



Global Affairs Canada from now on commits 15 percent of its bilateral international development assistance, across all action areas, to implementing initiatives dedicated to advancing gender equality and improving women and girls' quality of life.

In the context of this action area, this includes initiatives that enable the fight against sexual and gender-based violence, that support women's organizations promoting women's rights, that enhance the institutional capacity of the public sector to address gender equality and that build the evidence-base for gender equality action.



Canada will help address **sexual and gender-based violence**, one of the most pervasive and egregious human rights violations, through our advocacy and investments. Broader approaches are needed because preventing sexual

and gender-based violence, supporting survivors and bringing perpetrators to justice involves a wide range of sectors, including health care, justice and policing, education, social protection, and economic development. For example, when women are more financially secure, they are better able to leave violent relationships.

It is essential that men and boys be engaged in this effort. To that end, Canada will—among other interventions—support the development of gender-responsive curricula in schools, work to address and transform harmful behaviours that can have negative consequences for all genders (such as sexual risk-taking, substance abuse and violence) and implement programming to better support fathers so that they gain the skills and confidence needed to care for their children—boys and girls—on an equal basis with their partners.