



Foreign Affairs, Trade and
Development Canada

Affaires étrangères, Commerce
et Développement Canada

Canada

SHARING SUCCESSES 2013-2014

Canada's Engagement in the Americas



This document provides a sample of the many successful projects and activities undertaken by the Government of Canada in the Americas in 2013-2014 as part of the ongoing implementation of Canada's Strategy for Engagement in the Americas.



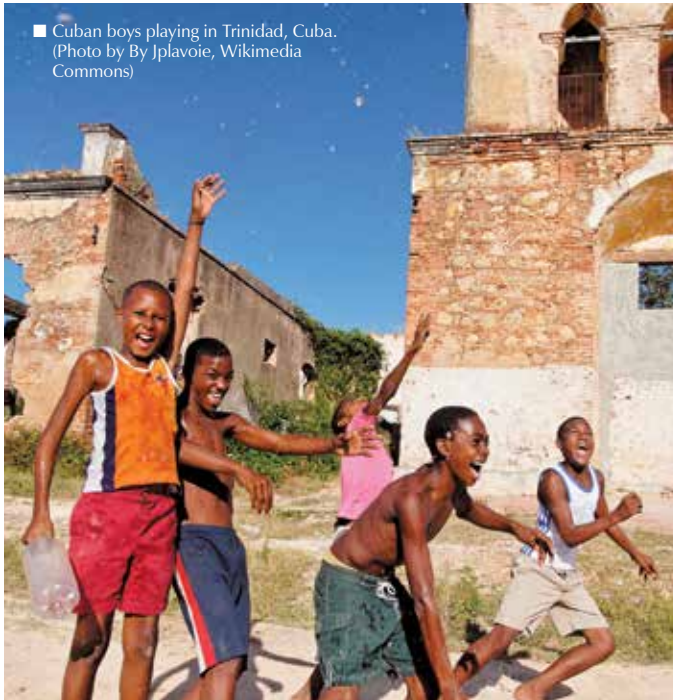
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Overview: Canada's Engagement in the Americas



■ Cuban boys playing in Trinidad, Cuba.
(Photo by Jplavoie, Wikimedia Commons)



■ Sheep mustering in Argentinian Patagonia.
(Photo by Evelyn Proimos, Wikimedia Commons)



■ Flags of the member nations to the OAS. (Photo by Gordon Elliot, Ch'airo for the Soul blogspot)

In 2007, Prime Minister Stephen Harper made the Americas a foreign policy priority with a vision of a more prosperous, secure and democratic hemisphere. Canada's Strategy for Engagement in the Americas represents our strategic, whole-of-government effort to advance Canada's interests in the region.

The Latin America and Caribbean region has undergone a considerable shift from the decades of political and economic volatility to the current context of relative political stability and economic growth. Sustained economic growth and an expanding middle class offer opportunities for Canadian businesses and investors, particularly in the extractive, service and infrastructure sectors. However, despite a 17-percent drop in poverty rates in the hemisphere between 1990 and 2010, 177 million people still live in poverty; inequality and social exclusion remain troubling characteristics of the region. Latin America and the Caribbean is also one of the most insecure regions in the world: seven of the 10 countries with the world's highest homicide rates are in the region, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's *Global Study on Homicide 2013*. As a result of transnational organized crime and illicit drug trafficking, the security situation in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean remains a serious challenge and, in addition to affecting local populations, poses a direct threat to Canadians and Canadian interests. Millions of Canadians travel to Latin America and the Caribbean annually; their top destinations are Mexico, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica. Canada is also a tourism destination, welcoming approximately 530,000 visitors from the region in 2013. More than one million Canadians of Latin American and Caribbean descent call Canada home.

Engagement in the Americas continues to be a priority for the Government of Canada as reflected in the advancement of the Strategy and the alignment of other federal strategies, policies and programs with Canada's priorities in the region. More than 40 federal partner departments, agencies and Crown corporations are implementing Canada's Strategy for Engagement in the Americas, with more than \$4.6 billion in total international assistance invested since the region

was declared a foreign policy priority in 2007. In 2013-2014, federal partners undertook more than 400 different activities and projects across the Americas that contribute to the Strategy's three goals of **increasing mutual economic prosperity, strengthening security and institutions and fostering lasting relationships**. Some of the areas where Canada was particularly engaged through 2013-2014 and achieved results are: creating conditions for open markets and increased mutual prosperity; promoting responsible natural resource management; building a safer hemisphere; addressing pressing challenges for vulnerable groups; promoting freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law; developing strategic partnerships; and fostering people-to-people ties.

In promoting **open markets**, Canada has extended its network of trade and economic agreements in force, with more free trade agreements in force with countries in Latin America than with the rest of the world combined (7 out of 11), including the Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement, which entered into force October 1, 2014. Advocacy efforts have resulted in restored market access and new export opportunities, such as for Canadian beef, pork, poultry genetics and wood products. Canada is also contributing to capacity building in partner countries and providing technical assistance in areas such as tax administration to ensure a dynamic, transparent and rules-based commercial and investment environment.

Through our cooperation with partner governments and the private sector, Canada is promoting opportunities to increase **mutual prosperity** toward a goal of inclusive and sustainable economic growth. Canada is sharing expertise, such as in government procurement, public-private partnerships, corporate social responsibility, telecommunications and information and communications technology, and is fostering local skills development, entrepreneurship and private-sector development. Numerous trade missions, conferences and other exchanges throughout the past year allowed for the establishment of partnerships and development of real business opportunities and new contracts.



Canada is recognized as a leader in **natural resource management** and is working with partners in the region to share best practices in areas such as engagement with local and Aboriginal communities, engineering, mine site remediation, environmental protection and climate change adaptation. Canada is also leading the G-8 Partnership with Peru for Transparency in the Extractive Sector.

In support of a **safer hemisphere**, Canada has engaged in activities such as training for law enforcement officials interdicting drugs and contraband; sharing correctional information and expertise; contributing to regional military operations and exercises; and strengthening responses to influenza and working to prevent transmission of other communicable diseases. In Central America, where insecurity, violence, corruption and impunity remain pressing challenges, Canada has made numerous investments in support of interdiction, justice, youth engagement, improved human rights and other security challenges.

Canadian assistance, most notably through Canadian development programming, is addressing pressing challenges for **vulnerable groups**, such as child protection in Colombia, combatting sexual and gender-based violence, improving nutrition and food security in the Caribbean, ensuring healthy mothers and children in Bolivia, and supporting women's democratic and economic participation. In Haiti, Canadian support to vocational training, education programs, institutional capacity building, as well as to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) and the Haitian National Police, is contributing to the sustainable development of the country.

In advancing **freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law**, we are providing human rights training across the region and recognizing human rights defenders, as well as strengthening the Inter-American system on human rights. Canadian initiatives are also tackling impunity, advocating for justice for women and youth and strengthening governance across the region.

Canada continues to foster **strategic partnerships** with, for example, partner governments of the Pacific Alliance and Brazil, and through our strong leadership at the Organization of American States (OAS). Numerous high-level visits and engagements build the basis for Canada's successful bilateral and multilateral relations across the region. In February 2014, for example, Prime Minister Harper undertook an official visit to Mexico to advance a key bilateral relationship for Canada, with Canada and Mexico celebrating 70 years of bilateral relations in 2014.

As a fundamental basis to progress in all areas, Canada continues to prioritize the development of **people-to-people ties** through tourism, education, sport and cultural exchanges. Canada welcomed students from across the hemisphere for academic exchanges, such as through the Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program; fostered new ties in science, technology and innovation with key partners such as Chile; promoted tourism from Latin America and the Caribbean, with a focus on the markets of Mexico and Brazil; and solidified ties through cultural exchanges such as the construction of an inukshuk in Uruguay.

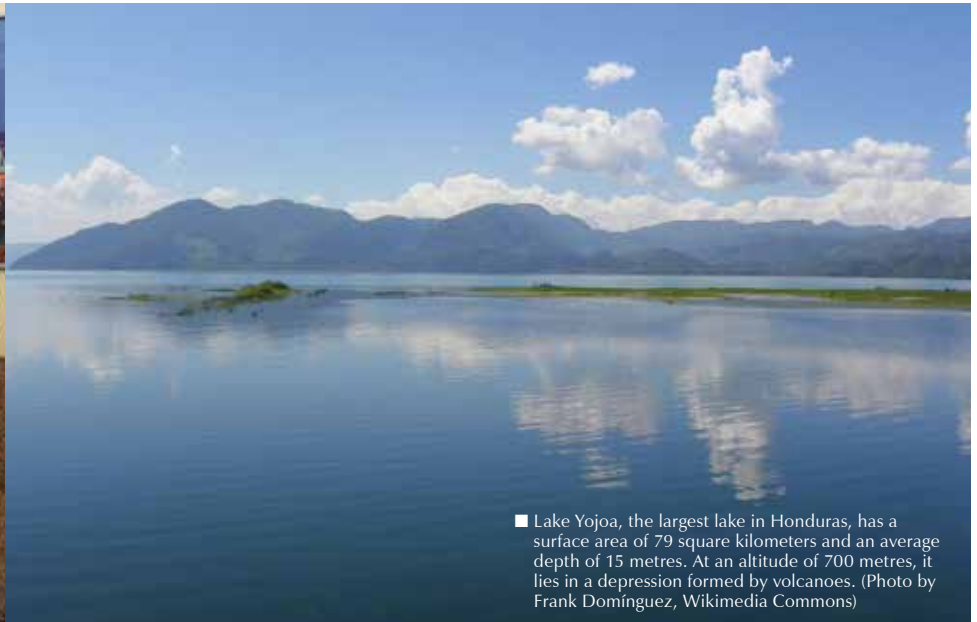
The Government of Canada's engagement in the Americas is complemented by the efforts of countless Canadian organizations, businesses, academic institutions and interest groups that are also active in Latin America and the Caribbean, working in their respective areas to build partnerships and foster greater ties between Canada and the region.

Canada's engagement in the Americas is delivering results, both for Canada and for our partners in the region. This document provides a sample of the many successful projects and activities undertaken by the Government of Canada in the Americas in 2013-2014 as part of the ongoing implementation of Canada's Strategy for Engagement in the Americas. More information on Canada's engagement in the Americas is available online at www.americas.gc.ca. Information on Government of Canada programming in the region is available on Panorama, an interactive map available at www.international.gc.ca/Panorama.

Open Markets



■ October 1, 2014 - Ottawa - Minister Fast and Mireya Aguero, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Honduras, celebrate the entry into force of the Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement and parallel agreements on labour and environmental cooperation. (Photo by DFATD)



■ Lake Yojoa, the largest lake in Honduras, has a surface area of 79 square kilometers and an average depth of 15 metres. At an altitude of 700 metres, it lies in a depression formed by volcanoes. (Photo by Frank Domínguez, Wikimedia Commons)

NEW, RENEWED AND EXPANDED TRADE AND ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS

Seven of Canada's 11 free trade agreements (FTAs) are with countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2013-2014, Canada expanded its network of trade and economic agreements in the hemisphere:

- Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement and parallel labour and environment agreements signed on November 5, 2013 and entered into force on October 1, 2014;
- Amending Agreement of the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement entered into force on September 30, 2013;
- Canada-Panama Tax Information Exchange Agreement entered into force on December 6, 2013;
- Canada-Barbados Double Taxation Agreement entered into force on December 17, 2013;
- Expanded Canada-Mexico air transport agreement signed on February 18, 2014;
- Negotiations on the first bilateral air transport agreement with Ecuador concluded on September 24, 2013;
- Negotiations for expanded bilateral air transport agreement with Panama concluded on November 28, 2013;
- Negotiations for a modernized and expanded Canada-Peru air transport framework concluded in May 2013;
- Amendment of the Canada-Haiti bilateral air transport agreement announced on December 6, 2013.

Did you know?

Mexico is Canada's second-largest international air travel market: more than 1.9 million Canadians visited the country in 2012.



Did you know?

The Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement was the first FTA Canada concluded with a major South American country. Fifteen years later, bilateral trade has expanded significantly, growing over 12 percent faster than would have been the case without the agreement.



CANADA-HONDURAS FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

On November 5, 2013, Canada signed the Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement and parallel agreements on labour and environment. The Canada-Honduras FTA includes provisions on market access for goods, cross-border trade in services, investment and government procurement. Canada and Honduras have a healthy and growing commercial relationship, with 58.6-percent growth in two-way merchandise trade in the last five years to reach \$278.7 million in 2013. In 2013, Canada's exports of goods to Honduras totalled \$43.7 million, \$3 million of which were agricultural goods. The agreement came into force on October 1, 2014.

MARKET ACCESS RESTORED

Canada's advocacy efforts over the past year have resulted in restored market access in various countries in the Americas for world-class Canadian products.

Chile: In 2003, a number of markets, including Chile, ceased to import Canadian beef due to bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). In May 2013, Canadian beef exporters regained unrestricted access to Chile's market as a result of Canada's advocacy efforts to restore market access for Canadian world-class beef products. In 2012, Chile imported \$827.7-million worth of beef products, representing a large potential export market for Canada. The Canadian industry estimates that this renewed access is worth up to \$5 million annually, with potential of up to \$10 million in three years.

