



**REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON
THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA'S
OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE**

2008–2009

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



As the Minister of International Cooperation, I am pleased to present, on behalf of the Government of Canada, the *Summary of the Government of Canada's Official Development Assistance* as per the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act*.

As 2008 ended, low-income countries were seeing reduced trade, depressed demand and prices for their commodities, as well as less foreign direct investment, along with lower remittances being sent home by their diaspora around the world. The financial and economic crisis is now a global crisis impacting developing countries. Coordinated and decisive action is required to harness all available global resources to finance long-term, sustainable development. It is a time for maximizing the effectiveness of our international assistance with increased efficiency, focus, and accountability.

Canada not only maintained, but increased, its assistance in the midst of the economic crisis. Canada is on track to meet its commitment to double its international assistance to \$5 billion by 2010–2011. The bulk of this is official development assistance.

As some other countries have reduced their international assistance budgets and introduced protectionist measures, Canada has strongly advocated in various forums the fulfilment of pledges made and increased coordination among donor partners.

Canada has taken bold action, making our country a “true hero” in the words of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme.

The following presents a summary of the official development assistance activities undertaken by federal government departments in 2008–2009 whose activities make up the Government of Canada's official contribution toward poverty reduction.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Oda', written in a cursive style.

The Honourable Beverley J. Oda, P.C., M.P.
Minister of International Cooperation

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OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE**

2008–2009

This is the first report on Canadian official development assistance (ODA) since the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* came into force on June 28, 2008.

This report meets the reporting requirements of sections 5(1) and 5(3) of the act.

The statistical report required under section 5(2) of the act will be published by the end of March 2010 on the website of the Canadian International Development Agency.

The act is available online at: <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/showtdm/cs/O-2.8//20081211/en>

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CANADIAN OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Canada is contributing to the global efforts to meet the needs of those living in poverty in developing countries in every hemisphere of the world by using a variety of instruments to deliver on its commitment to provide effective official development assistance (ODA). The activities undertaken are directed to achieve poverty reduction:

- By supporting private-sector development, agriculture, the development of a skilled workforce and better labour policies and laws in developing countries, Canada helps countries advancing on the path of food security and economic growth.
- By providing international humanitarian assistance, escorting food aid shipments, facilitating reconstruction, and supporting peacebuilding efforts, Canada directly helps those who are affected by natural crises and conflicts.
- By strengthening the capacities of public administrations in developing countries to govern democratically and administer their resources responsibly, Canada helps put in place and strengthen the foundations for progress in education, health, economic growth, food security, and other key sectors of sustainable development.
- By investing in and supporting recognized international and multilateral organizations, Canada is shaping outcomes in numerous development-related areas, including international financial stability, climate change, food security, health, telecommunications, and regional security in areas of conflict, as well as having a major influence at the national level in countries such as Afghanistan and Haiti.
- By providing debt relief to developing countries, Canada allows them to dedicate their scarce resources to reducing poverty and improving the lives of their citizens.
- By supporting its own civil society, its non-governmental partners and its private sector, Canada encourages Canadian citizens to be engaged and contribute their best ideas and efforts to make a difference in the world.
- By supporting cutting-edge research, scholarships and institutional linkages with Canadian organizations, Canada contributes to human capital development, which leads to higher crop yields, increased market access, cleaner environments, better health, new technologies, respect for human rights, and fairer laws.
- By supporting and protecting refugees, Canada ensures their security and respect for their rights, while providing financial support to adapt to their new environment.
- By supporting sustainable development and promoting democracy and human rights, Canada contributes to a safer world for all, including for Canadians.

SUMMARIES BY DEPARTMENT

A number of Canadian federal government departments¹ disbursed ODA funds in 2008–2009.

The following table shows disbursements by department, sorted by the amount of the disbursement.

The following pages summarize the activities undertaken under the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* with these funds.

Additional details will appear in a statistical report, to be published by the end of March 2010.

DEPARTMENT	2008–2009 ODA DISBURSEMENTS (IN \$ MILLIONS)
Canadian International Development Agency	3,575.19
Department of Finance Canada	676.31
Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada	277.70
International Development Research Centre	175.75
Citizenship and Immigration Canada	92.05
Royal Canadian Mounted Police	19.61
National Defence	18.79
Health Canada	11.97
Environment Canada	4.04
Labour Canada	1.40
Industry Canada	0.97
Parks Canada	0.47
Total	4,854.25

1. The term “department” is used here for any Canadian federal entity that reports ODA, as per the Act.

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

\$3,575.19 MILLION

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is the government's principal organization responsible for managing Canada's ODA program. CIDA supports programs and projects with poverty reduction as their primary objective. It also engages in policy development in Canada and internationally to support Canada's development objectives in a manner consistent with Canadian foreign policy.

CIDA's ODA² for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$3,575,190,000.³

Overall, CIDA supported 2,863 aid projects⁴ and initiatives in Africa, Asia, the Americas, the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

Approximately \$1.5 billion in ODA was channelled through bilateral country programs to 66 partner countries. Of this amount, 79 percent was for CIDA's 20 countries of focus. This contribution is augmented by CIDA's multilateral, geographic, and partnership programs.

SUMMARY OF MAIN ACTIVITIES

In 2008–2009, CIDA conducted the following main activities. More details will be available in CIDA's Departmental Performance Report 2008–2009 and in a statistical report to be published by the end of March 2010.

Countries of concentration: \$928.16 million

This activity involves engaging in long-term development assistance programming in select "countries of concentration"⁵ to enhance their capacity to achieve development goals. Such programming includes direct contact between CIDA and recipient countries. It is developed through consultation and cooperation with partners internationally, in Canada, and in these countries. Initiatives include various country programs, projects, and development activities, as well as policy dialogue.

Fragile states and countries experiencing humanitarian crises: \$864.65 million

This activity involves programming development and/or humanitarian assistance in fragile states and/or countries experiencing humanitarian crisis to reduce the vulnerability of crisis-affected people and restore the capacity of public institutions and society. This is achieved through various means: government-wide responses using a variety of mechanisms to respond to the many specific needs and risks or timely and effective action. In both cases, partnerships with institutional organizations offer flexibility and expertise to provide adequate responses.

2. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
3. Of CIDA's \$3,575 million in total ODA, \$3,161 million was through aid programs in the form of grants, contributions and transfer payments.
4. Visit CIDA's online Project Browser at www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/project-browser to get further details on CIDA funded projects.
5. The "Countries of concentration" activity in 2008–2009 was based on a list of 25 countries identified as part of CIDA's Program Activity Architecture used since 2007–2008. They are not the same as the recently announced "countries of focus", a list of 20 key partner countries on which the Agency will focus the majority of its bilateral resources.

AFGHANISTAN

In 2008–2009, Afghanistan was Canada's largest bilateral aid recipient. CIDA delivered approximately \$224 million in reconstruction and development assistance contributing to three of Canada's six priorities in Afghanistan: (1) strengthening Afghan institutional capacity to promote economic growth and deliver basic services; (2) providing humanitarian assistance to increase Afghan capacity to deal with crises; and (3) advancing Afghan capacity for democratic governance by contributing to effective and accountable public institutions and electoral processes.

As part of our continued whole-of-government effort, CIDA maintains responsibility for the majority of progress benchmarks and indicators that underlie the Government's quarterly reports to Parliament. These are available at www.afghanistan.gc.ca

HAITI

Haiti is the poorest country in the Americas. It is also a top priority for Canada. CIDA is a leader in coordinating many donor activities in this fragile country. CIDA's program in Haiti reflects the priorities of the democratically elected Haitian government. It focuses on strengthening public institutions so they can provide basic services to the Haitian people.

The year 2008 was a more difficult year than most in Haiti: food prices increased, and a devastating series of hurricanes and tropical storms within 30 days led to massive flooding and the destruction of thousands of homes and businesses. Canada provided more than \$10.6 million in humanitarian assistance and \$15 million in food aid in addition to its support of \$110 million per year.

Selected countries and regions: \$447.62 million

The purpose of CIDA's development assistance programming in selected countries and regions eligible for Canadian international assistance is to enhance the capacity of these countries and regions to achieve stability and/or development goals and to contribute to Canada's international interests through expertise, dialogue, and resources. These initiatives can also require linkages and/or partnerships between Canadian partners and their local partners.

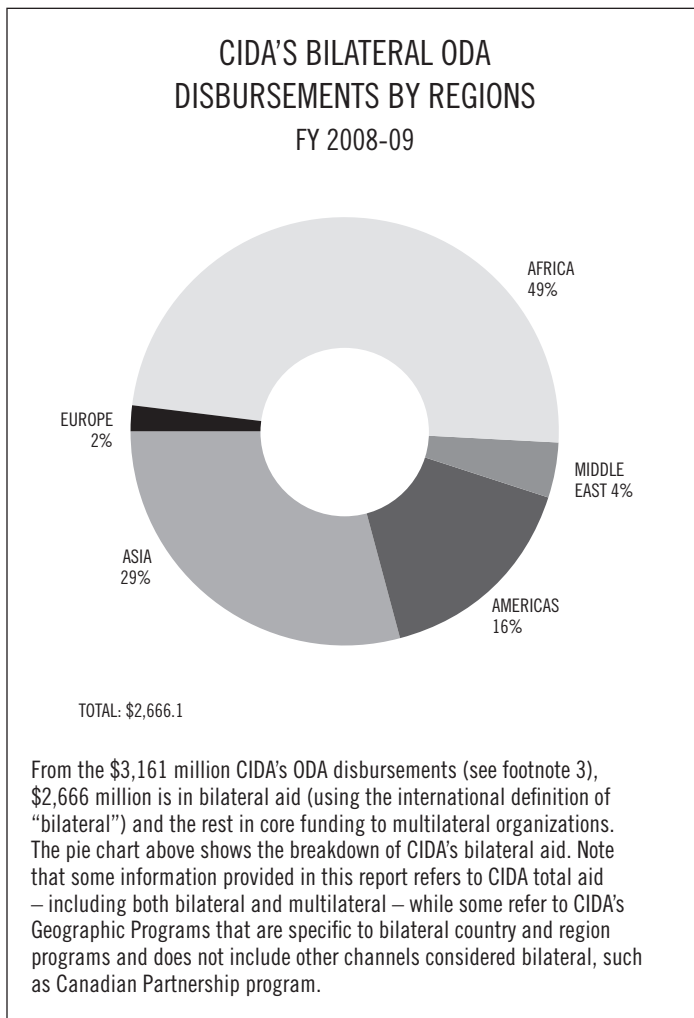
Multilateral, international, and Canadian institutions: \$1,307.70 million

Through its engagement with multilateral, Canadian, and international institutions, CIDA seeks to influence institutional policies and practices to strengthen the ability of institutions and to maximize program effectiveness in order to enhance the capacity and effectiveness of partner institutions in achieving development goals. CIDA's engagement includes the provision of expertise and core funding, as well as its participation on decision making and on advisory committees and boards.

