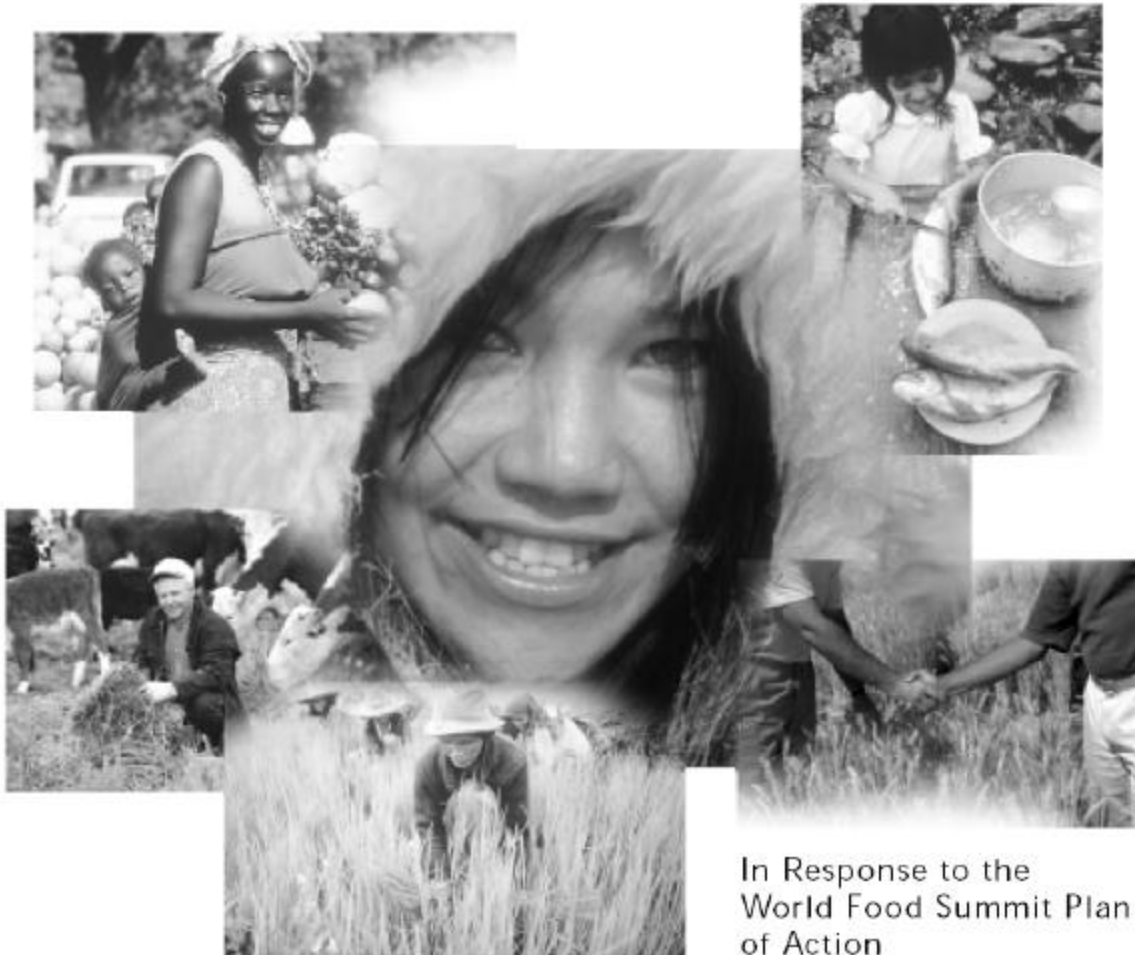


Canada's Third Progress Report On Food Security



In Response to the
World Food Summit Plan
of Action

The Department of Agriculture and Agri-food Canada

November, 2004

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1996, Canada joined 186 other nations to endorse the goal of the World Food Summit (WFS) to reduce the number of undernourished people by half no later than 2015. The Rome Declaration of the WFS established seven commitments that are the basis for achieving sustainable food security for all. Canada's Action Plan for Food Security, launched in 1998, is a comprehensive national agenda that spells out the objectives and actions for implementing the seven commitments of the Rome Declaration.

This is Canada's Third Report to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) highlighting some of the many initiatives in the Action Plan for Food Security that Canada has recently undertaken to achieve the Summit's goal. The main body of the report is divided into two sections focusing on domestic and international implementation. Although the report is not intended to be exhaustive, the scope and volume of initiatives presented are a clear reflection of Canada's ongoing commitment to reduce hunger and increase food security at home and internationally.

Even though Canada is a major exporter of food and food-related products, it is not immune to domestic food insecurity and many vulnerable Canadians remain unable to meet their basic food needs. As indicated throughout the domestic implementation section of the report, many initiatives by the Government of Canada, provincial and territorial governments, and the private sector focus on improving an enabling environment, and supporting agricultural productivity and rural development.

The federal government, provincial and territorial governments, local and regional governments, and many non-government organizations also work together on other food security issues such as poverty reduction, social welfare, improving access to food for vulnerable Canadians, and implement new strategies for environmentally sustainable production in fisheries, forestry and agriculture.

One of Canada's most significant recent initiatives on the domestic food security front was the launch of the new Agricultural Policy Framework (APF), an effective architecture for 21st century agricultural policy that will make Canada a world leader in food safety, innovation and environmentally-responsible production. Tightly integrating Canada's efforts on agriculture, the APF will increase the adaptability of producers and improve their productivity for a steadily increasing supply of safe and nutritious food for consumers at home and abroad.

In the international arena, Canada has been engaged in a wide variety of policy and action programs to increase, support and promote sustainable food production in developing countries. In 2002 the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) announced its intention to triple its international development assistance to the agriculture sector, with the aim of reaching \$500

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million by 2008. To help increase trade and incomes for third world producers, Canada has also recently expanded its Least Developed Country Tariff Initiative to provide duty-free access for most agricultural products from developing countries.

As indicated throughout the international implementation section of this report, CIDA and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) continue to play a leading role for Canada in the transfer of knowledge, resources and technology to dozens of developing countries around the world. Their work is supported by many other Canadian government and non-government organizations on the ground in Canada, Asia, Africa, Central and South America, and the Caribbean, doing research, providing support and building infrastructure for improved food security, prosperity, health and well-being.

It is essential to note that many of the domestic and international initiatives highlighted in this report have been developed and delivered by members of Canadian civil society – non-governmental organizations, academics, and other interested parties. Civil society has a vital role to play in local, regional, national and global efforts to reduce hunger, and more efforts can be made to include the ideas and input of both civil society and provincial governments in future reports on Canada's food security.

Canada's recent efforts to reduce food insecurity have yielded many valuable lessons. We know, for example, that sustainable agricultural production is critical in the fight against poverty and hunger. We also know that long-term commitment, expanded international programs, effective partnerships and a wider role for civil society are also essential to the success of our vision.

Unfortunately, there are few regular data sources on food security issues in Canada and evaluating how projects or programs impact food security at home or internationally is difficult. Statistics Canada has begun to collect food security data in national health surveys, but additional quantifiable information is needed to help us better understand the food security picture in Canada, and the effect of our efforts on food security in developing countries.

PART ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

At the 1996 World Food Summit (WFS), Canada's Minister of Agriculture supported the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, and the World Food Summit's Plan of Action. Paragraph 60 of the World Food Summit's Plan of Action commits signatory countries to report on their efforts to implement the commitments in the Rome Declaration and in the World Food Summit's Plan of Action to the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.

This document is Canada's Third Progress Report to the FAO CFS. It addresses efforts in Canada between late 2001 and the end of 2004 that implement the WFS Plan of Action's seven commitments. Similarly, this report will address commitments made in 1998 in *Canada's Action Plan on Food Security*.

