

VOLUME 1

REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

2021-2022



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Message from the Minister of International Development and Minister of Foreign Affairs

As the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of International Development, we are pleased to present the 2021-2022 Report to Parliament on the Government of Canada's International Assistance. This year, Canada responded to many extraordinary and ongoing challenges, including climate change and the pandemic recovery. Perhaps most importantly, and in partnership with allies and the international community, Canada [responded](#) to Russia's aggression in Ukraine by providing economic, humanitarian, development and military assistance.



More broadly, Canada has supported the needs of the world's poorest and most vulnerable, while upholding Canadian values. In doing so, Canada has relied on a range of partnerships to influence and empower change in the lives of others, and build a more just and sustainable world. This has included a commitment to the Triple Nexus approach that integrates humanitarian, development, and peace and security actions designed to more effectively respond to, and ultimately prevent, conflict.

Canada's [Feminist International Assistance Policy](#) (FIAP) is a key pillar of Canada's broader feminist foreign policy, and remains at the heart of all of Canada's international assistance programming. Canada is committed to constantly improving how its international assistance is delivered, using a feminist, human rights-based, and inclusive approach. This involves, above all, integrating the human rights principles of participation and inclusion, equality and non-discrimination, and transparency and accountability. We recognize this as necessary to achieve sustainable development for all.

Through the ongoing [Grants and Contributions Transformation Initiative](#) Canada is working to revamp, from start to finish, how it manages international assistance grants and contributions. The focus is on creating ways of working that are faster, more transparent and more flexible, enhancing Canada's capacity to deliver results and sustainable impact that brings positive change in people's lives.

Canada remains committed to the full implementation of the [UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) and to accelerating progress across the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the Decade of Action. In implementing the 2030 Agenda, our government aims to contribute to an inclusive and resilient global pandemic recovery, while building a more just and sustainable world where no one is left behind. We take pride in the contributions Canada made in 2021-2022 in [advancing the SDGs](#).



In closing, we would like to thank our partners for their flexibility and adaptability. As illustrated in this report, these partnerships have allowed Canada to respond quickly and effectively to the multiple challenges facing our world today, and to prioritize the needs of vulnerable individuals and communities.

Thank you.

The Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan
Minister of International Development

The Honourable Mélanie Joly
Minister of Foreign Affairs





Message from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance

Canada contributes to making the world a better place by taking meaningful actions to promote human dignity and build a more just, inclusive, sustainable, and safe world for all.

This past year was marked by Russia’s illegal and barbaric full-scale invasion of Ukraine, killing thousands and forcing millions of Ukrainians to flee their homes and causing the greatest migration crisis in Europe since the Second World War. Canada continues to stand with Ukraine, and against Putin’s assault on the rules-based international order, by providing direct financial, military, and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, and by imposing strict sanctions on Russia and Belarus.



I am particularly proud of the leading role Canada played in the creation of the International Monetary Fund’s (IMF) Administered Account for Ukraine. The Administered Account allows donor countries, including Canada, to provide grants or loans to directly assist Ukraine in meeting its urgent balance of payments and budgetary needs, and helping to stabilize its economy. Canada will continue to stand with the Ukrainian people—for as long as it takes—as they fight for their lives, their freedom, and their democracy.

I am also proud that Canada has now exceeded the Prime Minister’s commitment to channel 20 per cent of Canada’s newly allocated IMF Special Drawing Rights to vulnerable and low-income countries, reaching a level of 30 per cent. Canada’s new contribution to the IMF’s Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust and our support for the creation of the IMF’s new Resilience and Sustainability Trust enhanced access to concessional financing to countries that need it the most.

Canada’s feminist foreign policy is another significant achievement. This approach ensures that women and girls are at the centre of our international development work. Whether supporting sexual and reproductive health and rights, or delivering on gender-responsive climate-smart agriculture programs, Canada remains committed to implementing our Feminist International Assistance Policy—because investing in women and girls is the right thing to do and the smart way to reduce poverty and inequality.

As we reflect on the last year, Canada continued to help developing countries strengthen their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes providing an accelerated and ambitious contribution to the 20th replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA20) of the World Bank, which represents a 44 per cent increase in Canada’s international development assistance during the fiscal years covered by IDA20. This financial support has helped countries address the impact of COVID and food insecurity, and will enable a stronger recovery from the crisis.



Together with the Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan, Minister of International Development, and the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs, I am pleased to present the Report to Parliament on the Government of Canada's International Assistance 2021–2022.

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance



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Executive summary and highlights

The world is currently facing a series of complex and critical challenges: food and energy insecurity, the pandemic, the climate crisis, and threats to international peace. By working with its partners, Canada is leading the way in addressing these challenges through its international assistance programming. At the same time, it is advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an effort to end poverty and inequality, build more prosperous and peaceful societies, and protect the planet.

Over the past year, Canada has continued to improve the lives of millions of people through its international development efforts, providing \$7.9 billion dollars in 2021-2022 to meet global needs. This assistance has made a tangible difference in the lives of people around the world by supporting programs that tackle hunger and malnutrition, advance human rights, enhance global health, and promote gender equality.

Promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls

At the heart of Canada's international assistance is the belief that we can build a better world by advancing the rights and empowerment of women and girls. While progress has been made, gender inequality still persists, which leads women and girls to be disproportionately affected by poverty and other hardships and prevents sustainable development in all areas.

Canada's efforts to address gender inequalities at the root of poverty and the unique challenges faced by women and girls are guided by our Feminist International Assistance Policy. In 2021-2022, the policy helped support transformational change in our partner countries and positioned Canada as a leader in gender equality. In fact, approximately 99% of Canada's bilateral international development assistance this past year either targeted or integrated gender equality.

Canada's funding has supported more than 1,800 women's rights organizations that are promoting gender equality and advancing the rights of women and girls. This past year alone, Canadian-funded programs reached more than 42 million people through projects aimed at ending sexual and gender-based violence, including harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation/cutting.

Preventing and responding to conflicts and crises around the world

Canada has a long history of working with international partners to prevent and respond to conflicts and crises abroad, including support for peace and stabilization operations. In 2021-2022, Canada's Peace and Stabilization Operations Program provided \$138.9 million to promote peace and stability in fragile and conflict-affected states including Ukraine, Cameroon, Colombia, Burkina Faso, Haiti, Iraq, Mali, Myanmar, and South Sudan. Canada has also supported the provision of high-quality, specialized peace operations training and capacity building that incorporates gender equality. This has strengthened the capability and credibility of military, police and civilian personnel deploying or already deployed to peace operations globally.



In 2021-2022, Canada's humanitarian assistance contributed to addressing the needs of over 326 million people in need in 63 countries. This funding supported the work of trusted partners who provided life-saving assistance such as food, clean water and sanitation, and health care. In particular, Canada's assistance helped respond to the growing global food crisis by reaching a record 128.2 million food insecure people—an impressive 11% increase over the previous year. In addition, we provided assistance and protection to almost 95 million refugees and internally displaced persons through the UNHCR. In fiscal year 2021-2022, Canada's federal departments announced \$145 million to respond to increased humanitarian needs in Ukraine and neighbouring countries. In addition, Canada sent 20 cargo flights with more than 377,000 essential relief items to the region.

Providing equal access to education and health care

It is estimated that 222 million crisis-affected children and adolescents around the world require educational support. Approximately 78 million children are out of school due to conflict, climate change and other protracted crises. In 2021-2022, Canada continued to focus on supporting children and youth experiencing forced displacement to access the education they deserve. In addition, Canada fulfilled its pledge to contribute \$400 million over 3 years to the G7 Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education, which has helped provide access to quality education and skills training for more than 4 million women and girls across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

In 2021-2022, Canada invested \$1.3 billion in global health, including \$561 million for sexual and reproductive health and rights. This funding provided family planning services to more than 3.3 million women in 28 countries and prevented more than 5.4 million unintended pregnancies.

Supporting the continued global response to COVID-19

While Canada has made progress in its efforts to build a world that is more peaceful and inclusive, the COVID-19 pandemic has hampered progress in many key areas. Throughout the pandemic, Canada has remained a leader in global efforts to address the pandemic's devastating health, social, economic and security impacts.

From the onset of the pandemic and up to March 2022, Canada committed more than \$2.7 billion in international assistance to address the effects of COVID-19. This includes approximately \$1.4 billion for programming to meet the immediate humanitarian and development needs created by the pandemic. For instance, this past year, Canada's support for the [Access to COVID-19 Tools \(ACT\) Accelerator](#) helped facilitate the shipment of more than 1.4 billion doses of vaccines to 145 countries and territories through the COVAX Facility.

Advancing the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs

Canada's international development efforts over the past year have contributed to changing millions of lives for the better. But there is still much work to be done. Canada remains firmly committed to the United Nations' (UN) [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), including its 17 sustainable development goals. The agenda provides a blueprint for achieving gender equality, protecting the planet, ensuring equal access to education and health care, and building resilient economies.

Supporting the most vulnerable adapt to climate change and mitigate its impacts

In support of the 2030 Agenda, Canada doubled its commitment to international climate finance, increasing it to \$5.3 billion over the next 5 years. In 2021-2022, we were the seventh-largest donor to the [Global Environment Facility](#). In addition, our contribution to the [Green Climate Fund](#) supported projects that are advancing the transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient economies in 67 developing countries.

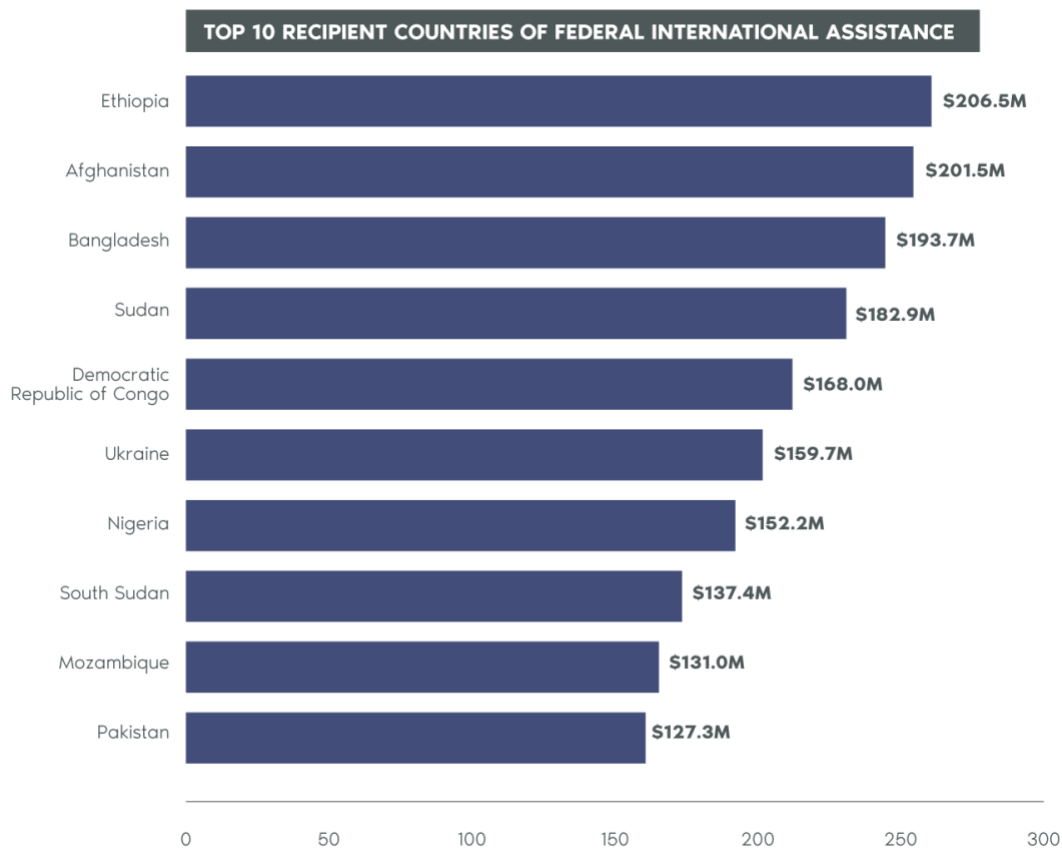


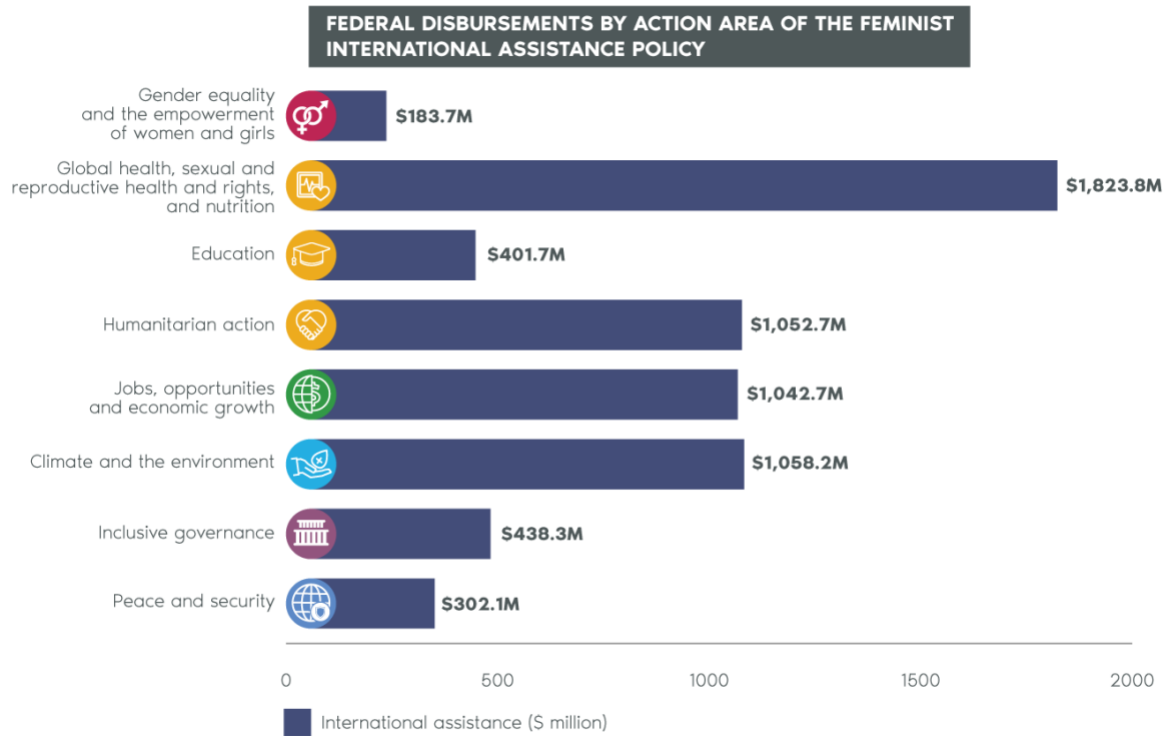
In 2021-2022, Canada, along with other multilateral and global partners, contributed to delivering climate adaptation projects that benefited nearly 3 million people and an additional 18 million people through projects funded through Canada's long-term support to multilateral and global partners. It also contributed to reducing or avoiding 2.99 metric megatons of greenhouse gas emissions, with Canada's support to multilateral and global partners contributing to reducing an additional 151.51 megatons of gas emissions.

Working together to build a better future for all

Over the past year, Canada has remained steadfast in its commitment to supporting innovative solutions and initiatives that benefit and empower the world's poorest and most vulnerable people. Our international assistance programming is one way we can contribute to ensuring that everyone has an opportunity to live a peaceful and prosperous life—regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation or where they live in the world.

However, creating a safer and better world for all is not a simple task. We are constantly adapting and learning from the work we do. We are continuously looking for ways to improve how we provide international assistance and to strengthen our development partnerships so that Canada's funding will have an even greater impact. By doing so, we hope to continue to accelerate progress toward building a more sustainable, resilient, peaceful and equitable future for all.







Government of Canada’s International Assistance and Official Development Assistance Disbursements by Organization, 2021–2022

The Government of Canada disbursed \$7.9 billion in international assistance in 2021-2022, of which official development assistance (ODA) made up 95% or \$7.5 billion. The [Statistical Report on International Assistance](#) provides further details on international assistance and ODA expenditures.

The Government of Canada delivered international assistance through 19 federal organizations.

Amount disbursed (\$ million) by each of the 19 federal organizations:

Canadian International Assistance 2021-2022				
DEPARTMENT/SOURCE	International Assistance	of which		
		Programs Funded by the IAE	ODA: ODAAA	ODA: OECD-DAC*
Departments reporting under the Official Development Assistance Accountability Act (ODAAA)				
Global Affairs Canada	5,954.03	5,909.08	5,769.11	5,769.11
Department of Finance Canada	1,107.87	1,107.87	905.87	905.87
Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada**	457.45	-	457.45	457.45
International Development Research Centre	141.34	141.34	141.34	141.34
Public Health Agency of Canada—Vaccine donations***	130.03	-	130.03	130.03
Environment and Climate Change Canada	18.41	11.92	17.27	17.27
Royal Canadian Mounted Police	20.23	20.23	20.11	20.11
Canada Revenue Agency	7.06	5.18	7.06	7.06
Department of National Defence	6.01	-	6.01	6.01
Employment and Social Development Canada—Labour Program	6.78	-	6.78	6.78
Parks Canada	5.20	-	5.20	5.20
Natural Resources Canada	1.42	1.42	1.42	1.42
Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada	0.92	-	0.92	0.92
Canada Post—Universal Postal Union	0.32	-	0.32	0.32
Statistics Canada	0.17	-	0.17	0.17
Canadian Space Agency	0.05	-	0.05	0.05



Canadian Intellectual Property Office	0.03	-	0.03	0.03
Canadian Museum of Nature	0.02	-	0.02	0.02
Transport Canada****	0.00	-	0.00	0.00
Services received without charge by Global Affairs Canada	25.00	10.55	25.00	25.00
Subtotal—Departments reporting under the ODAAA	7,882.34	7,207.60	7,494.16	7,494.16
Percentage of international assistance		91%	95%	95%
Other departments, sources				
Cost of refugees in Canada (first year) — Provincial governments	459.54	-	-	459.54
Provinces, territories and municipalities	56.54	-	-	56.54
Subtotal—Other departments, sources	516.08	-	-	516.08
Total	8,398.42	7,207.60	7,494.16	8,010.24
Percentage of total international assistance		86%	89%	95%

*OECD-DAC: Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee. The "ODA: OECD-DAC" figures presented in this table are shown on a fiscal-year basis, in Canadian dollars, in order to compare and contrast reporting under the ODAAA versus the ODA reported to the OECD-DAC. When Canada reports to the OECD-DAC, figures are reported on a calendar-year basis in U.S. dollars. Their depiction in this table is for illustrative purposes only. The ODAAA reports on departments' gross disbursements, whereas the OECD-DAC reports on a grant equivalent basis. Reflows on repayable contributions and loans are disclosed in Table A as information items.

