Canada’s Contribution to the Global Effort to Reach the Millennium Development Goals

1 Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger 2 Achieve universal primary education 3 Promote gender equality and empower women 4 Reduce child mortality 5 Improve maternal health 6 Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases 7 Ensure environmental sustainability 8 Develop a global partnership for development
# Table of Contents

**Introduction** .......................................................... 1

**Canada’s International Assistance:**
Advancing the Global Effort Toward the Millennium Development Goals ............... 2

MDG 1 – Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger ......................................................... 4

MDG 2 – Achieve Universal Primary Education ......................................................... 7

MDG 3 – Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women ........................................ 9

MDGs 4 and 5 – A Leading Role in Reducing Child Mortality  
and Improving Maternal Health .................................................................................. 11

MDG 6 – Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases ........................................ 14

MDG 7 – Ensure Environmental Sustainability ......................................................... 16

MDG 8 – Develop a Global Partnership for Development ........................................... 18
Introduction

Since the Millennium Declaration was adopted in 2000, Canada has made visible and lasting contributions to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), particularly in the areas of maternal, newborn and child health; education; gender equality; and in addressing hunger through food security and support to agricultural development.

This document provides a summary of Canadian efforts to support the vision found in the MDGs of a world without extreme poverty and hunger; where everyone has access to basic education; where women and men are genuinely equal; where mothers have more immediate and professional medical care; where children can start their lives in good health; where all people have access to the means to prevent and treat diseases; where environmental sustainability underlies all of our development activities; and where we all can work together as part of a global partnership for development.

With ten of the 15 years allotted to achieve the goals having passed, the global community has arrived at a time to take stock, and plan for the future. Canada, as president of the G-8 in 2010, championed the Muskoka Initiative on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, whereby the G-8 and other partners made a significant commitment towards addressing the challenges associated with MDG 4 and MDG 5 as crucial elements to support the achievement of all the MDGs. Canada looks forward to continuing to work with all its partners as the world moves closer to achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.
Canada’s International Assistance: Advancing the Global Effort Toward the Millennium Development Goals

Canada has acted to increase the amount of Canadian international assistance while also ensuring that aid is delivered more effectively. Taken together, these actions mean that Canada’s work in international development delivers concrete benefits to people around the world, and makes a significant contribution to the global commitment to achieving all the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In 2002, at the International Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey, Mexico, Canada committed to double its international assistance to $5 billion by 2010–2011. This commitment was reiterated at the G-8 Gleneagles Summit in 2005. Canada is on track to meet this commitment by March 31, 2011, and met its doubling aid to Africa commitment in 2009.

Canada’s International Development Efforts

The Government of Canada has taken important steps to transform how it delivers aid by strengthening the focus, efficiency, and accountability of its aid program. To assist in this effort, Canada has adopted a comprehensive aid effectiveness agenda. This agenda assists Canada in fulfilling its international commitments as set out in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005) and the Accra Agenda for Action (2008). Important elements include:

- concentrating 80 percent of its bilateral aid in 20 countries of focus in which Canadian aid can make a difference;
- establishing five priority themes to guide Canada’s international assistance:
  - increasing food security;
  - securing the future of children and youth;
  - stimulating sustainable economic growth;
  - ensuring security and stability;
  - advancing democracy;
- moving more CIDA operations to the field to increase impact and responsiveness; and

Canada’s aid programs reach every region of the world (figures from 2008–2009):

- Africa: $2,165 million
- Asia: $1,279 million
- Americas: $724 million
- Middle East: $322 million
- Eastern Europe: $197 million
- Not allocated to a specific region: $743 million

Between 2005 and 2008, the share of Canada’s bilateral aid going to low-income countries grew, rising from 53 percent to 69 percent.
Canada’s Commitment to Peace and Security

Canada recognizes that peace and security are key preconditions for international development and it has contributed significant resources to efforts aimed at establishing or supporting them, especially in conflict-affected countries. Canada:

- is the fifth-largest donor to the UN Peacebuilding Fund, having contributed $25 million since 2006, with a further $10 million committed over the next two years;
- has provided $26 million since 2005 for programs that build African capacity to conduct peace operations;
- has provided training to 4,300 African troops in courses on peace operations;
- has also contributed to the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations in its Police Division and formed a Police Unit evaluation and training program, for a total value of $34 million;
- has provided more than $759 million since 2004 as part of its whole-of-government response in Sudan, including aviation and fuel support, the loan of armoured personnel carriers, the contracting of helicopters, and donations of other vital equipment to help support the hybrid African Union/United Nations mission in Darfur; and
- contributed $24.5 million to a multicountry program that supported the demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants in the African Great Lakes Region, which resulted in the demobilization of an estimated 379,875 combatants and the return of 318,991 individuals to civilian life.

