

ground, as the terms and conditions of bilateral assistance are generally much simpler than those of multilateral assistance. Consequently, CSOs suggest that Canadian aid for Indonesia be channeled directly, and not through multilateral organizations like UNDP, and others. CIDA can do this by increasing its direct partnerships with Indonesian CSOs.

3. The government should be viewed merely as a stakeholder in developing new assistance programs. Accordingly, multi-stakeholder approaches need to be adopted for formulating aid programs for Indonesia.
4. Past experiences show that the Indonesian government is not yet credible and accountable enough for channeling funds from international donors, as it is still marked by very high corruption. Consequently, cooperation with CSOs for channeling funding is often more effective. In this matter, CIDA needs to work to develop synergy between the government and civil society, so that the government can act as a regulator for creating a conducive climate, and as a facilitator rather than implementing agency of development programs.
5. There is validity to CIDA's strategies of focusing its assistance more on policy dialogue and policy reform for countries whose governance is weak and whose governments have no strategies for reducing poverty. However, programs meant for capacity building and community empowerment based on "community-based social and economic development" and on assistance for basic social services as well as income generating activities are still very much needed. CSOs support CIDA's strategies of cooperation with civil society organizations in developing poverty reduction programs.
6. Through the work of CIDA, Canada is seen to be among the donor countries that are viewed as "progressive" in terms of its approaches to gender and environmental issues as cross cutting themes. However, the handling of these strategic issues should not be limited to macro policies, and instead should be a major focus of implementation in the field.
7. Assistance to Indonesia from the Canadian government can also be delivered in the form of debt-swaps, as for example with swaps of debt for social development like water supply, sanitation, education and healthcare development as implemented by CSOs.