** Includes costs of refugees in Canada (first year) and other projects.

*** As part of Canada's commitment to donate the equivalent of 200 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines, surplus doses are donated to developing countries and reported based on the OECD-DAC recommended valuation of US\$6.72 for calendar year 2021 and US\$6.66 for calendar year 2022. This recommended valuation does not reflect vaccine purchase price.

**** Figures in this table are represented in millions, and as such contributions by Transport Canada display as 0. Their 2021-2022 contributions totalled \$2,000.





2030 Agenda and the SDGs

The [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) provides a global framework for transforming the world we live in. It sets out concrete steps toward progress on sustainable development for:

- governments
- civil society
- the private sector
- academia
- communities
- individuals

The 2030 Agenda outlines 17 interconnected and indivisible Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that have accompanying targets and indicators. These goals balance the 3 elements of sustainable development:

- economic
- social
- environmental

Canada is working toward integrating the SDGs into all elements of its operations, including foreign policy, trade and international assistance. [Moving Forward Together: Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy](#) outlines a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach that guides Canada's implementation of these goals. The [Federal Implementation Plan](#) articulates how Canada will achieve the objectives outlined in this strategy, while the [Canadian Indicator Framework](#) and the [2022 to 2026 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy](#) add uniquely Canadian goals, ambitions, targets and indicators.



Prime Minister Trudeau's role as co-chair of the [UN Secretary General's SDG Advocates](#) (the other co-chair being the Prime Minister of Barbados Mia Mottley), gives Canada an opportunity to bring renewed focus on the SDGs going forward. In this position, the Prime Minister will work alongside the [17 SDG advocates](#) identified by the UN Secretary General to inspire global leaders to work toward achieving the goals. This is particularly crucial during this [Decade of Action](#) (2021-2030) and at a time when the COVID-19 pandemic has created significant challenges for all aspects of sustainable development.





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Meeting the moment: Canada’s leadership in times of crisis

Canada has adopted the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (Triple Nexus) approach as a way to deliver its international assistance. This approach enables Canada to more effectively meet peoples’ needs, mitigate risks and vulnerabilities, and move toward sustainable peace. It focuses on linking three pillars of Canada’s international assistance:

- humanitarian
- development
- peace

The concept, which was first introduced as part of the [United Nations’ New Way of Working](#) in 2016, has since evolved. Today, it provides a holistic understanding of conflict and fragility that points to the need for cross-pillar coordination and coherence—before, during and in the aftermath of crises.

Canada’s Triple Nexus approach: Humanitarian, Development and Peace

By addressing vulnerability at all stages of crises, Canada’s Triple Nexus approach is helping to build resilience to the complex challenges facing the world today, such as poverty, violence and environmental degradation. It focuses on forging effective partnerships among multilateral and regional organizations, as well as with international financial institutions like the World Bank. This creates shared outcomes in fragile and conflict-affected states, while considering different actors’ comparative advantages and capacity to deliver support.

In 2019, Canada joined the other members from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development’s Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC), along with 6 UN agencies, in pledging support to the [OECD-DAC Recommendation on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus](#). It promotes the coordination of both programming and financing in fragile and conflict-affected settings.



Key commitments

In 2021-2022, Canada remained committed to the Triple Nexus approach. This helped build enhanced strategic, operational and functional capabilities in its international assistance programming and supported more coherent and effective policies and programming. Key financial commitments included:

- providing \$115.4 million over 2 years to respond to the mass displacement of Venezuelans, including funding for projects tackling education, health, regularization, employment, security, border management and protection
- providing \$20 million over 3 years to support the Canadian Foodgrains Bank in addressing the humanitarian and development impacts of COVID-related food insecurity in 8 countries: Pakistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, South Sudan, Burundi and Zimbabwe
- contributing \$10 million to the UN Peacebuilding Fund to enable the Humanitarian-Development-Peace and Partnership Facility to deliver grants to crisis-affected settings
- allocating \$10 million to the UN Peacebuilding Fund to address urgent peacebuilding needs in fragile and conflict-affected states through fast and flexible initiatives that address gender and youth inclusion



Stories of change

From conflict to economic opportunity

Colombia is the second-most dangerous country for landmines in the world. There are serious risks of death and injury for civilians, and land has been rendered impassable and unusable. Through the [Landmine Action in Colombia](#) project, the Canadian-funded HALO Trust has helped communities conduct landmine surveys and clearance.

Argelia, Antioquia is a conflict-affected area where 90% of the town's population has been forced to flee. Local resident Blanca Giraldo says that the presence of landmines was putting them at risk both physically and economically.

"We had to stop growing coffee. We were left with few economic possibilities. Where there used to be coffee, cocoa and corn, the armed groups planted illicit coca crops and landmines."

Through the work of the HALO Trust, Blanca was able to return to her farm and begin working once again. "I am very grateful for the deminers and all the people and support. After HALO cleared the mines from my farm, I finally regained control over my life. Being able to walk without fear of stepping on a mine and growing coffee again has tremendously improved my life."

The project has cleared more than 97,000 square metres of hazardous land. In addition, 122 anti-personnel mines were destroyed in Argelia alone. HALO anticipates that it will be able to declare the entire municipality as "landmine free" by early 2023.





Blanca Doly Giraldo (left), HALO's direct clearance beneficiary, accompanied by Zita Nazha, Operations Officer, and Alejandro Quintana, Operations Senior Supervisor, in Vereda El Rosario, Argelia, Antioquia
Credits: © HALO, Colombia, 2019

Learn more about this theme

- [The Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Interim Progress Review](#)

Conflict prevention and peacebuilding

Over the past decade, violent conflict has increased around the globe. Preventing these conflicts and building sustainable peace is essential to achieving the UN's SDGs. Although boosting economies and alleviating poverty are also critical to fulfilling the SDGs, this is not enough on its own to build lasting peace.

The 2030 Agenda highlights that there can be no sustainable development without peace, and no peace without sustainable development. This is reflected in [SDG 16](#), which aims to promote peace, inclusive governance and justice for all.



Key commitments

Canada is committed to addressing the drivers of conflict through gender-responsive, sensitive and integrated approaches. At the same time, it remains focused on ensuring coherent and coordinated engagement between humanitarian, development, peace and security partners. By promoting political inclusion, security, justice and respect for human rights, Canada has helped address group grievances and inequalities in situations of rising tensions, violent conflict and transitions to peace and stability.

Canada works with diverse local, regional, national and global partners, including civil society, to support local and national capacities for peacebuilding. Facilitating the meaningful participation of women and girls in these efforts is central to building long-term sustainable peace.

In 2021-2022, Canada committed international assistance to support conflict prevention and peacebuilding, which included:

- targeted funding for grassroots women’s organizations, including \$5 million in dedicated funding to support grassroots women peacebuilders and women in the Canadian Forces
- providing \$138.9 million in international assistance to promote peace and stability in fragile and conflict-affected states, including country-specific initiatives in countries such as Cameroon, Colombia, Burkina Faso, Haiti, Iraq, Mali, Myanmar, South Sudan and Ukraine

Results in focus

As of January 2022, Canada was the eighth-largest donor in assessed contributions to the UN’s peacekeeping budget. In addition, it was one of the largest donors in voluntary funding to help improve and reform UN peace operations. This includes support for medical training, leadership development, French-language resources and gender expertise.



In 2021-2022, Canada’s other contributions to conflict prevention and peacebuilding enabled the following results:

- Training 8,473 military, police and civilian personnel (including 1,214 women) in peacekeeping competencies, which incorporated gender equality, and addressing sexual and gender-based violence as well as sexual exploitation and abuse
- Conducting a rapid needs assessment, convening experts and funding urgent programming in response to the conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia, including rapid funding for a joint Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission report on human rights violations
- Deploying gender justice experts to investigate and document crimes of sexual and gender-based violence in conflict areas, such as Iraq, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Yemen, and to help bring perpetrators to justice



Key initiatives in the spotlight

Recognizing women’s role in peacebuilding

In February 2022, Canada held the inaugural Women, Peace and Security (WPS) awards ceremony. The WPS Awards Program was launched in 2020 to mark the 20th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, the foundation of the WPS agenda.

The program has 2 components:

- A Civil Society Leadership Award, managed by Global Affairs Canada
- A Research Award, managed by the [International Development Research Centre](#) (IDRC)

The 2021 awards ceremony was hosted by Minister Joly and moderated by Canada’s Ambassador of Women, Peace and Security Jacqueline O’Neill. It brought together more than 120 participants from different regions and sectors. Under the theme of “Women Peacebuilders,” the Civil Society Leadership Award was given to two Indigenous women’s organizations: Tejido Mujer and Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada. Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada was recognized for its significant contributions in promoting and protecting the human rights and safety of Inuit women and girls in Canada. Colombia’s Tejido Mujer was recognized for its work supporting Indigenous women’s participation in decision-making processes, countering gender-based violence and providing consistent peaceful resistance to armed conflict in Colombia’s Cauca region.

The [research award](#) managed by the IDRC advances knowledge on women’s contributions to conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes. The first award winners were researcher Marsin Alshamary, whose work focused on Iraqi women’s leadership in formal politics and in civil society, and two researchers, Hafsa Afailal and Muzna Dureid, who shared an award for their work on the digital security of women human-rights defenders, activists and peacebuilders in Syria and Yemen.

Preventing the spread of hatred

In Mali, the Canada-funded [Search for Common Ground](#) project reinforced community resilience against disinformation in the northern and central regions as a way to improve security and reduce the risk of conflict. In 2021-2022, the project organized 14 community forums that brought together approximately 750 people, including community leaders and local authorities. Participants discussed disinformation and how it contributes to inter-community conflicts, extremism and the erosion of social cohesion. These forums helped increase the capacity of youth, women and local authorities to engage in positive and conflict-sensitive communication to enhance peace and stability in Mali.

Building peace through reconciliation

In 2021-2022, Canada supported 66 peace and security projects through the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives program. In South Sudan, the program worked with the local NGO Voice Post to make use of Indigenous knowledge to prevent ethnic conflicts and to advocate for peace and reconciliation. This project brought together a broad range of community stakeholders to discuss how to prevent conflict and promote peace. These discussions informed peace and reconciliation messages shared by youth ambassadors in local villages as well as at 3 peace concerts.



Building counter-terrorism and anti-crime capacity

In 2021-2022, Canada's [Counter-Terrorism Capacity Building Program](#) continued to support gender mainstreaming efforts in Jordan's security sector. Since 2017, Canada has helped security sector agencies increase the number of uniformed women by an average of 2.2%. Women's representation in UN peacekeeping missions has increased by more than 3% since 2018. In addition, both the Jordanian Armed Forces and the Public Security Directorate have endorsed a gender mainstreaming strategy for 2020-2025.

This past year, the program enabled the meaningful participation of women in preventing radicalization and violent extremism as well as in national and regional peacebuilding. For instance, through support to the civil society partner Madrasati, 400 students and 95 parents—more than half of whom were women and girls—and almost 900 school personnel were educated about violent extremism, gender stereotypes and strategies to prevent radicalization.

Learn more about this theme

- [Canada's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security](#)
- [Security capacity-building programs](#)
- [Peace and Stabilization Operations Program](#)
- [Global Affairs Canada YouTube Channel](#)

COVID-19 response and recovery

Canada recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated inequalities and reversed development gains, particularly for women and children.



Throughout the pandemic, Canada has remained committed to addressing its devastating health, social, economic and security impacts on people around the world.

Canada's response has included a particular focus on the world's poorest and most marginalized. In addition, it has considered the differentiated needs of women and girls as set out in Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy.

Key commitments

In 2021-2022, Canada spent more than \$566 million in international assistance to respond to COVID-19. This included:

- allocating \$465 million to the ACT-Accelerator to go toward vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and health systems response
- providing \$101 million to support humanitarian and development assistance programming to respond to the immediate needs created by the pandemic



- committing to donating the equivalent of at least 200 million COVID-19 vaccines doses internationally

From the onset of the pandemic and up to March 2022, Canada committed more than \$2.7 billion in international assistance to address the effects of COVID-19. This included more than \$1.3 billion to the ACT-Accelerator and almost \$1.4 billion to support humanitarian and development assistance programming.

Results in focus



In 2021-2022, Canada's COVID-19 response achieved significant results. These included:

- enabling the shipment of more than 1.4 billion doses of vaccines to 145 countries and territories through the COVAX Facility, of which some 1.2 billion went to the Advanced Market Commitment for low and lower-middle income participants
- donating the equivalent of more than 125 million vaccine doses to COVAX
- sharing more than 760,000 AstraZeneca doses through direct, bilateral arrangements with countries in Latin America and the Caribbean
- enabling the ACT-Accelerator to procure more than 167 million COVID-19 tests for low- and middle-income countries and delivering more than 40 million dexamethasone tablets to 47 countries
- [working with the Pan-American Health Organization](#) to provide access to more than 895,000 vaccine doses for vulnerable populations in Colombia, Guyana and The Bahamas
- providing training on intercultural health and communications to 80 youth and 32 women leaders in Colombia, helping them share prevention and health promotion messages within their communities

Key initiatives in the spotlight

With the help of Canada's funding, CODE's [Distance Learning in Crisis](#) project in Liberia and Sierra Leone supported continuing education when schools were forced to close due to the COVID-19 crisis. The project helped reach 46,000 households since July 2020 by using the radio to promote continued literacy. These radio lessons incorporated innovative interactive components that kept children engaged and excited about learning. In addition, the project increased parental involvement, as many parents listened to the radio with their children, which in turn motivated students to stay engaged.

When COVID-19 halted most international and domestic travel, tax administrations and organizations around the world sought innovative ways to continue their tax capacity-building efforts. Through the



Knowledge Sharing Platform for Tax Administrations (KSP_{TA}), the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) helped all participating jurisdictions and international and regional organizations quickly transition in-person events to virtual ones. Through the platform, the CRA provided virtual training to audiences around the world. In addition, the agency hosted a global network of tax officials from more than 100 countries to share emergency initiatives as well as business continuity and resumption plans in response to COVID-19.

Providing critical training and supplies during the pandemic

In 2021-2022, Canada's support to the [Paediatric Nursing Education Partnership](#) with SickKids in Ghana helped provide COVID-19 training to more than 21,000 health workers. The project distributed almost 150,000 pieces of personal protective equipment to the Ghana College of Nurses and Midwives health facility. In addition, Canada's public health outreach and community engagement activities to address COVID-19 misinformation in Ghana reached almost 60,000 people, with a specific focus on pregnant women and young girls.

In Bangladesh, BRAC's [Strategic Partnership Arrangement](#) resulted in more than 21 million lower-income individuals receiving masks and improving their health. This included:

- providing 1.8 million people with comprehensive health services, including sexual and reproductive health and rights
- helping approximately 186,000 students (more than 94,800 girls and more than 2,800 learners with disabilities) enrol in primary, lower and upper secondary, and post-secondary education
- providing counselling and legal aid to more than 26,200 women survivors of gender-based violence

This year alone, Canada helped provide more than 9.2 million items of personal protective equipment to 6 member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the ASEAN Secretariat, and the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management. This donation builds on the Canada-ASEAN partnership to mitigate biological threats in the region. It also aligns with Canada's commitment to strengthen the region's capacity to counter biological threats, including those resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.



Jeanette Stovel, High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, receiving PPE shipments.
Credits: © Canada in Brunei [Twitter Account](#)



In May 2021, the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) transported much-needed medical supplies to India in response to a devastating COVID-19 outbreak. They delivered the supplies through 2 Royal Canadian Air Force CC-150 Polaris flights. In June 2021, the CAF transported medical supplies to Nepal and Pakistan, providing Nepal with:

- 27 ventilators
- almost 1,900 gowns
- over 15,000 face shields
- personal protective equipment (PPE)

These shipments also provided Pakistan with 162 ventilators, including 3 sets of consumable kits per unit.

Supporting health systems in a time of crisis

In 2021-2022, Canada continued to work with the World Health Organization (WHO) to implement the Health Systems and Response Connector of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator (ACT-Accelerator). Through Canadian support for this program, the ACT-Accelerator has helped 73 countries identify and address health system bottlenecks affecting the delivery of COVID-19 services. This was achieved by:

- budgeting for COVID-19 response
- deploying a surge workforce with strengthened infection prevention and control practices
- making use of integrated data management
- improving risk communication and community engagement

This past year, Canada worked with the WHO to help 10 target countries deliver essential health services and strengthen equity-oriented primary health care in the context of COVID-19 response and recovery, in addition to developing a COVID-19 strategic preparedness and response plan across Africa.



With Canada's support, UNICEF rapidly developed the new [Oxygen Plant-in-a-Box](#) this past year. These systems will help address the urgent need for medical-grade oxygen in health care settings that currently do not meet WHO standards by allowing recipients to provide oxygen to as many as 50 COVID-19 patients at once. In 2021-2022, Canada's funding enabled UNICEF to procure 32 Plant-in-a-Box packages for 22 countries.

In response to the pandemic, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) continued to provide funding to the International Organization for Migration to deliver pre-departure COVID-19 medical services to all refugees resettling in Canada. This included:

- testing
- isolation services
- pre-boarding health checks
- vaccinations, where available



Improving data collection to better understand the effect of the pandemic

In 2021-2022, Statistics Canada participated in several initiatives to improve data collection and reporting activities pertaining to inclusive data. For instance, the department participated in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Group on Gender Statistics to develop guidance on measuring the impact of the pandemic on both men and women. This will provide a set of guidelines that will improve our understanding of the gendered impact of COVID-19.

Stories of change

Helping students in rural communities in India stay in school

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly affected vulnerable populations in rural India and created barriers to continuing education for children in these communities. With Canada's support, [SOPAR-Bala Vikasa](#) worked to keep children in rural India in school by enhancing COVID-19 safety measures.

The organization helped make schools in rural India a safer place for children by providing protective, monitoring and hygiene measures. These include infrared thermometers to check body temperature before students enter the schools, automated sanitizer machines, and foot-operated handwashing stations. They provided COVID-19 information and helped set up student committees to ensure safety measures were followed.

Within just 15 days of launching the program, school attendance increased by 85%. In total, over 69,000 students benefited from the COVID-19 measures brought about because of Canada's support.



*Distribution of COVID-19 preventive materials to government schools.
Credits: © Bala Vikasa, India, 2022*



Canada at work in the world: International assistance in action

Canada has a proud tradition of working to create a world that is more peaceful, prosperous and inclusive—where gender equality and human rights are protected for all. One of the ways we do this is through our international assistance programming.

Canada’s [Feminist International Assistance Policy](#) (FIAP) remains at the heart of this work. We know that our world will be more prosperous, peaceful and secure when the rights of women and girls in all their diversity are respected and when women become equal actors in their communities. The following section highlights examples of projects and results that clearly align with the FIAP’s action areas.



