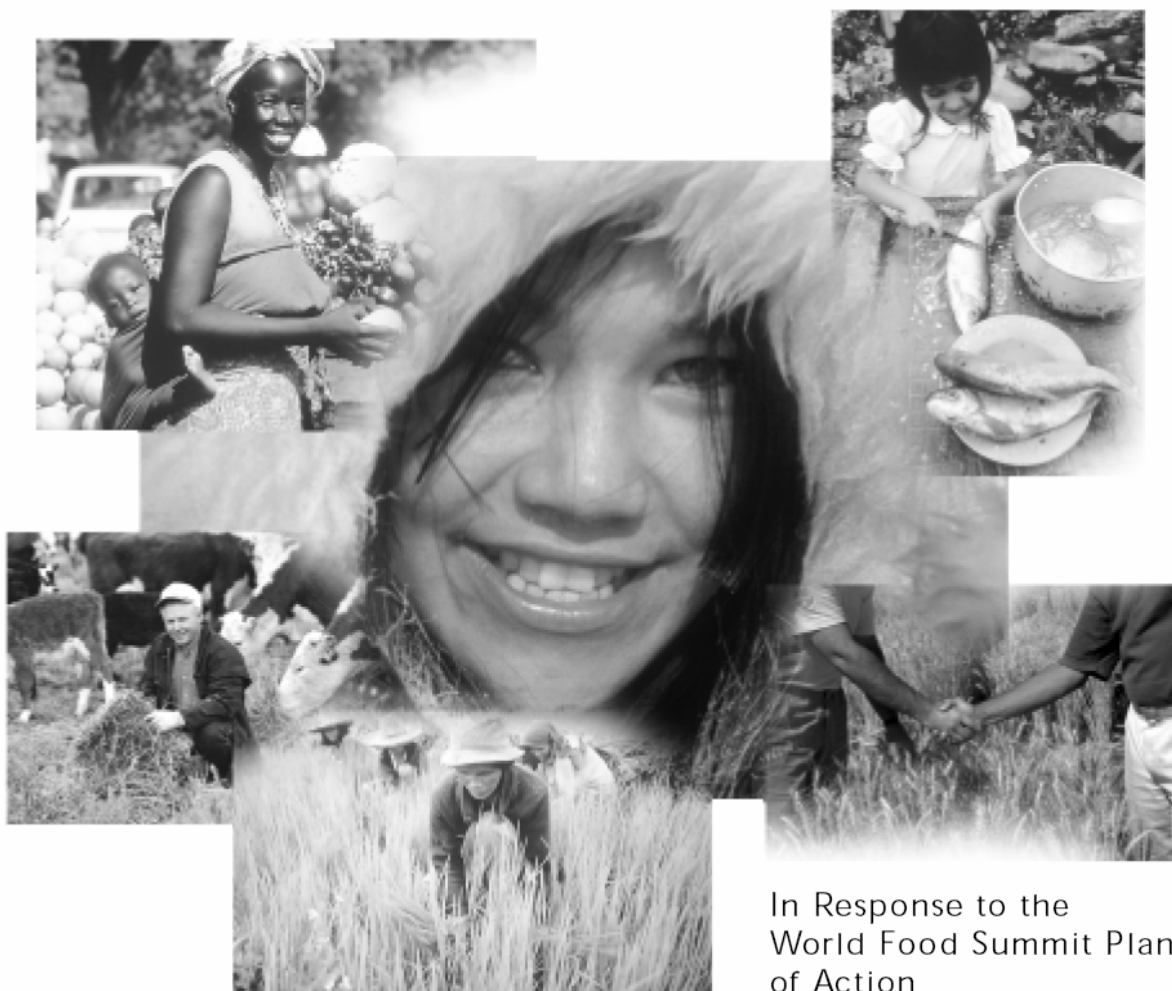




Canada's Fourth Progress Report on Food Security



In Response to the
World Food Summit Plan
of Action

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

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Follow up of the Implementation of the
World Food Summit Plan of Action

Canada's Fourth Progress Report on Food Security

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Executive Summary

In 1996, Canada joined 186 other nations to endorse the goal of the World Food Summit (WFS) to reduce the number of undernourished people by half no later than 2015. The Rome Declaration of the WFS established seven commitments that are the basis for achieving sustainable food security for all. Canada's Action Plan for Food Security, launched in 1998, is a comprehensive national agenda that spells out the objectives and actions for implementing the seven commitments of the Rome Declaration.

This is Canada's Fourth Report to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) highlighting some of the many initiatives Canada has undertaken over the last two years to achieve the Summit's goal. Although the report is not intended to be exhaustive, the scope and volume of initiatives presented are a clear reflection of Canada's ongoing commitment to reduce hunger and increase food security at home and abroad. The report is organized in the format requested by the FAO except for Section Two, which is divided into Domestic and International actions.

As indicated in the report, the Canadian federal government, provincial and territorial governments, and civil society organizations have been working together on a wide variety of initiatives to improve access to healthy, safe and nutritious foods in Canada. These domestic initiatives include social welfare and poverty reduction programs, initiatives to reduce health disparities, targeted programs for vulnerable populations, new strategies for the promotion of healthy eating, and a variety of projects to improve food security research, knowledge and understanding.

Internationally, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) continue to play a leading role in the sharing of knowledge, resources and technology from Canada to developing country partners around the world. Their work in partnership with many other government and civil society organizations, in Canada and abroad, doing research, providing support and building infrastructure for improved food security, prosperity, health and well-being around the world.

Canada's recent efforts to reduce food insecurity have yielded many valuable lessons. We know, for example, that sustainable agriculture production, programs to reduce poverty and improve social and health conditions, targeted international programs, effective partnerships and a role for civil society are all essential to improve access to safe, healthy and nutritious foods. It has also become clear that more food security-related data sources are needed to help us better understand the food security picture in Canada, and the effect of our efforts on food security in developing countries.

Section 1:

Priority Food Security Issues and Progress Towards the World Food Summit Goal

1.1 Overview of Food Security Issues in Canada

Food security exists when people have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

Canada is very fortunate that the majority of its 32 million people are food secure. Canada is one of the world's leading producers and suppliers of high quality food and Canadians are widely recognized for their expertise in agricultural research, biotechnology and sustainable forest management.

Canada also ranks high among nations in levels of disposable income and per capita food supplies, and among the lowest in the real cost of food and the share of incomes spent on food. Careful economic stewardship allows Canadian governments to maintain a national social safety net, traditional values of social justice are strongly supportive of inclusiveness and gender equality, and the active participation of civil society in social, political and economic reform helps to ensure public engagement on food security issues.

Despite these achievements, problems remain. The Canadian Community Health Survey on nutrition, conducted in 2004, observed that a total of 2.3 million Canadians were food insecure. More troubling was the fact that 715,616 Canadians, or 2.3 percent of the population, were food insecure and faced hunger. As detailed below, Health Canada will be releasing a full analysis of this survey later in 2006.

The Canadian Association of Food Banks' annual report on emergency food programs, *HungerCount*, estimated in 2005 that more than 800,000 Canadians including more than 300,000 children under the age of 18 visited a food bank for charity food supplies in a typical month in that year. This was a decline of 0.1% compared with 2004; however, the Association pointed out that it represented a 24% increase in usage since 1997.

Poverty is one of the leading factors which can impede access to sufficient safe and nutritious foods, and Canadians most vulnerable to food insecurity are those living in low income households, including a disproportionate number of single-parent mothers, people with chronic illness or disabilities, and Aboriginal persons. Government programming has direct implications for poverty reduction and, by extension, food security.

Canada's social safety net of income support, which was designed to achieve a range of objectives including meeting their basic needs, improving their circumstances, and creating incentives to participate in the labour market, is one important means to reduce poverty and increase access to adequate supplies of safe and nutritious food. National programs such as the Youth Employment Strategy, the National Homelessness Initiative, National Child Benefits, Old Age Security, initiatives supporting people with disabilities, Aboriginal initiatives and many health and education programs all help support food security. These programs are frequently supplemented and/or complemented by provincial benefits and services including social assistance, affordable housing, child care and employment standards (e.g., setting the minimum wage), and a wide variety of civil society initiatives.

For example, the National Child Benefit has been central to the approach governments have taken to ensure that children from low-income families get the best possible start in life by

reducing child poverty and promoting parents' participation in the workforce.

The National Child Benefit Progress Report (2004) shows that, because of the Benefit, 106,000 children in 45,900 families were prevented from living in low income in 2002. It also indicates that in 2002, there were 9.7 percent fewer low-income families than there would have been without the NCB. For these families, the average disposable income was higher by an estimated 9.8 percent. A 2005 Statistics Canada study on family income in Canada also reports that the overall rate of low income in Canada declined between 1996 to 2001. Since 2001, low-income rates have remained essentially unchanged.

Canadians suffering from chronic illness and disability are also vulnerable to food insecurity. Obesity is one of the leading causes of chronic illness in Canada and the dramatic increase in obesity and obesity-related diseases over the last decade has focused attention on a whole new set of food security issues related to food quality and diet. The Public Health Agency of Canada has been working with Health Canada, the provinces, territories and non-government partners over the last several years to develop the *Integrated Pan-Canadian Healthy Living Strategy* that aims to improve overall health outcomes of Canadians and to reduce health disparities, with an emphasis on healthy eating, physical activity and their relationship to healthy weights. In recent years, Health Canada has improved the usefulness of nutrition labeling and broadened public education on its use. These changes will help consumers make informed choices about the foods they buy and eat and are significant advancements for improved public health in Canada.

The safety of the food supply also has implications for food security. Approximately 1 million cases of foodborne illness occur in Canada each year, with many more going unreported. Children, seniors and individuals with compromised immune systems are among those Canadians most susceptible to foodborne infections and to a number of chronic conditions linked to foodborne illness. While the relationship between infection from foodborne pathogens and certain chronic illnesses is not fully understood, the resulting health care costs are likely quite significant. The Public Health Agency of Canada is responding to these and other threats by conducting highly coordinated surveillance, investigation and educational activities aimed at reducing risk and preventing outbreaks. Progress in the area of food safety will also benefit northern and remote communities, which have unique foodborne disease problems related to food access and quality.

Notwithstanding some improvements, the social, economic and health indicators in Aboriginal communities remain far below those of many other Canadians. Many Aboriginal people in Canada, particularly those in remote communities, experience all or most aspects of food insecurity. This is attributable to low incomes, safety risks due to pollutants in the traditional food supply, quality problems associated with inappropriate shipping, handling and home preparation of commercial foods, and disruptions to access caused by interruptions in shipping or changes in animal migratory patterns. The cost of commercial food in remote communities is also high, as is the cost of supplies for fishing and hunting.

To help meet these challenges, Canada supports a variety of food security initiatives for Aboriginal people, including a special Child Nutrition program for First Nations, a Food Mail program that subsidizes the transport cost of perishable food items to northern communities, a number of programs that support and promote traditional Aboriginal foods and hunting and gathering techniques, and a Northern Contaminants Program which seeks to reduce or eliminate contaminants in traditionally harvested foods. The 2004 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) Cycle 2.2, which focuses on nutrition, also included an over-sample of Canada's Aboriginal persons living off-reserve, which will contribute to a better understanding of the

food and nutrition issues of this vulnerable population. In addition, in support of Canada's hosting of the International Polar Year (2007-08), Canada is conducting research to examine the impacts of climate change and adaptation, contaminants and other risk factors on the traditional Northern food supply, and how these affect the health and well-being of Northerners. This work will provide new evidence upon which policies and programs will be based.

The Canadian food environment is complex and many food issues have different origins and effects, depending on the regions involved. Fortunately, there are a number of initiatives underway which will contribute to a better understanding of the domestic food insecurity situation. For example, a number of provinces and territories monitor how much it actually costs for a nutritious 'food basket' to feed a typical family with sufficient food. The food basket concept provides a useful indicator that can go a long way toward demonstrating the need for increased incomes to meet basic needs in communities across the country. The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) have also funded several projects that explore the extent and impact of food insecurity as it relates to the health of vulnerable populations in Canada. Health Canada is exploring the need to update its National Nutritious Food Basket 1998, which is the basis for a number of the food costing initiatives across the country. As mentioned briefly above, Health Canada is also in the process of analysing the household food security data based on the 2004 Canadian Community Health Survey. A report of their findings on the prevalence of household food access problems at the national and provincial level will be released in 2006. Health Canada also began work with the provinces and territories to identify appropriate food security indicators for monitoring across the country. The regular publication of monitoring results should provide solid information to drive policy and programming to reduce food insecurity, and further enhance public awareness of the issue.

Canada's Action Plan for Domestic Food Security

The World Food Summit (WFS) Plan of Action in 1996 called for each nation to develop and implement a national plan of action to achieve food security at home and internationally. Canada's Action Plan for Food Security was developed in response to the WFS and launched on World Food Day, 1998. Developed by the Joint Consultative Group composed of government, civil society and private sector representatives, Canada's Action Plan outlines Canada's priority concerns, provides detailed objectives for each of the commitments contained in the WFS Plan, encompasses both domestic and international actions, and provides a framework for ongoing efforts to improve food security in Canada and abroad. The core commitments and actions of Canada's Action Plan for the development of food security in Canada are outlined below.

Commitment One: An Enabling Environment: Canadians are fortunate to live in a country where peace, democracy and human rights are generally respected and enjoyed, and careful economic stewardship allows Canadian governments to maintain a national social safety net and traditional values of social justice that are strongly supportive of inclusiveness and gender equality. To further enhance the environment for achieving food security goals, Canada continues to encourage the active participation of civil society in social, political and economic reform to ensure public engagement on food security issues. Canada also continues its efforts to educate Canadians about food security issues, enhance their participation in food security initiatives and encourage dialogue for the development of effective and inclusive food security policies.

Commitment Two: Access to Food: Reducing poverty is key to improving access to safe and

nutritious foods. Canada actively addresses poverty by making investments to reduce the depth of child poverty, developing new opportunities for labour force participation through targeted scholarship and job creation programs, funding community-based programs to address health disparities and to assist vulnerable populations, and by subsidizing the transportation of nutritious foods to 140 isolated northern communities.

Canada also seeks to increase access to safe and nutritious food by maintaining high standards of food safety and nutrition through the exploitation of new technologies, the support of multi-sectoral education initiatives, the conduct of appropriate surveillance programs, the establishment of protocols to address foodborne disease incidents, and the development of new methodologies to reduce food contamination during production and processing. In conjunction with these initiatives, Canada strives to reinforce healthy eating habits for all Canadians through a variety of programs, and encourages the acquisition of traditional foods by Aboriginal communities to help reduce their dependence on expensive, and sometimes less nutritious, commercial products.

Commitment Three: Sustainable Agriculture: Canada is widely recognized as one of the world's leading producers of safe, nutritious, high quality food. To help Canadian producers meet the challenges of the 21st century, the governments of Canada launched a comprehensive new Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) in 2003 that strengthens the ability of the agri-food industry to respond effectively to changing needs and consumer demands. Calling for integrated action in five key areas including business risk management, food safety and quality, science and innovation, the environment and renewal, the APF is a core component of Canada's vision for improving food security at home and abroad.

