

CIDA concurs with the Sub-Committee’s recommendation that it should focus a significant amount of its assistance in one area or location, and has identified the Northeastern departments (provinces) of Colombia, including Barrancabermeja, security permitting, as areas to focus a significant amount of resources. The intent is to create a critical mass of projects in a specific area and encourage synergies among them as a means of generating a greater impact in the area.

CIDA has recently approved a five-year project aimed at developing the capacity of Colombia’s civil society to work together to address both the causes and effects of the armed conflict and forced displacement, and to facilitate the transition to sustainable peace and development once a resolution to the conflict is achieved. In this way, the project will develop the capacity of civil society to protect, assist, integrate and represent vulnerable and displaced populations affected by conflict, particularly displaced people, with a strong emphasis on the integral participation of displaced women and minority populations. Through this project, CIDA will also be increasing the capacity of local NGOs to work with CIDA and displaced people in future programming initiatives.

CIDA also concurs with the Sub-Committee’s recommendation that the Government of Canada continue to work with international organizations and like-minded countries. In response to this recommendation, CIDA will intensify its effort to stimulate increased information sharing and coordination among international donors. Moreover, CIDA intends to explore new possibilities for collaborative planning and programming with other donors – such as co-funding initiatives – for an increased impact and efficiency of the Canadian response to the situation in Colombia.