
INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

This is an instrument vital to supporting our three key objectives. It can help build prosperity and encourage acceptance of key Canadian values - such as respect for democracy, human rights, the environment - which promotes the global stability that our security demands.

A framework for Official Development Assistance (ODA) will consist of:

- **A clearer mandate for ODA:**

The purpose of Canada's ODA is to support sustainable development in developing countries to reduce poverty and contribute to a more secure, equitable and prosperous world.

Our ODA will focus on six program priorities:

- **basic human needs; women in development; infrastructure services; human rights, democracy and good governance; private sector development; and the environment.**

Canada will commit 25 % of its ODA to basic human needs.

ODA will target key countries in Africa, Asia and the Americas, with the highest share going to Africa. Most of Canadian ODA will go to low-income countries.

The Government remains committed to making progress to the ODA target of 0.7 % of GNP when Canada's fiscal situation permits.

- A commitment to **strengthening partnerships** with Canadians, international partners and developing countries.
- Improving effectiveness in a time of fiscal constraint by strengthening program coherence, focusing on a limited number of countries, and adopting programming guidelines.

Support for **Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union** will continue, though not at the expense of ODA priorities. To maximize effectiveness, a reorganization will be undertaken, giving the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) responsibility for delivery of the program, while leaving policy direction with DFAIT.