Some of Canada's recent financial commitments under the APF include \$1.2 billion in new risk management programs to help producers maintain the steady and dependable supply of food products Canadians and international consumers need, and an additional \$395 million to create effective public information and technology transfer mechanisms and to increase research in bio-products and bio-processes. Other Canadian initiatives to help increase the sustainability of Canada's agriculture, forestry and fishing industries, include pollution prevention and the reduction of greenhouse gases, the implementation of the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy, the continued exploration and development of genetic resources and the adoption of sustainable crop and animal production and protection systems.

Commitment Four: Trade: As a major trading nation, Canada seeks to provide leadership in developing open, fair and predictable rules for trade and investment which help to increase food security by stimulating investment, gearing production to demand, increasing incomes and employment, and offering consumers a broader choice of foods. Canada also pursues a variety of strategic trade policy initiatives to expand market access for Canadian producers and increase food security including the development of industry partnerships and alliances, the harmonization of domestic and international food inspection standards, the identification of methods for valuation of agricultural resources and ongoing engagement with civil society to review the relationship between trade and food security,

Commitment Five: Emergency Prevention and Preparedness: The two most common emergency-related threats to Canada's food supply are weather disasters such as floods, droughts and hailstorms, and contamination from micro-organisms or chemicals. Although Canada has a well-developed system of emergency preparedness that includes enabling legislation, extensive facilities coordination and well-trained human resources, the system is currently under review to ensure its capacity to deal with potential terrorist attacks and other unexpected circumstances. Canada continues to update systems to manage food-related

emergencies, extend the current system to address microbial threats and ensure that a regulatory system is in place so that the products of bio-technology do not pose a risk to human health or the environment.

Commitment Six: Promoting Investment: The continuing economic viability of Canada's food producers and processors is highly dependent on investment in production capacity, productivity improvements, marketing, human resources and related infrastructure. Canada's investment strategy in the agri-food sector is designed to make Canada a preferred investment location for both domestic and international investors. To ensure that all Canadians share in the benefits of today's global economy, Canada continues to improve access to federal programs and services in rural areas, promote agri-food-related opportunities for domestic and international direct investment, encourage venture capital funding for new agri-food businesses and increase support for research to speed the development of new technologies and products.

1.2 Available Evaluation Studies

There are no evaluation studies currently available.

1.3 Information on External Assistance Programs and Lessons Learned

As a stable and prosperous member of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Canada does not need to rely on other countries to manage its food security challenges. Canada does, however, make extensive contributions to help less well-off countries increase their food security.

We live in a world where more than 1 billion people still struggle to survive on less than a dollar a day and more than 800 million people go to bed hungry every night. Canadians understand that the general prosperity and high level of food security we enjoy in Canada depends increasingly on our ability to help others around the world in their struggle to secure effective governance and improve their standard of living. Canadians cannot expect to remain prosperous in a poor world and our failure to achieve significant progress in the developing world will have an impact in terms of our long-term prosperity and food security.

The Government of Canada is committed to continuing its fight against global poverty and hunger, mainly through its \$2.87 billion Official Development Assistance (ODA) program, most of which is administered by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

Canada's current policy for development cooperation aims to increase the effectiveness of Canadian development assistance. Canada will focus its assistance on five sectors: good governance, health (including HIV/AIDS), basic education, private-sector development and environmental sustainability. Gender equality will be systematically and explicitly integrated throughout Canada's development cooperation efforts. The targeted sectors contribute to the achievement of the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals (MDG), which include poverty reduction and the eradication of hunger.

Canada's aid program will also focus on a core group of 25 countries. By 2010, at least two-thirds of Canada's country-to-country (bilateral) development assistance will be concentrated in these 25 development partners, most of which are in Africa. These countries have demonstrated that they can use aid effectively, and they are also where Canada is able to provide the resources and expertise necessary to contribute significantly to their development

priorities.

Canada's improved fiscal health has enabled the Government to increase its provision of ODA and other international assistance. In 2004-05 the Government allocated \$3.74 billion to international assistance, including the extraordinary humanitarian relief contribution in response to the Indian Ocean tsunami. Even excluding this relief, Canada's ODA budget in 2004-05 was 21 percent larger than the previous fiscal year. In support of Canada's long-term commitment to the internationally agreed target of devoting 0.7 percent of gross national income to ODA, the Government is committed, at a minimum, to doubling (relative to 2001) Canada's international assistance to over \$5 billion per year by 2010, with an increasing focus on Africa. By 2008-09, Canada's aid to Africa will double its 2003-04 level. The Government is committed to ongoing increases beyond 2010 and to accelerating the projected rate of growth in international assistance as its fiscal position continues to improve.

CIDA, IDRC and Civil Society

Canada's national efforts to support sustainable international development and increase global food security are led by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the International Development Research Centre, and a wide variety of civil society organizations.

CIDA manages Canada's \$2.87-billion foreign aid program and is Canada's lead agency for international development assistance. CIDA's mandate is to support sustainable development in developing countries in order to reduce poverty and contribute to a more secure, equitable, and prosperous world. CIDA also supports democratic development and economic liberalization in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union and supports international efforts to reduce threats to international and Canadian security.

CIDA supports the social and economic development programs of its partner countries and organizations, including governments, non-governmental organizations and institutions, community groups, businesses, and international bodies such as the World Bank and UNICEF. This support can take many forms including financial contributions to existing programs run by partners; direct provision of technical support such as information, skills, or equipment; dialogue with partners on issues such as human rights, environmental sustainability, and more effective aid programs; and the sharing of information and knowledge on development-related topics.

Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is a public corporation created by the Parliament of Canada in 1970 to help developing countries find practical, long-term solutions to the social, economic, and environmental problems they face, including improved food security. IDRC is research oriented and supports research projects in Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and North Africa in the areas of environment and natural resource management; information and communication technologies for development; social and economic policy; and innovation, policy and science.

IDRC's Environment and Natural Resource Management Program (ENRM) strongly supports food security by helping developing countries find feasible and sustainable approaches to enhance food and water security, human health and natural resources management, and building their foundations on democratic participation, good governance and social equity. IDRC's ENRM program also strengthens the linkages between research, policy and its implementation to ensure that concrete research results are translated into action by municipal, national and international authorities and other stakeholders involved in sustainable development.

Canadian civil society also plays an integral role in Canada's efforts to increase food security

in developing countries, and the international development work of CIDA and IDRC is supported and complemented at all levels of engagement by the hard work and vital contributions of many Canadian individuals, academic institutions and non-government organizations. Organizations such as CARE Canada, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, the CHF, and many others are actively engaged in hundreds of humanitarian assistance and development programming initiatives.

A number of CIDA and IDRC initiatives to increase food security in developing countries are highlighted in Section 2 of this report.

Canada's Action Plan for International Food Security

Canada's Action Plan for Food Security includes seven international commitments which support and build on the commitments of the WFS Plan of Action to reduce world hunger. Canada continues to pursue these commitments through a wide variety of policies, programs and initiatives in the international arena.

Commitment One: An Enabling Environment: As an active member of the international community, Canada works at both the bilateral and multilateral level to promote democracy, participation and the adoption of policies that support stable, macroeconomic environments conducive to food security. Canada also provides technical assistance to developing countries and supports a variety of efforts to strengthen civil society and promote inclusiveness in public administration and governance. In addition, Canada provides ongoing support for the implementation of the Platform for Action from the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Highly Indebted Poor Country Debt Initiative.

Commitment Two: Access to Food: Poverty is one of the leading causes of food insecurity. Canada strives to reduce poverty through its ODA program by helping other countries to address the root causes and build their self-reliance through the provision of basic needs, education and training, and the reduction of barriers limiting the participation of the poor in society. But improving access to food and the means of production is not enough to ensure food security. Food needs to be safe and nutritionally adequate and Canada continues to promote good nutrition through a variety of health, education, breastfeeding, micro-nutrient and nutritional enhancement initiatives.

Commitment Three: Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development: To ensure productivity enhancement and natural resource sustainability in developing countries, Canada supports food security research through participation in the Consultative Group on International Research (CGIAR), a network of 15 international research centres related to food and agriculture. Many of Canada's domestic agricultural initiatives also provide critical information required for enhancing sustainable production, and Canada is actively engaged in a variety of programs to support biotechnology, improve research capacity and promote the adoption of new policies by developing countries to enhance food production and encourage the transfer of agriculture-related technologies. Canada also supports rural development in developing countries by working with local communities to restore the natural resource base for farming, grazing, fishing and hunting, and participates in a variety of international agreements in areas such as biodiversity, desertification, climate change, pollution prevention and the conservation of fish stocks.

Commitment Four: Trade and Food Security: Canada's trade policy emphasizes the maintenance and extension of a rules-based multi-lateral trading system through the World Trade Organization (WTO) and through participation in regional and bilateral initiatives. However, Canada also recognizes that not all nations or groups in society benefit from freer trade in the short term and that transitional measures may be necessary to help countries

adjust. Besides working with governments abroad to ensure that trade rules are fair and reinforce food security, Canada continues to study the impact of trade policy on food security, help developing countries prepare for trade talks, facilitate the development of an internationally acceptable organic certification and accreditation system, and to work toward the development of international standards for food safety and plant and animal health.

Commitment Five: Emergency Prevention and Preparedness: War and civil unrest often have a serious impact on food security due to disruptions in the regular cycle of food production and distribution, and in some cases, to the widespread deployment of land mines in productive areas. Canada is a world leader in efforts to ban and eliminate landmines and Canadian diplomacy, both bilateral and multilateral, strives to prevent and find diplomatic solutions to conflict. Canada's armed forces continue to be a part of UN peace-building efforts. Canada is also an active supporter of international efforts to enhance the preparedness of countries prone to natural disasters which can seriously impact food security and people's lives. In some cases, emergency food aid is the only way to save lives over the short term and Canada continues to give priority to providing highly nutritional food aid in emergency situations and to work with other donors to find cost-effective means to increase the micro-nutrient value of food aid commodities.

Commitment Six: Promoting Investment: The health of any country's agriculture and food sector depends largely on policies that provide a stable environment for investment in human resources, agricultural research and technology improvements, production capacity and supporting infrastructure. Canada continues to promote investment in developing countries by providing support for new policy initiatives conducive to investment, encouragement for the reduction and redirection of excessive military expenditures, continued financial and technical assistance for micro-credit institutions in the third world, and a variety of programs to assist Canadians seeking to invest internationally.

Commitment Seven: Implementation and Monitoring: The Government of Canada, with the active involvement of civil society, continues to participate with the international community to achieve global food security by working with partners to address food security concerns and encouraging effective donor action and co-ordination through integration of the targets set out in the OECD's development strategy, *Shaping the 21st Century*. Canada also continues its efforts to ensure the participation of civil society in the United Nations Committee on World Food Security (CFS) monitoring process, to encourage developing countries to prepare national action plans for food security, and to encourage multilateral development institutions to enhance their co-operation and 'manage for results'. In accordance with the Plan of Action, Canada also continues to develop and use food insecurity mapping systems, indicators and monitoring systems, and provide periodic reports to the CFS on Canada's contribution to the World Food Summit.

Lessons Learned

Canada has implemented many new policies and action programs that contribute to the improvement of food security at home and internationally. In the process, Canada has learned a number of important lessons that will help chart the path forward to reduce by half the number of undernourished people by 2015. Some of these lessons and associated initiatives are highlighted below.

Improving the Effectiveness of International Aid: Over the last five years, Canada's commitment to the eight Millennium Development Goals has been gaining momentum. In 2002, Canada issued 'Canada Making a Difference in the World: A Policy Statement on Strengthening Aid Effectiveness' which outlined the principles, policies and programming

approaches to improve the effectiveness of development assistance programs run by CIDA. These principles include local ownership, improved donor coordination, and stronger partnerships integrated with a results-based approach, good governance in developing countries and greater policy coherence within developed countries.

In 2003, CIDA followed up on the Aid Effectiveness statement with 'Promoting Sustainable Rural Development Through Agriculture', a policy statement outlining the importance of agriculture in achieving the MDGs. The statement responds to the sustainable agricultural development needs of developing countries and economies in transition, and reinforces the programming principles and approaches elaborated in the previous statement.

Under its current policy framework Canada's aid program will focus on a core group of 25 targeted countries. By 2010, at least two-thirds of Canada's bilateral development assistance will be concentrated in these 25 development partners, most of which are in Africa. Canada's development initiatives will focus on five sectors: good governance, health (including HIV/AIDS), basic education, private-sector development and environmental sustainability.

The Need for Data: There are few regular data sources on food security issues and evaluating the success of food security programs in Canada, or internationally, is often difficult. Canada has begun to collect food security data in national health surveys and through a variety of provincial initiatives, but additional quantifiable information is needed. This is especially the case for Aboriginal peoples and other 'at risk' populations. Canada has also started the process of identifying appropriate food security indicators for federal, provincial and territorial use. Agreed indicators with enhanced monitoring and reporting systems would help us better understand the food security picture in Canada, and the effect of our efforts on food security in developing countries.

Strengthening Civil Society's Input: Members of Canadian civil society – non-governmental organizations, academics, and other interested parties – play a vital role in food security in Canada and abroad. Civil society's contributions to social, political and economic reform through public education, advocacy and participation in public policy formulation are important to the success of Canada's food security endeavours, and more efforts can be made at all levels of jurisdiction to include their ideas and input in the future.

Supporting International Agreements and Regulatory Frameworks: Food security is a global issue and effective multilateral agreements are essential to produce coordinated and substantive results. To this end, Canada continues to play a key role in many international fora including the WHO, the FAO, the Codex Alimentarius, the OECD and the WTO, to name but a few. Canada has also been actively implementing the Conventions of Biological Diversity, Climate Change and Desertification, playing a strong leadership role to encourage ratification of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), and supporting the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). To complement these efforts, Canada continues to pursue reform in the international trade of food and agricultural products to provide an equitable and fairly implemented system that respects the needs of both developed and developing countries.

Long-Term Commitment and Partnerships: The outstanding lesson learned from the many activities highlighted in this report is that the issues relating to food security -- from poverty alleviation to micro-nutrient enhancement -- are universally complex and require long term commitments from all stakeholders for resolution and impact. Partnerships in the design and implementation of food security-related initiatives are essential for success and Canada continues to promote the development principles established by the OECD which support effective partnerships, local ownership, improved donor co-ordination, a results-based

approach and greater coherence in the trade, investment and technology transfer policies of industrialized countries.

Gender Equality Considerations in the Food and Agriculture Sector: Gender Equality in the agriculture sector is both a condition for, and an element of, success. Indeed, any policy or intervention should recognize from the onset the large number of women involved in agriculture, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, and the gendered nature of agricultural production. In many cultures, there are “men’s crops” and “women’s crops”, with corollary specialized knowledge, practices and rituals. Certain roles, such as seed preservation and food processing, marketing and preparation, are often traditionally women’s purview. Additional factors, such as the rapid increase in the number of farms managed by older women and orphans in rural areas as the result of the devastating impacts of HIV/ AIDS in many African countries (and projected elsewhere), also have strong implications for agriculture. Yet, in a number of countries, women’s access to and ownership of land (to name a key challenge) remains an issue. It is thus imperative that support to agriculture – from policy to extension – take these gendered realities into account and more directly address women’s needs and realities.

