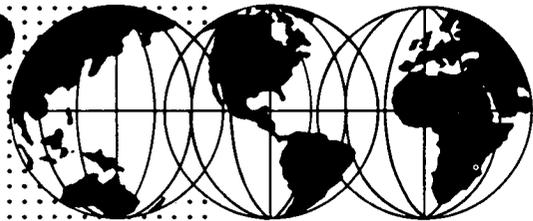


BACKGROUND TO DEVELOPMENT



Canadian development assistance in the Middle East was initiated in 1949 with our first contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Since that time, over C\$650 million in development assistance has been directed to the Middle East through a range of programs.

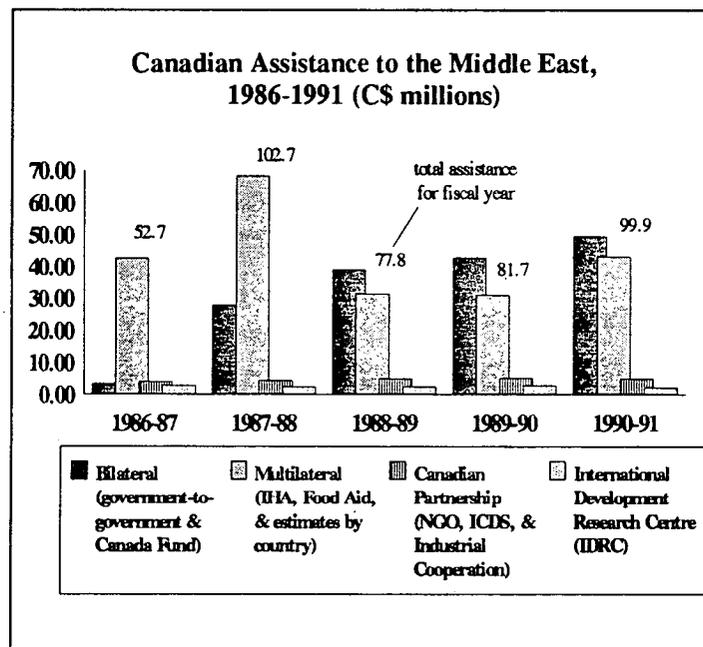
Canadian development assistance to the Middle East is channelled primarily through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) while the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) encourages and supports research for development.

CANADIAN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Bilateral Programs

Canadian bilateral (government-to-government) assistance to the Middle East began with a program in Egypt in 1976. In 1986, Jordan became the second country in the region to have a significant bilateral assistance program. Canada's aid presence in the Middle East is also reflected through the **Canada Fund for Local Initiatives** (or Canada Fund). The Canada Fund complements CIDA's bilateral activities in the Middle East by supporting small projects which provide technical, economic, educational, cultural and/or social assistance to local populations. Administered by Canadian embassies in Amman, Ankara, Cairo, Damascus, Ryadh, and Tel Aviv (for the territories occupied by Israel), the Canada Fund is a rapid, flexible method of responding to local grass roots needs.

CIDA's **Industrial Cooperation Program** promotes cooperation between the Canadian private sector and developing countries through joint ventures, licensing agreements, long-term management contracts, and co-production agreements. Industrial Cooperation Program disbursements in the Middle East totalled C\$2.3 million in 1990-91.



Institutional Cooperation and Development Services (ICDS) projects foster linkages between Canadian and host country institutions in an effort to strengthen local capabilities and promote lasting partnerships. Support for ICDS projects in the Middle East totalled over C\$1.6 million in 1990-91.

Canadian Partnership Programs

Canada currently supports 15 **Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)** projects in Jordan, Lebanon, Yemen, and the territories occupied by Israel. These projects focus on health, education, vocational training, agriculture and water resources. CIDA support for Canadian NGO assistance in the Middle East exceeded C\$1 million for 1990-91.

Multilateral Programs

Canada's **Food Aid** assistance is intended to increase food availability during food shortages caused by natural or man-made disasters, to help alleviate

balance of payments deficits due to costly food imports and to offer basic nutritional supplement to vulnerable groups. Canada's food aid contribution to the Middle East for 1990-91 exceeded C\$5.3 million. Primary recipients of Canadian food aid in the Middle East have been Egypt, the territories occupied by Israel and Jordan.

Canada's **International Humanitarian Assistance (IHA)** is provided to victims of natural and man-made disasters through Canadian NGOs, international institutions and international NGOs. In response to appeals from international orga-