1.2 Format of this Report

To fulfil reporting requirements for the monitoring of the *WFS Plan of Action* commitments, this report follows the outline requested by the CFS. The exception is the Implementation section which appears in two sections (domestic and international) to conform to *Canada's Action Plan for Food Security* (<http://www.agr.gc.ca/misb/fsb/fsap/fsape.html>). Accordingly, the contents of this report are broken down into the following five sections:

- Background Information
- Issues, Implementation and Indicators
- Domestic Implementation Report
- International Implementation Report
- Lessons Learned

This report cannot capture all of the many diverse programs and activities in place, nor can it do justice to their details, especially those at the community level. The report focuses on major accomplishments and lessons learned as reported by federal, provincial and territorial governments, and by civil society organizations. The report aims to produce a balanced view, presenting success stories as well as situations where insufficient progress has been made, and acknowledging different points of view.

1.3 The Canadian Context

A well-organized and productive food and agricultural system combined with good transportation facilities and policies to encourage free trade and open borders has enabled Canada to become one of the world's leading producers and suppliers of high quality food. Canadians are also world leaders in agricultural research and development with recognized expertise in sustainable farming practices, cooperatives, biotechnology and sustainable forest management. By sharing this expertise globally, Canada has made very valuable contributions to world food security. This has been recognized by Canada's receipt of the FAO Agricola Medal in 2000.

Canada ranks high among nations in levels of disposable income and per capita food supplies, and among the lowest in the real cost of food and the share of incomes spent on food. As such, the vast majority of Canada's 32 million people are food secure; however, Statistics Canada estimates that 2.5 million people had to compromise the quality of their diet at least once in 1998-99 and during the same period, an additional 0.5 million people worried that they would not have enough to eat. Canadians most vulnerable to food insecurity include those without adequate employment or education -- including a disproportionate level of women, children and Aboriginal people -- plus people with disabilities and acute or chronic illness.

Canada continues to work to encourage and support its citizens who struggle with food insecurity, but the Canadian food environment is complex and many food issues have different origins and effects depending on the regions involved. Solutions to food insecurity in Canada also require intergovernmental dialogue and coordination, and appropriate legislation and policy can be undertaken only by the appropriate level of government and with consultation with the private sector.

Canada's traditional values of broad-based economic growth and social justice are essential underpinnings for food security. The national and provincial social safety net of income support, which was designed to help citizens meet their basic needs and improve their circumstances, can reduce hunger and promote food security. Nationally, there are programs such as the Youth Employment Strategy, the National Homelessness Initiative, National Child Benefits, Old Age Security, Aboriginal initiatives and many health and education programs which support food security for all. These are frequently supplemented and/or complemented by provincial programs. These programs were discussed at some length in Canada's first and second Progress Reports on Food Security.

Notwithstanding some improvements, social, economic and health indicators in Aboriginal communities are far below those of many other Canadians. This is of particular concern as many Aboriginal people in Canada, particularly those in remote communities, experience all or most aspects of food insecurity. This is

attributable to low incomes, safety risks due to pollutants in the traditional food supply, quality problems associated with inappropriate shipping, handling and home preparation of commercial foods, and disruptions to access caused by interruptions in shipping or changes in animal migratory patterns. The cost of commercial food is high, as is the cost of supplies for fishing and hunting.

1.4 Canada's Action Plan for Food Security

At the World Food Summit (WFS) in 1996, representatives of 187 countries set a goal to reduce the number of hungry people in the world by half by 2015. This was to be a milestone toward the complete elimination of hunger in the world.

The Rome Declaration on World Food Security sets out seven commitments that are the basis for achieving sustainable food security for all and the *Plan of Action* spells out the objectives and actions for implementation of these seven commitments.

In response, Canada launched *Canada's Action Plan for Food Security* on World Food Day in 1998. Developed by the Joint Consultative Group composed of government, civil society and private sector representatives, Canada's Action Plan builds on a wide range of international commitments which affect food security, including arrangements on international trade and environmental issues, conventions on human rights, social development education, housing and urban development. The Plan also builds on commitments and actions which flow from current domestic programs such as Canada's own Nutrition for Health: An Agenda for Action; Gathering Strength: Canada's Aboriginal action Plan; revisions to legislation and Canada's evolving economic, social and environmental policies and programs.

Canada's Action Plan presents the unique Canadian perspective on the complex issue of food security. It outlines Canada's priority concerns, provides detailed objectives for each of the seven commitments of the WFS Plan, encompasses both domestic and international actions and provides a framework for ongoing efforts to improve food security in Canada and abroad. The implementation of the Plan is a responsibility that the Canadian government shares with its citizens.

The Canadian priorities as outlined in the Action Plan, with minimal up-dating, are repeated below. The order in which they appear does not necessarily reflect the order of importance.

Priority 1: The right to food reiterates Canada's belief that this right is an important element in food security and underscores the need to better define the meaning of this right and the actions required to implement it. Actions include civil society support to the *International Code of Conduct on the Human Right to Adequate Food*, and all-sector participation in national and international efforts to clarify the meaning of the right to food towards its full and progressive realization.

Priority 2: The reduction of poverty is an important element in the strategy for addressing food insecurity in both domestic and international actions, based on the notion that a key condition for food security is access to sufficient resources to purchase or grow food. Domestic actions centre on improving upon Canada's social system, especially with respect to those programs that target our most vulnerable populations. International actions are influenced by Canada's poverty reduction focus in its development assistance program; actions include maintaining or exceeding the 25 percent Official Development Assistance (ODA) target for investments in basic human needs such as food and nutrition, education and primary health care. The Plan also reaffirms Canada's commitment to engaging citizens in policy making and program design in the area of poverty reduction.

Priority 3: Promotion of access to safe and nutritious food is seen as a critical component of food security. In developing countries, actions on micro-nutrient and vitamin supplementation of foods contribute to improved nutrition. Breastfeeding is also highlighted as crucial to infant health and nutrition worldwide. In Canada, commitment to this is furthered through actions to support working mothers, hospital programs, mother and child health care and other initiatives in support of the *International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes*. Beyond the promotion and protection of breastfeeding and other food security conditions, caring practices, and health and education measures are important for the nutrition security of mothers and children, particularly, but not only, in developing countries.

Priority 4: Food safety underlines the new challenges to global food supply posed by the rapid increase and deep market penetration of new and exotic foods from a variety of trading partners. They may constitute a new food safety hazard: by environmental contaminants, especially in traditional food sources in Canada's Far North, which are also a threat to safety; and emergencies or disasters, which can cause problems such as contamination from hazardous chemicals or disease-causing micro-organisms. In addition, lack of knowledge about preparation and storage of foods is identified as a threat, mainly at the household level. Actions to ensure safe supplies and safe handling include enhanced public education, adequate product labeling, robust biotechnology assessment, improved monitoring methods and stronger multi-sectoral partnerships. Research is carried out to provide the knowledge and technology needed to keep the food system safe, and to produce quality food products to meet current and future consumer needs.

Priority 5: Traditional food acquisition methods of Aboriginal and coastal communities acknowledge the important role that hunting, fishing, gathering, bartering and trading play in the food security of many communities in Canada and abroad. By sharing their awareness of traditional foods and their knowledge of sustainable natural resource practices, indigenous people have an important contribution to make in achieving the World Food Summit's goal. Actions related

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to the reduction of environmental contaminants, sustainable management of resources (including fisheries) and appropriate supplementation with high-quality commercial foods, strengthen access to food for these communities.

Priority 6: Food production emphasizes the critical role of research, rural development and investment in the productivity of the agriculture and agri-food sector. This priority makes a strong link between the sustainable management of productive resources and the production of sufficient quantities of safe and nutritious food for all. It demonstrates the need to support local production, particularly in developing countries, where agrarian reform, participation of affected communities (including women producers) and fulfillment of basic human needs are essential to successful rural development programs. In Canada, actions aimed at enhancing agricultural production include: supporting sustainable resource management, continuing to invest in and build research capacity, and encouraging investment in rural areas. Canada produces high-quality, inexpensive food whose availability contributes to food security in other countries.

