

Between DFAIT and CIDA there are a number of policies, strategies, plans and initiatives. (Initiatives are also undertaken independently by the non-profit and business sectors.). There is however, evidence of little policy coordination within the government in relation to Africa. To a large extent, CIDA is by default a primary policy driver of the agenda for action in Africa within the Canadian government. CIDA's policy role vis-à-vis Africa can be partly explained through its international development and ODA focus, where Africa's social and economic conditions, make her a continent primed for such programs.

Finally, there is no single source of information or repository of policies and strategies relating to Africa. The research component of this paper required speaking to both CIDA and DFAIT individually, as well as liaising with several staff in each section of government. Most staff had knowledge limited to their area and had difficulty providing comprehensive information for the countries of Africa they are responsible for.

The G8 Africa Action Plan presents an extraordinary opportunity for new policy development and coordination within the various government bodies.