELCCFP for reporting purposes. Municipal bodies whose projects are accepted must assess the progress of their activities according to the indicators. They must periodically submit progress reports for approval.

Bodies whose projects are accepted under component 2 must submit the following documents to the MELCCFP:

Monitoring plan

A monitoring and evaluation plan for the project must be submitted within 75 days of signing the agreement, and must be approved in accordance with the established procedures. The indicators presented in section 10 must be included, and additional project-specific indicators may be proposed. A template will be provided for this purpose.

Year-end reports

In February of each year, a year-end report is required. This report must show the expenses incurred during the previous year. A letter to this effect, along with the document to be completed, will be sent to recipients.

Progress reports

Depending on the duration of the project, a mid-project progress report or annual progress reports will be required. These reports will show the expenses incurred during the previous year and will include the following:

- A progress report on planned activities and an outlook for achieving the project's expected results
- A financial statement for the project
- Adjustments to be made to the activity schedule, if necessary
- An overview of public communications

Final report

A final report must be submitted. This report will show the expenses incurred during the previous year and will include the following:

- Activities carried out and results achieved
- An analysis of project execution
- The final financial statement
- A maintenance plan for green infrastructure supported by the program
- Conclusions and lessons learned from the project

Additional information regarding the content of the progress report and final report will be provided in the financial assistance agreement.

Please note that the project may be audited by the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation as part of the Plan d'action gouvernemental pour alléger le fardeau administratif des municipalités (Government action plan to lighten the administrative burden on municipalities). You do not need to budget for this.

Other requests may also be made during the year to ensure the sound management of public finances. The Program management team will support you every step of the way.

Appendix 1 – Eligibility and admissibility criteria

| Component 2 | |
|---|--|
| Admissibility of the application | <p>The financial assistance file contains all the requested documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed application form <input type="checkbox"/> Letters of support from partners <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution confirming that the council authorizes the submission of the application, agrees to pay its share of the costs, and designates a person to sign the memorandum of understanding <input type="checkbox"/> Documents showing the steps taken (risk analyses, studies on adaptation solutions, supporting documents for activities related to consultations with Indigenous communities, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Climate change resilience assessment in accordance with Québec’s methodologies <input type="checkbox"/> KML file for locating green infrastructure |
| Applicant eligibility | <p>The applicant is one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Agglomeration <input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan community <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous community <input type="checkbox"/> Local municipality <input type="checkbox"/> Regional county municipality (RCM) |
| Project eligibility | <p>The project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Is entirely carried out in Québec <input type="checkbox"/> Is completed within the three-year timeframe <input type="checkbox"/> Does not seek to create a foundation or search for sponsors <input type="checkbox"/> Is not funded by another program under the IP of the 2030 PGE <input type="checkbox"/> Does not replace the responsibilities or duties that conferred on municipal bodies or Indigenous communities by governments and departments <input type="checkbox"/> Did not incur expenses prior to approval <input type="checkbox"/> Supports public infrastructure, mainly for public use and for the benefit of the population <input type="checkbox"/> Does not involve an emergency services infrastructure <input type="checkbox"/> Is not for the benefit of a healthcare or educational institution |
| MELCCFP recommendation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The file is eligible and admissible. <input type="checkbox"/> The file is eligible and admissible, under certain conditions. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> The applicant is ineligible. The application is rejected. |

Appendix 2 – Project evaluation criteria

| Description of the project, the anticipated outcomes and the applicant's capacity to carry out the project | | |
|---|-----|----|
| Criteria | Yes | No |
| The project aims to reduce the risks associated with climate change and strengthen the structural or natural capacity to adapt to the effects of heat waves and intense precipitation through the implementation of green infrastructure. | | |
| The applicant relies on knowledge of the risks associated with heat waves or intense precipitation in its territory in current and future climates. | | |
| The resilience analysis of the green infrastructure is consistent and is used as a basis for the project's design. | | |
| The applicant plans to implement measures to ensure that the design of landscaping and infrastructure does not generate negative collateral effects, such as increased allergenic pollens, the introduction of invasive exotic species and a reduction in biodiversity. | | |
| The project is designed to be consistent with local planning related to the targeted issues. | | |
| The application includes results monitoring and assessment elements to document the achievement of objectives. | | |
| The applicant has the capacity to ensure the greening project's success and the achievement of the anticipated outcomes, in particular through its financial capacity to carry out the project. | | |
| The applicant provides for the maintenance of green infrastructure. | | |
| The applicant and, where applicable, their partners and subcontractors have the requisite expertise and experience to ensure the project's success. | | |
| The quality of the application and the planned activities seem appropriate to achieve the project's objectives. | | |
| The budget is sufficient and realistic with respect to the activities stipulated. | | |

