

Development Funds

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) was created by the United Nations General Assembly in November 1965 through the merger of the United Nations Special Fund (1959) and the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance (EPTA) (1949). The UNDP is financed by voluntary contributions from members of the United Nations or of the Specialized Agencies, while the governments that receive the assistance are responsible for the local ("counterpart") costs of the projects.

In 1969, the United Nations Development Program, in partnership with participating governments and the 14 United Nations agencies⁽⁶⁾, carried out close to 3,000 technical co-operation projects in the developing world. This involved an outlay of more than \$200 million (U.S.) by the UNDP and a somewhat larger sum in cash or kind by the recipient countries themselves. From 1959 to the close of the First United Nations Development Decade, the UNDP and its predecessor organizations provided close to \$1,200 million (U.S.) in technical co-operation assistance. Thousands of projects, each of modest size, were implemented under the Technical Assistance component of the Program at a cost of \$540 million (U.S.). Counterpart support furnished to these projects amounted to approximately half of that sum. During the same period, 1,075 larger-scale projects in the Special Fund component were approved by the Council. By the end of 1969, the UNDP had spent approximately \$640 million (U.S.) in the execution of these projects and the recipient countries had contributed in cash and kind the equivalent of \$900 million (U.S.).

The publication, late in 1969, of the *Capacity Study of the United Nations Development System* (the *Jackson Report*) came at the end of two decades of rapidly expanding involvement by the UN system in the field of economic and social development. In his report, Sir Robert Jackson made recommendations for major reforms in the organization and operations of the UN development system in order to increase the capacity of the system to handle a greatly expanded program. In recent meetings of the Governing Council of the UNDP, Canada has played an active role in the formulation of a wide-ranging series of principles and guidelines for strengthening the UNDP, based on the recommendations of the Jackson Report. These decisions centre on the introduction of "country programming" of United Nations development co-operation, linking United Nations activity more closely with the objectives of each developing country, more fully co-ordinating the efforts of the various United Nations development-assistance organizations, increasing responsibilities for the UNDP's 94 field offices throughout the world, and streamlining project procedures to avoid "pipeline" delays.

Canada has been a major supporter of the UNDP and its predecessors from their inception and, up to and including 1970, has contributed \$108.5 million to the UNDP and its predecessor programs. Canada's 1970 pledge was \$15 million (U.S.), which represents over 6 per cent of the total pledge. In its recently-published foreign policy review, the Government stated its intention to increase support of the United Nations Development Program on evidence that its effectiveness is being improved.

(6) Includes the 13 Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).