The Government of Canada is working in Afghanistan in partnership with the Afghan government and more than 60 nations and international organizations to assist the Afghan people with developing a stable, more secure, and democratic country. Canada’s engagement in Afghanistan is defined by six specific and interrelated priorities, including support for:

- enabling the Afghan National Security Forces to sustain a more secure environment and promote law and order;
- strengthening Afghanistan’s institutional capacity to deliver basic services;
- provision of humanitarian assistance aid to vulnerable people;
- enhancing border security with the facilitation of regional dialogue;
- advancing Afghanistan’s democratic governance; and
- facilitating Afghan-led political reconciliation.

Canada is committed to delivering real benefits from its work on these priorities, and it is committed to ensuring it is accountable through benchmarks that are consistent with Afghanistan’s defined needs.

Results That Make a Difference

In 2008–2009, Canada, with other development partners, delivered concrete results:

- 102 million people were fed in 78 countries.
- 3.5 million people were taught better agricultural methods.
- 75,000 small businesses were launched.
- 20,000 front-line health workers in Africa were trained because of Canada’s support to the Catalytic Initiative to Save a Million Lives.
MDG 1 – Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

The eradication of extreme poverty and hunger is central to all of Canada’s international development efforts. Strong inclusive economic growth is the best long-term factor in reducing poverty by increasing public revenue generation, creating jobs, and raising personal and household incomes. An important component of Canada’s economic development support goes to agriculture, fisheries and other food production sectors. Strong and sustainable food production within a strong economy ensures that both poverty and hunger are reduced and eradicated.

In keeping with its international commitments on development aid, Canada works with its partner countries in delivering aid to ensure that Canadian actions contribute to long-term and sustainable economic growth.

Canadian international assistance delivers broad support to both the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger while building for the long-term. Examples in 2008-2009 include:

- $590 million for infrastructure and services, including social infrastructure, transportation, communications, energy generation and financial services;
- $247 million for sustainable agriculture, forestry and fishing;
- $40 million for industry; and,
- $34 million for trade.

A Strategic Focus on Sustainable Economic Growth

The Sustainable Economic Growth Strategy of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) provides a targeted mix of programs and initiatives to stimulate lasting sustainable economic growth and help reduce poverty in developing countries by building economic foundations, growing businesses, and investing in people.

Delivering on Commitments aimed at Economic Growth

In 2008–2009, Canada, through CIDA provided support to support to 60 microfinance initiatives in more than 23 countries, allowing women and men to establish small enterprises and earn income to support their families.

CIDA is providing $1 million to the Infrastructure Consortium for Africa to help reduce Africa’s significant infrastructure gap, which constitutes a serious handicap to improved sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction. The project will increase financing for sustainable infrastructure in Africa from public, private, and public-private sources.

Canada has provided $95 million for the Skills for Employment initiative, announced in 2009, which delivers competency-based training programs in trades and technical areas in Africa, Asia, and the Americas.
In Africa, CIDA is providing $22.3 million through its framework agreements with the Association of Canadian Community Colleges to provide quality vocational training and skills development for workers in Tanzania, Senegal, Mozambique, Namibia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Niger, Rwanda, Burkina Faso, and South Africa.

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Canada is providing $18.5 million over five years to the Municipal Partners for Economic Development program to improve four key components of local economic growth: development planning, political leadership, enhanced municipal services to businesses, and increased revenue generation or access to financing in as many as 45 local governments directly in Vietnam, Cambodia, Mali, Burkina Faso, Tanzania, Nicaragua, and Bolivia.

Canada is providing $20 million to the Inter-American Development Bank for the Compete Caribbean initiative to support business climate reforms, business clusters, and small business activities, within a comprehensive regional private sector development (PSD) strategy in the Caribbean. This will be done by developing national and regional PSD strategies, providing technical assistance to strengthen the business enabling environment, and establishing a Challenge Fund to create business clusters of small businesses to help them compete more effectively in international markets.

