

**CANADA**  
**National Reporting to CSD-16/17**  
**Thematic Profile: Africa**

Canada's main interest in Africa is to help reverse the region's social and economic marginalization from the rest of the world. Canada allocates the bulk of its international assistance to Africa, where its focus is on helping to reduce poverty through sustainable development in collaboration with African, Canadian, and international partners. Canada's approach is rooted in the eight internationally recognized United Nations [Millennium Development Goals \(MDGs\)](#), and focuses where Canada has the best chance of making a difference.

The majority of Canada's contributions to Africa are channelled through the [Canadian International Development Agency \(CIDA\)](#) which, as Canada's lead agency for development assistance, is mandated to reduce poverty, promote human rights, and increase sustainable development in developing countries. The bulk of the remainder of Canada's international assistance to Africa is administered by the [Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade \(DFAIT\)](#) and the [Department of Finance Canada \(DFC\)](#), and through Canada's [International Development Research Centre \(IDRC\)](#), which works in close collaboration with African researchers in their search for the means to build healthier, more equitable, and more prosperous societies. Through other government departments, Canada also supports sustainable development in Africa in such areas as natural resources management, health, agriculture, and environment; details are provided within this report.

Canada's activities in support of sustainable development in Africa correspond with [Chapter 8 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation](#) of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development.

## Poverty reduction

[Poverty reduction through sustainable development](#) is the focus of Canada's development assistance to Africa.

### 1. Significant developments in strategies and policies

At the 2007 G8 Summit in Heiligendamm, Canada confirmed its commitment to double international aid to Africa from \$1.05 billion in 2003-2004 to \$2.1 billion in 2008-2009<sup>1</sup>. Canada is on track to meet this commitment. Canada also committed to continuing to work with G8 and African partners to make progress in fighting HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria; to build African capacity to address peace and security challenges; and to support African-led initiatives on economic development and governance reform.

Since February 2006, Canada has made the following Africa-specific commitments:

- \$450 million between 2006-2016 to support country-led efforts to [strengthen health systems](#) and improve health outcomes in Africa;
- an increase from \$100 million to \$150 million in annual funding for basic education in Africa by 2011;
- US\$200 million to support an [Advanced Market Commitments project](#) to develop a vaccine for pneumococcal disease;
- \$250 million to the [Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#), \$150 million of which is being focused on Africa; and

<sup>1</sup> All dollar figures in this report are in Canadian dollars, unless otherwise stated.

- \$45 million to the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#), \$22.5 million of which is to be focused on Africa.

Furthermore, in Sudan, Canadian humanitarian, peacebuilding, and peace support assistance aimed at bringing an end to the conflict has totaled more than \$393 million since 2004. Of this, \$238 million is in support to the African Union Peacekeeping Mission (AMIS) for helicopters and fuel, making Canada the fourth largest donor to AMIS.

In keeping with the [Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness](#), Canada works with other donor countries to harmonize and customize programs, based on developing-country priorities that use local institutions and systems for their implementation. [CIDA's Report on Plans and Priorities for 2007-2008](#) describes Canada's commitment to make international development efforts more focused, strategic, effective, and accountable. As such, CIDA – whose development assistance is channeled bilaterally, multilaterally, and through Canadian partners – has increasingly concentrated its bilateral assistance in a limited number of countries where the right conditions exist for sustainable development and where Canada's experience and expertise can add the most value. CIDA's priorities issues include democratic governance, health (including HIV/AIDS), basic education, private sector development, equality between women and men, and environmental sustainability. CIDA's work in Africa and elsewhere in the developing world is guided by a [series of policies and strategies](#) that includes [CIDA's Sustainable Development Strategy 2007-2009](#) as well as the [Canadian Environmental Assessment Act](#) and Canada's [Cabinet Directive on Strategic Environmental Assessment](#).

Canada was the first G8 country to establish a fund specifically to respond to the [New Partnership for Africa's Development \(NEPAD\)](#) and the corresponding priorities of the G8 Africa Action Plan. The \$500-million [Canada Fund for Africa \(CFA\)](#) supports large-scale programs that are regional in scope, complementing ongoing CIDA programming in Africa. Established in 2002 and administered by CIDA, the majority of CFA funds have been disbursed; a [report](#) of the Fund's accomplishments was released in 2006. While the CFA is nearing the end of its lifespan (extended to March 2008), some of the partnerships initiated within the 33 projects supported by the Fund will be continued through Canada's various multilateral, non-governmental, bilateral, and other government department partners. Lessons learned and results of all CFA projects and programs will be shared in a final report in 2008–2009.

Of Canada's global allocations through [IDRC](#), approximately one-third supports research and building the capacity of researchers and institutions on the African continent. The emphasis is on poverty reduction, climate change adaptation, women's rights, and building greater capacity for peace. IDRC maintains three African regional offices (Dakar, Nairobi, Cairo) that function as nerve centres for the Centre's operations in 45 countries of sub-Saharan Africa and 4 countries of North Africa. IDRC currently supports 334 projects directed and managed by African researchers and institutions, for a value of more than \$116.7 million, as well as a number of multiregional and global activities involving Africa.

## 2. Programs and policies effective in reducing rural poverty

All elements of Canada's development assistance contribute to improved livelihoods for people living in poverty in rural Africa. In addition to supporting social dimensions (education, health) and ensuring environmental sustainability, economic development is also a cornerstone of Canada's strategy to reduce poverty in developing countries, especially in rural areas. To this end, Canada supports increased sustainable agricultural production, growth in exports, greater access to credit, better nutrition, and equality between women and men in Africa. Together, these efforts correspond to MDG 1 ("eradicate extreme hunger and poverty").