Engaging Canadian citizens: \$27.06 million

This activity provides opportunities for Canadians to increase their awareness, deepen their understanding, and engage in international development. Canadian engagement is a vital element of effective development. It enables CIDA and its partners to draw from a broad range of expertise and financial resources across the country to implement aid initiatives. It also provides an ongoing basis for commitment on the part of the Government of Canada to international development cooperation.

DETAILS OF CIDA'S BILATERAL OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE BY REGIONS



Doubled Canadian assistance to Africa

In 2008–2009, Canada met its G8 commitment to double its assistance to Africa⁶ as per the commitment made in the 2005 federal budget and reconfirmed in the 2008 budget.

Between 2003–2004 and 2008–2009, Canada's assistance to Africa doubled, increasing from \$1.05 billion to \$2.1 billion, of which \$1.6 billion⁷ was ODA from CIDA's budget, including:

- 1,268 projects funded
- 47 countries supported
- main sectors: Communicable diseases (especially HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria), agriculture, health systems, basic education, food aid and emergency assistance

Americas Geographic Program

(excluding Caribbean regional bilateral program – see following page)

- \$230 million spent
- 310 projects funded
- 35 countries supported
- main sectors: Public sector capacity building, democratization, health systems, enabling environment for private sector development

6. Full details on Canada's doubled assistance to Africa, including disbursements to multilateral organizations and from other government departments, will be included in the 2008–2009 Statistical Report.

7. The amount of \$1.6 billion includes CIDA's bilateral and multilateral aid to Africa.

Caribbean Regional Bilateral Program

- \$38 million spent
- 31 projects funded
- 18 countries supported
- main sectors: Public sector capacity building, democratization, health systems, enabling environment for private sector development, entrepreneurship, primary education

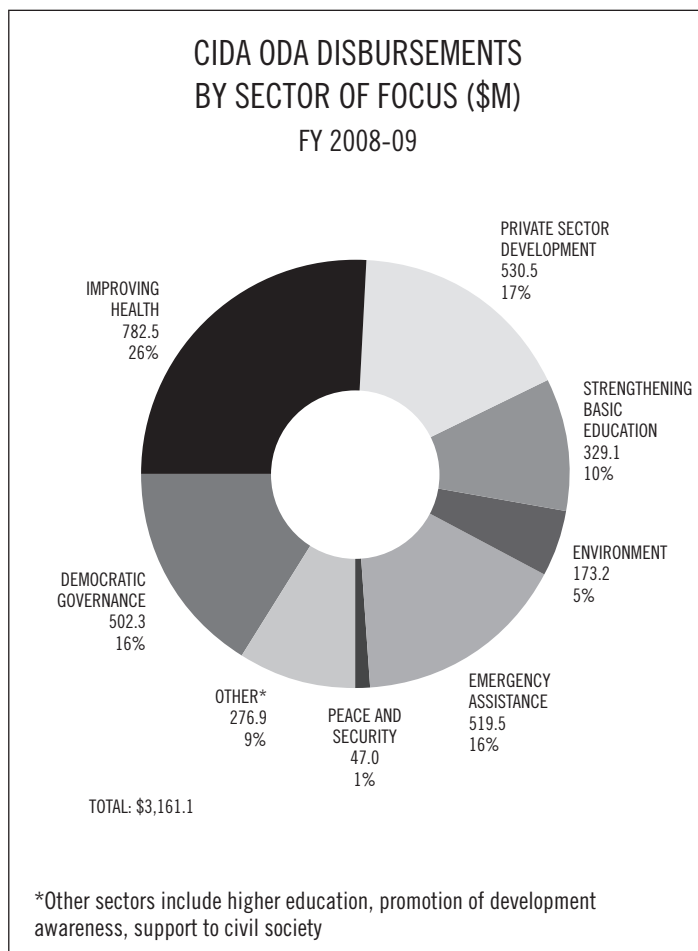
Asia Geographic Program (including Afghanistan)

- \$512 million spent
- 453 projects funded
- 38 countries supported
- main sectors: Public sector capacity building, democratization, agriculture, business and financial services, health services, environment

CIDA's total ODA in support of agriculture

- \$224 million (of which 60% to Africa)
- 297 projects funded
- 110 countries supported

DETAILS OF CIDA'S OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE⁸ BY SECTORS



Food security

In 2008–2009, Canada untied⁹ its food aid, which provides our partners with greater flexibility to procure needed commodities at lower prices and reduced transportation costs.

In 2007–2008, Canada made up an accumulated shortfall of 46,694 metric tonne wheat equivalents in addition to meeting its 2007–2008 commitment to the Food Aid Convention. In April 2008, Canada increased its food aid expenditure to \$230 million from \$180 million, which has Canada on track to meeting its commitment of 420,000 metric tonne wheat equivalents for this crop year.

8. Of CIDA's \$3,575 million in total ODA, \$3,161 million was through aid programs in the form of grants, contributions and transfer payments for which a sector breakdown is available.

9. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/acdi-cida/ACDI-CIDA.nsf/eng/NAT-430104936-KE3>

Strengthening basic education

- \$329 million spent
- 352 projects funded
- 145 countries supported
- main sub-sectors: Capacity building, effective delivery

Environment

- \$173 million spent
- 230 funded projects
- 140 countries supported
- main sub-sectors: n/a

Improving health

- \$783 million spent
- 601 projects funded
- 144 countries supported
- main sub-sectors: Communicable diseases, health systems, food security, reproductive health

Democratic governance

- \$502 million spent
- 870 projects funded
- 145 countries supported
- main sub-sectors: Public sector capacity building, democratization, human rights, rule of law

Private sector development

- \$531 million spent
- 744 projects funded
- 143 countries supported
- main sub-sectors: Enabling environment, entrepreneurship, connecting to market

Emergency assistance

- \$520 million spent
- 286 projects funded
- 105 countries supported
- main sub-sectors: Emergency response, reconstruction relief and rehabilitation, disaster prevention and preparedness

KEY POLICY DIALOGUE INITIATIVES

In 2008–2009, the Prime Minister, various ministers, parliamentary secretaries, and government officials from CIDA and other departments have been active on the international scene to influence the outcomes of important international forums such as the Doha Conference on Financing for Development, the G20, the G8 Development Ministers' Meeting, the Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Development Bank, the Accra High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, the Francophonie Summit in Québec, and the UN high-level conference to renew commitments to achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

In our relations with partner countries, and especially with our twenty countries of focus, CIDA's Minister and officials regularly meet, cooperate and consult with other donors, international and UN organizations, and representatives of the governments of the developing countries themselves to ensure that CIDA's programs are supportive of the country strategies in place to reduce poverty.

In Canada, more than 1,200 people, including a broad representation of CIDA's Canadian partner organizations, attended International Cooperation Days 2008¹⁰ in Gatineau, Quebec. Representatives from the private sector attended the International Development Days in Vancouver. Consultations with Canadian non-governmental organizations also took place on various subjects. CIDA's annual International Development Week¹¹, with the theme of "Development for Results," saw seven regional councils produce more than 69 events across Canada, directly reaching tens of thousands of Canadians, and hundreds of thousands indirectly.

10. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/icd>

11. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/IDW>

CIVIL SOCIETY

CIDA's Partnership Branch support of Canadian civil society development activities

- \$213 million spent
- 602 projects funded
- 122 countries supported
- main sub-sectors: Enabling environment for private sector development; democratization and accountable institutions; health systems; basic education

SUMMARY OF CIDA'S DEPARTMENTAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

Section 5(1)(e) of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* specifies that a summary of the Departmental Performance Report (DPR) of the Canadian International Development Agency must be part of this report.

The summary of the DPR is presented in the appendix to this report.

CONTRIBUTION FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS TO CIDA'S OPERATIONS

In order to carry on its activities, CIDA includes in its expenditures reported as ODA the services it received in 2008–2009 from four federal departments, namely:

- Public Works and Government Services Canada
- Treasury Board
- Department of Justice Canada
- Human Resources and Skills Development Canada

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE CANADA

\$676.31 MILLION

Finance Canada's ODA for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$676,310,000.¹²

The Department of Finance held web consultations on December 5–31, 2008. The consultation process provided Canadian civil society organizations, governments, international agencies, and interested individuals an opportunity to comment on whether the department's ODA payments satisfy the criteria specified in the Act. Feedback on how to improve the consultation process for future years was also welcomed. Comments received through the consultation process allowed for a range of stakeholder views to be taken into account during the internal analysis of the department's ODA payments.

