Name:	9. EDMONTON'S URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN (UFMP)		
Region	North America	**Country**	Canada
Ecosystem	Urban; Forests and woodland		
Nature of approach	Assessment of vulnerability; Improvement in capacity, design and policy measures (identifying and/or developing adaptation approach, incorporation into relevant strategies, awareness raising)		
Description of approach	**Objective/Expected outcomes** In 2006, the City of Edmonton became one of the first cities in Canada to develop an Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) as a response to the threat of more frequent and severe weather events, including higher temperatures, heavy rainfalls, drought, disease and insect infestations, as a result of climate change. This followed an unprecedented loss of trees more than five times the annual average, due to drought conditions and secondary pests. Given the lack of diversity within the current urban forest, the challenge was to intensify replanting efforts and reconsider which tree species to plant to reduce losses. The urban reforestation plan aimed to create a diverse and sustainable urban forest, supporting people in the urban environments to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Specific objectives were: • To provide Edmonton with a comprehensive plan for effectively managing, sustaining and ensuring the growth of the City's urban forest; • To educate the general public, other city agencies, neighbouring communities and community partners about the importance of the urban forest, forestry issues and management best practices; • To protect native forest and tree stands in conjunction with the city's Office of Natural Areas. **Actions** Key activities involved: • Inventory of the urban forest • Development of a replacement strategy for dead or dying plant material • Review of existing planting strategies • Creation of fire and disaster management plans • Development of a disease control plan • Development of tree planting partnerships • Public education opportunities. **Results achieved** Forestry staff began the planning process by conducting an extensive review of best practice urban forest management plans from across North America. The urban forest inventory was completed in 2009, enabling the city planners to review and identify future management which will increase the resilience of the urban forests to disease and extreme weather events, through provision of ecosystem services helping to keep the city cool, improving air quality, regulating stormwater run off and preventing erosion. Research has included tree hardiness trials to test species such as red maples, crabapples, oaks and pears that are not usually planted in Edmonton, but have increasing survival potential because of warming climate conditions, along with alternative maintenance techniques to minimize losses from drought. These include watering methods such as the installation of water bags that slowly release water to the base of trees. **Lessons learned (particularly highlighting the benefits and challenges related with ecosystem-based approach)** While the UFMP is still in its final draft stage, it has already enabled the City to develop a comprehensive and integrated approach to managing the urban forest.		
Type of organisation	Government	**Name of organisation:**	City of Edmonton
Further	http://adaptation.nrcan.gc.ca/mun/edmonton_e.php		

| information and contact details | Jenny Wheeler, Principal of Forestry, City of Edmonton, Jeannette.Wheeler@Edmonton.ca |