

The Government is committed to making Canada a leading-edge development cooperation partner, in terms of the quality, focus, and strength of our efforts—within and beyond the field of aid. To do so, the Government will:

- fully integrate development cooperation into Canada's international policy framework;
- ensure coherence across aid and non-aid policies that impact development;
- establish the right balance both within and among aid delivery channels—bilateral, multilateral and partnerships—to best advance our overall objectives;
- focus bilateral programming in fewer sectors and countries;
- focus greater support on those multilateral institutions that are most effective in promoting global governance and addressing the MDGs;
- intensify the engagement of Canadians and civil society as partners in development, through Canada Corps and other programs; and
- deliver effective, sustainable development cooperation through a leading-edge development cooperation agency.

This strategy is based on a set of guiding principles:

- The aid-effectiveness principles of local ownership, improved donor coordination, and a results-based approach (as outlined in CIDA's 2002 statement, *Canada Making a Difference in the World: A Policy Statement on Strengthening Aid Effectiveness*);
- Canada's commitment to effective multilateralism as the basis for effective global engagement on key issues;
- The Government's commitment to effective partnership, an approach that values the essential role played by civil society and the private sector in developing countries and in Canada; and
- Coherence among the Government's aid and non-aid policies and actions, with the objective of sustainably reducing global poverty.

A new development approach that delivers significantly enhanced aid effectiveness provides a strong foundation for Canada's contribution to achieving the MDGs. To this end, Canada's increasing fiscal health has enabled the Government to increase its provision of Official Development Assistance and other international assistance. In 2004-05 the Government allocated \$ 3.74 billion to international assistance, including the extraordinary humanitarian relief contribution in response to the Indian Ocean tsunami. Even excluding this relief, this amount was 21 percent larger than the previous fiscal year.

In support of Canada's long-term commitment to the internationally agreed target of devoting 0.7 percent of gross national income to ODA:

- The Government is committed at a minimum to doubling (relative to 2001) our international assistance to over \$5 billion per year by 2010, with an increasing focus on Africa. By 2008-09, Canada's aid to Africa will be double its 2003-04 level; and
- Today we commit to ongoing increases beyond 2010 and to accelerating the projected rate of growth in international assistance as our fiscal position continues to improve.

Humanitarian assistance will remain a key part of Canada's international engagement. To ensure that Canadian assistance is timely, appropriate, consistent with the principles and practices of good humanitarian donorship, and effective in delivering relief and stabilization to those in situations of crisis, conflict and natural disaster, the Government will:

- adopt an integrated humanitarian response strategy involving all relevant departments, including Foreign Affairs Canada, the Department of National Defence, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and CIDA; and
- consistent with the need for effectiveness, involve and engage Canadians in order to maximize the depth and reach of Canada's humanitarian contributions.