Section 2: Follow up of the WFS Plan of Action

This section describes the actions taken under the seven Commitments adopted at the World Food Summit. Information is included on policies pursued and/or action programmes implemented, demonstrating, where possible, their impact in terms of contributing to overall social and economic development, poverty alleviation and hunger reduction. In accordance with FAO requirements, this report covers the period from March 31, 2004 to March 31, 2006. This section is divided into two parts: Domestic Initiatives (2.1) and International Initiatives (2.2). Readers should note that the tables below were populated prior to receiving the FAO's changes suggested to the reporting template; as a result, information on budget and duration is not complete.

2.1 Domestic Initiatives

Commitment Two

We will implement policies aimed at eradicating poverty and inequality and improving physical and economic access by all, at all times, to sufficient, nutritionally adequate and safe food and its effective utilization.

Programme	Year Initiated	Status
<p>National Child Benefit (NCB): Children of low-income families are potentially vulnerable to food insecurity. Through the NCB, the Government of Canada works in partnership with provincial and territorial governments to reduce child poverty and support parents' participation in the labour market, through the provision of income support, as well as benefits and services, for low-income families with children. A major component of the NCB includes the Canada Child Tax Benefit; in 2001 – 2002, the Canada Child Tax Benefit was used to invest \$5.2 billion in low and middle – income families with children. This investment increased to \$8.2 billion by 2003 – 2004.</p> <p>An investment plan is currently in place that will raise the maximum annual federal child benefits for a low-income, one-child family to \$3,243 and for a low-income, two-child family to \$6,259 by 2007, bringing annual federal support delivered through child benefits to over \$10 billion. These investments are playing an important role in reducing child poverty in Canada. The <i>National Child Benefit Progress Report: 2004</i> indicates that, because of the NCB, 106,000 children in 45,900 families were prevented from living in low income in 2002. It also indicates that because of the NCB, in 2002, there were 9.7 percent fewer low-income families than there would have been without the NCB. For these families, the average disposable income was higher by an estimated 9.8 percent (about \$2,400).</p>	1998	ongoing

Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI): As part of the National Homelessness Initiative managed by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, SCPI has contributed approximately \$12.5 million since 1999 to support the efforts of non-profit organizations working to ensure that homeless individuals and families have adequate access to food.	1999	ongoing
The National Projects Fund (NPF): The NPF provides strategic project funding to initiatives supporting the objectives of the Community Action Program for Children (CAPC) and the Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP). The fund enhances knowledge within CAPC/CPNP projects related to food security and policy development through training and capacity building. One NPF program is Capacity Building for Food Security through Mentoring, a 16 month participatory and collaborative project sponsored by the Atlantic Health Promotion Research Centre and involves 11 other partners. The program seeks to provide opportunities for learning and mentoring to enhance the capacities of Food Security Mentors related to their role in building food security, and to build capacity within CAPC/CPNP projects for their role in building a foundation for policy change to build food security. Outcomes include planning, implementing and evaluating of a National Training Workshop and identification of next step for CAPC/CPNP to assume a leadership role in addressing food security in Canada.	1997	ongoing
Community Action Program for Children (CAPC): The CAPC supports families living on low incomes by providing resources including community kitchens and nutrition and cooking classes to help build food -related knowledge and skills. National evaluation data shows that the projects are reaching the families who need them.		ongoing
The Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP): The CPNP is a comprehensive program that funds community groups to develop or enhance programs for vulnerable pregnant women. Funded by Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), it provides food supplementation, nutrition counselling, social support, education and referral on lifestyle issues, and referral to appropriate services to at risk pregnant women and their infants. There are approximately 330 CPNP projects in about 2000 communities across Canada. The program serves an overall population of about 50,000 women annually.		ongoing

<p>Diabetes Strategy Programming: Canada's Diabetes Strategy establishes effective prevention and control strategies for diabetes. A number of PHAC funded food security projects include community gardens, community kitchens, school snack programs, food for kids programming, and culturally specific menu planning. A panel discussion session on food security in October 2003 covered aspects such as specific local food programs and initiatives, factors affecting food intake, potential “solutions” to food insecurity, psychosocial aspects of food insecurity and the role of advocacy. Another PHAC project funded through the Diabetes Strategy -- Enhancing the Capacity of Community Groups to Build Food Security Through Healthy Public Policy -- worked with family resource centres, to develop tools to help communities influence policy that impacts food security.</p>	1999	completed
<p>Integrated Pan-Canadian Healthy Living Strategy: is an inter-sectoral partnership among federal, provincial, territorial governments and private and voluntary sectors. It provides a conceptual framework for sustained action based on Healthy Living. The goals of the Strategy are to improve overall health outcomes and to reduce health disparities. Grounded in a population health approach, the initial emphasis is on healthy eating, physical activity, and their relationship to healthy weights. Included in the Strategy are Healthy Living Targets, which seek to obtain a 20% increase in the proportion of Canadians who are physically active, eat healthy food and are at healthy body weights.</p>	2005	ongoing
<p>Northern Contaminants Program: Led by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), this program seeks to reduce and, where possible, eliminate contaminants in traditionally harvested foods, while providing information that assists informed decision making by northern individuals and communities in their food use.</p>		ongoing
<p>Food Mail: INAC, with funds provided by Health Canada, is carrying out three pilot projects in isolated northern communities eligible for Food Mail, a program that subsidizes the air transportation of nutritious, perishable food and other essential items. Canada's investment in the Food Mail program increased by more than 20% between fiscal years 2002 – 2003 and 2004 - 2005, from \$29.5M to \$35.9M. In 2004 – 2005, over 12.8 million kilograms of food were shipped under the program to 67 communities. The program is supported by the Food Mail Quality Assurance Initiative which sets out guidelines on how to properly package, store and transport fresh and frozen food to remote areas.</p>	1996	ongoing

Food Safety and Avian Influenza: In November, 2005 a low pathogenicity North American strain of H5N2 avian influenza was discovered at two commercial poultry farms in the Fraser Valley area of British Columbia. To protect human and animal health, and the access to safe food, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) ordered a cull of all birds on the two farms, and quarantined more than 75 other premises. The quarantine was lifted by the CFIA in December, 2005, after evidence that the surveillance zones were free of avian influenza.	2005	completed
thINK FOOD/Phones-for-Food: organized by the Canadian Association of Food Banks, thINK FOOD is an award-winning, on-going fund-raising and education program serving the national, provincial and community food bank constituency. The first national program of its kind, the project raises funds for community food banks through the process of recycling use printer cartridges and cell phones.	2002	ongoing

The policies, strategies and initiatives implemented, and their outcomes, are described below.

Federal

Canadian Food Safety and Quality Systems Development (launched December 2003, ongoing): This program brings the federal and each provincial and territorial government together to help farmers and the agriculture and agri-food industry to develop and implement government – recognized safety and quality control systems, from the field to the retail and food service level. These partners are also developing ways to track and trace food and food related products through the entire food chain. These efforts will support Canadians’ access to safe foods by enhancing the sector’s ability to identify and respond to food safety issues and concerns. \$62 million has been budgeted for this program.

Development of a National Food Policy Framework (initiated 2004, ongoing): The National Food Policy Framework (NFPF) is a nationally coordinated and multi-disciplinary approach to policy and decision making related to the food supply, designed to help governments address issues such as reasonable access to safe and nutritious food. The Framework is intended to provide common policy direction to federal and provincial governments who are interested in coordinating their food policy efforts and undertaking joint, cross-portfolio courses of action. The development of the NFPF is an Federal/Provincial/Territorial initiative with active participation from AAFC, Health Canada, the CFIA, the Public Health Agency of Canada, DFO and several provincial health and agriculture departments. Work continues on the NFPF with an aim to update F/P/T Ministers of Agriculture and of Health on its progress in early 2006.

Increased Security for Food Allergic Consumers (initiated 2004, ongoing): Progress has been made to improve food production practices enabling food allergic consumers to obtain accurate information on the potential presence of certain allergens, therefore resulting in improved access to certain foods. Research, standard setting, and increased stakeholders engagement with food manufacturers, crop producers, and consumer associations are aimed at improving the quality of Canadian foods in terms of food allergens declaration and at limiting risks of inadvertent cross-contamination. The development of new standards of gluten-free oats as a safer food alternative for celiac patients is an example of what is being undertaken.

Analysis of Household Food Security Module, Canadian Community Health Survey Cycle 2.2 (initiated 2005, to be completed in 2006): Health Canada is analyzing data on household food security, collected through the Canadian Community Health Survey, Cycle 2.2 (Nutrition) in 2004. The first national survey to include the US Food Security Survey Module, focussing on food access issues in the context of economic constraint. Health Canada is analysing the food security data and preparing a report for release in 2006. The CCHS Cycle 2.2 is also the first comprehensive national nutrition survey in over 30 years. These data offer an important opportunity to study the relationship between income and food and nutrient intake among Canadians.

Revision to *Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating* (initiated 2002, to be completed in 2006): Health Canada is revising *Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating*. The Food Guide is designed to assist Canadians in making wise food choices by translating the science of healthy eating into a practical pattern of food choices that meets nutrient needs, promotes health and minimizes the risk of nutrition-related chronic diseases. Consideration has been given to the diversity of foods portrayed, as well as the cost of the proposed food intake pattern.

Updated Recommendations to the 1998 Nutrition for Healthy Term Infants (initiated 2003, completed): Health Canada released revised recommendations related to the duration of exclusive breastfeeding and vitamin D supplementation for breastfed infants. These recommendations serve as updates to the statements found in *Nutrition for Healthy Term Infants* published in 1998.

Understanding the Determinants of Healthy Eating (initiated 2004, completed): Health Canada led the development of a supplement to the Canadian Journal of Public Health on the determinants of healthy eating. 'Understanding the Forces That Influence Our Eating Habits: What We Know and Need to Know' contains a series of articles that review existing knowledge on the determinants of healthy eating and makes recommendations for research. Two of the articles specifically address issues of vulnerable populations in Canada -- 'Determinants of Healthy Eating Among Low-Income Canadians' and 'Determinants of Healthy Eating in Aboriginal Peoples in Canada'.

Comparable Health Indicators (initiated 2005, ongoing): Monitoring food security has been identified as a priority in Canada for some time. In 2005, Health Canada worked with members of the Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT) Group on Nutrition to identify appropriate indicators of "food security" for inclusion in the FPT Comparable Health Indicators process.

National Environment Scan of Strategies for Impacting Policy to Build Food Security (initiated 2004, completed): The 'National Environment Scan of Strategies for Impacting Policy to Build Food Security' examined past and current strategies used by food security initiatives across Canada to influence policy related to food security. The final report concludes that policies at multiple levels influence root causes of food insecurity.

Closer to Home: A Recipe for a Community-based Food Organization (initiated 2003, completed): 'Closer to Home: A Recipe for a Community-based Food Organization' is a food security policy document funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Access to Traditional Foods (ongoing): Health Canada's initiatives to monitor legacy and emerging persistent organic pollutants are resulting in an improved assessment and communication of risks associated with traditional foods. The 2005 monitoring activities of flame retardants (PBDEs) and perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) in foods consumed by populations in the Canadian North have resulted in data showing similar intakes for these contaminants by Northern and Southern populations. Continued monitoring activities will

enable a better evaluation of benefits/risks associated with traditional foods consumed by Aboriginal populations and, therefore, improved guidance and advice directing these populations to valuable sources of nutritious foods. This initiative is part of the Aboriginal Food safety network which is part of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's Northern Contaminants Program.

Provincial and Territorial Initiatives

A Framework for Core Functions in Public Health (initiated 2004, in progress): “A Framework for Core Functions in Public Health 2005” has identified food security as a core public health function in British Columbia (BC). A process has been established to identify the core food security programs and services and performance improvement targets required by Regional Health Authorities to implement according to food security performance agreements with the BC Ministry of Health (MOH). Regional Health Authorities are in the process of hiring special food security consultants/officers to help design and direct new, regional food security initiatives.

BC Community Food Action Initiative (initiated 2004, in progress): The government of British Columbia provided \$1.5 million in funding for an initiative to increase food security in BC by supporting implementation of community, regional and provincial initiatives that provide increased access to safe, culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate diets through a sustainable food system. The Initiative is managed by a PHAC supported Advisory Committee comprised of individuals from all aspects of our local food system. Membership includes people with a variety of different backgrounds such as nutritionists, food wholesalers and distributors, food retailers and grocers, managers of non profit organizations and academics engaged in the food system. This multi-disciplinary group creates an innovative forum for discussion and action towards building a food system that is ecologically sustainable, economically viable and socially just. Expected outcomes include a thorough examination of the local food system with ideas and policy recommendations for how it can be improved.

Making the Connection: Food Security and Public Health (2003/04, completed): 'Making the Connection: Food Security and Public Health' is a comprehensive discussion paper by the Community Nutritionists Council of BC, which reviews the current evidence and proposes multiple strategies for improving food security. Funded by PHAC, the paper provides recommendations for ensuring nutritional health and well being for citizens. These recommendations will increase access to healthy foods; increase knowledge about healthy food choices; increase consumption of healthy foods; increase community food self-sufficiency; support the sustainability of the food system; support the development of healthy public policy; and strengthen “food citizenship”– the participation of citizens in the shaping of the food system.

BC Food Systems Network (initiated 1999, ongoing): originally developed to increase public understanding of food policy, this Network represents a wide diversity of provincial interests related to food production, processing, distribution, consumption and quality. Following up on past initiatives related to food security and public health, the network has recently shifted its focus to food system sustainability and developed partnerships with a variety of producer organizations for public education and advocacy. The Network continues to work with provincial and national food security alliances and encourage the development of local and regional food security policy organizations.

Vancouver Food Policy Task Force and Action Plan (initiated 2003, ongoing): Including representatives from Vancouver city council and over 70 community groups, this task force was launched in 2003 to provide leadership to achieve the City of Vancouver's goal to develop a 'just

and sustainable' food system in which food production, processing, distribution and consumption are effectively integrated to enhance the environmental, economic, social and nutritional health of the city. The task force's Action Plan was approved in March, 2004, and a permanent Vancouver Food Policy Council was established.

Alberta Social and Health Equities Network (initiated 2005, ongoing): The members of the Alberta Social and Health Equities Network (ASHEN) are working on issues such as food security, affordable/ sustainable housing, and employment, better access to relevant health and social services, and community building. Expected outcomes include a series of community forums to get input on development of an Alberta Charter on the social determinants of health, including food security.