Through IDRC's [Rural Poverty and Environment](#) research program, Canada seeks to enhance and sustain the food, water, and income security of the rural poor living in marginalized areas by strengthening their institutions, policies, and practices. Emphasis is on adaptive and social learning, decentralization, and participatory approaches and methodologies that augment the role of the poor in environmental governance. Crop-livestock integration and sustainable natural resources management in the **Sahel** are examples of such research. In **West Africa**, projects are documenting means for local communities to enhance the resilience of peasant economies to make them adaptable to the increasing globalization of markets.

Responding to the requests of African countries, CIDA likewise supports sustainable agriculture, rural entrepreneurship, and related efforts that contribute to food security and economic development and create opportunities for poor women and men. For example:

- CIDA is a major supporter of the [Productive Safety Net Program](#), a national social protection initiative in Ethiopia to move chronically food-insecure households toward greater food security by investing in household asset protection and the development of community environmental assets.
- Recognizing that strong microfinance networks empower rural communities, CIDA has for many years funded the microfinance sector in **West Africa**, in partnership with internationally recognized Canadian partners such as [Développement international Desjardins](#) and [Société de coopération pour le développement international](#).

In collaboration with the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, IDRC has also launched a [Climate Change Adaptation in Africa \(CCAA\)](#) research and capacity development program. This new initiative addresses the threat that climate change poses to the most vulnerable in Africa, including rural communities. CCAA funds a number of action-research projects to develop innovative strategies for mitigation and resilience to climate-induced challenges affecting smallholder farmers in Africa. For instance, the project [Enhancing adaptive capacity of local communities to pressures of climate change](#) is assessing the vulnerability of smallholder farming communities in **Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia** and **Zimbabwe** to the effects of climate change.

### 3. Empowerment of the poor, including women and indigenous people

Recognizing that empowerment of the poor is necessary for poverty reduction, Canada supports pro-poor and equitable economic growth, as discussed above. Canada likewise recognizes that sustainable development is premised on the equal empowerment of women and men, and disadvantaged groups such as indigenous populations.

**Empowerment of women and girls.** CIDA was among the first development organizations to champion the role of women as equal partners in their societies' development, recognizing that equality between women and men, girls and boys is essential to reducing poverty, promoting human rights, and increasing sustainable development. CIDA believes that lasting equality between women and men will only be achieved through a two-pronged approach of both integrated and specific programming approaches to gender equality. This approach supports MDG 3 ("promote gender equality and empower women").

CIDA integrates the principles of [equality between women and men](#) into all its programming. In 2005, CIDA released its [Framework for Assessing Gender Equality Results](#), making it one of the first donors to elaborate a framework to assess results for a cross-cutting theme. This Framework, which identifies priority areas through which programming at all levels can empower women and

men, has been piloted in a number of institutional settings (including within CIDA) and has guided CIDA and some of its partners toward more effective programming approaches.

Both CIDA and IDRC also support initiatives that directly promote equality between women and men. For example:

- In **Mali**, CIDA supports PROJES, a program to strengthen the capacity of government institutions and civil society organizations (CSOs) to promote programs and actions that foster greater equality and improve women's rights, access to reproductive health services, and women's involvement in decision-making processes and authorities.
- In **South Africa**, IDRC supports [African Gender Institute](#) training programs on socio-political aspects of sexual and gender relations, targeting African researchers working on citizenship, health, and education.
- In **Malawi** and **Zambia**, evidence from successful family planning programming over the 2000-2006 period, has shown an increase in contraceptive use and a decline in fertility.
- In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, CIDA supports a project to fight sexual violence primarily against women and girls, and also against men and boys, in two provinces seriously affected by conflict.
- In **East and West Africa**, IDRC monitors and evaluates the efficacy of specific gender equality mechanisms, comparing national programs to examine how participation by women in leadership roles and as active citizens contributes to improved justice.

**Empowerment of indigenous people.** African indigenous knowledge is generally not well applied in development initiatives. However, Canada actively supports and participates in intersessional work of the [UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues \(UNPFII\)](#), and has supported several Expert Group Meetings in partnership with the UNPFII – all of which have included equitable representation by African indigenous peoples.

Canada's departments of [Foreign Affairs and International Trade](#) and [Indian and Northern Affairs](#) work collaboratively with CIDA to ensure that best practices are shared in the context of the UNPFII. For example, the Government of Canada, in partnership with the five [Canadian national aboriginal organizations](#), has organized a number of indigenous connectivity side events at the UNPFII over the last five years, and championed the indigenous component of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). This work has ensured that the issue of indigenous connectivity has an international footprint, and resulted in the formulation of an indigenous WSIS Declaration and Plan of Action.

Canada has hosted representatives of the [Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee \(IPACC\)](#) for speaking engagements in Canada, and supported their participation in conferences. As a network of indigenous peoples' organizations in Africa, IPACC promotes the balanced, peaceful inclusion of indigenous peoples in African development dialogue.

Furthermore, in order to assist governments, industry, CSOs, and indigenous groups to work better with each other when traditional knowledge is central to the objective of sustainable development, CIDA has developed an international handbook on [Integrating Indigenous Knowledge in Project Planning and Implementation](#), in partnership with the World Bank and the International Labour Organization.

Key lessons learned from IDRC's [Peace, Conflict and Development](#) program are that traditional beliefs and processes are very important in reconciliation, and the role of women is pivotal for successful social reconstruction.

#### 4. Improving equitable access to education, health, and other basic services

***Equitable access to education.*** In keeping with MDG 2 (“achieve universal primary education”), Canada’s priority in education programming is to improve the quality of, access to, and equality in basic education, especially for the most vulnerable. Canada supports government reform efforts in this regard, with particular emphasis on girls’ education, HIV/AIDS education and impact mitigation, and education in countries in conflict, post-conflict, and emergency situations.

In 2005, Canada committed more than \$100 million annually in bilateral programming to basic education in Africa. In July 2006, Canada announced a \$25 million contribution for the [Education for All - Fast Track Initiative](#), in support of developing countries’ efforts to establish sound national education plans. Canada also committed to increasing the budget allocated to education in Africa to \$150 million annually by 2010-2011.

