initial targets, reaching almost 750,000 individuals in northern Ghana and achieving a significant reduction in acute malnutrition among vulnerable children under five.

- In 2012—2013, CIDA established the Canadian International Institute for Extractive Industries and Development. Drawing on innovative policy research, as well as lessons learned from Canada's extractive sector management, the Institute will help provide developing countries with the support they need to manage and govern their natural resources responsibly.

- In 2012, Canada committed $40 million over five years to AgResults—an innovative, Canadian-led public-private partnership that supports private sector initiatives that seek new solutions to food security challenges, but only pays out funds to those who are able to demonstrate measurable results. Led by **Finance Canada**, this approach to development finance encourages the private sector to find innovative ways to help smallholder farmers and their communities overcome agricultural challenges.

- **Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada's** Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force (START) program continued to serve as Canada's centre of expertise for stabilization and reconstruction efforts in fragile and conflict-affected areas throughout the world including Afghanistan, Haiti, South Sudan and Sudan. START also provided $10.5 million to 23 projects focused on protecting women and children and promoting their equality.

- The **International Development Research Centre** (IDRC), which supports researchers in developing countries to help solve development problems, invested in hundreds of research initiatives in 2012—2013 including addressing the world's highest maternal and child mortality rates in Nigeria; improving nutrition and soil fertility in Ethiopia; and establishing legal reforms to reduce sexual violence in South Asia.

- **Citizenship and Immigration Canada** (CIC) provided essential services including access to health care, social services and language training, to more than 9,000 refugees and vulnerable persons (the displaced and persecuted) during their first 12 months in Canada. CIC works with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to ensure that Canada's resettlement program offers protection to those who need it most.

- In an effort to enhance the livelihoods of vulnerable populations, by preserving and improving the environment in developing countries, **Environment Canada** provided support to various multilateral environmental organizations including the United Nations Environment Program, and to environmental projects such as initiatives in Chile and Guatemala that help restore degraded soils.

- In 2012—2013 the **Royal Canadian Mounted Police's** (RCMP) International Policing Development Branch deployed police to peace operations in nine countries that had experienced conflict or upheaval. These efforts to rebuild and strengthen local police services help create a safer environment in which sustainable, long-term development can occur.

- **Natural Resources Canada** delivered more than $3 million in development assistance to improve conservation and sustainable management of forest resources in francophone Africa through the African Model Forest Initiative (AMFI). In the Congo Basin, for example, the AMFI is working to address some of the most serious illegal logging issues in the world.

- Other federal government organizations also undertook initiatives that constituted ODA as per the Act:

  - **Export Development Canada**, in coordination with Finance Canada, wrote off $197 million in loans and accumulated interest to heavily indebted developing countries.
  - **Health Canada's** continued participation in the Pan American Health Organization contributed to combating disease, strengthening health systems, and improving people's quality of life in member states.
  - **Parks Canada** contributed to the preservation of natural and cultural heritage in developing countries through its involvement with organizations such as the World Conservation Union and the World Heritage Fund.
  - **Industry Canada** contributed to universal access to communications and information systems through its involvement with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).
  - **Labour Program** funded activities that promote better enforcement of national labour laws and greater respect for internationally recognized labour standards.
  - **Transport Canada** contributed to the Universal Postal Union.