

in 1971-72, 12.5 per cent in 1972-73, 13 per cent in 1973-74, and 17 per cent last year. On the other hand, the share of funds allocated to developing countries with a relatively high GNP (and we are talking relativities -- \$375 *per capita* or more) fell from 17 per cent to 12 per cent.

There is no doubt that Canadian assistance is going where it is most needed; and I can assure the Committee that the new CIDA strategy for the years 1975 to 1980 will emphasize still further, rather than reverse, this basic orientation.

I turn now to CIDA's current policies. Canada has traditionally opted for direct government-to-government (bilateral) programs as the mainstay of its development-assistance efforts, in its desire both to make available to developing countries the special expertise and knowledge Canada has built up over many decades in dealing with a considerable number of problems similar to those that confront developing countries and to retain a distinct Canadian identity with the project or program being supported. In the fiscal year 1975-76, the bilateral-aid program will account for \$570.5 million, or 61 per cent of the total official aid program.

The Government announced in 1970 its intention of increasing the proportion of aid channelled through multilateral institutions to "about 25 per cent" of the total program. This was a recognition of both Canada's lack of direct expertise in certain crucial areas, our support of the invaluable role in development co-operation played by many international institutions, and our wish to multiply the impact of aid expenditures by helping to influence multilateral institutions into following paths we considered to be desirable. In the coming fiscal year, the multilateral share of disbursements will amount to 32 per cent (\$302.4 million) of the total program.

To increase overall flexibility and innovation, Canada has developed two further channels for development co-operation: CIDA's special programs, in particular the Non-Governmental Organizations Program, and the International Development Research Centre. The non-governmental organizations constitute an invaluable complement to the Government's official efforts in providing a people-to-people contact, and in mobilizing support for development objectives that would otherwise find no outlet. Similarly, the IDRC helps fill a vacuum in promoting research and development capabilities in developing countries and in adapting such capabilities to the individual circumstances of particular countries. CIDA's annual grant to the Centre has been considerably increased, from \$19 million in 1974-75 to \$27 million during the