



Backgrounder

CIDA'S FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY AT A GLANCE

CIDA will work towards increasing food security in partner countries and regions where the Agency focuses its international development programming and where food security is identified as a key priority. These initiatives will be designed to increase the resilience of the poor by reducing their vulnerability to immediate and long-term shocks that impact their food security. Emphasis will be placed on ensuring that rural smallholder farmers can contribute to increasing food security.

Strategic Objective

The objective of the Strategy is to respond to immediate food needs while increasing access to quality, nutritious food over the longer term. The strategy will also seek to improve the governance of the global food system.

Priorities for Action

Sustainable Agricultural Development

- Double all investments related to sustainable agricultural development to 1.2 billion from 2007-2008 levels over three years.
- Increase rural smallholder farmers' access to agricultural technologies, knowledge, financial services, markets, land, water, and other natural resources. As an example, CIDA will double its investment to \$75 million over three years to the International Fund for Agricultural Development.
- Support national and regional agriculture strategies and their implementation at all levels, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme.
- Increase Canadian leadership and expertise on joint donor-government agriculture groups.

Food Assistance and Nutrition

- Support the efforts of the UN World Food Programme (WFP) to meet the food-assistance needs of vulnerable populations in developing countries.
- Explore innovative initiatives on food assistance and nutrition programming. For example, CIDA will contribute \$30 million to the UN WFP's Purchase for Progress program, which buys from local farmers.

- Work with other countries on continued improvements to the Food Aid Convention, including showing leadership by continuing to meet our commitments.
- Work with multilateral organizations and national governments to increase micronutrient programming.
- Support national and regional strategies to incorporate nutrition considerations into broader food security initiatives.
- Support and strengthen national and regional food reserves and food crisis alert and prevention systems.

Research and Innovation

- CIDA will increase investment for research and innovation to broaden and deepen publicly available research that focuses on food security issues. For example:
 - CIDA will create, in partnership with the International Development Research Centre, the \$62 million, five-year Canadian International Food Security Research Fund.
 - CIDA will contribute \$32.5 million over three years in new funds to the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research's Challenge Programs.
- Strengthen national and regional agricultural research systems, including enhanced extension services.
- Ensure that investments in research inform CIDA's and its development partners' future policies and programs related to food security.