

Adaptation and Mitigation



Adaptation refers to the initiatives to reduce the vulnerability of natural and human systems against actual or expected climate change effects. These are actions to minimize anticipated impacts, or enhance potential benefits, of climate change.

Adaptation benefits are the avoided damage costs or the accrued benefits following the adoption and implementation of adaptation measures.

Adaptation costs are the costs of planning, preparing for, facilitating, and implementing adaptation measures, including transition costs.

Example: The heating and cooling systems in new public buildings could be installed with climate change scenarios in mind.

Example: Communities could increase their flood protection to adapt to heavier precipitation events and the potential of higher peak flows.

Mitigation refers to actions that will reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases emissions.

Example: Create communities that are less car-dependent to reduce CO₂ emissions. This may include good public transport, accessible ride share programs, and extensive biking and walking path networks.



**Kootenay
Rideshare**



Heavy rains on Baker St in Nelson, BC, 2006 resulted in water running off the pavement and into the sewer systems. Increasing volume and pressure overwhelmed the underground piping and burst through manholes along several streets and some sanitary lines including toilets without check valves.



Cycle path

For references and more information visit:

www.cbt.org/climatechange
www.cses.washington.edu/cig
www.ipcc.ch

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WWW.CBT.ORG/CLIMATECHANGE