Credits: © Raphael Mnanka, Tanzania Youth Health and Development Organisation (TAYOHADO)

Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls

Gender inequality remains a pervasive issue in today’s society, particularly in certain parts of the world. In recent years, multiple crises and setbacks have further exacerbated the discrimination, sexual and gender-based violence and socio-economic marginalization faced by women, girls and gender-diverse individuals. For instance, the return to power of the Taliban in Afghanistan in 2021 has had a devastating impact on the rights and freedoms of women and girls.

This past year, Canada continued to work with its partners to break down barriers to achieving gender equality by:

- addressing sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation or cutting
- supporting and strengthening women’s rights organizations and movements
- supporting evidence-based policymaking and program delivery for gender equality

Key commitments

In 2021-2022, Canada invested \$200 million in international assistance in dedicated efforts to:

- address sexual and gender-based violence
- strengthen women’s rights organizations
- support policymaking and program delivery for gender equality

Of this amount, \$198.7 million was official developmental assistance.

These investments contributed to the following multi-year commitments:

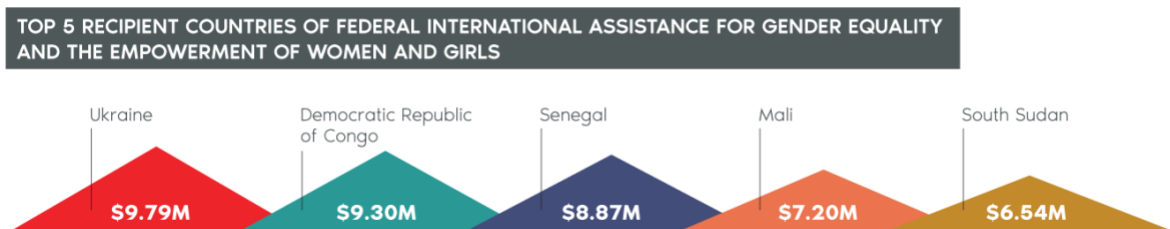
Achieving gender equality is a fundamental part of Agenda 2030, and is directly reflected in [SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls](#), as well as across all other SDGs. It is at the core of the Feminist International Assistance Policy.



- providing \$150 million over 5 years to the Women’s Voice and Leadership initiative to support local women’s organizations that advance women’s rights and gender equality
- allocating \$700 million a year, by 2023-2024, for sexual and reproductive health and rights, including eliminating sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices

When factoring in efforts across all action areas of the development program, nearly all (99%) of Canada’s bilateral international development assistance this reporting period either targeted or integrated gender equality.

Results in focus



In 2021, Canada has been the OECD-DAC donor that has committed the greatest share of bilateral official development assistance to gender equality. In 2021-2022, these investments contributed to achieving the following results:



- reaching more than 42 million people (14,858,399 women; 10,568,352 men; and 16,857,202 individuals whose gender was not indicated) through projects to help prevent, respond to and end sexual and gender-based violence, including child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation/cutting
- providing \$89 million to support and strengthen women’s rights organizations and movements
- helping more than 1,800 women’s organizations and networks strengthen their capacity to advance women’s rights and gender equality

Key initiatives in the spotlight

Demonstrating Canada’s leadership at the Generation Equality Forum

At the Generation Equality Forum in July 2021, Canada made a series of policy and financial commitments to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. The Prime Minister announced \$180 million in new international assistance investments. While initiatives funded by this commitment are in their early stages, some are already yielding results. For example, the \$2 million [Gender Equality in Politics](#) project implemented by the Inter-Parliamentary Union is building the capacity of women parliamentarians to contribute to legislative and political decision making in Djibouti, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Sierra Leone and Tanzania. In addition, the project is helping parliaments in these countries recognize discriminatory laws.

Working with global and local partners to eliminate sexual and gender-based violence

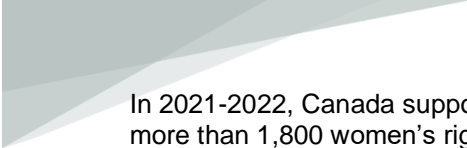
In 2021-2022, Canada continued to work to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence. This included helping partners deliver comprehensive services, advance positive social norms and strengthen accountability by ensuring the implementation of sexual and gender-based violence related



laws and policies. For example, Canada’s support for the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to End Child Marriage helped 865 schools provide quality, safe and gender-friendly education. In addition, the funding helped close to 16 million community members participate in dialogues and learning sessions about:

- gender equality
- alternatives to child marriage
- the rights of adolescent girls
- the importance of addressing harmful masculinities

The Global Programme is active in 12 of the most high-prevalence countries for child marriage: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Yemen and Zambia.



In 2021-2022, Canada supported more than 1,800 women’s rights organizations and networks, including lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LBTQI+) groups.

In 2021-2022, [CAUSE Canada and CAUSE Canada Sierra Leone](#), with support from the [Fund for Innovation and Transformation](#), worked to eradicate child marriage in Sierra Leone. The project educated men seeking child brides about the negative consequences of child marriage, trained community leaders, empowered advocates and organized community events. Data was collected on the number of marriages prevented compared to the marriages that took place despite the intervention. The results indicate that 127 child marriages were cancelled in the Koinadugu and Falaba Districts in Sierra Leone’s Northern Province. In fact, child marriages in the target regions were reduced by between 92% and 95% as a result of the project.

With Canada’s support, the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women reached 260,587 women and girls in 68 countries and territories. This included 65,718 women and girls who used specialist support services to end and prevent sexual and gender-based violence. This support allowed 19,748 women and girls to access free legal aid related to sexual and gender-based violence.



This past year, Canada continued to strengthen girls’ access to justice through its funding for the project [Supporting 160 Girls: Police Training Scale-Up to End Child Rape in Kenya](#). Led by the Equality Effect, the project supports the effective and rights-based investigation of child rape cases. In 2021-2022, 99 instructors and over 148 senior officers from the Kenyan National Police Service were trained in the effective investigation of these cases. These trained senior officers were then able to provide training to 31,000 serving members of the Kenyan National Police. In addition, over 135 girls and boys from 9 schools participated in “Virtual Justice Clubs.” The clubs build their members’ self-confidence, leadership skills and awareness of their human rights so they are empowered to act against child rape.

Canada’s funding of the [Plan for Girls](#) project in Benin and Cameroon, implemented by Plan International Canada, empowered adolescent girls and young women to make decisions about their rights. In 2021-2022, the project organized awareness activities on forced marriage, rape, women’s rights and youth sex education. The project helped adolescent girls establish their priorities and develop action plans. Thirty-two organizations then provided new resources or programs to help the girls implement these plans. In addition, by creating “Champions of Change” groups, the project brought together more than 12,500 young girls and boys to deconstruct gender norms and inequalities.

In 2021-2022, Canada continued to support the initiative [Women’s Rights and Gender-Sensitive Justice in Guatemala](#). This initiative contributed to 2 precedent-setting verdicts in sexual-violence cases perpetrated by teachers against Indigenous girls. By bringing media attention to the issue of



sexual and gender-based violence and by encouraging policy changes in dealing with these types of crimes, the project has helped empower Indigenous women and girls to report these cases.

Making a difference through the Women's Voice and Leadership program

Through the [Women's Voice and Leadership \(WVL\) program](#), Canada provided flexible funding and capacity building to more than 900 women's rights organizations and networks in over 30 developing countries and regions. This helped these organizations focus on the issues that matter most to their communities.



In Ukraine, a local WVL partner effectively advocated for women's reproductive rights by making ethical standards in medical institutions accessible, to provide appropriate assistance to women and girls with disabilities. Following Russia's illegal and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, the project issued rapid response sub-grants to help partner civil society organizations across Ukraine address urgent needs, such as providing shelter, psychosocial support, food, hygiene and medicine.

The WVL program in [South Sudan](#) strengthened the advocacy capacity and leadership of partner and network members in humanitarian, women, peace and security decision-making mechanisms. With Canada's support, network members monitored policy to ensure that 35% of representatives in governance bodies, at both the state and national level, were women.

In 2021-2022, WVL [Caribbean](#) partner Women's Empowerment-Change made a policy recommendation against the criminalization of abortion to the Jamaican Joint Select Committee on the *Offences Against the Person Act*. Women's Empowerment-Change partnered with other civil society organizations to deliver COVID-19 support to affected communities in Jamaica and to establish a referral helpline for LGBTQ+ women requiring solidarity and mental health supports. In Belize, WVL Caribbean supported PETAL, an organization that advocates for gender-neutral and LGBTQI-inclusive changes to the country's *Domestic Violence Act*.

Supporting women's rights organizations and movements

Since its inception in 2019, the [Equality Fund](#) initiative has directly and indirectly granted \$14.5 million to approximately 150 women's rights organizations in developing countries. This includes \$8.6 million in 2021-2022 to fund 34 women's rights organizations and 24 women's funds.

Last year, Canada worked with and supported other women's rights organizations through various initiatives. For example, Canada partnered with ParlAmericas and the Caribbean Women in Leadership organization to deliver the project [Strengthening Women's Organizations to Support Women's Political Leadership in Latin America and the Caribbean](#). Through this project, 160 women's rights organizations and networks benefited from capacity-building activities and institutional strengthening. After participating in the project's Young Women in Leadership program, implemented in partnership with the Parliament of Antigua and Barbuda, 14 young women reported taking concrete actions to become leaders in their local communities.

In 2021-2022, the [Support to Syrian Women's Rights Organizations](#) project provided organizational, technical and thematic capacity building support to 3 partner women's rights organizations based in Lebanon and Turkey. These groups strengthened the capacity of 60 Syrian women's rights organizations to promote women's rights and advance women's empowerment and gender equality in Syria. In addition, the project strengthened links, exchanges and networks between local initiatives and groups in Syria and with women's rights organization in other conflict areas such as Iraq, the Western Balkans and the South Caucasus.



Stories of change

Helping Indigenous women from Guyana protect their lands

The [Women's Voice and Leadership Caribbean](#) project provides multi-year support to the Wapichan women's movement in Guyana. This has helped Indigenous women play a greater role in protecting their land and natural resources, retaining their cultural identity and addressing the social issues affecting their rights.

For instance, the project enabled Immaculata Casimero, a Wapichan nation leader, to advocate for Indigenous women's rights at COP26. At the conference, she shared how climate change is affecting the land where 21 Indigenous communities in Guyana live.

At the meeting, she spoke of how the lack of government regulation for mining activities is resulting in:

- deforestation
- flooding
- lower crop yields
- increased food insecurity

To address these problems, her organization is advocating for climate justice and actively working to gain legal ownership and control of these lands.

While participating in the "Indigenous Caucus" at COP26, Immaculata emphasized the importance of including women-led organizations and feminist movements in all climate finance strategies.

"I keep advising community leaders that when government leaders come to our communities, we must ask them what is happening to our lands... And if the men cannot do it, well then, the women will do it."



Immaculata Casimero, of the Wapichan nation in Guyana, is an Indigenous leader who empowers women in her community. Photo taken at COP26. Credits: © UN News / Laura Quiñones



Empowering adolescent girls to stop child marriage in Bangladesh

Even before the pandemic, the incidence of child marriage in Bangladesh was very high. Due to COVID-19, many families suffered economic hardship and tried to marry their young daughters as a way to survive. But Canada’s support to Inter Pares’ project [Strategic Interventions to Build Momentum on Sexual and Reproductive Health](#) has helped raise awareness about these practices.

Nijera Kori, a local project partner, worked with adolescent girls and women to create graffiti in public spaces to spread messages against sexual and gender-based violence and child marriage. A 14-year-old girl named Trisha (pseudonym) came across the graffiti message “Stop Child Marriage—Right Now!” outside Nijera Kori’s office. That gave her the courage to tell Nijera Kori’s staff that her parents wanted to marry her against her will.

With the girl’s consent, the organization informed local officials and sent administrative officers to both her family’s home and the home of the potential groom to warn them of the consequences of allowing child marriage. As a result, Trisha’s parents signed an agreement that said she did not have to marry.



Local Inter Pares implementing partner Nijera Kori putting up graffiti during the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence.
Credits: © Nijera Kori / Inter Pares, Bangladesh, 2021

Empowering Indigenous women and girls in Nepal to advocate for their rights

Through the Canada Fund for Local Initiative’s support for the National Indigenous Women Forum, Canada is empowering Indigenous women and girls in Nepal. In 2021-2022, the project provided training sessions that reinforced the leadership skills of marginalized Indigenous women and girls and helped them better advocate for their rights.

Through this project, more than 160 Indigenous women and girls were able to:

- increase their knowledge about their rights
- learn how to access local resources
- build and strengthen their networks
- learn how to better identify rights violations



The training also helped them identify solutions to common issues such as inaccessibility of land, child marriage and loss of Indigenous languages and practices.



*Indigenous women and girls participate in training to build their leadership skills and better advocate for their rights.
Credits: © National Indigenous Women Forum (NIWF), Nepal*

Learn more about this theme

- [Action Area Policy: Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls](#)
- [Women's Voice and Leadership Program Formative Evaluation](#)
- [Digna](#)





Credits: © Kennedy Musyoka/Amref Health Africa, Kenya

Global health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and nutrition

Hundreds of millions of people around the world do not have access to essential health care services and nutritious food. The goal of the UN 2030 Agenda to “leave no one behind” as well as the goals of SDG 2: Zero Hunger and SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being highlight the importance of ensuring access to both health services and food.



The COVID-19 pandemic increased inequities in health by disrupting access to vital health services—especially for women and adolescents. In addition, the prevalence of mental health issues has increased around the world over the past 3 years. Global life expectancy has decreased during this time and progress toward ending diseases such as HIV, tuberculosis and malaria has been derailed. The pandemic highlighted the need for sexual and reproductive health and rights to be integrated into all plans in order to strengthen health systems.

Key commitments

In 2021-2022, Canada invested \$1,824 million in international assistance for global health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and nutrition initiatives, of which \$1,824 million was official development assistance.

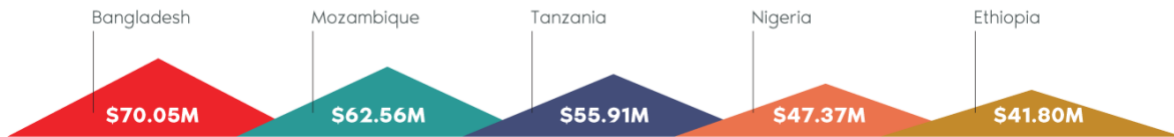
In June 2019, Canada made a 10-year commitment to increase its global health funding to reach \$1.4 billion annually by 2023. This investment is improving the health of women, children and youth around the world. Half of this investment directly supports sexual and reproductive health and rights, as well as maternal, newborn and child health.

In 2021-2022, as part of the 10-year commitment to global health and rights, Canada invested close to \$1.3 billion in international assistance to global health and rights initiatives, including \$695 million for global health and \$561 million for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). In addition to this, Canada provided \$465 million to support and protect access to basic health and SRHR services as part of its COVID-19 response. This has contributed to improving the health of vulnerable populations and marginalized individuals.



Results in focus

TOP 5 RECIPIENT COUNTRIES OF FEDERAL INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH, SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS, AND NUTRITION



In 2021-2022, Canada’s assistance, with the assistance of other multilateral and global partners, contributed to achieving the additional results below.

Sexual and reproductive health and rights

- Providing safe abortions and post-abortion care to 47 185 women in 18 countries through 15 projects
- Providing family planning services to 3 354 492 million women and 177 821 men in 28 countries through 29 projects
- Preventing 5 433 562 million unintended pregnancies and saving the lives of 14 490 women and 99 987 children

Nutrition

- Providing community nutrition programs to 121 108 women 30 081 men and 242 007 adolescents in 4 countries through 7 projects
- Delivering nutrition counselling to more than 785 000 adults in 15 countries through 15 projects
- Providing two annual doses of vitamin A to more than 167 million children and preventing over 105 000 child deaths and 730 000 cases of stunting

Health services

- Providing antenatal care to 1 422 399 women in 18 countries through 23 projects
- Ensuring safer deliveries for 977 071 women in 18 countries through 21 projects
- Providing postnatal care to 1 069 100 women in 12 countries through 14 projects



Key initiatives in the spotlight

Supporting sexual reproductive health and rights for women and adolescents

The [Enhancing Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights for Women and Adolescents project](#), led by the Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief in Ethiopia, has increased access to and awareness of key sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender-based violence services. In 2021-2022, the project delivered gender equality and sexual and reproductive health training to 265 key community leaders. This helped address barriers faced by women and adolescent girls in accessing health services. Additionally, the project helped train 100 health workers on obstetric fistula case identification, diagnosis and referral.

In 2021-2022, the [No Woman or Girl Left Behind](#) project, led by Partners In Health Canada, provided gender-sensitive and rights-based sexual and reproductive health services to adolescents in Africa. As the result of the project, more than 1,400 adolescent girls in Malawi and more than 2,000 adolescent girls in Sierra Leone received education on family planning. This represented a 35% and 104% increase from the year before, respectively. The Adolescent and Youth Friendly Services clinic in Sierra Leone recorded more than 3,510 visits in 2021-2022, representing a 363% increase compared to the previous year.

[Humanity and Inclusion Canada](#) continued its work to improve access to sexual and reproductive health services in parts of Africa—with a focus on women and adolescent girls and people living with disabilities. In 2021-2022, the number of adolescents who used health centres for these services increased by more than 6,000 in both Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal, and by more than 3,500 in Togo. The project helped increase the number of young people coming to the centre for contraceptive services. For instance, the number of new users doubled in Côte d'Ivoire and more than quadrupled in Senegal. While in Togo, 3,000 new users received these services.

Through the project [Promoting the Sexual and Reproductive Rights of Adolescents in Honduras](#), Canada helped 32 public health facilities provide sexual and reproductive health services to more than 280,000 adolescents this past year. The project developed strategic partnerships with key institutions such as the Ministries of Health and Education, and the Honduran Association of Municipalities. It has helped prevent adolescent pregnancies by coordinating efforts between key stakeholders at both the local and national levels.

In Bolivia, Plan International Canada continued to reduce teenage pregnancy and early marriage through its support to the [ARRIBA project](#). The project provides young women and men with training on sexual and reproductive rights and denouncing rape or using child marriage as a way to escape poverty. To date, the project has provided more than 4,500 adolescents with peer-to-peer education and trained some 2,100 traditional leaders to promote gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights, as well as to protect against gender-based violence within their communities.