Priority 7: Emphasis on environmentally sustainable practices explores some of the most pressing challenges to food production. Canada's actions in support of this priority are channeled through its support to a wide variety of commitments under current international agreements. Internationally, this covers specific challenges to developing countries in such areas as water resource management, community forestry, sustainable population growth, land management and conservation, and respect and preservation of indigenous knowledge. For Canada, additional actions complement these agreements to enhance stewardship of natural resources in the areas of northern contaminants, sustainable fisheries management, biotechnology, climate change, biodiversity and genetic resources.

Priority 8: Fair trade outlines the potential impact of liberalized trade regimes on incomes and overall welfare, and indicates the possibility that there may be adjustment costs in non-competitive sectors. Actions within this priority involve enhancing trade in the food and agri-food sectors, particularly for developing countries, while achieving a better understanding of the impacts of liberalized trade on people vulnerable to food insecurity.

Priority 9: Acknowledgment of peace as a precursor to food security underlines the need for safe and secure access to means of production, especially arable land and harvestable waters. Actions within this priority strengthen emergency measures, conflict prevention, peace-building and disaster preparedness in Canada and abroad.

Priority 10: A monitoring system for food insecurity identifies the need for a comprehensive set of agreed-upon indicators to determine the nature, extent and evolution of food insecurity, both to develop appropriate responses and to

monitor their effectiveness. This plan provides for both government and civil society to work toward developing indicators for national and international systems and using them for monitoring purposes.

1.5 Canada's Agriculture Policy Framework

As the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector moves into the 21st century, it faces many challenges and opportunities for continued prosperity. Canada's federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Agriculture have pledged to meet these challenges and embrace these opportunities by jointly developing a comprehensive, forward-looking Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) that will strengthen the ability of Canada's agriculture and agri-food industry to respond to changing needs and consumer demands in the domestic and international marketplace. As a result, the APF will support food security goals by providing producers with the information, tools and markets to improve their returns, improving food safety, and addressing agriculture's impact on the environment.

All Canadian provinces and two territories have signed agreements with the Government of Canada on implementing the APF. It is a core component of Canada's vision for improving food security at home and abroad.

Governments agree that business risk management is a key component of building a stronger, more profitable agriculture sector for the 21st century. Under the APF, governments have committed to improve risk management in the areas of insurance, stabilization and investment. By expanding insurance coverage and encouraging market-based diversification, these initiatives will help producers cope with the uncertainties of their business so they can maintain the steady and dependable supply of products Canadians and international consumers need.

The Commitments in 2004 are to create a new production insurance system based on the Crop Insurance Program platform, modify the Cash Advance Programs; encourage private-sector involvement through the Private Sector Risk Management Partnerships Program and to re-design Farm Improvement and Marketing Cooperatives Loans Act. The total federal expenditure for the Business Risk Management is \$ 1.2 billion.

Canada's new Agricultural Policy Framework entails integrated action in five key areas: business risk management, food safety and food quality, science and innovation, the environment and renewal. It also includes an international component designed to maximize global opportunities arising from progress on the domestic front.

Business Risk Management

Governments agree that business risk management is a key component of building a stronger, more profitable agriculture sector for the 21st century. Under

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the APF, governments have committed to improve risk management in the areas of insurance, stabilization and investment. By expanding insurance coverage and encouraging market-based diversification, these initiatives will help producers cope with the uncertainties of their business so they can maintain the steady and dependable supply of products Canadians and international consumers need.

Food Safety and Food Quality

Through the APF, the Government of Canada is committed to ensuring that food produced in Canada continues to be among the safest and highest-quality in the world. Canada is putting in place national, seamless food safety systems on the farm and throughout the agri-food chain -- from the field to the fork.

The Government of Canada is working with producers and the industry to build on existing food safety measures while undertaking new measures to enable the tracing of food products back to the farm, improve food quality and share critical information. These measures will improve the sector's ability to identify and respond to food safety issues and concerns, while improving market access and opportunities for the sector.

Science and Innovation

The APF calls for a significant investment in new science and innovation. Canadian agriculture thrives on innovation and the government will be working closely with industry to promote science, research and technology transfer throughout the sector with an emphasis on food safety, environment, and innovative production in particular. By fostering an open business climate that promotes partnership and facilitates innovation Canada will be well positioned to develop new products and exploit emerging business opportunities in the evolving marketplace.

The Environment

In the environmental arena, Canada's new agricultural policy framework will focus on reducing risks and providing benefits to the health of Canada's water, soil, air and atmosphere, and supporting the government's efforts to meet its Kyoto Protocol commitment. A strong emphasis will be placed on improving existing scientific information and research to aid the development and implementation of best management practices and effective environmental planning on farms across the country. Through the environmental farm plans, producers are identifying environmental risks posed by agricultural activities and developing action plans to mitigate these risks.

Renewal

Canada's efforts on all these fronts will be supported by major initiatives to assist producers in acquiring the skills and tools they need to make effective short and long-term choices in their increasingly knowledge-intensive environment. Key renewal programs include enhanced management and consulting services,

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improved marketing information and advanced networks to link individual producers with each other and the scientific community.

When implemented, these five integrated APF components will form a solid foundation for establishing new standards of excellence throughout the agri-food sector. The net result will be a stronger and more adaptable Canadian industry and a steadily growing stream of the safest, healthiest, tastiest and most nutritious food products in the world.

Implementing the APF: International Strategy

But success in the domestic arena is only one part of the equation. Products need markets and the final component of the APF is focused on international action to maximize the benefits of our domestic initiatives and help spur new business opportunities around the globe.

To this end, the government has committed \$175 million in new funding, made available through the APF. This will more than double the amount currently available for international programming and it is a powerful testimony of the government's commitment to the sector's success.

To ensure maximum results, these funds will be split into two channels. The first channel will support strategic trade policy initiatives to expand market access through industry partnerships at home and alliances abroad. We will seek to influence trade requirements that are in our interest and we will link them, where possible, to the development of food safety, quality and environmental standards at home.

The second channel of funds will be used to develop and launch our Canada branding initiative to gain recognition around the world for our agricultural excellence and the advanced work we are doing in our agriculture and food sector. We will achieve that by linking progress on the APF with intensified marketing efforts to effectively position Canada as the international food supplier of choice.

**PART TWO:
CANADA'S THIRD PROGRESS REPORT**

2.1 Background Information

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Institutional Arrangements for Follow-up of the WFS Plan of Action

Canada's Action Plan for Food Security is Canada's primary response to those commitments that the international community made at the WFS to reduce by half the number of undernourished people no later than the year 2015. The Plan is the result of extensive consultation with various levels of government, civil society and private sector representatives.

2.2 Issues, Implementation and Indicators

Canadians are fortunate to live in a country where peace, democracy and human rights are enjoyed and respected and Canada has a well-organized food and agricultural system with a history of a safe, stable and abundant food supply. However, some groups of Canadians remain more at risk to food insecurity than others and Canada continues to work at all levels of government to encourage and support those who struggle to maintain adequate supplies of safe and nutritious foods.

Canada's Action Plan for Food Security is a uniquely Canadian response to the WFS goal of reducing the number of hungry people in the world by half by 2015, and the wide range of both domestic and international initiatives highlighted in this report are a significant indication of Canada's commitment to the priorities and actions detailed in its Plan. On the domestic front, the launch of Canada's new Agricultural Policy Framework has provided a coherent foundation for the introduction of many new inter-related food security initiatives in the areas of food safety and quality, environmentally sustainable production and agricultural science and technology development. In the international arena, Canada continues to implement its Official Development Assistance (ODA) program to reduce poverty and increase food security in developing countries through a wide variety of sustainable development initiatives -- many of them delivered jointly by CIDA and other government and non-government agencies and organizations.