Canada is providing $15.7 million to Promote African Grassroots Economic Security (PAGES) through Education and Skills in Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Senegal, and Tanzania. This will improve access to basic education and sustainable livelihoods by reducing household poverty through access to microfinance systems and skills training for microentrepreneurship, the access of girls and marginalized children to quality basic education, and the provision of vocational and entrepreneurial skills for youth and women.

Canada is investing $12.1 million in support for Benin’s microfinance sector towards the development of FECECAM, a federation of about one hundred savings and credit unions, serving more than 500,000 members. It will also work to strengthen the capacity of microfinance professional associations (Alafia Consortium) to provide technical assistance to microfinance institutions, as well as to government institutions responsible for implementing the national microfinance policy, and the financial monitoring and control of the sector.

**A Strategic Focus on Food Security**

Canada has a strong record of helping increase global food security. As part of CIDA’s Food Security Strategy, Canada is helping reduce hunger and foster sustainable economic growth along three key paths for action: food aid and nutrition, sustainable agricultural development, and research and development.

Canada’s commitment to food security was underlined at the 2009 G-8 Summit in L’Aquila, where Canada committed an additional $600 million, bringing the total Canadian pledge in response to the global food security crisis to $1.18 billion over three years for sustainable agricultural development. Canada has acted quickly in response to global need and has already disbursed more than $800 million of this total, including:

- $260 million for the World Bank’s Vulnerability Financing Facility to support medium- and long-term developing country-led plans for sustainable agricultural development, as well as short-term actions that reduce the negative impact of high and volatile food prices, and support governments in the design of sustainable food and market price policies;
• As part of the contribution to the Vulnerable Financing Facility, Canada provided $230 million in 2010 to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program—a major multilateral mechanism designed to support regional and country-owned food security plans;
• $37.5 million in additional funding for the International Fund for Agricultural Development to help small-scale farmers, especially women, improve their business practices, rehabilitate their farmlands, and develop their markets;
• $32.5 million for two challenge programs of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, one aimed at overcoming threats posed by a changing climate, the other at breeding crops for higher nutrition foods; and
• $30 million for the Purchase for Progress initiative of the World Food Programme to provide local markets for low-cost food grown by farmers in Ghana and Afghanistan.

Delivering On Commitments Aimed at Building Food Security

Through its work with UNICEF and other partners, Canada is now responsible for funding at least 75 percent of all the vitamin A supplements distributed to children in developing countries.

In 2009, Canada was the second largest single country donor to the United Nations World Food Programme. In September 2009, Canada was among the first countries to respond to a worldwide appeal and provide $30 million for food aid to drought victims in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda. Canada continues to respond to food-related emergencies.

Canada continues to work together with a consortium of donor partners that are helping chronically food insecure people in Ethiopia work toward achieving food security under the Productive Safety Net Program. Support provided to members of rural households enables them to undertake large scale rehabilitation of degraded land throughout the country. Between 2007 and 2009, this support has achieved significant results including large-scale reforestation through the planting of 880 million trees and shrubs, the reduction of soil erosion through the construction of more than 270,000 km of embankments and an increase in water supply for livestock and crop irrigation by constructing or rehabilitating more than 130,000 ponds.

Canada was the most active bilateral donor in the agriculture sector in Ghana in 2009. Through technical assistance and sectoral budget support, CIDA has contributed to agricultural growth of 6.2 percent in 2009 (up from 5.1 percent in 2008).
MDG 2 – Achieve Universal Primary Education

Basic education is the foundation for lifelong learning and employment, and is a main driver in reducing poverty and sustainable development globally. Canada is committed to supporting basic education, which includes the first 10 years of formal education and involves life skills training, literacy, and numeracy.

Through CIDA, Canada supports education globally in partnership with multilateral organizations, developing countries, and Canadian civil society.

In 2008–2009, CIDA provided approximately $330 million in funding for basic education. CIDA’s total funding for education, and secondary and college programs, including teacher training, brought CIDA’s investments to $400 million for 2008–2009, or 11 percent of CIDA’s development assistance budget.

At the G-8 Summit in 2006, Canada committed to increase annual bilateral support for basic education in Africa from $100 million to $150 million annually. Canada is on track to deliver on this pledge.