Growing Food Security in Alberta (2003/05, completed): Growing Food Security in Alberta (GFSA) was funded through a grant from Health Canada to alleviate hunger and improve the nutritional health, overall well being and food security of Albertans and Canadians. The first step toward this goal was identified as the creation of a sustainable provincial food security network. Outcomes of the initiative include an environmental scan and inventory of existing food security initiatives; a virtual food security kit providing resources for work at the "hands on" community and policy level; and a video entitled "Growing Food Security in Alberta: It's Everybody's Business" which focuses on the issues of food security and explains ways in which the everyday person can help to address this issue.

Saskatchewan Population Health Promotion Strategy (initiated 2004, ongoing): Healthier Places to Live, Work and Play is a Saskatchewan Population Health Promotion Strategy document developed in partnership with PHAC, which highlights accessible nutritious food as a priority area for action. Expected outcomes from the strategy include increased opportunities for people to enjoy more nutritious food in homes and community settings; reduced economic, geographic, social and cultural barriers that limit healthy eating habits; and increased advocacy for food policies that promote and protect the health of Saskatchewan residents.

Northern Dialogue on Food Security (2004/05, completed): A PHAC funded project to provide northern Saskatchewan input as part of a provincial food security agenda and build upon and expand the present partnerships to develop strategies to deal with the challenges of food security in northern Saskatchewan. A final report is forthcoming. Initial findings suggest that while poverty may play a role in food access, people in remote areas who are not living in poverty have similar access issues.

The Manitoba Urban Initiative (initiated 2004, ongoing): The Manitoba Urban Initiative seeks to eliminate food insecurity in Winnipeg. The initiative's objectives are to increase awareness of food security issues, to increase community capacity, and to influence healthy public policy regarding food security. The project has commissioned several concept papers on food charters, community gardens, and co-operatives as they relate to food security, and published both a book reflecting the breadth of national activity and best practices on food security, and a directory of all food security resources and activity in Winnipeg.

The Manitoba Food Charter (initiated 2005, ongoing): Funded by PHAC, the Manitoba Food Charter will be a publicly-owned, one page statement on what the Manitoba food system should look like. It will bring together a diversity of voices and identify priorities and guidelines for action around Manitoba food security. Expected short term outcomes of the Food Charter are increased awareness by community members about general and personal food security issues and increased provincial awareness of specifically rural and northern food security issues. Over the longer term, the Manitoba Food Charter will guide policy development at municipal and provincial levels of government regarding any aspect of procuring or producing foods in

sustainable ways; provide an important framework for agriculture, food and rural development education and strategic planning; and provide a common focus for non-profit groups and governments working together to promote food security and community development.

Act to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion (initiated 2002, ongoing): Quebec's Act to Combat Poverty includes a section on food security stating that actions related to strengthening the social and economic safety net must be aimed at facilitating dignified access, for persons and families living in poverty, to a food supply that is both sufficient and nutritious, at reasonable costs, and to simple and reliable information enabling those persons and families to make enlightened dietary choices. The Act is supported by an Action Plan called 'Balancing Freedom and Social Justice' which proposes, among other things, the continuation of support for the implementation of food supply projects in local communities in disadvantaged areas.

Community Food Security Program (initiated 2001, ongoing): In 2001, the Quebec Department of Health and Social Services was granted \$10 million to support the development of food security at the community level. The objective of the grant program is to develop or strengthen food security projects from the perspective of social and community development and local and regional consensus-building with regard to food security. Approximately 250 programs have received grants in each of the last four years.

Food Security Policy Document and Sustainable Food Costing Model (initiated 2005, ongoing): Funded by the Nova Scotia Health Promotion department (NSHP), the Atlantic Health Promotion Research Centre (AHPRC) has developed a policy document related to food security so that organizations and departments will be able to assess the impact of potential policy decisions on food security. NSHP is in the process of determining the most effective method to share this document across government. AHPRC has also developed a sustainable food costing model for Nova Scotia. The model, which builds on the importance of involving those most affected with food insecurity, has been submitted to NSHP for consideration in business planning.

Building on the Momentum: Improving the Capacity of Communities to Influence Healthy Public Policy Related to Food Security (2005, ongoing): Building on the Momentum is a nine-month project of the Atlantic Health Promotion Research Centre and the Nova Scotia Nutrition Council that builds on several previous initiatives to enhance the capacity of people in nine Nova Scotia communities to increase food security. Working with facilitators in the nine communities, the project will identify local stakeholders, plan and host community dialogues, and analyze the various policy issues identified. A final provincial workshop will be organized to share results of the dialogues and resulting policy analyses. A final report on best practices and lessons learned will be used by both communities and stakeholders and disseminated through food security networks and the regular channels of the community and government stakeholders.

Healthy Eating Nova Scotia Strategy (initiated 2004, ongoing): NSHP is leading the implementation of the recently released Healthy Eating Nova Scotia strategy which includes food security. Next steps identified within the strategy include the implementation of a food costing model across Nova Scotia, to increase public awareness of the extent and reality of food insecurity, and to implement public policies that increase the affordability of locally produced food. The Nova Scotia Food Security Projects Steering Committee is in the process of redefining itself as the Provincial Working Group tasked with steering the activities of the Food Security component of the new Healthy Eating Nova Scotia Strategy. Health Canada and Public Health Agency of Canada are included in the Group.

Participatory Food Costing Workshops (initiated 2004, completed): Participatory Food

Costing with Story Sharing on Food Insecurity was a PHAC funded workshop project supporting research to build capacity to address issues of food insecurity in Nova Scotia through policy changes aimed at building healthier social and economic policy. Participants felt the main factors causing Nova Scotians to be food insecure were lack of income, especially in regard to inadequate Income Assistance and minimum wage rates, employee benefits, and the general lack of social supports.

Prince Edward Island (PEI) Food Security Workshop (initiated 2005, completed): hosted by the Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Program, the PEI Food Security Workshop brought together community representatives and leading Canadian experts to explore issues of food security on PEI. The workshop fostered new opportunities for dialogue between community groups on issues of common concern and increased public awareness.

Healthy Eating Policies for Schools (initiated 2004, ongoing) PEI elementary and consolidated schools have adopted healthy eating policies which create a supportive environment to ensure that children have access to healthy food choices in schools, purchase prices are competitive with other foods, and healthy lifestyle choices are modeled through curriculum and extra curricular activities.

Healthy Eating Alliance (initiated 2001, ongoing): A group of approximately 40 Prince Edward Island organizations (government, non-government and individuals) was formed in 2001 to achieve optimal nutritional health for Prince Edward Island children and youth. The Alliance, as part of the PEI's Healthy Living Strategy, strengthens the basis for action to achieve improvement in healthy eating by engaging broad based participation of community groups. Since 2002-03, the Alliance has supported 40 school healthy eating programs (23 breakfast programs and 17 snack programs), serving an average of 2,610 children on a daily basis in 2003-2004 which is almost triple the number of children served in 2002-2003.

Newfoundland Poverty Reduction Strategy (initiated 2005, ongoing): The government of Newfoundland and Labrador is in the process of developing an integrated government -wide strategy to alleviate poverty and its negative effects, including food insecurity. The strategy will be released in 2006 and will include measurable targets.

Food Security – Everybody's Business (initiated 2005, ongoing): Food Security – Everybody's Business is a PHAC funded project to establish a strong Newfoundland and Labrador food security network leading to policy and food system changes. The Network will develop a training package on food security and host nine regional meetings and a provincial Food Assembly to examine policy and best practices for food security. Policy makers in the fishery, agriculture, housing, and transportation sectors will be invited. The expected outcomes of the project include strong community networks that will advance the issue of food security at all policy levels, plus new relationships between the Network and policy makers in a variety of sectors. Targeted communication will raise the understanding of the food security issue and its far-reaching effects.

Arctic Co-operatives Food Supply Initiatives (ongoing): Since the late 1950's the federal government has supported the development of community-owned Arctic co-operatives which operate a variety of local businesses including the supply of food. Over the years, the Arctic Co-ops have built a logistical system that includes a wide range of food delivery methods to remote areas including truck, aircraft, barge, and ship. The Co-ops' logistical system helps reduce retail food prices and ensure critical food delivery to remote communities. Today, the Arctic Co-ops re-supply program stocks up 50 per cent of remote community co-op food inventories once per year. Supplies include approximately 800,000 cubic meters of food products shipped by sea from Montreal on Nunavut Sealink and Supply, a joint venture company directed by Arctic Co-

ops.

Civil Society

National Food Security Assembly (2004): Jointly sponsored by the Canadian Food Grains Bank and Winnipeg Harvest with the support and participation of the Canadian Association of Food Banks and Agriculture Canada, the National Food Security Assembly in Winnipeg brought together more than 150 persons and organizations to engage Canadians in food security dialogue and develop new food security partnerships between interested parties from all sectors of the food security field.

Food Secure Canada (initiated 2004, in progress): In 2004, a diverse group of organizations and individuals working on food security domestically and internationally met at the Third National Food Security Assembly in Winnipeg and agreed to form an organization to advocate and speak on food security issues facing Canada. The Association for Food Secure Canada was formally launched at the Third National Conference on Food Security in Waterloo in October, 2005. Food Secure Canada recognizes that food security requires that adequate amounts of safe, healthy, nutritious, culturally acceptable food be accessible to all in a dignified manner; that food producers earn a fair return on their labour, and that food production, harvesting and distribution methods sustain the environment. Open to both individuals and groups, Food Secure Canada is founded on the principles of zero hunger, a sustainable food system, and healthy and safe food.

Canadian Association for Food Studies (initiated 2005, in progress): Following a research workshop at Ryerson University in April 2005, a number of researchers from university and civil society organizations decided to form a national organization called the Canadian Association for Food Studies (CAFS). CAFS aims to promote critical, interdisciplinary scholarship in the broad area of food systems including food policy, production, distribution and consumption. CAFS recognizes the need for coordinated interdisciplinary research efforts in response to societal needs for informing policy makers, assessing the outcomes of community-based work, and demonstrating the environmental and social impacts of changes affecting food systems and food policies. CAFS now has more than 150 members throughout Canada from diverse academic disciplines from academic, NGO and public research organizations.

Centre for Studies in Food Security (initiated 1994, ongoing): For more than a decade the Centre has been facilitating dialogue, research, community action and professional practice to increase food security, with a special focus on the links between urban food systems and the rural agricultural sector. CSFS offers a six course Certificate in Food Security which provides professional training to support community food security agencies and practitioners. The Centre has recently been working with CIDA to develop food security training models in Brazil and Angola, and is currently developing a research program to strengthen the structural capacity of civil society organizations to work collaboratively with governments on food security issues.

Community-Academic Research Partnership (initiated 2003, ongoing): This partnership between individual academics and committed community members helps communities build confidence to act on food security issues. Through their work, these partnerships have built new networks, solidified existing ones, and developed a commitment among many people to increase awareness and enhance the level of food security in the community. Examples of recent partnership projects include a social study of emergency food service users in Thunder Bay, a graduate research study on food security and community gardening, the establishment of a new food distribution association, and the development of Geographic Information System maps locating emergency food programs in relation to community resources and socio-economic characteristics.

Commitment Five:

We will endeavour to prevent and be prepared for natural disasters and man-made emergencies and to meet transitory and emergency food requirements in ways that encourage recovery, rehabilitation, development and a capacity to satisfy future needs.

The policies, strategies and initiatives implemented, and their outcomes, are described below.

Federal

Canada's Emergency Preparedness Act provides Canadians with a comprehensive integrated plan for managing national disasters and emergency situations. As the basis for the Government of Canada's emergency preparedness and management activities, the Act establishes in legislation the inherent responsibility of each federal minister to develop and implement emergency preparedness measures. Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada is conducting a review of the Act and related policy and program initiatives to ensure that Canada's national critical infrastructure and national emergency response system remains efficient and effective.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) has adopted an 'all-hazards' approach to emergency management that will mitigate the effects of emergencies on the agri-food sector, regardless of the cause. By focussing on the protection of important system inputs (e.g. land, labour, machinery, seed, crops, and stock), the quality and consistency of important outputs, such as healthy animals, wholesome food, healthy crops, surge capacity, allocation/rationing, and the redistribution of food, assistance can be effectively coordinated. The intended outcomes of AAFC's emergency response include saving lives both human and animal; reducing risk of injury; reducing emergency response times; minimizing social and economic impact; reducing physical damage or destruction to the resources and assets of the agri-food sector; and ensuring the continued delivery of service.

Health Canada (HC) has improved its emergency response mechanisms by developing and updating plans and procedures to be prepared for and to respond more effectively to food safety emergencies involving natural and intentional contamination of foods with biological and chemical agents that could cause serious public health and economic impacts.

In collaboration with provincial and territorial partners, and other federal departments and agencies HC and the Public Health Agency of Canada have developed a protocol to guide a multi-jurisdictional response to foodborne illness outbreaks. Furthermore, PHAC coordinated the development of the Canadian Pandemic Influenza Plan that maps out how Canada will prepare for and respond to an influenza pandemic. Federal, provincial and territorial governments collaborated on the development of the plan, which creates a framework that guides the actions of all levels of government in the event of an influenza pandemic and includes checklists that various groups can use in emergency response planning.

In addition, trilateral emergency procedures are under development to share information on food-related emergencies between Canada-US-Mexico and establish lines of communication to coordinate timely action. National and international table-top exercises on intentional contamination of the Canadian food supply with chemical, biological and radiological agents have been conducted to test response mechanisms and identify gaps.

Development and Revision of Plans, Policies and Procedures Pertaining to Food Safety Emergencies: Achievements: 1) Foodborne Illness Outbreak Response Protocol to guide a

multi-jurisdictional response (2004); 2) Health Products and Food Branch Emergency Response Plan (2004).

Development of the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP): Under SPP, trilateral procedures to share information on food-related emergencies between Canada-US-Mexico are being developed. Mechanisms to cooperate and exchange information on food safety investigations and follow-up activities, including test results and recalls, in response to food safety issues that may affect another trilateral partner are also being developed.

Canadian Laboratory Information Network (CANLINE): CANLINE is the national repository of food data (e.g. occurrence of contaminants data) generated by federal, provincial, and territorial partners. CANLINE is currently being developed and is aimed at enabling an improved national coordination of food data collection, an improved identification of gaps, and an enhanced early warning system for potential signs of large scale food tampering/adulteration.

Section 2.2 International Initiatives

Commitment One:

We will ensure an enabling political, social, and economic environment designed to create the best conditions for the eradication of poverty and for durable peace, based on full and equal participation of women and men, which is most conducive to achieving sustainable food security for all.