CIDA supports national programs in education in nine African countries, emphasizing access to education, quality of education, and institutional development in **Burkina Faso, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda**. This has helped over 9 million children, half of them girls, to attend school between 2000 and 2005. In Mozambique, textbooks were provided to more than 3.5 million schoolchildren. CIDA also has a long history of supporting the development and provision of gender-sensitive textbooks in Mali.

In addition, Canada contributes significantly to access to tertiary education in Africa through the use of innovative information and communication technologies (ICTs), as exemplified through the [Connectivity Africa](#) and [Acacia](#) initiatives, in association with some organizations such as the Commonwealth of Learning and African Virtual University.

***Equitable access to health.*** Canada recognizes that ensuring good health among Africans is key to enabling sustainable social, economic, and human development. Building on lessons learned and best practices in health and HIV/AIDS programming over many decades, Canada collaborates with key Canadian, international, and developing country partners in an effort to build African capacity to provide equitable access to quality health care.

Canada continues to focus its efforts in Africa on major, poverty-linked diseases. To make basic health care more accessible to the most vulnerable, CIDA is scaling up efforts to strengthen health systems in Africa. Recognizing the disproportionate burden of disease on women and girls and the role of gender inequality in the spread of disease, a focus on equality between women and men, girls and boys is also being explicitly and systematically integrated into all health and HIV/AIDS policies, programs, and projects.

Likewise, recognizing that inequities deepen poverty, hinder growth, and divide societies, IDRC’s [Governance, Equity, and Health](#) program works to ensure the equitable provision of health care services, especially to marginalized and underserved populations.

The August 2003 World Trade Organization (WTO) Decision on Access to Medicines waived certain international trade obligations thought to be barriers to developing and least-developed countries’ access to affordable drugs. In May 2005, Canada became one of the first countries to implement this decision through Canada’s Access to Medicines Regime (CAMR), which enables Canadian generic manufacturers to apply to the Commissioner of Patents for authorization to manufacture and export lower-priced versions of patented drugs to countries unable to manufacture their own. On July 19, 2007, Rwanda became the first country to provide a notification of its intention to import under the terms of the Decision, with a request to import 260,000 packs of the triple-combination HIV/AIDS therapy manufactured by the Canadian generic

company, Apotex Inc. ("Apotex"). In September 2007, Canada notified the WTO that it had authorized Apotex to manufacture and export to Rwanda, the requested drugs. Rwanda and Apotex still need to come to a supply agreement before any drugs will be exported.

## 5. Improving access to modern energy services, clean water, and sanitation

Canada is working to improve sustainable access to safe drinking water (MDG 7) and sanitation through a variety of initiatives. To date, Canada has provided assistance in the water and sanitation sector to over 26 African countries through bilateral, regional, and pan-African programs, totalling approximately \$200 million. Projects range from those that directly improve the provision of basic water supply and sanitation services to the poor to those that focus on improved water resource management and planning, including the equitable development and maintenance of reliable hydrogeological information to facilitate sound decision making. For example:

- The [Inhambane Rural Water Development](#) program is providing water and sanitation services to 260 communities in **Mozambique**.
- In southern **Mali**, Canada supports a rural water and sanitation project that has constructed 2,210 communal water points serving a total population of 250,000. Community-based management structures were established to operate and maintain these gravity-fed piped water systems.
- In **Ghana**, more than 1.6 million people in the driest and poorest northern regions have received reliable access to potable water because of CIDA's efforts over the past few decades. The [District Capacity Building Project](#), for instance, is strengthening local capacity to manage potable water and sanitation resources. Through its targeted outreach and participatory approaches, this project saw a significant increase in women's participation as leaders and stewards of water access and resource management services.
- Through the [Regional Water Demand Initiative](#), Canada and the [International Fund for Agricultural Development](#) are providing technical and financial support to improve water-use efficiency, equity, and sustainability in northern Africa. Applied research and pilot projects are underway in **Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia** to enhance incentives for treating wastewater, improving groundwater management, using economic instruments to promote water savings, and re-using greywater resources to lower the demand for fresh water.

In terms of energy, Canada, through [Natural Resources Canada](#), is introducing Canadian hydropower technology and expertise into energy-poor markets in **East Africa** through a targeted initiative in the tea industry. In keeping with the [Greening the Tea Industry](#) project led by the UN Environment Programme and the East African Tea Trade Association, the objective is to provide the region, particularly tea producers, with a clean, reliable energy supply. Both industry and individual households will directly benefit from reduced processing and operations costs resulting from a reliable, clean electricity supply.

## Addressing Health priorities

The Government of Canada – CIDA, IDRC, [Health Canada](#), the [Public Health Agency of Canada](#), and others – works in collaboration with key Canadian, international, and developing country institutions (governmental and non-governmental) to build country capacity, policies, programming initiatives, and relevant research that contributes to advancing health priorities in Africa. Together, Canada's efforts to address health priorities in Africa correspond with MDGs 4, 5, and 6.

Canada is currently revisiting how it works to support health from a human-rights perspective. The [Canadian Development Report 2006-2007](#) focuses on the right to health, why it is important to development, and how it might best be achieved.

As outlined in [CIDA's Agenda for Action on Global Health](#), Canada's key priority areas in the health sector include preventing and controlling high-burden, poverty-linked diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria, and HIV/AIDS; improving infant and child health; strengthening sexual and reproductive health, including maternal morbidity and mortality; strengthening health systems; and improving food security and nutrition.

IDRC, in addition to focussing on the nexus between health, equity, and governance, has also championed research on [Ecosystem Approaches to Human Health](#), which looks beyond conventional health practices and focuses on the place of human beings within their environment.