We are creating the conditions for a dynamic, transparent and rules-based commercial and investment environment with key economic partners in the Americas. Through strengthened ties, we are increasing two-way trade and investment.



■ November 28, 2012 – Ottawa – Prime Minister Harper meets with Mexican President Peña Nieto. (Photo courtesy of the Office of the Prime Minister)



Did you know?

Two-way trade between Canada and the region increased 34 percent between 2007 and 2013, reaching \$57 billion.



Venezuela: On May 3, 2013, Canadian turkey producers regained access for turkey hatching eggs to the Venezuelan market for the first time since 2004, when these products were banned following the detection of notifiable avian influenza (NAI). Canada has been recognized as NAI-free since 2008 based on the World Organisation for Animal Health requirements, and Canada has been advocating for trade to resume with Venezuela based on this science. Canadian industry estimates that the market value may be worth up to \$1 million per year.

Honduras: Coinciding with the signature of the Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement on November 5, 2013, Canada announced restored market access for Canadian beef and pork. The Canadian industry estimates that this renewed access is expected to have a combined market value of approximately \$5 million to \$7 million annually, with the majority of exports expected to be pork. Other agricultural sectors that are benefiting from this improved market access include potato products, vegetable oils, grain products and a range of processed food products.

Did you know?

Canada is participating in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations, which include Australia, Brunei, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, the United States and Vietnam. The TPP market represents more than 792 million people and a combined GDP of \$28.1 trillion—close to 40 percent of the world's economy.



UNDERSTANDING AND CAPITALIZING ON TRADE OPPORTUNITIES

Through the Canada-Americas Trade-Related Technical Assistance initiative, Canada is ensuring exporters and individuals in partner countries have the skills and knowledge necessary to take advantage of the opportunities afforded through our bilateral free trade agreements. During 2013-2014, Trade Facilitation Office (TFO) Canada, in partnership with local trade support institutions in Peru and Honduras, as well as Canadian partners the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO) and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) Canada, implemented several trade development and trade promotion projects. As part of the initiative, TFO Canada launched two projects in Honduras to help local exporters in the food, home decor and garment sectors prepare for the new Canada-Honduras FTA. Over 160 companies participated in seminars and benefited from guides produced by TFO Canada describing the mechanics of the new FTA.

AGREEMENTS FOR ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE WITH MEXICO

On February 18, 2014, Prime Minister Harper and Enrique Peña Nieto, President of Mexico, witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Export Development Canada (EDC) and Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior, S.N.C. (Bancomext). A master cooperation agreement was also signed between EDC, Bancomext, Scotiabank, Bank of Montreal, HSBC Mexico, Banorte, BBVA Bancomer, Banamex and a private equity fund administered by Mexican government-owned financial institutions. The new agreements will help facilitate trade and foreign direct investment between Mexico and Canada by helping provide companies from both countries—especially small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)—with financing, reduced investment risk and strategic market intelligence. The agreements reflect Canada's commitment to working with Mexico to further integrate and strengthen the North American commercial platform as well as bilateral trade and investment.

EXPLORING EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIAN WOOD PRODUCTS

With support from Western Economic Diversification Canada, the B.C. Wood Specialties Group Association is engaging in trade facilitation and promotional activities around the export of Canadian wood products. Training and skills development activities are assisting SMEs to establish export market presence and business-to-business relationships, which will result in increased sales, investment opportunities and jobs. This project responds to growing market opportunities in targeted regions of Mexico and Central and South America for value-added wood products

ENSURING SOUND TAX ADMINISTRATION

Canada is contributing to capacity building in the area of tax administration as part of its commitment to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Global Relations Programme. In 2013-2014, technical specialists from the Canada Revenue Agency participated as experts in three workshops held in the Americas on the topics of advanced tax treaties, transfer pricing aspects of the extractive industry,

Did you know?

In 2013, EDC supported more than \$9 billion in exports and investments from Canada to Latin America. EDC has permanent representations in seven locations in the region: Bogotá, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Lima, Mexico City, Monterey and Santiago.



and implementing transfer pricing legislation. Such training events are instrumental in helping tax officials take part in an international community to share their experience, acquire a common understanding of international tax systems and their implementation, and develop solutions to common problems. Through its membership in the Inter-American Center of Tax Administration, Canada also shares best practices and experiences with countries of the Americas and collaborates with them to help address issues related to tax administration.



■ April 11, 2014 - Ottawa, Ontario - Minister Baird meets his Panamanian counterpart, Francisco Álvarez de Soto, marking the first anniversary of the Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement. (Photo by DFATD)



■ The harvester working in a forest. (Photo by © Kletr, Shutterstock.com)



■ Capilano suspension bridge in Vancouver, British Columbia. (Photo by © Regien Paassen, Shutterstock.com)

Mutual Prosperity

We are increasing opportunities for mutually beneficial transactions between Canada and the rest of the Americas in order to generate inclusive and sustainable economic growth. We are expanding and strengthening our cooperation with the private sector to promote sustainable economic growth and to create jobs for Canadians and our partners in the Americas.

PROMOTING THE CANADIAN MODEL OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Canada is recognized as a leader in the use of public-private partnerships (P3s) for delivering sound and sustainable public infrastructure. In June 2013, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (DFATD), together with other public- and private-sector partners, delivered a highly successful seminar and business-to-business event on the Canadian P3 model during the Caribbean Investment Forum in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. The seminar attracted more than 100 high-calibre business and government participants from Trinidad and Tobago and the broader Caribbean region. In November 2013, an outreach visit was organized by the Canadian embassies in Chile, Peru and Colombia, in collaboration with EDC and the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure, to further promote Canada's P3 model and expertise in the Andean region. John McKendrick, Executive VP of Infrastructure Ontario, met with a number of government agencies tasked with developing and implementing P3 projects in their respective countries to promote Canada's P3 model and expertise in the Andean region.

SUPPORTING PRIVATE-SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN

Canada is supporting Caribbean countries in their private-sector development through over \$19 million in funding for the Partnership for CARICOM Private Sector Development initiative, implemented by the World Bank Group's International Finance Corporation. The microfinance component of this project has enabled financial institutions to increase the number of loans to under-served micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and increased accessibility of credit to women borrowers. In Guyana, for example, as part of the Small Business Development Finance Trust Initiative, women accounted for 66 percent of the 641 borrowers. In the case of Jamaica's National Small Business Loan Program, women accounted for 75 percent of the program's 14,092 borrowers. Through the \$20-million Compete Caribbean project with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Canada has supported the advancement of national private-sector development strategies and action plans in 13 countries. By March 2014, 13 private-sector assessment reports were finalized, marking an important step toward the development and implementation of national strategies. The Compete Caribbean project has consolidated its important work on the topic of access to finance in the region by implementing the first secured transactions project with the establishment of a collateral registry (Jamaica), and has placed this model on the agendas of other Caribbean countries (Belize and Suriname).



■ Port of Saint John, New Brunswick. (Photo by Dr. Wilson, Flickr/Wikimedia Commons)

LEADING IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

Canada is advancing our telecommunications and information and communications technology (ICT) priorities in the Americas through active participation in the Organization of American States (OAS) Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL). In February 2014, Canada coordinated a successful event, "Broadband and Internet Development in Latin America and the Caribbean," as part of the strategic dialogue preceding the VI Assembly of CITEL in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The event saw active participation from senior government officials and representatives from the private sector, academia, the Internet technical community and international financial institutions, reaffirming the multi-stakeholder nature and structure of the Internet governance model and Canada's contributions and leadership in this area.

PROMOTION OF NEW BRUNSWICK PORTS AS DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS TO AND FROM BRAZIL

In October 2013, Atlantic Canada's premiers participated in a trade mission to Brazil to strengthen economic ties. The New Brunswick delegation used the opportunity to promote New Brunswick ports and the Atlantic Gateway as distribution channels to and from Brazil. Two events were hosted, one in São Paulo and one in Rio de Janeiro, during which New Brunswick's ports were promoted to 32 shippers, carriers and exporters in Brazil. This resulted in the development of several significant business opportunities that are being pursued by stakeholders. Since the 2013 mission, two Brazilian exporters have been to New Brunswick to continue discussions, and a follow-up mission is being planned for 2014.

CANADA-BRAZIL CIVIL AVIATION WORKSHOP

Canada and Brazil are deepening cooperation in civil aviation. On February 5, 2014, Jamal Khokhar, Ambassador of Canada to Brazil, and Moreira Franco, Brazil's Minister for Civil Aviation, co-hosted the Canada-Brazil Regional Civil Aviation Workshop, which included presentations from Transport Canada and Bombardier Aerospace on Canada's experience in regional aviation. Transport Canada and Brazil's Civil Aviation Secretariat are working to conclude an MOU to promote and expand cooperation in civil aviation, including with private-sector participation. In 2012, Brazil announced an investment of \$3.9 billion (US\$3.5 billion; \$R7 billion) to develop 270 regional airports, representing potential opportunities for Canada's airport infrastructure suppliers.

Did you know?

As part of Canada's Global Markets Action Plan, launched in November 2013, nine Latin American countries feature as priority markets, some with specific opportunities for Canadian businesses (Costa Rica, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay) and other emerging markets having potential for broad Canadian interests (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru).



STIMULATING GLOBAL START-UPS IN BRAZIL AND CANADA

Canada is partnering with Brazil to address challenges and opportunities for the digital economy. Fourteen Canadian ICT companies participated in the Brazil-Canada 3.0 Conference, held in João Pessoa, Brazil, in December 2013 and which gathered more than 100 local Brazilian players in ICT-digital media and venture capital industries. Ten high-growth Canadian SMEs had the opportunity to present their products and solutions to a high-level audience of investors and potential partners in São Paulo, raising local awareness of Canadian capabilities. Canadian and Brazilian companies reported a wide range of potential results from the conference, including on-the-spot sales opportunities and future meetings planned with investors.

PETROBRAS PROCUREMENT MISSION TO CANADA

Representatives from the procurement division of Petrobras, led by Almir Barbassa, CFO, visited St. John's and Calgary from October 7 to 11, 2013, with the objective of identifying suppliers of technology-based goods and services to their vast portfolio of oil and gas projects. The program encompassed presentations delivered by Petrobras, focusing on the company's current \$220-billion investment plan for the 2014-2018 period and reiterating that opportunities exist in abundance in all segments of the oil and gas industry in Brazil. The mission attracted over 180 attendees to the seminars, which were followed by 53 one-on-one meetings held by the Petrobras team with Canadian suppliers; 28 Canadian companies have good potential to work with the oil and gas giant in Brazil.

STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT IN THE AMERICAS

Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC), in conjunction with the IDB, supported the 9th Annual Conference of the Inter-American Network on Government Procurement (INGP) in Montevideo, Uruguay in September 2013. The INGP is an OAS initiative put forward in 2002 by government procurement authorities in Latin America and the Caribbean. The network aims to promote, increase, strengthen and boost the exchange of experiences that will disseminate and implement best practices in public procurement. Canada's contribution through IDRC amounts to nearly \$2 million and has helped so far to adapt the design and the implementation of procurement policies among OAS member states.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN EL SALVADOR

Canada is contributing to vocational training programs in El Salvador. The Consortium for International Development in Education (CIDE) received a \$5 million contract from the Millennium Challenge Corporation for

technical and professional training to improve the education system in El Salvador. Canada's Investment Cooperation Program (INC) contributed \$169,000 toward complementary training such as capacity building, strategies and tools to increase women participation in training in the educational sector, the competency-based learning approach and examples of Canadian best practices applicable to the Salvadorian educational context. A study phase in Canada in September 2010 also allowed participants to view professional training provided to educators in Canada at an institutional level. In addition to the planned training, CIDE established a subsidiary to pursue new business opportunities, which created more than 20 full-time and 40 temporary jobs in El Salvador over the past few years.

RECYCLING AND CLEAN TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE IN HAVANA

On March 17, 2014, the Canadian embassy in Cuba hosted a conference on recycling and clean technology to share best practices in the Canadian recycling industry and to introduce potential Canadian suppliers to the incipient recycling industry in Cuba. The Havana conference featured three Canadian speakers and welcomed 80 Cuban representatives. The event provided a venue for presentations, exchanges and questions between Canadian experts and Cuban companies and government representatives involved in recycling and clean technologies, allowing Canada to share its expertise. It also opened doors for Canadian companies in the market. Cuban government officials responsible for developing this sector have expressed interest in visiting Canadian facilities and companies to further explore potential.

PROMOTING CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN COSTA RICA, NICARAGUA AND HONDURAS

The Canadian embassy in Costa Rica offered several seminars throughout 2013-2014 to promote Canadian principles and best practices in corporate social responsibility (CSR). In Nicaragua, seminars took place in the communities of Malpaisillo and Diriamba, which are home to or within the area of influence of three of the largest Canadian investors in Nicaragua: B2Gold, Polaris Geothermal and Gildan Activewear. A total of 100 delegates attended the seminars from various organizations such as private sector and local community. In Honduras and Costa Rica, a two-day CSR training for SMEs was offered in San Pedro Sula and San José, in collaboration with the OAS and local CSR associations. Approximately 80 SMEs from diverse industries participated, including education, tourism, food distribution and manufacturing. As part of the program, participants will benefit from a six-month follow-up program with the OAS as they implement their CSR action plans.

