

Annex: Fulfilling Canada's Vision in the Americas

To complement the specific examples of collaboration in the Americas provided in the main body of the report, the following pages contain a list of some of the many projects and activities in which Canada is engaged as part of the fulfilment of Canada's vision in the Americas.

They are divided into three categories:

- 1) Building capacity and institutions;
- 2) Reinforcing bilateral relations and multilateral organizations; and
- 3) Collaborating with counterparts in the Americas.

1) Building capacity and institutions

Justice and legal systems

- Justice Canada, with funding from CIDA, is working with Jamaica's Ministry of Justice on the multi-year Justice Undertakings for Social Transformation (JUST) program, which aims to **modernize the Jamaican justice system**. Alternative dispute resolution mechanisms have now been incorporated into Jamaica's legal systems, and police reports demonstrate fewer violent incidents in communities participating in the pilot project.
- Children's rights policies and programs have been strengthened at the local, provincial and national government levels and in civil society organizations with more than 12,000 civil servants and 3,500 community leaders provided with **training on the new Colombian Law on Children and Youth** as part of projects financed by CIDA.
- Canada, through CIDA and the Labour Program of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), is funding an \$8.5 million project, the International Program for Professional Labour Administration, to support **labour law reform and enforcement** in the Americas.
- Another example is the work undertaken by CIDA in Peru to help **establish the office of the people's defender** and strengthen the ability of the state to promote and protect human rights. In 2006, the office of the people's defender registered more than 85,000 cases, of which 90 percent were resolved.

Health and social well-being

- The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) is working with the Inter-American Children's Institute of the OAS to fulfill and promote international health-related commitments in the Americas by sharing best practices and **building capacity to address health challenges** for children and adolescents.
- In 2008, CIDA announced a contribution of \$18 million in funding for **projects supporting health, food in schools and water sanitation** for marginalized youth in Honduras.
- Recognizing that local agents are best placed to find home-grown solutions, the IDRC is launching a \$15 million competition over the next five years to **support think tanks in Latin America**. Long-term funding will be provided to independent institutions to research social and economic policies that can help promote growth and reduce poverty in the region.
- Canada is also helping Haiti with preventive health programming and is the top contributor to its vaccination program. Major **vaccination projects** have immunized more than 850,000 children against measles, 1,150,000 against polio and 385,000 against diphtheria and tuberculosis. These efforts have contributed to a **decline in the prevalence of these serious diseases**.

Military and police infrastructure

- In 2008, DFAIT through the Counter-Terrorism Capacity Building Fund, allocated \$4.8 million of bilateral support to the Caribbean and Central America. This contribution has resulted in **training of local police, equipment as well as technical and legal expertise**.
- The share of DND's **Military Training Assistance Program** allocated to the Americas has risen from 18 percent of its total budget in 2005-2008 to 25 percent (approximately \$4 million) for the period 2008-2011. Twenty Latin American and Caribbean countries benefit from this Canadian program, with Bolivia, Guatemala and Honduras having been admitted to the program in 2008.
- Through contributions to the Regional Peace Operations Training Centre in Guatemala, Canada supports **the training of Central American troops** who will participate in UN peacekeeping missions, including MINUSTAH.