

Criteria For Foreign Aid

- For each of six potential criteria for foreign aid, Canadians were asked to rate how important they perceive that to be in determining to which countries to allocate funds. As is revealed below, the fact that the country in question will be to the future benefit of the Canadian economy is most relevant to Canadians. They want foreign aid to be a means of helping these countries become self-supporting, and therefore more important members of the global community.
- Funds allocated on the basis of geographic or geo-political links without the above-mentioned assurances, is not a viable rationale according to most Canadian.

	% of Respondents who ...		Average rating (maximum 10.0)
	Rated _____ 8, 9, 10	Rated _____ 1, 2, 3	
The country will provide market opportunities for Canadian exports in the future	59	5	7.5
The country is most likely to become developed in the near future	41	8	6.7
The country is poorest	38	13	6.5
The country is closest geographically	23	31	5.2
The country has commonwealth links	22	21	5.6
The country has francophone links	12	34	4.6

- For the most part, Canadians tend to agree, at least somewhat, with the idea that Canada's development assistance programme is a long term investment programme in terms of building future markets for Canadian business. That is, there is moderately strong agreement that current allocations for foreign aid are administered in ways which will help Canada in the future. And, as stated, this is when foreign aid is most acceptable.