

Canada Digital Adoption Program (CDAP) — Grants, Loans and an Early Cancellation

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Canada

Quality score: 38/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Canada's federal government ran a CAD 4 billion digital-adoption programme with e-commerce micro-grants, advisory grants up to CAD 15,000 and BDC loans; over 88,000 SMEs received grants, but it was cancelled two years early after criticism of its rigid, consultant-heavy design.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability	1/3
Sustainability / continuity	0/3
Innovation	0/3
Inclusiveness / equity	1/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-13

[Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada \(ISED\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-13

[Official Question Period note — CDAP results](#) — accessed 2026-08-13

[Programme backgrounder — Government of Canada](#) — accessed 2026-08-13

[Independent critique — Policy Options / IRPP](#) — accessed 2026-08-13

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