

bodies. Representatives of provincial governments attend OECD meetings when subjects of particular interest to the provinces are being discussed.

Canadian development assistance programs

3.6.2.12

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is responsible for the operation and administration of Canada's international development assistance programs. In 1975-76 Canada disbursed \$903.5 million for foreign aid, an increase of \$159.8 million over the previous year. Of that amount \$318.6 million was disbursed to multilateral assistance programs and \$525.7 million to bilateral assistance programs. The remaining funds were divided among non-governmental organizations working in international development, international emergency relief programs, the International Development Research Centre, incentives to Canadian private investment in developing countries and the CIDA scholarship fund for Canadians taking postgraduate degrees in international development and related fields.

CIDA's multilateral assistance programs are directed toward the United Nations and its affiliated organizations, the World Bank Group, the regional development banks and several regional institutions.

CIDA's bilateral development program is divided into three types of aid — technical assistance, economic assistance and international food aid — and into five regional programs. During 1975, 3,734 students and trainees from developing countries studied in Canada under CIDA's technical assistance program and 963 Canadian advisers and educators worked overseas. Under a unique feature of Canada's technical training program more than 600 students and trainees studied in developing countries other than their own.

Canadian bilateral economic assistance is divided almost evenly between grants and loans. Most loans are extended for 50 years and are interest free, with no repayment required for the first 10 years. Disbursements for bilateral food programs totalled \$119.3 million in 1975-76.

Canada's role in the Colombo Plan, a program initiated by Commonwealth governments in 1951 (and subsequently joined by other governments) to administer aid to South and Southeast Asia, is the largest and oldest of the regional bilateral aid programs administered by CIDA. It received \$244 million from CIDA in 1974-75 and \$258 million in 1975-76. However, because of the size of the Asian population it has much less impact than aid from Canada has in such areas as the Caribbean or parts of Africa.

Since 1951 Canada has provided more than \$2.2 billion in bilateral aid, most of it directed to Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. In recent years Canada's program in this area has changed considerably. Capital assistance, in the form of loans and grants, is now provided for specific economic sectors given priority by the recipient countries in fields such as communications, transportation, electric power development, agriculture, fisheries, mining, lumbering, medicine and public health.

CIDA's programs in francophone Africa, which includes the eight least developed nations of the world, were initially concentrated on technical assistance projects particularly in education and health. Since 1970, however, Canada has broadened the scope of its assistance and increased its support in the area from \$29.7 million to \$105.0 million in 1975-76. Canada has become increasingly involved in the economic development of the region through projects that combine capital and technical assistance, and which accord with the priorities of the countries concerned.

The Special Commonwealth Africa Assistance Plan resulted from discussions at the 1960 Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meeting. Canadian assistance to Commonwealth Africa has grown from an initial provision for technical and educational assistance to include a variety of capital projects and pre-investment surveys. Undertakings in energy, transportation, communications, agriculture and economic planning in eastern and southern Africa have balanced an original focus on west Africa. Between 1960 and March 1976, Canada contributed \$457