

OVERVIEW

Canada's Network is an invaluable whole-of-government asset essential to Canada's engagement with the world.

A combination of infrastructure, resources and services, overseas and in Canada, the Network enables the Government of Canada to effectively serve Canadians and advance the country's political and economic interests in a constantly changing world. The Network also contributes to the ability of DFATD's partners and co-locators to achieve their strategic objectives.

The location and number of missions, as well as the amount and nature of resources dedicated to the Network, may vary from one year to another, based on current international and domestic realities as well as on the Government of Canada's evolving priorities².

During 2010–2011, Canada had 178 missions in 106 countries, with official openings in Istanbul (Turkey), Astana (Kazakhstan) and Mazatlán (Mexico). In 2011–2012, 179 missions operated in 106 countries with one opening in Doha (Qatar).

As of March 31, 2013, Canada had 172 missions located in 105 countries³. Eight missions closed during 2012–2013, and operations remained suspended in Damascus (Syria).

Missions abroad had a combined total of 7,571 Canada-based staff (CBS) and locally engaged staff (LES) positions. This represents a decrease of 397 positions from March 31, 2012: 17 fewer CBS and 380 fewer LES positions. The five largest missions in the Network by number of positions were New Delhi, Beijing, Washington, D.C., London and Mexico City.

In addition to 172 missions, Canada operated several service points. These included 110 consulates (headed by honorary consuls) providing consular assistance to Canadians and six trade offices in China (operated by the Canadian Commercial Corporation). In 16 Asia-Pacific cities, consular assistance was also provided on DFATD's

behalf by 15 Australian high commissions or consulates and one Swedish embassy.

Two regional service centres—in Washington, D.C. and in Thames Valley outside London, U.K.—and 12 Common Service Delivery Points (CSDPs) support the delivery of common services.

On March 31st, 2013, DFATD operated 16 regional and satellite trade offices in Canada, with a total of 120 positions. The total number of offices decreased from 18 a year earlier as the result of a restructuring and refocusing initiative.

In total, there were 7,691 positions in the Network and 320 service locations around the world.

NETWORK OPENINGS AND CLOSURES

During 2012–2013, the Network experienced the following changes:

- an interim operation started in Yangon, Burma⁴;
- the Embassy in Tehran, Iran and the Office of the Embassy in Niamey, Niger were closed;
- six missions were closed in the United States: the Buffalo Consulate General; consulates in Anchorage, Philadelphia, Phoenix, and Raleigh-Durham; and the trade office in Princeton;
- the Saskatoon regional office and Kelowna satellite office were closed, while the Windsor satellite office was relocated to London;

Note: operations remained suspended in Damascus, Syria⁵.

Chapter 3 Figure 33, titled "*Mission Openings and Closures, 1993 to 2013 (March 31)*", details all the adjustments made to the mission network in the last 20 years.

² Comprehensive information as to openings and closures since 1993 is provided in Figure 33 of Chapter 3.

³ This total includes offices in the Holy See (Vatican) and Burma (interim operation) but excludes those in Taiwan, the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

⁴ In 2012–2013, Canada's mission was temporarily located at the Embassy of the United Kingdom, which will continue until the Canadian mission is ready. Note: the Ambassador was accredited by Burma in August 2013.

⁵ Operations in Damascus were suspended in March 2012.