Programme	Year Initiated	Status
CIDA		
PROAGRI Program in Mozambique : This program is supported by a multidonor pooled fund, of which Canada is one of the largest contributors (\$20 million over five years), to help small-holder farmers and the private sector to increase agricultural productivity, agro-industry, rural entrepreneurship and rural finance.	2005	2010
The Rural Maintenance Program in Bangladesh: Funded by CIDA and operated by CARE Canada this program works in close collaboration with the government to provide year-round work for 40,000 destitute women. Terminated in 2005 after 10 years of operation, evaluations have shown that approximately 70% of women graduating from the program are able to provide for their families on an enduring basis.	1995	completed
The Ukraine Credit Union Strengthening Project: This project builds upon the work of previous projects by creating a credit union association, which will help to support the development of future credit unions in Ukraine. The primary objective of this project is to create financial opportunities for the poor and underserved areas of Ukraine.	2004	2008

Indigenous Peoples Partnership Program: To foster the participation of all people in poverty reduction efforts, CIDA re-launched its Indigenous Peoples Partnership Program, which supports the sharing of experience and strengthening partnerships between Indigenous organizations in Canada and developing countries.	2003	ongoing
The Girl Child Project in Kenya: This project works with local NGOs to improve their capacity to design, implement and manage projects that promote more equitable treatment for girls. The goal of this three year project is to increase access to opportunities for the girl child in Kenya by improving programming in the girl child sector.	2003	ongoing
The Canada-Southeast Asia Regional HIV/AIDS Program: Funded by CIDA, this 4-year project is assisting the national governments, specifically AIDS authorities, of Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Lao PDR, to develop multi-sectoral gender-sensitive policy environments that will enable prevention programmes to reach mobile people and migrants with HIV/AIDS prevention services.	2003	ongoing

IDRC		
Programming on Peace, Conflict and Development (various)	1996	Ongoing
Programming on Gender and Development (various)	1988	Ongoing

The policies, strategies and initiatives implemented, and their outcomes, are described below.

CIDA

Conflict Prevention and Human Rights: Canada's current policy recognizes that sustainable poverty reduction requires security and sound governance structures and processes. It also recognizes that the costs of rebuilding after conflict are much greater than the investment of effective development cooperation programs that reduce poverty, inequality, exclusion and environmental degradation. As such, it commits Canada to building the conditions for secure, equitable development by promoting good governance, focusing Canadian efforts on democratization, human rights, the rule of law, public-sector capacity building, and conflict prevention.

Consistent with its commitment to support international human rights organizations, CIDA committed \$5 million core funding to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) over the time period from 2004 - 2007. This contribution, combined with support to OHCHR field offices in such countries as Nepal and Columbia, has moved Canada from the 17th to the 8th largest donor to the OHCHR. The increased funding includes \$1 million to support OHCHR human rights monitoring in Sudan and to strengthen the capacity of NGOs and UN agencies working in the country to address human rights issues.

CIDA also supports initiatives at the national level to promote and protect human rights. Among the numerous national human rights institutions CIDA supported in 2004-05 was the Nepal Human Rights Commission (NHRC), an increasingly important initiative in the context of rising

human rights violations in that country. To date, CIDA's assistance has helped the NHRC establish and strengthen procedures, policies and systems to improve and streamline its complaints management process. NHRC staff have shown increasing managerial capacity, as demonstrated by the development of a strategic plan (2003-2008) and increased assertiveness in managing relations with donors.

Stable Economic Conditions: Consistent with the recommendations of the UN Commission on the Private Sector and Development, Canada's current policy commits to supporting developing countries' own efforts to strengthen their private sector as the engine of economic growth through creating an enabling environment; promoting entrepreneurship; and supporting connection to markets and economic integration. CIDA will do more to enable developing countries, particularly those in Africa, to build their private sectors, make markets work for the poor, in particular poor women, and compete globally. Work already underway, includes the Canada Investment Fund for Africa (CIFA). Launched in 2005, CIFA is an innovative joint public-private initiative that will provide risk capital for private investments in Africa to generate economic growth. The first government initiative of its kind, CIFA aims to channel at least \$200 million in additional investment into Africa. The Canada Fund for Africa is contributing \$100 million and the remainder will be raised from private sector partners.

Gender Equality and Vulnerable Populations: Canada's development cooperation policy includes gender equality continues to be a cross-cutting theme throughout Canada's development cooperation, with gender equality results systematically and explicitly integrated across all programming within each of the five sectors of focus. Building on the objectives identified in the 1999 Gender Equality Policy Statement, explicit gender equality results in the sectoral areas will be related to women as decision makers, the human rights of women and girls, and access to and control over resources.

CIDA's policy also recognizes that effectively tackling poverty reduction requires an understanding of issues of discrimination and exclusion, and therefore commits Canada to supporting the promotion and implementation of human rights, including the rights of women and children, particularly those affected by conflict, gender-based violence and natural disasters, in future programming.

There are a number of initiatives underway, which are a visible reflection of CIDA's commitment to promoting and protecting the rights of the most vulnerable and marginalized populations, including CIDA's \$2M Child Protection and Research Fund which supports 13 projects on issues ranging from girls in fighting forces to children in residential care. This research project has raised global awareness of the militarization of the lives of girls in fighting forces, and the roles that these girls play. The findings have influenced CIDA bilateral and Peace building Fund programming in Colombia and several African countries, and were used by CIDA to influence other donors such as the World Bank, to address the particular needs of girls in their Disarmament, Demobilisation, Rehabilitation programs. UNICEF, the United Nations Department for Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO), and the UNHCR have asked to incorporate the findings into the CD-ROMs they use to train their staff.

The CIDA – funded Girl Child Project in Kenya and the Canada-Southeast Asia Regional HIV/AIDS Program are delivered in cooperation with CARE Canada. They aim to promote participation and ensure equality and empowerment of women and youth. The empowerment component of CARE Canada's Programme Agreement funded by the Partnership Branch of CIDA works with women, children and youth, providing them with skills and opportunities to organize and take action in defence of their rights. Approaches include building vocational and life skills, addressing policy constraints and providing a forum for participation and joint action.

In addition, many small-scale projects in Nepal, Kenya, Rwanda, Malawi, Cambodia and Peru address violence against women and girls and HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

The expected outcomes of these projects are, for example, higher economic security for over 3,000 rural youth in Rwanda and adolescent girls in Cambodia (including commercial sex-workers); more secure living and school environments for over 40,000 children in Kenya and Malawi (addressing physical and sexual abuse, discrimination and denial of rights); and the empowerment of over 2,000 women in rural Nepal who will become fully engaged in development and governance in their region.

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Peace Conflict and Development (PCD) Program Initiative: IDRC's Peace Conflict and Development (PCD) program initiative, originally referred to as the Peacebuilding and Reconstruction (PBR), was created in 1996, at the time one of the first research-oriented responses to the challenges of peacebuilding. Since then, the program has diversified regionally and thematically. It helped establish a body of work in key areas of the field, notably governance, democratization, security sector reform, political economy questions and critical perspectives on the peacebuilding endeavour.

Renewed for the period 2005-2010, the PCD program now addresses conflict prevention aspects more explicitly, in addition to post-conflict peacebuilding. The PCD program focusses on four entry points, one of which specifically addresses "Political economy of peace and conflict". This theme is concerned with the various aspects of the economics of peace and conflict, and understanding how economic relations are intertwined with political relations and power. This includes conflict-related effects of economic liberalization, fiscal policies, natural resource management and war economies, diaspora roles in fuelling or mitigating conflict, and land tenure and land policies. As well IDRC's Ecohealth program initiative addresses trade-offs between increased food production and ecosystem degradation.

Gender Equality and Vulnerable Populations : IDRC integrates a gender perspective into all its programs and initiatives, guided by a view of sustainable and equitable development in which women participate fully, and women and men are represented equally. In addition to "mainstreaming" gender and development across the Centre's programs, the Gender Unit of IDRC supports specific research on key issues to investigate gender inequality and inequity as development challenges in themselves, and to support research findings that decision-makers and communities can use to bring about change. Since it was set up in the late 1980s, the Unit has funded training and awards, competitive grants, and research projects in a wide variety of areas.

The Gender Unit's 2001-2004 research theme was 'Gender, Citizenship, and Entitlement'. The associated sub-themes were 'Governance and Gender Violence'. The goal for the Gender Unit for the year 2005-06 is to work towards strengthening programming around the themes identified for a new Programme Initiative on Women's Rights and Citizenship. IDRC's Ecohealth program initiative investigates and searches for ways to reduce vulnerabilities resulting from the impact of AIDS, which is leading to increased exclusion and marginalization of the most vulnerable populations, particularly women.

Commitment Two

We will implement policies aimed at eradicating poverty and inequality and improving physical and economic access by all, at all times, to sufficient, nutritionally adequate and safe food and its effective utilization.

Programme	Year Initiated	Status
Federal		
United Nations Fish Agreement (UNFA) Assistance Fund: Canada has contributed \$500K to the Assistance Fund under Part VII of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA), with the purpose of enhancing the ability of developing States to conserve and manage straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks.	2006	2008
CIDA		
School Feeding Programs : These programs supported five school feeding initiatives over three years in five countries in Africa: Senegal, Mali, Mozambique, Ethiopia, and Tanzania. Funding for the programs is \$25 million per year, for a total of \$125 million. The programs target more than 568,000 children and 115,000 other vulnerable people, including victims of HIV/AIDS, each year.	2003	2006
World Food Programme (WFP): Canada works with the United Nations World Food Programme in emergency situations to target food aid to those most in need and to improve the nutritional quality of food-aid rations. In 2005, Canada donated US\$152M to the WFP. So far in fiscal year 2005 – 2006, \$123.8M has been provided in support of emergency food aid to the WFP's emergency operations in various countries experiencing natural disasters and/or civil unrest such as Sudan (\$9.2M), Niger (\$4M) and southern Africa (\$13M).		ongoing
Managing Environmental Resources to Enable Transitions (MERET) Program: The long-term objective of this program is for rural communities and households in food insecure areas, particularly those headed by women, to improve their livelihood and food security opportunities. Examples include community and household-based water-harvesting systems to generate income and increase water supply for livestock and domestic use. Since 2003, Canada has provided \$5 million/year in support of WFP's MERET program.	2003	ongoing
Support to UNICEF and other Non-governmental Agencies: Canada has forged key partnerships with UNICEF and other NGOs to provide much-needed drugs, vaccines, nutritional supplements, and health services for child-survival programs in developing countries.	1998	ongoing

International Humanitarian Assistance Program: CIDA provides financial contributions to humanitarian organizations to support assistance, protection and relief programs to alleviate human suffering caused by natural disasters and conflict. This includes basic human needs such as food, health, water and sanitation, shelter and household items, protection, education, recovery of livelihoods and disaster preparedness activities plus the care and eventual repatriation and reintegration of refugees and displaced persons.		ongoing
Support for UNICEF in Malawi: CIDA provided \$1M towards UNICEF's operations in response to the current food insecurity situation in Malawi. This support is focussed on nutrition-related interventions including therapeutic feeding for severely malnourished children, as well as emergency water and sanitation programming, and serves to complement food aid.	2005	ongoing
Promotion of Efficient Water Harvesting and Irrigation Technologies: CIDA works with developing country partners to improve the efficiency of water use in agriculture through the development and transfer of more efficient technologies.		ongoing
Kabul Widows Humanitarian Assistance (KWHHA) - Afghanistan: CARE Canada's food distribution program for 10,000 widows in Kabul, supported by CIDA, recently shifted its programming focus to ensure that widows were not only given food, but opportunities to develop skills to become self-reliant.	1996	ongoing
Local Initiatives for Tomorrow, Sri Lanka (LIFT): The purpose of this CIDA funded project is to develop the capacity of community based organizations to support economic activities, improve food security, create employment, provide basic human needs to the conflict affected population, and empower communities to participate in the decision-making processes related to achieving basic human needs and rights. It is estimated that at least 27,000 producers will benefit indirectly from the project activities.		
Tools for Development: This program offers access to credit, training in production techniques and business management, and most importantly, access to equipment, for the urban poor. As many as 5,000 jobs have been or will be created or strengthened over the life of the program in Jamaica, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Peru.		
IDRC		
Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture in Sierra Leone: Using a north-south team of researchers, development agents from NGOs, and producers, this project generated the information required for appropriate planning and policy support for Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture (UPA) in Sierra Leone.		

Social Organization of Urban Producers : Work has begun on eight case studies to document lessons learned from urban producer organizations in Latin America and Europe that have established innovative partnerships with other actors in order to access resources (credit, land, inputs) and participate in the development of public policies related to urban agriculture.		
Improving Urban Poor's Access to Resources for (Peri)Urban Agriculture in Eastern and Southern Africa: This project documented and analysed formal and informal practices, strategies, and means used by socially and economically differentiated women and men to access land and other resources for (peri)urban agriculture.		
Resource Centre for Urban Agriculture : IDRC co-funded the establishment of a global resource centre for local and global information on Urban Agriculture.		
Sustainable Development of Urban Agriculture in West Africa: This project, developed within the framework of the activities of the Francophone Network for Urban Agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa, implemented concerted action, exchanges, partnerships and dynamic interactions between stakeholders in the cities for sustainable development of urban agriculture addressing wastewater reuse and land tenure.		
Organizations of Small Urban Agricultural Producers : This grant is producing case studies of urban agriculture producers' associations in 10 cities around the world. The research is developing a typology of urban agriculture producers' associations, assessing the performance of urban agriculture producers' associations, and undertaking a comparative analysis of the case studies from around the world.		
Alternative Strategies for Financing Farmers and Urban Agriculture in West Africa: The main objective is to improve knowledge of and identify financing sources for urban agriculture with a view towards long-term sustainability. This project is evaluating the demand and supply of financing for UPA in 8 cities, building capacities of farmers to access credit, and producing case studies and methodological guides of the research results.		
Greywater Treatment and Reuse in West Bekka, Lebanon: This project tested a system for greywater treatment and use in home gardens in a cluster of towns in West Bekka. There were 50 direct beneficiaries of the project and the final workshop received the support of the local mayor. A video is being produced to highlight at the World Water Forum 2006.		