FACILITATING CONTRACTS FOR CANADIAN SUPPLIERS

The Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC) acts as the prime contractor for foreign governments that wish to contract with Canadian companies and expertise through a government-to-government channel. CCC's strong relationships with international buyers and its access to Canada's innovative industrial base puts CCC in a unique position to facilitate and promote international trade across Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2013-2014, CCC, in close collaboration with Canada's Trade Commissioner Service, facilitated significant new MOUs and contracts for Canadian suppliers:

- MOU with the Trinidad and Tobago Ministry of National Security signed April 25, 2013;
- MOU with the Peruvian Ministry of Defence signed in May 2013 to facilitate purchase of services or military and defence equipment. First contract signed on December 11, 2013, for approximately \$10 million for support from the company Labvolt to the Technological Institute for the Armed Forces;
- MOU signed with the National Defense Secretariat of Mexico (SEDENA) in October 2013, with a contract resulting in November 2013 for Cascade Aerospace to modernize, maintain, repair and overhaul two Mexican C-130K Hercules aircraft;
- First contract signed in Chile in December 2013, for General Dynamics Land Systems-Canada (GDLS-C) to provide spare parts for the Chilean army's vehicles;
- Eight additional light armoured vehicles manufactured by General Dynamics were provided to the Colombian army as part of a contract and MOU signed in 2012.
- Canadian Bank Note Company is managing the national electronic lottery system in Honduras as the result of a contract signed with CCC in 2012. The project is generating significant revenues (over \$100 million) for the Government of Honduras.

Spotlight on Peru



■ Celebrating a religious holiday in Cuzco, Peru.
(Photo by © sunsinger, Shutterstock.com)

G-8 EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE

In June 2013, Prime Minister Harper announced that Canada would lead the G-8 Partnership with Peru for Transparency in the Extractive Sector. This initiative works with governments, civil society and companies in Peru to enhance the capacity of municipal and regional governments to better manage expenditures using revenues (taxes and royalties) from extractive industries, and to foster constructive dialogue between the public, private and civil society sectors to build a more responsible and sustainable mining industry in Peru. In May 2014, Peru launched its first Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Regional Multi-stakeholder Committee in Moquegua, making Peru the first country to have a completely decentralized EITI process.

ENHANCING BENEFITS FROM NATURAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Through the Enhancing the Development Impact of Extractive Industries project, officials in 30 municipalities in Peru have received training to improve their implementation of investment guidelines for municipal projects funded through natural resources royalties. Of these municipalities, 17 are allocating at least 70 percent of their overall resources available to key priority projects in multi-year investment plans. This improvement in budget execution has benefited 183,466 citizens through the execution of 139 public projects in prioritized areas including education, health and infrastructure. Improved projects in education, health, transportation and irrigation are estimated to date to benefit up to 95,000 people living in these municipalities.

Did you know?

The Canada-Peru Free Trade Agreement came into force on August 1, 2009. In 2013, Peru was Canada's second-largest trading partner in South America and Canada's investment in Peru stood at \$8.1 billion. Peru's economy grew 5.3 percent in 2013.



LEVERAGING INVESTMENTS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Canada is promoting economic diversification in mining regions, including in value chains. Over 800 micro-finance loans and seed funding have been offered to small-scale farmers and small businesses in Peru through partnerships with the International Finance Corporation and private-sector extractive firms, such as Barrick and Rio Tinto. Recently, Canada's partnership with Barrick Gold to fund a local development project with CARE received recognition from the IDB for its innovative approach to local economic development.

ADVANCING COOPERATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Canada and Peru continued to develop their positive relationship on environmental matters established under the Canada-Peru environment agreement, which entered into force alongside the Canada-Peru FTA in 2009. From January to March 2014, Canada supported a project with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature that improved understanding of the role and potential of private-sector contributions to protected areas in Peru and Colombia. Building on past successful cooperation on climate change in Peru under Canada's fast-start financing, Canada and Peru launched a bilateral climate change dialogue in October 2013. Canada is also providing support to the 20th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which Peru will host in December 2014.

STRENGTHENING EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Canada is strengthening education management, standardization and measurement within Peru's Ministry of Education through a \$15.5-million project with the Peruvian group for development analysis, GRADE. Canada is also contributing \$19 million through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to the improvement of basic education by supporting intercultural bilingual education for indigenous children in five Andean and Amazonian regions. As of 2012-2013, more than 5,000 education officials, teachers and principals had received training on intercultural bilingual education and contributed to the production of over 3 million copies of intercultural bilingual material, such as textbooks.



■ May 22, 2013 - Lima, Peru - Prime Minister Harper participates in an expanded meeting with Ollanta Humala Tasso, President of the Republic of Peru, at Government Palace. (Photo courtesy of the Office of the Prime Minister)

and teaching manuals. This has benefited more than 170,000 students, who are now able to study in their indigenous language. In addition, Canada is contributing to improve skills-based training programs that respond to market needs, implemented by the Association of Canadian Community Colleges, and is facilitating a national-level dialogue on this issue. In partnership with the private sector, Canada has provided 374 scholarships in technical training and business skills development for youth at risk in Peru.

EXPANDING ACADEMIC EXCHANGES

Canada's engagement on education with Peru ranges from long-standing investments to improve the public education system and market-driven skills development, to a more recent push to promote higher education and scholarship opportunities in Canada. Following an exchange of visits by Prime Minister Harper and Ollanta Humala, Peru's President, in 2013-2014, a joint statement was issued by the two leaders in which enhanced cooperation in the education sector was highlighted as an area of growing importance in the bilateral relationship. From 2011 to 2012, there was a 32.5-percent increase in the number of Peruvian students studying

in Canada for more than six months. Since 2009, 73 Peruvian students have participated in the Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program (ELAP), including 28 in 2013. This represents a steady increase in Peru's uptake of ELAP scholarships. During the state visit of President Humala to Canada in April 2014, CALDO (a consortium of nine of Canada's top universities) signed an agreement with the Peruvian Ministry of Education (Pronabec) to encourage greater education linkages and growing numbers of Peruvian students in Canada.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Canadian embassy in Peru and Canada's IDRC established a forward-looking agenda for greater collaboration through the seminar Canada and Peru: Partners in Research and Innovation for Development, held June 23-24, 2013, in Lima. The two-day event brought together approximately 200 leading researchers and practitioners funded by Canada and working in Peru, and was co-organized with the local research institute and think-tank, CIES. The seminar highlighted the multi-faceted nature of Canada's relationship with Peru and promoted knowledge and innovation as part of the overall bilateral agenda. The panel discussions focused on sustainable economic growth, environment and climate change, opportunities for education collaboration and education for innovation.

NEW INVESTMENTS IN DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH

During his official visit to Peru in May 2013, Prime Minister Harper announced more than \$53 million for new development initiatives in Peru that will help the country take full advantage of its wealth of natural resources and improve basic education for children. Initiatives cover environmental management of mining and energy activities, competitiveness and economic diversification in extractive regions, natural resource management and management of the education sector.

Did you know?

Canada's IDRC has a long-standing history of support for Peruvian researchers. Currently, the centre contributes over \$15 million in funding to active projects with grantees in Peru.



Natural Resources Management

We are working with partner governments and Canada's natural resource industries, communities and stakeholders to support the sustainable development of the hemisphere's natural resources. Through dialogue and capacity-building, we are advancing initiatives to strengthen environmental protection and support the transition to a low-carbon economy.

■ Santiago de Chile, Chile, in winter. (Photo by Victor San Martín, Flickr/Wikimedia Commons)



LAUNCH OF CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES AND DEVELOPMENT

The Canadian International Institute for Extractive Industries and Development (CIIEID) was officially launched in Montréal on November 28, 2013, and then in Vancouver on January 29, 2014. The new institute is housed at the University of British Columbia, which works in coalition with Simon Fraser University and École Polytechnique de Montréal. It aims to assist developing country governments to benefit from their mining resources in environmentally and socially responsible ways. DFATD's contribution to the institute of up to \$25 million over five years (2013-2018) will support the institute's establishment and initial operating costs. During its first year, the CIIEID delivered initial programming activities such as workshops on artisanal mining and economic diversification in Ecuador, as well as held mining policy framework discussions with government representatives and stakeholders from Peru, Tanzania, Mongolia, Colombia, Ecuador and Burkina Faso. Initial visits by CIIEID representatives to Colombia and Peru took place in September and November 2013, respectively.

CANADA-CHILE COOPERATION ON MINERALS, METALS AND ENERGY

The Canada-Chile Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation for the Sustainable Development of Minerals and Metals was renewed during the visit of Sebastián Piñera, Chile's President, to Canada in May 2013. The current MOU promotes responsible mineral development in two main areas: consultation and engagement with indigenous peoples directly affected by mineral development, and best practices in corporate social responsibility. In June 2014, an action plan was agreed to that will

Did you know?

Exports of oil and minerals from Africa, Asia and Central and South America in 2012 were worth more than \$1.5 trillion (US\$1.35 trillion)—more than 15 times the amount of official development assistance provided to these same regions in that year.



include co-hosting a workshop on community relations and CSR, the exchange of information on tax and investment policies, and regular dialogue on policy and market access issues in multilateral forums. In May 2013, Canada and Chile also signed the Joint Statement on Energy Cooperation, which reaffirms common interests in facilitating trade and investment ties and strengthening energy security. Canada and Chile are examining a number of activities, such as sharing information on best practices and policies and programs in renewable energy, encouraging technical and commercial communication on trade opportunities in liquefied natural gas, and seeking opportunities to collaborate on enhancing energy efficiency.

CAPE BRETON-CHILE OUTREACH MISSIONS

From June 3 to 8, 2013, the former Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation (whose economic and community development activities are now managed by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency [ACOA]), in cooperation with the Mining Society of Nova Scotia, hosted a Chilean mission to Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. The incoming mission covered best practices regarding the environment, engineering and mining sectors and indigenous peoples. A reciprocal visit to Chile took place from November 5 to 16, 2013, which included participation on the Canadian panel at the International Conference on Social Responsibility in Mining, followed by the visit of two Mi'kmaq chiefs to the Northern Chilean indigenous communities of Copiapó and Vallenar. The outreach missions allowed Canadian and Chilean companies to identify potential partnerships and research and development opportunities. The Canadian embassy in Chile, in partnership with ACOA, will organize a follow-up Chilean mission to Cape Breton to further explore opportunities for collaboration.

Did you know?

Canadian mining assets in Latin America and the Caribbean (including Mexico) amounted to more than \$81 billion in 2012, representing over half (54.6 percent) of Canadian mining assets worldwide excluding Canada.



SHARING BEST PRACTICES IN MINE SITE REMEDIATION

Under the Canada-Chile Agreement on Environmental Cooperation, Environment Canada and Chile's Ministry of Environment will undertake collaborative work to address mutual environmental priorities. As part of the work program for 2013-2014, Environment Canada supported the participation of Chilean officials in a workshop on contaminated sites organized by Public Works and Government Services Canada's (PWGSC's) Sydney Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens Remediation Project team in Sydney, Nova Scotia. The workshop, held from November 20 to 22, 2013, at the Sydney Tar Ponds Agency, included participation from a range of other Canadian government departments and agencies, including Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Nova Scotia Lands, and the former Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation (whose environmental remediation of former mine sites is now managed by PWGSC). The workshop provided an opportunity for site visits, as well as discussions and sharing of best practices on the assessment, management and remediation of contaminated sites.

EXPLORATION AND MINING GUIDE FOR ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

Canada is supporting initiatives to strengthen the capacity of indigenous peoples in the Americas to better understand all aspects of mineral development and to take advantage of the opportunities that mining can bring to their communities. The *Exploration and Mining Guide for Aboriginal Communities* was developed by Natural Resources Canada in partnership with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC), the Mining Association of Canada and the Canadian Aboriginal Minerals Association, in consultation with Aboriginal leaders, industry and technical experts. First launched in 2006 under the title *Mining Information Kit for Aboriginal Communities*, the publication was revised and the new version was launched at the PDAC convention in March 2013. A trainer's manual complements the guide, offering guidance to facilitators and/or trainers in the delivery of mining and economic development workshops for Aboriginal communities. Since its publication, the guide has been well-received both domestically and internationally, including in Guatemala and Ecuador, and has been adapted or translated in collaboration with national governments and local stakeholders in other countries, such as Chile, Colombia, Guyana, Mexico and Peru.

STRENGTHENING HUMAN RESOURCES CAPACITY IN EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES

Through a program supported by Canada's IDRC, and together with Uruguay's National Research and Innovation Agency, human capital in Uruguay's extractive industries is being strengthened. Drawing on Canada's expertise in the mining sector, the program provides more than \$1 million in scholarships to train master's and doctoral graduate students from Uruguay in Canada. The program is a result of an MOU between the governments of Canada and Uruguay signed on March 24, 2014.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN GUYANA AND SURINAME

Canada is working with the governments of Guyana and Suriname to provide support for the development of a sovereign wealth fund to ensure open and transparent mechanisms to manage the gains of the extractive

sector in an equitable manner. Canada is also supporting Guyana, in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat, in developing an oil and gas policy and extractive sector legislation based on Canadian models. Development of effective legislation will allow for greater accountability and will ensure that the sector develops in a sustainable manner.