Developing innovative approaches during the COVID-19 pandemic

Although the pandemic created challenges in implementing development programming, it has provided opportunities to innovate. For instance, the project [Better Sexual and Reproductive Health \(SRH\) and Rights for All in Indonesia \(BERANI\)](#), in partnership with UNFPA and UNICEF, created a network of youth influencers and youth-led digital platforms that produced content related to sexual and reproductive rights. Using innovative methods, such as Instagram stories and LINE chatbots, the project reached more than 600,000 young people—three times as many as in 2020-2021. These platforms helped address key gaps for young people in accessing comprehensive sexuality education. In addition, they strengthened advocacy and community-based programming around preventing sexual and gender-based violence, female genital mutilation, and child and forced marriage.



Providing critical health, immunization and nutrition services where they are needed

Canada's support to the Family Health Houses project continued to provide critical training and community health services in Afghanistan, despite the Taliban's seizure of power in August 2021. In 2021-2022, the project provided 80 midwives with training on how to deliver services through community health clinics in 5 provinces. As a result, more than 1,000 births were attended by skilled midwives.



As a supporter of the [Fund for Innovation and Transformation \(FIT\)](#), Canada helped maximize the impact of the innovations it supports. In 2021-2022, FIT funded 24 potentially innovative solutions. This brings the total to 42 funded innovations since its launch in 2019, 18 of which completed their testing during this past year. For example, FIT-funded partners tested an innovative approach that has demonstrated that self-sampling is an effective means to increase screening for Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and cervical cancer. Led by Toronto Metropolitan University and local partner, Tata Memorial Hospital, the [HPV self-sampling method](#) aims to decrease cervical cancer mortality rates in areas where Papanicolaou (Pap) tests are not easily accessible for women.

As well, FIT helped demonstrate that music therapy can help survivors of sexual violence and trauma better recover and reintegrate back into the community. The innovative [Healing in Harmony](#) project launched by the Canadian organization Make Music Matter, in partnership with the Panzi Hospital and Foundation in the Democratic Republic of Congo, was originally meant only for women and girls. But in 2021-2022, they tested the impact of expanding the program to men and boys. Results of the testing showed significant improvements in the participants' mental health, such as reducing anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms.

Canada's support for efforts to eradicate polio in Pakistan, through the World Health Organization and UNICEF, has been critical in reducing the risk of polio transmission in the country. This support is timely given the higher risk of waterborne transmission of the disease due to recent flooding. With Canada's support, the Global Polio Eradication Program mobilized more than 300,000 community health workers to vaccinate millions of children across the country in 2021-2022.

Tuberculosis is the world's second-deadliest infectious disease behind COVID-19, although it is preventable and curable. In 2021-2022, with support from Canada and other donors, the [Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#) achieved significant progress in:

- finding and treating people with the disease
- improving access to quality diagnosis, treatment and care
- scaling up prevention programs

Through these efforts, 5.3 million people were treated for tuberculosis and 395,000 people exposed to the disease received medicine to prevent its development.

Canada's support to Nutrition International (NI) provided high-impact, cost-effective nutrition interventions, including the following:

- Providing vitamin A and zinc to children under age 5
- Supporting the iodization of salt
- Administering iron and folic acid supplements to pregnant women and adolescent girls
- Working with governments to strengthen food systems to promote healthy diets for all

In 2021-2022, NI interventions reached 631 million people across 10 countries in Asia and Africa. This prevented:



- 2.6 million cases of anemia
- 730,000 cases of stunting
- 105,000 deaths among infants and young children

In addition, Canada supported a [School Health and Nutrition](#) project led by the World Food Programme in South Sudan, Somalia, Burkina Faso, Niger and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The project provides daily nutritious school meals as well as health and nutrition education for schoolchildren who are vulnerable to malnutrition and food insecurity. In 2021-2022, 168,346 schoolchildren received daily nutritious meals, micronutrient supplementation services and health and nutrition education as a result of the program.

Stories of change

Helping teachers deliver comprehensive sexuality education in Guyana

As a teacher in Guyana's Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo district, Rachel had identified several issues affecting her community related to sexual and reproductive health and rights. She acquired the knowledge she needed to bring about real change by participating in a series of training sessions held by the Guyana Responsible Parenthood Association's (GRPA) [Rights from the Start project](#).

The GRPA and its partners provide gender-responsive comprehensive sexuality education. The association recently collaborated with its youth network to train facilitators, community and health workers, peer educators and teachers, like Rachel, about gender-responsive sexuality and youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services. Participants, such as Rachel, are now able to use the information they learned to help educate young people in their communities.



*Photo of teacher Rachel.
Credits: © Guyana Responsible Parenthood Association /
Action Canada for Sexual Health and Rights, Annai
Region 9 Guyana, 2022*



Saving lives in Bangladesh through diarrheal disease research

In Bangladesh, diarrheal diseases remain a critical health issue. In fact, more than 35,000 people died of these diseases in 2020 alone.

When Abdul Fazal arrived at the Dhaka Hospital, the world’s largest diarrheal disease hospital, in March 2022, he was close to death due to diarrhea and severe dehydration. He was saved thanks to the immediate and professional care he received. In fact, he was able to walk without assistance within 90 minutes.

Canada is a long-time supporter of the International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research Centre, Bangladesh, the internationally renowned research centre that runs the Dhaka Hospital where Mr. Fazal was treated. It has not only produced innovative, high-impact and low-cost treatments, but it serves low-income patients at no charge.

During the cholera outbreak in the spring of 2022, more than 1,400 patients visited the Dhaka Hospital each day—and more than 60,000 people were treated during the unprecedented outbreak.



*Hospital operation in action by icddr,b doctors treating diarrheal patients at the icddr,b Dhaka Hospital.
Credits: © icddr,b*

Expanding the social safety net to protect vulnerable communities in Lebanon

From the sky, Tripoli’s Hay Al Tanak, or the Tin Neighbourhood, looks exactly like a maze. Mona is one of the people who live on the edge of this maze. Each day brings a new challenge to her and the people she must feed.

Mona never expected that she would need assistance just to stay afloat. But since the beginning of the pandemic, buying a few staple items at the supermarket can equate to spending Lebanon’s minimum monthly wage.

“Before COVID-19 and all that is happening, everything in Lebanon was somewhat affordable,” she explains.

Thanks to the assistance Mona received from Canada through the [National Poverty Targeting Programme](#), she is now able to feed her children.



“Children benefit the most when fed nutritious food,” she says, as she sneaks a quick glance at one of her children, rocking on his chair next to her. “Food keeps children healthy, immune to diseases and helps them grow right in front of our eyes.”

“When we were informed that our household was eligible for aid, we immediately felt happy,” Mona recalls. “No one could believe how glad I was. I’ve been wanting the WFP [World Food Programme] food e-card for a very long time.”



*Mona's household is one of many that found itself needing humanitarian assistance just to survive.
Credits: © WFP / Giulio Orgilia / Lebanon*

Learn more about this theme

- [Canada's 10-Year commitment to global health and rights](#)
- [Canada's priorities on the neglected areas of SRHR](#)
- [Feteer... a leap to GOLD!](#)
- [A new opportunity ... the spark of a dream project](#)
- [Finding happiness in helping people](#)





Credits: © Queen Rania Teacher Academy, Jordan

Education

Education is key to ensuring that people around the globe can fully exercise their human rights and benefit from economic growth. The COVID-19 pandemic has further underscored the need for resilient education systems. It has highlighted the role that education systems play in delivering life-saving services for children, such as child protection, mental health and psychosocial support, and health and nutrition services.

The Feminist International Assistance Policy commits Canada to supporting access to quality education for people living in poverty and marginalized individuals around the world, particularly women and girls. This includes people living in crisis, and in fragile, conflict-affected and humanitarian settings.

Canada is focused on achieving [SDG 4— Quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all](#) and addressing the education crisis caused by children’s learning loss during crisis and conflict.

Key commitments

In 2021-2022, Canada invested \$402 million in international assistance in education, of which \$401 million was official developmental assistance. Significant multi-year commitments in recent years include:

- delivering \$400 million between 2018 and 2021 in support of the [Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education](#), including \$50 million to [Education Cannot Wait](#) between 2019 and 2021
- providing \$300 million to the [Global Partnership for Education](#) between 2021 and 2025
- allocating more than \$67 million to projects supporting the education of children and youth experiencing forced displacement between 2021-2027, including more than \$40 million to projects resulting from the [Together for Learning campaign](#)’s call for proposals and the [Education for Refugee and Displaced Children and Youth in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)



Results in focus



Canada, along with other multilateral and global partners, contributed to achieving the following results in 2021-2022:

- Training over 27,000 teachers (12,825 women; 12,925 men; and 1,797 people whose gender was not indicated) according to national standards or approved teacher training programs, with an additional 53,053 teachers trained through Canada’s long term support to multilateral and global partners
- Helping nearly 4,000 schools create welcoming spaces that respond to the specific needs of girls, with another 53,429 schools making these changes thanks to Canada’s long term support to multilateral and global partners
- Training more than 20,000 people (15,540 women and 5,033 men) in demand driven technical and vocational fields, with an additional 13,236 people trained through Canada’s long term support to multilateral and global partners
- Helping nearly 900,000 learners (780,488 women and girls; 73,109 men and boys; and 4,213 individuals whose gender was not indicated) enrol in both formal and non formal education, with another 30 million learners reached through Canada’s long term support to multilateral and global partners

Key initiatives in the spotlight

Continuing Canada’s commitment to education in crisis and conflict settings

In 2021-2022, Canada fulfilled its pledge to contribute \$400 million over 3 years as part of its commitment to the G7 Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education. Canada’s [Charlevoix Education Initiative](#) supports 55 projects to improve access to quality education and skills training, particularly for women and girls, including refugees and displaced children and youth and children with disabilities, across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, reaching more than 4 million women and girls.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought about the closure of schools around the globe and resulted in significant learning loss. Despite this, Canadian-funded projects successfully pivoted their activities. Where possible, they even scaled up in response to the crisis. In addition, Canada funded the development of the [Charlevoix Funding Dashboard](#) and the [Mind the Gap Reports](#) to promote transparency and accountability toward commitments made by G7 donors. They summarize progress, gaps, challenges and opportunities in improving education and training for women and girls affected by conflict and crisis.



Through the [Together for Learning campaign](#), Canada continued to promote quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for refugees, other forcibly displaced individuals, and host community children and youth. A key deliverable of the campaign in 2021-2022 was the Together for Learning Summit, where Canada's Minister of International Development announced \$67.2 million in development assistance funding to support education for children and youth affected by forced displacement around the world. Called "Engaging Displaced Youth to Transform Education," the youth-led summit focused on amplifying the voices of youth with lived experiences as refugees and displaced people. The summit, which was held virtually in March 2022, resulted in a [Youth Manifesto](#) that included a call to action in 5 core areas:

- inclusion
- mental health and psychosocial support
- digital learning
- gender equality
- accountability

In response to this manifesto, supporting governments, civil society, multilateral organizations and private sector partners released the [Together with Youth-Summit outcome document](#). It identifies actions to improve access to quality education, including:

- integrating mental health and psychosocial support within education programming
- promoting approaches to advancing girls' education
- strengthening the resilience and capacities of education systems
- eliminating gaps in access to remote learning solutions

Ensuring quality education for all children and youth

In 2021-2022, Canada worked with CARE Canada to implement the project [Improving Girls' Access to Education in Somalia](#). It helped 2,389 marginalized girls, including those with disabilities, access remote learning. The project reduced other barriers to education by addressing issues such as menstrual hygiene management, discriminatory social norms that favour boys' education over girls, and child, early and forced marriage. Community members, caregivers, educators, and religious and local leaders across 70 communities received training about barriers to girls' education and the importance of girls exercising their right to education. In addition, the project helped provide unconditional cash grants to families and scholarships to more than 2,900 ultra-marginalized, out-of-school girls to facilitate their access to education during the COVID-19 pandemic and the drought that affected the country in 2021-2022.

In 2021-2022, Canada contributed to reducing barriers and improving educational opportunities for South Sudanese girls and young women through the [Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds](#) project. For example, in partnership with the Canadian Red Cross, 7,485 girls received menstrual hygiene management support. Thirty-eight schools in 190 communities received safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities, including gendered latrines. As a result, the number of female students who reported missing school due to their menstrual cycle decreased by 25%. In addition, the number of girls who reported being harassed during their period decreased by 20%.



In 2021-2022, the Afghan Girls' Education in Conflict and Fragility project successfully established 698 community-based education schools in Afghanistan and hired and trained almost 700 female teachers. This provided some 5,000 students with access to education despite interruptions caused by COVID-19. All these students reported that the learning environment was safe and secure, an impressive result considering the active conflict in the country. Almost 21,000 students, 80% of whom



are girls, were registered with BRAC's community-based education program. In December 2022, the announcement that Afghan women would be banned from working for NGOs led the organization to pause its education program. However, BRAC is hopeful that recent exemptions for women teaching up to grade 6 will allow it to continue to provide schooling for some students.

In 2021-2022, Canada's support to the [Education for Jordan's Prosperity](#) project ensured equitable access to quality education for the more than 1.6 million children in Jordan's public education system. The project helped almost half a million children continue learning despite the school closures during the pandemic. Through Learning Bridges, a national blended-learning program, these students received weekly printed curriculum-linked activities and other resources.

In addition, the project:

- established and equipped 2,600 new kindergarten classes
- provided 80 schools with resource materials
- equipped 37 rooms for children with learning difficulties
- established non-formal education classes at 206 schools
- expanded remedial education programmes

With Canada's support, the [Enhanced Education for Resilience of Tibetan Youth](#) project successfully worked to enhance Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) in Tibetan refugee schools in India and Nepal. Through the project, 132 PTA members received training on their responsibilities, positive parenting and how to support children's education and well-being in 2021-2022. In addition, the project:

- printed and distributed a bilingual PTA Handbook
- developed a guide for PTA training facilitators
- held workshops on positive parenting for some 450 parents

More than 200 students, three quarters of whom were women, received scholarships to pursue studies at universities in India. During the pandemic, the project procured COVID-19 preventive supplies for 58 Tibetan schools, provided internet access to almost 1,000 teachers, and distributed 200 electronic tablets to vulnerable children facing barriers to participating in online classes.

Increasing employment opportunities through education

In the West Bank and Gaza, Canada's support to the project Salalem: Prosperity and Advancement for Palestinian Women and Youth helped young women and youth with disabilities make employment decisions for themselves. In 2021-2022, over 700 participants, including 110 young women in Gaza and 88 youth with disabilities in the West Bank, completed the project's life skills training, as part of the Leadership Institute. Eighty-four percent of participants who took part in the institute's virtual training reported that it provided good or very good work readiness skills. Eighty-five percent of young women and youth with disabilities self-reported a high or very high sense of agency as a result of the training. As an additional measure, the Institute provided awareness sessions to male influencers to guarantee greater buy-in from men and ensure that they encourage women and youth with disabilities to achieve their potential.

In 2021-2022, Canada's support for the project [Education for Employment in Tunisia](#) increased the economic empowerment of young adults in Tunisia. In particular, it helped women experiencing marginalization and those living in the most disadvantaged regions of the country. This was achieved by better aligning the training offered with the employment needs of young Tunisians and improving the employment opportunities for women with higher education degrees. Since the project began in 2019, it has directly benefited more than 300 people and indirectly benefited another 1,500. For instance, the project provided 41 teachers with technical training to improve their teaching skills.



Stories of change

Transforming students' lives along the Colombia-Venezuela border

The migratory crisis and armed conflict near the Colombia-Venezuelan border have deprived thousands of Venezuelan and Colombian children of a quality education. The COVID-19 pandemic has only exacerbated the challenges faced by these children—especially women and adolescent girls. Many fell behind in essential learning areas because they did not have the internet access they needed for online learning.

In 2021-22, the [Beyond Borders](#) project, implemented by Save the Children, launched an innovative Catch-up Club initiative to overcome barriers to learning and improve children's reading and writing skills. These clubs have since transformed the lives of nearly 400 children in conflict-affected border areas by providing safe learning spaces.



Thanks to this initiative, children like 10-year-old Majo can learn and interact with other children in person, after more than a year of learning in isolation.

"I was happy to be back in a classroom. It felt good," she says. "The club has helped me read better and understand written texts."

Improving her reading, writing and public speaking skills has given Majo more self-confidence. This has spurred her to continue attending the clubs and she dreams of one day becoming a spokesperson for them.



*Catch up Club, Beyond Borders Project.
Credits: © Save the Children, Colombia*

Giving science teachers the tools they need in Jordan

Walaa Abu Al-Ezz is a physics teacher in Jordan's Al-Rusaifa directorate that took part in the Canada-led Science Network program at the Queen Rania Teacher Academy. Through the [Scaling up Professional Development of Teachers program](#), she learned successful strategies to inspire male students' interest in science.

Although her students had weaknesses in writing and were reluctant to study science, Walaa applied strategies to motivate her students to love physics and integrate it into their daily lives. For example, Walaa helped her students learn physics by applying supportive strategies in teaching and formative



education and by using scientific inquiry with her students. She treated them as young scientists exploring the natural sciences linked to their everyday life and to the environment they live in.



*Teacher Walla Abu Al-Ezz with her students.
Credits: © Queen Rania Teacher Academy*

Helping students in Bangladesh learn during the COVID-19 pandemic

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Nusrat Akter's mother sent her to school every day. But because of the school lockdowns that affected more than 30 million school-age children in the country, Nusrat had to do her schooling at home. Unfortunately, her mother could not help her with her schoolwork.

With Canada's support, the Bangladesh-based NGO BRAC helped teachers make home visits to students during the pandemic. Nusrat's teacher visited all her students at their homes to help them with their studies.

"Nusrat's teacher visited our home every week and took classes over the phone. She walked miles to reach every student's home. Her dedication amazed me," explains Nusrat's mother.

In 2021-2022, the program helped over 121,000 students receive home visits from teachers so they could complete their primary education.





*Bangladeshi student having the opportunity to continue learning during the COVID-19 Pandemic
Credits: © High Commission of Canada in Bangladesh*

Learn more about this theme

- [Education](#)
- [Evaluation of Canada's International Education Strategy](#)
- [Together for Learning: Education for refugee, other forcibly displaced and host community children and youth](#)
- [Charlevoix Education Initiative](#)





Credits: © Vancouver International Airport

Humanitarian action

There is an unprecedented level of humanitarian need in the world today. This is due to increases in the number and intensity of armed conflicts as well as the scope and frequency of natural disasters as the result of climate change. Canada's international humanitarian assistance is intended to meet the needs of people affected by these crises.

Canada continues to focus on providing swift, gender-responsive humanitarian action that saves lives, alleviates suffering and maintains the dignity of those affected by conflicts and natural disasters.

This focus ensures that we continue to address the specific needs and priorities of people in vulnerable situations, particularly women and girls. By considering pre-existing vulnerabilities and intersectional discrimination such as gender, race, ethnicity, age, ability, sexuality and refugee status, humanitarian actors can more effectively respond to those affected by the crises.