<p>Greywater Treatment and Use for Poverty Reduction in Jordan (Phase II): During the second phase of this project the research team is undertaking an independent evaluation of existing approaches to greywater treatment; constructing additional greywater treatment systems to serve a peri-urban community of 300 beneficiaries; improving the systems' effectiveness in terms of water quantity and quality; and monitoring the social, environmental and economic impact of greywater reuse.</p>		
<p>Wastewater Treatment Using Water Lettuce, Phase II: In this phase, researchers worked to optimize the existing treatment system so that it met the World Health Organization (WHO) standards for unrestricted wastewater reuse.</p>		
<p>Improving Benefits of Livestock Production in Nigeria: This project is using the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point method to identify the specific hazards associated with different livestock production systems and determine the points along the production-to-consumption chain where control measures will be effective in eliminating or minimizing risks.</p>		
<p>Horticulture and Livestock in West African Cities (Ph.II): This project worked with research teams in the Gambia and Senegal to address a number of issues: nutrient value of horticultural residues; public and environmental health; and the impact of land tenure, gender and marketing on the adoption of proven approaches.</p>		
<p>Human Risks and Benefits of Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture and Livestock Production: This project will support a small grants competition between the participants that attended a 2003 workshop on 'Health Benefits and Risks in the Context of Urban Agriculture in Sub Saharan Africa' in Nairobi. The Nairobi project has been selected to pursue further research.</p>		
<p>Soils, Food and Healthy Communities, Malawi: This project leads to improved legume consumption by young children. To intensify legume production in the catchment area by developing a seed system, promoting the use of legumes in child feeding programs and organizing clubs to encourage sustainable, healthy farming and eating practices.</p>		
<p>Environmental Risks of Cadmium in Jamaica: This project improves knowledge on the uptake of Cd and considers farming practices that could reduce the risk of human exposure through food.</p>		
<p>Ecosystems and Human Health in Market Gardening in Benin: This project evaluates the health risks associated with market garden operations to improve the health of the men and women gardeners and consumers.</p>		
<p>Wild Edible Plants and Dietary Diversity in Lebanon: This project promotes the use of wild edible plants and local food systems in order to reduce the diseases associated with a simplified diet.</p>		

Health Risks and Benefits of UPA and Livestock in Kenya: This project assesses health risks and benefits of urban and peri-urban agriculture and livestock production (UPA), with risk communication and mitigation activities.		
Regional Network in HIV/AIDS, Rural Livelihoods and Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa: The network aims to enhance understanding of the interactions between HIV/AIDS, food and nutrition security, and to facilitate a comprehensive response.	2001	ongoing
18th Congress of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS): The Congress took place in Durban, South Africa in September 2005. Support from IDRC's Ecohealth program enabled Canadian and developing countries participants who work on food resources, biodiversity and food security.		
International Conference on HIV/AIDS and Food Nutrition Security: IDRC's Ecohealth program supported this conference held in Durban, South Africa in April 2005 that brought key multi-stakeholders to deliberate on the interactions between HIV, AIDS and food security in order to improve the "HIV- responsiveness" of food and nutrition-relevant policies and programs.		

The policies, strategies and initiatives implemented, and their outcomes, are described below.

<p>CIDA</p> <p>Investments in Agriculture : Since the launch of CIDA's Agriculture Policy in 2003, the Agency has almost tripled investments in agriculture for all five pillars, from about \$87 million in FY 2001-2002, to \$180 million in FY 2004-05. Final figures for FY 2005-2006 are not yet available. Africa's share of this has risen from about 15% to about 22% over this period. These investments are being made by the operational branches in projects and programs aimed at addressing hunger and poverty through activities in this sector. CIDA takes the view that development assistance in this area must be responsive to local ownership and national responsibility, whereby developing country governments, policy bodies and national scientists (and other national representatives) take the lead in determining priorities and processes.</p> <p>Poverty Eradication: At the time CIDA's 2003 Agriculture Policy Statement was being developed, far-reaching consultations ensured that the policy was well-grounded and built on synergies with other important areas of the Agency's work, such as private sector development, poverty reduction, health and nutrition, and environment. The resulting policy statement therefore reflects the multi-faceted nature of the sector. Pro-poor agricultural growth seeks to facilitate broader social and economic policy objectives, beyond its sector-specific objective of enhancing agricultural productivity.</p> <p>CIDA works with developing and developed country partners to improve the efficiency of</p>
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water use in agriculture through the development and transfer of technology related to improved water harvesting and irrigation technologies that are more efficient. Canada also recognizes the importance of building the technical capacity of individual farmers, local water users associations and government agencies and departments. CIDA continues to support many countries in the development of small-scale irrigation in order to improve food security.

Enabling Food Insecure Households: CIDA takes a broad view of food security that comprises elements related to production, access and utilization. Food insecurity is as much a function of powerlessness and poverty as it is of inadequate food supply. While food security interventions can be short-termed and focused, such as supplying emergency food aid or micro-nutrients, achieving sustained and significant improvements in food security requires long-term investment. Increasing the food supply is frequently a necessary condition for decreasing food insecurity.

Canada provides funding for emergency food and health interventions, usually as part of a basic human needs package, during critical situations of food shortage and disease outbreak such as those caused by natural disasters and civil unrest. In addition to emergency assistance, Canada also supports development food aid which is designed to temporarily free the poor of the need to provide food for their families, giving them time and resources to invest in lasting assets such as better houses, clinics and schools, and new agricultural skills.

Safe, Accessible and Adequate Food Supplies: The Canadian government works with the United Nations World Food Programme in emergency situations to target food aid to those most in need and to improve the nutritional quality of food-aid rations. Canada is an active member of the World Food Programme's Executive Board which oversees WFP's humanitarian and development food aid activities and is specifically tasked with helping to evolve and coordinate short-term and longer-term food aid policies. Through this role, Canada is involved at the policy level with issues related to ensuring that food supplies are safe, physically and economically accessible, appropriate and adequate to meet the energy and nutrient needs of the population. Canada's recent contribution of \$13M to WFP's southern Africa regional operation in response to the current food insecurity situation was a completely untied contribution which enabled WFP to purchase in the region and thereby minimize transportation costs.

Canada has also forged key partnerships with UNICEF and non-governmental organizations to provide much-needed drugs, vaccines, nutritional supplements, and health services for child-survival programs in developing countries. In partnership with UNICEF, Canada has also been a leader in the promotion of Child Health and Nutrition Days, an initiative that integrates the delivery of vaccines, vitamin A, deworming medications and other lifesaving interventions. Since 1998, Canada has funded salt iodization and vitamin A programs, which have saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of children worldwide.

In September 2005, a change in Canada's food aid policy was announced allowing up to 50 % of Canada's food aid to be purchased in developing countries. Until that time, Canada's food aid purchases in developing countries were limited by a 10 % ceiling. It is anticipated that this will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of our assistance to hungry people worldwide. This will help lower transportation costs, provide more culturally appropriate food, and allow Canada's aid dollars to go further while supporting local farmers in developing countries.

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Urban Poverty and Environment Program Initiative (UPE): UPE funds research and activities in developing countries that apply integrated and participatory approaches to reducing environmental burdens on the urban poor and enhancing the use of natural resources

for food, water and income security. UPE builds from the work of the Cities Feeding People Program (CFP), created in 1997 and integrated into UPE as of April 2005. CFP had been a global leader on urban agriculture working on the following themes:

- space-confined production systems for low-income urban producers (mainly in sub-Saharan Africa), with an emphasis on recycling nutrients and managing risks and benefits various systems pose to human health;
- appropriate wastewater treatment and reuse systems, especially domestic grey water in North Africa and the Middle East; and;
- policies and systems to address the competition over access to urban resources, as well as the role of rural-urban interactions in urban food supply and food security.

A key feature of the integration of CFP into UPE has been consolidation and dissemination of lessons and action. UPE expands this focus on Urban Agriculture to include the interrelated themes of Urban Water & Sanitation, Waste Management, Vulnerability to Natural Disasters, and the cross-cutting theme of Land Tenure. The specific objectives of UPE are to support research, capacity building, and networking that help poor urban communities partner with local and national governments, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to:

- understand the nature of environmental burdens and constrained use of natural resources, investigate their impact on poverty, and identify potential solutions.
- test interventions and assess policies in low-income urban neighbourhoods that seek to ease environmental burdens and enhance the use of natural resources for food, water, and income security.
- contribute to integrated planning, development, and implementation of sustainable and equitable urban environmental and natural resources practices and policies.

Ecohealth Program Initiative: Ecohealth focuses on the interacting social, political, economic and ecological contexts that influence health. It is engaged with issues of health rather than disease, with prevention rather than just cure. It moves beyond health to concerns of sustainable development and continued well-being. A significant part of the new knowledge that the PI seeks to create is the identification of social, economic and governance structures and processes, as well as people's attitudes, behaviour and relations to the environment, which contribute to human health and well-being, thus providing a better understanding of constraints and possibilities for change. Interventions are designed to strengthen behaviour and governance that leads to positive health and well-being outcomes, or to create incentives for change where outcomes are negative, through improved environmental conditions. These changes are initiated through policy influence efforts or focused actions. The approved prospectus for 2005-2010 has the following objectives:

- to support research and interventions for improved health and well-being outcomes;
- to strengthen linkages of research to policy; and
- to build capacity for Ecohealth research.

Ecohealth plans to support the following research activities:

- enhancing food, biodiversity and health security in rural settings;
- enhancing the benefits of small and medium industrial enterprises and addressing environmental injustice, exclusion and vulnerability in slums in urban and peri-urban areas;

- the continuation of earlier work around selected communicable diseases in rural and urban settings.

Commitment Three:

We will pursue participatory and sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development policies and practices in high and low potential areas, which are essential to adequate and reliable food supplies at the household, national, regional and global levels, and combat pests, drought and desertification, considering the multifunctional character of agriculture.

Programme	Year Initiated	Status
CIDA		
Small Farmers in China Adapting to Global Markets: This project has four distinct elements: institutional reform; sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures and food safety; policy research; and, a series of 'pilot' projects. CIDA funding of about \$19.6 million over five years; the Government of China will match these funds for a total project budget of almost \$40 million.	2002	ongoing
Sustainable Agriculture Development Project: Supports China's development of innovative land management technologies and extension services to promote sustainable land use. Phase I of this project was between 2000 – 2005, with CIDA funding of \$3.5 million. The Government of China matched these funds for a total project budget of about \$7 million. Phase II of this project, which began 2004 and will continue to 2009, has \$20 million in CIDA funding. These funds are matched by the Government of China for a total project budget of \$40 million.	2004	Ongoing
Core Funding for CGIAR: CIDA provides more than \$13 million in annual core funding to the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research. Through its research and capacity building, the CGIAR directly contributes to better governance, private sector development and, ultimately, poverty reduction in developing countries. Over the 2003 – 2004 period, the Canada Fund for Africa provided an additional \$40 million in core funding to the CGIAR for Africa-related research.		ongoing
Trade-Readiness Technical Assistance (TRTA) in Central America: Under this \$5 million program, the Carleton University Center for Trade Policy and Law (CTPL) provides technical assistance to government officials across Central America, in accordance with commitments made under the Canada-Costa Rica Free Trade Agreement (FTA).	2001	2006

Food and Agriculture Budgetary Support in Ghana: This project pursues participatory and sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development policies and practices in high and low potential areas, which are essential to adequate and reliable food supplies at all levels, and to combat pests, drought and desertification.	2004	ongoing
Environmental Rehabilitation and Food Security (RESA) in Mopti, Mali: This project aims to improve food security, and thus living conditions, in four Malian rural communities. The project focuses on three components: food security, the environment and improved organizational capacity. The overall emphasis is on establishing decentralized structures for sustainable natural resource management and increasing food reserves while conserving and enhancing biological diversity.	1999	completed
Partnership for Food Security in Ethiopia: This partnership project will sustainably build the food security of target households through strengthening agricultural productivity; management and conservation of natural resources; diversification of income; and improving disaster prevention and management capacity.	2004	2007
New Coalition for Food Security (NCFS): CIDA actively supports the implementation of the New Coalition for Food Security, started in 2003, and in particular, the historic decision to shift from a system dominated by emergency relief to one of productive safety nets for the chronically food insecure population of Ethiopia.	2003	ongoing
The Pro-Mesas Agriculture Fund: the PRO-MESAS Agriculture Fund contributes to several agro-industrial rural development projects in Honduras.	2002	ongoing
Sustainable Tree Crops Program (STCP): STCP is a public-private partnership to improve the economic and social well-being of smallholders and their communities and ensuring the environmental sustainability of tree crops farms in Africa, notably through reforestation of damaged land and increased family incomes. Established in 1999, the STCP has stimulated global investment in cocoa, coffee, cashew, and other small tree crop production, marketing and processing.	1999	ongoing
Food Security Project in Northeastern Corridor, Ghana: Funded by CIDA, this CARE Canada project aims to increase the capability of smallholder farm families to adopt improved livelihood strategies through sustainable agricultural production and increased incomes in a dynamic environment, thus increasing their household food security.		

<p>Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change (RVCC) - Bangladesh This CIDA-funded project is designed to the capacity of communities in the southwest region of Bangladesh to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change by increasing food security through agricultural technologies suitable for the changing environmental context. Since implementation, 1500 households have improved their livelihoods through new sustainable agricultural technologies and practices.</p>		
<p>Southern Africa Drought Technology Network (SADNET) - Zambia: SADNET created a network of small-scale farmers, NGOs, CBOs, agricultural research institutes, agricultural extension and agri-businesses to facilitate the sharing of information among them on rural food security and drought coping strategies that would help farmers mitigate the effects of droughts.</p>		
<p>IDRC</p>		
<p>Increasing the Impact of Soil Fertility Research in Southern Africa: Led by researchers from the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and national institutions in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, this project will engage farmers, researchers, extension agents, grain processors and input providers to test a set of agricultural technology options in the context of reliable inputs and reliable markets.</p>		
<p>Rural Livelihood Security and Policy Change in Guangxi, China: This project aims to identify and promote rural development policies in support of the efforts of farmers in China by helping farmers, especially women, establish seed enterprises as a means of income generation; promoting in situ conservation of agricultural biodiversity; and reorienting rural extension services toward the needs and demands of the small farmer.</p>		
<p>Crop-Livestock Integration in the Sub-humid and Highland Zones of West and Central Africa: This project aims to increase the productivity and sustainability of integrated crop-livestock production systems in order to contribute to food security, poverty alleviation and ecosystem integrity for smallholder farmers in the environmentally stressed zones.</p>		
<p>Promoting Peace and Food Security by Strengthening Biodiversity-based Livelihoods in South Asia: Led by a coalition of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in South Asia and Canada, this project proposes to create spaces and processes for farmers and community-based organizations to generate knowledge and formulate policy positions that can then be creatively communicated to policymakers.</p>		

Strengthening Natural Resource Management and Farmers' Livelihoods in India: This project has explored new technologies and adaptations of indigenous systems to intensify swidden agriculture (jhum) and fallow management practices, including the introduction of shade-loving crops, for more productive and sustainable use of resources at the village level.		
Strengthening Seed Systems for Food Security in Afghanistan: A diagnostic study will be implemented by a multidisciplinary team with a view to understanding the local seed system, understanding the impact of different interventions, extracting lessons learned and influencing decision-making. A second component will review the existing literature on and a thorough needs assessment of local seed systems in rain-fed agriculture in northern Afghanistan.		
Enhancing Productivity through Integrated Natural Resources Management: This project aims to enhance income and food security in rural households in Bhutan, while maintaining a sustainable ecological, economic and cultural resource base. Community based natural resource management concepts, approaches and methods are to be emphasized in the work.		
Traditional Yemeni Rural Diets and Local Food Systems: This project enhances local food production and promotes dietary diversity to improve the health outcomes. It promotes traditional rural diets and local food production systems. The program also initiates policy dialogue.		
Aquaculture and Malaria in Uganda: This project identifies potential interventions (social and environmental) to mitigate the burden of malaria while enhancing the livelihood potential of fish farming.		
Agro-ecology East of Lake Nasser: This project will develop sustainable strategies to improve the socioeconomic conditions, health and livelihoods of poor and marginalized settlers living in fragile ecosystems. Men and women in communities and decision-makers are encouraged to consider agro-ecology as an alternative farming system, increase income through value-added production and niche marketing while mitigating environmental threats to human health.		