## 1. Health infrastructure improvements, urban and rural

Working with African governments and African, Canadian, and international partners, Canada is helping to strengthen health systems and improve access to high-quality basic health services in a number of African countries.

Multilaterally, Canada is a major contributor to such institutions as the [UN Children's Fund \(UNICEF\)](#), the [World Health Organization](#), the [UN Population Fund](#), and the [Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS](#), as well as international health partnerships such as the [Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#) and the [GAVI Alliance](#) (formerly the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation).

At the G8 Summit in July 2006, Canada's Prime Minister announced that Canada would provide \$450 million over ten years through the [African Health Systems Initiative \(AHSI\)](#). AHSI was developed to deepen CIDA's health sector engagement in a select number of African partner countries in support of African-led efforts to strengthen health systems and improve health outcomes. Particular efforts are being made through AHSI to support the mobilization and retention of frontline, appropriately trained and equipped African healthcare workers. As part of AHSI, in November 2007, Canada committed \$105 million to the [Catalytic Initiative to Save a Million Lives](#).

IDRC supports various health infrastructure improvements through its Governance, Equity, and Health program, including:

- public sector roll-out of antiretroviral therapy in **South Africa**;
- a project analysing the health systems of **Ghana, Tanzania, and South Africa** to identify their major equity challenges, particularly in relation to financing; and
- in concert with CIDA, the promotion of evidence-based planning at the community and primary healthcare levels in **Nigeria**, following the tradition of a programming approach initiated in Tanzania.

In West and Central Africa, IDRC support has also led to the creation of [Communities of Practice in Ecohealth](#), which create opportunities for African researchers to conduct fieldwork and share their results on simple solutions to communicable and non-communicable diseases. Ecohealth courses are now taught at the master's level in **Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, and Cameroon**. Work is ongoing to replicate communities of practice in **East and Southern Africa**.

## 2. Childhood vaccination programs and control of tuberculosis and other diseases

Canada has been a global leader in the efforts to reduce childhood death and disease, and to fight infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

Key examples of Canadian-supported efforts in child health and immunization include:

- In sub-Saharan Africa, Canada's leadership in supporting [measles vaccinations](#) helped save approximately 345,000 African children's lives from 1999 to 2005.
- Between 1999 and 2006, Canada contributed approximately \$160 million for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's efforts in Africa. GPEI is striving for worldwide eradication of polio by the end of 2008, through efforts such as a campaign to immunize 80 million children across sub-Saharan Africa. In Nigeria, which reports the highest incidence of polio in Africa, Canada has supported polio eradication since 2000.
- A decline in the mortality rate for children under 5 years of age is being recorded throughout Africa. There is strong agreement among experts that regular [Vitamin A supplementation](#) for children under 5 years of age has been a major contributor to this decline. For more than 10 years CIDA has been recognized as the leader in the field of Vitamin A supplementation working in close collaboration with, among others, the [Micronutrient Initiative](#), UNICEF, and [Helen Keller International](#).
- CIDA also supports the global effort to ensure universal [salt iodization](#). Recent CIDA funding of collaborative projects between the [UN World Food Programme](#) and the Micronutrient Initiative is ensuring that properly iodized salt produced in **Ghana, Senegal, and Sudan** reaches millions of people throughout the trading areas. These iodization programs quickly become self-supporting and will save millions from the mental disabilities caused by iodine deficiency.

Key results of Canadian-supported efforts to fight other diseases in Africa include:

- Canada has been a global leader in [tuberculosis treatment](#), playing an active role within the global [Stop TB Partnership](#). TB is a disease that disproportionately affects the poor and malnourished. Coordinated global efforts have resulted in doubling the number of people receiving the WHO-approved "[DOTS](#)"<sup>2</sup> treatment regime over the past four years.
- Over the last 30 years, CIDA has also committed more than \$25 million to international [efforts to fight river blindness](#) in Africa. Since 2002, Canada has ranked as one of the top five donors worldwide.

## 3. Effective measures in combating HIV/AIDS

Together with partners at all levels, including people living with HIV/AIDS, Canada works in four key areas for universal access to services for [HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support](#):

- advancing effective, [evidence-based](#)<sup>3</sup> HIV prevention, including linking HIV/AIDS with education and the development of new preventive technologies;
- promoting equality between women and men and women's and girls' empowerment to address the feminization of HIV/AIDS;
- strengthening health systems in developing countries to ensure equitable access to essential care, treatment, and support for all those who need it; and

<sup>2</sup> According to the World Health Organization, "DOTS" (directly observed treatment, short-course) is proven to be the most successful and cost-effective treatment strategy for curing tuberculosis.

<sup>3</sup> "Evidence-based" healthcare is that based on the best available findings from research and other knowledge that may serve as a useful basis for decision-making.

- promoting the rights of children and protecting those children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Over the past five years, Canada has contributed approximately \$740 million to the global response to HIV/AIDS, including:

- Approximately 58 percent of Canada's nearly \$530 million contribution to date to the GFATM is channelled for HIV/AIDS.
- In February 2007, Canada committed up to \$111 million to the [Canadian HIV Vaccine Initiative](#) to accelerate global HIV vaccine research and development efforts. This collaborative effort between Canada and the Gates Foundation will coordinate domestic and international efforts toward development of a safe, effective, affordable, and globally accessible HIV vaccine. This initiative complements Canada's existing funding to the [International AIDS Vaccine Initiative](#) and the WHO's [African AIDS Vaccine Program](#).
- CIDA was the largest donor to the WHO's 3 by 5 Initiative, which helped approximately one million more people in Africa and Asia gain access to drug therapy for HIV/AIDS between December 2003 and December 2005, an increase of approximately 200 percent.
- CIDA supports the [Southern African AIDS Trust](#), which has helped provide treatment to 340,000 children and 43,000 adults affected by HIV/AIDS and provided homecare services to 42,000 people living with HIV/AIDS.
- CIDA supports the [Men as Partners Network](#) in **South Africa**, which works with and educates men and boys on preventing HIV/AIDS transmission and protecting their partner(s) and their own sexual and reproductive health.

