

WHY FOREIGN AID?

Moral and Humanitarian Concerns

Canadians believe aid is the right thing to do as a simple matter of social justice. This firm sense of moral commitment has long been the bedrock of public support for Canada's aid program.

The Environment

In developing countries, poverty is often the root cause of ecological damage. By targeting poverty, aid reduces some of the threats to our common environment. It can also help Third World countries develop in environmentally sound ways, so that their economic growth does not exact the same ecological cost as ours.

The Economy

Aid is an investment in the well-being of Canada's economy and in that of the whole world. It means jobs, contracts and export sales for Canada, and connects us to some of the fastest-growing markets in the world — those of the developing world.

Security

Poverty affects more than the poor. It breeds instability and contributes to the exodus of refugees as well as problems such as terrorism, pollution, the drug trade. By tackling poverty, aid can help us build a safer, more peaceful world.

Canadian Values

Canadians want their values to be reflected in world affairs. Our aid program is one of the most important means we have of sharing our ideals and values with people in the developing countries, who make up the vast majority of the world's population.