

In 2015, Canada supported five regional development banks that provide financial and technical assistance for development: the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Inter-American Development Bank. Canada's contributions to these banks helped build or upgrade 10,000 kilometres of roads, provide a supply of clean water to 166,000 households, and improve sanitation services for over three million people in developing countries.

In Africa, 441,270 hectares of land were improved through replanting and reforestation, benefitting 9.6 million people, (4.1 million are women), with these improvements in agriculture. This contributed to greater food security and more sustainable economic growth across the continent. Investments by the African Development Bank also provided or improved electricity connections for over 10.8 million people. In March 2016, the Minister for International Development signed a memorandum of understanding with USAID to increase access to energy for those in need in sub-Saharan Africa. This memorandum of understanding will help the Government of Canada coordinate its engagement in Africa around the G7 goal of supporting the generation of 10 gigawatts of new renewable energy by 2020 and 300 gigawatts by 2030.

In the Caribbean, 30,609 people, (half of whom were women), benefited from safer, more rapid transit due to the construction or upgrading of 91 kilometres of roads. Reduced transit times make a difference particularly in the lives of women and girls who typically have more complex commuting patterns due to their family responsibilities.

In the Americas, 161,836 megawatt hours of renewable energy were produced in 2015 and 121,663 tons of carbon dioxide emissions were prevented through the Canadian Climate Fund for the Private Sector in the Americas and the Inter-American Development Bank Group.

Each year, Canada provides technical assistance to improve the tax administrations of developing countries, as a key member of international and regional tax organizations. The Canada Revenue Agency hosts study visits, responds to requests for information, and provides on-the-ground technical expertise to many developing countries. In 2015-2016, beneficiaries of this support included Bangladesh, Chile, China, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Tunisia, Turkey and South Africa.

Through the Canada-Americas Business Environment Reform project, Canada helped improve the business environment in the Latin America and Caribbean region and simplify the tax regime for micro, small and medium enterprises. Since its start in 2012, the project has improved the regulatory frameworks and processes for doing business through 24 reforms in nine countries, including four reforms that were completed in 2015-2016. The project is expected to benefit 860,000 firms in Colombia, almost 60,000 in Peru and more than 10,000 in the Caribbean.

In 2015-2016, Canada continued to support the International Monetary Fund's technical assistance to the National Bank of Ukraine. This assistance will help the bank manage upheaval in its banking system, improve regulation and supervision, and reform its monetary and exchange rate policy framework and operations. This has helped the Government of Ukraine implement the financial sector component of its \$17.5 billion International Monetary Fund Program. It has also helped Ukraine restore macroeconomic stability (achieving six percent GDP growth in the last quarter of 2015), strengthen economic governance and transparency, and progress toward balanced economic growth following the political and economic crises of 2014.

The Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) provided training through the World Intellectual Property Office, on the delivery of intellectual property services to 12 senior officials from Mexico, Cuba, Brazil, Vietnam, Indonesia, Bangladesh, South Africa, Ghana, Mozambique, Tunisia, Egypt and Romania. CIPO also provided research and examination reports for patent applications to Madagascar and Djibouti.

## GROWING BUSINESSES

The private sector is an important force for sustainable economic growth. Developing countries with healthy private sectors typically have higher levels of growth and poverty reduction. In 2015-2016, Canada



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