

environmental impact for all new projects. In addition, a major decentralization program which began in 1987-88, will facilitate decision-making in the field and enhance CIDA's responsiveness in planning and implementing aid projects.

Canadian aid totalled \$2.61 billion in 1987-88, or 0.5% of GNP. It is the government's objective to raise the (Official Development Assistance) ODA/GNP ratio by gradual increments, beginning in 1991-92, to 0.6% by 1995 and to 0.7% by 2000.

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 seven program divisions: agriculture, food and nutrition sciences; health sciences; information sciences; social sciences; earth and engineering sciences; fellowships and awards; and communications. As of September 1988, IDRC had supported 3,583 projects in more than 100 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, based on a percentage of Official Development Assistance (ODA). 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.

21.7.3 CUSO

Founded in 1961, CUSO is an independent Canadian voluntary organization which works with

communities and groups committed to development and social change both in Canada and the Third World. It recruits Canadians skilled in trades, business, agriculture and renewable resource occupations, health, education, technology and community development for two-year postings in the Third World; these workers share their skills and gain personally through a broadened outlook. Committed to the economic and social advancement of the poorest segments of Third World societies, CUSO also provides funding and other support on a partnership basis to self-help and community development projects. Within Canada, CUSO is involved in public education concerning the causes of Third World underdevelopment.

CUSO receives core funding from CIDA; other contributions come from provincial governments, individuals, church groups, professional and service organizations, unions, businesses and corporations.

21.7.4 CESO

The Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO) was created in 1967. The independent, non-government organization sends Canadians (retired, semi-retired or professionally-active) with expertise in business and technology to be short-term volunteer consultants to people in business and organizations in the developing world. In 1969, the program was expanded to send CESO volunteers to various parts of Canada to assist Canadian native people.

CIDA and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada provides CESO with core funding. Other contributions have been made by more than 300 Canadian corporations, overseas clients, provincial/territorial governments, individuals, and professional and service organizations.

21.8 Defence

21.8.1 Department of National Defence

The Department of National Defence was created by the National Defence Act, 1922. The Defence Minister controls and manages the Canadian forces and all matters relating to national defence establishments. The Minister is responsible for presenting to Cabinet matters of major defence policy for which Cabinet direction is required. The Minister continues to be responsible for certain civil emergency powers, duties and functions.

The chief of the defence staff is the senior military adviser to the Minister and is charged with the control and administration of the Canadian forces. The chief of the defence staff is