Canada's life-saving humanitarian assistance focuses on 4 key areas:

- humanitarian principles and international humanitarian law
- sexual and gender-based violence in the context of humanitarian crises
- sexual and reproductive health during humanitarian interventions
- the empowerment of women and girls

This work addresses many of the SDGs including SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 2: Zero Hunger, SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, and SDG 5: Gender Equality.

Key commitments

In 2021-2022, Canada continued to provide humanitarian assistance to those affected by conflict and natural disasters around the world through UN partners, NGOs and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movements. Last year, Canada invested \$1,045 million in international assistance toward humanitarian action, all of which was official developmental assistance.

This assistance continued to address the specific needs and priorities of people in vulnerable situations, particularly women and girls. In 2021-2022, 99% of Canada's bilateral humanitarian assistance projects integrated gender equality considerations, with the exception of funding for humanitarian logistics operations.



Results in focus

TOP 5 RECIPIENT COUNTRIES OF FEDERAL INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR HUMANITARIAN ACTION



In 2021-2022, Canada, along with other donors, provided humanitarian assistance that contributed to achieving the following results:

- Reaching a record 128.2 million food insecure people through the World Food Programme and its partners (in 2021)
- Providing assistance and protection to 94.7 million refugees and internally displaced persons through the UNHCR
- Assisting more than 118 million people and engaging 779 local and national partners by providing UN Country-based Pooled Funds
- Supporting 51.5 million people in 40 countries and territories through the Central Emergency Response Fund

Key initiatives in the spotlight

Responding to humanitarian crises and conflicts around the world

In 2021-2022, Canada responded to the humanitarian impacts of wars and conflicts around the world, including in Ukraine, Jordan, Yemen, Ethiopia, Myanmar and Bangladesh. For instance, in early 2022, Canada allocated \$86 million to respond to the exponential growth in humanitarian need in Ukraine and neighbouring countries. This amount was increased as the response scaled up, reaching \$320 million by the end of 2022.

Recognizing gaps in supply chains at the onset of war, Canada sent 20 cargo flights with more than 377,000 essential relief items to Ukraine and the surrounding region. In addition, it financed the deployment of humanitarian experts to support the UN and Red Cross responses in the region.

Last year, Canada announced more than \$25 million in humanitarian assistance to address the immediate, life-saving needs of Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar, as well as other displaced and vulnerable populations across Myanmar. Canada's contribution helped provide food assistance to more than 5 million people. More than 3 million people received protection services and more than 2.8 million people received health support across both countries.

In 2021-2022, Yemen was facing one of the world's largest humanitarian crises. Canada's \$70 million in funding to support ongoing interventions in the country allowed its multilateral partners to:

- provide reproductive services to nearly 2 million people
- provide monthly food assistance to more than 12 million people
- improve access to safe drinking water for some 8.8 million people

In 2021-2022, Canada provided more than \$66 million in humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia to help address the needs of those affected by drought, conflict and insecurity. Canada's flexible funding to the UN, the Red Cross and its NGO partners, as well as increased support to the multi-donor Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund, helped ensure that critical and timely humanitarian aid reached more than 20 million people in need across Ethiopia.

Protecting and supporting refugees and migrants around the world

This past year, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) began rapidly resettling some 40,000 Afghan nationals as part of a special [humanitarian initiative](#). Canada's commitment included resettling those who closely assisted Canada during its mission in Afghanistan as well as other vulnerable and at-risk groups. By the end of March 2022, Canada had welcomed more than 10,000 at-risk Afghans.

In 2021-2022, Canada continued to respond to the Venezuelan refugee and migrant crisis—one of the largest displacements in the world. More than 5.75 million Venezuelans are currently living in Latin American and Caribbean countries, putting significant strain on the region. To address this, IRCC and Global Affairs Canada supported targeted initiatives to reduce:

- human suffering
- food insecurity
- irregular migration
- security threats

To this end, these initiatives are working to improve the integration of Venezuelan refugees and migrants, particularly women and girls, into host communities in the region.

Canada continued to provide capacity building to select countries in Africa and Asia to strengthen border and migration governance, as well as to combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling. For example, in 2021-2022, Canada worked with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to provide equipment and training to Nigerian authorities to install the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) in Lagos' Murtala Mohammed International Airport and the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport in Abuja. Nigerian authorities reported that, in 2021 alone, they were able to successfully prevent the trafficking of 100 girls through the Lagos airport thanks to the MIDAS system.

Delivering emergency response assistance after natural disasters

The [Canada Fund for Local Initiatives' \(CFLI\)](#) humanitarian and emergency response reserve is designed to provide quick, small-scale funding to local organizations in the immediate aftermath of natural disasters and other emergencies. In 2021-2022, the program directly provided more than \$1.1 million in humanitarian assistance to almost 50,000 people in 21 countries. For example, it supported projects by providing vital assistance to those affected by:

- flooding in Guyana
- Super Typhoon Odette in the Philippines
- natural disasters such as wildfires in Argentina and Algeria
- volcano eruptions in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



Stories of change

Using space technology in Madagascar to better respond to natural disasters

As a member of the International Charter: Space and Major Disasters, the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) works with other space agencies to support disaster relief operations at no cost to the end user. For example, Canada contributes valuable data to the RADARSAT Constellation Mission and RADARSAT-2 satellites, both of which have 24/7 emergency call services for disaster cases throughout the world.

The utilization of RADARSAT data significantly enhances the response capabilities of emergency managers on the ground by providing them with a distinct perspective of the disaster area. This advanced, space-based view of the disaster enables emergency managers to make informed decisions that can help save lives. For example, in February 2022, Canada's satellites supported the disaster intervention activities related to Cyclone Emnati in Madagascar, where more than 30,000 people had been evacuated. Canada's RCM satellites detected water extents (the area of land that is covered by water) in Mananjary District, Vatovavy Fitovinany Region and Madagascar, where approximately 650 people live close to the flooded areas.

Learn more about this theme

- [Canada's international humanitarian assistance](#)





Credits: © Habitat para la Humanidad, Nicaragua

Jobs, opportunities and economic growth

Inclusive economic growth is central to achieving the SDGs and Canada’s broader development objectives. By focusing on growth that works for everyone, Canada’s international assistance contributes to eradicating poverty and promoting gender equality, especially for those living in poverty and marginalization. It supports economic growth that benefits all nations.

In 2021-2022, Canada continued to focus its efforts on 3 interrelated areas:

- eliminating barriers to women’s economic empowerment
- building more inclusive and sustainable economies
- strengthening economic resilience

Canada continues to focus on gender equality and empowering women and girls as the most effective means of achieving sustainable development. In particular, Canada has worked to address the inequalities surrounding unpaid and paid care work that were exacerbated during the pandemic. These inequities act as barriers to women’s economic empowerment and to their participation in education, training and public life.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, increased conflict and climate change have forced Canada to adjust its international assistance programming. By forging new partnerships, capitalizing on socioeconomic opportunities and providing additional financial resources, Canada’s support has helped developing countries respond to these challenges and build a sustainable economic recovery.

Key commitments

In 2021-2022, Canada invested \$1,043 million in international assistance toward initiatives that support jobs and inclusive economic growth, of which \$1,043 million was official developmental assistance.

At the Generation Equality Forum in June 2021, the Prime Minister announced a 5-year commitment of \$100 million in new funding to address issues relating unpaid and paid care work in low- and middle-income countries. In 2021-2022, 3 stand-alone projects were approved, accounting for almost a quarter of Canada’s commitment.



Results in focus

TOP 5 RECIPIENT COUNTRIES OF FEDERAL INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR JOBS, OPPORTUNITIES AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



In 2021-2022, Canada, along with other multilateral and global partners, contributed to achieving the following results:

- reaching almost 6 million people (2,305,275 women; 3,149,136 men; and 168,825 individuals whose gender was not indicated) through projects that support women's economic empowerment, with another almost 4 million people reached through projects funded through Canada's long-term support to multilateral and global partners
- providing almost 7 million entrepreneurs, farmers and smallholders (2,797,582 women; 3,510,308 men; and 483,863 individuals whose gender was not indicated) with financial or business development services, and providing 5 million others with financial or business development services through Canada's long-term support to multilateral and global partners

Key initiatives in the spotlight

Increasing economic opportunities for women and other marginalized communities

Through support for the project [Women Included: Nurturing Growth and Security in Ukraine](#), Canada was able to improve the economic security of vulnerable women, especially those affected by Russia's illegal invasion. In 2021-2022, the project provided employment and skills training to more than 700 women, of whom 59 received seed funding and support to launch their own businesses. In response to the invasion, a project-supported, not-for-profit organization provided meals to 190 internally displaced persons at 2 temporary shelters. In addition, the project relocated and provided shelter and psychological support to 85 children with disabilities from the Donetsk region.

In 2021-2022, the Canada-supported project [Women's Economic Empowerment in Egypt](#) helped provide women with the support they needed to actively participate in the workforce. As part of UN Women's collaboration with the American University in Cairo's Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, some 570 early-stage women entrepreneurs, including those with disabilities, received training and access to financial and non-financial services. This was achieved through mentorship and access to legal, financial and digital service providers. Another 28 women entrepreneurs attended an incubation boot camp and were able to receive and pitch business ideas. Seven women-led enterprises were competitively selected for the incubation round and received financial awards. In 2021, 477 women job-seekers completed a program to improve their employability skills and secured placements.

This past year, the project [Sustainable Colombian Opportunities for Peacebuilding and Employment](#), implemented by Cuso International, expanded activities to Ecuador and Peru. In 2021-2022, the project increased the participation of vulnerable population groups in the labour market by providing training and employment opportunities for:

- women
- victims of armed conflict



- at-risk youth
- venezuelan migrants

More than 1,300 participants were able to find jobs in sectors such as cleaning services, call centres, the food industry and communications. The project made progress in improving employment policies as a way to help vulnerable groups enter the labour market. In total, 42 private-sector partners made their human resource practices more inclusive and gender-sensitive as a result of the project.

In 2021-2022, the project [Promoting Rural Economic Development for Women and Youth in the Lempa Region of Honduras](#) improved the economic well-being of small entrepreneurs and coffee producers in Honduras' Dry Corridor region. To date, the project has reached more than 14,000 people, of whom 75% are women and 98% identify as Indigenous. This past year, coffee producers increased their productivity by 41% and increased their sales by 35%. Women coffee producers were able to increase their sales by 185%, closing the income gap between men and women. Tourism entrepreneurs increased their average annual income by 60%, a significant improvement compared to the previous year. In addition, the project forged strategic partnerships with government institutions, municipalities and local partners to support long-term sustainability after its conclusion in 2022-2023.

Building more inclusive and resilient economies

In Benin, Canada helped improve the population's socio-economic well-being through the initiative [Support for the Development, Professionalization and Consolidation of Microfinance](#). Launched in partnership with Développement international Desjardins, the initiative provides education and training on basic financial concepts, mainly to women, youth and rural residents. To date, almost 80,000 people have been trained, including more than 30,900 in 2021-2022. Of these, more than 22,400 were women. Since the initiative launched in 2017, more than 600,000 people have opened individual accounts with financial institutions, including 99,864 last year, more than half of whom were women.

In 2021-2022, Canada's support for the [Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund](#) helped improve the economic security of the rural poor in 11 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The initiative acts as a catalyst for small- and medium-sized enterprises by providing technical assistance and challenge fund grants that are matched by private-sector investments. As of December 2021, the fund had directly created almost 5,000 jobs, with women filling 45% of these positions. In total, this investment has benefited 1.5 million households, half of which are headed by women.



In Haiti, Canada is working with Centre d'étude et de coopération internationale (CECI) and local partners to promote adaptation to climate change. In partnership with farmer cooperatives working in the cacao sector, the [Climate Adaptation and Economic Development of Agricultural Sectors in Haiti](#) project is also working to integrate women into businesses and build their entrepreneurial and management capacities. This includes more than 1,200 farmers who implemented climate change adaptation practices in 2021-2022. In addition, it has helped increase the number of women elected to the boards of directors of targeted cooperatives by 25%. Women now hold 29% of these positions.

With Canada's support, the [National Support to Local Investment Climates](#) project helped develop more sustainable, equitable and competitive enterprises in Indonesia. To strengthen a gender-responsive investment climate, 29% of the project's total recommendations were adopted by national and local governments. In addition, 18 priority economic districts received Responsive Innovative Funds to ensure the sustainability of their products and links to the market. For example, industries such as white pepper, coffee, coconut derivatives and bamboo-woven handicrafts were all able to gain broader access to domestic markets through the project's initiatives.



Canada's support to the [Modernizing Agriculture in Ghana](#) initiative is helping to implement a comprehensive, market-oriented approach to farming and strengthening and modernizing agricultural extension services across the country. In 2021-2022, almost 5 million smallholder farmers, including close to 2 million women farmers, gained access to services, information and technologies to support agricultural production. This significantly improved productivity for several major staple crops, increasing farmers' economic empowerment and resilience to food insecurity. For example, groundnut yields in 2021 increased by 45% over the previous year and cocoyam increased by 34%.

In Ukraine, Canada continued to support the Horticulture Business Development II project. Despite the ongoing war and frequent bombings near the project's rural target areas, 38 groups of farmers, half of whom were women, received financing as part of the project's COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program. This helped the farmers increase their visibility, improve their marketing and purchase environmentally friendly agricultural equipment. In 2021-2022, the project launched an e-learning platform to give farmers access to practical horticultural data online. Over the course of the project, almost 100,000 participants took part in close to 4,000 learning events and webinars. These practical workshops helped participants increase their knowledge of horticultural business models, access new markets and learn about environmentally sensitive agricultural production techniques and related topics.

Stories of change

Empowering women business owners in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Canada's support for the financial inclusion project of the [Foundation for International Community Assistance](#) (FINCA) helped women business owners in the Democratic Republic of Congo get the leg up they need.

Charlotte Assumani has been a [FINCA](#) client of the Gombe branch in Kinshasa for over 15 years. The widow and mother first joined FINCA as a village banking client. This allowed her to get a loan as a member of a group of women who support each other and guarantee each other's loan payments.

Charlotte's first \$400 village banking loan helped her start her own restaurant. Now, she is an individual loan client and has increased her loan amount to more than \$15,000. This has allowed Charlotte to successfully grow her business, create wealth, send her children to school and employ other people.

Today, she has 8 people working for her. They, in turn, are able to support their own families because of the jobs she provides them. Charlotte's restaurant now serves nearly 150 people each day and brings in more than \$300 in daily sales.



*Empowering women business owners in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Credits: © FINCA 2021, DRC*

Helping Indigenous families make a living in rural Bolivia

In Bolivia, rural Indigenous families continue to lack opportunities to improve their livelihoods and transition out of subsistence farming. Producers and local authorities lack the capacity to promote rural diversification and green value chains that link local farmers to broader national and international markets. Through the [Improving Living Conditions and Health in Rural and Indigenous Communities in Chuquisaca \(PROMAVI\)](#) project, Canada has helped over 2,100 Indigenous-owned family businesses in Bolivia begin producing, industrializing and commercializing Tara pods. This extract comes from a small plant and is used in the tanning, cosmetics and food industries.

Developing this green value chain will ultimately increase the income of Indigenous families in the region, particularly for women. It will also reduce extreme poverty in rural areas and aid the post-COVID-19 economic recovery. In addition, this plant will improve soil quality by fixing nitrogen and capturing carbon while promoting biodiversity and helping address the impacts of climate change.

“We joined the program with the idea of getting some extra income, so we planted 600 trees. But a flood washed away more than 200 trees. To me, that was not an obstacle. On the contrary, it was a lesson, and I’m now officially part of the board of directors of ANAPROD, the national association of diversified producers,” says Faustina Perez Tomina, a farmer in Chuquisaca, Bolivia.

“I can tell you my family was very happy when I told them that I was on the board of directors and that they had promised to teach me other mobile apps so I could take part in the activities that would be presented.”



Faustina Perez Tomina, a beneficiary in Chuquisaca, Bolivia, tends to her trees.
Credits: © SOCODEVI 2022



Giving women entrepreneurs in the West Bank the support they need

Rawan Rajab is the founder of “Blue Stone,” a business that recycles waste such as glass, paper and wood, and transforms it into environmentally friendly interior stones.

Hoping to expand her small business, the 21-year-old from the West Bank applied to the She Succeeds project. This project, which is implemented by Save the Children and receives Canada’s support, provides assistance to women-led small-scale entrepreneurs.

“I benefited quite a lot from the project’s training courses, which focused on how to refine and develop the project idea, market it and produce a plan for economic feasibility, as well as how to acquire funding in the future,” say Rawan.

The funding gave Rawan the tools she needed to expand, including a waste treatment and mixing machine, and the moulds for forming the stones. She has now started to receive orders from all over the West Bank and is hoping to increase production, open a showroom and even design an eco-friendly home.

Rawan is now a role model in her community. She is encouraging other women to look to opportunities in the environmental field for economic empowerment.

“We, young people, have to be the instrument of change and the leaders of change, not wait for change from the society in which we live, and that’s what I’ve pursued.”

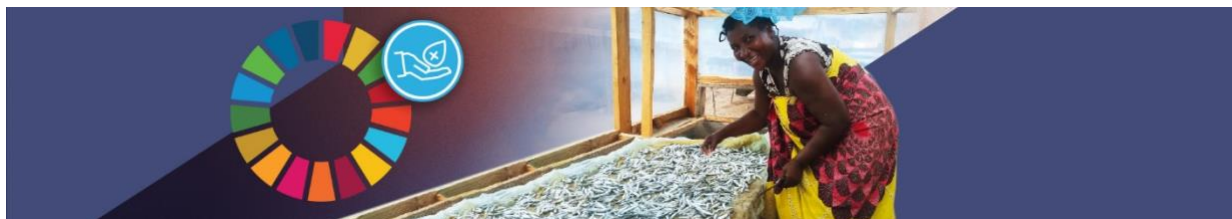


Rawan stacking tiles in the “Blue Stone” workshop in the West Bank.
Credits: © Save the Children

Learn more about this theme

- [UN Women: In the words of Amena El-Saie, “I believe that everyone has a role to play in enhancing the inclusion of all persons with disabilities in all communities.”](#)
- [The household is a shared responsibility](#)





Credits: © Asafu Chijere, Malawi

Climate and the environment

Over the next 2 decades, climate change and biodiversity loss will reduce our collective resilience and ability to adapt, undermine long-term development gains and exacerbate pre-existing vulnerabilities, particularly for those living in poverty and in marginalization, including Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Canada is committed to taking urgent action to mitigate and adapt to climate change and to protect biodiversity.