Particular attention to girls and marginalized populations is a core feature of Canada’s work in education. Access to quality education, with a strong focus on basic education, is one of three paths central to CIDA’s thematic priority of securing the future of children and youth.

Multilateral Engagement

In 2002, Canada was actively involved in the establishment of the Education for All Fast Track Initiative (EFA-FTI). This initiative has become the principal global education partnership of donors and developing countries. Through support to sound and sustainable national education sector plans, the EFA-FTI aims to accelerate progress toward MDG 2 and the Education for All goals.

At the 2006 G-8 Summit, Canada announced an investment of $24 million in the EFA-FTI funds and, in 2008, further committed $60 million over five years.

In Africa, the EFA-FTI has helped enrol 19 million more children in school. Girls account for 62 percent of new entrants. It has helped train more than 300,000 teachers, construct 28,000 classrooms, and distribute 200 million textbooks.
Working with Partner Countries

In keeping with Canada’s Aid Effectiveness Agenda, all of Canadian bilateral education aid is aligned with partner country priorities. By working with ministries of education, Canadian investment is strengthening national education systems for services such as public financial management, procurement, and monitoring and evaluation, while also achieving education results.

With increased funds for education managed by national governments, schools are better equipped to provide quality learning with key results such as: trained teachers, textbooks for every student, and safe classrooms.

Results that Make a Difference

As of March 2010, Senegal’s Ministry of Education, with Canadian support, has improved the physical environment of about 2,500 primary schools, providing a safe learning space for children; revised and started implementing the national primary school curriculum based on a Canadian competency-based model; and, trained approximately 30,000 teachers in the new teaching and learning methods.

In Mozambique, CIDA has supported the distribution of more than 90 million textbooks, student workbooks, and teacher manuals since 2004, reaching nearly five million primary school students and teachers in 2009.

In Haiti, CIDA works closely with the Ministry of Education to help re-establish the Ministry’s capacity to manage the sector in the wake of the January 2010 devastating earthquake. CIDA has contributed $6.2 million to help the Ministry of Education implements its Education for All strategy in providing school kits, uniforms, school feeding programs, and textbooks.

In Malawi, Canada’s Grant Support to the Education Sector (2004-2010) has helped to purchase 18.9 million units of educational materials, such as textbooks and teacher training manuals, for more than 5,400 schools and six teacher-training colleges.

In Afghanistan, CIDA works closely with the Afghan Ministry of Education to support the delivery of education services across the country. Canada is currently the lead donor, and has committed $64.5 million to the Education Quality Improvement Program, which is the largest national education program in the country. Through this program, Canada has supported the construction/rehabilitation of more than 800 schools across the country and funded the training of more than 110,000 teachers and principals. Overall, because of Canada’s support, Afghanistan has established more than 4,000 community-based schools throughout the country. These schools are increasing access to education for marginalized groups, such as girls and children from the Kuchi group (a nomadic Afghan people), as well as for students in remote and insecure areas of the country.
MDG 3 – Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

In 2008–2009, $1.19 billion of CIDA disbursements supported projects that either had gender equality as their primary objective, or had at least one intermediate outcome that was explicitly related to gender equality. In addition, Canada led the development of the 2010 G-8 Muskoka Initiative on maternal, newborn, and child health, which will help ensure women have improved access to health care and save the lives of more mothers and children.

Examples of results from CIDA’s work to build greater equality between women and men include:

- The Institutional Development for Poverty Reduction project in Pakistan has had a significant impact on women whereby they have improved their literacy skills and become more active in the community.
- A Canadian project in Mali helped to eliminate practices in various villages that were detrimental to the health of girls and women, particularly female genital mutilation.
- A project on girls’ primary education in Afghanistan supplemented the efforts of the Ministry of Education to increase the enrolment of girls, promote female teachers in primary education, and to develop the capacity of the teachers in government-run formal schools through training. The project has provided primary education to more than 80,000 students, 80 percent of them girls, and has trained more than 2,500 female community-based teachers.
Canada’s contributions to the Kenya Education Sector Support Program have helped to improve the quality and access of education in Kenya since 2007. Results show that Kenya is on the right track: the first National Assessment Report of Class 3 shows that girls are now performing better than boys in literacy tests and only slightly behind in numeracy tests. Today, the primary completion rate stands at 82 percent nationally. Improvements in the transition from primary to secondary school are also encouraging: 66.9 percent of primary school graduates are now moving on to secondary school, an increase from 45 percent in 2003.

