



CANADA'S AID EFFECTIVENESS AGENDA FOCUSING ON RESULTS

In keeping with Canada's Aid Effectiveness Agenda, the Government of Canada, through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), has been providing aid to developing countries for decades to help reduce global poverty and to assist people uprooted by conflicts and natural disasters. Canada's efforts have helped millions of people worldwide improve their harsh living conditions. Delivering development assistance effectively to help those most in need and to attain beneficial long-term results is a global goal for both the donor countries, such as Canada, and for the developing countries receiving assistance and working to become more economically and socially self-sufficient.



AID EFFECTIVENESS

Over the past decade, Canada and the international community have rallied around a consensus on development goals and aid effectiveness principles flowing out of international agreements such as the Millennium Development Goals (2000), the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development (2002), the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005) and the Accra Agenda for Action (2008).

Action on aid effectiveness is anchored in principles that both donor countries and developing countries endorse:

- local ownership;
- alignment with country or regional development and poverty reduction plans;
- coordination among donors in delivering aid and development programming, and harmonization for joint efforts;
- managing for results; and
- mutual accountability.

These are practical commitments with internationally agreed indicators and targets to hold the development community as a whole accountable for global progress toward better and sustainable development results.

The Government of Canada is committed to delivering aid programs that are more **efficient** in their use of financial and human resources, more **focused** in their approach to achieving results in developing countries, and more **accountable** to Canadian taxpayers. Making aid more effective is about getting better results—in essence, reducing poverty—in a way that contributes to lasting economic and social development. Canada is committed to this approach and to demonstrating results under its Aid Effectiveness Agenda.



What makes development aid more effective?

Efficiency

- Untying all food and development aid.
- Decentralizing staff into countries where CIDA operates so that Canada will have more impact on the ground.

Focus

- Concentrating development assistance on 20 priority countries to have the greatest possible impact.
- Adopting programming themes to sharpen the focus of CIDA's work.

Accountability

- Meeting Canada's commitment on doubling aid to Africa.
- Ensuring Canada's support contributes to financial responsibility and oversight.

GOING ONE STEP FURTHER

Between 1981 and 2005, more than 500 million people worldwide climbed out of poverty, and Canadians want to ensure these gains are not short-lived. To achieve maximum impact and do its part to sustain this momentum, Canada is on track to meet its target of doubling its annual official development assistance spending to \$5 billion by 2010–2011.

CIDA is the government's principal organization responsible for managing Canada's official development assistance, and it is committed to delivering aid that follows the principles of aid effectiveness.

UNTYING AID: EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT

As recently as 2007, more than half of Canadian food aid to developing countries had to be purchased in Canada, as was a third of Canada's non-food aid. This was a common practice in many donor countries, but this practice is changing because it is neither cost-effective, nor efficient. It undermines the ability of developing nations to produce or buy goods for themselves, and delays the assistance from reaching the people who so desperately need it.

In response, Canada in April 2008 demonstrated global leadership on the issue of food security by untying 100 percent of its food aid—a decision that had immediate results. By providing cash contributions to programs such as the World Food Programme, urgently needed food aid can be bought locally or regionally at the best price, benefiting local producers and reducing transportation costs.

Canada subsequently announced in September 2008 that it would untie all development assistance by 2012–2013, providing Canada's partners with additional flexibility to find the best deal on commodities, including buying locally. This will help strengthen the development of local markets while stimulating the economies of developing countries. Untying non-food aid means that tax dollars go further.

The results of Canada's decision to untie aid are already being felt in developing countries around the world as goods and services to meet development needs are being delivered faster and cheaper. Canada's approach not only helps to extend development-aid dollars, but also contributes to the development of a local market economy, supply chains, and administrative expertise.



20 COUNTRIES OF FOCUS

Like other donor countries around the world, Canada is moving toward a greater country focus rather than spreading its resources across a number of programs, countries, and regions around the world. By bringing a new focus to its development aid, Canada will make investments where they will have the greatest long-term impact.