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FOOD SECURITY AND RELATED INDICATORS¹

INDICATORS	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Source
1. Food security indicators									
Availability									
Average per person dietary energy supply (kcal)	3071.1	3103.6	3166.6	3175.6	3178	3175.8	N/A	N/A	FAOSTAT
Food production index	110.3	108.8	115.3	123.3	118.9	106.6	101.4	111.3	FAOSTAT
Food self-sufficiency ratio	166.21 %	154.75 %	150.38 %	160.86 %	157.65 %	137.51 %	N/A	N/A	FAO (ESDG)
Cereal supply per person	102.6	103.6	106.9	105.8	104	102.8	N/A	N/A	FAOSTAT
Animal protein supply per person	56	55.7	58.2	59.6	59.5	59.2	N/A	N/A	FAOSTAT
Value of food imports/export earnings	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	N/A	FAOSTAT
Debt service ratio									
Value of gross investment in agriculture (in USD)									
Stability									
Food price index 1992=100	105.9	107.6	109.3	110.7	112.2	117.2	120.3	122.4	Statistics Canada CANSIM 326-001
Index of variability of food production	0.76%	0.8%	0.81%	0.06%	0.2%	0.36%	N/A	N/A	FAOSTAT
Ratio of national food reserves to domestic food consumption									
Export earnings instability	10.19 %	5.93%	3.54%	6.16%	12.96 %	7.48%	4.92%	N/A	FAOSTAT
Access									
Rate of growth in real GDP per person/per year (%)	.35	5.2	1.17	4.69	4.46	.47	2.26	1.31	Statistics Canada CANSIM 051-0005 CANSIM 379-0017
Gini index of income distribution		31.50							World Bank. World Development Indicators (WDI)
Percentage of population living below national poverty line (%)									
Percentage of population living on less than \$ 1 a day (%)									

¹ Please refer to explanatory notes of these indicators at the end of this document.

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INDICATORS	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Source
Percentage of income spent on food (%)	N/A	11.48	11.59	11.45	11.17	11.19	11.02	N/A	Statistics Canada CANSIM 203-001
Consumer price index 1992=100	105.9	107.6	108.6	110.5	113.5	116.4	119.0	122.3	Statistics Canada CANSIM 326-001
Estimated number of undernourished people									
Percentage of population undernourished (%)									
Percentage of children under 5 that are underweight (%)									
Percentage of children under 5 that are stunted (%)									
Percentage of children under 5 that are wasted (%)									
2. Social indicators									
Life expectancy at birth (age)	78.4	78.6	78.8	78.9	79.4	79.7	N/A	N/A	Statistics Canada CANSIM102-0025 CANSIM 025-0511
Under-5 mortality rate (%)	6.7	6.7	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.2	N/A	N/A	Statistics Canada Health Division unpublished tabulations
Net school enrolment in primary education of children aged 5-12 (%)			97.15 %	98.62 %					WDI
Ratio of girls to boys in primary education			1.00	1.00					WDI
Adult literacy rate	97.3*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	*1994 data Statistics Canada Publication 89-545E
Total number of doctors, nurses and other health personnel per 100 000 people	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	848	N/A	N/A	N/A	Canadian Institute for Health Information, <i>Canada's Health Care Providers, 2001</i>
Infant mortality rate (%)	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	N/A	N/A	Statistics Canada CANSIM 102-0030

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INDICATORS	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Source
Maternal mortality rate (%)	4.9	5.5	3.8	2.4	2.7	7.5	N/A	N/A	Statistics Canada Health Division unpublished tabulations
Adult morbidity rate (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Adult male mortality rate (%)	113.1	108.7	104.8	103.4	100.4	99.0	N/A	N/A	Statistics Canada Health Division unpublished tabulations
Adult female mortality rate (%)	65.7	62.8	62.3	61.2	60.7	59.1	N/A	N/A	Statistics Canada Health Division unpublished tabulations
3. Infectious diseases and HIV/AIDS indicators									
Death rate from infectious diseases (%)	10.5	8.3	8.5	8.5	10.1	9.8	N/A	N/A	Statistics Canada Health Division unpublished tabulations
Death rate from HIV/AIDS (%)	4.4	2.1	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.4	N/A	N/A	Statistics Canada Health Division unpublished tabulations
Percentage of population orphaned (%)									
Percentage of child-headed households (%)	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	Statistics Canada Census
Average age of household head (age)	48.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	49.6	N/A	N/A	Statistics Canada Census
Rate of population with HIV/AIDS infection (%)	3.76	2.39	2.05	1.59	1.39	N/A	N/A	N/A	Health Canada Reportable Diseases
4. Economic and Trade									
Proportion of total imports by value, excluding arms, from developing countries and from LDCs admitted free of duties	67.6%	66.6%	69%	70.8%	73.2%	68.3%	72.6%	74.1%	Finance Canada, based on Statistics Canada Data
Average tariffs imposed on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries (1 = Agricult; 2 = textiles)	1: 2.3% 2: 17.3%	1: 1.7% 2: 16.7%	1: 2.2% 2: 16.2%	1: 8.5% 2: 15.7%	1: 6.9% 2: 15.4%	1: 2.2% 2: 15.4%	1: 2.2% 2: 14.5%	1: 1.8% 2: 13.1%	Finance Canada, based on Statistics Canada Data
Agricultural support estimate as percentage of GDP						0.7%			WDI

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INDICATORS	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Source
Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity	0.00%	0.04%	0.20%	0.15%	0.38%	0.1%	N/A	N/A	WDI and OECD
Share of primary exports (value) of total exports earnings	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.07	N/A	FAOSTAT
Share of manufactured exports (value) of total exports earnings	62.52	63.15	66.05	67.12	63.83	62.36	N/A	N/A	WDI
Terms of trade	99.01	100.12	104.02	102.87	97.4	97.4	N/A	N/A	WDI
External agricultural income terms of trade	1.6	1.59	1.6	1.53	1.68	2.25	2.19	N/A	FAOSTAT
5. Sustainability of natural resources									
Proportion of land area under forest cover (%)									
Proportion of area protected to maintain biological diversity (%)							11.70		WDO

2.3 Domestic Implementation

2.3.1 Commitment One: An Enabling Environment

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will ensure that an enabling political, social and economic environment is designed to create the best possible conditions for the eradication of poverty and for durable peace, based on the full and equal participation of women and men, which is most conducive to achieving sustainable development for all.”

As requested by the FAO, this report highlights policies pursued to create an enabling political, social and economic environment. It includes where possible the details of strategies or initiatives undertaken by Canada with respect to:

- a) Strengthening democratic political systems and broad-based participation;*
- b) Improving human rights;*
- c) Preventing conflict and creating a peaceful environment;*
- d) Enhancing gender equality and women's empowerment.*

Good governance is an essential foundation for achieving sustainable food security and Canadians are fortunate to live in a country where peace, democracy and human rights are generally respected and enjoyed. Careful economic stewardship allows Canadian governments to maintain a national social safety net, traditional values of social justice are strongly supportive of inclusiveness and gender equality, and the active participation of civil society in social, political and economic reform helps to ensure public engagement on food security issues.

Canada's Action Plan for Food Security calls for an increase in efforts to educate Canadians about food security issues, enhance their participation in food security initiatives and encourage dialogue for the development of effective and inclusive food security policies. Canada's Plan also calls for continued efforts to clearly define and promote the basic human 'right' to adequate food.