BUILDING THE CUBAN MINING AND ENERGY SECTOR

Canada is supporting the development of the Cuban mining and energy sector through the Cultivating Skills for Employment and Growth in Cuba development assistance project. As of September 2013, over 2000 public servants, workers and students have benefited from training in internationally recognized standards, results-based management and gender equality. The training contributes to building the skilled and competitive work force of the Cuban mining and energy sector, strengthening its capacity to compete internationally.

TACKLING WATER-RELATED ASPECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

In December 2013, researchers supported by Canada's IDRC met in Panama City to share preliminary findings from research on adaptation to water-related aspects of climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean. The workshop, co-hosted by IDRC and the Water Centre for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (one of the six fast-start financing grantees in the region), enabled researchers to talk about key research methods and how best to inform policies for viable, local strategies to adapt to climate change.

PROTECTED AREAS AS NATURAL SOLUTIONS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

With the support provided by Canada's fast-start financing, Parks Canada and protected area agencies from Chile, Colombia and Mexico have worked together to implement ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation. For example, Canada's support to the National Parks of Colombia (Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia) has resulted in the update or reformulation of 25 of the 56 protected areas management plans and restoration activities in six protected areas. Working with the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas) in Mexico, 15 rural communities around protected areas received training in climate change adaptation measures. Canada has been an important partner in Chile for the restoration of important ecosystems in the iconic Torres del Paine National Park, one of the most heavily visited national parks in South America, following the catastrophic fire in 2011 that destroyed approximately 20,000 hectares of the park's native forest. By sharing experiences and knowledge, protected area agencies in Canada, Mexico, Chile and Colombia have built understanding of how protected areas help address global challenges, such as climate change, and increased local and national capacity to contribute to climate adaptation strategies through research, monitoring, planning, active management and ecological restoration projects.

INTERNATIONAL MODEL FOREST NETWORK

Canada continues to demonstrate leadership in the practice and promotion of sustainable forest management through ongoing support for the International Model Forest Network, for which Canada hosts the Secretariat at Natural Resources Canada. Engagement in the Americas is strong, with 27 sites across 14 countries in Central and South America, as well as the Caribbean, accounting for nearly half of the world's 57 model forests. In 2013, Brazil established its third model forest, the Caçador, encompassing 98,190 hectares in the state of Santa Catarina, while in March 2014, Peru developed a draft proposal toward establishing the Pichanaki Model Forest (124,770 hectares) located approximately 380 km northeast of Lima in the central jungle.

Did you know?

Under fast-start financing, Canada is providing \$250 million in concessional financing over five years to the IDB to address climate change challenges through the Canadian Climate Change Fund for the Private Sector in the Americas.



Safer Hemisphere

We are deepening cooperation to strengthen security in the Americas and to safeguard Canada and Canadians at home and abroad. Our support is focused on reducing vulnerability to threats and ensuring an effective and efficient defence sector, robust security systems and reliable institutions that citizens can trust and with which we can collaborate.

CANADA'S MILITARY TRAINING AND COOPERATION PROGRAM

In 2013-2014, Canada provided training to over 300 military personnel from the Americas as part of its Military Training and Cooperation Program (MTCP). Since 1965, over 4,800 training positions have been filled by partner nations in the Americas. Courses have included staff officer training, peace support operations training and military professional development training. Under a train-the-trainer concept, MTCP activities are designed to help member countries become self-sufficient in training and managing their armed forces and contributing to peace support operations.

BUILDING DEFENCE INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CARIBBEAN

In March 2014 the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) formally opened its Joint Information Operations Center (JIOC), which was constructed in 2009 with funding from Canada's Military Training and Cooperation Program. The JIOC is now ready to streamline the command and information sharing process for the JDF. It has the ability to analyze information not just on military matters but also, for example, on weather-related issues, such as hurricanes. There will be an ability to work in the JIOC with other Jamaican entities, such as the Jamaica Constabulary Force or customs agents, as well as with regional partners such as the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF). Working with the JDF, Canada has supported the construction of five centres of excellence, as well as an administrative complex to help deliver training to regional partner nations, which will benefit the entire Caribbean as well as parts of Central and South America.

Did you know?

Canada has defence cooperation arrangements with Colombia, Chile and Peru and a letter of intent with Mexico.



■ July 2013 - Medellín, Colombia - Canadian and Colombian air force pilots celebrate a job well done after their flight during the Rionegro International Air Show. (Photo by Cpl. Audrey Solomon ©2013, DND-MND)

ENHANCING CAPACITY FOR DETECTION

Canada provided vital personal protective and detection equipment to the Colombian National Police's chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives (CBRNE) unit to enhance their capacity to detect and respond to a CBRN threat. This contribution of equipment, through the Global Partnership Program and CCC, builds on the CBRN first responder training delivered in 2012 and 2013 to more than 80 first responders in Colombia by members of Canada's National CBRNE Response Team and led by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

STRENGTHENING WMD CRISIS MANAGEMENT CAPACITIES

Through the OAS, Canada is supporting efforts to strengthen the crisis management capacities of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, the Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago to respond to a bioterrorist or other weapon of mass

CANADIAN SUPPORT TO REGIONAL MILITARY OPERATIONS AND EXERCISES

In 2013-2014, the Canadian Armed Forces participated in several regional military operations and exercises to counter pressing security and defence challenges, build interoperable capacity and foster partnerships with military personnel in the region.

- During 2013, the CAF contributed seven ships, four CP-140 Aurora aircraft and one submarine to the Joint Interagency Task Force-South (JIATF-S), the U.S.-led multinational effort to counter illicit trafficking in the air and waters of the Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico and the eastern Pacific. The CAF, working closely with the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard and other regional partners, assisted with the seizure or disruption of more than 5,000 kilograms of cocaine in 2013.
- On February 10, 2014, in the first of several naval deployments scheduled for 2014, two Kingston-class maritime coastal defence vessels left from Esquimalt, B.C., in support of Canada's ongoing commitment to JIATF-S.
- In September 2013, Colombia hosted Brazil, Canada, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Peru, the United Kingdom and the United States for the annual joint exercise UNITAS. The exercise saw 19 warships engage in training to test "command and control" of participating forces at sea and to provide the "maximum opportunity to improve interoperability."
- Six Canadian junior naval officers served in Chile through the REGULUS program, which was developed to provide Royal Canadian Navy personnel with training experiences with foreign navies, while mitigating the lack of seagoing platforms during the Halifax-class modernization program. Through Chile's participation in this program, a strong and mutually beneficial relationship has developed between the Chilean and Canadian navies.
- From April to June 2013, the CAF participated in two U.S.-led readiness exercises: New Horizon 13 (Belize, April 6 to June 8, 2013) and Beyond the Horizon 13 (El Salvador, April 14 to June 7, 2013). The aim of these exercises was to enhance interoperability, develop peacekeeping capabilities, build military-to-military relationships, improve medical readiness and promote international partnering in the provision of humanitarian assistance through the delivery of primary health services to nationals from Belize and El Salvador.

destruction (WMD) incident. This ongoing project brings together national public safety, law enforcement, public health and other stakeholder agencies to review, refine and develop preparedness and response plans in order to facilitate an effective and efficient response in the event of a crisis.

JETWAY TRAINING IN COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, PANAMA, THE BAHAMAS AND GUYANA

The RCMP delivered Jetway training last year to law enforcement officers in Colombia, Costa Rica, Panama and the Bahamas. The training was offered in partnership with the OAS Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission and with support from Canada's Anti-Crime Capacity Building Program (ACCBP). A separate Jetway training course was delivered in Guyana with support from Canada's high commission in Guyana. The Jetway course focuses on behaviour-based training on the interdiction of contraband and illicit drugs at airports, with a train-the-trainer component added in Colombia and Costa Rica. The Jetway training program has contributed to the seizing of billions of dollars of contraband worldwide; Guyana's Customs Anti-Narcotics Unit discovered 6 kg of cocaine hidden at the Georgetown airport just six days after the Canadian training was delivered. In Costa Rica, officers seized approximately \$90,000 (US\$82,000) that was intended for the purchase of illicit drugs.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISOR IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

With funding from Canada's ACCBP, the U.K. Crown Prosecutor's Service has deployed a criminal justice advisor to Trinidad and Tobago to contribute to judicial reform efforts in that country. The advisor has contributed to improved inter-agency collaboration on justice reform, reducing the time between police charge and completion of trial, improving the quality of case management and prosecutions and improving witness and victim care to reduce the number of trials abandoned or disrupted through witness difficulties.

WORKSHOP ON DRUG TREATMENT COURTS

With Canadian funding and in cooperation with the Canadian Association of Drug Treatment Court Professionals, the OAS held a Drug Treatment Court Exchange and On-Site Study Program event in Vancouver in March 2014. Attended by chief justices, attorneys general, chief magistrates and other officials from Jamaica, Belize, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago, the workshop focused on moving ideas from theory to practice for new ways to deal with drug-dependent offenders. Marston Gibson, Chief Justice of Barbados, underscored the positive impact of this project, stating "it leads to seeing courts as a place for resolutions, not just decisions." On July 11, 2014, the first group of participants in Trinidad and Tobago's Drug Treatment Court program, part of the Drug Treatment Courts for the Americas Initiative of the OAS, completed the program after meeting rigorous treatment and legal requirements. The program has benefited from the financial support and contributions of the Government of Canada's ACCBP and the support of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and experts from Canada and the United States.

SHARING CORRECTIONAL INFORMATION AND EXPERTISE

On January 15, 2014, Correctional Service Canada (CSC) and Her Majesty's Prison (HMP) of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas signed an MOU to share correctional information and expertise. As a first activity under the MOU, two executive-level employees from HMP took part in a CSC leadership development program at several locations in Ontario between February and May 2014.

BORDER MANAGEMENT

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) shared best practices in border management and maintained a strategic dialogue with priority customs and migration partners in the region, such as Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, in support of regional prosperity and security and the strengthening of the North American perimeter. Key successful capacity building projects undertaken by the CBSA in 2013-2014 include activities with Colombia, Haiti, Mexico and Panama.

Did you know?

Canada is currently serving a three-year term on the Executive Committee of the Pan American Health Organization. PAHO is the principal organization responsible for mobilizing and coordinating hemispheric action on regional health issues, including public health threats.



DISARMAMENT AND DEMOBILIZATION IN COLOMBIA

Canada, through the Global Peace and Security Fund, has been a lead donor to the Organization of American States Mission to Support the Peace Process (MAPP) in Colombia, providing approximately \$9.7 million to the MAPP since 2005-2006. Canada was one of the first donors to endorse the MAPP, which is well-recognized as one of the most effective field units of the OAS. The MAPP played a pivotal role of observation, verification and accompaniment of the disarmament and demobilization of the paramilitary groups. It continues to provide critical assistance to the Government of Colombia in the formulation and implementation of public policies related to the reintegration of former combatants, transitional justice and land restitution.

STRENGTHENING RESPONSE TO INFLUENZA

Canada continues to engage with the United States and Mexico in strengthening animal and pandemic influenza preparedness and response capacity through the North American Plan for Animal and Pandemic Influenza (NAPAPI), launched at the 2012 North American Leaders' Summit. NAPAPI provides a collaborative and multi-sectoral framework for partners in health, agriculture, security and foreign affairs. Significant progress has been made on a number of action items, related to governance, emergency and risk communications, joint exercises and training, animal influenza, surveillance and epidemiology, laboratory practice, medical countermeasures, personnel exchange, border measures, critical infrastructure and diplomatic outreach. In 2013-2014, Canada, the United States and Mexico undertook the negotiation of the declaration of Intent to Coordinate Health Emergency Public Communications, which was subsequently signed in May 2014. This declaration encourages the sharing of communications plans and products related to emergencies that may have an impact on public health within, and across, the three countries. A key deliverable under the NAPAPI, this declaration will lead to improved communications coordination, preparedness and response during a health emergency.

PREVENTING THE TRANSMISSION OF DENGUE AND CHAGAS' DISEASES

Through Canada's IDRC, eight research-to-policy projects were developed based on an eco-bio-social approach to enable a better understanding of factors affecting dengue and Chagas' disease transmission in different countries. In Brazil, the Head of the Dengue Control Program is scaling up project intervention in two cities; similar scaling-up projects are currently being discussed in Colombia and Mexico. In Honduras, Canadian development program support to the Honduran National Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Chagas Disease and Leishmaniasis has led to improved treatment and health conditions for rural populations at risk of these diseases: 100 percent of pregnant women are now tested for Chagas' and 90 percent are treated for leishmaniasis.

