

parts of the developing world, pledging to more than triple investments in the sector to \$300 million by 2006. In Africa, Canada has provided humanitarian aid to relieve famine and is supporting efforts by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) to enhance agricultural productivity.

With support from Canada, one of CGIAR's research institutes, the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, is helping farmers in four African countries adopt a new high-protein variety of maize. "This has the potential to increase nutrition, improve health and contribute to the food security of farming families in East Africa," says Doug Tanner, a Canadian agronomist who heads the center's Ethiopian office. "The increased protein quality may also strengthen immune systems and help people with HIV to better withstand related illnesses."

Water is abundant in Africa, but is poorly distributed. More than 300 million people do not have access to safe water and sanitation services, while close to half of the population suffers from water-related diseases. Canada is providing \$50 million to improve water management through groups such as the Global Water Partnership, the African Water Facility, the African Development Bank and UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation Trust Fund.

### Governance and trade

One of NEPAD's key priorities is to strengthen the capacity of Africa's public institutions, from improving transparency and participation in government to attracting investment. In fact, Africans are increasingly committed to improving the way in which their government, volunteer and private sector institutions are run.

understands something that the rest of the world doesn't. Well, not yet anyway. The idea is interdependence. We're tied to each other, whether we like it or not.

I'd like history to record that a vast and unusual cast of characters got together to say, "enough of this madness." And not just rock stars and activists, but church people, soccer moms... People who don't even like each other are going to have to work with each other, because this is that big, and it's that serious.

This is our moment in the history books. Our age will be remembered for only about three things, I promise you: the Internet, the war against terror and how we stood around with watering cans as a whole continent, Africa, burst into flames—or not.

For a full transcript of Bono's speech visit the *Canada World View* Web site at [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada-magazine](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada-magazine).



photo: CIDA-ACDI/David Barbour

With support from Canada, farmers in four African countries are adopting a new high-protein variety of maize.

Canada is supporting the African Capacity Building Foundation to help individual African countries improve public-sector policy. The pan-African foundation, based in Harare, Zimbabwe, focuses on areas such as financial accountability, economic policy and public participation in governance.

Canada has provided funds to help the African Development Bank finance infrastructure improvements to help countries attract more public and private investment, with projects in such sectors as transport, energy, water, sanitation and information and communications technologies. Canada is supporting initiatives by the United Nations International Trade Centre in Geneva and the Trade Facilitation Office to enhance African exporters' capacity to be more effective and ready to trade. Canada is also establishing the \$100-million Canada Investment Fund for Africa to promote private-sector investment on the continent (see page 19).

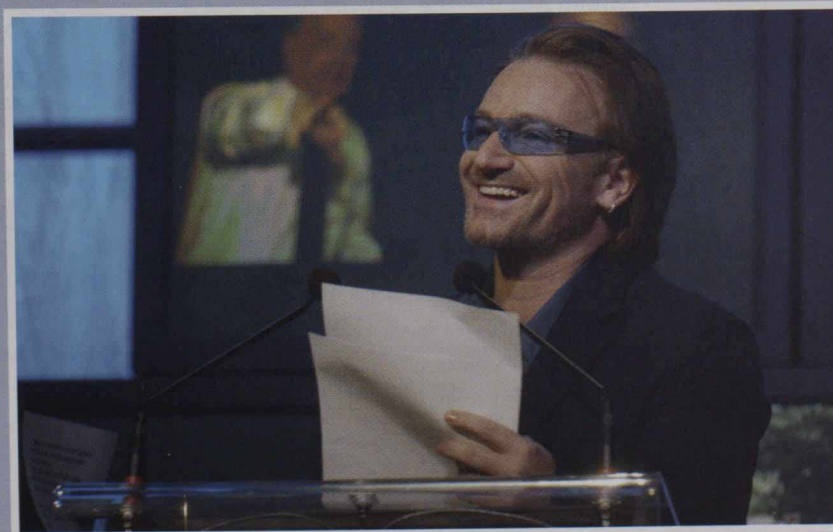


photo: Dave Chan, PMO