Canadians for stepping up to help alleviate the impacts of this crisis. The Government of Canada continues to be seized of this ongoing crisis, and in May 2018 committed an additional \$300 million over three years to help address the region's humanitarian. development and stabilization needs in a coordinated and timely way.

This report focuses on Canada's official development assistance activities and results from the 2017-2018 fiscal year. I would also like to highlight some of the work we have done more recently. which will be covered in the 2018-2019 report:

- From May 31 to June 2, 2018. I hosted my fellow G7 development ministers to advance key priorities for gender equality. These priorities included the empowerment of adolescent girls, the fight against sexual exploitation and abuse, and the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in humanitarian action. Accelerating innovation for development impact is a priority as well. This meeting marked the first time that young women leaders sat side by side with ministers at a G7 table.
- I also co-hosted, with the Honourable Bill Morneau, Finance Minister of Canada. the first G7 meeting of development and finance ministers. Together, participants drew on individual expertise and sought innovative approaches to financing international sustainable development. These G7 Ministerial meetings helped lay the groundwork for the G7 Leaders' Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries, which raised \$3.8 billion in investments for women's and girls' education in conflict and crisis situations. The meetings also helped lay the groundwork for the Charlevoix Commitment on Innovative Financing for Development.
- In May 2018, the government issued a call to action to philanthropists and the private sector to collaborate in setting up a new partnership for gender equality. This new funding initiative, to which Canada has committed up to \$300 million, aims to mobilize unprecedented levels of resources to deliver and finance development assistance differently. For instance, it aims to help close the funding gap faced by change agents, such as women's rights defenders and gender equality advocates, in developing countries.

 Canada is also looking forward to hosting the Women Deliver Conference in June 2019 in Vancouver. This important event will bring together world leaders, activists, government officials. parliamentarians, NGO representatives and business people to discuss gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights. Canada is a strong supporter of Women Deliver in its global



advocacy efforts, and is proud to be hosting this conference to bring further high-level attention to these critical issues.

This report, the 10th since the Official Development Assistance Accountability Act was adopted, is one of the government's major platforms to promote the accountability and transparency of Canada's international assistance programming. I invite all Canadians to explore this summary of the investments Canada is making through our official development assistance, and the positive impact this has made to improve lives. I hope you will be encouraged by the stories of engagement, hope and progress made possible through Canada's continued contributions to ending poverty and investing in a more peaceful, more inclusive and more prosperous world.

The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, P.C., M.P.

Minister of International Development

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