
BENIN

Benin is one of the least developed countries in the world. Poverty reduction is hampered by high population growth. The country ranks 167th out of 188 countries, according to the 2016 Human Development Index published by the UN Development Programme (UNDP). Almost half of the population lives on less than US\$1.25 a day.

Significant progress has been made in education, the struggle against HIV/AIDS, reducing under-five mortality and increasing access to safe drinking water. Benin's economy has enjoyed steady growth rates in recent years. Still, it remains largely dependent on cotton production, the foreign goods re-export sector and subsistence agriculture.

Canada's development programming in Benin is aimed at supporting the Government of Benin's 2016-2021 action plan.

Canada's development priorities are well aligned with this program. One of the program's three pillars is improving the living conditions of the population. That pillar is consistent with Canada's programming. It aims to create growth that works for everyone by promoting micro-finance and improving agricultural resilience in the face of climate change. Particular attention is paid to strengthening women's empowerment so that women become equal participants in the economic lives of their families and communities.



Country: Benin © Stephanie Colway