

bilateral aid, most of it directed to Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Traditional forms of assistance have included shipments of food and essential commodities, plus infrastructure projects involving dams, power transmission, transportation and communications. More recently, a new generation of projects has emerged that put more emphasis on rural development. Priority over the next five years will go to agriculture and social development.

Canada's next largest bilateral program is in francophone Africa, where disbursements for 1978-79 totalled \$130 million. Canadian aid began there in 1961 and now totals \$783 million. In the eight countries of the Sahel region, assistance has been provided in the transportation sector to open up the countries by building roads and railway lines. Canada is also assisting rural farmers engaged in subsistence agriculture. Another type of assistance that is more trade-related, with emphasis on industrial co-operation, is now being undertaken with the middle-income countries of Algeria, Tunisia and Ivory Coast.

Canadian bilateral assistance to Commonwealth Africa emphasizes the needs of the rural poor. Rural-development-related projects accounted for 60% of the 1978-79 total disbursement figure of \$107 million. As in francophone Africa, CIDA is responding to the continent's particular need for infrastructure: transportation and public utilities will take on more importance in Canadian programs over the next few years. Tanzania, Ghana, Malawi and Zambia are the main recipients of Canadian aid in Commonwealth Africa, which has reached a total of \$807 million since the program began in 1959.

The Canadian program of assistance in Latin America is the most recent, dating from 1970. Total disbursements for 1978-79 were \$47 million, bringing the total amount spent in Latin America to \$195 million. As in other regions, rural development is the most important sector. Of the total funds disbursed, 20% went to Haiti for an integrated rural development project.

Canadian bilateral assistance to the Caribbean totalled \$35 million in 1978-79, and emphasizes employment generation, particularly in the agriculture and manufacturing sectors. Tourism is also vitally important to the region and CIDA has provided assistance to improve airport facilities, communications links and water systems. Total aid since the program began in 1958 has reached \$285 million.

Through multilateral assistance Canada joins with other donor nations to provide a level of development that is beyond the scope of individual countries. CIDA funds for multilateral programs are channelled through UN agencies, financial institutions such as the World Bank and regional development banks such as the African Development Bank, and regional institutions. There are about 65 programs receiving Canadian funds, and while the organizations are responsible for the administration of projects, Canada participates in their policy-making processes and ensures that the major criteria set out in its own development strategy are met. During the fiscal year 1978-79, Canada's contribution to multilateral organizations was \$491 million.

Canadian food aid provided through multilateral agencies in 1978-79 was valued at \$98 million. The largest part of it went to the UN world food program.

In 1978-79 CIDA's non-governmental organization (NGO) program provided over \$55 million to support 195 NGOs carrying out 1,719 projects in 105 countries. CIDA supports NGO projects that contribute to development by creating jobs or developing human resources, and foster self-reliance by making maximum use of local human and financial resources and cultivating leadership potential.

A program was created in 1974 to channel Canadian aid to the Third World through internationally constituted and managed NGOs. Disbursements for 1978-79 were \$7.5 million for 99 projects, mostly in social development and community services.

In an industrial co-operation program CIDA encourages the Canadian private sector to establish or expand operations in developing countries. It also assists developing countries to create an environment conducive to industrialization and to earn foreign exchange. Disbursements for 1978-79 under this program amounted to \$460,777.

### **The International Development Research Centre (IDRC)**

IDRC was established in 1970 to initiate and encourage research focused on the problems of the world's developing regions; it fosters co-operation between developing