
African countries should be better equipped to progress toward sustainable development.

i) Northern Africa and the Middle East

This region comprises Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia, all members of La Francophonie. Given the principles of sustainable development, the program for northern Africa and the Middle East is oriented around three areas: economic reform, respect for the environment, and institutional support. For North Africa in particular, the emphasis is on development of the private sector in a civilian democratic society.

ii) Western Africa

Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo are members of La Francophonie.

This region consists of the 16 countries of the Economic Community of West African States (ECWAS). The new strategy focusses in particular on democratization and economic growth through support for businesses in the main coastal countries. Development of natural resources will lead to a rise in per capita income, but in the interest of sustainable development it must not be conducted to the detriment of the environment. Target objectives include job creation, regional and international market development, technological advances, and regional co-operation and integration. Thus an attempt is being made to achieve a sustainable balance between population, the economy and the environment, and a better distribution of wealth among the various countries.

iii) Central and Eastern Africa

There are 14 member countries of La Francophonie in central and eastern Africa: Burundi, Cameroon, the Comoros, the Congo, Djibouti, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Madagascar, Mauritius, the Central African Republic, Rwanda, the Seychelles, Chad and Zaire.

CIDA recently reduced direct bilateral aid to these countries, but has created two new regional funds aimed at building local, national and regional capacities in the areas of human rights, democratic development and private enterprise, and at providing emergency relief. The current bilateral projects and programs will expire in 1994.

B) ASIA

i) Vietnam

From 1990-1991 to 1992-1993, CIDA provided Vietnam with \$30 million in official development assistance, mainly in the form of humanitarian assistance and food aid, but also institutional and business support. Established in conjunction with the Vietnamese authorities, the program is designed to promote the process of reform and change in Vietnam, and the country's integration into the regional and international economy.

ii) Cambodia

From 1990-1991 to 1992-1993, CIDA provided Cambodia with \$23 million in official development assistance. CIDA's bilateral aid mainly takes the form of an \$8-million program administered by non-governmental organizations and focussing on the priority