BUILDING RESILIENCE TO NATURAL DISASTERS

With Canadian government funding, the Canadian Red Cross is supporting the Jamaican Red Cross to provide disaster risk-reduction activities and training to develop community-level disaster management capabilities in Jamaica. The Jamaican Red Cross is a regional leader in local disaster response, disaster assessment training and developing regional Red Cross response mechanisms. Canadian support has also strengthened the humanitarian response and disaster management capacity of national Red Cross societies in Nicaragua, Honduras, Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Spotlight on Security in Central America



■ Police cadets at a ceremony in San José, Costa Rica marking Canada's contribution of \$1.2 million in security equipment to Costa Rica's National Police School. (Photo by DFATD)

Canada is concerned with the increasing insecurity, violence, corruption and impunity in Central America that is fuelled by poverty, inequality and the activities of transnational criminal organizations and gangs. Prime Minister Harper announced the Canadian Initiative for Security in Central America (CISCA), in April 2012, which dedicates an additional \$25 million in regional capacity building contributions over five years (2011-2016). Examples of projects from 2013-2014 include:

- Canada supported the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Container Control Program, which employs a risk-based screening system to focus interdiction efforts on illicit trafficking in drugs, guns, people and other contraband goods. On June 10, 2013, the Panamanian National Customs Authority seized 559 kg of cocaine in a container destined for Spain and arrested seven suspected drug traffickers in the operation.
- As part of the Building Effective Justice Systems project, more than 2,300 judges, police officers, prosecutors, technicians, investigators and forensic doctors from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala have

Did you know?

Canada is one of the largest suppliers of highly radioactive Cobalt-60, which is used in medical applications worldwide.



received training in crime scene examination, major case management investigation and oral trial techniques training to date. Approximately 35 percent of the participants were women.

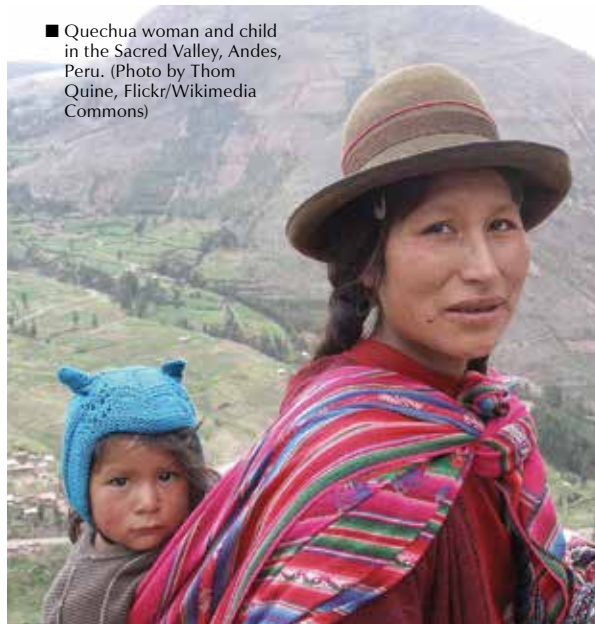
- Canada's Global Partnership Program contributed more than \$500,000 to international efforts in 2013-2014 to prevent the theft, loss and potential malicious use of Canadian-origin radioactive sources in the Americas. Efforts included an International Atomic Energy Agency-led project to remove disused highly radioactive sources from Costa Rica, as well as a regional World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS) source management capacity-building session co-hosted with Mexico's National Commission for Nuclear Safety and Safeguards. Key international, regional and Canadian expert perspectives were integrated into a new DFATD-funded WINS *Best Practice Guide on Security of Radioactive Sources Used in Medical Applications*, which was released during the 2014 Nuclear Security Summit in The Hague.
- National and regional youth networks have been established to audit and influence policies and programs for young people in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador to help address youth violence in these Central American countries. The project is funded by Canada's IDRC in partnership with Interpeace, an independent organization that was created by the United Nations.
- In partnership with the Canadian Police College, the RCMP offered a three-year, DFATD-funded training program focused on enhancing the skills and knowledge of various departments of the Costa Rican National Police, including training of specialized police units and prosecutors. Training covered major crime investigation techniques, crime scene investigation techniques, leadership and middle management, financial crime investigation techniques, tactical intelligence and community policing. As a result of the training, there has been an increase in productivity, quality of investigation and collation of intelligence, which has led to improvement in investigations and establishment of links between cases.
- The Canada Border Services Agency facilitated eight tailored intelligence analysis training courses for Panama Customs (ANA). ANA successfully utilized these analysis techniques to assess and target high-risk marine containerized cargo via Canadian company TradeBytes C-HAWK software, which helps to mine and analyze diverse cargo data feeds. A number of significant seizures have been made.
- Canada partnered with the Association for the Prevention of Torture and Panama's Ministry of Government to create a human rights training module within the Panama Penitentiary Academy.
- In 2013, the Ministry of National Security for Belize inaugurated its first Joint Operations Center, the culmination of a two-year partnership between Canada, Belize and the United States. This command and control facility will allow Belize's security forces to better plan and coordinate maritime security operations in response to regional transnational threats.
- Transport Canada aviation security experts visited Panama and Costa Rica to conduct assessments and share Canadian best practices to improve each country's air cargo security programs.

Did you know?

Panama registered one of the highest levels of drug interceptions in the region (third only after Colombia and the U.S.), thanks to the concerted effort of multiple organizations and capacity building programs, such as those financed through Canada's ACCBP.



Vulnerable Groups



■ Quechua woman and child in the Sacred Valley, Andes, Peru. (Photo by Thom Quine, Flickr/Wikimedia Commons)



■ Colombian children in rural location. (Photo by Codigodinamico, Pixabay CC0 Public Domain)

RESPONDING TO HUMANITARIAN CRISES

In 2013-2014, Canadian development assistance through multilateral organizations and experienced nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) ensure support for people affected by natural disasters and other humanitarian crises in Latin America and the Caribbean. In response to dengue fever outbreaks in Honduras, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Colombia in July 2013, Canada provided support to more than 167,400 individuals through the provision of medical care, distribution of mosquito nets, fumigation and awareness-raising. Canada also contributed to the provision of food and nutritional assistance to over 567,000 vulnerable and food-insecure individuals affected by recurrent shocks (i.e. earthquakes, droughts, floods and coffee rust infestation) in Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador. In Colombia, Canada has supported communities affected by armed conflict, internal displacement and natural disasters by helping improve living conditions, addressing emergency health care and protection needs, as well as increasing access to safe drinking water for conflict-affected people.

CHILD PROTECTION IN COLOMBIA

With Canadian development assistance through the Achieving the Rights of Children and Adolescents project, UNICEF has trained more than 47,000 children and adolescents on how to protect themselves from violence, exploitation and abuse. More than 7,000 members of the national police force have also received training in child protection.

Did you know?

Canada's development assistance is focused in four countries, Peru, Colombia, Honduras and Haiti, and in the Caribbean region. Canada also has Development Country Partner programs in Bolivia, Cuba, Nicaragua and Guatemala and an Inter-American Program that addresses regional issues.



Through this initiative, nearly 618,000 children up to 5 years old had access to home-based early childhood care in Colombia and 17,300 out-of-school children and youth were reintegrated into the school system. Also with Canadian support, UNICEF has led the Technical Committee for UN Security Council Resolution 1612 on Children and Armed Conflict to monitor and report on the six grave violations against children in armed conflict in Colombia. Technical assistance was provided through the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to increase compliance by the Government of Colombia in implementing six public policies related to international human rights standards.

COMBATting SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Accountability for sexual violence under international law has historically been neglected, largely due to the lack of legal frameworks and misperception that these crimes are difficult to prosecute. There is also a shortage of international and skilled experts dedicated to such investigations. Canada's support through the Global Peace and Security Fund is ensuring practical and effective guidance to individuals called to document conflict-related sexual crimes and is increasing the pool of experts who can rapidly deploy to lead and participate in investigations into such crimes at the request of the international community. In 2013-2014, 25 Spanish-speaking experts were trained in the prosecution of sexual and gender-based violence.

COMBATting TRANSNATIONAL CHILD SEX OFFENDERS

In March 2014, representatives of the RCMP's Canadian Police Centre for Missing and Exploited Children and Behavioural Sciences Branch delivered a one-week, Peer-to-Peer Investigator Course to 15 officers from the Costa Rican Judicial Investigation Bureau (OIJ) and three prosecutors from Costa Rica's Attorney General's Office. The objective of the training was to help Costa Rican officials identify transnational child sex offenders operating in Costa Rica and provide the OIJ with the ability to conduct joint operations with Canadian law enforcement officials. Canadians are the second-highest offenders against the sexual integrity of children in Costa Rica. Utilizing the tools and techniques provided by the RCMP, two major investigations targeting high-level child sexual offenders were initiated.

We are addressing pressing challenges for vulnerable groups in the Americas through assistance in areas such as food security; maternal, newborn and child health; child and youth protection, and access to quality education and skills training. We are providing effective responses to natural disasters and conflict situations to save lives and alleviate human suffering.

IMPROVING NUTRITION IN THE CARIBBEAN

Since 2011, researchers from the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago and McGill University in Canada, supported by Canada's IDRC, have been working together to improve food security and to promote better nutrition and health in the Caribbean. The From Farm to Fork: Improving Nutrition in the Caribbean project seeks to address rising obesity rates and poor nutrition in the region, with promising results to date. Children in Trinidad and Tobago and St. Kitts and Nevis are receiving improved school meals that contain vegetables and fruit produced by local farmers. By adopting water management techniques such as drip irrigation and mulching, crop production has increased. Farmers have also diversified their crops. These and other results were presented as part of the Caribbean Week of Agriculture in Guyana, October 4 to 12, 2013.

ENSURING HEALTHY MOTHERS AND CHILDREN IN BOLIVIA

Canada is strengthening institutional and community capacity to support a sustainable primary health-care system and increase survival rates and development of children and mothers in 26 targeted municipalities of Bolivia. As part of the Active Communities for Healthy Mothers and Children in Bolivia development assistance project, more than 400 health professionals increased their capacity to deliver outreach and training to mothers and fathers in nutrition and health care for newborns and children. Health staff visited more than 19,000 families to provide nutrition information. More than 400 community vegetable gardens producing nutritious food have been created. As well, community health workers conducted more than 500 home visits to pregnant women and families with children under 5 years of age, and 65 community play spaces have been established and equipped with toys and books to promote child development and train mothers and fathers in best practices in health care and development. These results have contributed to improve the knowledge and awareness of community health workers in key issues about maternal and child health.

SUPPORTING WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC AND ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

With Canadian development assistance support, a CARE food security project in Honduras engaged local women's committees in the south of Honduras in policy discussions with mayoral candidates during the election season to improve the status of women and ensure that the municipal budgets reflected women's needs. Working with the municipal offices, the women's committees helped to develop and implement municipal gender plans in 9 out of 10 target municipalities, resulting in at least 5 percent of municipal budgets being earmarked for gender-related activities. The project also continues to focus on supporting women-run businesses. In Chile, Canada is supporting the democratic participation of low-income women in public policy discussions on wage parity and



labour conditions through a Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI) project. Through the project, members of the Chilean Women Union Committee received training on national labour legislation. The training also allowed the women to identify their key challenges and present public policy proposals to the government in order to improve their condition.

DISCRIMINATION-FREE PLAY IN BRAZILIAN HOSPITALS

The CFLI joined with the Brazilian NGO Amigos da Vida for a series of educational activities in specially designed play areas in four of Brasilia's public hospital pediatric wards. Colourful, comfortable and staffed by volunteers, students and professionals, these playrooms are discrimination-free zones where children can be themselves and where HIV-positive children are welcomed with open arms. The CFLI-funded activities featured a special, educational comic book from Mauricio de Sousa, a Brazilian cultural icon, which takes the "group of Mônica" ("Turma da Mônica"), a famous Brazilian children's cartoon, and depicts two new characters, Igor and Vitoria, who are HIV-positive children, and includes instructive messages of inclusion. Through the engagement with children and parents, the new play areas and activities are helping to break down the preconceptions and fear that affect thousands of HIV-positive children in Brazil.

INDIGENOUS FARMERS FIGHT COFFEE RUST IN GUATEMALA

Since 2013, a coffee rust plague has devastated coffee production throughout Central America. The plague has affected 70 percent of Guatemala's coffee plants and resulted in estimated production losses of 40 percent, affecting 160,000 families nationally. However, in the Solola department of the country, more than 1,300 indigenous farmers have not only survived this crisis but come out ahead, thanks to Canadian financing and technical assistance that has regenerated and/or renovated their coffee plants, effectively debilitating the plague. These coffee farmers have increased their production by 70 percent and their sales were up by 79 percent, providing them with better incomes. The proven success of this initiative is now being replicated by the Guatemalan government and the national coffee association.

ACCESS TO ELECTRICITY IN NICARAGUA

With Canadian development assistance support, more than 100,000 women, men and children from 379 communities in Nicaragua now have access to electricity. In addition, 20 businesses received financial and technical assistance to strengthen their business management and operations, and each of them now has a credible business plan. These results are contributing to the improved quality of life and economic and business opportunities for the people in these rural communities.

Did you know?

Canada is leading a global commitment, the Muskoka Initiative, to improve maternal, newborn and child health to reduce the number of preventable deaths in developing countries, including in the Americas.



