

widespread famine. Major recipients of CIDA assistance have included Tanzania, Egypt, Kenya, Ghana, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Canada's assistance to countries in the Americas has totalled about \$800 million. In the Caribbean, where Canadian aid dates back to 1958, tourism is important; projects have included improvements to airports, communications links and water systems. The main priority is job creation, particularly in agriculture and manufacturing. In Latin America, where bilateral assistance from Canada began in 1970, rural development is emphasized. Countries in the Americas receiving significant amounts of bilateral aid from CIDA have included Haiti, Jamaica, Guyana and Colombia.

Through multilateral assistance Canada joins with other countries to support development initiatives beyond the scope of any single donor. Canadian funds for multilateral programs are channelled through UN agencies, financial institutions such as the World Bank and regional development banks, and other specialized international organizations. Canada contributes to about 65 programs or agencies and participates in their policy-making.

During the 1960s, Canada pioneered in providing government funding to help non-governmental organizations expand their efforts. In 1982-83, CIDA contributed \$63.6 million to assist 180 Canadian voluntary agencies in sponsoring about 2,500 projects in 111 developing countries, and provided \$59.6 million to help Canadian educational and social institutions take part in 768 projects in all regions of the world and all major sectors of development co-operation. Provincial governments contributed an additional \$24.3 million. A total of nearly \$150 million of official Canadian development assistance was provided to help finance more than 3,000 projects. These projects, typically in such areas as food, nutrition, public health, and education, encourage self-reliance through the use of local resources and often reach many of the poorest and most isolated people. Through another program created in 1974, CIDA provided \$18 million in 1982-83 to help 67 internationally constituted non-governmental organizations carry out projects, mostly in social development and community services.

Other CIDA disbursements during 1982-83 included \$25 million for international emergency relief, largely to assist refugees in Asia and Africa; \$16 million through an industrial co-operation program that helps Canadian business and industry participate in world development; and \$4.2 million in special Commonwealth and Canadian scholarships.

About half of Canada's overall aid program is tied to the procurement of Canadian goods and services. The bilateral program is 80% tied, while up to 20% may be untied to meet local costs. Goods such as equipment must have at least two-thirds Canadian

content to be considered Canadian-sourced. Programs other than bilateral are largely untied.

Canada has long been one of the world's major suppliers of food aid, mostly through shipments of wheat, flour and canola oil, through multilateral agencies (mainly the World Food Program), through bilateral agreements with such countries as Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Somalia, and the African states of the Sahel region, and through Canadian non-governmental organizations. Food aid is normally financed by grants. In 1982-83 Canada's food aid contributions totalled \$273 million.

Canadian aid in 1982-83 represented 0.46% of gross national product. Canada's objective is to increase its aid level to 0.5% of GNP by the mid-1980s and to reach the international target of 0.7% by the end of the decade.

### 21.7.2 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 nations as well as between the developed and the developing world. In its role as co-ordinator of international development research, it helps developing regions to build up research capabilities, skills and institutions to solve their own problems.

Projects are channelled through five program divisions: agriculture, food and nutrition sciences; health sciences; information sciences; social sciences and co-operative programs, supporting joint projects between Canadian and Third World research institutions. As at March 31, 1983 IDRC had supported 1,634 projects in 101 countries.

A fellowship program with categories of awards for both Canadians and citizens of developing countries is designed to provide individuals with the opportunity to undertake training or research in various aspects of development.

IDRC is financed by the Parliament of Canada by means of an annual grant. Its status as a public corporation allows it to offer completely untied aid. IDRC is not an agent of the Canadian government and its officers and employees are not part of the public service of Canada. It is governed by an international autonomous board of governors; at least 11 of the governors including the chairman and vice-chairman must be Canadian citizens. To date the 10 other members have been appointed from other countries, with six among them from developing countries. The centre submits an annual report to the Canadian Parliament through the secretary of state for external affairs.

The centre maintains a close and co-operative relationship with CIDA whose president is usually a member of IDRC's board of governors.