

## INTRODUCTION

This report explains how the Government of Canada spent its official development assistance (ODA) from April 1, 2017, to March 31, 2018. During this time, the Government of Canada disbursed \$5.37 billion in ODA in over 130 countries, working with many partners. The partners included governments, nongovernmental organizations, international bodies and private sector entities.

These ODA activities represent the efforts of 19 Canadian federal departments and agencies. In accordance with the Official Development Assistance Accountability Act (ODAAA), these initiatives:

- contribute to poverty reduction;
- take into account the perspectives of the poor: and
- are consistent with international human rights standards.

In June 2017, the Government of Canada launched a new policy to guide Canada's international assistance. The new policy is the result of an extensive review of international assistance, including consultations pursued in the summer of 2016. Global Affairs Canada reached out both in Canada and overseas to seek the views of its partners and stakeholders. The department benefitted from the contributions of more than 15,000 people and many international organizations in more than 65 countries. Global Affairs published an online summary of <u>What We</u> <u>Heard</u> on December 6, 2017.

The Feminist International Assistance Policy seeks to eradicate poverty: promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls: and help build a more inclusive, more peaceful and more prosperous world.



This year's ODAAA Report is structured around the six interrelated action areas from the new policy:

- 1. Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (core action area)
- 2. Human dignity, which includes:
  - health and nutrition
  - education
  - gender-responsive humanitarian action
- 3. Growth that works for everyone
- 4. Environment and climate action
- 5. Inclusive governance
- 6. Peace and security

The Feminist International Assistance Policy guides Canada's international implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This report illustrates some of Canada's initial contributions toward achieving the 2030 Agenda's 17 Sustainable Development Goals.