To support developing countries in their efforts to transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient and nature-positive world, Canada continues to fund initiatives to:

- reduce global greenhouse gas emissions
- improve climate resilience
- conserve, protect and sustainably manage ecosystems and their services

Canada supports global partners to address the effects of climate change and to build resilience to the risks it poses, particularly for the poorest and most vulnerable populations. SIDS and the LDCs are often the hardest hit and the least equipped to prevent and cope with the consequences of climate-related shocks and ecosystem degradation.

Canada understands that, though important, awareness-building, adaptation and resilience measures are not alternatives to ambitious mitigation measures and responsible environmental stewardship. The two must go together if Canada is to help mitigate the risks posed by our changing climate.

In addition, Canada recognizes that women and girls can be powerful agents of change when given access to and control over environmental resources. That is why we continue to focus on ensuring that they play a leadership role in designing, developing and implementing strategic responses to climate change and other key environmental and biodiversity issues.

These efforts are aligned with the objectives of the 2030 Agenda as well as:

- the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement
- the Convention to Combat Desertification
- the Convention on Biological Diversity
- the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

Key commitments

In 2021-2022, Canada invested \$1,058 million in international assistance toward environment and climate action initiatives, of which \$1,029 million was official developmental assistance.

Canada committed to doubling its international climate finance commitment in 2021 to \$5.3 billion over 5 years. This will support developing countries' transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient, nature-positive



and inclusive sustainable development. This commitment builds on the successes of Canada’s previous \$2.65 billion climate finance commitment. Through this commitment, Canada is increasing the proportion of its grant contributions for climate finance from 30% to 40%, for improved access by affected communities. Canada is:

- dedicating 40% of its climate finance to climate adaptation projects
- allocating a minimum of 20% of funding to projects that leverage nature-based climate solutions and contribute biodiversity co-benefits, through organization such as [Partnering for Climate](#)
- ensuring that gender equality considerations are integrated into at least 80% of climate finance projects, in line with Canada’s Feminist International Assistance Policy

Canada has already announced a number of initiatives to be funded as part of the \$5.3 billion climate finance commitment. More information on our programming is available through the [Environment and Climate Change Canada](#) website.

In 2021, Canada and other G7 members adopted the G7 2030 Nature Compact and committed to work toward net zero by 2050 and to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030.

In addition, Canada continues to live up to commitments made at the G7 summit in Charlevoix, Quebec. This includes investing \$100 million over 5 years in support of a marine litter mitigation fund under the Ocean Plastics Charter and \$100 million to support the expansion of Climate Risk Insurance coverage in climate-vulnerable countries, including for SIDS.

Canada is exploring how its international peace and development policy and programming, as well as its climate financing, could take into account or help address the security impacts of climate change. To do so, Canada has committed to supporting calls for climate and security to be addressed as part of NATO, G7, UN, World Bank and other international agendas linking development, financial and security priorities.

Results in focus



In 2021-2022, Canada, along with other multilateral and global partners, contributed to achieving the following results:

- delivering climate adaptation projects that benefited nearly 3 million people (1,624,576 women; 1,134,240 men; and 13,709 individuals whose gender was not indicated) and an additional 18 million people through projects funded through Canada’s long-term support to multilateral and global partners



- reducing or avoiding 2.99 metric megatons of greenhouse gas emissions, with Canada's support to multilateral and global partners contributing to reducing an additional 151.51 megatons of gas emissions
- employing almost 6,000 people (229 women; 47 men; and 5,706 individuals whose gender was not indicated) in the environment sector, including in technical, supervisory and management roles

Since 2015-2016, Canada has contributed \$600 million to the [Green Climate Fund](#) (GCF) to help developing countries transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient and nature-positive economies. In 2021, the GCF approved an additional 32 projects in 67 developing countries. In addition, it provided readiness support for 96 developing countries and 11 project preparation facility applications. These projects are expected to eliminate more than 750 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent emissions and increase the resilience of more than 200 million people.



In 2021-2022, Canada was the seventh-largest donor to the [Global Environment Facility](#) (GEF). During this period, the GEF Council approved an additional 179 projects which are expected to:

- help more than 8 million people adapt to climate change
- manage more than 53 million hectares of land to become climate-resilient
- protect 129 million hectares of terrestrial and marine areas
- improve industry and local practices to protect biodiversity for almost 99 million hectares of marine habitats
- mitigate almost 338 million metric tons of CO₂ in greenhouse gas emissions

Key initiatives in the spotlight

Supporting renewable energy to promote sustainable economic growth

In Burkina Faso, Canada's support in 2021-2022 increased the adoption of adaptable, environmentally responsible technologies and practices. [The Energy and Economic Growth](#) project in the Boucle de Mouhoun region has:

- connected 16 villages to the national electrical grid
- provided 9 health and social promotion centres with solar power equipment
- supported 88 entrepreneurs and 2 women's groups through solar installations helped approximately 560 households acquire solar kits

These initiatives, in addition to those realized since the beginning of the project, are now reducing CO₂ emissions by 508 tonnes annually.

Canada's continued support to the project [Sustainable Economic Development Through Renewable Energy in Jordan](#) is promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth for poor and disadvantaged groups—particularly women and youth—in the Deir Alla and Ajloun regions. In 2021-2022, the project helped set up 2 solar farms and an electric vehicle charging station coupled with a photovoltaic system. Around 94% of beneficiary households in the regions have seen their disposable income increase as the result of energy savings or increases in household assets. In addition, the project helped 315 people find jobs or become self-employed.

Promoting climate adaptation and economic development in the agricultural sector

Canada continued to work with Centre d'étude et de collaboration internationale (CECI) and local partners to promote climate change adaptation in Haiti's cacao sector. In 2021-2022, the project [Climate](#)



[Adaptation and Economic Development of Agricultural Sectors in Haiti](#) increased awareness of the gender-differentiated impacts of climate change and promoted nature-based solutions. For instance, it set up training schools for farmers to teach more efficient nature-based methods, such as:

- mulching soil to conserve moisture
- crop rotation
- companion planting, which leads to better soil fertility management

This past year, 370 farmers improved their knowledge of environmental protection, climate resilience and good agricultural practices. Since the project began in 2019, the number of farmers who have implemented these climate-change adaptation practices has exceeded targets by 10%. This includes more than 1,200 women farmers.

Canada's support for the [Improving Bean Markets in Africa](#) initiative has improved bean productivity, nutrition and market linkages among men and women smallholder farmers in 31 countries across Africa. By March 2022, the project had directly linked 3.5 million farmers, half of whom were women, to small and medium-sized enterprises working in the bean value chain. This facilitated access to higher-iron beans for 16 million people, the majority of whom were women and children. The initiative provided climate information services to help bean producers make sound decisions about planting practices and consider new varieties and technologies. This increased their resilience to extreme climate events such as drought, flooding, frost and heat.



Addressing water pollution within the mining sector

Through the project [Improving the Environmental Management of Mining and Energy Activities in Peru](#), Canada continued to strengthen Peru's environmental impact assessment and environmental enforcement system. The project has been working with central and regional governments to improve the supervision and control of small-scale and artisanal mining activities. In 2021-2022, the project:

- trained 780 public servants on gender-inclusive environmental management
- educated more than 7,000 miners about the environmental risks associated with artisanal and small-scale mining
- trained 1,100 members of civil society organizations on the importance of including women in environmental governance and other initiatives

Increasing climate resilience in Pacific Island countries

The [Kiwa Initiative](#) aims to make Pacific Island ecosystems, economies and communities, especially Indigenous women, more resilient to the impacts of climate change. As of March 2022, it has achieved the following results:

- improving the capacities of more than 60 institutions, civil society organizations and ministries, to design and implement nature-based solutions projects
- launching 4 calls for nature-based solutions project ideas that generated 60 large regional projects and 177 small- to medium-sized local projects
- identifying 6 regional and 10 local projects, with an area of 20 hectares benefiting from a Kiwa Initiative-supported project on biodiversity conservation and restoration
- mobilizing a total of \$2.6 million in co-financing from other donors, and \$14.6 million from existing Kiwa Initiative donors to support additional projects



The 8 regional projects in the pipeline are worth \$44.83 million and will benefit 14 Pacific Island countries. Themes of the regional nature-based solutions projects include:

- biodiversity protection
- organic learning farms
- ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change
- invasive species management
- community-based fisheries management

Supporting climate change adaptation in developing countries

Through the project [Empowerment of Women for Climate Action in Honduras](#), implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Canada has helped women actively engage in climate action in the forestry industry. Since 2018, the project empowered more than 1,700 rural and Indigenous women and youth to improve conservation and sustainable management of the forest in Western Honduras. The end of the project target is 2,000 women and youth. By implementing action plans to reduce deforestation and degradation, and by developing policies for the sustainable use of natural resources, the project eliminated more than 30,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide. Another 46 tonnes of CO₂ were absorbed using fireplaces that consume less firewood, and 414 tonnes of carbon dioxide were absorbed by implementing climate-smart agriculture technologies and actions, such as zero burning practices. Overall, the project's reforestation activities have the potential to eventually absorb more than 27,000 tonnes of CO₂.

In 2021-2022, Canada continued to support the [International Model Forest Network](#) (IMFN), the world's largest network dedicated to sustainable landscape governance. This past year, the IMFN Secretariat at Natural Resources Canada-Canadian Forest Service joined together with 2 IMFN partners in Bolivia and Costa Rica to continue to deliver the project RESTAURacción: Wildfire Restoration in Latin America. The project aims to ensure women play a leadership role in restoring ecosystems following the devastating fires in the Amazon and promotes longer-term investments in sustainable land use. In 2021-2022, RESTAURacción supported 55 training workshops, courses and knowledge sessions to foster women's leadership and empowerment as well as environmental governance. These activities enhanced the technical and scientific research capacities of 600 people. In addition, the project gave participants accurate information on gender gaps and the consequences of these gaps, and identified potential solutions to reduce them.

Helping to prepare and respond to natural disasters around the world

Between 2016 and 2022, Canada provided \$10 million to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for the [Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems](#) initiative. These funds supported efforts to protect lives and property from natural disasters in Southeast Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific. For example, the project [Building Resilience to High-Impact Hydro-Meteorological Events Through Strengthening Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems in Small Island Developing States and Southeast Asia](#) enhanced resilience to high-impact weather and climate events. This was achieved through projects to:

- better predict severe weather in the Caribbean
- improve flash flood guidance in Fiji
- improve capacity for predicting coastal inundation in other South Pacific islands
- implement community-based early warning activities to prepare and respond to high-impact weather, water and climate events





*Niue Girls and Boys Brigade educates the public using customised sign boards on cyclone alert levels in their local language in partnership with Niue Met Service
Credits: © Niue Meteorological Service, 2021*

Catalyzing private sector investment in Asia to combat climate change

In Eastern Indonesia, the [Canadian Climate Fund for the Private Sector in Asia](#) contributed to a US \$40 million financing package to Vena Energy from the Asian Development Bank. Funding was provided to the Eastern Indonesia Renewable Energy Project (Phase 2) to develop and operate 4 solar power plants on Lombok Island. To build its local workforce, Vena offered training and certification in solar energy systems, and supported entrepreneurial training and business advice for a women-owned cassava chip business on the island. In addition, the project supported the business' certification to enable it to export its product to international markets.

Stories of change

Building resilience in Ghana and Kenya

The [Envisioning Resilience](#) initiative has amplified the voices of underrepresented women in adaptation-planning processes in Ghana and Kenya. This is thanks to a [Canada-funded partnership](#) between the [NAP Global Network](#) and [Lensational](#).

In 2021-2022, the initiative equipped 14 women with digital cameras and provided training on photography and storytelling. These sessions not only taught the women how to use their cameras, but also highlighted climate change issues. With this guidance, participants were able to develop visual stories that captured their communities' experiences with climate change.

The women then presented their photo stories to policymakers during policy dialogue workshops and photo exhibitions in Accra and Nairobi. This initiated in-depth exchanges between the women and decision makers. These discussions helped build a shared understanding of the effects of climate change on women's lives and the adaptation priorities of their communities.



“It paints a true picture and influences how policymakers should decide the actions, strategies and policies,” says Thomas Lerenten Lelekoiten, deputy director of Climate Change Adaptation, Climate Change Directorate, for Kenya’s Ministry of Environment and Forestry.

In addition, the photo stories highlighted the role women can play as agents of change in leading communities toward more resilient and prosperous futures.

“I’m a meteorologist by profession and there are so many other ways we can tell people to adapt to climate change—maybe changing crops, changing livelihoods,” explains Rose Lekalesoi, a meteorologist with Kenya’s Meteorological Department. “I’ve seen that the community itself can manage their own way of adapting to climate change. Our policy on climate change should start from the bottom up.”



The policy dialogues were a highlight of the Envisioning Resilience program. In Nairobi (as depicted), trainees and policy makers were able to connect over stories of resilience and discuss avenues for change. Credits: © Jojakes Kairu

Supporting a move to renewable energy in Jordan

The [Sustainable Energy and Economic Development](#) (SEED) project is working to promote sustainable and inclusive growth in Jordan. It was co-financed by Canada and the Jordan Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Fund and implemented by Cowater.

Ghada Qudah is the head of one of SEED’s partner community-based organizations in Ajloun, Jordan. According to her, the project has transformed the organization’s work to promote renewable energy and energy-efficient initiatives.

“It has not only increased our capacity in areas we never imagined we would be able to access, but it has assisted us in raising awareness about the work we do and the services we offer,” she explains. “We



have now become a hub for our local communities in terms of learning about and accessing energy efficiency practices.”

SEED’s support helped the local community apply solutions that lowered their electricity bills. These savings were reinvested in improving the livelihoods and well-being of people living in one of Jordan’s poorest communities. SEED helped break down gender-related barriers by demonstrating to the community that women could have a career in a technical field, such as energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Ghada says that the initiative has boosted her own confidence and professional practice.

“Because SEED’s approach to building our capacity was very meticulous and systematic, all of the information I was learning gave me a lot of confidence,” says Ghana. “Not only that, but SEED allowed me to network and meet a wide range of people as a result of my improved skills.”



*Ghada Qudah, head of a community-based organization in Ajloun, helps her community access and adopt energy-efficient solutions.
Credits: © Cowater International / SEED*

Learn more about this theme

- [Environment and climate action—FIAP](#)
- [Action Area Policy: Environment and Climate Action](#)
- [Climate Finance projects](#)
- [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#)
- [Paris Agreement](#)
- [Convention to Combat Desertification](#)
- [Convention on Biological Diversity](#)
- [Kunming-Montréal Global Biodiversity Framework](#)
- [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction](#)
- [G7 2030 Nature Compact](#)
- [Ocean Plastics Charter](#)
- [Global Forest Finance Pledge](#)
- [Green Climate Fund—Annual Results Report](#)
- [Global Environment Facility—Scorecard](#)
- [Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems \(CREWS\), World Meteorological Organization](#)





Credits: © Jurists Without Chains, Libya

Inclusive governance

Governance affects how power is exercised, how resources are allocated in society, and what political participation, public services and justice processes are available. In addition, it affects how countries manage complex challenges such as inequality, corruption, debt, migration and violence.

Canada’s approach to inclusive governance builds on the FIAP and reflects a longstanding commitment to democracy and gender equality. It focuses on 4 areas:

- promoting and protecting human rights
- providing equitable access to justice
- enabling participation in public life
- making public services work for everyone

Key commitments

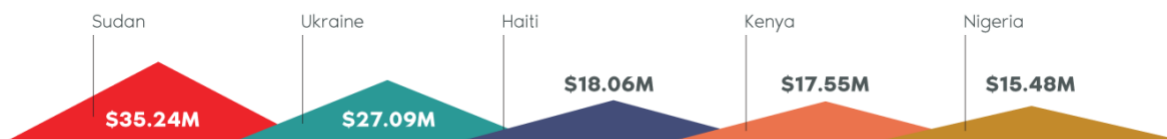
In 2021-2022, Canada invested more than \$438 million in inclusive governance initiatives, of which \$423 million was official developmental assistance.

This assistance focused on ensuring women and other marginalized groups, including 2SLGBTQI+ people, have a voice and are included in decisions about their communities and the policies that affect them.

In 2021-2022, Canada prioritized providing greater assistance to people with disabilities through its international assistance programming and advocacy in multilateral forums.

Results in focus

TOP 5 RECIPIENT COUNTRIES OF FEDERAL INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE



In 2021-2022, Canada, along with other multilateral and global partners, contributed to achieving the following results:

- providing more than 200,000 individuals (172,807 women; 36,508 men; and 5,633 individuals whose gender was not indicated) with enhanced capacity to advance human rights and reaching



an additional 3,400 women through Canada's long-term support to multilateral and global partners

- delivering enhanced justice or legal services to more than 20,000 individuals (7,772 women; 5,253 men; and 7,450 individuals whose gender was not indicated)
- providing more than 200,000 individuals (173,023 women; 26,626 men; and 31,533 individuals whose gender was not indicated) with improved awareness, knowledge and skills to promote women's participation and leadership in public life
- ensuring that more than 3,000 national, regional and local institutions have the capacity to enable inclusive, responsive and sustainable public service delivery

Key initiatives in the spotlight

Protecting and promoting human rights around the globe

In 2021-2022, Canada provided institutional support to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to help protect the human rights of citizens around the world. Canada's funding for the project [Strengthening the Rights of Indigenous and Other Discriminated Women in Guatemala](#) helped the OHCHR to accompany human rights cases through all stages: from trial observation to advocacy and reporting. It was also able to support dignified redress. For example, the project provided more than 300 Indigenous weavers and midwives in Guatemala with strategies to support the implementation of 3 Constitutional Court decisions. As a result of this support, the work of Indigenous midwives has been legally recognized and they now receive a state-funded stipend.

In Iraq, Canada is working with Heartland Alliance International to strengthen women's leadership and increase their ability to secure their economic rights, with the [Future Forward: The Iraqi Women's Leadership Initiative](#). In 2021-2022, the group's advocacy efforts contributed to the Supreme Judicial Council's adoption of recommendations to protect women from electoral violence and abuse. The project conducted workshops in Erbil and Baghdad on gender equality and sexual harassment exploitation and abuse policies and convinced 6 political parties to incorporate both policies in their by-laws. By approaching influential Yazidi and Shi'ite community and religious leaders to support women's rights, the project successfully encouraged 52 religious and civic leaders to make public statements in support of women's economic and political rights.

Canada's support to [Access Now](#) helped advance digital security protection for civil society actors and human-rights defenders around the world. This past year, the group provided support to more than 2,000 clients through its digital security helpline.

