

- public and private sector management;
- decentralisation and support for local governance;
- civil society organisations¹¹; and
- governance in special circumstances.

It is UNDP's expectation that support for these will achieve the development objectives of eliminating poverty, creating jobs and sustaining livelihoods, protecting and regenerating the environment, and promoting the advancement of women. Governance programs have been implemented at the country, regional and global levels.

21. The Government of Canada's approach combines governance with concern for human rights and democracy. It emphasizes the key role that civil society organizations can play in articulating popular concerns and participating in policy making. Canada expects governments to respect the rights of citizens and govern in an honest, effective and accountable manner and adopt the elements of a formal democracy such as the process of holding elections, upholding the rule of law and having decision makers who are prepared to exercise political will and leadership.
22. CIDA¹², as the main agency responsible for Canada's development assistance programs, seeks to achieve these objectives by strengthening,
- the role and capacity of the civil society to increase popular participation in developing countries;
 - democratic institutions to develop and sustain responsible government;
 - the competence of the public sector to promote the effective, honest and accountable exercise of power;
 - the capacity of organizations that protect and promote human rights to enhance each society's ability to address these concerns; and
 - the will of leaders to respect the rights of its citizens and govern democratically and effectively.

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Civil society consists of individuals and groups, both organised or unorganised, who interact in the social, political and economic domains and are regulated by formal and informal rules and laws. Civil society organisations are the multitude of associations around which the society voluntarily organises itself and represent a wide range of interests and ties.

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Government of Canada Policy for CIDA on Human Rights, Democratization and Good Governance, CIDA, April 1996.