The policies, strategies and initiatives implemented, and their outcomes, are described below.

<p>CIDA</p> <p>Environmentally-friendly agriculture within the broader context of rural development remains the key to accelerating sustainable human and economic development through all five sectors identified in Canada's current development cooperation policy and to achieving</p>

the Millennium Development Goals. Agriculture, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, is the main source of livelihood for the majority of the poor, approximately 70% of whom live in rural areas.

In CIDA's current policy, food security is identified as a target outcome under the Health priority, while rural entrepreneurship and market issues are areas of support under the Private Sector Development sector. Natural resource management challenges underpinning agriculture, such as water and land degradation, are highlighted under the Environmental Sustainability sector.

Sustainable Production: CIDA's 2003 Agriculture Policy outlines the importance of agriculture to achieving several of the MDGs, while making the linkages to other sectors. Against this backdrop, the policy outlines CIDA's approach to reinforcing these linkages, guiding principles and program priorities across five broad thematic sectors.

CIDA's 2003 Agriculture Policy includes 'enhancing food security, agriculture productivity and income'. Under this objective, programming priorities include: improving access, management and administration of land; diversifying and intensifying agricultural systems; reducing post-harvest losses; and, improving food safety, nutrition education and use of available foods.

Combating Environmental Threats: Canada contributes to a large number of multilateral institutions whose activities help to combat desertification. These institutions include the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, the World Bank, regional banks, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). All implement a wide array of activities to help combat desertification and some have specific provisions to help implement the Convention to Combat Desertification. For example, UNDP's Drylands Development Centre works closely with CIDA on a number of key issues and the UNCCD's Global Mechanism mobilizes resources to combat land degradation and poverty.

Canada also contributes funds to the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The Facility funds efforts to combat desertification in four focal areas: climate change, biodiversity, international waters and ozone-layer depletion.

The Canada Fund for Africa has made a \$40-million contribution to the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), a worldwide network of 15 research centres, is supporting cutting-edge research to reduce hunger and poverty, improve nutrition and health, and protect the environment in Africa. Canada's support has contributed to a wide range of activities that benefit small farmers and women producers. New bean varieties have been developed and tested in Eastern and Central Africa, and new potato varieties are feeding people in Ethiopia. New forage grasses have been introduced in Malawi and Uganda, and selected communities in those countries are developing new livestock-based agribusinesses. In Cameroon, Kenya, Malawi, and Mali, indigenous medicinal tree species are being strengthened. Researchers have increased the body weight of tilapia, a common variety of fish, by almost a third, boosting prospects for both food security and trade. Training and technical assistance have also been provided for scientists working in areas as diverse as maize improvement, aquaculture, biotechnology, and community participation. In Kenya, research on marketing and consumption of dairy products has enabled authorities to strengthen regulatory reform and provide training and certification services to local producers and traders.

Sound Policies on Technology Transfer and Skills Development: CIDA's 2003

Agriculture Policy also includes a focus on ‘strengthening national capacity’. Programming priorities include: supporting sector assessment, domestic policy formulation and strategic planning; assisting developing countries to compete both regionally and in the global marketplace through enhanced capacity to formulate and implement trade policies, and to develop infrastructure and overcome trade barriers, e.g. sanitary and phytosanitary requirements. Developing countries require capacity building to participate in the development of international frameworks, to develop national policies reflecting domestic priorities and international requirements, and to implement these policies and meet international obligations.

Public and Private Sector Cooperation: The government is working with the Canadian research community, including the federal S&T community, universities and private sector groups, to identify what steps might be required to direct the benefits of Canadian R&D investment in support of international development, particularly in the areas of the life sciences (including agriculture), education, and the environment.

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Rural Poverty and Environment: The Rural Poverty and Environment Program Initiative (RPE) supports research focusing on the needs of the rural poor who live in fragile or degraded ecosystems. Its goal is to support participatory action-research, policy analysis and institutional innovation and reform and contribute to the development of networks, partnerships and communities of practice, in order to strengthen institutions, policies and practices that enhance the food, water and income security of the rural poor living in fragile or degraded upland and coastal ecosystems.

In order to accomplish this, it will support activities in four Outcome Areas:

- building effective environmental governance where all stakeholders, including marginalized groups, participate in ENRM decision-making and policies are informed by field research and stakeholder needs;
- enhancing equitable access and use rights to natural resources by strengthening the negotiating capacity of the rural poor to defend or expand their rights to natural resources;
- strengthening communities’ capacity to respond to and benefit from integration within wider social and economic systems (e.g. urbanization, globalization and market integration); and
- adaptive learning (adaptive ecosystem management, participatory ecosystem monitoring, experimental policy design), in key hotspots of rural poverty and environmental degradation.

RPE builds from the work of four prior program initiatives: People, Land and Water (PLAW), Community-based Natural Resource Management in Asia, Natural Resources Management in Latin America and the Caribbean (Minga), and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (SUB). These four programs, created in 1996, were integrated into RPE as of April 2005. Based on learning from prior ENRM programming, the initiative uses an approach that combines support for participatory action research to generate knowledge for sustainable, equitable and efficient NRM; capacity development to strengthen researchers’ ability to conduct field research in a rigorous manner and decision-makers’ participation in multi-stakeholder processes; and policy engagement to build action- and learning- oriented partnerships and alliances between different types of decision-makers.

Ecohealth: IDRC's Ecohealth program supports projects that address agriculture

transformation through ecosystem management, sustainable agriculture for reliable food supplies at the household, national, regional and global levels, and combat pests, drought and desertification, considering the multifunctional character of agriculture.

From 2000-2004, the Ecohealth program used agro-ecosystem as a framework and entry-point to improve ecosystem management particularly in rural areas. The program built collaboration with health professionals, natural resource managers, and others concerned with improving human well-being. Ecohealth improves knowledge on agro-ecosystems on food, disease, chemical pollutants and occupational health. It promotes multi-dimensional agro-ecosystem practices, linking food security and nutrition. Some examples of our work include agriculture transformation for food and nutrition including Vitamin A. Another is on how food and agriculture production systems influence health and environment sustainability. It encourages improved nutrition through policy, technology and education.

Since 2005, the Ecohealth program contributes to improved food security and dietary diversity. It includes agriculture transformation, biodiversity preservation. Transformation farming systems has implications on ecosystems, human health, dietary diversity and food security of rural communities. Ecohealth supports research on how such transformation influence household income, food security, dietary diversity and livelihood. For example: moving from subsistence to export crops; multi to mono crops; traditional to genetically modified crops; established practices to new management approaches; and increased dependency on pesticides and fertilizers in response to changes in policy and technology.

Commitment Four:

We will strive to ensure that food, agricultural trade and overall trade policies are conducive to fostering food security for all through a fair and market-oriented world trade system.

Programme	Year Initiated	Status
CIDA		
Improving Productivity and Market Success of Ethiopian Farmers: The goal of this \$9.9 million project is to contribute to improved agricultural productivity and production through market-oriented agricultural development to achieve improved and sustainable livelihoods for the rural population. The project will focus on grouping individual farmers to increase their negotiating power, agro-processing possibilities, and access to market information.	2004	2009
Supporting the Farming Population of Guinea: The goal of this \$13 million project is to reduce poverty in Guinea through social and economic programming in specific sectors of the economy (agriculture, livestock, and crafts). The project is composed of two major components: building up capacities and supporting income-generating activities.	2003	2009

Coastal Rural Support Program in Mozambique : This project uses a sustainable rural livelihoods approach to help reduce rural poverty. It targets the poorest sectors of the population in Cabo Dekgad by building capacity and supporting networks to: promote agricultural and rural development; increase food security and income generation; enhance education; and improve health.	2003	2005
Enhancing On-Farm Food Safety and Quality Assurance (Uruguay and Paraguay) : This \$1.6 million project aims to assist Paraguayan and Uruguayan organizations in the beef and sheep industry in increasing on-farm safety and quality assurance. It also includes the development of traceability systems.	2004	2008
Agriculture Leaders Training Project : This \$1.9 million project aimed to prepare leaders of Western Africa agriculture organizations to fully participate and share their views in the context of the preparations for the WTO negotiations. The anticipated outcome was to develop a fair market in which producers obtain a more stable income and in which food security is improved.	2002	2005
Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards : CIDA provided funding to the relevant FAO Trust Funds to support the participation of developing countries to meetings of the Codex Alimentarius and the International Plant Protection Convention.	2004	2006
Rural Enterprise and Agri-service Promotion (REAP) - Kenya : REAP has facilitated the establishment of a joint venture, for-profit that links smallholder farmers to high-value export markets by providing loans for seeds, technical inputs, extension services and market access on a fee-for-service basis. The average farmer's income has increased from US \$120 per annum to between US \$400 and \$600 per annum depending upon their stage of evolution.		
AGENT Project - Zimbabwe : With funding support from CIDA, AGENT built up and trained a network of rural traders that provides access for smallholder producers to input and output markets on improved terms, with credit as the vital market lubricant. Since 1995, a total of 580 traders have been set-up and linked to the private sector, and 60% were fully absorbed into the private sector distribution network.	1995	ongoing
Livestock Marketing Enterprise (LIME) - Kenya : LIME has facilitated the establishment of 5 Pastoralist Production Companies (PPCs) – comprising of 176 men and 64 women - around the watering holes it helped to rehabilitate across Garissa District in Kenya. To date, the facilitated sale of cattle that has generated an income of \$212,167 for the pastoralists (avg. \$605 per member).		

The policies, strategies and initiatives implemented, and their outcomes, are described below.

Federal

WTO Negotiations to Strengthen Fisheries Subsidies Discipline : As a signatory to the World Summit on Sustainable Development Plan of Implementation and a participant in the WTO Doha Round, Canada supports the elimination of subsidies that contribute to overcapacity in the fishing sector. Canada believes that subsidies disciplines should be clear, transparent and enforceable. International discussions are ongoing on which fisheries subsidies should be disciplined. Canada recognizes the importance of this sector for developing countries and that food security concerns, poverty reduction, and livelihood should be taken into account in this context.

WTO Agriculture Negotiations: Canada is committed to a growth and development round in the WTO negotiations. Canada continues to stress that an ambitious outcome in the agriculture negotiations is the most effective way to aid developing countries' development and poverty alleviation efforts. This includes harmonized reductions to trade-distorting domestic support, substantial improvements in market access and the elimination of export subsidies by 2013.

Canada also agrees with measures that would ease transition of developing countries to a more liberalized trading environment, such as longer phase-in periods and shallower cuts to support and protection. Canada is favorable to addressing in the context of the WTO negotiations special and differential treatment measures for developing countries that are criteria-based and well-targeted to address specific development needs. Canada also recognizes the difficult situation of the least developed countries (LDCs), and supports special provisions in their favour such as taking no commitments as a result of this Round.

CIDA

With regards to CIDA, activities to increase the capacity of developing countries include: institution building; technical support to increase productivity; development of new products; regrouping of farmers into cooperatives; access to capital (including microfinance); implementation of food safety and quality standards; as well as advice on how to promote and sell food products at the local, national, and international levels. As well, Canada will continue to provide technical assistance to developing countries to ensure that they can participate in and benefit from international trade agreements.

Food Aid: Canadian food aid programs are the responsibility of CIDA. All of Canada's food aid is provided in fully grant form, and is largely delivered through the World Food Programme (WFP). In addition, Canada has recently shifted its food aid policy to allow up to 50 per cent of Canadian food aid to be purchased from least developed and lower income developing countries. Until now, Canada's food aid purchases outside of Canada were limited by a 10% ceiling. In addition, CIDA has been increasing its focus on emergency needs of the most vulnerable, and on programs such as school feeding. It is expected that these policy changes will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of Canadian food assistance.

Participation in International Organizations: Canada also participates in and contributes to various international organizations that are related to food security and trade, including the Food Aid Convention (FAC) of the International Grains Council, the United Nations' Food

and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), the Consultative Group on International Research (CGIAR), and other relevant organizations financed through the UN system (e.g. the FAO's Consultative Subcommittee on Surplus Disposal (CSSD), Codex Alimentarius, International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)).

IDRC

Trade, Employment and Competitiveness (TEC) Program Initiative: IDRC's TEC Program Initiative assists developing countries in their efforts to participate more effectively in the global economy. Over its most recent programming period 2000-2005, TEC has supported research to articulate and advance the interests and bargaining capacities of developing countries in trade negotiations, and to ensure that their domestic policies are coherent with international trade commitments and development objectives. Support is directed at maintaining or developing new networks working regionally or globally on current and emerging trade and trade-related issues, such as competition policy, investment, trade and agriculture, and trade in services. Also being supported are initiatives at the national level that produce the information needed to develop official positions and support civil society in international trade debates and negotiations. Special attention is given to issues sometimes neglected in traditional economic analysis, including political economic dimensions, institutional considerations, and the enabling environment. Research outputs are disseminated nationally through seminars and reports, and internationally through publications.

Commitment Five:

We will endeavour to prevent and be prepared for natural disasters and man-made emergencies and to meet transitory and emergency food requirements in ways that encourage recovery, rehabilitation, development and a capacity to satisfy future needs.

Programme	Year Initiated	Status
CIDA		
UNDP Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) Centre : BCPR is the centre of excellence in post-conflict and disaster response programming for the UNDP. Through the Thematic Trust Fund on Crisis Prevention and Recovery, Canada provides un-earmarked support to BCPR's work to help UN country teams prepare disaster response plans, craft post-conflict recovery programs, and integrate gender issues into their peacebuilding work.		ongoing
Increasing Capacity for Natural Disaster Responsiveness (various)		ongoing
Developing Effective Emergency Response Mechanisms (various)		ongoing
IDRC		

<p>Integrated System of Environmental Management (SIGA): SIGA is a GIS package developed to assist municipalities on prevention and reduction of natural disasters in vulnerable urban areas. Three regional workshops were held in the LAC region throughout 2005 to train 80 municipal technicians. A DVD and operation manual has also been produced and uploaded on the website.</p>		
<p>Strengthening a Municipal Disaster Prevention System: IDRC's UPE program has funded the Regional Disaster Information Centre in LAC to promote an adequate regional information system, which helps to meet the needs of municipalities regarding the strengthening of the decision-making process in the natural disaster prevention.</p>		

The policies, strategies and initiatives implemented, and their outcomes, are described below.

Federal

The December 26, 2004 tsunami wreaked coastal devastation that disproportionately affected the fisheries sector and Canada has encouraged the FAO's funding allocation to reflect this. The concern is long-term sustainability and permanent gains in food security, poverty reduction and social sustainability – according to the needs, cultures and priorities of affected countries. Through international fisheries policy fora, Canada continues to ensure that during the rebuilding process, a build-up of excess fishing capacity is avoided.

Development of Tsunami Warning System: Canada is participating in the development of an international assistance and development tsunami warning program for ODA-eligible nation states in the Indian Ocean, focussing on Sri Lanka and possibly small island states, as well as a potential subvention/draw for an IOC tsunami trust fund appeal. In 2005, Canada contributed \$25,000 to the IOC Fund for Tsunami Warning System.