Raising Public Awareness

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is the federal agency charged with planning and implementing most of Canada's development cooperation program in order to reduce poverty and to contribute to a more secure, equitable and prosperous world. In October 2003, CIDA invited both the Chair and Director of the Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research (CGIAR) to participate in a presentation to Canadian Parliamentarians on the benefits of agricultural research, particularly for the developing world, as well as the many achievements and successes of the CGIAR. The presentation

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further disseminated the work of the CGIAR to influential stakeholders in the political arena and strengthened the case to guard and increase support for such long-term science-based investments.

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is a Canadian public corporation that works in close collaboration with researchers from the developing world in their search for the means to build healthier, more equitable, and more prosperous societies. IDRC has recently supported a number of Canadian public awareness initiatives through its *ECOHEALTH* and *Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* (SUB) programs.

ECOHEALTH, which supports activities concerning the relationship between human health and the eco-system worked with CIDA to design an exhibition entitled "EcoMondo" on *Ecosystem Approaches to Human Health* with a strong food and nutrition focus at the Biodôme of Montreal. IDRC's Sub program, which supports education and awareness-raising around the international dimensions of biodiversity and food security with a particular focus on the participation of historically marginalized groups, worked with CIDA to co-fund the production of a documentary film titled "*No More Hunger*" for Worldwide TV Associates. The film, which focuses on one Canadian's quest to fight world food insecurity and loss of biological diversity, is now available for dissemination.

The Centre for Studies in Food Security (CSFS) is a multidisciplinary research and capacity-building centre at Ryerson University that works independently and with partners to facilitate dialogue, research and positive action on food security. The CSFS is developing a distance education *Certificate in Food Security* to support the public sector and civil society organizations by preparing graduates to understand, articulate and resolve food security issues at the individual, household, community and national level. Three of the Certificate courses are being offered in Portuguese in collaboration with Brazilian partners and courses in French and Spanish are planned for the future. CSFS also organized an Urban Agriculture workshop in partnership with IDRC's *Cities Feeding Program* (CFP) and published a French language version of its English publication *Working Together: Civil Society Working for Food Security in Canada*.

Encouraging Dialogue to Help Develop Policy

In 2004 the FAO commissioned a series of six case studies on the right to food. Canada was the only developed country in this study. The analysis was thorough, covering off topics as diverse as an assessment of groups in Canada who are vulnerable to food insecurity, and legislative and policy frameworks affecting food security in Canada. The case study offered several important recommendations and lessons learned for federal, provincial, territorial and local governments to improve food security in Canada.

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CIDA has also been encouraging dialogue through extensive consultations with Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Agricultural Research Institutes (ARIs), and developing country partners concerning the development of its new Agriculture Policy. The consultation plan resulted in immediate acceptance from stakeholders regarding the policy agenda and its accompanying Implementation Plan. In addition to demonstrating transparency and information sharing in policy development, the consultations created significant good will and a more informed policy.

Many of Canada's provincial governments are also undertaking initiatives to identify needs and establish priorities for a variety of issues including food security. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador (NFLD), for example, recently released *From the Ground Up*, an innovative audit of social programs in a number of areas including health, education, employment and income. The audit provides a wealth of information about communities, regions and the province as a whole and can be used for identifying needs and establishing priorities for policies, programs and services from the community to the provincial level. In 2003, the NFLD provincial government appointed a *Provincial Wellness Advisory Council* comprised of both government and non-government members to provide advice and guidance on the development of policies, programs and services relating to wellness. Priority areas for action are healthy eating and physical activity with an initial focus on schools.

The province of Prince Edward Island (PEI) is also undertaking a number of initiatives related to food security. For example, the *Healthy Eating Alliance*, a group of approximately 40 organizations (government, non-government and individuals) was formed in 2001 to achieve optimal nutritional health for Island children and youth. The Alliance strengthens the basis for action to achieve improvement in healthy eating by engaging broad based participation of community groups. Through the actions of working groups such as the *Access to Safe and Healthy Foods Committee*, resources have been secured to offer breakfast and snack programs in Island schools. Additional project work has increased public awareness of the importance of nutrition, fostered the development of school nutrition guidelines and introduced school children to a diverse range of food choices.

PEI is also examining its Quality of Life indicators through a newly formed civil society co-op that is concerned with the ecological footprint of Islanders as they interact with their surroundings, the sustainability of island food production and environmental issues. A third PEI initiative called *the Working Group for a Livable Income* at the Cooper Institute focuses on policy development through community engagement and is currently working to increase the minimum wage and food security in a manner that will allow individuals and families to meet their needs with dignity.

2.3.2 Commitment Two: Access to Food

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will implement policies aimed at eradicating poverty and inequality and improving physical and economic access by all, at all times, to sufficient, nutritionally adequate and safe food and its effective utilization.”

As requested by the FAO, this report highlights policies pursued and actions taken to eradicate poverty and inequality and to improve physical and economic access to food by all. It includes where possible the strategies or initiatives undertaken with respect to:

- a) Specific policies and targeted interventions to generate income and employment for the urban poor;*
- b) Specific policies and targeted interventions to generate on-farm and off-farm income and employment for the rural poor, women and minority groups, including land reform, protection of property and use rights and other strategies to ensure access to land and water resources.*
- c) Provisions made to develop social safety nets, if any, to meet the needs of the poor, including those affected by HIV/AIDS, in rural and urban areas;*
- d) Measures taken to ensure access to basic education and primary health care.*

Although most Canadians are food secure, studies indicate that some groups, particularly those living in poverty, may be more at risk than others. The groups most likely to be affected by low incomes in Canada include Aboriginal people, single mothers with children, persons with disabilities and recent immigrants. In recent years, Canadian governments and community-based initiatives have begun to re-examine their social and economic programs to better target these vulnerable groups and provide increased access to safe and nutritious food.

Canada's Action Plan for Food Security supports poverty reduction efforts by encouraging the increased participation of civil society, the implementation of the *National Child Benefit* to reduce the depth of child poverty, the development of new opportunities for labour force participation and the launch of targeted scholarship and job creation programs. Canada's Plan also seeks to increase access to safe and nutritious food by maintaining high standards of food safety and nutrition through the exploitation of new technologies, the support of multi-sectoral education initiatives, the conduct of appropriate surveillance programs and the development of new methodologies to reduce food contamination during production and processing.

In conjunction with these initiatives, Canada strives to reinforce healthy eating habits for all Canadians through a variety of programs, and encourages the

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acquisition of traditional foods by Aboriginal communities to help reduce their dependence on expensive, and sometimes less nutritious, commercial products.

Poverty Reduction

Poverty is one of several factors which impede access to sufficient, safe and nutritious foods. Statistics Canada released an *Analysis of Income in Canada: 2002* in May 2004, an annual examination of family incomes and low income in Canada based on its post-tax Low-Income Cut-Offs (LICOs). According to the report, the incidence of low income in Canada has declined since 1996 but, for some groups (e.g., female lone parents, seniors), it slightly increased between 2001 and 2002. For children, the incidence of low income is at an all-time low.

Incidence of Low Income, 1996, 2001 and 2002

	1996	2001	2002
All persons	14%	9.3%	9.5%
Children	16.7%	10.4%	10.2%
Female lone parents	52.3%	30%	35%
Seniors	9.1%	6.3%	6.9%

It should be noted that there is no official poverty line in Canada. The LICOs represent the most common relative measure of low income. The LICOs establish levels below which a household, on average, is likely to spend 20 percentage points or higher than the average family on food, clothing and shelter as a share of their income. The LICOs are calculated based on the size of families – from unattached individuals to families of seven or more persons – and for five community sizes – from rural areas to urban areas with a population of more than 500,000.