#### 4. Malaria prevention and treatment

Malaria kills more than a million people each year, the greatest proportion of whom are in sub-Saharan Africa. [Canada funds the free distribution of long-lasting, insecticide-treated bed net](#) to pregnant women and children in Africa. To date, Canada's support through the Red Cross and UNICEF for malaria prevention programs in Africa has delivered over 4.5 million bed nets. It is estimated that these will save over 125,000 lives.

Approximately 24 percent of Canada's nearly \$530 million contribution to date to the GFATM is channeled for malaria programs. As of June 2006, 30 million insecticide-treated mosquito nets had been distributed or re-treated by the GFATM; this number is expected to grow to more than 108 million nets within the next five years.

In order to ensure coordination with the GFATM and other national malaria control efforts, CIDA is part of the Malaria-Measles Partnership, which functions as a coordination mechanism for partners interested in supporting bed net scale-up and increasing child vaccination coverage. This has proved to be a highly successful model that saves money and increases coverage to the most poor.

### Governance of natural resources

Canada recognizes that the link between poverty reduction and effective natural resources management is stronger in Africa than almost any other region in the world, given the extremely high percentage of individuals relying directly on agriculture and natural resources for their livelihoods.

Under the right policies and conditions, including good governance, the natural resource sector can effectively contribute to sustainable development including poverty reduction. Canada is investing

considerable efforts and funding toward the sustainable management of natural resources in Africa. These efforts support MDG 7 (“ensure environmental sustainability”) and are focused primarily on water supply and sanitation, water resources management, land and forest management, combating desertification, and climate change adaptation. As well, a significant number of agriculture projects address these issues within the scope of their activities.

IDRC, through its [Environment and Natural Resource Management](#) program, is contributing to food and water security and improved health by encouraging the development of networks and knowledge-sharing on the sustainable community management of natural resources. Environment Canada provides assistance in natural resource management in Africa on environmental issues of importance, such as climate change, persistent organic pollutants, water monitoring, and ozone depletion. Natural Resources Canada is contributing to better governance of natural resources through improved geographical information systems and mining and minerals policy processes.

## 1. Strategies for the investment of natural resource revenues in sustainable development

A number of CIDA’s natural resource management programs integrate strategies for investing revenues in sustainable development. In **Cameroon**, for example, CIDA is supporting a Forest and Environment Sector Program through a basket fund co-managed by GTZ-IS (German Technical Cooperation - International Services) and Cameroon’s Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF). The fund is used to provide technical assistance and training to help the MINFOF effectively manage its forest and wildlife resources.

Other initiatives have led to commitments by African governments to increase revenues for the sustainable management of natural resources. The Canada Fund for Africa, for example, has provided \$10 million to the [Partnership for Africa’s Water Development](#) program, administered by the [Global Water Partnership](#). This program is assisting five countries to develop integrated water resources management (IWRM) plans and to include water issues in poverty reduction strategies. In **Malawi**, for instance, the government has included IWRM as a priority in its National Growth and Development Strategy and has increased its budget for the water sector by 25 percent. In **Senegal**, the draft IWRM action plan is being discussed at district level, prior to being validated at the national level. **Mali** and **Kenya** have also increased their national water budgets, and the Government of **Zambia** has committed to work with the [Zambia Water Partnership](#) to meet the MDG 7 target of halving, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation services.

## 2. New initiatives to improve transparency in revenue management and allocation

To help improve transparency in revenue management and allocation in Africa, Canada contributed an initial \$750,000 to the [Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative \(EITI\)](#) Multi-Donor Trust Fund and added an additional \$100,000 annual funding to provide technical support. The EITI is working to improve governance in resource-rich developing countries by supporting publication and verification of company payments and use of revenues by governments.

Canada, through NRCan, is also a strong supporter of the African Mining Partnership (AMP), which will contribute to increased transparency and improved governance in the management of Africa’s natural resources. AMP is an African initiative championing and coordinating mining and mineral-related initiatives under the auspices of NEPAD.

Canada also has played a key role in supporting the [Kimberley Process Certification Scheme](#) for rough diamonds, which has demonstrated significant progress in curbing their illicit trade.

3. Capacity building of local governments/communities to manage resources effectively, including measures to strengthen participatory decision-making

Canada is playing a strategic role in helping to build the capacity of African governments and communities to manage natural resources. Experience has shown that participatory decision-making is a key component of successful initiatives. For example:

