

In support of report recommendations, Health Canada has been working with community organizations to develop a youth awareness campaign about HIV/AIDS and sexual health. A parent education and awareness component will complement this youth-oriented awareness program.

CMEC has also been working to develop indicators to improve the capacity of school systems to monitor health education outcomes, as well as the social environment of schools. Some of the data from this study on the HIV/AIDS prevention program in Canadian education and public health systems will be useful to monitor future progress.

Canadian International Development Agency

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will support a number of new education programs in the Americas. Among these is a \$5 million (2001-2005) project designed to improve basic education in Peru's Piura Department. The project will help students at primary levels of selected rural areas to complete the school year at a normal age and with the basic required competencies.

In 1999, CIDA's Haiti Program developed a policy framework for education that details Canada's guiding principles, priorities and strategies for program delivery in Haiti. Support for primary school management, teacher training and skills upgrading at the primary school level has been designed as the main aspect of planned interventions.

In 1998-1999, CIDA contributed more than \$1.2 million on a responsive basis to projects aimed at developing basic education standards. For example, CIDA provided \$700 000 in funding to the Canadian Centre for International Studies and Cooperation for a project that promotes basic education — including reading, writing, math and science — in Bolivia, Peru and Guatemala.

Establish or strengthen national or sub-national and, where applicable, subregional systems to evaluate the quality of education, which permit assessment of the performance of various educational actors, innovations and factors associated with achievements in learning. To that end, information and national or sub-national or, where applicable, subregional indicators will be made available that can be used to design, carry out and evaluate quality-improvement programs based on equity. Standards for reading and writing, mathematics and science shall receive special attention. Also, where appropriate, criteria and methodologies for collecting data that permit comparison of some educational indicators across countries in the Hemisphere shall be established.

Council of Ministers of Education, Canada

CMEC has undertaken several programs to evaluate education. Human Resources Development Canada supports a number of these initiatives as they help to ensure that Canadians have the knowledge and skills required to compete in the global economy. These include the School Achievement Indicators Program (SAIP); the Accessibility and Research component of the Public Expectations of Post-Secondary Education Project and the Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program. These projects support the strengthening of accountability and building of Canadian expertise in the development of education outcome indicators.