During fiscal year 2008–2009, the department made the following ODA disbursements:

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION: \$384,280,000

The International Development Association (IDA) is the World Bank's principal financing tool for the world's poorest countries, providing them with interest-free loans and grants. In December 2007, the Government of Canada announced that it would provide \$1.3 billion¹³ to the IDA over the next three years under the institution's 15th replenishment.

The replenishment will allow the IDA to enhance its focus on effective aid delivery, financing for large regional projects such as infrastructure, and special assistance for fragile states such as Afghanistan and Haiti, while ensuring countries do not take on unsustainable levels of debt.

More information is available at www.worldbank.org/ida

BILATERAL DEBT RELIEF: \$142,750,000

Canada has been an international leader in the area of poverty reduction by forgiving more than \$1 billion in debt owed to it by the world's poorest, most indebted countries. Specifically, Canada is a committed participant in the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative, which cancels up to 90 percent of the debts of eligible countries, with an aim to reduce these countries' debts to sustainable levels. Canada delivers this debt relief through its participation in the Paris Club. Moreover, Canada goes beyond the requirements of the HIPC Initiative through the Canadian Debt Initiative, under which Canada forgives the remaining 10 percent of the debt owed, resulting in a complete debt cancellation.

12. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

13. Canada's total commitment to IDA for this replenishment period is \$1.3 billion. Due to early payment discounts related to Canada's payment schedule, actual payments equal \$384 million per year, totalling \$1.15 billion over three years.

Complete debt relief for HIPC countries allows recipients to use funds that would have otherwise gone to debt payments for more productive investments that support long-term economic development in areas such as education, infrastructure, and health care.

Canada's provision of debt relief varies substantially from year to year, as international debt relief initiatives make debt cancellation conditional on debtor countries' meeting International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank mandated program targets. If a country's performance does not meet the required target, debt relief is withheld until adequate reforms are made.

In 2008–2009, Canada provided ODA-eligible debt service relief to Haiti (\$150,000) and Iraq (\$142,600,000).

More information is available at <http://www.clubdeparis.org/> <http://go.worldbank.org/85B908KVE0>

MULTILATERAL DEBT RELIEF: \$149,280,000

Canada has been very active in the development and financing of debt relief through the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI), which free up resources for recipient countries for redirection to poverty reduction initiatives. Under these programs, Canada has cancelled roughly \$1 billion in debts owed to it by developing countries since 2000 and committed to provide the IMF, the World Bank, and the African Development Fund (ADF) with \$2.5 billion to cover our share of the costs of MDRI.

In 2008, Canada went above and beyond its traditional commitment to the MDRI and provided IDA and the ADF with an accelerated payment schedule to cover a greater share of the costs of this initiative. This stronger commitment to the MDRI provides significant benefits to both IDA and the ADF as these institutions face a shortfall in donor financing. Canada's accelerated payment not only enables the institutions to cover their debt relief costs if countries progress at a faster rate than

expected, but also allows them to immediately increase their program lending to low-income countries.

More information is available at <http://imf.org/external/np/exr/facts/mdri.htm>

Bilateral and multilateral debt-relief disbursements are considered to be ODA-eligible as they contribute to poverty reduction by freeing up resources (which would otherwise be used to service sovereign debts) for use toward social expenditures. Further, debt-relief recipients self-direct poverty alleviation efforts based on their individual HIPC Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and must demonstrate that debt-relief efforts include equity (e.g. human rights) commitments.

CANADA AND THE BRETTON WOODS INSTITUTIONS

The information below is in response to specific requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* about Canada and the Bretton Wood Institutions.

Summary of the Canada at the IMF and World Bank 2008 report

The year 2008 was a pivotal year for the global economy. The different crises that have destabilized developed, emerging, and developing countries have highlighted the need for strong and effective international institutions. As the IMF's ninth largest shareholder and the World Bank's seventh largest shareholder, Canada has played a central role in shaping outcomes related to international financial stability and global poverty reduction.

Building on significant improvements made to last year's report, this year's *Report on Operations Under the Bretton Woods and Related Agreements Act* aims to provide Canadians with an understanding of how the Government of Canada is contributing to international efforts

to help ensure that the IMF and the World Bank can fulfill their mandates to the best extent possible. The 2008 report has three main components:

1. A basic introduction to the IMF and the World Bank Group, including information on how they operate, what they do, and how Canada participates in their governance (see the sections “Canada and the Bretton Woods Institutions: Mandates and Operations,” “An Introduction to the International Monetary Fund,” and “An Introduction to the World Bank Group”).
2. A section on the key developments in 2008 at the IMF and the World Bank, summarizing Canada’s role in the institutions’ response to the financial and food and fuel crises (see the section “Canada at the Bretton Woods Institutions: What Happened in 2008”).
3. A section on Canada’s short- and medium-term priorities, which describes Canada’s progress on the 2007 report’s priorities and planned actions, as well as measures to be taken in the next three years to continue working on these priorities (see the section “2008 Report on Canada’s Commitments at the Bretton Woods Institutions”).

Summary of representations made by Canada at the Bretton Woods Institutions

For Canadian statements at the International Monetary and Financial Committee of the Board of Governors for the IMF, please refer to the *Canada at the IMF and World Bank 2008* report, pp. 91–102
http://www.fin.gc.ca/bretwood/bretwd08_2-eng.asp#annex1

For Canadian statements at the Development Committee of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and the IMF, please refer to:

- a) *Canada at the IMF and World Bank 2008* report, pp. 103–109
http://www.fin.gc.ca/bretwood/bretwd08_2-eng.asp#annex2
- b) “Canada at the Bretton Woods Institutions: What Happened in 2008” (pp. 46–52) and the “2008 Report on Canada’s Commitments at the Bretton Woods Institutions” (pp. 53–89) sections of the *Canada at the IMF and World Bank 2008* report for further descriptions of Canadian positions on key issues such as the global financial and food and fuel crises.
http://www.fin.gc.ca/bretwood/bretwd08_1-eng.asp#bretton
http://www.fin.gc.ca/bretwood/bretwd08_1-eng.asp#2008

Canadian positions taken on resolutions adopted by the Board of Governors of the Bretton Woods Institutions

For Canada’s voting record in 2008 at the IMF, please refer to *Canada at the IMF and World Bank 2008*, pp. 25–26

http://www.fin.gc.ca/bretwood/bretwd08_1-eng.asp#imf

For Canada’s voting record in 2008 at the World Bank, please refer to *Canada at the IMF and World Bank 2008*, pp. 39–42

http://www.fin.gc.ca/bretwood/bretwd08_1-eng.asp#worldbank

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE CANADA

\$277.70 MILLION

The ODA of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$277,708,659.¹⁴

DFAIT's international assistance programs encompass a wide range of activities, including some expenditures that are considered ODA. For the purposes of this report, DFAIT's ODA expenditures have been grouped into six broad categories: security and stability programming, assessed contributions (including peacekeeping), services rendered abroad, democracy, children and youth (scholarships), and environment and climate change. A brief summary of each category follows.

SECURITY AND STABILITY: \$113,900,000

Funded from the Peace and Security pool of the International Assistance Envelope, the Global Peace and Security Fund (GPSF) provides dedicated resources for peace and security activities that are necessary for a timely response with respect to countries in or at risk of crisis. The fund focuses on programming that is not directly the responsibility of the Department of National Defence, or part of Canada's traditional official development assistance program. Examples of these activities include: supporting peace processes, facilitating justice and security system reform, enhancing transitional justice and reconciliation, and improving the peace enforcement and peace operations capacities of police in Africa and the Americas.

The GPSF is both a responsive and directive program, established to provide timely, focused, effective, and accountable international assistance in response to critical peace and security challenges. The fund is managed by the Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force (START), though DFAIT works closely with a range of government departments including CIDA, Public Safety, the RCMP, National Defence, Correctional Service, the Canada Border Services Agency, and Justice. Among other types of assistance, these partnerships provide critical expertise in the area of justice and security system reform to the civilian components of UN peace operations. In 2008–2009, approximately 250 projects were funded through the GPSF to support conflict prevention, post-conflict peacebuilding and stabilization initiatives, and prerequisites for effective poverty reduction in countries, such as Afghanistan, Haiti, and Sudan.

The GPSF is divided into three sub-programs: the Global Peace and Security Program (GPSP), the Global Peace Operations Program (GPOP), and the Glyn Berry Program. In 2008–2009, the GPSP focused on three Government of Canada foreign policy priority countries—Afghanistan, Haiti, and Sudan—and disbursed approximately \$138 million for 159 projects, of which approximately \$106 million was ODA. The GPOP concentrated its efforts on the development of peacekeeping capabilities with UN and regional organizations for future missions in the Americas and

14. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Africa, and supported 24 projects with \$8.7 million in programming, of which \$3.3 million was ODA. The Glyn Berry Program builds on Canada's direct contributions to fragile states by contributing to the dialogue surrounding the continuing evolution of international policies, laws, and institutions, as well as the promotion of democracy. The Glyn Berry Program provided over \$5 million to 64 diverse research, policy development, and advocacy initiatives; of this, \$4.6 million was ODA.

Following are some key results achieved through the GPSF:

- Funding to Haiti to advance security system reform by providing technical and financial support for police, corrections, and border management reform, including the deployment of up to 100 Canadian police and 8 correction officers to the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). DFAIT's investment in Haiti has been key to advancing Canada's engagement in the Americas, particularly in the area of democratic governance and security.
- Funding provided to Afghanistan in support of security sector development, including payment of Afghan police and correctional officer salaries.
- Support provided to peacebuilding and stabilization operations in four fragile areas (Colombia, Uganda, Lebanon, and the Middle East Peace Process) where Canada has strategic security interests. Funding was also provided for mine clearance and support to international tribunals, including funding for Sierra Leone, Lebanon, and Cambodia to facilitate reconciliation and the restoration of peace and the rule of law.