Another measure of low income which complements the LICOs, and includes the cost of food as a component, is the Market Basket Measure (MBM). The MBM measures the ability of a family of two adults and two children to purchase a basket of necessary goods and services including food, shelter, clothing and transportation, and other necessary goods and services, which are widely viewed as unacceptable for any household to be without. The cost of these goods and services are used to calculate thresholds based on 19 specific communities and 29 community sizes in 10 provinces. Households are considered to be living in low income if they are unable to purchase this basket of goods and services after accounting for income and payroll taxes and out-of-pocket spending (e.g., child care, medical expenses).

The MBM is still a fairly new measure with data only available for 2000. Generally, based on data from 2000, the MBM shows a somewhat higher incidence of low income than the LICOs (e.g., low-income rate for all persons

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was 10.9 percent according to the LICOs and 13.1 percent according to the MBM). MBM data for 2001 is expected to be released sometime in 2004/05.

Government programming has direct implications for poverty reduction and social justice, and, by extension, for food security. Continuing to help Canadians in this regard means ensuring adequate social investments, facilitating the effective use of limited resources and engaging all concerned, especially the most vulnerable, in the decision-making process. A key challenge is to ensure that all Canadians have access to essential services no matter where they live in Canada.

Examples Provincial Poverty Reduction Initiatives

The Government of Quebec passed the *Act to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion* (2002). The Act includes a section on food security stating that actions related to strengthening the social and economic safety net must be aimed at 'facilitating dignified access, for persons and families living in poverty, to a food supply that is both sufficient and nutritious, at reasonable costs, and to simple and reliable information enabling those persons and families to make enlightened dietary choices'.

In 2001, the Quebec Department of Health and Social Services was granted \$10 million to support the development of food security at the community level. The goal of the program was to integrate existing initiatives into a community-development vision that will develop or strengthen food security projects from the perspective of social and community development and local and regional consensus-building with regard to food security. In each of the past three years, nearly 250 projects across Quebec received grants. Support for concerted action with regard to food security not only contributes to improving access to healthy food for all but also promotes greater social cohesion within communities while improving living conditions at the individual and collective levels. An evaluation of implementation at the provincial level is currently in development.

The Provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, and Prince Edward Island have also implemented a number of new initiatives to reduce poverty. In Newfoundland, for example, nutritionists with the *Health and Community Services* co-ordinate the costing of a nutritious food basket each year. This data is used by the province, regions and communities to guide the development of policies and programs to assist low income families to have access to healthy foods. NFLD has recently enhanced the *Mother Baby Nutritional Supplement* to include more low income mothers. Ongoing grants are also provided for the *Kids Eat Smart Foundation* (\$500,000) to provide school meals and snacks and the *School Milk Foundation* (\$200,000) to provide milk to schools.

Some recent initiatives in PEI to eradicate poverty and improve access to food include the *Special Projects Program*, which provides support to create innovative employment and training opportunities for Islanders who are employment disadvantaged; the *School Milk Program* which ensures that milk is

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provided at the lowest possible prices to children in grades 1-12, thereby improving children's access to this food; and the *Upper Room Hospitality Ministry* which includes a food bank that supplies a three day supply of food for each family member per month and a soup kitchen that provides up to eight meals a week for individuals who cannot access sufficient food.

Improving Access to Safe and Nutritious Food

In the last two years, Health Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) have both been actively working to improve access to safe and nutritious foods. Health Canada, for example, conducts on-going surveillance programs on nutrient composition, food and nutrient intakes, and nutritional status to assess the adequacy of current standards and regulations and the need for new standards or risk management activities.

INAC conducts a variety of social development programs which aim to foster greater self-sufficiency for First Nations individuals and communities and improve the quality of life by promoting the alleviation of hardship on-reserve. The *National Child Benefit Reinvestment (NCBR)* program, for example, is designed to prevent and reduce the depth of child poverty and to give families the supports and services they need outside of income assistance. As a result of federal investments in the NCB, provincial and territorial governments and First Nations have been able to adjust income assistance benefits and reinvest the savings in increased services for children of low-income families. One such service is the *Child Nutrition Program* which allows First Nations to use their NCBR dollars to improve children's health and well-being by providing nutritious meals and snacks, and by educating parents on family nutrition and meal preparation.

INAC has engaged in on-reserve social assistance activities with the broad objective of providing individuals and families with the means to meet basic needs for food, clothing and shelter. DIAND also funds special needs allowances for goods and services which are essential to the physical or social well-being of an eligible recipient but are not included as items of basic need, such as basic items of furniture and the cost of a physician recommended diet

INAC, with funds provided by Health Canada, is also carrying out three pilot projects in isolated northern communities eligible for *Food Mail*, a program that subsidizes the air transportation of nutritious perishable food and other essential items. In 2003-2004, over 12 million kilograms of food were shipped under the program to 66 communities. The pilot projects, which are designed to determine the effectiveness of the combination of rate reductions, increased nutrition education and retail promotion of nutritious foods, have already yielded valuable information on food security in isolated northern communities. These projects will provide additional knowledge required to make decisions about the *Food Mail* program as part of a more comprehensive strategy for improving food security in isolated northern communities. In the meantime, efforts to improve the quality of

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the food reaching these isolated communities have led to the *Food Mail Quality Assurance Initiative* which sets out guidelines on how to properly package, store and transport fresh and frozen food to remote areas.

INAC has also posted the costs of the *Northern Food Basket* (NFB) on its web site covering the period of 1990 to 2003, with regular updates planned for the future. Based on the weekly nutritional needs of a family of four, the NFB was designed to monitor the effectiveness of the *Food Mail Program* in making perishable foods more affordable. The results, which compare the price of the basket in isolated northern communities with some southern supply centres have revealed that, generally speaking, retailers have been passing on the savings in air freight costs to their customers.

Reinforcing Healthy Eating Practices

Health Canada has been working to reinforce healthy eating habits all across Canada by improving the usefulness of nutrition labeling, increasing its availability, and broadening public education on its use. Regulations published in Canada in January, 2003, make nutrition labeling mandatory on most food labels, update requirements for nutrient content claims, and permit, for the first time, diet-related health claims for foods. The new *Nutrition Facts* table will usually appear in a standard format so it looks the same on all products, making it easier to find and use. These changes will help consumers make informed choices about the foods they buy and eat and are very significant supports to improved public health in Canada.

Health Canada also provides resources for the First Nations and Inuit communities including projects to protect and promote breastfeeding and improve access to community-based breastfeeding support groups. In 2004, Health Canada implemented a national nutrition survey, the first of its kind in 30 years. This survey collects data on dietary intake of Canadians of all ages and the prevalence and severity of household food insecurity. A special initiative to over-sample Canada's aboriginal population living off-reserve will contribute to a better understanding of the food and nutrition issues of this vulnerable population.

In conjunction with these initiatives, Health Canada is working to develop a baseline of information on food security indicators, including indicators of nutritional status; to provide ongoing monitoring; and to ensure resulting information is published regularly, incorporated into future policy and programming, and contributes to international monitoring efforts.

Developing a Monitoring System for Food Insecurity

In Canada, estimates of the nature, extent, distribution and evolution of food insecurity are extremely varied and there is no broad consensus around them. It

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is therefore difficult to gain the necessary support for clear actions. There is a need for a common understanding of the issues and an agreed-upon set of indicators for food insecurity. Many individual indicators now exist but they measure different facets of the problem rather than giving a comprehensive national picture. This is an excellent example of an area where intersectoral cooperation can result in a recognized and valid tool that is generally accepted and can be used to monitor the situation. The results of such monitoring and their regular publication would provide solid information to guide food security actions in both policy and programming. They would also enhance public awareness of the issue.

There are a number of studies under way which contribute to understanding food insecurity in Canada. For example, the former department of Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) has devised a model that examines the relationships among conditions of food insecurity, nutrition insecurity and food poverty. Based on data from the 3rd cycle of the National Population Health Survey and its Food Insecurity Supplement, HRDC published a report entitled "Food Insecurity in Canada 1998-1999." The study found that despite economic growth and a public safety net, one in ten Canadians still lacked food security at least once in the past twelve months. Most households who were food insecure had an annual standardized income of less than \$19,000. However, it pointed out that although food insecure households had low incomes, not all low income households were food insecure. The report examined three levels of food insecurity. No matter how food insecure they were, households were more likely to cope with their food insecurity by making their income dollars go further than receiving food from charity.

