

These issues, and the international responses to them, are of critical interest to Canada, which has prospered from increasing openness in world trade and investment. Because Canada's continued prosperity depends on a smooth-functioning international system, it will actively push for substantive improvements at the Birmingham Summit, the APEC Finance Ministers meeting in Canada in May and in subsequent international efforts to restore financial well-being in Asia.

Development

Effective and sustainable development depends on the capacity of developing countries to foster peace, govern effectively and manage their economies to take advantage of global trade and investment opportunities.

Canada's partnerships with developing countries are built on a solid, 40-year record of assistance. In addition, Canada's non-colonial past, and common membership and affinities in the Commonwealth, la Francophonie, the Organization of American States, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum and other organizations provide natural bridges between Canada and the developing world.

Development co-operation, peace and security concerns, and trade and investment are the cornerstones of Canada's partnerships with developing countries, including those with the least-developed countries. The goal is to help them reduce poverty and reap the benefits of globalization and technological change.

Canada supports the development principles outlined in the document *Shaping the 21st Century: The Contribution of Development Co-operation* adopted by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Key elements of this strategy include emphasizing more effective partnerships; striving for results and improving the monitoring and evaluation of aid programs; developing greater coherence in those "non-aid" policies of industrialized countries that affect developing countries, for example, policies on trade, investment and technology transfer; and setting specific goals in such areas as poverty reduction, primary education, child death rates and gender equality.