- Through partnerships with the UN, other multilateral institutions, and civil society organizations, contributions to the strengthening of regional stability, and help to advance efforts on peace, security, and human rights in fragile states.
- Increased protection of human rights of civilians at risk, including through the support of a review of the UN Security Council's use of sanctions.
- Support provided to build institutional and normative infrastructure to enhance the rights, safety, and democratic influence of individuals in fragile states and democratic crises. For example, the GPSF supported the youth "Get Out the Vote" campaign to increase participation in Venezuela's local and regional election. It also supported the development of an electronic database for UN sanctions reports, and the provision of real-time answers to peacebuilding questions from practitioners using a virtual workspace.
- Promotion of rights of victims and strengthening of institutions of truth, justice, and reconciliation. This has enabled Colombia to consolidate the gains of peace and security. The number of union workers killed has dropped from 250 annually to 38 in 2008, and the annual incidence of kidnapping has fallen from 4,000 to 197.

More information is available at <http://www.international.gc.ca/START-GTSR/gpsf-fpsm.aspx>

ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS¹⁵: \$88,684,772

The 24 bilateral and multilateral organizations to which Canada provided ODA assessed contributions in 2008–2009 include, but are not limited to, the following: the World Health Organization, the International Organization of La Francophonie, the Commonwealth Foundation, the Organization of American States (OAS), and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

In order to maintain its status as a member in good standing, Canada is required to provide its share of the total operations costs for each organization of which it is a member. This not only fulfills our obligations as a member of these organizations, but also allows us to advance our foreign and development policy priorities in key multilateral forums.

SERVICES RENDERED ABROAD: \$65,273,800

In accordance with the Treasury Board's Common Services Policy, the *Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Act*, and the Interdepartmental Memorandum of Understanding on Operations and Support at Missions Abroad, DFAIT manages the procurement of goods, services, and real property in support of diplomatic and consular missions, including the provision of common services for partner departments. CIDA transfers funds to DFAIT for the provision of these ODA-eligible common services to CIDA personnel, both Canada-based and locally engaged, at Canada's diplomatic and consular missions abroad.

DEMOCRACY: \$4,873,000

In line with a statutory obligation, DFAIT provides core funding to the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development (Rights & Democracy) to undertake programming work in 15 countries, including Afghanistan, Burma, Haiti, and Zimbabwe. Rights & Democracy works in the areas of democratic

development, economic and social rights, indigenous peoples' rights, and women's rights. The Centre is an important arm's-length partner of the Government of Canada. Its programming, policy research, and partnerships contribute to the visibility and impact of Canada's foreign policy abroad. Additionally, the government benefits from the organization's expertise and worldwide networks. Its arm's-length status provides it with the flexibility needed to respond to urgent human rights violations and democratic crises.

More information is available at:
<http://www.dd-rd.ca/site/>

CHILDREN AND YOUTH (SCHOLARSHIPS): \$3,725,362

The international scholarship program facilitated by DFAIT funds higher education and advanced technical and managerial training for ODA-eligible countries. In fiscal year 2008–2009, DFAIT funded 274 scholarships. The scholarship program supports human capital development, and creates institutional linkages with Canadian and regional post-secondary institutions in order to foster research collaborations and institutional agreements. Also, the scholarship program contributes to poverty reduction by developing a skilled workforce, leading to economic growth and development. Brain drain, a key challenge for developing countries, is minimized by DFAIT's scholarship program, which invites students to spend one semester in Canada while remaining registered in their home institution.

In the Caribbean and the Americas, the scholarships align with the priorities of Canada's Americas Strategy, including the promotion of democracy and good governance, as well as the rule of law and prosperity. In some countries that receive funding through DFAIT's scholarship program, priority is given to advanced scientific studies, such as medical research, infectious disease control, and other research topics related to sustainable resources, including agricultural water resources and food-crop production sources.

15. Assessed contributions are transfer payments by the federal government occasioned by Canada's membership in a bilateral or multilateral international organization. A predetermined portion of these contributions is considered ODA.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE: \$1,251,725

DFAIT's contribution to initiatives related to climate change and the environment includes funding for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)'s Least Developed Countries Expert Group. This contribution forms an important component of DFAIT's international assistance programming, as it supports effective international action to strengthen the capacity of the poorest and most vulnerable to adapt to the impacts of a changing climate. Canada's support to this initiative facilitated representation from developing countries in the Expert Group, helped the implementation of national adaptation programs of action, and increased the capacity to better manage national greenhouse gas inventories in Eastern and Southern Africa.

Additionally, DFAIT's assistance funded a project entitled *Assessing and Mitigating the Impacts of Climate Change on Coastal Infrastructure in the Caribbean*, aimed at reducing the vulnerability of coastal infrastructure in Caribbean countries to the adverse effects of climate change. This component of DFAIT's climate change and environment program directly contributed to the Department's focus on the Americas, and supported Canada's objective of promoting effective international action to strengthen the capacity of the poorest and most vulnerable to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

More information is available at <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>

CONCLUSION

The ODA portion of DFAIT's international assistance covers a diverse set of activities that range from peacekeeping, security, and stabilization efforts to scholarships, environment, and climate change mitigation projects. Some of our international assistance expenditures are mandated by our membership in international organizations or previously made

commitments, while others are mainly driven by Canada's foreign policy and international assistance priorities. In some instances DFAIT supports both ODA and non-ODA programming, such as in the case of the Global Peace and Security Fund. Furthermore, international disaster, emergency, and humanitarian assistance—a significant element of the Department's programming—falls under the definition of ODA in the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* without having to meet the additional requirements specified in section 4 of the act.

DFAIT's international assistance programming also includes horizontal funding to support initiatives managed by other government departments. For example, in 2008–2009 DFAIT provided flow-through funding to the RCMP for the Canadian Police Arrangement and the International Police Peacekeeping Program. As the funding is via interdepartmental transfers, reporting of these initiatives is under the responsibility of the RCMP.

In addition to DFAIT's important ODA programming, the Department also funds non-ODA initiatives, which make a substantial contribution to achieving Canada's overall international assistance objectives, and also complement the Department's ODA programs. For example, the Global Partnership Program and the Counter-Terrorism Capacity Building Program are major international assistance programs at DFAIT that are very significant in both size and importance, but are not defined as ODA.

More information is available at <http://www.international.gc.ca/international/index.aspx>

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE

\$175.75 MILLION

The ODA of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$175,754,000.¹⁶

Canada's IDRC is a Crown corporation created in 1970 that supports researchers and innovators in the developing world as they work to improve lives and lift communities out of poverty. In fiscal year 2008–2009, the IDRC spent \$205,429,000 in support of this effort. Parliamentary appropriations accounted for \$175,754,000 (85.5 percent) of the total, equivalent to the IDRC's contribution to Canada's ODA in fiscal year 2008–2009. The remainder was generated by partnerships with other funders and is therefore not part of Canada's ODA.

The IDRC provides both younger and more accomplished scholars in developing countries with the funds, support, and connections to find solutions to the pressing problems affecting their societies. The IDRC also enables many of the brightest minds in Canada and the developing world to collaborate on cutting-edge projects. These lead to improvements such as higher crop yields, increased market access, cleaner environments, better health, new technologies, fairer laws, and equal opportunities. At the end of 2008–2009, the IDRC was supporting 1,077 applied research projects. The following examples attest to the Centre's commitment to making knowledge a tool for creating wealth and opportunities throughout the developing world.¹⁷

Forging partnerships to solve global health challenges

Researchers from Burkina Faso, Mali, and Canada are investigating treatment delays in obstetric emergencies as they study the access to health care of vulnerable populations. The project takes aim at one of the starkest health inequalities on the planet: the 1 in 16 lifetime risk of dying from pregnancy-related complications faced by women in sub-Saharan Africa (compared with 1 in 2,800 in rich countries). This is just one of the topics being tackled by the first 14 teams funded under the Teasdale-Corti Global Health Research Partnership Program. This is the flagship initiative of a unique partnership of five Canadian federal agencies, which is housed at the IDRC. The Global Health Research Initiative brings together Health Canada, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, CIDA, the IDRC, and the Public Health Agency of Canada. The program fosters international research partnerships that aim to boost Canada's contribution to solving global health challenges.

Helping African farmers adapt to climate change

Researchers working to offset the impacts of climate change for farmers in Benin have helped to set up early warning committees that bring together local authorities, development workers, meteorologists, and farmers. The committees, now active in 35 communes, meet regularly to provide farmers with information they need to foresee climate risks. Researchers in the Horn of

16. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Section 4(4) of the act states, "Nothing in this Act shall be construed so as to limit the funding or restrict the activities of the International Development Research Centre."

17. For more details, see the IDRC's 2008–2009 Annual Report at www.idrc.ca/en/ev-144511-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html.

Africa, meanwhile, are developing indices on insurance coverage for farmers practising rain-fed agriculture. The Ethiopian Insurance Authority has expressed interest in using the study's results as it works out insurance packages to be offered to farmers. These two initiatives form part of Climate Change Adaptation in Africa, a collaboration launched in 2006 between the IDRC and the UK's Department for International Development. It supports 38 research and capacity-building projects in 29 countries.