Spotlight on Haiti



■ August 27, 2013 - Gonaïves, Haiti - Minister Paradis examines a bottle of fortified vegetable oil purchased with Canadian support. He is joined by George Heymell, a WFP Representative in Haiti, and Myrtho Cinéas, Director of the National School Feeding Programme in Haiti. (Photo: ©WFP/PAM)

RESETTLING HAITIAN FAMILIES

Through \$20 million in Canadian funding to the International Organization for Migration's Housing Action Project, 5575 Haitian families (some 20,000 people) were successfully resettled from camps in the Champs de Mars into secure housing. Over 50 percent of families assisted are headed by women. Building on this project, the Resettling Haitian Families initiative (2013-2015) will target the relocation of approximately 53,000 internally displaced people from the 60 most vulnerable camps. As of March 31, 2014, over 4300 families have been resettled.

MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH

Through Canada's support, Haiti is making significant strides toward improving access to maternal, newborn and child health services. More than 1,200 front-line health workers have been trained to date. In addition, a provincial hospital is being built in the city of Gonaïves that will include modern obstetrics and pediatrics wards; it will be operational in late 2014. Through the development assistance Increased Access to Basic Health Services project, 17 hospitals were able to provide obstetric care services to 70,000 pregnant women and pediatric care services to 200,000 children (up to 5 years old) over the last three years.

ACCESS TO SCHOOL

Canada is supporting the Haitian Ministry of Education in improving access to school through the construction of 13 schools in the three provinces most affected by the 2010 earthquake. The tender for school

construction allows for Haitian and international firms to submit bids and construction is due to commence in the autumn of 2014. Canada has also supported the development of an education credit network involving 35 credit unions and 416 schools. More than 98 percent of children whose parents received an educational loan completed the school year, compared to the national average of 60 percent. In 2013-2014, Canada continued to support the Haitian school feeding program through the World Food Programme, contributing a hot meal for over 200,000 primary school students every school day.

TRADE MISSION TO MONTRÉAL

In November 2013, the Canadian embassy in Haiti and the Haitian-Canadian Chamber of Commerce organized a Haitian trade mission to Montréal, with the collaboration of the Haitian Consulate General in Montréal and the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal. This important initiative allowed representatives from more than 70 Canadian companies and organizations to meet the 40 public- and private-sector Haitian delegates. More than 120 meetings took place over the course of the mission, as well as an information session on business in Haiti. Thanks to the success of this mission, Canadian and Haitian companies and organizations from the construction, infrastructure, energy, water treatment, textile and consulting sectors were able to pursue opportunities for partnerships, investment and exploration, contributing to increased commercial exchanges between and the economic development of both countries.

FOSTERING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR HAITIAN ARTISANS

With Canadian development assistance support, TFO Canada worked closely with the BRANDAID Project to help Haiti's artisans with the design, branding and business connections they need to make their goods marketable on a global scale. Home decor products from five distinct artisan communities of Haiti were being sold via a touring showcase at Hudson's Bay flagship stores in Montréal, Ottawa and Toronto in 2013.

Did you know?

Since 2006, the Canadian government's development and humanitarian assistance to Haiti has reached more than \$1.4 billion. Over three years (2009-2010 through 2011-2012), Haiti was the largest recipient of Canada's aid.



SUPPORTING TRANSPARENCY, EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Through the Haiti-Canada Municipal Cooperation Program (2011-2013), Canada helped to restore the basic institutional capacities of the City of Port-au-Prince and four Haitian communities (Gressier, Léogâne, Grand-Goâve and Petit-Goâve) in the Palmes region, the epicentre of the 2010 earthquake. The program also supported two national federations of local elected officials and the Ministry of the Interior and Territorial Communities to better assume their role in the country's reconstruction. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the City of Montréal and the Union of Quebec Municipalities provided technical assistance, sending Canadian municipal experts to Haiti to deliver training programs and develop the capacity of their Haitian counterparts. A \$20-million second phase of the project, launched in February 2014, will build on these successes over the next five years (2014-2019), helping to strengthen partner municipalities and federations for better management, service delivery and local economic growth.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Canada is supporting vocational training in Haiti that responds to the needs of the local market. Haiti's Centre for Professional Training (CFPH CANADO) offers training in technical computer networking, telecommunications, electrical mechanics and industrial maintenance. The first cohort of 198 students graduated in May 2013 and close to 800 students were enrolled in training programs in 2013-2014.

CANADIAN PERSONNEL DEPLOYED TO MINUSTAH

Through its continued support to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), Canada works closely with the UN to support the Government of Haiti's efforts to ensure security and stability for its people. From June to November 2013, a platoon of 34 CAF personnel was embedded within the Brazilian battalion in MINUSTAH, helping to ensure security and stability in one of the poorest neighbourhoods in the western hemisphere. Canada also participated in two joint cooperation initiatives with Brazil to provide support to Haiti's vaccination program and to help overcome urban violence. MINUSTAH has been critical in stabilizing the security situation in Haiti and has made important contributions by assisting with the conduct of elections, building up institutional capacity and helping to develop a more effective police force, legal system and correctional service.

SUPPORT TO THE HAITIAN NATIONAL POLICE

Throughout 2013-2014, Canadian civilian police officers deployed to MINUSTAH, through the Canadian Policing Arrangement, continued to enhance the capacity and skills of the Haitian National Police (HNP) to progressively increase their responsibility for the security of the country. The average number of Canadian police officers deployed to MINUSTAH in 2013-2014 at any given time was 86, with several Canadians holding influential positions in the mission, including deputy police commissioner for HNP development, chief of the community policing unit and chief of administrative police. In 2013, thanks to a Canadian-led initiative, the HNP began applying community policing approaches, such as a bicycle patrol program, to build relationships and trust with residents while patrolling areas in and around Port-au-Prince.

CORRECTIONAL REFORM

Canada supported correctional reform in Haiti through the deployment of a Canadian correctional expert to Haiti's Office of Citizen Protection from November 2013 to March 2014. The senior correctional advisor was able to provide expertise on a broad range of issues to assist with the ongoing review of standards within the Haitian correctional system. Correctional Service



■ September 13, 2013 - Port-au-Prince, Haiti - During Operation HAMLET, Master Corporal Dany L'Ecuyer (left) and 2nd Sgt. Adriano Magno of the Brazilian Army unload bricks for building a wall to protect a women's hospital. (Photo by Master Corporal Marc-Andre Gaudreault, CAF)



■ Three girls enjoy a nutritious lunch; they are among 100,000 schoolchildren in Haiti who receive a meal a day at school, through a Canadian-funded project managed by the World Food Programme. (Photo by Jean-François Leblanc © DFATD-MAECD)

Canada's engagement supports the Government of Canada's objective of reforming Haiti's security institutions in order to support the strengthening of the Haitian state.

REVENUE GENERATION SUPPORT PROJECT IN HAITI

Canada is supporting the mobilization of domestic revenues in Haiti through the provision of technical assistance by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and the CBSA, aimed at modernizing both Haitian customs and tax administration, as well as the provision of an automated system for tax administration and procurement of equipment for customs. Through a DFATD Haiti programming-funded project, CBSA has been providing training to the Customs Administration (AGD) since 2010, including over 30 technical assistance and project management activities. The support provided by the CBSA to the AGD has resulted in several successful initiatives to date, including the completion of the new airport in Port-au-Prince, based on training and guidance provided by the CBSA following an infrastructure needs analysis, and the creation of a post-clearance verification unit to facilitate and expedite customs clearance processes to increase customs revenues. Under a similar agreement with DFATD, CRA has carried out more than 30 technical assistance missions since 2010 to strengthen core activities of Haiti's import authority, the Direction Générale des Impôts (DGI), in service and compliance, and to provide an automated system to support modernized DGI operations.

Freedom, Democracy, Human Rights and Rule of Law



■ Carlos Nieto Palma (center), winner of the Embassy of Canada to Venezuela's 5th annual Human Rights Award. (Photo courtesy of Embassy of Canada to Venezuela)

ACKNOWLEDGING HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN VENEZUELA

Carlos Nieto Palma was awarded the Embassy of Canada to Venezuela's 5th annual Human Rights Award in 2013. Mr. Nieto, a lawyer by trade, has been a defender and promoter of human rights in Venezuela for over 20 years. The award is among the most high-profile human rights awards in the country, and the annual award presentation ceremony sponsored by the embassy has become the most influential gathering of human rights defenders and opinion leaders in the country. From February 24 to 28, 2014, Mr. Palma visited Ottawa, as part of the award, to meet with government officials, academics and representatives from NGOs and other groups, and share his views on the political and economic climate in Venezuela and the Venezuelan prison system.

STRENGTHENING THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Through the official development assistance envelope, Canada has committed \$4.8 million over six years (2008-2014) to support the work of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights. Canada's support has helped increase the effectiveness of the IACHR by providing support to reduce the backlog of cases from an average of 50.2 months to 27 months and by establishing mechanisms and systems for more-efficient processing of cases. With Canada's support, the IACHR has trained 160 employees of national governments in the theory and practices of the inter-American human rights system, with a further 266 representatives of governments and civil society trained in specialized human rights areas such as "access to justice" and "justice and security".

Did you know?

Canada has supported more than 50 electoral observation missions by the OAS in at least 17 countries, including general elections in Panama in April 2013 and Honduras in November 2013.



OPEN GOVERNANCE

Canada is supporting greater accountability and transparency in Latin America and the Caribbean through investments in open governance initiatives. Through the Global Peace and Security Fund, Canada's IDRC supported an initiative in Paraguay to promote greater accountability among legislators by identifying priority reforms that improve transparency and civic monitoring. IDRC is fostering the Open Data for Development (OD4D) research network, which includes many partners in Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay). The OD4D network has collaborated with public authorities on the challenges and opportunities of releasing government data in support of governance, health, education, agriculture and the environment. The first Regional Conference on Open Data for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in June 2013 in Montevideo, Uruguay, became a key forum for the debate on open data, especially in terms of sharing know-how and best practices. IDRC partners are working together with the office of Enrique Peña Nieto, Mexico's President, to organize the second regional conference in Mexico City in October 2014.

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICES

Statistics Canada is working to build the governance capacity of national statistical offices in Latin America and the Caribbean through its International Statistical Fellowship Program (ISFP). To date, representatives from 23 countries from Latin America and the Caribbean and from regional bodies have attended training. Several of these partners are developing and implementing plans to strengthen their national statistical system, with further guidance and technical support from Statistics Canada. In 2013-2014, two ISFP sessions targeted the Americas, with participants from Eastern Caribbean countries, the Caribbean Community Secretariat, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the South American nations of Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru. Statistics Canada provided a total of four weeks of onsite training in survey skills development to the Guyana Bureau of Statistics. Onsite assistance was also provided in St. Lucia and Suriname to improve the quality of their business registers.

PARLIAMENTARY LIVE-STREAM BROADCASTING IN GUYANA

Canada is helping to strengthen institutions and expand democratic participation in Guyana through the establishment of live-streaming capacity in the National Assembly of Guyana, the first of its kind. In the past, the media coverage provided has been biased in favour of the government and limited to mainly urban centres. This new facility enables full media coverage of parliamentary proceedings throughout Guyana and in the diaspora. This will produce increased public ownership of laws, which will strengthen Guyana's democratic transition and expand democratic involvement and participation by women.

JUSTICE UNDERTAKINGS FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION IN JAMAICA

Canada is contributing to an improved sense of security and a strengthened justice system for Jamaicans through the \$17.8-million Justice Undertakings for Social Transformation program, implemented by the Department of Justice and the United Nations Development Programme. The program contributes to order in institutions, legislation and society through work with justice institutions, legislative and policy reforms, and community input into justice system reforms. In 2013-2014, activities included the development of a new corporate profile and

We are promoting freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law by strengthening the professionalism and accountability of public institutions. Our capacity building efforts are helping institutions be more transparent and responsive to the needs of citizens.



■ Supreme Court of Argentina in Buenos Aires.
(Photo by Roblespepe, Wikimedia Commons)

structure for the Jamaican Ministry of Justice; drafting a procedural manual for prosecutors so as to standardize operations and increase transparency between the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and the public; and training the judiciary and Court Management Services on case management and case-flow management.

BEST PRACTICES IN GENDER JUSTICE

Canada's embassy in Argentina provided support for a seminar, organized by the Inter-American Committee of Women, on Best Practices in Gender Justice in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from September 25 to 27, 2013. The seminar allowed for the analysis of gender justice, identifying obstacles and best practices that exist in the region as well as specific areas of co-operation that can be further developed. Representatives from more than 15 countries party to the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women were present for the three-day seminar, as were representatives from Canada and the United States. Gwyneth Kutz, Ambassador of Canada to Argentina and Uruguay, delivered the opening remarks; other speakers included the late Carmen María Argibay, former member of Argentina's Supreme Court of Justice; Carmen Moreno, Executive Secretary, Inter-American Commission of Women of the OAS; and Ricardo Luis Lorenzetti, President of Argentina's Supreme Court of Justice.