In 2019, Canada announced the LGBTQ2I International Assistance Program. It represents \$30 million in dedicated funding over 5 years, and \$10 million per year thereafter, to advance human rights and improve socio-economic outcomes for LGBTQ2I people in developing countries. In 2021-2022, the program supported 6 projects that helped support human rights for LGBTQ2I persons, reaching beneficiaries in 33 countries. Engaging Canadian and international stakeholders is critical to ensuring that the program is relevant and responds to the needs, realities and priorities of LGBTQ2I communities in what is a complex area of development practice. For this reason, the program includes a formal community of practice for Canadian and international partners to share knowledge and inform program delivery. Launched in May 2021 and co-chaired by the Dignity Network Canada, this community of practice offers a structured and systematic approach for engaging stakeholders. To date, 4 meetings have been held, involving approximately 30 Canadian and international members.



Increasing access to a functioning justice system

In Haiti, [Lawyers Without Borders Canada](#) is increasing access to justice and fighting corruption and impunity. With Canada's support through the [Access to Judicial Services in Haiti](#) project, the group has created a local law firm specializing in human rights litigation. It has helped bring about the release of 140 people who were detained arbitrarily. In 2021-2022, it provided legal aid to more than 1,100 people, half of whom were women. In addition, the firm submitted a petition to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights concerning crimes committed under the Duvalier regime. The [petition aims](#) (available in French only) to obtain recognition of the Haitian state's responsibility for the human rights violations committed under his dictatorship, a step that is important for victims who have never received justice.

In 2021-2022, Canada continued to work with the Justice Studies Center of the Americas to increase access to equitable and efficient civil justice in Latin America. Canada's support has resulted in 10 specialized training programs for more than 240 legal practitioners and decision makers. These programs covered issues such as:

- gender and justice
- judicial management
- trial by jury
- evidence
- judicial independence
- litigation

Building on the past five editions of the project (2016-2020), more than 180 legal practitioners and decision makers participated in 2021-2022 in a facilitated-dialogue on gender-sensitive civil justice reform and access to justice. In Peru, the project generated a change in civil proceedings by introducing oral hearings. Of Peru's 34 superior courts, 24 have implemented the oral procedures for civil cases in 2021-2022.

Enhancing participation in public life and elections

In Latin America and the Caribbean, Canada has partnered with the Department for Electoral Cooperation and Observation of the Organization of American States (OAS) to implement the [Canadian Electoral Support Program in Latin America and the Caribbean](#) project. In working together they are providing effective and inclusive electoral processes and reinforce oversight of civil society in electoral processes. In 2021-2022, the organization provided technical assistance to electoral management boards in Ecuador and Colombia to improve their electoral processes. In Ecuador, 87% of the board's officials who received training reported an increase in their capacity to administer elections. In addition, the organization provided training on disinformation and electoral observation to 150 civil society representatives and electoral officials across the Americas. This has increased their knowledge regarding strategies, tools and measures to combat disinformation in future elections.

Ensuring public services work for and benefit everyone

In Mongolia, Canada helped [improve the management of public services and resources](#) through outreach and engagement with national and sub-national governments, civil society organizations and the private sector. To do this, it organized training sessions, workshops and seminars on ethics, transparency and accountability across the country. To date, the project has provided roughly 400 businesses with information about the consequences of corruption in business. In addition, Canada supported the [Civil Service Council](#) in developing Mongolia's Public Service Gender Action Plan 2021-2023, which includes recommendations from the Mongolian civil service's first-ever survey on



sexual harassment in the workplace.

In 2021-2022, Canada's support to human rights defenders in Myanmar enabled them to better protect the rights of vulnerable groups and individuals. Canada provided support to media and independent researchers to foster spaces for inclusive dialogue and action. For example, with Canada's assistance through the [Strengthening Federalism and Inclusive Governance in Myanmar](#) project, the Forum of Federations trained over 1,100 decision makers and key actors on federalism and the democratic process, and how to support inclusive decision making at the local level.



Through its support to the [National Languages Equality Advancement](#) project in 2021-2022, Canada helped 74 government institutions in 5 provinces in Sri Lanka draft plans to provide government services in its 2 official languages, including in hospitals and police stations. Canada also assisted in the development and approval of the Official Languages Policy Implementation Strategy Framework, which incorporates a Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy that formally recognizes gender focal points in all of the language departments and institutions. In addition, Canada provided financial and technical support to 24 Sri Lankan civil society organizations to promote language rights and language training.

In 2021-2022, Canada's assistance to Ukraine helped bring about governance reform. It funded a national reform pilot program to train 4,200 government employees in the institutionalization and implementation of inclusive and citizen-oriented service approaches. Through the Supporting Ukraine Reform for Governance program, Canada supported a series of other initiatives such as improvements to correctional facilities, which involved upgrading sanitary conditions and increasing the number of psychological consultations for women inmates by 33%. The program developed a campaign to highlight the rights of children with disabilities to an inclusive education and the benefits of community-based services for these children.

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) provides assistance aimed at strengthening the tax capacity of recipient administrations. In 2021-2022, through [Tax Inspectors Without Borders](#), the CRA provided expert assistance in risk assessment, audit and transfer pricing techniques related to taxation of the forestry industry in Papua New Guinea and the mining industry in Guinea. By collaborating virtually to share best practices, the agency also helped strengthen public financial management and expand public sector funding in Benin.

Addressing discrimination and promoting inclusion in employment

In 2021-2022, Canada assisted partner countries in improving respect for international labour standards through the [Labour Program](#) of Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC). This past year, ESDC launched 6 new technical assistance projects through the International Labour Organization (ILO). For example, the ILO helped foster sustained compliance in Cambodia's travel goods and bag factories, a rapidly growing segment of the country's garment sector. The organization also strengthened the capacity of garment-sector unions in Indonesia to effectively organize and represent all workers and helped Jordan's garment sector create a more inclusive and fair working environment for workers and trade unionists. In addition, two projects supported Mexico's efforts to remove barriers and practices that prevented workers from exercising their rights to associate freely and bargain collectively in an effective manner.



Stories of change

Improving access to legal and psychosocial support services for women in refugee camps

Twenty-seven-year-old Layla (pseudonym) is a Yazidi woman from Shingal, Iraq, who fled her home when Daesh overran the region in 2014. For the past 8 years, she has lived in the Khanke Refugee camp but could not find work because she only has a primary school education.

Five years after her arrival at Khanke, Layla married a Yazidi man living in the camp. She hoped to start a family and create a better life for herself. But these dreams quickly soured when her husband became abusive and violent, leaving her pregnant, with no means to support herself or her child.

The Canada-funded [Future Forward: The Iraqi Women's Leadership Initiative](#) provides support to women in Khanke Camp, like Layla, through its local partner, People's Development Organization. The organization holds legal awareness-raising sessions and promotes legal and psychosocial support services through the camp's Women's Resource Centre.

Through this initiative, Layla became more aware of her rights, particularly her right to receive support payments from her child's father. The organization gave Layla the funds she needed to cover the court fees and a lawyer to file a case on her behalf, a case that she eventually won.

Layla now has access to essential maternal and reproductive health services, such as gynecological care and regular medical checkups through support payments from her husband.

In addition, Layla was given a micro-grant through the program that allowed her to open a small shop selling children's clothing and toys inside the Khanke Camp. As a result of all these supports and services, Layla has gained more independence and economic security and improved her mental health.



Layla stands in front of the children's clothes and toy shop she opened with a Canada-funded micro-grant.

Credits: © Heartland Alliance International



Amplifying the voice of Tunisian women in public policy

The [Program for Municipal Leadership Inclusive of Women in Tunisia](#) aims to increase the influence of Tunisian women and local women leaders in the management of public policy issues. The Canada-funded project has helped many women gain self-confidence, learn more about the needs of their municipality and develop diplomacy and leadership skills.

Nesrine Rezgui is a teacher who received training through the program to represent the municipality of Sidi Bourouis. She is secretary general of the Phénix Sidi Bourouis association.

“I used to have a really hard time expressing myself in public,” explains Nesrine. “I used to stammer and my mind would go blank. That was the most difficult thing for me: being in a group and having someone ask a question. But now it has changed. Now, I speak the way I want to. I’m more comfortable talking! I’m more ambitious, and when your ambition grows, you work more on your personality and you’re going to get better results. And that’s what I benefited most from.”



Nesrine Rezgui, a schoolteacher and up-and-coming leader, representing the municipality of Sidi Bourouis.

Credits: © PLMI, Federation of Canadian Municipalities

Providing justice for all in the West Bank

Canada provided funding to help build the [Hebron Courthouse in the West Bank](#), which was completed in 2022. Spanning over 16,000 square metres, the innovative and impressive structure was built as a model for future courthouse designs. It is now a bustling place of work for 359,000 residents of Hebron and its surroundings. It has also gone a long way to enhance access to inclusive justice services in the region. In 2021, the previous courthouse handled more than 50,000 cases. This workload is only expected to increase in the new building because of its efficiency.

Chief Judge Yasmin Jarad, head of Hebron Governorate courts—and the first woman in this position—says that the new courthouse is a big improvement over the previous one. “Everything changed when we moved to the new building, which provides a suitable environment for litigation, and preserves the dignity of litigants.”



Safety, gender equality and accessibility were key considerations in planning, designing and building the courthouse. Ensuring the privacy of women, girls and all courthouse users was a priority. The new building will improve the way in which sensitive cases are handled, including juvenile justice, domestic violence cases and gender-based violence cases.

In addition, the courthouse meets the highest international architectural standards. The state-of-the-art building uses photovoltaic solar panels, rainwater harvesting, building automation and digitalization. This allows for minimal energy consumption and maximum efficiency and quality of services.



*Justice in action at the Hebron Courthouse, West Bank.
Credits: © UNDP/PAPP*

Learn more about this theme

- [Action Area Policy: Inclusive Governance](#)
- [Canada announces new funds in support of LGBTQ2 rights](#)





Credits: © RCMP

Peace and security

Canada has a long legacy of directly supporting peace, security and stability around the world. Violent conflict leads to ongoing and complex security challenges for all nations. For many countries, these challenges—which range from transnational crime and terrorism to the trafficking of people, weapons and drugs—are overwhelming.

Building and sustaining peace and security in fragile and conflict-affected settings requires rapid and flexible interventions, as well as longer-term efforts to address the root causes of conflict. Canada works to establish and maintain peace and security, both for the safety of citizens and as a precondition for sustainable development and peace. This is achieved through programs such as:

- the [Peace and Stabilization Operations Program](#)
- programming from the Office of Human Rights, Freedoms and Inclusion
- the [Anti-Crime Capacity Building program](#) and the [Counter-Terrorism Capacity Building program](#)
- the [Weapons Threat Reduction program](#)

Protecting and promoting the rights of women and girls is critical to building a more peaceful, just and inclusive world. Canada’s support of the women, peace and security agenda ensures its assistance is directed toward initiatives that advance gender equality and inclusion in fragile and conflict-affected settings. This includes support for the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and for women’s rights organizations to participate in peace processes and conflict-prevention efforts.

Canada has shifted from managing and responding to crises to proactively preventing conflict and working to ensure that existing crisis intervention is more effective and inclusive. Ultimately, Canada’s goal is to save lives and avert the costs of violence. To do this, it focuses on:

- strengthening the multilateral system to more effectively prevent the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict
- supporting inclusive and gender-responsive violent conflict prevention, crisis response and sustainable peace in fragile and conflict-affected settings
- supporting gender-responsive reductions of security threats and reforms of security systems



Key commitments

In 2021-2022, Canada invested \$302 million in international assistance for peace and security initiatives, of which \$190 million was official developmental assistance.

Canada continued to support peace operations and peacebuilding through a range of efforts that included:



- deploying a Canadian civilian expert to help produce a new Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security that will integrate gender perspectives in all NATO activities
- supporting initiatives to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and inclusiveness of UN peace operations
- helping the [Elsie Initiative for Women in Peace Operations](#) identify and address barriers to the meaningful participation of uniformed women in UN peace operations
- strengthening the capacity of peacekeeping missions to protect children, with a focus on implementing the Vancouver Principles on Peacekeeping and the Prevention of the Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers
- strengthening multilateral institutions that play a critical role in preventing and resolving conflict, and building and sustaining peace

To support international arms-control efforts and to address issues related to the proliferation of weapons, Canada is:

- enhancing arms control and disarmament
- supporting a rules-based international system for non-proliferation
- finding ways to address threats posed by weapons of mass destruction

This includes strengthening the foundations of international arms control and disarmament by reinforcing the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

Results in focus



In 2021-2022, Canada, along with other multilateral and global partners, helped achieve the following results:

- supporting 120 civil society organizations, including 66 women's organizations, through funding to increase the participation of women in peace negotiations and conflict prevention efforts
- investing \$202.4 million in international assistance funds in international and national efforts to investigate and prosecute crimes committed in situations of violent conflict, including crimes involving sexual and gender-based violence



Key initiatives in the spotlight

Supporting peace and security in Ukraine

Prior to Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Canada was providing approximately \$10 million a year in programming to the country. This programming focused on several priorities, including reforms to the security sector, with a strong emphasis on advancing Ukraine's Women, Peace and Security National Action Plan. Following Russia's invasion, Canada adapted its programming to address the country's changing needs. It quickly developed new initiatives that enhanced Ukrainian resilience and resistance in the face of Russian aggression.

For example, Canada helped support the project Mobile Service Delivery for Conflict-Affected Populations in Eastern Ukraine. However, frequent bombings near the project's target areas severely impacted its results. In response to Russia's invasion, the project provided emergency assistance for internally displaced persons. This included specialized equipment for hospitals, and furniture, appliances and mattresses for communities across the country.

In addition, Canada provided protective equipment, such as respiratory masks and dosimeters, to Ukraine to help counter chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats following Russia's invasion in February 2022.

Supporting demining projects in conflict areas

Canada provided assistance to 2 projects to support demining efforts in Azerbaijan and Armenia: the [Technical Assistance for Azerbaijan's Humanitarian Mine Action Response in Nagorno Karabakh](#) and [Humanitarian Clearance of Explosive Ordnance on the Armenia-controlled territory of Nagorno-Karabakh](#). These projects are reducing the risk for civilians on both sides of the dividing line in the Nagorno-Karabakh region. Following the 2020 agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan to end that round of violent conflict, the projects have helped survey, remove and dispose of explosive remnants of war as well as provide education on the risks of mines.

This past year, Canada supported the project [Peacebuilding in Sri Lanka Through Mine Clearance](#), in partnership with the Mines Advisory Group. The project successfully cleared almost 112,000 square metres of landmines and remnants of war in northern Sri Lanka.

Protecting children in conflict regions around the world

In 2021-2022, Canada continued to work with the UN [Department of Peace Operations'](#) (DPO) child protection team to mainstream the Vancouver Principles on Peacekeeping and the Prevention of the Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers. With the help of Canada's \$2.2 million commitment, the DPO's child protection team is integrating the 17 principles into training and guidance for police, military and civilian peacekeepers around the world. This will help peacekeepers identify early warning signs of recruitment and use of children as soldiers so they can act earlier to prevent it. The project will provide tools to integrate child protection throughout peacekeeping mission planning and operations, and support research on ensuring their child protection work is gender-sensitive.



Strengthening airport security in North Africa

Canada's Counter-Terrorism Capacity Building Program supported the AIRCOP project in Morocco, Algeria and Egypt. The program was launched in partnership with the [UN Office on Drugs and Crime](#),



[INTERPOL](#) and the [World Customs Organization](#). It provided training and modern equipment to enhance the capacity to better identify and intercept weapons, illicit drugs and suspicious passengers, including foreign terrorist fighters through:

- airport security
- customs
- civil aviation
- police
- intelligence officers

In addition to improving inter-agency cooperation, the project increased airport security for all passengers travelling within and through North Africa.

Bolstering justice systems to enhance peace and security

In 2021-2022, Canada's [Anti-Crime Capacity Building Program](#), in partnership with Lawyers Without Borders Canada, provided specialized training to criminal justice officials and civil society actors in Central America. More than 3,500 justice and civil society actors from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras received training on international standards and best practices to fight against human trafficking and sexual exploitation. In addition, over 200 victims in 81 human trafficking and sexual exploitation cases received quality legal aid and judicial assistance services in Guatemala and Honduras. Of these cases, 20 resulted in criminal convictions.

Through the project [Supporting the Implementation of Jordan's National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 \(JONAP\)](#), Canada helped the Judicial Institute and Judicial Council integrate gender-sensitive communications into the national curriculum for the training of judges. In 2021-2022, the project provided specialized training on how to handle gender-based violence cases to:

- approximately 130 staff from the Public Security Directorate and the Ministry of Social Development, including police and social workers
- almost 400 judges, prosecutors and notaries

In addition, it helped increase the representation of women in the judiciary. In 2021, women judges in Jordan represented 28% of the sector, compared to just 19% in 2017.

Supporting other key initiatives to build peace and security

In Haiti, Canada's support in 2021-2022 for the [Supporting and Reinforcing the Establishment of the Haitian National Border Police](#) project enhanced the rights of vulnerable migrants and victims of crime, human rights abuses and trafficking by increasing access to protection mechanisms. In addition, funding from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) helped secure the Haitian and Dominican border by increasing cooperation between the two countries' border authorities.

In 2021-2022, Canada continued to lead efforts on the [Signature Initiative to Mitigate Biological Threats in Africa](#) from the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction. The initiative is being implemented in very close partnership with the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. It focuses on enhancing biosafety and biosecurity across the continent. In November 2021, Canada cohosted a high-level virtual meeting on engaging public representatives in biosecurity and pandemic preparedness. This conference included a commitment by Canada's Weapons Threat Reduction Program to provide an initial \$10 million to support the initiative.



Sharing Canadian expertise to create a safer and more secure world

In 2021-2022, the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and the [Canadian Police Arrangement](#) (CPA) provided key support to the Office of the United States Security Coordinator (USSC) through Op PROTEUS. The USSC was established in 2005 to support Israeli-Palestinian security coordination and international assistance for reform and capacity building in the Palestinian Authority security sector. Canada currently contributes 23 CAF personnel and 3 civilian police members to the USSC. In 2021-2022, Op PROTEUS' Task Force Jerusalem focused on enhancing the operational capabilities of the various Palestinian Authority security and emergency response forces. It focused on communications, logistics, policing and customs policing as well as their legal frameworks.

In 2021-2022, through the CPA, Canada continued to respond to the security needs of fragile and conflict-affected states to build a safer and more secure world. For instance, the RCMP rotated a total of 103 Canadian police officers through 11 international missions in 8 countries last year.

In 2021-2022, Canadian police officers in peace operations and missions supported efforts to prevent, address, investigate and prosecute sexual and gender-based violence. For example, Canadian officers deployed to the UN Integrated Office in Haiti provided mentorship and strategic advice to the Haitian National Police on gender mainstreaming and sexual and gender based violence services. The CPA, in partnership with the UN, Sweden and Tanzania, established a Specialized Police Team to combat sexual and gender-based violence among vulnerable populations in a holistic and comprehensive manner.

