

## HUMAN DIGNITY



Canada works to protect and preserve the human dignity of the poorest and most vulnerable populations. Among these groups are people who lack access to essential services or face the devastating effects of conflict and natural disasters. Canada's international assistance investments can help to ensure better access to good health care and nutrition, high-quality education and timely humanitarian assistance. These contributions include ongoing efforts to fight infectious diseases such as polio, AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. They also include efforts to empower children and young adults with skills that provide the foundation for lifelong learning.

## HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Global Affairs Canada supports health and nutrition programming for the poorest and most vulnerable, in partnership with developing country governments, multilateral organizations and non-governmental partners. Initiatives supported by Global Affairs Canada aim to:

- reduce maternal mortality;
- end preventable deaths in newborns and children under the age of five;
- fight the spread and emergence of infectious diseases;
- increase access to nutritious foods and micronutrient supplements (with a particular emphasis on women, adolescents, children and newborns); and
- close gaps and increase access to sexual and reproductive health and rights.

These initiatives work to strengthen local capacity to deliver effective health care and services. They also strive to reinforce policy, planning and decision-making capabilities. This could be done by supporting the collection and use of disaggregated data on health and health service utilization, for example.

In 2016-2017, Canada made several important funding commitments and contributions to address health challenges in developing countries.

On March 8, 2017, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and International Development and La Francophonie Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau announced \$650 million in funding over three years for sexual and reproductive health and rights. Canada's support will focus on providing comprehensive sexuality education, strengthening reproductive health services, and investing in family planning and contraceptives.

This funding will help prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence, including child, early and forced marriage, and female genital mutilation and cutting. The funding will also support the right to choose safe and legal abortions, and to receive post-abortion care.

On September 16 and 17, 2016, Canada brought global health leaders together in Montreal for the Fifth Replenishment Conference for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Under Canada's leadership, the Replenishment Conference mobilized nearly US\$12.9 billion to support programs that focus on prevention, treatment, care and the strengthening of health systems. At the conference, Prime Minister Trudeau announced \$804 million over three years for the Global Fund.

In 2016, Canada contributed \$216 million to the Global Fund. Since 2002, the Global Fund has helped save over 20 million lives. This was achieved by placing 9.2 million people on antiretroviral treatment, detecting and treating 15.1 million tuberculosis cases and distributing 659 million bed nets.

In 2016, Global Affairs Canada, through the World Health Organization, provided more than 2.5 million treatments for diarrhea, pneumonia and malaria to children under the age of five in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger and Nigeria. Canada is contributing \$75 million between 2011 and 2018 to the World Health Organization's Rapid Access Expansion Programme. The aim is to increase access to curative interventions for remote, vulnerable populations. This will be done using networks of community health workers to screen, diagnose and treat the leading killers of under-five child mortality in sub-Saharan Africa.