SUPPORTING MULTILATERAL EFFORTS TO FIGHT CORRUPTION

Canada continued to play an active role in implementing the Inter-American Convention against Corruption. Canada participated in the Committee of Experts of the Mechanism for Follow-up on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC). The objectives of MESICIC are to promote the implementation of the convention; to follow up on the commitments by states parties to the convention; to facilitate technical cooperation activities; to exchange information, experience and best practices; and to work toward the harmonization of the legislation. The Committee of Experts is currently undertaking its fourth round of review. Canada was evaluated in the fall of 2013 by experts from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Bolivia and the MESICIC Technical Secretariat; the report on Canada was adopted on

March 21, 2014. Canada also participated in the on-site visit to Belize in April 2014 and will be attending the subgroup and Committee of Experts meetings in September 2014 to complete the evaluation of Belize and consider and adopt reports on five other countries. Such on-site country visits make the review process more transparent, inclusive and beneficial to all parties involved.

DEMOCRACY STUDY TOUR

In February 2014, DFATD hosted 34 graduate students from nine countries in Latin America and the Caribbean for a one-week Democracy Study Tour in Ottawa. The activity was organized to complement the experience of a select group of Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program scholarship recipients and to familiarize them with Canadian models of democratic governance. Activities, including presentations as well as meetings with Canadian officials, NGO representatives, members of parliament and ministers, are designed to inform students about Canadian values and democratic systems, and Canada's role in the Americas, and to inspire participants to become leaders in their own societies.

JUSTICE FOR YOUTH IN ECUADOR

On October 2, 2013, Lenin Lara, Ecuador's then Minister of Justice, Flavio Mirella, representative from UNODC, and Pamela O'Donnell, the Ambassador of Canada to Ecuador, launched the book *Compilation of Jurisprudence – Youth Penal Justice in Ecuador*, a compilation of judicial cases developed with Canadian support to be used as a tool for judges in penal cases involving teenagers. The cases reflect the implementation of international agreements, local laws and consideration of the age of the offender in order to serve the best interest of Ecuadorian youth.

Did you know?

Canada was one of the first countries to sign and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which set international standards for the elimination of gender discrimination.





■ The non-profit organization LGTB Platform Suriname's efforts to raise awareness about their community include social events. (Photo courtesy of LGTB Platform Suriname)

DEVELOPMENT OF THE LGBT PLATFORM IN SURINAME

Through the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives, Canada provided support to the Women's Way Foundation for the development of the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) Platform in Suriname. The platform has enabled the LGBT community in Suriname to organize its approach to identify priorities, engage key stakeholders and advocate for social changes. A position paper and a DVD infomercial capturing the views and challenges facing the LGBT community in Suriname were produced and shared with the Chair of Parliament and other members of parliament willing to advocate for a change, in relation to LGBT issues, in the National Assembly of Suriname.

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES THROUGH PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS

Through the CFLI, the Canadian embassy in Peru supported two projects in 2013-2014 to support local organizations defending and promoting human rights, especially the rights of women and children. The NGO Promoting Social Development Institute (Instituto Promoviendo Desarrollo Social) offered training workshops and advocacy campaigns to improve the protection of women, children and youth victims of human trafficking in Peru. In the second project, "Empowering women to win elections in Peru," the NGO Transparencia (Transparencia) provided training and a learning toolkit to 1000 women to enhance their ability to advocate for themselves as prospective candidates within their parties and as candidates in the upcoming regional elections. Additionally, civil society organizations and networks promoting women's rights and access to the political sphere now have access to a multimedia educational tool on democratic leadership. Canada also supports Peru's ombudsman (Defensoria del Pueblo) to address annually an average of 125,000 human rights complaints, many from the poorest areas of Peru.

TACKLING IMPUNITY IN GUATEMALA

Former Guatemalan President Alfonso Portillo (2000-2004) pleaded guilty in March 2014, following a plea bargain, to conspiracy for accusations of bribery during his time in office. Mr. Portillo, who was extradited to the United States almost a year ago, admitted taking \$2.5 million in bribes in exchange for diplomatic recognition of Taiwan, which he funnelled through U.S. bank accounts. The outcome of this case is a direct result of Canada's support to the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG). Through this case, CICIG developed the financial investigation capacity in the Public Ministry, providing the country with another instrument for battling corruption and impunity. Canada has provided \$14 million since 2008 to CICIG to improve the effectiveness of the judicial system in Guatemala. This support will ensure that investigation and prosecution skills are transferred to key public institutions in Guatemala to continue the work of the commission when its mandate ends, in 2015.

REMEMBERING THE HOLOCAUST IN ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY

In 2013-2014, Canada held the chair of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). In Montevideo, Brasilia, Buenos Aires and Asuncion—and indeed all over the world—Canada initiated educational and commemorative projects throughout a year filled with accomplishments in remembrance and research. In the presence of over 1,000 members of the Jewish Women's Network, on March 21, 2013, Ambassador Kutz joined Dorit Shavit, Israel's Ambassador to Argentina, at AMIJAI Synagogue to announce a full-year program in partnership with the Delegation of Jewish Community Institutions to mark Canada's accession to the presidency of the IHRA. Also in March, a parallel program developed largely by the local Canadian studies centre was launched in Paraguay, with the support of the CFLI. During his visit to Uruguay in November 2013, Mario Silva, the Canadian Chairman of the IHRA, participated in a panel called Human Rights and the Holocaust, and discussed with students from a Jewish school in Montevideo about preventing genocide and fighting against all forms of discrimination.

Strategic Partnerships

We are partnering with key institutions, multilateral organizations, government bodies, civil society, academia and other groups to strengthen mutual understanding and cooperation in the hemisphere. Our engagement with partners provides Canada with a platform for expanded influence in the hemisphere.

LEADERSHIP AT THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

The OAS remains the region's main political multilateral forum and a norm-setting body for the hemisphere in terms of common democracy, human rights, security and development norms and standards. Canada's voluntary contributions to the OAS have assisted the organization in the delivery of mandates related to key Canadian foreign policy and development interests, including support to democratic governance, electoral systems and human rights; sustainable economic growth, development, trade and poverty reduction; peace process and conflict mediation; the fight against narco-trafficking, transnational organized crime, corruption, cyber-crime and weapon proliferation; justice and security system reform; civil society; gender equality; and institutional reform. As Chair of the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs, Canada has worked closely with other member states to design and implement management modernization efforts to build a stronger organization. Canada is also one of the two main contributors to the OAS Inter-American Committee against Terrorism and assumed the chair of the committee in February 2014 for 2014-2015.

DEEPENING TIES WITH THE PACIFIC ALLIANCE

Since becoming the first non-Latin American observer in the Pacific Alliance in October 2012, Canada has been working with Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru to increase Canadian participation in areas of mutual interest. Prime Minister Harper, Minister Fast, and then Minister of State of Foreign Affairs Ablonczy participated in the VII Pacific Alliance Leaders' Summit in Cali, Colombia, in May 2013. As part of the Canada-Pacific Alliance Strategic Partnership in International Education, DFATD organized an ELAP Collaboration Mission in March 2014. The initiative focused on the creation of partnerships in academic fields related to the extractive industry. During the mission, the group of 13 representatives from Pacific Alliance countries traveled to Montréal, Sudbury and Vancouver to meet with representatives from seven Canadian institutions that are renowned for their expertise in academic fields related to the extractive industry and are interested in exploring international partnerships.

RENEWED CANADA-CHILE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

On May 30, 2013, Prime Minister Harper and Sebastian Piñera, Chile's President, renewed the Canada-Chile Strategic Partnership Framework. The renewed framework reflects priorities of deepening the trade and economic relationship to increase prosperity; strengthening ties in education, innovation, agriculture and environment for a better future; and deepening the bilateral and multilateral partnerships in governance, defence and security. The May 2013 state visit of President Piñera also saw the signing and launch of the Science, Technology and Innovation Action Plan between Canada and Chile, building on the 2008 MOU on Science, Technology and Innovation to improve understanding of existing funding mechanisms; enhance visibility of existing partnerships; advance and expand collaboration in existing priority areas; and promote collaboration in selected thematic areas. Canada and Chile have had diplomatic relations for more than 70 years and the Strategic Partnership Framework and accompanying MOUs have been in place since 2007.

DEEPENING TIES WITH BRAZIL AND THE STATE OF SÃO PAULO

Canada signed an MOU with the State of São Paulo on February 11, 2014, to further cement Canada's ties with Brazil—an economic powerhouse in the region. Under the MOU, the two sides will establish a bilateral working group and cooperate in areas such as clean technology, innovation, science and technology, urban mobility, transportation and infrastructure, culture and social development.

CANADA-ARGENTINA UNIVERSITY OCEAN RESEARCH COLLABORATION

A long-standing university linkage saw new expansion with the February 2014 visit of Canadian scientific research vessel Coriolis II from the Université du Québec à Rimouski (UQAR) in Patagonian waters, where it conducted an integrated study of the marine ecosystem and geology in the San Jorge Gulf. Jointly organized by Argentine and Canadian researchers, with UQAR's sea science institute (ISMER) leading on the Canadian side, the mission was part of an extensive, 10-year academic



■ May 23, 2013 - Cali, Colombia - Prime Minister Harper attends the Pacific Alliance Leaders' Summit. (Photo courtesy of the Office of the Prime Minister)

exchange program that began in 2008. The results of this program are expected to help inform decision making on important economic and ecological assets in Argentina, as well as providing insights on an ecosystem with important similarities to Eastern Canada's Gulf of St. Lawrence.

CANADIAN SPACE MISSION TO BRAZIL

The first Canadian space mission to Brazil took place in São José dos Campos, Brazil, from March 16 to 18, 2014. Organized by the Consulate of Canada in São Paulo with the support of the Embassy of Canada to Brazil and the Canadian Space Agency, the mission was conceived to further advance the high-level dialogue on space collaboration established between Brazil and Canada. The mission also responds to Brazil's demand for space-related technology and expertise to address challenges of border and maritime surveillance, telecommunications, natural disaster prevention and response, and rainforest conservation, among other challenges, representing an estimated \$15-billion worth of opportunities for the next 10 years in Brazil. The Canadian delegation was made up of senior private-sector executives (from ABB Canada, Advantech, ComDev, MDA, MPBC, NGC Aerospace and Telesat) and representatives from associations (Aerospace Industries Association of Canada), the federal government (Canadian Space Agency, Department of National Defence, EDC and DFATD) and provincial government (Quebec Government Office in São Paulo [BQSP] and Export Québec).

CANADA-GUYANA MEDICAL PARTNERSHIP COALITION

The strong people-to-people ties between Canada and Guyana led to the establishment of the Canada-Guyana Medical Partnership Coalition in December 2013. The coalition consists of over 12 Canadian-Guyanese not-for-profit organizations that deliver medical outreach programs and 40 medical professionals. Organizations within the coalition work with the Ministry of Health and an array of local, Canadian and international health facilities and universities to enhance health services offered in Guyana. The coalition is intended to promote a culture of working together, facilitate ease of coordination, increase efficiencies and promote maximization of resources among the medical partnerships. It provides a much needed go-to resource for Canadian-Guyanese interventions in the local health sector.

LONG-TERM SUPPORT TO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS

Canada's long-term institutional support to the Inter-American Development Bank and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) has contributed to significant financing of development in the region. Canada is one of the largest non-borrowing shareholders of the CDB and the largest contributor to the CDB Special Development Fund. The regional development banks are key vehicles that help advance Canadian foreign policy and development priorities, particularly sustainable economic growth. They achieve significant results across a wide range of countries and sectors and work with both the public and private sectors. For example, in 2013, the IDB trained over 120,000 teachers and supported close to 4 million students through education projects. The IDB also supported over 235,000 individuals through programs to promote higher labour market productivity. The CDB focused on creating and promoting a sound climate for business and investment in the region by providing 156 micro, small and medium-sized enterprises with access to credit.

BUILDING FOUNDATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

2013-2014 saw a number of high-level outgoing visits to the region by the Prime Minister and Canadian ministers and legislators:

- From May 21 to 24, 2013, Prime Minister Harper visited Peru and Colombia for official bilateral visits and to attend the VII Pacific Alliance Leaders Summit in Colombia.
- Minister Ablonczy led Canada's delegation to the 43rd Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly from June 4 to 6, 2013, in Antigua, Guatemala; the session's theme was "For a Comprehensive Policy against the World Drug Problem in the Americas."



- Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird visited Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Colombia, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay and Brazil in July and August 2013.
- In August 2013, the Honourable Christian Paradis, Minister of International Development, traveled to Haiti for a bilateral visit.
- In April 2013, four members of parliament visited Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica as representatives of the Canadian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.
- In November 2013, the Honourable Kellie Leitch, Minister of Labour, visited Colombia to participate in the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labour, then visited Mexico for the XVIII International Forum on Public Policies on Employment and Social Protection.
- Minister of State Yelich travelled to Honduras in January 2014 to attend the inauguration of President Juan Orlando Hernández.