Simple measures prevent spread of disease in Guatemala

In November 2008 the Intergovernmental Commission of the Central American Initiative for Chagas Disease Control confirmed that Guatemala had become the first country in Central America to be certified for interruption of Chagas disease transmission by *Rhodnius prolixus*. The means: spraying homes with insecticides, and replastering walls and floors to keep the insect out of houses. An estimated 10 million people in the Americas are infected with Chagas, which is often fatal. The second vector, the triatomine bug, is a more formidable foe, which cannot be eradicated by spraying. Researchers funded by the IDRC have now found the means to defeat it, working in collaboration with affected communities. The research is led by medical entomologist Maria Carlota Monroy, founder and senior researcher at the Laboratory of Applied Entomology and Parasitology at San Carlos University in Guatemala. She has been invited by health officials in Honduras and Mexico to train their staff on the disease-fighting methods.

Mobile phones connect poor farmers to small markets

IDRC-supported research led by LIRNEasia (Learning Initiatives on Reforms for Network Economies, a think-tank based in Colombo, Sri Lanka) is exploring how mobile phones and related technologies can improve the lives of the poor. LIRNEasia researchers completed an extensive study of how 10,000 poor people use

information and communication technologies in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. The research results are being applied to help farmers use mobile phones as a tool—to get better prices for their produce at markets, for example. This year, the largest mobile phone operator in Sri Lanka will apply findings from the study to get market price information to farmers using text messaging, the Internet, or call centres.

Ensuring fair treatment for women in Caribbean courts

Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago are beginning to change how child support cases are handled in the courts. The problems: many poor female-headed households, social assistance and legal systems that consider children solely the mother's responsibility, and an overburdened court system. With IDRC support, legal experts from the two countries set out to assess how the systems could be reformed to help more women and children escape poverty. The research findings have been presented to government officials and court personnel. In Barbados, the Attorney-General and the Minister of Family, Youth and Sports have indicated their interest in moving forward to reform the child support law. In Trinidad and Tobago, where there is a new pilot family court, the researchers were able to show whether the new court was providing better service than the old one. The researchers were also able to provide technical support for the drafting of the child support law for Antigua and Barbuda, which was adopted by Parliament in April 2008.

Bigger crops lead to better health in Malawi

In 2000, Ekwendeni Hospital in northern Malawi set out to improve the child nutrition, food security, and soil fertility of poor farm households. How? By producing a natural renewable fertilizer by intercropping protein-rich legumes such as pigeon pea, soybeans, and groundnuts. These fix nitrogen in the soil, thus boosting crop yields while reducing the need for expensive fertilizers. Supported by the IDRC since 2001, the project has

improved nutrition, particularly of women and children, and helped to strengthen communities. The project is a collaboration between Ekwendeni Hospital, HealthBridge Foundation of Canada, and the University of Western Ontario's Department of Geography. The researchers are now working with the University of Malawi's Bunda College of Agriculture to expand the approach to other parts of the country.

Eminent scholars team up to find answers

Eight stellar scientists from the developing world were named IDRC Research Chairs this year as part of a new joint initiative between the IDRC and the Canada Research Chairs Program. The leading scholars, who are based at universities in Brazil, China, Ghana, India, Morocco, and Uganda, will each work with a Canada Research Chair on a five-year program of research and training. With each team receiving a grant of up to \$1 million, the IDRC Research Chairs will have the funds to hire graduate students, attract post-doctoral researchers, and fill laboratories with the equipment they need to undertake research on shared concerns, such as fisheries management, child nutrition, and wireless communications. The goals of this International Research Chairs Initiative: world-class discoveries and healthier, wealthier, fairer societies.

Bolstering think-tanks in the developing world

The IDRC has teamed up with the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation on the US\$90-million Think Tank Initiative, a major program aimed at helping the best policy research institutes in the developing world survive and thrive. In an initial round of grants, 24 institutes in West and East Africa were selected this year to receive long-term core support. The Think Tank Initiative will offer these and other promising organizations a chance to become more influential engines of positive change in their societies. Predictable funding will allow

the institutes to hire and hold on to top researchers, and undertake more research of practical use to policymakers. Organizations in Latin America and South Asia will receive support in a next phase of this program.

Canadian and Chinese economists join forces against poverty

For the past three years, the IDRC, in partnership with the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) in Waterloo, Ontario, and Beijing Normal University has helped to build a research network on poverty in China. The goal has been to support promising young scholars and encourage fresh thinking in an area of increasing concern to China: the rising inequality that has accompanied high economic growth. Senior Chinese and international economists have so far mentored 19 young Chinese economists as they have undertaken applied research and produced papers of original scholarship. The network is coordinated by CIGI Distinguished Fellow John Whalley and Li Shi, professor of economics at Beijing Normal University.

Research leads to change in Arab women's rights

Women in Arab countries are making human rights history as they break down barriers to being treated as full citizens in their own countries. In the past few years women in Algeria, Egypt, and Morocco married to foreigners have won the right to transmit their citizenship to spouses and children. Before these hard-won gains, women married to foreigners had to apply for temporary residence permits for family members—even their own children—who also faced restrictions in health care, education, jobs, and travel. Research supported by the IDRC contributed to changing these policies in Egypt in 2004, Algeria in 2005, and most recently in Morocco.

CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION CANADA

\$92.05 MILLION

The ODA of Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$92,054,437¹⁸.

Citizenship and Immigration Canada protects refugees overseas by bringing them to Canada and protects successful asylum claimants within Canada's borders. Resettled refugees receive income support payments for their first 12 months in Canada under the Resettlement Assistance Program. Along with successful refugee claimants, they are also eligible for services provided by Citizenship and Immigration's settlement programs. Services include language skills training, a mentorship program between recently arrived immigrants and established residents, and support including, but not limited to, employment counselling, community orientation and translation services. All refugees are eligible for temporary health-care coverage through the Interim Federal Health Program. In 2008–2009, the total assistance provided to refugees in Canada during the first year was \$92.05 million.

Offering support and protection to refugees through either resettlement or asylum recognizes that, in some situations, protection from human rights violations may be possible only in a third country. Providing resettlement to refugees contributes to poverty reduction in developing countries as refugee populations, and the costs associated with providing asylum, are reduced. The provision of income support to resettled refugees in Canada provides financial security to families while

members learn necessary language and employment skills. The provision of settlement services to all refugees in Canada is important for their future economic and social integration into Canadian society.

Citizenship and Immigration Canada frequently discusses the assistance provided to refugees during their first year in Canada with stakeholders, including the Canadian Council for Refugees, the community of private sponsors known as Sponsorship Agreement Holders, the Resettlement Assistance Program Working Group, and relevant service-providing organizations. In addition, the Department works closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to ensure that resources are used effectively to offer protection to those most in need.

Since the Second World War, more than 780,000 refugees and persons in similar circumstances have been resettled in Canada. Canada continues to work closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to provide durable solutions for refugees. In 1986, the people of Canada were awarded the Nansen Medal by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in "recognition of their "major and sustained contribution . . . to the cause of refugees." In 2008, Canada selected and resettled over 10,800 refugees from abroad. In addition, protection was granted to over 11,000 refugees and their dependants who claimed asylum within Canada.

More information is available at <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/index.asp>

18. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

\$19.61 MILLION

The ODA of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$19,610,843.¹⁹

The RCMP, on behalf of Canada, deploys police officers to international peace missions around the world. In 2008–2009, the International Peace Operations Branch deployed Canadian police to 16 separate missions. The police assist in rebuilding and strengthening police services in countries that have had, or are currently experiencing conflict or upheaval. By building the capacity of foreign police to maintain law and order, Canadian police, in cooperation with international partners, help create a safer and more stable environment. This in turn paves the way for long-term development and can also prevent illicit activities from spilling across borders into other countries, including Canada.

Foreign requests for Canadian police assistance come from organizations such as the United Nations or from specific countries. The decision to deploy Canadian police is made within the framework of the Canadian Police Arrangement (CPA) a partnership between DFAIT, CIDA, Public Safety Canada, and the RCMP.

More information is available at <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/po-mp/cpa-apc-eng.htm>

The RCMP International Peace Operations Branch is responsible for managing the deployment of Canadian police officers to various missions around the world. On behalf of the Government of Canada, the Branch oversees the selection of candidates, and provides pre-deployment training and ongoing medical, psychological, and logistical support.

More information is available at <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/po-mp/index-eng.htm>

Following are some examples of Canadian police participation in missions.

Afghanistan

Canadian police officers are supporting various missions in Afghanistan. One of them is the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan (CSTC-A). Its main focus is to develop the Ministry of the Interior and staff, train, and equip the Afghan National Police (ANP). An additional critical element is to “operationalize” the ANP from top to bottom, improving accountability and providing greater visibility in areas where the coalition can assist Afghans to become more self-sufficient.

More information is available at <http://www.cstc-a.com/>

19. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Côte d'Ivoire

Police officers within the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) are responsible for ensuring compliance with the UN mandate as well as international criminal justice and human rights standards. They ensure that law and order is effectively maintained. The mission mandate calls for non-executive policing duties, which include a monitoring role. Canadian police officers are responsible for assessing and identifying the current training standards and needs of police officers.

More information is available at
<http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/missions/unoci/>

Sudan

The main objectives of the UN police in the United Nations African Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) are to contribute to the creation of an environment conducive to national reconciliation and lasting peace and stability in Sudan, where human rights are respected, the protection of all citizens is assured, and internally displaced persons and refugees can return home in safety and dignity. To achieve these objectives, the

UN police work closely with communities throughout Darfur, the Government of Sudan, the UN military, humanitarian agencies, and other vital partners. The vast majority of activities conducted by UN police in Darfur are focused upon the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps, and working to create safety and security for approximately 2.5 million people living in these locations.

More information is available at
<http://unamid.unmissions.org>

Haiti

Police officers within the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) are responsible for ensuring compliance with the UN mandate, as well as international criminal justice and human rights standards. They carry out executive policing duties, which include monitoring, advising, and training local police forces. They are also responsible for assessing and identifying current training standards and needs for local police forces.