CIDA

Conflict Resolution: Working through CIDA's Peace and Security Unit, Canada has extended its support to organizations working to mediate a just and lasting solution to conflict. Working in collaboration with Foreign Affairs Canada, the Peace and Security Unit aims to assist countries in conflict in their efforts towards peace and stability, and to promote Canadian peacebuilding capacity and participation in international peacebuilding initiatives.

Increasing Capacity to Prepare for Natural Disasters: Canada supports several initiatives aimed at increasing the capacity of Low-Income, Food Deficit Countries (LIFDCs) to prepare for, and respond to, natural disasters through its support of partners such as the International Federation of the Red Cross, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Development Program and the Pan-American Health Organization. Through these various mechanisms, over 20 LIFDCs have received Canadian support in the area of disaster preparedness and prevention.

Canada played an integral role in the drafting and negotiating of the Hyogo Framework for Action' at the World Conference for Disaster Reduction in Japan in January 2005 which set the stage for action related to building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters over the next 10 years. This conference specifically examined issues such as ensuring that

disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority, strengthening disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels and identifying, assessing and monitoring disaster risks and enhancing early warning.

CIDA also supports the International Federation of the Red Cross' (IFRC) Capacity Building Fund which represents a pool of unearmarked money that can be used to support innovation in National Society capacity building through assistance for new programme design and the financing of priority planned programmes. In 2005, Canada provided \$500,000 to this fund which supported a number of LIFDCs including Angola, Ghana, Cambodia, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Georgia, and Afghanistan.

Similarly, in 2005, \$500,000 was provided in support of the IFRC's Disaster Management and Coordination (DMC) which provides leadership, coordination and support to Red Cross National Societies in disaster preparedness and policy, operations, logistics and disaster management information. The DMC also provides training to empower National Societies to reduce risk in their communities and to better prepare for emergencies. Through this support, LIFDCs such as Zambia, Swaziland, Sri Lanka and Kenya have been assisted.

The IFRC's Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) also received support from Canada in FY05/06 (\$850,000). IFRC's SIDS programming focuses on the particular vulnerability of Small Island Developing States in the face of disasters.

CIDA's Caribbean desk has also provided support for disaster prevention and preparedness. The Caribbean Basin is one of the world's most disaster prone areas. Member states of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) are vulnerable to hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, flooding and occasional drought. The CIDA supported Caribbean Disaster Management Fund works on two fronts: to improve the ability of disaster management bodies to prevent and reduce the impact of disasters and, to provide assistance following major disasters. One initiative under way in Belize, the British Virgin Islands, Grenada and Saint Lucia encourages safe building practices designed to withstand hurricanes or earthquakes.

Developing Effective Emergency Response Mechanisms: The recent Humanitarian Response Review (2005, completed), initiated by the Emergency Relief Coordinator, was designed to provide an independent, in-depth system wide review of humanitarian response capacities, with a focus on the UN. This process highlighted gaps in the humanitarian system, one of which was the issue of providing more timely, flexible and equitable humanitarian funding. Elements of the review, including the need to facilitate more rapid humanitarian responses by improving the timeliness of humanitarian funding, were subsequently endorsed by the UN General Assembly at the World Summit in September 2005.

Canada has worked closely with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in the development of an expanded UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). In particular, Canada's efforts have focussed on issues of management and governance, in order to ensure that the CERF is able to function more effectively. An enhanced CERF would significantly improve the UN's ability to respond to rapid onset crises as well as forgotten emergencies.

Canada is also a strong supporter of the Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD) Initiative which aims to improve international humanitarian action by ensuring that the responses of donor governments are effective, equitable and consistent with the principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence. The GHD initiative seeks greater coordination in donor policy approaches to decision-making and resource allocation; more predictable, flexible and timely funding for crisis response; international responses based on needs assessments using objective criteria and ensuring equitable funding to all crises; and donor

responses which are consistent with international humanitarian law, in particular with the principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence.

Canada has assumed a leading role in the GHD initiative because it is committed to responding effectively to humanitarian crises, and to improving protection and assistance for affected populations. The GHD initiative reflects Canada's commitment to strengthening the international humanitarian system, improving the protection of civilians and ensuring effective and equitable responses to crises around the world. From June 2003 to July 2005, Canada was the chair of the overall initiative and also acted as the chair of the Geneva-based Implementation Group for Good Humanitarian Donorship. Canada, as part of our continued commitment to the Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD) Initiative, has also developed a draft domestic strategy for implementation of the GHD Principles and Good Practice that were endorsed in Stockholm, Sweden in 2003. This strategy outlines how Canada will implement these principles and good practice in its own foreign and development policy and programming.

Since 2003, Canada has also provided support (\$200,000/yr) to the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team which is a stand-by team of disaster management professionals who are nominated and funded by member governments, OCHA, UNDP and operational humanitarian United Nations Agencies such as WFP, UNICEF and WHO. Upon request of a disaster-stricken country, the UNDAC team can be deployed within hours to carry out rapid assessment of priority needs and to support national Authorities and the United Nations Resident Coordinator to coordinate international relief on-site.

Canada has supported IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund which aims to provide national societies and delegations with the initial funds to help provide immediate assistance to alleviate the suffering of disaster affected communities in the cases of rapid, slow onset and forgotten disasters.

Strengthening Linkages Between Relief Operations and Development Programmes:

Targeted institutional financial and policy support is being provided to strengthen coordination between UN agencies working at the intersection of humanitarian assistance and recovery. One of the key elements of the 2005 UN World Summit Outcome Document was a commitment to create a UN Peacebuilding Commission, with an accompanying Support Office and Trust Fund. In simultaneous resolutions in the General Assembly and Security Council, member states voted on December 20, 2005 to approve the creation of this body. Canada has been closely involved in supporting this process, which will create a more coordinated UN approach to post-conflict recovery.

Demining Activities: In 1998, Canada established the Canadian Landmines Fund (CLF), with a commitment of \$100 million over five years, in order to provide propulsion to the objectives of the Ottawa Convention. Canada is also host to the Mine Ban Treaty (also referred to as the Ottawa Convention), and therefore obligated by Article 6 of the Treaty to support States Parties affected by landmines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) in their efforts to rid themselves of these deadly remnants of war.

In recognition of the scale of the task required for a mine-free world, the CLF was renewed in 2003 for a further five years with an additional \$72 million in funding to be implemented by the departments of CIDA, Foreign Affairs and National Defence. This funding has enabled Canada to support mine clearance operations in a wide range of ERW-affected countries, assisting them in reducing casualties and creating opportunities for agricultural and other economic development in mine-impacted regions. In addition, the CLF has provided funding for mine-risk education and victim assistance projects, which also serve to reduce harm to

civilians and to better integrate those directly affected by mine and ERW accidents into their communities.

Complementing the CLF, assistance for mine action is also being provided through the more traditional channels of CIDA, where there has been recognition of the value of mine action in facilitating the broader development objectives of national poverty reduction programs. It is expected that this approach will continue beyond the life of the CLF as it comes to a close in 2008, and will underpin Canada's ongoing obligations under Article 6 of the Ottawa Convention.

Commitment Six:

We will promote optimal allocation and use of public and private investments to foster human resources, sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries and forestry systems, and rural development, in high and low potential areas.

Programme	Year Initiated	Status
CIDA		
The Community Economic Development Project: This project will address the community development needs of up to 36 small urban and rural communities of Ukraine and act as a facilitator to empower the selected communities to mobilize their own resources, and work with local authorities to address community-defined economic and social priorities, with a special focus on poverty reduction.	2004	2008
Trade-Related Research and Policy Development Project: This project aims to provide support to activities that will help create a positive enabling environment for trade in Bangladesh. Under this project, Centre for Policy Dialogue is carrying out trade related research, writing policy briefs, expanding its research collaboration, holding policy dialogues, workshops and conferences, and carrying out a variety of activities aiming at enhancing their trade related capacity.	2004	2009
The Financial Sector Deepening Program (FSDP): This program aims to address gender issues by favoring equal access by women and men to financial services, encouraging women's participation in financial service institutions, and helping them organize themselves in viable economic groups. Through grants, technical assistance, and training, the FSDP will hopefully lead to a more effective performance of microfinance institutions in Tanzania.	2004	2009

<p>The Agri-Food Operator Support Project: The goal of this project is to improve competitiveness, revenues and rates of employment in the agri-food industry in Senegal. The 5-year project contributes to the development of the agri-food sector by supporting small businesses involved in fishing, grains, fruit and vegetables, and milk. It also provides assistance to the Institut de technologie alimentaire (ITA) to better respond to the needs of agri-food operators.</p>	2002	2007
<p>Mapping Food Insecurity: CIDA provides support to the development of a business plan for the food information and vulneratively mapping systems inter-agency secretariat.</p>	2005	2006

Section 3. Statistical Annex

Canada: Food Security and Related Indicators Indicators Extracted from International Databases																	
Code	Indicator	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Source*, Notes
<i>Food Consumption and Diet Diversification</i>																	
6	Dietary Energy Consumption (kcal/person/day) 1/		3,060					3,280					3,560				FAO. Data collected every five years
7	Share of non-starchy foods in total Dietary Energy Consumption (%) 1/		74					72					72				FAO. Data collected every five years
<i>Economic Growth, Poverty and Employment</i>																	
8	GDP per capita growth (annual %)	-1.3	-3.5	-0.4	1.2	3.8	1.9	0.5	3.1	3.2	4.7	4.4	0.9	2.3	1.1	2.0	WB/OECD (WB).
12	Unemployment rate (%)	8.1	10.4	11.3	11.2	10.4	9.5	9.7	9.2	8.3	7.6	6.8	7.2	7.7	7.6	7.2	ILO
12m	Unemployment rate, male (%)	8.1	10.9	12.1	11.8	10.8	9.8	9.9	9.2	8.5	7.8	6.9	7.5	8.1	8.0	7.5	ILO
12f	Unemployment rate, female (%)	8.1	9.7	10.4	10.6	9.9	9.2	9.4	9.2	8.1	7.3	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.2	6.8	ILO
<i>Education and Gender Equality</i>																	
14	Net primary enrolment ratio, total (%) 2/									97	98	100 a/					UNESCO. Data collection began in 1998. Data for Canada for 2001-2004 not available.
14m	Net primary enrolment ratio, male (%) 2/									97	98	100 a/					UNESCO. Data collection began in 1998. Data for Canada for 2001-2004 not available.
14f	Net primary enrolment ratio, female (%) 2/									97	98	100 a/					UNESCO. Data collection began in 1998. Data for Canada for 2001-2004 not available.
15	Public expenditure on education as % of GDP 2/									5.8	5.6	5.2					UNESCO. Data collection began in 1998. Data for Canada for 2001-2004 not available.
16	Gender Parity Index for net enrolment ratio, primary 2/									1.0	1.0	1.0 a/					UNESCO. Data collection began in 1998. Data for Canada for 2001-2004 not available.
17	Gender Parity Index for net enrolment ratio, secondary 2/									1.0 a/		1.0 a/					UNESCO. Data collection began in 1998. Data for Canada for 2001-2004 not available.

Code	Indicator	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Source*, Notes
18	Gender Parity Index for gross enrolment ratio, tertiary 2/									1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3 a/				UNESCO. Data collection began in 1998. Data for Canada for 2002-2004 not available.
19	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament/congress (%)	13	13	13	13	18	18	18	18	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	IPU (UNSD) and Parliament of Canada.
<i>Health and Sanitation</i>																	
20	Population with access to improved sanitation, total (%)	100	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100	100e	100e	UNICEF.
20r	Population with access to improved sanitation, rural (%)	99	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99	99e	99e	UNICEF.
20u	Population with access to improved sanitation, urban (%)	100	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100	100e	100e	UNICEF.
21	Population using improved drinking water sources, total (%)	100	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100	100e	100e	UNICEF.
21r	Population using improved drinking water sources, rural (%)	99	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99e	99	99e	99e	UNICEF.
21u	Population using improved drinking water sources, urban (%)	100	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100e	100	100e	100e	UNICEF.
22	Estimated prevalence proportion of adults living with HIV (%)												0.3		0.3		UNAIDS. Data collection began in 2001; collected every two years.
<i>Agricultural Development</i>																	
23	Agriculture, value added (annual % growth)	3.1	-4.1	-6.1	6.7	1.3	1.4	0.1	-3.4	6.2	7.5	-1.4	-7.6	-5.2			WB/OECD (WB). Data from 2002 is most recent available. Note that this Indicator also includes forestry, fishing and hunting.
24	Food production index number (PIN), net per-person 1/		92					96					93				FAO. Data collected every five years.
25	Government expenditure allocated to agriculture and rural development (% of total)		3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2					IMF (FAO). Last data extraction for all countries was 2000.

Code	Indicator	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Source*, Notes
26	Irrigated land as % of agricultural area	1.1 b/	1.1 b/	1.1 b/	1.1 b/	1.1 b/	1.1 b/	1.1 b/	1.1 b/	1.1 b/	1.1 b/	1.1 b/	1.2	1.2 b/			FAO. Estimates for 2003 - 2005 will be prepared based on 2006 Census of Agriculture.
27	Forest area as % of total land area	26.5										26.5					FAO. Data collected in 1990 and 2000. Data also collected in 2005, and will be again in 2010.
28	Severely degraded land as % of total area	2										2					FAO. Data collected in 1990 and 2000. Data also collected in 2005, and will be again in 2010.
<i>Trade and National Debt</i>																	
31d	Official donor commitments provided (by donor countries) for trade-related technical assistance and capacity building (US\$ thousand)												83,527	32,246	87,300	55,734	OECD. Data collection began in 2001.
32	Agricultural support estimate as % of GDP (OECD countries only)	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	OECD.
<i>Development Assistance</i>																	
33	ODA, net, as % of GNI (OECD countries only)	0.44	0.45	0.46	0.45	0.43	0.38	0.32	0.34	0.3	0.28	0.25	0.22	0.28	0.24		OECD. Data last updated in 2004; 2003 is most recent available.
34	Total external assistance to agriculture provided (by donor countries) or received (by recipient countries) (US\$ million)	209 d/	159 d/	43 d/	92 d/	89 d/	57 d/	132 d/	96 d/	51 d/	32 d/	116 d/	55 d/	83 d/	202 d/		FAO. Data last updated in 2004; 2003 is most recent available.

Notes:

* If data were extracted from a secondary source, this source is given in parenthesis.

Refer to the Guidelines, Definitions and Sources for more detailed notes.

1/ Values calculated as 3-year average. Year refers to middle year in period.

2/ Refers to initial year in the school year period.

a/ UIS estimation

b/ FAO estimate

c/ Provisional data

d/ Donor

e/ Estimate

Acronyms:

FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

ILO: International Labour
Organisation

IMF: International Monetary Fund

IPU: Inter-Parliamentary Union

IRF: International Road Federation

OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

UNAIDS: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

UNCTAD: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund

UNSD: Millennium Indicators Database, United Nations Statistics Division

WB: World Bank