

## INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE \$254.59 MILLION

Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is a Crown corporation that supports researchers and innovators in the developing world as they work to improve lives, promote growth, and lift communities out of poverty.

In fiscal year 2012–2013, IDRC expensed \$254,592,697 in official development assistance.<sup>22</sup> This amount was funded primarily from Parliamentary appropriations—both those voted in 2012–2013, and appropriations from previous years which were exceptionally set aside to fund significant disbursements in 2012–2013. IDRC's total 2012–2013 expenses were \$293,184,496, of which \$38,591,799 was funded from donors including the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), OECD governments, and private foundations. Due to their source, these funds are not reported by IDRC as part of its official development assistance expenses.

IDRC provides researchers in developing countries with the funds, support and connections they need to find solutions to the pressing problems affecting their societies. IDRC also enables many of the brightest minds in Canada and the developing world to collaborate on cutting-edge projects. IDRC's programs and initiatives focus on four thematic areas: agriculture and environment; global health policy; science and innovation; and social and economic policy.

At the end of 2012–2013, IDRC was supporting 860 applied research activities and 705 institutions, of which 103 were Canadian.

IDRC also contributes to major Government of Canada initiatives. Examples include the following:

- **Development Innovation Fund**

On behalf of the Government of Canada, IDRC administers a fund that is generating innovations for tackling specific diseases. The \$225-million Development Innovation Fund supports the work of

Grand Challenges Canada, which aims to enable global health breakthroughs by Canadian and developing-country scientists and the private sector.

- **African Institutes for Mathematical Sciences**

The African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) seeks to provide the training and space in which Africa's brightest graduates can be taught by the world's best mathematicians—including Canadians—and access the full power of new technologies to address their countries' challenges. IDRC is responsible for managing the Government of Canada's \$20-million contribution, which supports the establishment of five AIMS centres across Africa by 2015.

IDRC supports Canada's international assistance priorities as highlighted through the following examples. More information on IDRC is available at <http://www.idrc.ca>.

### SECURING THE FUTURE OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

As the world's population ages, there are striking regional contrasts: 41 percent of people in the least-developed countries are under the age of 15, compared to only 16 percent in the most-developed nations.

Meeting the needs of this new generation is a Canadian aid priority, focusing on basic child survival, access to education, and ensuring a safe and secure future for children. IDRC contributes to this effort in a number of key areas: by investing in research that strengthens health care systems, improves family nutrition, and promotes educational reforms to ensure a solid foundation for young people.

For example, current research on health systems in Nigeria is helping to address some of the world's highest maternal and child mortality rates. In India, where girls and women are typically the last to receive medical attention, Canada is supporting efforts to widen health care access. In Lebanon, families are rediscovering healthy traditional foods through a joint Canadian-Lebanese research initiative. In Guatemala,

<sup>22</sup> The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).