

the developing world. In its role as co-ordinator of international development research, the Centre enlists the talents of natural and social scientists and technologists of both Canada and other countries. It also assists developing regions to build up the research capabilities, innovative skills and institutions required to solve their own problems. The Centre also offers research grants to PhD candidates and mid-career practitioners who are Canadian citizens or residents with three years landed-immigrant status.

Operations of the Centre are conducted under four program divisions: Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Sciences; Information Sciences; Population and Health Sciences; and Social Sciences and Human Resources. As at December 31, 1972 the Centre had approved 81 projects worth \$11 million involving 74 grantees in 60 countries. Most of the research activities and related seminars were conducted in developing countries by their research organizations.

The Canadian government gave the Centre \$2.4 million in 1970-71, \$2.5 million in 1971-72 and \$8 million in 1972-73.

Asia assistance program. Canada's development assistance program in South and Southeast Asia — the Colombo Plan — is the longest established (1950) regional bilateral aid program administered by CIDA, and also the largest in volume, with an allocation of \$153.4 million in 1972-73, compared to \$143.4 million in 1971-72. Despite this increase, the size of the populations of Asia results in a much smaller impact in terms of per capita receipts than is the case of aid from Canada to areas such as the Caribbean or parts of Africa.

Since 1950 Canada has provided more than \$1,660 million through its bilateral aid program in Asia, the greater share directed to Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka (Ceylon). In recent years the nature of Canada's program in South and Southeast Asia has changed considerably. To improve its over-all effectiveness, multi-component projects are being developed. Capital assistance, in the form of loans and grants, is provided in specific economic sectors identified by the recipient countries as their development priorities in fields such as communications, transport, electric power development, agriculture, fisheries, mining, lumbering, medicine and public health.

Greater emphasis is being placed on commodity loan programs for some recipient countries such as the \$50 million allocated to India. Usually commodity aid consists of raw materials such as aluminum, lead, copper, asbestos, wood pulp or some semi-processed materials. Grants for foodstuffs also form an integral part of Canadian aid in South and Southeast Asia. The main items are cereal grains and rapeseed but others may be included under CIDA's emergency relief program. Through internal sale of these commodities recipient countries have been able to raise funds to meet local costs of development projects.

Canada's lines of credit program is another departure from traditional aid operations. Designed to help overcome problems of foreign exchange in developing countries, this program provides goods and services that are priority import requirements but difficult to obtain through regular financing arrangements. India and Indonesia have signed lines of credit agreements with Canada and other countries are discussing similar arrangements.

Canada is taking an active part in rehabilitation and reconstruction programs through its development assistance to Bangladesh. In 1972-73, \$51.5 million was allocated for Canadian-assisted projects and food aid.

Technical assistance represents another aspect of Canadian aid in Asia. More than 5,500 Asian people have had training in Canada in public administration, finance, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, engineering, business administration, medicine, health, education or social welfare. At the same time more than 650 Canadian experts have gone to South and Southeast Asia to provide technical assistance. As at January 1, 1972 there were 15 Canadian advisers and 40 Canadian educators serving under CIDA contracts in Asia. More than 440 trainees from developing countries in Asia were in Canada under CIDA auspices.

Latin American program. Although Canada has participated in the United Nations and World Bank programs in Latin America since their inception, Canadian development assistance really started in 1964 when Canada entrusted the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) with a special fund, to be used for loans on concessional terms to member countries. The first allocation was for \$10 million. With subsequent annual allocations Canada had contributed over \$74 million by January 1972. All projects to be financed from the fund were suggested by the recipient countries, assessed by the IDB and approved by CIDA. Eighteen loans were made to finance projects in transportation, telecommunications, electric power, agriculture,