

CANADA'S EXTERNAL AID PROGRAMS

Introduction

This report describes activities under Canada's various bilateral programs of grant assistance to less-developed countries for which funds were voted by Parliament in the fiscal year 1962-63. These programs, for which the External Aid Office is responsible are:

	<i>Estimates 1962-63</i>
Colombo Plan	\$ 41,500,000
Special Commonwealth Africa Aid Program	3,500,000
Canada-West Indies Aid Program	2,452,000
Educational Program for French-speaking Countries in Africa	300,000
Commonwealth Technical Assistance Program ..	120,000
Commonwealth Scholarship & Fellowship Plan ..	1,000,000

A major feature of the Canadian bilateral aid effort in recent years has been a sharp increase in technical assistance and a greatly increased emphasis upon assistance in the educational field, especially in the newly independent African countries which place high priority on a rapid expansion of their educational facilities. The details of educational projects are set out in the sections of this report dealing with specific programs but as an illustration of increasing educational assistance it may be noted that from about a dozen teachers sent abroad in 1960 Canada increased its effort to 40 teachers in 1961 while the total number of teachers serving abroad under the Canadian program at the end of the fiscal year 1962-63 was 122. In the present academic year, there are now 182 Canadian teachers, educational advisers, and university staff serving abroad under government programs.

In addition, 61 Canadian technical advisers were serving in the developing countries under Canadian bilateral aid programs as of March 31, 1963. These advisers were in such fields as agriculture, fisheries and mineralogy and most of them were helping to instruct local personnel to carry on their work, thereby helping to increase the supply of skilled and trained manpower which is a vital need in all the developing countries. Technical assistance also includes the bringing of students to Canada for training and here too there was a substantial increase in the Canadian effort in 1962-63. During the past calendar year there were 1,043 students in Canada under government aid programs as compared to 849 the year before. During the present year 1,200 students are expected. Tables B and D illustrate the expansion of Canadian technical assistance activities.

While Canadian expenditures on technical assistance are increasing, they are by their nature relatively small compared with project and commodity aid which accounts for about 95% of Canadian aid expenditures. The amounts allocated to the various types of Canadian assistance are set out in Table A. The largest part of Canadian project assistance has been in the form of basic power and transportation projects where Canadian funds are used both to provide for the services of Canadian engineering or other firms and to supply equipment or goods produced in Canada. As shown in Table A, project assistance may also be in the form of feasibility studies or surveys of resources where Canadian services only are required, or, alternatively, it may relate simply to the provision of Canadian-manufactured items such as locomotives, road vehicles or educational equipment.

Commodity assistance includes the provision of raw materials, fertilizers and pesticides from Canadian sources. Under the Colombo Plan Program, there has again been in the past fiscal year a considerable expenditure on industrial