



Canada's investments will help improve the quality of health and nutrition services for the poorest and most vulnerable—including ongoing efforts to fight infectious diseases such as polio, AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria—and help make these services more accessible.

To support maternal, newborn and child health, Canada will follow through on its 2015 to 2020 commitment to invest \$3.5 billion in programs that strengthen health and data systems, improve nutrition and combat infectious diseases.

Evidence shows, however, that these investments are not enough to ensure the best outcomes for women and children and to achieve SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being). A plan to reduce the mortality of women and children must also include investments that support sexual and reproductive health and rights for women and girls.

Education



years of schooling.³⁸

Today, the world is home to more young people between the ages of 10 and 24 (1.8 billion) than at any other time in history.³⁷ Yet 250 million girls and boys are still unable to read, write or count, even after four

Evidence shows that when girls are given early access to education and are supported in their studies, they are more likely to graduate, improving their future earning potential. Benefits for the communities in which they live are also undeniable: a one percentage point increase in female education raises the average gross domestic product (GDP) by 0.3 percentage points and raises annual GDP growth rates by 0.2 percentage points. In short, educated girls are empowered girls. And empowered girls and women are key to making greater gains in sustainable development.

KEY FACTS EDUCATION

- ▶ Every additional year of schooling for girls and boys increases GDP by 0.37 percent.³⁹
- ▶ Every additional year of secondary school increases a girl's future earnings by 10 to 20 percent.⁴⁰
- ▶ In developing countries, girls who have completed seven years of schooling will, on average, marry four years later and have, on average, two fewer children.⁴¹ Later marriage and smaller families make it easier for women to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty.