

A MORE STRATEGIC FOCUS

efforts by donors and low-income countries to enhance the overall financing, harmonization, coordination, and acceleration of successful programs.

Canada has well-established expertise in learner-centred educational approaches, teacher training, curriculum development, and the creation of child-friendly, girl-friendly schools. Canada also has experience in using distance education and information technology for the professional development of educators, and to expand access to educational information and resources.

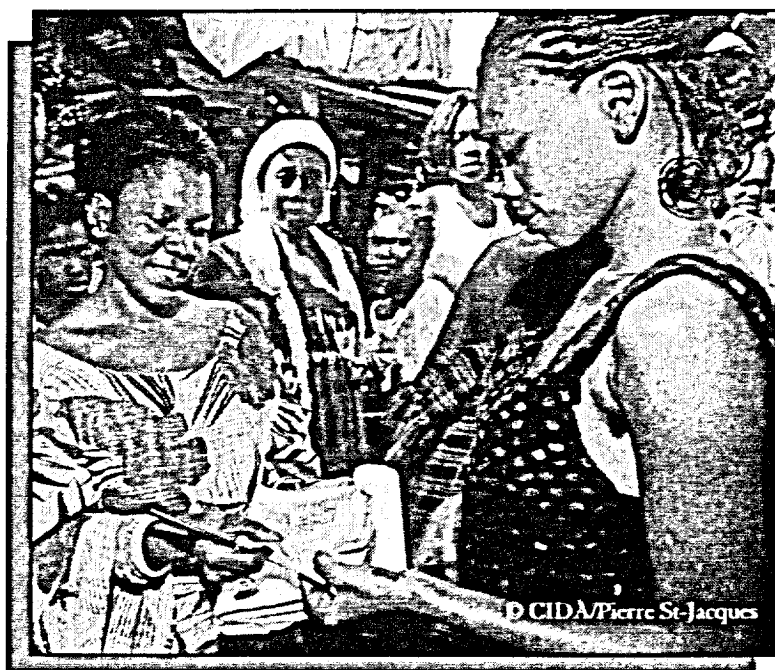
Canadian efforts will focus on the following four areas:

- **Improving the quality, safety and relevance of basic education, including life-skills training,** so that parents will want to keep their children in school and students will be motivated to stay. Programming will focus on the areas of Canadian comparative advantage listed above, such as teacher training and curriculum development.
- **Removing barriers that prevent closing the gender gap in education.** Canada will build on the strength of its programming in girls' education to support specific initiatives and systemic reforms to remedy gender inequality in education.

- **Providing education for prevention of HIV/AIDS.** Canada will strengthen action against HIV/AIDS by supporting better integration of educational efforts of local communities and NGOs within the reforms undertaken by the formal education system.
- **Providing education for girls and boys in conflict, post-conflict and/or emergency situations.** In situations of crisis and conflict, it is now better understood that once immediate concerns are addressed—safety, security, nutrition—one of the best ways to introduce stability and protection in emergency settings, including addressing the problems of trauma for children, their parents and the entire community, is to get schools functioning and get pupils into them. Canadian assistance in post-conflict or post-disaster situations will take this into account.

Supporting Private Sector Development

Consistent with the recommendations of the UN Commission on the Private Sector and Development, Canada will support developing countries' own efforts to strengthen their private sector as the engine of economic growth through creating an enabling environment, including through "smarter" regulation; promoting entrepreneurship; and supporting connection to markets (economic integration).



The Savings and Credit Union Support Program (PAMECAS) in Senegal gives entrepreneurs access to financial support services at a lower cost.

Giving priority to private sector development (PSD) is consistent with the international consensus on the role of the private sector in helping to halve extreme poverty and hunger. The UN Commission on the Private Sector and Development based its work on "the realization that the savings, investment, and innovation that lead to development are undertaken largely by private individuals, corporations and communities."

No country has met the material needs of its citizens or financed social and other key roles of government on an ongoing basis without a dynamic private sector to mobilize savings and investment, create meaningful jobs, meet consumer demand and generate tax revenues. PSD programming also directly promotes the development of an open, rules-based trading system and builds the capacity of developing countries to provide employment for youth and spread the benefits of new technologies. Finally, with effective taxation systems, PSD provides essential resources for vital public services and generates savings and investment.