

■ **\$28 million has been committed to improve public sector governance and transparency.**

- Canada has committed \$28 million toward public sector capacity building in African countries through an innovative arrangement with the African Capacity-Building Foundation, a pan-African institution based in Harare, Zimbabwe. The funding is being used to strengthen the foundation's capacity and to help individual African countries to address such crucial issues as financial accountability, economic policy, and public participation in governance. Canadian public sector expertise is also made available through the Canadian Centre for Management Development.
- Canada has committed \$9 million to strengthening the role of African parliaments and parliamentarians, including improving parliamentary oversight — an explicit objective of NEPAD — and reinforcing the role of women in government. Initial activities focus on ways that parliaments can fight corruption. This project, which involves the participation of African parliamentarians, is being carried out with support from the Ottawa-based Parliamentary Centre.
- Canada has committed \$6 million toward improving local governance by working with African partners, including the African Union of Local Authorities, to develop new approaches to providing basic community needs. These basic needs include access to water, sanitation and health services — areas in which municipalities are now playing an important role. Initial work, undertaken with the support of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, has focused on identifying and disseminating best practices.
- Gender equality is a priority for Canadian development assistance in Africa and is integrated into every CIDA program. More than \$20 million have been committed to civil society groups in several African countries. Canada supports civil society activities that promote the rights and the political and economic empowerment of women, supports campaigns to prevent violence against women, and examines the situation of women in conditions of armed conflict.

Knowledge: Education and digital opportunities

Through NEPAD, African leaders pledge to promote people-centred development. Canada is supporting African efforts to improve the quality of life of the people of Africa in a number of ways, including by supporting African efforts to expand access to education and to information and communications technologies.