More information is available at
<http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/missions/minustah/>

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

\$18.79 MILLION

The ODA of the Department of National Defence (DND) for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$18,794,776²⁰.

DND's ODA activities consisted of the following:

Provincial Reconstruction Team – Afghanistan: \$10,733,836

The Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) reinforces the authority of the Afghan government in Kandahar Province, monitors security, promotes Afghan government policies and priorities with local authorities, and facilitates security sector reforms.

Canada assumed responsibility for the Kandahar PRT in August 2005. Its role in Afghanistan is to help the democratically elected government extend its authority and ability to govern, rebuild the nation, and provide services to its citizens.

Based in Kandahar City in the southern province of Kandahar, the Canadian PRT is located in the former heartland of the Taliban regime, which previously controlled much of Afghanistan. Kandahar is one of the Afghan provinces in greatest need of support and is also among those most targeted by insurgents.

The 330-person PRT combines the expertise of diplomats, corrections experts, development specialists, the Canadian police (including the RCMP), and approximately 280 Canadian Forces members. It

supports key initiatives in the province and carries out a broad range of enabling roles, such as police training and strengthening local governance capacity, in line with Canada's priorities in Afghanistan.

The PRT works on projects that have impact in the long, medium, and short term. The most important achievements will be those that foster long-term, sustainable benefits for the Afghan people. At the same time, quick-impact projects are also being carried out across the province to respond to the immediate needs that Afghans face in their daily lives.

More information is available at <http://www.comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/athena/index-eng.asp>

http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/kandahar/kprt-eprk.aspx?menu_id=41&menu=L

Operation HORATIO in Haiti: \$1,600,120

The Canadian Forces participated in the Government of Canada humanitarian assistance effort in the Republic of Haiti in the wake of four hurricanes—Fay, Gustav, Hanna, and Ike—in 2008.

The Canadian Forces were part of the Joint Task Force Haiti, which comprised all the Canadian assets deployed on the humanitarian aid mission in Haiti, including the Interdepartmental Strategic Support Team (ISST) and the Halifax-class frigate HMCS *St. John's*.

20. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The ISST conducted its assessment in cooperation with the Government of Haiti. Storm damage was found to be the worst in the country's southern region, where the destruction of vital infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, made overland transportation of aid supplies very difficult.

When the World Food Programme asked the Government of Canada for help transporting supplies, HMCS *St. John's* was tasked with the challenge of delivering urgently needed food to the devastated region south of Port-au-Prince. By the time the operation concluded, HMCS *St. John's* had delivered more than 450 tonnes of rice, corn-soya meal, bottled water, water purification tablets, and other relief supplies over a 13-day period. The ship's helicopter flew more than 20 sorties, reaching some of the world's most densely populated communities all along the coast of Haiti's southern peninsula.

More information is available at <http://www.comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/horatio/index-eng.asp>

Operation ALTAIR (World Food Programme) in Somalia: \$6,460,820

Canadian Forces participated in the Government of Canada humanitarian assistance effort in escorting World Food Programme ships carrying life-saving supplies in the region of Somalia.

As part of the Government of Canada response to a global request from the WFP and the International Maritime Organization (both United Nations organizations), HMCS *Ville de Québec* was tasked to escort ships carrying World Food Programme food assistance in the coastal region of Somalia. More than 3.2 million Somalis need food assistance, of which 90 percent arrives by sea.

Beginning in August 2008, HMCS *Ville de Québec* provided a naval escort to 10 ships under contract to the WFP to protect them from piracy and armed robbery. Around 36,200 tonnes of food—enough to feed about 400,000 people for six months—was successfully delivered to Somalia by ships escorted by HMCS *Ville de Québec*.

Although pirates had launched more than 70 attacks on vessels in Somali waters in the first 10 months of 2008, no ship carrying WFP food assistance was attacked while under Canadian escort.

“The Government of Canada was proud to respond to the request from the United Nations to provide security, while ensuring the safe arrival of critical food supplies at designated ports,” said the Honourable Peter Gordon MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway. “By escorting World Food Programme supplies, the brave men and women of our Canadian Forces continue to contribute to humanitarian efforts and international peace and stability.”

More information is available at http://www.navy.forces.gc.ca/cms/4/4-a_eng.asp?category=15&id=680

http://www.navy.forces.gc.ca/cms/4/4-a_eng.asp?id=702

HEALTH CANADA

\$11.97 MILLION

Health Canada's ODA for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$11,966,882.²¹

The causes of ill health do not respect borders. Non-communicable diseases continue to account for the majority of deaths and illnesses in the Americas, regardless of the country of residence. In some populations, infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, vector-borne malaria, and dengue continue to spread with devastating results. Marginalized and poor populations—especially indigenous people, women, children, and the elderly—continue to suffer the most from inequitable access to health services. Given the massive and frequent movement of people and goods between countries, it is crucial that Canada work in partnership to address threats to global health.

Canada has committed to undertake activities that will address the health concerns of citizens from across the Americas. We view health as a fundamental investment that has both economic and political benefits. Healthy people are productive people who make important contributions to the economic well-being of their country. Collaboration between countries in the Americas region benefits us all through the creation of opportunities to share expertise, knowledge, and information with the ultimate goal of addressing the health concerns affecting the region.

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) serves as the Regional Office for the Americas of the World Health Organization, as well as the technical health agency of the Organization of American States. PAHO's mission is to lead strategic collaborative efforts among member states and other partners to promote equity in health, combat disease, and improve the quality of life and lengthen the lifespan of peoples of the Americas. Canada's assessed contribution²² to PAHO supports this mission.

Canada has been an active member of PAHO since 1971, playing a leadership role in advancing governance and program policy issues at the Organization. Through PAHO, Canada advances multilateral and bilateral relations in health, and provides technical cooperation and capacity building.

Canadian technical experts are regularly called upon to participate in regional meetings and projects. Small-scale health projects are also supported through the PAHO–Canada Biennial Workplan Budget, managed by Health Canada and PAHO. This allows for partnerships between Canada and Latin America and the Caribbean to advance strategic health priorities.

For example, support from PAHO and Health Canada has deepened and secured important new ground in collaboration between the Children's Hospital of

21. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

22. Assessed contributions are transfer payments by the federal government occasioned by Canada's membership in a bilateral or multilateral international organization. A predetermined portion of these contributions is considered ODA.

Eastern Ontario (CHEO) and the Oaxaca Children's Hospital in Mexico. This support has enabled a series of professional exchanges and on-site visits, strengthened the technical capabilities of the Oaxaca Children's Hospital, and (perhaps most importantly) helped leverage and create momentum for attracting additional resources for the projects underway. Through staff training in immunofluorescence, a laboratory technique that permits rapid and accurate virus detection and differentiation, this collaboration has strengthened the

diagnosis of viral respiratory infections. The experience ultimately has served to bring a better quality of life to children from families who live in extreme poverty and reside in some of Mexico's most underserved geographical areas. CHEO's twinning project with Oaxaca has also been enhanced to include a large teaching hospital in Guadalajara and two new maternal/newborn centres in the state of Guerrero.

More information is available at <http://new.paho.org/can>

ENVIRONMENT CANADA

\$4.04 MILLION

Environment Canada's ODA for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$4,040,000.²³

Environment Canada recognizes that international cooperation on environmental issues is of growing importance, and environmental sustainability is an essential element for global economic and social well-being.

Unfortunately, overexploitation of natural resources and degradation of the environment have caused alarming changes around the world. For developing countries that most depend on ecosystem goods and services for their livelihood, these environmental changes directly harm their most vulnerable populations. However, efforts to preserve and improve the environment in developing countries lead to enhanced fulfillment of basic needs, improved living standards, and a safer, more prosperous future.

Environment Canada often provides support to developing countries in their efforts to protect and manage their environments in a more sustainable manner. In 2008–2009, Environment Canada provided ODA through two types of activities: support for multilateral environmental organizations, and bilateral technical cooperation with developing countries.

Support for multilateral environmental organizations

Environment Canada provides support to various multilateral organizations to assist developing countries in improving environmental conditions, and therefore improving the livelihoods of vulnerable populations in these countries.

Environment Canada provides annual support to the United Nations Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol. The fund was created in 1991 in order to assist developing countries with the costs of phasing out ozone-depleting substances. Environment Canada is responsible for contributing 20 percent of Canada's assessed obligation²⁴ to the fund. In fiscal year 2008–2009, Environment Canada's contribution was provided both through bilateral projects in developing countries and through direct cash payments to the fund. Depletion of the ozone layer occurs globally and mostly impacts health, with increases in cancer rates, cataracts and blindness. Increased ultraviolet rays also harm other forms of wildlife, particularly ocean plankton, the base of the ocean food chain. Ultraviolet rays can damage certain crops, like rice, which many people in the developing world rely on for food. All of these impacts will affect vulnerable low-income countries disproportionately. Additionally, the majority of remaining ozone-depleting

23. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

24. Assessed contributions are transfer payments by the federal government occasioned by Canada's membership in a bilateral or multilateral international organization. A predetermined portion of these contributions is considered ODA.

substances in the world are now used in developing countries, often in such basic sectors as refrigeration and agriculture. Resources from the fund are used to ensure that phase-out of these substances does not adversely affect the economies of developing countries.

Environment Canada also provided funds for Canada's 2008 annual core contribution to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Canada's contribution allows UNEP to fulfill its core mandate to serve as the environmental authority within the United Nations system by coordinating the development of environmental policy and law, keeping the global environment under review, and bringing emerging issues to the attention of governments and the international community for action. UNEP is based in Kenya. A large part of its work focuses on environmental issues faced by developing countries.

