



Canada upholds human dignity in regions of the world where the poorest and most vulnerable populations have little or no access to essential services and where some populations have to deal with the devastating impact of armed conflict

or natural catastrophe. Development initiatives and emergency humanitarian assistance provide health care, including sexual and reproductive care, as well as drinking water, nutritious food and quality education.

### 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



## Health and nutrition

Significant progress has been made in increasing life expectancy and in reducing infant and child mortality

rates and the number of malnourished children in developing countries.<sup>22</sup> The incidence of many infectious diseases has declined, thanks to better sanitation, better nutrition, drugs and vaccines.<sup>23</sup>

Not all parts of the world have witnessed this progress, however. While some countries have made impressive gains in health and nutrition, others have fallen behind or are at risk of slipping backwards, particularly those facing high levels of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, the destabilizing effects of climate change, economic hardship or conflict.

In many countries, a mix of discriminatory laws and policies, coupled with inadequate services and harmful cultural practices, limits the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls. The result is often a lack of comprehensive sexuality education and family planning services; restricted access to contraception and safe abortion; child, early and forced marriage; and female genital mutilation/cutting.



## SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

CANADA IS **DOUBLING** ITS COMMITMENT **IN THE NEXT 3 YEARS**