In Haiti, Canada is working to build greater equality between women in men through various interventions:

- More than thirty shelters have been created to provide social, medical, and legal assistance for women and children victims of violence.
- Discussions at the national coordination table on violence against women have been supported by CIDA. These have led to the adoption of a law making rape a crime.
- Food security programming specifically addresses the needs of female-headed households through increasing the number of women involved in training and ensuring that a large percentage of the beneficiaries of agricultural inputs (seeds and fertilizer) and income-generating livestock are women.

Globally, Canada ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women in 1981, a cornerstone of international human rights. Canada supports the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, as well as its ongoing five-year reviews. Canada supports UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, and was a member of the UN Security Council when it was passed in 2000.
MDGs 4 and 5 – A Leading Role in Reducing Child Mortality and Improving Maternal Health

As President of the G-8 in 2010, Canada recognized an important opportunity to advance Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5 on reducing child mortality and improving maternal health. Canada had already made maternal, newborn, and child health a critical element of its new priority of securing the future of children and youth. At the G-8 Summit in June 2010, Canada championed the Muskoka Initiative, which would be a major step toward meeting these two goals.

As a result, Canada led the G-8, other countries, and private sector interests to invest $7.3 billion in the Muskoka Initiative. As noted in the Muskoka Declaration, G-8 countries “fully anticipate that, over the period 2010–2015, subject to respective budgetary processes, the Muskoka Initiative will mobilize significantly greater than $10 billion.”

Canada contributed $1.1 billion in new funding to the Muskoka Initiative, along with renewal of existing funding of $1.75 billion, for a total commitment of $2.85 billion over five years.

According to estimates from the World Health Organization and World Bank, over the next five years, the Muskoka Initiative will assist developing countries to:

- prevent the deaths of 1.3 million children under the age of five;
- prevent the deaths of 64,000 mothers; and
- provide access to modern methods of family planning for 12 million couples.

The Muskoka Declaration focuses on delivering effective, efficient, and sustainable interventions based on seven principles:

- ensuring the sustainability of results;
- building on proven, cost-effective, evidence-based interventions;
- focusing on the countries with the greatest needs while continuing to support those making progress;
- supporting country-led national health policies and plans that are locally supported;
- increasing coherence of development efforts through better coordination and harmonization;
- improving accountability; and
- strengthening monitoring, reporting, and evaluation.

Improving maternal and child health requires comprehensive, high-impact, and integrated interventions at the community level and across the continuum of care: pre-pregnancy, pregnancy, childbirth, infancy, and early childhood.
The initiative includes elements such as prenatal and postnatal care, attended childbirth, voluntary family planning, health education, treatment and prevention of diseases, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, immunization, basic nutrition, and relevant actions in the field of safe drinking water and sanitation.

**Canadian Development Assistance**

Canada targets a significant portion of its development assistance at the health sector, for a total of approximately $780 million in 2008–2009. Canada’s policy leadership and its significant financial contributions to bilateral and multilateral initiatives have helped improve the health of millions of people around the world. Canadian programs have contributed to progress toward reducing child mortality (MDG 4) and improving maternal health (MDG 5) by focusing on strengthening health systems to provide equitable and sustainable health services for all—particularly mothers and children.

Working with Canadian, multilateral, and country partners, Canada provides strong and consistent support for proven, effective interventions that make concrete, measurable progress toward improving the health of mothers and their children. The efforts of CIDA through its Children and Youth Strategy include the following:

- immunization and micronutrient supplementation programs;
- obstetric and neonatal care;
- breastfeeding support;
- HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment;
- malaria control;
- preventing and treating leading childhood illnesses such as diarrhea, and pneumonia;
- family planning; and
- strengthening health systems to deliver sustainable services to mothers and children.

Recent initiatives aimed at improving maternal and child health include the following:

- In 2007, Canada committed $230 million to help launch the Advance Market Commitment (AMC) pilot project to accelerate the introduction of vaccines against pneumococcal diseases in developing countries. Pneumonia, the most common form of serious pneumococcal disease, is the leading cause of death among young children in developing countries. The most effective way to prevent these deaths is to ensure access to effective, safe, and affordable vaccines. The AMC is a US$1.5-billion financial commitment by multiple donors to guarantee to pay for the vaccines once they have been developed, encouraging vaccine manufacturers to produce suitable and affordable vaccines for the world’s poorest countries 15–20 years before they might otherwise done so. The AMC is a pay-on-results mechanism; donors will only pay for the vaccines if they meet affordability and effectiveness criteria, and if developing countries demand them. It is estimated that the AMC can prevent more than seven million childhood deaths by 2030.