Canada also welcomed numerous high-level visits through the year:

- José Antonio Meade Kuribreña, Mexico's Secretary of Foreign Affairs, visited Ottawa in July 2013 to discuss Canada-Mexico relations.
- Guillaume Long, Ecuador's Minister of Knowledge and Human Talent, visited Canada from September 22 to October 9, 2013, to establish strategic alliances with Canadian educational institutions.
- General Salvador Cienfuegos Zepeda, Mexico's Secretary of Defence, and Admiral Vidal Francisco Soberón Sanz, Mexico's Secretary of the Navy, visited Ottawa in July 2013 and met with the Honourable Robert Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, to discuss Canada's and Mexico's deepening defence relationship.
- The Minister of National Defence met with his Peruvian counterpart, Pedro Cateriano, during the April 2014 visit to Canada of Peruvian President Humala. Canada is working in close partnership with Peru in preparation for the 2014 Conference of Defence Ministers of the Americas.
- Marco Antônio Raupp, then Brazil's Minister of Science and Technology, officially visited Canada in June 2013 to participate in the Conference of Montreal and take the opportunity to visit the Waterloo Institute of Nanotechnology. In Waterloo, he underlined Brazil's desire to forge greater links in nanotechnology between Brazil and Canada.
- José Adonis Lavaire, Honduras' Minister of Industry and Commerce, visited Ottawa in November 2013 to sign the Canada-Honduras FTA and parallel agreements on labour and environmental cooperation.

Spotlight on Bilateral Relations with Mexico

In 2014, Canada and Mexico are celebrating the 70th anniversary of bilateral relations, the 20th anniversary of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the 10th anniversary of the Canada-Mexico Partnership. From February 17 to 18, Prime Minister Harper undertook a bilateral visit to Mexico and attended the North American Leaders' Summit.



■ July 25, 2013 - Ottawa - Foreign Affairs Minister Baird and Minister of State Yelich welcome Mexican counterpart, José Antonio Meade Kuribreña, on his first visit to Canada as secretary of foreign affairs. July 25, 2013. (Photo by DFATD)

The Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program Mexico-Canada celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2014. The program allows for a safe, organized and legal occupation alternative for Mexican agricultural workers, both men and women, who wish to be temporarily employed in Canada to meet seasonal needs of agricultural producers. Following the signing of the MOU in June 1974, Mexico sent 203 workers to Canada. In 2013, approximately 18,700 workers representing every Mexican state participated in the program, which operates in nine Canadian provinces and involved 1,680 farms.

The Canada-Mexico Partnership (CMP) is a unique bilateral mechanism that brings together public and private stakeholders to develop concrete initiatives on a wide range of areas important to Canada and Mexico. Launched in 2004, the CMP is focused on economic cooperation, although it has expanded in recent years to include related fields such as environmental cooperation, human capital and labour mobility. It involves participants from the Canadian and Mexican governments, business sectors and other stakeholders. The last meeting of the CMP was hosted

by Mexico on July 8 and 9, 2013, and brought together 150 Canadian and Mexican participants. The 2014 CMP Annual Meeting was hosted by Canada on September 8 and 9 in Calgary, Alberta, and focused on the energy sector—an exciting sector of enhanced cooperation between Mexico and Canada, given Canada's world-class technical leadership and the reforms to Mexico's energy sector.

CMP achievements in recent years include:

- Providing a forum to tackle agro-business challenges related to beef, horticulture and livestock genetics;
- Collaboration on climate change, including promoting greener construction in housing industries;
- Enhancing Canadian employer access to a pool of capable Mexican labourers through the creation of the Labour Mobility Mechanism;
- Creating linkages between Canadian and Mexican automotive and aerospace industries;
- Increased professional exchanges on the human capital investments in advanced manufacturing and mining sectors;
- Implementation of the Canada-Mexico Youth Mobility Arrangement; and
- Intensified cooperation to build and exchange firefighting capacity in both countries, including an MOU on wildfire cooperation, signed during Prime Minister Harper's official visit to Mexico in February 2014.

Did you know?

Canada and Mexico enjoy excellent commercial relations. Bilateral merchandise trade has grown more than seven-fold since the NAFTA took effect in 1994, amounting to nearly \$32 billion in 2013.



People-to-People Ties

We are bolstering our influence in the hemisphere through our engagement and people-to-people ties. We are developing valuable links with the leaders of tomorrow as well as a network of goodwill ambassadors for Canada in the Americas through education, academic exchanges, tourism, science and technology collaboration, art, culture and sport.



■ Forty Chilean students attended the best high schools in Canada for a semester last year through Chile's "Penguins Without Borders" program. (Photo courtesy of Embassy of Canada to Chile)

Did you know?

Canada is a top 10 tourism destination worldwide, according to the World Economic Forum. In 2013, more than 530,000 people from Latin America and the Caribbean visited Canada, an increase of 3.1 percent from 2012.



PROMOTING CANADA AS STUDY AND RESEARCH DESTINATION

Edu-Canada fairs and tours, organized through Canada's embassies and consulates in Latin America and the Caribbean, were held in 13 different countries in the region with Canada-only events held in 18 different cities. The events attracted a large cadre of Canadian institutions from the various sectors (K-12, colleges, universities and language schools) and attracted more than 30,000 visitors.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAMS

In academic year 2013-2014, approximately 800 post-secondary students from across 33 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean came to Canada to undertake short-term study or research exchanges under DFATD scholarships. In addition, 15 faculty members from CARICOM countries received funding to undertake graduate research or professional development, and 86 two-year scholarships were awarded to citizens from the region to complete online post-secondary diploma and certificate programs. In 2013-2014, 37 senior representatives from post-secondary institutions in 15 Latin American and Caribbean countries traveled to Canada to meet their institutional counterparts and discuss partnership agreements in the context of two ELAP collaboration missions. Attendees on the first mission participated in the Canadian Bureau for International Education Conference in Vancouver. The second mission involved only delegates from Pacific Alliance countries; they met with

Canadian institutions interested in agreements focused on the extractive industry in Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and the Yukon Territory.

CHILE'S "PENGUINS WITHOUT BORDERS"

In September 2013, 40 Chilean high school students came to Canada to attend Canadian public schools for one semester to broaden their horizons, experience a new culture and learn English under the Chilean government's Penguins Without Borders scholarship program. The Canadian Association of Public Schools-International helped to implement the program by coordinating the school placements and homestays. The Chilean government has confirmed that it will send another group of 40 students to Canada in early 2015.

BOOSTING TOURISM FROM LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Canadian Tourism Commission is promoting Canada as a tourism destination and working to increase visitors to Canada from Latin America and the Caribbean, with a focus on Mexico and Brazil as priority markets. In 2013, 139,700 travellers from Mexico spent approximately \$216 million in Canada; these figures represent an increase of 6.3 percent in arrivals and 10.8 percent in revenue over 2012. Arrivals to Canada from Brazil reached their highest level yet in 2013, with 78,600 Brazilian visitors who spent \$160 million.

Did you know?

Over 1.1 million people of Latin American and Caribbean descent were living in Canada as of 2011, with the three largest diaspora communities from Jamaica, Haiti and Mexico.



ASSISTING CANADIANS IN JAMAICA

Jamaica is one of the top four tourist destinations for Canadians travelling to Latin America and the Caribbean. The number of Canadian visitors to Jamaica during the past winter period (November 2013-April 2014) recorded an increase of 5 percent over the previous winter, with 265,605 Canadian visitors contributing significantly to the local economy. This has resulted in the cultivation of a strong relationship between both countries. With the increasing number of Canadians visiting and residing on the island, the complexity of consular cases is increasing and passport processing figures are significant, with approximately 900 passports processed last year. The consular team in Jamaica has also worked to resolve approximately 400 consular cases in the last year, ranging from general assistance and travel documents to accidents and medical assistance.

CREATING TIES THROUGH CANADIAN INDIGENOUS ART

In 2013, Canadian Inuit artist Piita (Peter) Irniq constructed an inukshuk in Montevideo, Uruguay, as part of a Canadian exhibit of First Nations and Inuit art. This very symbolic piece of art contributes to solidifying a cultural exchange with a country that does not have the same indigenous history nor tradition of preservation. It also served to dispel some preconceived notions of the Aboriginal lifestyle in Canada, and underlined the Canadian indigenous experience, self-governance and contributions to Canadian society. Mr. Irniq was a great ambassador for the Inuit people and his enthusiasm about sharing his experiences in life and work helped to forge valuable links with the Uruguayan leaders of tomorrow.

Did you know?

In January 2014, Minister Fast launched Canada's International Education Strategy (IES), which set targets to attract more international researchers and students to Canada, deepen the research links between Canadian and foreign educational institutions and establish a pan-Canadian partnership with provinces and territories and all key education stakeholders, including the private sector. Brazil and Mexico are identified as priority markets under the IES.



■ Ambassador Khokhar is joined by outgoing "Win the World" students in Recife, Brazil. (Photo courtesy of Embassy of Canada to Brazil)

CANADA-BRAZIL TIES IN EDUCATION

Education is a key pillar of the Canada-Brazil bilateral relationship. Canada is a key partner of choice for the federal and state government-funded scholarship programs.

- The Government of Brazil recently announced the second round of its Science Without Borders (SWB) scholarships, which will send 100,000 students abroad to study. Canada was among the top three countries welcoming the largest numbers of SWB participants in the first round. Canadian educational institutions have received over 7,000 students to date.
- Canada receives the greatest number of Brazilian students under the State of Pernambuco's Win the World scholarship program. Since its launch in 2011, Canada has hosted more than 1,000 students from the public high school system in Pernambuco. Canada will receive another 750 students in 2014.
- In October 2013, DFATD and the Brazilian Federal Agency for Support and Evaluation of Graduate Education selected 10 new two-year joint research projects under the Canada-Brazil Awards-Joint Research Projects. The Canada-Brazil Awards-Joint Research Projects support team-oriented research projects between higher education institutions in Canada and Brazil in key areas of mutual cooperation and interest, such as health sciences, biotechnology, materials engineering, ICT and environmental conservation.
- In December 2013, Colégio Monteiro Lobato (CML), one of the best private schools in Porto Alegre, announced an agreement with Columbia International College (CIC), from Hamilton, Ontario, to use Canadian curriculum in Brazil starting in June 2014. The Canadian curriculum developed for CML consists of three semesters and different subjects, including Canadian culture, citizenship, human rights and literature, Canadian geography and ecology, leadership, international relations, business, financial mathematics and volunteering. The program also includes an exchange period in Canada and will utilize Canadian teachers.
- The University of Prince Edward Island signed an MOU with the Federal University of Santa Catarina in October 2013 for exchanges in the fields of veterinary science, aquaculture (aquafarming) and food engineering.
- The Canadian College of English Language (CCEL) has entered into partnerships with Brazil's National Service for Commercial Training (SENAC) in the states of Pernambuco and Rio Grande do Sul, to provide the CCEL's SMRT system, a fully digital, Web-based curriculum created by the college's English as a second language instructors.

The Year to Come



PAN AMERICAN AND PARAPAN AMERICAN GAMES

The Pan American and Parapan American Games are a major international multisport event, held every four years for athletes representing 41 countries and territories from the Americas and the Caribbean. In July and August 2015, Toronto and the Greater Golden Horseshoe region will host the 2015 Games, one of the largest multisport events ever hosted in Canada. The Games are expected to draw over 250,000 visitors, 10,000 athletes, coaches and officials, and involve the services of over 20,000 volunteers. The Government of Canada is a major funding party of the Games and is contributing up to \$500 million for sport infrastructure projects, a legacy fund to support key facilities, a federal cultural strategy, the preparation of Canadian teams and provision of essential federal services.

2015 will be a landmark year for Canada's engagement in the Americas. Canada will celebrate 25 years as a member of the Organization of American States and will engage with leaders across the hemisphere at the 2015 Summit of the Americas in Panama. The preparations for the XVII Pan American and V Parapan American Games—the most important sporting and cultural gathering for the Americas—in Toronto will play an important role in strengthening ties between Canada and the Americas. Ahead of the Games, the Toronto Global Forum will host a special Pan American Economic Summit from July 8 to 10, 2015, which will provide further opportunities to meet with key partners from the region and for Canadian stakeholders to advance Canada's engagement in the Americas.

Panorama is a map displaying Government of Canada projects that support Canada's Strategy for Engagement in the Americas. We invite you to explore Panorama at www.international.gc.ca/panorama to learn more about Canada's footprint in the Americas and how we are achieving real results and making a meaningful difference in the region.



Annex: List of Contributing Federal Departments, Agencies and Crown Corporations

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)
 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)
 Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA)
 Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)
 Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
 Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
 Canadian Space Agency (CSA)
 Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC)
 Canadian Heritage (PCH)
 Canadian Tourism Commission (CTC)
 Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC)
 Correctional Service Canada (CSC)
 Department of Finance Canada (FIN)
 Department of Justice Canada (JUS)
 Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)
 Environment Canada (EC)
 Export Development Canada (EDC)
 Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (DFATD)
 Health Canada (HC)
 Industry Canada (IC)
 International Development Research Agency (IDRC)
 National Defence / Canadian Armed Forces (DND / CAF)
 Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
 Parks Canada (PC)
 Privy Council Office (PCO)
 Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)
 Public Safety Canada (PS)
 Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC)
 Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)
 Statistics Canada (StatCan)
 Transport Canada (TC)
 Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD)

Cover Photo Credits: Left: View of riverbank in Manú National Park, Madre de Dios, Peru. (Photo by As578, Wikimedia Commons)

Right: Children at a Canadian-funded UNICEF project in Ucayli, Peru. (Photo courtesy of Embassy of Canada to Peru and Bolivia)

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