- In Cotonou, **Benin**, CIDA is contributing to the development of a healthier urban environment through the implementation of a [solid waste management project](#). Highly participatory, with outstanding engagement of grassroots organizations and women, the initiative includes an innovative recycling and organic composting component that provides vital input to urban foodgrowing operations. Project results include healthier living environments, income-generation opportunities, and improved food security.
- CIDA contributed to the development of **Senegal's** national [Forest Rehabilitation and Rural Restructuring](#) project to reduce atmospheric greenhouse gas concentration through afforestation, reforestation, and sustainable land management, while increasing engagement of civil society on these issues. This is the first CIDA-funded initiative to lay the groundwork for a West African country to enter into the carbon market through the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism.
- For the last decade, IDRC has fostered the evolution of the [Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa](#) and the [West and Central Africa Council for Agricultural Research and Development](#). These regional networks are now widely recognized by international organizations and national governments as prime movers behind increased collaboration among national organizations, and a critical force for the inclusion of natural resources management in development planning and research. Eight [case studies](#) of IDRC's work on environmental governance in Africa are available online.
- In **Southern Africa**, CIDA has provided support through the [World Agroforestry Centre](#) for the dissemination of appropriate technologies to more than 400,000 farmers in the region. The project now focuses on getting more farm families to adopt agroforestry innovations.
- In North Africa, Canada is working in collaboration with the Government of **Tunisia** to develop [GÉONAT](#), a national geospatial framework. Canada has contributed \$4.5 million to this initiative, which has advanced Tunisia as an African leader in developing, delivering, and using online geographic information as an economic and social governance tool to sustainably manage its territory.
- Through its membership in the [World Meteorological Organization](#), Environment Canada has been working in the Nile River basin with a focus on water monitoring for **Egypt**, and training in Hydro-Acoustic methods for stream flow monitoring. It has been involved in water monitoring, interjurisdictional water management and capacity strengthening for the Zambezi River basin, along with several water related projects for the **Southern African Development Region**.
- Canada has been helping African partners to develop the capacity to meet their international environmental commitments to multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) such as the [UN Convention to Combat Desertification](#), [UN Convention on Biological Diversity](#), [UN Framework Convention on Climate Change](#), and [Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants](#). Between 2000 and 2006, for instance, CIDA provided \$110 million to the [Canada Climate Change Development Fund](#) to promote activities addressing climate change in developing countries. Canada also supports MEA implementation these through the [Global Environment Facility](#), the [Multilateral Fund for the Montréal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer](#), the [UN GEMS/Water Programme](#), and the

Canada POPs Fund, which funds, for example, the [African Stockpiles Program](#) to clean up obsolete pesticides.

## **Means of implementation (Capacity-building, Education, Finance, Science & Technology)**

Canada supports innovative research and capacity-building initiatives, channeling of international assistance, and international policy dialogue as a means of strengthening sustainable development in Africa.

### **1. Improvements in domestic resource mobilization**

Canada has aligned its development assistance to provide more effective and efficient support to African countries. The Canada Fund for Africa was established in 2002 specifically to support priorities set out by Africans in NEPAD. In 2005, CIDA concentrated its efforts in Africa on a series of core, long-term development partners where Canada believes it can build on existing strong relationships and program support. Canada has also maintained ongoing support to Africa through international and multilateral initiatives, as well as partnerships with [Canadian civil society and private-sector organizations](#).

Canada was the first donor country to establish a [Pan-Africa Program](#), recognizing the need to work regionally to effectively address certain challenges (e.g., HIV/AIDS, desertification) and to remove obstacles to reducing poverty and establishing peace and security in Africa. Directly supporting pan-African organizations that want to develop their organizational structures and capabilities is also in keeping with CIDA's support for the movement toward greater African-owned and African-led development.

### **2. Improvements in access to international capital markets, foreign direct investment**

Canada has opened its markets to imports from the world's poorest countries, which has helped give African exports a more level playing field. In 2003, for example, Canada announced duty-free and quota-free access to virtually all imports from the 48 countries that the UN has termed "least-developed countries," 34 of which are in Africa. Meanwhile, ongoing debt-relief assistance has freed up resources for African countries to spend on their priorities.

Canada is also working with developing countries to facilitate broader participation in the [World Trade Organization \(WTO\)](#), in addition to working with international partners through the WTO to help create a fair global trading system for all countries. Specifically, Canada is committed to achieving an ambitious outcome for the WTO's Doha Development Round, to assist developing countries in better integrating into the multilateral trading system, contributing significantly to reducing poverty. Canada supports effective special and differential treatment for developing countries, the provision of trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building, and greater institutional and policy coherence between international institutions supporting trade.

So far in 2007, Canada has committed close to \$50 million for trade-related technical assistance and capacity building in Africa. Specifically, Canada contributes to capacity-building and technical assistance programs being coordinated through the WTO, regional development banks, and multilateral organizations, including the World Bank, so that developing countries may benefit from trade liberalization. For example, Canada has supported the following trade and investment initiatives that improve Africa's access to global markets:

The Canada Investment Fund for Africa (CIFA) is a joint public–private sector fund designed to provide risk capital for private investments in Africa that generate growth. CIFA is fully operational with a total subscribed capital of US\$211 million, \$100 million of which was contributed by CFA and the remainder raised from private sector partners. As of June 2007, the Fund had invested over US\$90 million in 14 projects in the mining, oil and gas, paper, manufacturing, consumer products, and financial services sectors. CIFA has also invested US\$5 million in small- and medium-sized enterprises through two specialized private equity funds. These investments will lead to job creation, increased income, and improved local community infrastructure and services in **Burkina Faso, Egypt, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, and Tunisia**. The implementation of CIFA is consistent with the principles of corporate social responsibility, including respect for human rights (safe labour practices, no harmful child labour, respect for the protection of the environment).

Canada's Trade Facilitation Office, together with the International Trade Centre, supports the Program for building African Capacity for Trade. This \$8 million program provided training and technical assistance to increase competitiveness and promote trade opportunities for small- and medium-sized businesses, with a specific component aimed to strengthen and increase opportunities for African women entrepreneurs. Participating countries have included **Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, Senegal, South Africa, and Tanzania**.

In September 2007, Canada pledged an additional \$19.2 million over five years to the Enhanced Integrated Framework to assist least-developed countries to integrate into, and benefit from, the multilateral trading system.

Together, these initiatives support MDG 8 (“develop a global partnership for development”).

### 3. Enhanced effectiveness in management and use of official development assistance

Since 2002, Canada has been shifting its development assistance away from more traditional, stand-alone projects, to comprehensive *program-based approaches* (PBAs). PBAs include four key elements: leadership by the host country or organization; a single program and budget framework; donor coordination and harmonization of procedures; and efforts to increase the use of local procedures over time with regard to program design and implementation, financial management, and monitoring and evaluation.