- Through the Catalytic Initiative to Save a Million Lives Canada is training and equipping health workers to prevent and treat illness, and deliver health services to vulnerable groups of children. To date, more than 20,000 health workers in six countries have been trained.
• In Zambia, with Canadian support, more than 4,500 community health workers and traditional healers were trained in an integrated approach to prevent and manage the most common deadly childhood illnesses. Canada’s support between 2001 and 2007 assisted in approximately 275,000 urban children and 40,000 rural children receiving improved health care. As a result, cases of:
  − diarrhea decreased from 41 percent to 25.6 percent;
  − malaria decreased from 46.8 percent to 29.5 percent; and
  − pneumonia decreased from 12 percent to 1.1 percent.

• In Mali, Canada supports the Mali Health and Social Development Program (PRODESS). Since 2003, Canada has helped strengthen Mali’s regional health programs in Kayes and Mali’s three northern regions, where the health indicators are the worst in the country. Activities implemented in these regions have engaged all actors in Mali’s decentralized health system and are in line with Mali’s national health plan and priorities. Canadian support has led to positive results:
  − In Kayes the rate of assisted births increased from 26 percent in 2003 to 57 percent in 2008 (national average: 61 percent);
  − In Timbuktu, the rate of prenatal consultation increased from 31 percent in 2003 to 75 percent in 2008 (national average: 82 percent); and,
  − In Gao, the rate of immunization coverage increased from 48 percent in 2003 to 94 percent in 2008 (national average: 94 percent).

• In Mozambique, CIDA supports the Ministry of Health’s health sector strategic plan, which includes:
  − increasing the capacity of health posts to offer Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses and basic obstetric care;
  − preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV; and
  − increasing access to youth-friendly services.

Canada’s leadership in the health sector has helped improve the lives of millions of people around the world. Canadian programs have contributed to progress toward MDG 6 through a focus on the strengthening of health systems to provide equitable and sustainable health services for all and the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

Canada targets a significant portion of its development assistance budget on the health sector: approximately $780 million in 2008–2009. Since 2007, Canada has committed $51 million to support the development of an affordable and globally accessible HIV vaccine through the Canadian HIV Vaccine Initiative (CHVI).

In 2010, Canada announced its renewed commitment to the CHVI with an additional $60 million. The Initiative will also receive $28 million from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. CHVI works on the development of a vaccine against HIV, including support to research in low- and middle-income countries. Under the renewal, CIDA is providing an additional $30 million towards the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV in low and middle-income countries.

Canada has committed $978.4 million to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria since the fund’s creation in 2002. To date, programs supported by the fund are estimated to have saved 4.9 million lives.

Canada was an early leader among donor countries in providing free antimalarial bed nets. Since 2003, CIDA’s support to malaria has resulted in the distribution of more than 6.4 million bed nets in Africa to high-risk groups such as children under the age of five and pregnant women.

In Haiti, Canada supports more than a hundred public and private institutions in the Artibonite region to provide STI-HIV/AIDS prevention programs and sexually transmitted infections (STI) treatment services to more than a million residents.
Canada’s support in Zimbabwe to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV has helped to train 1,068 district nurses, nurses’ aides and other health workers in comprehensive preventive HIV care. Since 2006, approximately 25 percent more at-risk babies in the three project districts have been identified and administered preventive treatment, and 58 health centres were upgraded to provide comprehensive preventive care to approximately 200,000 Zimbabwean men, women and children.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, CIDA programming constructed or rehabilitated 36 health centres in the province of Kinshasa providing 300,000 people with access to basic health care. In one of the two health districts covered by CIDA’s work, vaccination coverage for diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), and tetanus for children under the age of five increased from 43 percent in 2003 to 97 percent in 2009.
MDG 7 – Ensure Environmental Sustainability

Environmental sustainability is the cornerstone of human health and development, providing the air, water, food, and materials that humanity relies on. The poor in developing countries are particularly vulnerable and are the least able to adapt to the effects of environmental degradation.

