

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

\$3,446.32 MILLION

On June 26, 2013, the *Economic Action Plan 2013 Act, No. 1* (Bill C-60) received Royal Assent, enacting the provision from the Economic Action Plan 2013, which announced the amalgamation of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and created the new Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD). The amalgamation will allow the Government of Canada to enhance the coordination of development assistance and foreign policy, improving the effectiveness of Canada's international efforts. Since this report covers a period prior to the amalgamation (2012–2013), CIDA and DFAIT are represented as two separate entities. In the report for the next fiscal year, DFATD will encompass these two entities.

In 2012–2013, CIDA was the government's principal organization responsible for managing Canada's official development assistance (ODA). CIDA's ODA⁴ for 2012–2013 totalled \$ 3,446.32 million.

CIDA has led Canada's international effort to help alleviate poverty by supporting programs and projects in developing regions of the world. The Agency has also engaged in policy development to support Canada's development objectives in a manner consistent with Canadian foreign policy.

CIDA's programs reflected the global consensus on international development agreed to by developing countries, other donors and international partners with which Canada works. This consensus includes agreement on the key objectives of development assistance—the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)⁵—which set targets and deadlines for progress in poverty reduction, food security, education, child and maternal health, HIV/AIDS, malaria, gender equity, environmental sustainability and global partnerships and development.

⁴ The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

⁵ <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>

CIDA targeted its efforts in the sectors and countries where it could have the greatest impact. Accordingly, the Agency concentrated 80 percent of its bilateral efforts in 20 countries of focus. CIDA's development assistance program focused on three of Canada's five priorities for international assistance.

- **Increasing food security**

For women, men and children in the developing world, a lack of sufficient, safe and nutritious food represents a central obstacle to reducing poverty. Food insecurity undermines health and limits a person's ability to learn, earn a living, and contribute to the community.

- **Securing a future for children and youth**

Children and youth access to health care services, education, and safe and secure environments, is critical to improve their quality of life and increase their opportunity for growth, resulting in productive citizens who contribute to the development of their country.

- **Stimulating sustainable economic growth**

Sustainable economic growth is critical to reducing poverty. Countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America have repeatedly shown that fostering economic growth helps people permanently lift themselves out of poverty.

In addition to CIDA's three thematic priorities, the Agency was also engaged in advancing democracy and ensuring security and stability. As well, the Agency played a significant leadership role in coordination with other government departments and key humanitarian partners, in supporting the Government of Canada's response to humanitarian crises around the world.

CIDA integrated environmental sustainability, gender equality, and sound governance into all of its policies and programming initiatives. This was achieved through an established framework that helped ensure that all initiatives were informed through an analysis of these crosscutting issues.