

CIDA Publishes its Sustainable Development Strategy, 2004 to 2006

CIDA's third Sustainable Development Strategy lays out "CIDA's business plan" for 2004 to 2006. The Strategy sets out indicators for development results in economic well-being, social development, environmental sustainability and governance. There are several highlights of interest to CCIC members:

- The Strategy reaffirms existing policy and financial commitments to the four social development priorities as well as the 2003 policy commitment to increase CIDA's investment in agriculture fivefold (from \$95 million to \$500 million) between 2002-2003 and 2007-2008.
- "CIDA will contribute to the development of a more effective approach to security and development, across the Government of Canada, including continued support to and review of the efforts of Canadian police in developing countries to restore human security, social stability, and the rule of law". It goes on to say that "a key component of CIDA's work in this area will be continued collaborative work with other government departments on a "3D" approach to global security-encompassing diplomacy, development, and defence, for example, in the post-conflict reconstruction of Afghanistan and Iraq."
- On Africa, the Strategy makes some specific commitments - by 2005, 75% of new resources for Africa will be channeled through direct budget support, SWAps and common funds; by the end of 2005 60% of CIDA bilateral programming in Africa will be concentrated in 10 countries, reduced from the current 15, with average monetary ceilings rising from \$14 million to \$54 million.
- CIDA's "partnership programming mechanisms with Canadian and Southern civil society and the private sector will continue to focus on capacity building for local ownership, thereby contributing to aligning aid with the plans and priorities of developing countries."
- "Over the next three years, CIDA will develop and resource a renewed strategy for public engagement, which will guide CIDA's strategic collaboration with partners."