All of Canada’s international development policies include consideration of environmental sustainability as a key crosscutting theme. Canada assesses all of its development assistance activities for potential environmental risks and opportunities. Through the CIDA, Canada works with its partner countries to ensure they have capacity to do the same. This includes enhancing partners’ abilities to manage natural resources and address issues such as desertification and climate change. In 2008–2009, CIDA invested approximately $175 million toward environmental initiatives to support sustainable land management, integrated water resource management (including access to clean water and sanitation), and climate change adaptation.

Delivering Clean Water and Basic Sanitation

Clean water and basic sanitation are critical in combating disease and death, particularly in young children. They are also key interconnected factors in sound environmental management of water and watersheds at the community level. Canada is engaged in assisting developing countries in delivering access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation to their people.

CIDA has invested approximately $209 million in the areas of water and sanitation worldwide between 2006 and 2009. These investments have resulted in better access to safe water for hundreds of thousands of people and include the following:

- The $10 million Rural Water Development Program in Mozambique increased access to safe water and basic sanitation services in five rural districts, resulting in improved water and basic services for 130,000 people in 260 rural communities;
- A contribution of $16.4 million in Ghana over the last 10 years, which has brought 829 new and rehabilitated water points and has improved sanitation in households. As a result, the prevalence of diarrhea in children under the age of five has been reduced from 38 percent in 2002 to 21 percent in 2008 in the Eastern Corridor section of northern Ghana. In the same communities, the number of cases of guinea worm disease was reduced by 66 percent.
- Support to the rehabilitation of the Artibonite River watershed in the border zone between Haiti and the Dominican Republic was provided through a $10 million contribution. This project is helping reverse environmental degradation of the forest canopy and is strengthening the ability of both governments to address watershed-management issues.

At the 2009 G-8 Summit, African and G-8 leaders agreed to launch a strengthened Africa G-8 water and sanitation partnership. Canada is providing $36 million over three years (2009–2012) to the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative to extend coverage of safe water and basic sanitation to 80 percent of the rural populations by 2015.

The Government of Canada is also supporting the United Nations GEMS/Water Programme, which provides scientifically sound data and information on the state and trends of global inland water quality for the sustainable management of the world’s freshwater and to support global environmental assessments and decision making.
Reducing Biodiversity Loss

Canada is the sixth largest donor to the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Approximately one third of GEF’s funding is allocated to the reduction of biodiversity loss.

Through a strategic partnership, Canada provides more than $1 million to support the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), a unique global organization that contributes to the development and application of ideas and solutions that demonstrate the fundamental importance of biodiversity in addressing development challenges. The IUCN brings civil society together with private and public sector interests to develop and implement policies, laws, and best practices that forge the essential linkages between biodiversity conservation and the livelihoods of the poor.

Climate Change and the MDGs

Canada is a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and has been an active and constructive participant in the international climate negotiations. Domestically, Canada has formally committed to an economy-wide emissions reduction target of 17 percent below 2005 levels by 2020. Internationally, Canada fully supports the 2009 Copenhagen Accord. The accord commits developed countries to provide fast-start funding approaching US$30 billion over 2010–2012 and to work jointly to mobilize US$100 billion by 2020 from various sources, including public and private financing.

Together with other industrialized countries, Canada is taking action to help developing economies reduce emissions and adapt to climate change. Canada is investing $400 million for international climate-change efforts in 2010–2011. This represents the 2010 portion of Canada’s contribution to the fast-start financing promised by developed countries under the Copenhagen Accord. Canada’s priority areas for the funding are 1) adaptation by the poorest and most vulnerable, 2) clean energy development and deployment, 3) reducing emissions from deforestation, and 4) forests and agriculture.

In addition to these commitments under the Copenhagen Accord, Canada has:

• provided $238.4 million to the GEF financing exercise (the fifth replenishment for 2010–2014), which is a 50-percent increase from Canada’s contribution to the previous replenishment period. Of this contribution, $18.5 million in 2010 represents Canada’s first installment of climate change fast-start funding as part of our commitment under the Copenhagen Accord;
• contributed a total of $100 million (2008–2010) to the World Bank’s Pilot Program for Climate Resilience; and
• In 2008, Canada contributed of $100 million to the World Bank’s Pilot Program for Climate Resilience. Nine countries and two regions have been invited to participate in the pilot, including four of CIDA’s countries of focus: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Mozambique, and the Caribbean (including Haiti, Jamaica, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines). The World Bank will help these countries set up Strategic Programs for Climate Change, which will outline existing capacities and integrating climate resilience into development planning.