A number of provinces and territories across the country are performing complementary food insecurity research to determine how much it actually costs for a nutritious 'food basket' to feed a typical family with sufficient food. For example, the government of Ontario's Ministry of Health revised its mandatory program guidelines for public health in 1997 to include annual monitoring of this expense. It now uses the information to promote and support policy development to increase access to healthy foods. As noted above, the federal government has also recently developed Alternative Northern Food Baskets that are useful in monitoring food costs in northern Aboriginal communities. The nutritious food basket concept provides a useful indicator that can go a long way toward monitoring of food insecurity conditions in communities across the country.

The use of food banks is another important indicator of food insecurity. In 1981, Canadian charities began setting up food banks as a temporary measure to help people deal with emergencies. From 1989 to 1997, the use of food banks in Canada doubled. The pressure on food banks to deliver other kinds of social services has also increased well beyond their capacity to deal with them. Other services, run mainly by civil society organizations, occasionally with support from provincial/territorial or municipal governments, include community kitchens and

gardens, food-buying clubs, and school-based breakfast and lunch programs. These services were also never intended to be long-term solutions, and food banks and other community-based initiatives are now looking to the larger environment for answers.

2.3.3 Commitment Three: Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will pursue participatory and sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development policies and practices in high and low potential areas, which are essential to adequate and reliable food supplies at the household, national, regional and global levels, and combat pests, drought and desertification, considering the multifunctional character of agriculture.”

As requested by the FAO, this report highlights measures taken to pursue participatory and sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development policies and practices, and to combat pests, drought and desertification. It includes where possible the strategies or initiatives undertaken with respect to:

- a) Policies and actions taken to intensify and diversify food production;*
- b) Actions taken to combat environmental threats to food security, in particular drought and desertification, pests, erosion of biological diversity, and degradation of land and aquatic based natural resources;*
- c) Transfer and use of agricultural technologies;*
- d) Formulation and implementation of integrated rural development*

Canada is widely recognised as one of the world's leading producers of safe, nutritious, high quality food. This is due, in part, to a rich abundance of natural resources, but it is also the result of a well organised food and agriculture industry and a high level of investment in agricultural research and innovative production technologies.

To help Canadian producers meet the many new challenges of the 21st century, the governments of Canada have developed a comprehensive *Agricultural Policy Framework* (APF) that will strengthen the ability of the industry to respond effectively to changing needs and consumer demands. Entailing integrated action in five key areas including business risk management, food safety and quality, science and innovation, the environment and renewal, the APF is a core component of Canada's vision for improving food security at home and abroad.

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Many aspects of the APF are reflected in *Canada's Action Plan for Food Security* which details a wide variety of initiatives to help increase the sustainability of Canada's agriculture, forestry and fishing industries. Key actions in the Plan include pollution prevention and the reduction of greenhouse gases, the implementation of the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy, the continued exploration and development of genetic resources and the adoption of sustainable crop and animal production and protection systems.

Governments agree that innovation and renewal are key components of building a stronger, more profitable agriculture sector. Under the Agricultural Policy Framework, governments have committed to equip the industry with new business and management skills, knowledge-based production systems and strategies to capture opportunities and manage change. In the 2004, the government committed to create effective public information and technology transfer mechanisms and to increase research in bio-products and bio-processes. In this year, the federal government will be spending about \$ 395 million on this priority.

Reducing Greenhouse Gases

Climate change is an increasingly high profile issue in Canada and the Canadian Forest Service (CFS) of Natural Resources Canada and Agriculture and Agri-food Canada (AAFC) have both implemented a variety of actions to help reduce the emission of greenhouse gases.

As part of Canada's commitment to the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* and the *Kyoto Protocol*, the Canadian Forest Service is developing a national forest carbon monitoring, accounting and reporting system that will meet the international standards for measuring and reporting national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories.

One key part of this initiative is the *Forest 2020 Plantation Demonstration and Assessment*, a two-year project which aims to evaluate and develop options that could attract private investment, both domestically and internationally, into future Canadian large-scale, fast-growing tree plantations to help Canada meet its GHG reduction targets and fiber supply requirements. This initiative will also establish a network of fast-growing tree plantation demonstration sites on private lands spread across the country to test and improve our biological information and demonstrate the contribution from fast-growing trees to help offset GHG emissions.

Agriculture and Agri-food Canada also has a broad range of climate change programs underway to achieve greenhouse gas reductions through beneficial management practices and the conduct of science to increase understanding and measurement of greenhouse gases. Many of these programs reflect the environmental concerns of Canada's new *Agricultural Policy Framework* which

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focuses on reducing risk and providing benefits to the health of Canada's water, soil, air and atmosphere with a strong emphasis on scientific research to aid the development and implementation of best management practices and effective environmental planning on farms across the country. For example:

- AAFC is developing an impacts and adaptation strategy to address the vulnerabilities of agriculture and food production to climate change impacts such as increased frequency of droughts and extreme events and changed pest and disease patterns.
- Three national research programs were developed for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural sources; reducing the exchanges of airborne pollutants between farming systems and the atmosphere; and adapting the agri-food sector to climate variability and change.
- As part of Canada's *Action Plan 2000 on Climate Change* (AP-2000), AAFC received \$33 million over five years for programs to address agricultural emissions of GHGs, including the *Model Farm Program* (\$5 million), *Enhanced Shelterbelts Program* (\$4 million) and *Biofuels Program* (\$3 million). The Climate Change Plan targets 35% of gasoline to be 10% ethanol blend by 2010. The remaining \$21 million is allocated to the *Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Program for Canadian Agriculture* to address agricultural GHG emission reduction in the areas of soil, nutrient, and livestock management. The program is a "get started" initiative to contribute towards the goal of reducing agricultural GHG emissions by 5.8 million tonnes per year of CO₂ equivalent during the Kyoto commitment period of 2008-2012.
- The *Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Program* includes a measuring and verification component, which is linked with the *Model Farm Program*, a separate program under AP-2000. The *Model Farm Program* is developing computer models that will be used to estimate the net GHG emissions from commercial farms based on management, soil and climatic conditions. The outputs from many model farm scenarios, each representing different farming systems, will be used to estimate net emissions from entire regions.
- Other agricultural climate change initiatives include the *Climate Change Skills and Knowledge Program*; carbon sequestration and GHG reduction activities with the Soil Conservation Council of Canada (SCCC); the *Climate Change Funding Initiative for Agriculture* (CCFIA) which was delivered in partnership with the Canadian Agri-Food Research Council to increase scientific knowledge of agriculture's greenhouse gas emissions and mitigation opportunities; and the *Agricultural Environmental Stewardship Initiative* (AESI) to increase the use of best practices by producers to address the regional impacts of issues related to air quality including greenhouse gas emissions.

Implementing the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy

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The *Canadian Biodiversity Strategy* was developed as a response to the *United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity*. The Strategy presents a vision for Canada to be "a society that lives and develops as a part of nature, valuing all life, taking no more than nature can replenish and leaving to future generations a nurturing and dynamic world, rich in its diversity of life." One of the key goals of the Strategy is to work with other countries to conserve biodiversity. In this regard, Canada recently renewed its funding to host the Secretariat of the Convention for 10 years. A large part of that funding comes from CIDA along with Foreign Affairs Canada, Environment Canada, and Canada Economic Development.

