

ENVIRONMENT CANADA

\$52.61 MILLION

In 2012–2013, Environment Canada provided a total of \$52.61 million in official development assistance²⁵ through three types of activities: i) support for multilateral environmental organizations; ii) climate change actions in developing countries supported by Canada's fast-start financing; and iii) bilateral technical cooperation and capacity-building with developing countries.

Environment Canada recognizes that international cooperation on environmental issues is of growing importance, and that environmental sustainability is an essential element for global economic and social well-being. For developing countries that must depend on ecosystem goods and services for their livelihood, environmental changes caused by overexploitation of natural resources and degradation of the environment directly harm their most vulnerable populations. However, efforts to preserve and improve the environment in developing countries lead to enhanced fulfilment of basic needs, improved living standards, and a safer, more prosperous future.

i) SUPPORT FOR MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Environment Canada provides support to various multilateral organizations to assist developing countries in improving environmental conditions and, therefore, improving the livelihoods of vulnerable populations in these countries. Environment Canada provides annual support to the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, which works to ensure that the phase-out of ozone-depleting substances does not adversely affect the economies of developing countries. Environment Canada also provided funds for Canada's annual core contribution to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Based in Kenya, an important part of the UNEP's work focuses on environmental issues facing developing countries. Environment Canada provided financial support to specific purpose funds managed by UNEP, specifically: the UNEP Global Environment Monitoring System Water

Programme, the primary source for global water quality data; and the trust fund supporting the negotiations process to prepare a global, legally binding instrument on mercury.

Support to other multilateral organizations included funding to the International Maritime Organization to support training workshops for developing countries on compliance with the London Protocol, and to the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research to support research and training in the Americas. Finally, Environment Canada also provides Canada's annual contribution to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), as well as voluntary contributions to WMO-managed trust funds, which support developing countries in strengthening their national meteorological and hydrological services.

ii) CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIONS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SUPPORTED BY CANADA'S FAST-START FINANCING

As a constructive and active party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Canada has significantly scaled up its climate change related support to accelerate global progress and effective action by all countries. Over the past three fiscal years (2010–2011 to 2012–2013), Canada has fully delivered on its commitment to provide its fair share of fast-start financing. Over the fast-start period, \$1.2 billion in new and additional climate change financing has been issued. With approximately \$400 million in each of the three years, Canada's support primarily focuses on three broad areas: adaptation by the poorest and most vulnerable countries; clean energy; and forests and agriculture.

In 2012–2013, Environment Canada itself provided \$45.69 million to support a variety of projects in each of these three areas. In the adaptation sector, for example, Environment Canada provided support to the World Meteorological Organization for projects aimed at enhancing the availability of weather services via modem for vulnerable countries. In the area of clean energy, Canada provided funding for the start-up of the Climate Technology Centre and Network, which will provide tailored advice and technical assistance to developing countries to support the

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