

APPENDIX I – CANADA'S ENGAGEMENT WITH CANADIAN AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

ENGAGING CANADIANS AND CANADIAN ORGANIZATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Significant contributions are made by Canadians who are actively seeking to improve the lives of those living in poverty in developing countries. Development objectives can be better achieved by leveraging the expertise and networks that Canadian civil society organizations (CSOs) have built over years of working in international development.

In 2014–2015, the Government of Canada took steps to clarify its framework for collaboration with CSOs, including its commitment to enhance the operating environment in which CSOs work. In February 2015, the government announced DFATD's Civil Society Partnership Policy, which provides a framework for engaging traditional and emerging CSOs.

The Government of Canada currently has partnerships with 360 Canadian organizations, including NGOs, colleges and universities, municipalities, professional associations, cooperatives and the private sector. Each is helping the government find creative solutions to pressing international development challenges and deliver concrete results for those most in need, especially women and children.

More than 220 Canadian organizations responded to DFATD calls for proposals in 2014–2015, putting forward a high volume of initiatives to advance priority areas such as securing the future of children and youth, including maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH); and stimulating sustainable economic growth. Through the calls for proposals, a total of \$741 million was awarded and will be disbursed through a range of Canadian and local implementing partners over the coming years.

Innovative Partnerships for Development with Canadian Civil Society Organizations

The Government of Canada works in partnership with civil society organizations in innovative ways that complement the roles and functions of government, the private sector and multilateral organizations in pursuing effectiveness in international development. Innovation in this context is about building on new approaches, business models,

processes, technologies, systems or delivery mechanisms/tools to achieve sustainable development results.

Beyond working with partners in new ways to augment the impact of Canadian contributions in development, increased focus has been placed on incubating innovative ideas—testing promising initiatives and scaling up those with potential for widespread impact and effectiveness. For instance, in 2014–2015, DFATD worked with Grand Challenges Canada to test and scale up innovations that address persistent health challenges for low- and middle-income countries. This partnership has so far supported six innovations, including a diagnostic smartphone application to cheaply and effectively measure the blood pressure of pregnant women and an artificial leg for people with disabilities made from a 3D printer. Such low-cost innovations have the potential to be scaled up quickly to reach vulnerable populations around the world.

Highlighting their shared interest in poverty reduction, DFATD and The MasterCard Foundation signed a five-year collaborative agreement in 2014–2015 to jointly develop and finance the new African Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship Program. The program, which was created in honour of Nelson Mandela, is designed to provide young professionals from sub-Saharan Africa with grants to access high-quality academic and professional training in Canada, allowing the next generation of African leaders to exchange knowledge and build new connections in a globalized world.

As part of stimulating economic growth and increasing access to financial services to small entrepreneurs, a microfinance project by Développement international Desjardins supported the development of financial business centres in Panama, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. By providing easy access to banking services for thousands of small businesses, such centres support job creation in their communities. The business centre in Zambia is now one of the top-ranking microfinance institutions in the country, serving 26,000 clients and employing more than 200 Zambians.

Canadian values of democracy, human rights and rule of law have been promoted this past year through partnerships with organizations such as Equitas, the Canadian Bar Association and Horizons of Friendship. Through these partners, Canada has fostered safer, more equitable communities with greater respect for human rights and participatory decision-making that have benefited an estimated 820,000 men, women, boys and girls in East and West Africa; improved legal services and