Stories of change

Helping women break free of violence in Jordan

In 2021, UN Women and the Jordanian Women's Union assisted survivors of gender-based violence across Jordan thanks to support from Canada, Finland, Norway, Spain and the United Kingdom. It was part of the [Jordanian National Action Plan for the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security](#).

Akaber is one of the many beneficiaries of the program. The Palestinian refugee and mother of 2 boys is also a survivor of domestic violence. She received legal, financial and psychosocial support from the Jordanian Women's Union. As a result, she was able to find a job, get full custody of her children, rent a house and start a new life.

"The first years of my marriage were peaceful. Then my husband started to drink and cheated on me. Despite that, I was still thinking that life with him was better than returning to my family. As he became more abusive toward me and our 2 sons, I started to fear for my life. I ran back to my parents' house, where I found no peace. My mother wanted to kick me out, my children turned to the streets and my ex-husband would storm in, threatening us," she explains.

Then, she was referred to the Jordanian Women's Union hotline. She thought things would never be better, but by reaching out she found the support she needed.

"I spent every day looking for work until I found a job as a custodian at a school. Being able to provide for myself and my children gave me—for the first time—a sense of freedom and independence," says Akaber.

The Jordanian Women's Union assigned Akaber a lawyer and helped her with psychological and financial support. This support helped her realize that change does not happen overnight, but that it is possible.



Akaber's message to all those who cannot see hope is that there is a solution. And any woman who faces violence like she did should ask for help. She says that the Jordanian Women's Union became her support system—and now she feels strong enough to overcome her fears.



*Akaber, 42, is a survivor of domestic violence who received legal and psychological services through the Jordanian Women's Union.
Credits: © UN Women / Tamara Abdin*

Learn more about this theme

- [Action Area Policy: Peace and Security](#)
- [Canada's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security](#)
- [Security capacity-building programs](#)
- [Peace and Stabilization Operations Program](#)
- [Global Affairs Canada YouTube Channel](#)
- [International Policing, Royal Canadian Mounted Police](#)





Credits: © OWSD

Moving forward: Partnerships and innovation

Canada is always searching for innovative approaches to deliver its international assistance program. To ensure Canada's funding provides value and has the intended impact, it is continuously strengthening its multi-stakeholder partnerships. By exploring new and better ways to invest in international assistance, and leveraging new and existing partners, Canada is committed to improving how it carries out its work. This will allow us to better meet the needs of the world's most vulnerable and help build an inclusive world that works for everyone.

Collaborating with Canada's partners

In 2021-2022, Canada fostered a variety of inclusive, innovative and effective partnerships through multilateral mechanisms and with Canadian, international and local organizations abroad. As this report clearly demonstrates, these partnerships play an integral role in providing the technical expertise, policy advice and guidance, logistical knowledge and awareness-raising necessary to support Canada's partner countries and to reach those most vulnerable.

By mobilizing contributions from across Canada, these partnerships allow for a whole-of-society approach to advancing the UN's SDGs, thereby strengthening Canada's contribution to global development, peace and prosperity. This year, Canada was once again able to quickly and effectively respond to the multiple crises facing the world thanks to the flexibility and adaptability of our partners.

In 2021-2022, Canada's IDRC responded to continuing challenges that threatened to halt or even reverse progress made in poverty reduction and gender equality in many parts of the world. By collaborating with partners from a range of sectors, the IDRC mobilized alliances to support gender-transformative research that tackled inequalities. This research reflects the lived experiences of women and girls and promotes sustainable solutions that reduce barriers for women. For instance, the IDRC invested in priorities such as:

- enhancing women's economic empowerment
- contributing to more inclusive governance
- closing the gender gap in science
- addressing gender inequality in health care access
- strengthening women's food security leadership

A core priority for the IDRC is working with partners such as local governments, NGOs and the private sector. The IDRC values research and findings from various actors to improve policy and practice.



Civil society

The [Policy for Civil Society Partnerships for International Assistance: A Feminist Approach](#) continues to guide Canada's engagement with all civil society organizations, whether national, international or local. These organizations have valuable and unique experiences that contribute to:

- achieving effective results
- fostering new ideas
- building local capacity
- engaging with Canadians as global citizens

Canadian civil society organizations

To expand its development reach and impact, Canada leveraged the expertise and networks of Canadian civil society partners. In 2021-2022, Canada provided more than \$907 million in funding to these partners and worked directly with about 200 civil society organizations.



These partnerships helped small and medium organizations (SMOs) in particular. For example, Canada provided support to 38 development projects through the initiative [Small and Medium Organizations for Impact and Innovation](#). It supported SMO testing and experimentation, in partnership with local organizations, that advanced gender equality in the Global South through the [Fund for Innovation and Transformation](#). The initiative also continued to improve the effectiveness of the work of Canadian SMOs through the [Spur Change program](#), where 74% of participating SMOs increased their capacity to provide inclusive, gender-responsive, sustainable and innovative programming.

Local civil society organizations abroad

In 2021-2022, Canada continued to engage with and support local civil society organizations, including through its network of missions and various forums, as well as through programs such as the [Equality Fund](#). This year, the [Canada Fund for Local Initiatives](#) supported 690 projects, with a total value of \$23.6 million in 124 countries, as well as in the Palestinian territories. Of these projects, 88% are being implemented by local organizations. Overall, Canada provided more than \$530 million to close to 1,300 international civil society organizations.

Learn more about this theme

- [Canada's Policy for Civil Society Partnerships for International Assistance: A Feminist Approach](#)
- [Digna](#)
- [Funding guidance](#)
- [Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation](#)
- [Inter-Council Network](#)
- [International Development Week](#)
- [International Youth Internship Program](#)
- [Spur Change](#)
- [Technical Assistance Partnership](#)



Multilateral engagement: Organizations, summits and forums

To advance its international assistance objectives, Canada leverages of a wide network of multilateral organizations, partnerships and forums. These are critical in advancing Canada's efforts to eradicate poverty and build a more peaceful, inclusive and prosperous world. Multilateral partners offer comparative advantage such as:

- expertise and on-the-ground presence
- convening power through their networks and stakeholders
- influence

This helps to amplify and expand the impact of Canada's international assistance programming.

UN funds and programs

In 2021-2022, Canada continued to promote and advance Canada's interests and values through multilateral organizations and strengthened the effectiveness of these institutions. Canada is a top-10 donor to UN funds and programs, such as UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and UN Women. Working with these international organizations, including actively engaging with the organizations' respective governance boards, helps ensure that Canada's assistance reaches the poorest and most vulnerable, thus contributing to achieving the SDGs. In 2021-2022, Canada contributed to consolidating the establishment of the Resident Coordinator system, which is responsible for coordinating the UN's collective efforts at the country level. This is leading to more effective, efficient and coherent system-level UN support to achieve the SDGs. Moreover, Canada provided institutional support for a number of UN agencies, including humanitarian, health and environmental institutions, for which Canada continues to be a top-10 donor.



Please consult Global Affairs Canada's summary of accomplishments for these [organizations](#).

Development Assistance Committee of the OECD

Canada is an active member of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD. The committee is a global forum made up of the largest governmental international assistance donors. It serves as a platform to set standards in development cooperation with the aim of improving the effectiveness of this cooperation. In 2021-2022, with the support of Canada and other members, the OECD-DAC reported for the first time on its new [Total Official Support for Sustainable Development standard](#). Other key accomplishments included:

- adopting a DAC declaration on aligning development efforts and climate change
- developing a work plan to foster support for nature-positive development
- publishing several guidance papers and reports for governments and civil society
- launching guidance on *Improving Development Impact in Small Island Developing States: Implementing Effectiveness Principles*, in partnership with the Alliance of Small Island States, Canada and the United Kingdom

This past year, the DAC adopted a new recommendation on enabling civil society in development cooperation and humanitarian assistance. In addition, the committee continued to play its stewardship role in collecting and publishing data on official developmental assistance.



Humanitarian partners

In 2021-2022, Canada provided close to \$380 million in international assistance to the [World Food Programme](#) (WFP). Canada was the fourth-largest bilateral donor to the program in 2021. This support helped the WFP and its implementing partners reach a record 128 million food insecure people around the world, which represented an increase of 11% from the previous year.



In addition, Canada provided close to \$155 million in funding to the [International Committee of the Red Cross](#) (ICRC). In 2021-2022, the organization's activities in ensuring protection, assistance and international humanitarian law compliance addressed pressing humanitarian needs in countries such as Haiti, Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Central African Republic, South Sudan and Ukraine.

Through the UNHCR, Canada's humanitarian assistance over the past year helped almost 95 million refugees in 135 countries and territories.

G7 and G20

Both the [G7](#) and the [G20](#) have traditionally served as platforms for Canada to advance its international assistance priorities. The United Kingdom held the G7 presidency in 2021, championing key issues such as:

- infrastructure investment
- gender equality
- girls' education
- famine prevention
- vaccine equity
- climate action

Canada helped advance these priorities by increasing access to COVID-19 vaccines, endorsing the Declaration on Girls' Education—which included 2 new global education targets—and agreeing to measures to fill gaps on funding for infrastructure investment. In 2022, under Germany's G7 Presidency, Canada and the rest of the G7 stood united as Russia began its war of aggression against Ukraine. This included providing critical financial, humanitarian and military assistance to Ukraine and coordinating sanctions against Russia.

In 2021-2022, Canada worked with like-minded partners in the G20 to advance gender equality and debt treatment for countries struggling with multiple shocks, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, inflation and tightening global monetary conditions. Through the G20, Canada helped launch the Joint Finance and Health Task Force to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness and response. Canada also used the G20 to hold Russia to account for the negative impacts of its war against Ukraine and signed onto the Matera Declaration on Food Security. As part of the G20, Canada agreed to redouble its efforts to support funding for sustainable development and advancing the SDGs by working with civil society and local authorities to address the specific needs of different geographic areas.



The Commonwealth and La Francophonie

As a top contributor to the [Commonwealth](#) and an active participant on its governance bodies, Canada works to ensure that their programming aligns with Canada's FIAP. In 2021-2022, Canada contributed to the 3 Commonwealth institutions:

- the Commonwealth Secretariat
- the Commonwealth of Learning
- the Commonwealth Foundation

This past year, Canada renewed its long-term institutional support to the Canada-based [Commonwealth of Learning](#) (COL), the only Commonwealth institution located outside of the United Kingdom. Canada's support to the organization of \$2.6 million a year contributes to the implementation of its strategic plan, including the [GIRLS Inspire](#) program. This program focuses on promoting gender equality and women's empowerment through skills development for livelihoods using open learning and digital resources.



In 2021-2022, GIRLS Inspire expanded its reach to 10 countries. The program also trained more than 10,000 women and girls in vocational skills, of which more than 3,100 were mentored and linked to financial resources, community services and employment opportunities. The COL also worked with governments in Belize, Guyana, Jamaica and Tonga to address the issue of boys' academic underperformance and high drop-out rates. It trained more than 700 teachers in Jamaica to mentor boys as part of a strategy to improve their academic achievement. Its Lifelong Learning for Farmers program trained more than 55,000 farmers in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean on table banking, banking procedures, and digital and financial literacy, in addition to facilitating access to agriculture-related learning resources.

Canada collaborated with a wide range of partners within the [International Organization of La Francophonie](#) (OIF) this past year. In 2021-2022, Canada continued to support the OIF to implement a refocused programming, for which the areas of intervention (peace, democracy and human rights; education and training; economy and digital transformation; sustainable development; gender equality) align with the key action areas of Canada's FIAP. Overall, the OIF's 25 signature projects reached over 2.3 million direct and indirect recipients. The OIF relies on more than 800 partners (institutional stakeholders, academic stakeholders and civil society organizations), to which it provides financial support to implement initiatives on the ground. These initiatives, which are primarily carried out in the Sub-Saharan Africa and Indian Ocean regions, significantly contributed in empowering Francophone women and youth. For example, the initiative [La Francophonie avec Elles](#) (available in French only), in 2021, supported 84 projects in 27 countries of the Francophonie countries. These projects helped women and girls access economic development, education and health, and protected them against all forms of violence. In 2021, this initiative received targeted support from Canada to benefit women in Lebanon.

International financial institutions

International financial institutions (IFIs)—which include the World Bank Group and its agencies, multilateral development banks, and the International Monetary Fund (IMF)—play a critical role in the global aid architecture. These institutions deliver financing at scale that supports work to achieve the SDGs. In this way, IFIs are key partners in promoting and advancing Canada's interests, priorities and values, including those identified in the FIAP.

More information on Canada's relationship with IFIs is available through the [Partnerships and Organizations webpage](#). Volume 2 of this report provides additional information on Canada's



participation in the World Bank Group, the IMF and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

In 2021-2022, multilateral development banks were key partners for Canada in delivering on climate action and demonstrated significant progress this year. As the world continues to grapple with the climate crisis, there is an urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This includes:

- taking emissions-intensive power plants offline
- accelerating the installation of clean energy infrastructure
- building resilience to climate change

Multilateral development banks are helping to mobilize much-needed capital to meet the collective commitment to provide US\$100 billion in climate finance.

Examples of the bank's achievements in 2021-2022 include:

- the African Development Bank helping to build 72 MW of renewable energy in 2021
- Asian Development Bank operations resulting in 1,600 MW of installed renewable energy capacity, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of 17.8 million tons of CO₂
- the World Bank Group delivering a record US\$31.7 billion for climate-related investments, representing 36% of total World Bank Group financing

Private sector

Canada recognizes the fundamental role that the private sector plays in driving innovation, productivity and inclusive economic growth. Inclusive partnerships with the private sector are also critical to achieving Canada's development priorities. Building on the release of its [Private Sector Engagement for Sustainable Development Strategy](#) in August 2021, Canada has encouraged private sector actors to engage in international assistance initiatives in new, more efficient and scalable ways. In particular, Canada is using new innovative financing tools to work directly with private and philanthropic investors. Development assistance funding is allocated in a targeted way to “de-risk” investment opportunities and to catalyze private investments in developing countries in areas of high development impact.

For example, Canada has committed some \$25 million in repayable contributions and \$6.8 million in technical assistance to the [UN Capital Development Fund](#) and [Bamboo Capital Partners](#). This funding will go toward SDG-aligned, small and medium-sized enterprises whose needs are not necessarily covered by microfinancing and traditional banking in the least-developed countries.

In addition, in 2021-2022, Canada's contribution to the [African Guarantee Fund's](#) initiative, Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa, helped established a collaboration with Melanin Kapital and ABSA Bank Kenya, which supported the [Tuungane-2X's Let's Unite to See Her Empowered program](#) in Kenya. With Canada's assistance, the African Guarantee Fund will provide capacity building to improve access to guaranteed credit for 300 start-ups. This will help to empower women and address key obstacles that female entrepreneurs face in growing their businesses.



This year, through the International Assistance Innovation Program, Canada partnered with [FinDev Canada](#) to create the 2X Facility. Its first investment was a US\$13 million Energy Entrepreneurs Growth Fund, which offers catalytic financing and technical assistance to early and growth-stage companies to improve access to clean, safe, dependable and affordable energy for off-grid households and businesses in sub-Saharan Africa. In particular, the fund is providing investments that are addressing the unique energy needs of African women, particularly women business owners. It also promotes inclusive



practices within its portfolio companies, which are positively impacting women's economic empowerment in the region.

Innovative development financing

In 2019, Canada launched 2 new innovative finance programs: the International Assistance Innovation Program and the Sovereign Loans Program. These programs are piloting the use of targeted investments through repayable funding in developing countries.

The aim of innovative development financing is to increase the overall level of SDG financing globally, while focusing scarce aid resources where they are needed most. It can help:

- build equitable markets
- create jobs
- support gender equality
- mobilize the expertise and innovative capacity of the private and public sectors

Along with [FinDev Canada](#), the new [International Assistance Innovation Program \(IAIP\)](#) is helping to accelerate private-sector development that contributes to achieving the SDGs in developing countries. Since private investors are often reluctant to invest in developing countries, Canada's international assistance can be strategically used to catalyze additional private funding for projects that have a high, positive impact on international development.

Through the IAIP, Canada committed \$164.7 million in concessional financing this past year to catalyze additional private funding and assistance for projects that support the SDGs. To date, the IAIP program has committed almost \$300 million through 6 repayable technical assistance initiatives. These initiatives support climate-smart agriculture and infrastructure, clean energy and financing for small and medium-sized enterprises.

In 2021-2022, the Sovereign Loans Program continued to assess potential loans with eligible middle-income countries but did not complete any negotiations.

Development innovation and experimentation

Innovation

Innovation in international assistance is a process, mindset and means to enable new locally driven solutions or improve existing ones. These can include:

- business models
- policy practices
- approaches
- partnerships
- technologies
- behavioural insights
- financing mechanisms
- ways of delivering products and services

Canada's approach to international assistance innovation is anchored in the [Whistler Principles to Accelerate Innovation for Development Impact](#). It aims to accelerate progress toward achieving the SDGs and is aligned with Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy.



Canada is an active member of the [International Development Innovation Alliance](#). The Alliance's advisory network of technical experts, thought leaders and entrepreneurs from the Global South help strengthen donor approaches to inclusive and locally led innovation that will have greater development impact. Through forums like the multi-stakeholder community of practice on innovation for development, Canada promotes data-driven approaches for assessing the progress and impact of programs with Canadian civil society organizations.

In 2021-2022, Canada provided funding to 55 new and diverse partners—including Canadian and international civil society organizations, multilateral organizations, and Canadian and international partners from the private sector. The goal of this funding was to support innovation in the delivery of international assistance. In addition, Canada supported the successful implementation of 28 innovations in 15 initiatives. This included key partnerships with organizations such as [Grand Challenges Canada](#) (GCC), which committed close to \$16 million to fund 56 health-related innovations in 33 countries.

For example, Canada's support to GCC helped South African medical device manufacturer Sinapi Biomedical Limited transition to the scale stage of development for its Ellavi Uterine Balloon Tamponade. This device was specifically designed to treat postpartum hemorrhage in low-resource health facilities. As of March 2022, the device had saved the lives of over 2,800 women and improved the lives of approximately 12,000 women in Sub-Saharan Africa. Canada's support also contributed to more than 160 potential innovations in other projects.

Experimentation

Experimentation, or testing and comparing, is a method to help verify that projects and services are achieving the best results, both for our partners and for Canadians. Rigorously testing an approach before it is rolled out on a larger scale increases the chance that it will achieve its intended results. In addition, experimentation can reduce risk and maximize impact.

Over the past 4 years, Canada has expanded its use of experimentation and is strengthening institutional and partner capacity to support experimentation. To this end, the department is striving to increase the level of awareness and knowledge of experimentation as well as the availability of expert advice for designing and implementing experiments. In 2021-2022, Canada continued to:

- gather data on experiments that are planned or under way
- integrate experimentation into departmental governance bodies and decision-making processes
- develop an internal experimentation community of practice
- dedicate human and financial resources to experimentation