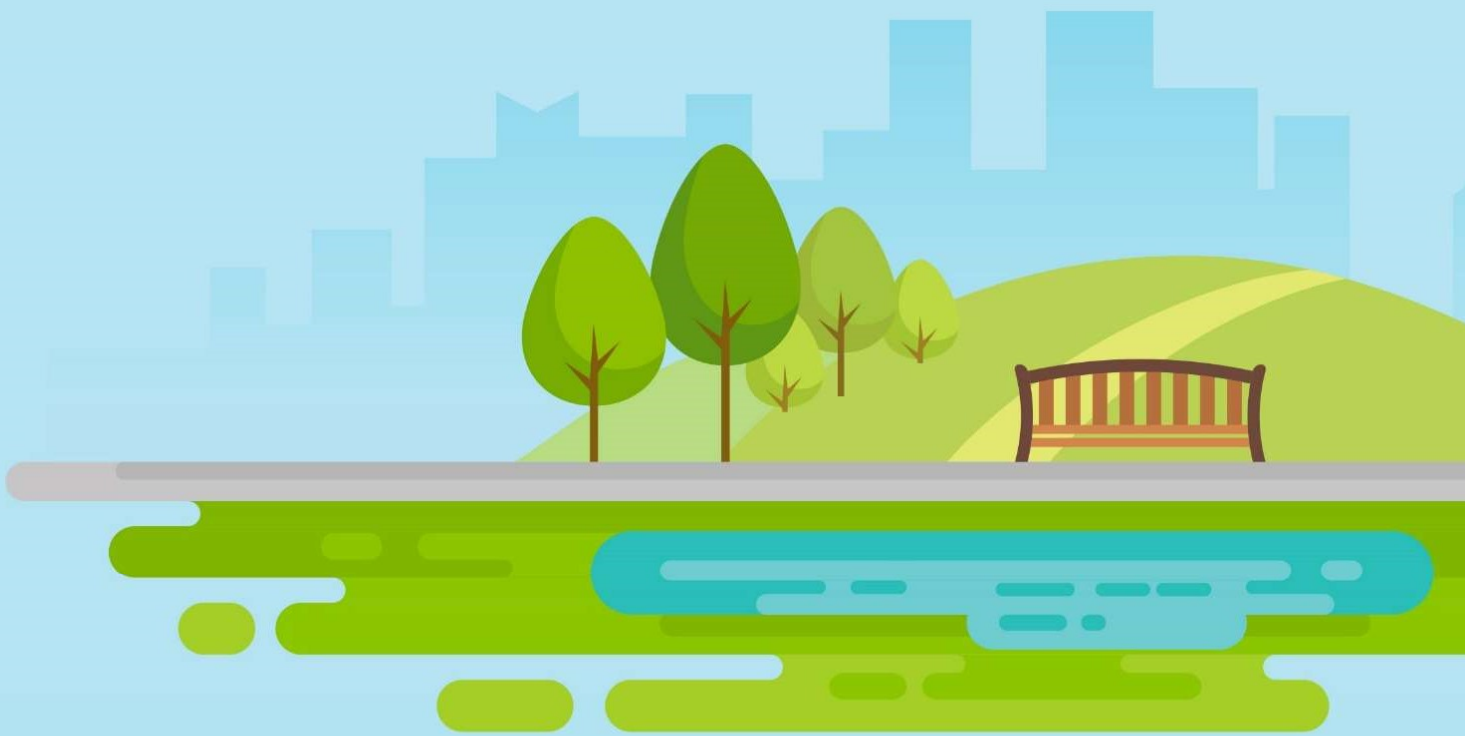
Yes: The project meets the criteria.

No: The project does not meet the criteria and will have to be adjusted to do so satisfactorily.

For funding to be recommended to the MELCCFP authorities, all criteria must be met.

Appendix 3 – Potential ecosystem services for green infrastructure

1. **Air filtration:** Plants, and trees in particular, capture particles and pollutants circulating in the air.
2. **Increased biodiversity and its benefits:** For example, in agricultural environments, increased biodiversity contributes to better management of crop pests through diversified flora and fauna. It also helps combat invasive species.
3. **Microclimate regulation:** Water bodies and vegetation help mitigate the effects of heat islands.
4. **Noise reduction:** Soft surfaces (unsealed soil) and vegetation help reduce ambient noise, particularly related to traffic.
5. **Food production:** Some planted vegetation can produce foodstuffs, such as fruit trees, perennials, herbs, vegetable plants in urban landscaping, etc.
6. **Rainwater drainage at the source:** Urban ecosystems retain rainwater and release it through evaporation and evapotranspiration, preventing pollution of waterways due to runoff and overloaded wastewater systems during heavy rainfall (for combined stormwater and wastewater networks).
7. **Wastewater treatment:** Wetlands, whether natural or artificial, help to purify wastewater, primarily through the use of organic matter, the assimilation of nutrients by organisms and particulate deposits.
8. **Cultural and recreational value:** Urban green spaces are a key element in the quality of life of communities. They provide opportunities for leisure and relaxation.
9. **Reduced energy consumption in buildings:** Green roofs can insulate a building's roof, reducing energy bills.
10. **Wind speed reduction:** When trees are grouped together, they can reduce wind force by 5% to 15%.
11. **Higher property values:** Trees can increase the value of a property.



**Environnement,
Lutte contre
les changements
climatiques,
Faune et Parcs**

Québec  
 