In fiscal year 2008–2009, Environment Canada supported the Basel Convention Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment. This initiative is a multi-stakeholder partnership intended to increase the environmentally sound management of used and end-of-life computing equipment, taking into account social responsibility and the concept of sustainable development. The Partnership will establish international guidance material to help foster the environmentally sound management of e-waste via refurbishing and recycling, and pilot e-waste collection programs in selected developing countries. The integration of e-waste collection and refurbishing/recycling programs can help to alleviate poverty by providing a means of education, training, and employment to individuals in developing countries, specifically people who may have been engaged in the informal sector.

Finally, Environment Canada provides Canada's annual contribution to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the UN system's authoritative voice on the state and behaviour of the Earth's atmosphere, its interaction with the oceans, the climate it produces, and the resulting distribution of water resources. Since its establishment, the WMO has played a unique and powerful role in contributing to the safety and welfare of humanity. Under WMO leadership and within the framework of WMO programs, national meteorological and hydrological services contribute substantially to protecting life and property against natural disasters, safeguarding the environment, and enhancing the economic and social well-being of all sectors of society in areas such as food security, water resources, and transport. The WMO supports developing countries in strengthening their national meteorological and hydrological services. In this way, it provides timely advice and early warnings on weather, climate, and water; supports women in least developed countries who are particularly affected by weather, climate, and water shocks; and strengthens the productive capacities of developing countries.

Bilateral technical cooperation with developing countries

Environment Canada also engages in bilateral technical cooperation with various developing countries on environmental issues that directly affect the environment and wellbeing of developing country citizens.

In 2008–2009, Environment Canada provided bilateral technical support for developing country stakeholders on environmental monitoring techniques. Environment Canada staff conducted training seminars to developing country government officials, consultants, pulp mill representatives, environmental researchers, and

scientists from Argentina, Brazil and Chile on the effects of pulp mill effluents and on Environment Canada's Environmental Effects Monitoring Program. Environment Canada also evaluated a potential fish monitoring program for Bhutan within the context of the massive expansion of hydroelectric development in that country. Non-lethal fish-monitoring methods were developed to keep in line with Buddhist culture. Finally, Environment Canada supplied researchers in Uganda with sampling equipment to collect water, air, and biological samples from Lake Victoria.

Environment Canada also provided technical support to developing countries on wildlife conservation. In 2008–2009, this included support for the Neotropical Waterbird Census, a citizen science-based survey that engages many hundreds of volunteers in 11 countries in South America to collect information on bird use of wetlands. Additionally, Environment Canada provided support for the coordination of the Southern Cone Grasslands Alliance, an initiative aimed at providing a central, broad-based partnership to address key

conservation issues for birds in the southernmost areas of South America—a region supporting species of high conservation concern that migrate there from Canada. Key to the success of this program is developing a conservation ethic for ranchers, leading to profitable beef production without loss of biodiversity.

Finally, within the context of the 1997 Canada–Chile Agreement on Environmental Cooperation, Environment Canada cooperates with the Government of Chile to strengthen the environmental cooperation between the two countries, and the effective enforcement of domestic environmental laws and regulations. In fiscal year 2008–2009, Environment Canada provided support for a bird-banding seminar in Chile; a pulp and paper effluent research workshop; a workshop on a shared seabird, the Pink-footed Shearwater; and the organization of the Eighth Council Session of the Canada–Chile Commission for Environmental Cooperation. In this way, Environment Canada contributes to the policies of sustainable development promoted by the Government of Chile.

LABOUR CANADA

\$1.40 MILLION

Labour Canada's ODA for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$1,400,000.²⁵

The Labour Program negotiates and administers Canada's labour cooperation agreements (LCAs), which are parallel instruments under Canada's free trade agreements. The LCAs seek to improve working conditions and living standards in the signatory countries, and to protect and enhance basic workers' rights.

In addition to negotiating LCAs, the Labour Program provides technical assistance to developing countries. This assistance funds capacity-building projects that support the modernization of labour policy and administration in order to foster better enforcement of national labour laws and greater respect for internationally recognized core labour standards.

Technical assistance is delivered through the International Trade and Labour Program (ITLP), a grants and contributions program established in 2004. The ITLP seeks to strengthen institutions of democratic governance, promote economic growth while respecting workers' rights, and improve the quality of working conditions in partner countries.

In fiscal year 2008–2009, the Labour Program provided a total of \$1.4 million in ODA through grants to multilateral organizations. Multiyear support was given to the International Labour Organization (ILO) for the implementation of two distinct projects and to the Inter-American Network for Labour Administration²⁶, which operates within the framework of the Organization of American States (OAS).

In fiscal year 2008–2009, the Labour Program provided the ILO with \$150,000 to begin the implementation of a labour relations project in Colombia, where labour issues and labour rights remain problematic. The objective of this project is to strengthen the Permanent Commission on Wage and Labour Policies and its departmental sub-commissions. The project will facilitate the strengthening of existing synergies and foster the development of new synergies between the government, employers, and union organizations within the Tripartite Agreement to Promote Freedom of Association and Democracy, which was signed in June 2006.

The Labour Program also provided \$500,000 to the ILO for a project seeking to eliminate forced labour and human trafficking in Jordan. The objectives of the project are to: (1) strengthen government law enforcement capacity to identify, investigate, and prosecute offences for forced labour and human trafficking; and (2) support the establishment of an efficient and regulated recruitment mechanism.

25. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

26. Known as RIAL, the acronym for its Spanish name: Red Interamericana para la Administración Laboral.

Expected results are threefold:

- At the end of the project, the Government of Jordan should have relevant legislation in place and better institutional capacity to enforce this legislation.
- A regulated system for recruiting foreign workers should have been established and be operating efficiently.
- Bilateral relations between Jordan and labour-sending countries should have improved, and possibly new agreements between them will have been concluded.

In fiscal year 2008–2009, the Labour Program provided the Inter-American Network for Labour Administration with \$750,000 to further its capacity-building programming. Part of this funding was used for three key hemispheric workshops: “Occupational Health and Safety” (Peru, October 2008); “Public Employment Services” (Panama, December 2008); and “Labour Migration and Labour Market Information Systems” (Canada, February 2009). The third of these workshops, held in Québec City in February 2009, brought together representatives from the ministries of labour of 22 countries, as well as members of the Trade Union Technical Advisory Council (representing workers of

the Americas) and the Business Technical Advisory Committee on Labor Matters (representing employers of the Americas), as well as several specialists from, inter alia, the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration, and the OAS. The main objective of this particular workshop was to discuss how labour market information systems support the development of migration policies and assist in mitigating the impacts of the current global economic crisis.

Part of the funding provided to the Inter-American Network for Labour Administration is also used to implement the RIAL Cooperation Fund, which facilitates small-scale bilateral cooperation exchanges between the ministries of labour in the Americas. In March 2009, 20 new cooperative activities were approved. One of the fund’s major strengths is that the content of each cooperation activity is tailored to the needs and interests of the participating ministries. The fund is showing promising results, including the reformulation of internal procedures, the drafting of legislation, the modernization of management processes, and the creation and redefinition of functions and structures. These initiatives contribute to strengthening labour administration in the region and thus compliance with internationally recognized core labour standards.

INDUSTRY CANADA

\$0.97 MILLION

Industry Canada's ODA for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$974,172.²⁷

Industry Canada's contribution was in the form of Canada's annual assessed contribution²⁸ to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

Industry Canada is Canada's official representative to the ITU, and serves on its Governing Council of 46 member states.

Canada's contribution supports the ITU's mandate to enable the growth and sustained development of telecommunications and information networks, and to facilitate universal access so that people everywhere can participate in and benefit from the emerging information society and global economy. The ability to communicate freely is a prerequisite for a more equitable, prosperous, and peaceful world. ITU assists in mobilizing the technical, financial, and human resources needed to make this vision a reality.

A key priority is bridging the digital divide by building information and communication infrastructure, promoting adequate capacity building, and developing confidence in the use of cyberspace through enhanced

online security. Achieving cybersecurity and cyberpeace are among the most critical concerns of the information age, and the ITU is taking concrete measures through its landmark Global Cybersecurity Agenda.

The ITU also concentrates on strengthening emergency communications for disaster prevention and mitigation. While both developing and developed countries are equally vulnerable to natural disasters, poorer nations are harder-hit because of their already fragile economies and lack of resources.

Whether through developing the standards used to create infrastructure to deliver telecommunications services on a worldwide basis, equitably managing the radio frequency spectrum and satellite orbits to help bring wireless services to every corner of the world, or providing support to countries as they pursue telecommunications development strategies, all the elements of the ITU's work are centred on the goals of putting every human being within easy and affordable reach of information and communications, and contributing significantly toward economic and social development for all people.

27. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

28. Assessed contributions are transfer payments by the federal government occasioned by Canada's membership in a bilateral or multilateral international organization. A predetermined portion of these contributions is considered ODA.

The ITU has a dual responsibility as a United Nations specialized agency and an executing agency for implementing projects under the United Nations development system or other funding arrangements. Its duties involve:

- assisting countries in the field of information and communication technology by facilitating the mobilization of technical, human, and financial resources needed for its implementation, as well as by promoting access to this technology;

- promoting the extension of the benefits of information and communication technology to all the world's citizens;
- promoting and participating in actions that contribute to narrowing the digital divide; and
- developing and managing programs that facilitate information flow geared to the needs of developing countries.

More information is available at <http://www.itu.int>

PARKS CANADA

\$0.47 MILLION

Parks Canada's ODA for fiscal year 2008–2009 totalled \$469,000.²⁹

Overall, Parks Canada provides official development assistance at two levels, multilaterally and bilaterally. Its multilateral funding includes its annual core contribution to UNESCO's World Heritage Fund and its membership dues as Canada's representative to the World Conservation Union (IUCN).