Canada acknowledges that climate change will affect international development programming, and believes that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change should remain the central forum for all negotiations on climate change.
Canada has a long-standing commitment to working with its partners in global development. Building a more effective global partnership for development, as reflected in international agreements on aid effectiveness and finances for development, is key in delivering on MDG 8.

Good governance is essential for inclusive and equitable poverty reduction and long-term sustainable development. CIDA’s work in this area aims to make states more effective in tackling poverty by enhancing the participation of all people, particularly the poor and the marginalized, in influencing policy and to improve their livelihoods.

The Government of Canada has taken important steps to transform how it delivers aid by strengthening the focus, effectiveness, and accountability of its aid program. To assist in this effort, Canada has adopted a comprehensive aid effectiveness agenda based on the principles of country ownership, harmonization, alignment, managing for results, and mutual accountability.

Canada strongly supports the work undertaken by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development including the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness. It remains an effective mechanism for mutual accountability of our shared efforts.

In 2008, Canada, through CIDA, led the process in Accra, Ghana that resulted in a breakthrough recognition for civil society organizations (CSOs) as development actors in their own right and paved the way for the engagement of CSOs as full partners in the aid effectiveness agenda. Today, CSOs are directly represented in the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness.

Untying Aid

In April 2008, the Government of Canada untied 100 percent of Canada’s food aid. This was followed by the announcement in September 2008 that Canadian development aid would be fully untied by 2012–2013. Canada has made important progress with its untying ratio increasing from 75 percent in 2007 to 91 percent in 2008.

Untying aid makes each dollar spent more effective: the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development estimates up to a 35 percent an increase in effectiveness. This increase effectiveness comes from the freedom to use local suppliers, seek the best costs, and benefit from simplified logistics. In addition, untied aid helps build local systems and long-term capacity.

Trade

Trade is a key element of economic growth, and inclusive economic growth is essential to reducing poverty. Canada is active in helping developing countries access markets. Canada is committed to providing market access to developing countries through the Least Developed Countries Tariff initiative. This initiative offers duty-free and quota-free access for all products from least developed countries to aid in the growth and expansion of their economies.
Canada’s support for Aid for Trade has increased steadily, rising from US$182 million in 2005 to US$316 million in 2008. Canada delivers much of its aid bilaterally, but is also a significant contributor to multilateral programs through the World Bank, the World Trade Organization, regional development banks, the International Trade Centre, and others. Canada recently contributed $19.2 million to the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Least Developed Countries Trade Development.

Canada is committed to providing market access to developing countries through the Least Developed Countries Tariff (LDCT). The LDCT offers duty-free and quota-free access for all products from least developed countries to aid in the growth and expansion of their economies.

Debt Forgiveness
Canada has provided more than $1.3 billion in debt relief to developing countries through a combination of bilateral and multilateral actions since 2000.

Access to Medicines and Medical Devices
The Government of Canada is committed to improving access to safe, essential drugs and medical devices that are needed to address public health problems afflicting many developing countries, especially those resulting from HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and other diseases. Canada’s Access to Medicines Regime provides a framework within which eligible countries can import less-expensive generic versions of patented drugs and medical devices. All products exported under the regime must meet the same rigorous requirements for safety, effectiveness, and quality as those authorized for the Canadian market.
Culture and Development
Canada has been a leader in the development and adoption of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, which recognizes the dual nature—social and economic—of cultural goods and services. As an active member of the Intergovernmental Committee for this Convention, Canada continues to play a key role in developing coherent operational guidelines that will ensure the effective implementation of this convention. Canada has contributed $600,000 to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity, which promotes sustainable development and poverty reduction by helping to build capacity in the cultural industries of developing countries.

Sport and Development
The Government of Canada recognizes that sport can contribute to the global development agenda and the MDGs in a number of ways, such as supporting child and youth development, engaging youth at risk, supporting student retention and educational achievement, and contributing to improved health and gender equality. The Government of Canada is contributing approximately $7 million in 2010–2011 in this area, and has been a key player in the growing constituency of nations, multilateral organizations, and civil society actors collaborating to use sport to address the global development agenda.