As such, CIDA’s bilateral programming in Africa has shifted toward increased funding through PBAs to allow greater ownership over the management and prioritization of funds by the African partner government or organization. There has been an increasing use of the various funding modalities, including direct budgetary support (general or sector) to African governments, and pooled funding with other donors to provide support to a sector strategic plan of a recipient government or organization. In 2006-2007, 59 percent of CIDA’s bilateral funding to Africa was disbursed through PBAs, compared to 41 percent the previous year. Of this, 22 percent went through budget support (general or sector), 26 percent through pooled funds, and 11 percent through other PBAs.

Such approaches enable greater donor harmonization and reduce the levels of reporting required by recipient governments in line with the principles of harmonization and donor cooperation set out in the *Paris Declaration*.

#### 4. Strengthening agricultural, other research centres, institutions, and capabilities

Canada supports the strengthening of various agricultural and other research institutions in Africa. For example, IDRC has helped the [Institute of Traditional Medicine \(ITM\)](#) in Tanzania engage in commercialization of their products to generate sustainable income and involve other partners.

Canada has helped strengthen a number of African agricultural institutions, including:

- \$40 million to support the [Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research](#), a worldwide network of 15 research centers, to foster cutting-edge research to reduce hunger and poverty, improve nutrition and health, and protect the environment in Africa. The [International Institute of Tropical Agriculture](#), for instance, is carrying out research on environmentally friendly herbicides and the use of legume smother crops to help control the *Striga* weeds that threaten maize productivity.
- \$30 million in start-up funding for the establishment of [Biosciences eastern and central Africa \(BecA\)](#). BecA provides a focal point for the African scientific community to address agriculture-, health-, and environment-related problems of the highest priority for alleviating poverty, and by promoting development by helping resource-poor farmers (especially women) secure assets, improve their productivity, and income, and increase their market opportunities. A second component of the project provides funding to the NEPAD Secretariat to support the establishment of three other regional networks of centres of excellence in **North Africa** (NABNet), **West Africa** (WABNet), and **Southern Africa** (SANBio).

Canada likewise fosters stronger institutional coordination at the regional and continental levels, in line with NEPAD's [Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme](#). For example:

- The [Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa](#), with initial CIDA funding of \$3 million and subsequent funding of \$2.5 million, has become a continent-wide forum of stakeholders in agricultural research and development. FARA aims to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of agricultural research in order to contribute to agricultural development, economic growth, and the sustainable use of natural resources.
- The [Pan-Africa Bean Research Alliance](#) and the [Quality Protein Maize Development Project](#) in **Eastern and Central Africa**, both funded by CIDA, are intended to improve seed varieties, qualities, and production and distribution, based on producer and marketer demand. These programs involve private companies and several thousand farmers in trials, demonstrations, and seed production.

Likewise, IDRC's [Climate Change Adaptation in Africa](#) program is helping to strengthen the capacity of African researchers, development agents, and policy makers to manage natural resources and safeguard livelihoods in the face of changing global climate. For example, the project *Managing climate risks for agriculture and water resources development in **South Africa*** is working to develop the capacity of South African and regional institutions to better integrate information about climate change and climate variability into water resources policy, planning, and management for the Western Cape area, South Africa's most valuable agricultural producing region.

#### 5. Building institutions to support conformity with international health, sanitary, and other product standards

Canada provided \$400,000 in 2007 to the [Standards and Trade Development Facility](#), a global program set up to help African and other developing countries improve their expertise and capacity

to analyze and implement international standards on food safety and animal and plant health, and thus gain and maintain market access. Canada's funding builds on a similar contribution in 2005.

## 6. Improvements in scientific and technical information, education and skills training

**Scientific and technical information.** Canada has long contributed to building research capacity on the African continent. Starting with conventional assistance to universities and established research systems such as CGIAR, IDRC has evolved newer models utilizing networks, developing field-specific disciplines (e.g., ecohealth), and strengthening institutional capacity. For instance, the creation of the [African Economic Research Consortium](#) and support for its approaches to enriching research capacity in economics, provided a model for similar programs in other subject areas. By pooling its resources with partners, IDRC expands the research funds available to African researchers.

Canada is also a leader in the innovative use of [information and communication technologies](#) (ICTs). IDRC has fostered innovations that are affordable, easily expanded, and self-sustaining. Through the *Connectivity Africa* and *Acacia* initiatives, for example, IDRC and CIDA support the use of ICTs to improve livelihoods, enhance social service delivery, and empower citizens. *Acacia*, for instance, has spearheaded telecentres, as well as other technologies and approaches, that promote the affordable and effective use of ICTs by marginalized communities, such as women. Likewise Canada has supported the establishment of [Enablis Entrepreneurial Network](#) in **South Africa** with \$10 million in CFA funding. This public-private partnership has so far provided access to ICTs to over 300 small entrepreneurs, thus helping to strengthen their business skills and enable their growth and access to financing.

IDRC's recently inaugurated [Innovation, Policy and Science](#) program has helped fund NEPAD efforts to promote greater adoption of science and technology agendas by African governments, including the promotion of Centres of Excellence and continued core support for the [African Technology Policy Studies](#) program.

**Education and skills training.** Capacity development is central to much of Canada's support to Africa. For example:

- Canada's \$5 million CFA contribution to the [African Trade Policy Centre](#) is helping African countries represent their interests in negotiating trade agreements, integrate trade into national economic policies, and promote trade both within Africa and with the rest of the world. The Centre is described in a case study submitted to the CSD.
- Canada provides support to increase the capacity of African countries, through activities listed elsewhere in this report, to implement multilateral environmental agreements such as the UN Conventions on [Climate Change](#) and to [Combat Desertification](#).
- For the past decade, Canada has provided support to the [Centre for Environmental Studies and Research](#) (*Centre d'Étude et de Recherche en Environnement*, or CÉRE), a post-graduate environment institute dedicated to sustainable development in **Guinea** and the sub-region. Due to the quality of its teaching, research programs and services, CÉRE has become a highly regarded reference centre for environmental assessment that is recognized for its professionalism, staff, and networks.
- Young Canadians and Africans are learning how environmental initiatives can contribute to poverty reduction and gaining the skills they need to participate in the sustainable development of their communities, through the CFA's [youth exchange program](#). To date, 980 youth, two thirds of whom are African, have participated in the program; 579 participants have completed community development work placements and 389 have received bursaries.