In 2008–2009, Parks Canada also provided funding for 11 young people from various developing countries to participate in a youth component of the 32nd Session of the World Heritage Committee, hosted by Canada in Québec City. Parks Canada further provided funding for the participation of a Kenyan and a Costa Rican in a workshop on sustainable development and protected areas, coordinated by the Agency at the IUCN's World Conservation Congress in Barcelona, Spain.

Bilateral ODA work undertaken by Parks Canada in 2008–2009 included advancing the Agency's ongoing partnership with the Kenya Wildlife Service and supporting international participation in Canada's Parks System Leadership Course. Under a memorandum of understanding between Parks Canada and the Kenya Wildlife Service, four Parks Canada staff members visited several Kenyan national parks to discuss park management activities, including capacity building, staff training, operations management, and use of science and conservation tools.

For the second year in a row, Parks Canada also facilitated and supported the participation of two international representatives, a Nepalese and a Kenyan, in the week-long Parks System Leadership Course delivered by the Canadian Parks Council.

29. The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

APPENDIX: SUMMARY OF CIDA'S 2007–2008 DEPARTMENTAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Agency's aid programs are centered on the needs and areas where Canada can add value. It continues to bring Canada's expertise to the developing world in private sector development, health, basic education, the environment, democratic governance and equality between women and men. This approach helps developing nations become self-sufficient and better able to provide basic services to their people.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES, 2007–2008		
Planned spending	Total authorities	Actual spending
\$3,069,354,000	\$3,326,658,788	\$3,254,420,910 ³⁰

HUMAN RESOURCES (IN FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS), 2007–2008		
Planned	Actual	Difference
1,676	1,791	115

For the complete text of CIDA's 2007–2008 Departmental Performance Report, visit:
<http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/dpr-rmr/2007-2008/inst/ida/ida00-eng.asp>

REVIEW OF CANADA'S AID PROGRAM

Every five years, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) reviews Canada's aid program. The October 2007 review acknowledged the progress made in a number of areas, such as the whole-of-government approach to working with fragile states, humanitarian action, an increased focus on Africa, and growth in the aid budget. The review recommended that Canada: adopt clear objectives for development assistance; focus on fewer country partners; distribute multilateral aid more strategically; reinforce the implementation of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness; delegate greater authority to its employees working in the field; and carry out its transformation initiative. These recommendations were taken into account in CIDA's Report on Plans and Priorities for 2008–2009.

30. These figures cover fiscal year 2007–2008, prior to the adoption of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act*.

INCREASED ACHIEVEMENT OF DEVELOPMENT GOALS CONSISTENT WITH CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES

The following progress was made toward **development goals**:

- Substantial progress was made in meeting the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as the global death rate in children under age 5 dropped from 91 per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 71 per 1,000 in 2006. This means millions of children's lives were saved. CIDA played a leading role in helping achieve this result through its work in vaccination and nutrition, and in addressing communicable diseases. In November 2007, the Prime Minister announced the Canada-led Initiative to Save a Million Lives.
- In education, progress has been made in achieving the education MDGs. Primary school enrolment has increased and spectacular advances were made in regions with the lowest enrolment, such as sub-Saharan Africa. More girls are in school than ever before and spending for basic education has increased.
- Many developing countries have made steady progress in fostering strong private sector-led growth, which has increased their share of the world economy.
- CIDA continued to support global solutions to environmental issues and to achieve results for equality between women and men.

The following progress was made toward **democratic governance**:

- There has been an overall increase in the quality of governance between 2000 and 2006, but progress in particular areas has been uneven throughout the world.

In terms of progress made toward **departmental priorities**, CIDA had established eight key deliverables. In 2007–2008, CIDA met seven of them, and partially met one:

- CIDA made progress in bringing greater focus to its bilateral aid. Bilateral spending increased from 78 percent in the top 20 countries in 2006–2007 to 81 percent. Consensus on geographical concentration was achieved.
- The Agency continued to emphasize democratic governance and equality between women and men in its programming, partnerships and policies.
- As Chair of the OECD Development Assistance Committee's Advisory Group on Civil Society and Aid Effectiveness, CIDA led an extensive consultation to recognize civil society's role in aid effectiveness.
- CIDA renewed and strengthened its relationship with Canadian partners and increased efficiency, accountability, and transparency.
- The Agency improved its assessments of key multilateral partners and began to develop an investment strategy. It did not complete development of the strategy in 2007–2008 due to the challenges posed by the number and diversity of multilateral partners.
- CIDA implemented the *Public Service Modernization Act* and met its commitments in planning, recruitment, employee development, and enabling infrastructure.
- CIDA was actively engaged in the government's plan in response to the Blue Ribbon Panel Report on grant and contribution programs, and strengthened its accountability-related functions.

SUSTAINED SUPPORT AND INFORMED ACTION BY CANADIANS IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CIDA's communications and engagement activities were focused on informing, educating, and engaging Canadians on a broad range of international development issues. Millions of Canadians were reached through CIDA's information products, such as articles, websites, etc., funded by the Development Information Program.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Countries of concentration

CIDA engages in long-term development assistance programming in countries of concentration to enhance their capacity to achieve development goals. This involves direct contact between CIDA and recipient countries, and includes country programs, projects, and policy dialogue.

For many countries of concentration, infant mortality rates have improved, in part because of better training for health care workers, supported by CIDA.

CIDA supported democratic governance in various ways. Most countries of concentration have national poverty reduction strategies in place and have made progress in improving their institutional frameworks.

Countries of concentration also made progress in the way they manage environmental issues. CIDA supported the establishment of sustainable natural resource management policies and practices in various countries.

Fragile states and countries experiencing humanitarian crisis

CIDA provides assistance in fragile states or countries experiencing humanitarian crisis to reduce the vulnerability of crisis-affected people and restore the capacity of public institutions and society. In 2007–2008, CIDA demonstrated its continued leadership in rebuilding and developing fragile states, and helping states experiencing humanitarian crisis.

Natural crises

CIDA funded trusted United Nations agencies, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and non-governmental organizations in response to emergencies such as earthquakes, tropical storms, hurricanes, cyclones, and floods. CIDA's funding provided drinking water, hygiene, and sanitation; primary health care; health surveillance; logistical and transportation support; emergency and transitional shelter; emergency food aid and essential non-food items such as soap, clothing, and cooking utensils; and temporary learning spaces for children.

In 2007, Canada's contributions to the World Food Programme and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank helped feed more than five million vulnerable people, including in Afghanistan and Sudan.

Fragile states

Short-term, quick-impact programming provides some stability in fragile states, and allows for more long-term, sustainable programming to be developed and implemented. In Kabul, CIDA's project in Vocational Training for Afghan Women helped more than 3,000 unemployed, extremely poor widows to develop income-generating skills in 2007–2008. In Haiti, CIDA created more than 150,000 days of work for poor families, contributing to social stability and improved living conditions.

CIDA played a leadership role in policy dialogue to promote donor coordination and development of national poverty reduction strategies in 2007–2008. These included the Afghanistan National Development Strategy and the Government of Haiti's National Strategy for Growth and Poverty Reduction. CIDA also became a member of the Joint Donor Team, the world's only aid office managed jointly by six countries, which is responsible for development cooperation in Southern Sudan.

Selected countries and regions

CIDA provides assistance in selected countries and regions to enhance their capacity to achieve stability and/or development goals, and contribute to Canada's international interests.

Real progress was made in 2007–2008. With CIDA's assistance, the Americas made significant progress in controlling communicable diseases such as yellow fever, measles, and rubella through regular immunizations.

CIDA and other Canadian government departments helped partner countries and regional institutions improve their capacity to promote or sustain democracy, freedom, human rights, the rule of law, security, and international trade.

The Canada Fund for Africa contributed to aid effectiveness principles by stressing African ownership, leadership, and control; introducing innovative, strategic, long-term investments; catalyzing other donor investments and partnerships, and using a whole-of-government approach.

In the Caribbean, CIDA helped improve the capacity of countries to deal with catastrophic natural disasters; supported the creation of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy; and reached an estimated 110,000 people through its gender equality program, which helped reform laws and create new legislation on domestic violence and family law to protect women and children.

Multilateral, international, and Canadian institutions

CIDA works with multilateral, Canadian, and international institutions to maximize program effectiveness and achieve development goals across a wide variety of countries and sectors. CIDA uses Canada's influence to promote aid effectiveness and improve the policies and practices of multilateral organizations for the best results possible. In 2007–2008, CIDA continued to improve its assessments of key

multilateral partners, and used these findings to enhance donor harmonization and reduce the costs of doing business between donors and multilateral organizations.

As part of its renewed partnership with Canadian civil society, CIDA supported 10 workshops with 140 partner organizations across the country. The aim was to improve partners' capacities to design and implement projects and incorporate results-based management, gender equality, and environmental assessment techniques.

Engaging Canadian citizens

The Agency provides opportunities for Canadians to increase their awareness, deepen their understanding, and engage in international development. This enables CIDA and its partners to draw from a broad range of expertise and financial resources across the country to implement aid initiatives.

In 2007–2008, CIDA reached 52,000 Canadians through the Public Engagement Fund, exceeding the original target of 10,000 Canadians. The Office of Democratic Governance contributed expertise through 84 Canadian election observers and other technical assistance. CIDA's Afghanistan Task Force participated in more than 100 local events across Canada, partnered with 30 Canadian NGOs to communicate its mission, and reached more than 18,000 Canadians in 23 cities through its Rebuilding Afghanistan photo exhibition.