As part of its Aid Effectiveness Agenda, the Government of Canada announced in 2009 that it will focus 80 percent of bilateral resources in 20 countries of focus. These 20 countries were selected based on their needs, their capacity to manage development programs, and their alignment with Canadian foreign policy priorities. The goal is to make Canada's international assistance more focused, efficient, and accountable.



- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Bolivia
- Caribbean Region
- Colombia
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Haiti
- Honduras
- Indonesia
- Mali
- Mozambique
- Pakistan
- Peru
- Senegal
- Sudan
- Tanzania
- Ukraine
- Vietnam
- West Bank and Gaza

THEMATIC FOCUS

In May 2009, Canada announced five priority themes that will guide Canada's official development assistance programming in the years ahead. **Stimulating sustainable economic growth, securing the future for children and youth, and increasing food security** are where CIDA programming will be focused, while the priorities of advancing democracy and promoting security, stability, and sustainability are being led by other government departments.

CIDA believes that ensuring people have enough food to eat, that children all over the world should be healthy and secure, and that people can earn a living (or can rise out of extreme poverty) is important to Canadians and needs to be supported.

CIDA is working with people on the ground in developing countries to establish country strategies and to develop programming that will bring the best results. Programming in each thematic area will focus on the following distinct needs.

CIDA's strategy for **children and youth** will focus on:

- child survival and maternal health
- access to quality education
- safe and secure futures

Actions under CIDA's work on **food security** will emphasize:

- sustainable agricultural development
- food aid and nutrition
- research and development

Sustainable economic growth programming will focus on:

- building economic fundamentals
- growing businesses
- investing in people

In delivering its programming under these thematic priorities, CIDA will seek projects and programs in the countries of focus and in other countries that are developed in cooperation with governments and local communities, and integrated into national or regional poverty reduction strategies or into sectoral strategies.



Beans—One of the most popular crops in Africa

CIDA supports the Pan-Africa Bean Research Alliance (PABRA), which brings together researchers and farmers from 24 countries, most of whom are women. They work together to develop, test, and distribute fortified bean varieties.

Many people have benefited from this work, such as Ms. Kambona of Tanzania. After she recently planted 30 kg of fortified beans, her yield was 30 percent greater than before. She

was able to not only feed her family, but to sell her surplus beans.

Beans have the ability to make the soil more fertile, grow quickly, and are naturally rich in nutrients such as iron and zinc, which can decrease malnutrition.

PABRA has released more than 100 varieties of beans to more than seven million African households which is equivalent to improving overall food security for 35 million people.



DEMONSTRATING RESULTS THROUGH ACCOUNTABILITY

Overall, in 2008–2009, CIDA supported 2,863 aid projects and initiatives in Africa, Asia, the Americas, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. With Canada's development assistance, accountability works two ways. Canadians want to know how their tax dollars are spent and if Canada's contribution to international development is achieving results. They also want to know if those results are sustainable over time and if money is being used efficiently.

As part of its accountability mandate, CIDA-supported projects must clearly identify what results are expected both in qualitative and quantitative terms.

To demonstrate results and to ensure transparency, Parliament adopted the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act*, which requires CIDA to report to Parliament every year on the results of Canada's development aid. The *Development for Results* report is another reporting tool demonstrating to Canadians how the government's work is making a difference in developing countries. To view these reports and learn how Canadian assistance is making a beneficial difference in developing countries, go to www.acdi-cida.gc.ca.

Doubling aid to Africa

Canada delivered on its commitment to double assistance to Africa by 2009. Canada increased its international assistance from \$1.05 billion to \$2.1 billion in just five years, between 2004–2005 and 2008–2009. Canada was one of the first G8 countries to meet this goal, which has resulted in:

- a greater than one-third decrease in the child mortality rate of Tanzania;
- more than 3,000 km of new roads built or repaired since 2004 through assistance to the African Development Bank, linking farmers to production and marketing facilities; and
- a projected universal (100 percent) primary school enrolment in Mali and Senegal by 2015—for the first time ever.

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