## NEPAD and other frameworks of cooperation

Africa is at the centre of Canada's cooperation agenda. As discussed throughout this report, Canada has taken a leadership role in responding to NEPAD and the corresponding G8 Africa Action Plan through the \$500-million [Canada Fund for Africa](#). CFA initiatives are large-scale regional programs that complement ongoing CIDA programming in Africa.

### 1. Impacts on strengthening national governance and capacity building

Building the capacity to strengthen governance is a central feature of NEPAD. Canada has responded by working with African and Canadian partners to develop a comprehensive [governance initiative](#) targeting parliamentary, local, and public sector institutions toward stronger and more transparent democracies that are better equipped to meet African needs. Contributions include:

- \$28 million for the [African Public Sector Capacity Building Program](#), through which public servants have been receiving training and technical assistance in economic policy analysis, financial management and accountability, and public service management in collaboration with the [Africa Capacity Building Foundation](#);
- \$9 million for the [Africa-Canada Parliamentary Strengthening Program](#), which has been working with [Canada's Parliamentary Centre](#) to train and build the capacity of African parliamentarians and their staff in poverty reduction, equality between women and men, and fighting corruption;
- \$6 million for the [Federation of Canadian Municipalities](#) to support the [African Local Governance Program](#), which is aimed at strengthening local government within the context of decentralization in **Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, and Tanzania**. This involves providing training in legal reform and equality between women and men, and fostering community participation and greater government commitment and accountability;
- \$2.5 million for the [NEPAD Outreach Fund](#), to support African initiatives to inform and involve Africans in the NEPAD process; and
- Being the first donor to provide funding to support the [African Peer Review Mechanism](#), an integral part of NEPAD that supports peer assessment by African countries to improve political, economic, and corporate governance.

Canada also plays a lead role in responding to the eight priorities outlined in NEPAD through the G8 Africa Action Plan, including improved water resources management. A pivotal part of Canada's position is to encourage the development of African leadership and capacity in addressing the continent's substantial water and sanitation challenges. Canadian support through the CFA thus emphasizes the strengthening of African institutions with a mandate for water and sanitation and led by the [African Ministers' Council on Water](#), such as the African Development Bank and the [African Water Facility](#).

### 2. Regional cooperation initiatives (including regional trade agreements, cross-border infrastructure development)

Canada is increasingly supporting African regional initiatives to support equitable sustainable development. In doing so, Canada also works to foster synergies between the organizations it supports. Examples include:

- The [Nile Basin Initiative \(NBI\)](#), which supports African countries in establishing and strengthening transboundary initiatives that will enable the optimal, long-term use and management of shared water resources.

- The CFA-supported [NEPAD Infrastructure Project Preparation Facility](#) assists African countries, regional economic communities, and related institutions to prepare high quality, viable regional infrastructure project proposals in energy, transport, information and communications technologies, and water.
- CIDA's support for the [Sahara and Sahel Observatory](#) has contributed to strengthening a partnership framework for combating desertification at the regional level.
- In **West Africa**, Canada supports the [Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel](#), which is the most important regional organization in sub-Saharan Africa for desertification.
- Also in **West Africa**, CIDA supports a regional integration program to strengthen the management capacity of organizations in the [Economic Community of West African States](#).
- Canada is contributing toward the implementation of an early warning system for epidemiological surveillance within the health departments in each of five West African countries (**Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali, and Niger**).

Canada's experiences with regional cooperation initiatives are informing the development of a coherent regional and sub-regional programming framework that will strengthen Canada's role in regional integration in Africa. Lessons learned include the need to provide institutional support and strengthen the capacity of African organizations while harmonizing donor practices and approaches in recognition of the varying absorptive capacities of African organizations.

## Natural disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery

Growing international attention is paid to the importance of natural disaster risk reduction (DRR). The Government of Canada views DRR as an integral component of poverty reduction and sustainable development. As such, Canada supports regional, hemispheric, and international efforts to mainstream DRR into development programs, raise public awareness of risk, build the disaster preparedness and response capacity of various levels of government, and promote the sharing and development of technical expertise, lessons learned, and best practices.

At the international level, Canada supports entities such as the secretariat for the [UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction](#), the [International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies](#), the [UN Development Programme](#), and the [UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination System](#) to strengthen DRR and disaster management capacity in their work at the global, regional, and local levels. In addition, Canada played an active role in negotiating the [Hyogo Framework for Action \(2005-2015\): Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters](#), which outlines key commitments by the international community in the field of DRR.

In Africa, Canada both responds to natural disasters and promotes and supports the initiatives of countries to mainstream natural DRR considerations into long-term development policies and programming. African countries that regularly experience drought and flooding, for example, receive support in integrating drought mitigation measures, establishing food security strategies, and putting in place action plans and early-warning systems to combat desertification. Regional organizations have likewise been created and supported to help deal with these issues.

Further, and as appropriate, Canada will work with countries prone to natural hazards to incorporate an all-hazards approach to risk reduction in their national poverty plans, a precondition for effective mainstreaming of DRR considerations in country-led development programming. In **Ethiopia**, for example, Canada contributed \$5 million over five years (2003–2008) to help the Ethiopian government's Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission and related agencies

develop the capacity to prevent, prepare for, and mitigate the effects of food-related disasters through disaster management coordination, early warning, and linking relief to development.

Canada is also working to increase the capacity of African communities, governments, organizations, and regions to deal with future climatic changes by, for example, encouraging countries to include climate change adaptation needs into their national poverty reduction strategies.