Managing Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP)

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is implementing the *Aarhus Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Protocol* under the UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), and the *Stockholm Convention on POPs* under the *UN Environment Program*, which entered into force in 2003 and 2004 respectively. INAC is also continuing the work of the Northern Contaminants Program to ensure that the significance of contaminant levels in traditional/country northern foods can be understood by health authorities and northerners in order to balance possible risks with known nutritional, economic, social and spiritual benefits, and to provide better information to northerners when making decisions about food use.

Combating Environmental Threats to Food Security

Combating environmental threats such as drought is another key aspect of the environmental component of Canada's new *Agricultural Policy Framework*, and AAFC continues to work with provinces, rural clients, and other national and international partners to better adapt to drought and reduce land degradation in drylands. This has been accomplished in part through the provision of timely agro-climate information through its *Drought Watch* web site including the *North American Drought Monitor* and the *Crop Condition Assessment Program*, in cooperation with Statistics Canada; the annual distribution of tree seedlings by its *Shelterbelt Program* administered by the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA); extension activities such as demonstrations, field days at Irrigation Centres, and distribution of extension materials in various formats; and research aimed at improving drought tolerance of field crops. An AAFC Drought Committee meets regularly to monitor national drought conditions and has initiated work on a departmental Drought Strategy.

The *National Agri-environmental Health and Reporting Analysis Program* (NAHARP) will provide the ability to track changes in environmental performance, as well as to identify and prioritize areas and resources that face the greatest environmental risks. NAHARP builds on existing science-based agri-environmental indicators, and is expanding these indicators and integrating them with economic information. NAHARP plans on publishing an update of the first

AEI Report of 2000, in 2005, and releasing a more comprehensive report in 2008, which will include new indicators.

Developing Strategies for Environmentally Sustainable Production in Agriculture

Canada's national *Agricultural Policy Framework* announced in June 2002, includes environmentally sustainable agriculture among its five priorities. The environment priority of the APF (\$673 million, 2003-2008) aims to achieve environmental sustainability of the agriculture sector and progress in the areas of soil, water, air and biodiversity. The three primary elements of the environment priority are:

- On-farm action: support producers in taking accelerated action to address environmental issues.
- Knowledge and information: increase our understanding of agri-environmental interactions in support of on-farm action and build tools that producers need to make informed land-use management decisions.
- Performance and results: measure the impact of agriculture on the environment, report environmental results of on-farm actions to Canadians, and to establish baselines for standards of environmental performance.

AAFC operates a variety of programs under the APF that contribute directly to development of new strategies for environmentally sustainable production. *The National Farm Stewardship Program* (NFSP), for example, is designed to increase the use of beneficial management practices (BMPs) by producers to address regional impacts of issues such as management of soil, manure, nutrient, pest and food processing waste. This objective will be achieved through the provision of cost-shared incentives to producers for implementing BMPs that address on-farm environmental risks.

Other AAFC programs to support the development of environmentally sustainable production include:

- A \$100 million national Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) initiative under the APF in June 2002. The EFP initiative supports the development of EFPs which will identify risks, prioritize action, and provide a single window for environment programming across Canada. To this end, AAFC is continuing to work in partnership with the sector, province and territories to develop and implement comprehensive EFPs by putting in place the necessary tools for plan development. Environmental scans, scheduled for 2003 and 2004, will identify high-risk areas and lead to the implementation of EFPs.

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- AAFC's *Greencover Canada Program* works to enhance the sector's capacity to manage soil resources. *Greencover* will convert environmentally sensitive land to perennial cover, enhancement of riparian areas/critical wildlife habitat, and planting of shelterbelts to meet federal objectives relating to issues such as climate change and species at risk. Details of the *Land Conversion* component of *Greencover Canada* were announced in May 2003.
- *The National Agri-environmental Health and Reporting Analysis Program* (NAHARP) will provide the ability to track changes in environmental performance, as well as to identify and prioritize areas and resources that face the greatest environmental risks. NAHARP builds on existing science-based agri-environmental indicators, and is expanding these indicators and integrating them with economic information. NAHARP plans on publishing an update of the first AEI Report of 2000, in 2005, and releasing a more comprehensive report in 2008, which will include new indicators.
- Three other programs initiated in 2002-2003 contributed to Canada's agri-environmental priority: The *National Agri-climate Information Service* (NAIS) is helping producers to adapt better to climate variability. The federal government committed \$60 million over four years to the *National Water Supply Expansion Program* (NWSEP) to help alleviate the risk of future water supply shortages. Among its long-term goals, NWSEP will work toward better knowledge and technology related to water supply. The *National Land and Water Information Service* (NLWIS), launched in 2001, will develop and produce information and tools, as well as on-line access to detailed geographical information, in support of land-use decisions by producers and other rural residents. AAFC also renewed its participation in the *Canada-Ontario Agreement* respecting the *Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem*. AAFC has 12 commitments to address many of the agricultural concerns in the basin, and development of agri-environmental indicators.

At the provincial level, PEI has implemented a number of initiatives to promote sustainable agriculture. The *PEI Lending Agency Program*, for example, is a new low interest loan for PEI beef producers to support them through the depressed market. To sustain the security of the potato crop, PEI launched a 2004 public awareness media campaign to engage the public in surveillance for potato late blight, a fungal disease which may be present in individual gardens or industry crops. PEI is the only area in North America which holds mandatory virus planting standards for all seed potatoes.

PEI has also implemented the *Crop Rotation Act* which is designed to maintain and improve soil quality and ground and surface water quality; new farm waste management guidelines to ensure farm operations are environmentally responsible in the protection of soil and water resources; and *Blueberry and Potato Pest Lines* which are operated seasonally to assist growers with their crop management and efforts to secure their crops from the threat posed by pests. PEI actions to diversify the food supply include *Flax Field Trials* to test for crop

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yield and quality as a potential new cereal crop and the *Processing Broccoli Quality Production Program* which provides advice and assistance for broccoli producers.

Pesticides and Chemical Management

With regard to the implementation of effective chemical management measures, AAFC is developing best management practices and technologies to reduce the impact of agriculture and food processing operations on water quality and quantity, and searching for new integrated pest management approaches to reduce the reliance on only chemical controls.

In 2002-2003, two new programs were established in support of the Government's overall approach to advancing federal pesticide management and improving the agriculture sector's capacity for environmental stewardship: the *Minor Use Pesticides Program* and the *Pesticide Risk Reduction Program* (PRRP). The *Minor Use Pesticides Program* will co-ordinate and manage the development of regulatory submissions to the *Pest Management Regulatory Agency* (PMRA) for minor use pesticides including the conduct of field trials and laboratory analyses to generate the required data for new minor use pesticide uses.

Research is also underway to support the introduction of minor use pesticides that pose a reduced risk to the environment, by addressing issues such as resistance management and secondary pest invasions. Under the PRRP program, commodity-based risk reduction strategies will foster the use of reduced risk and minor use pesticides, and the adoption of alternative pest control approaches, such as integrated pest management, that reduce pesticide risks to health and the environment.

Genetic Resources

The development and use of genetic resources is another important aspect of AAFC's activities under the APF to support sustainable food production. Canada has signed and ratified the *International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (June 10th 2002) which came into full force on June 29, 2004. Canada is committed to working towards the full implementation of the Treaty through participation in *Material Transfer Agreement* meetings and other broad ranging discussions.

- A very significant development vis-a-vis food security is that Canada is currently implementing a Business Plan for a new comprehensive animal genetic resources conservation and sustainable utilization program. This new program, led by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, is built upon a strategic partnership amongst governments, academia, industry and non-government organizations; and is organized in a "hub-and-spoke" arrangement, with the "hub" located at the University of Saskatchewan.

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- Canada, through *Plant Gene Resources Canada* (PGRC), has provided open access to the PGRC database since 2001. In the intervening time period, the website has registered over 5.8 million hits with over 73,000 users providing information regarding the PGRC collections as well as distributing samples to breeders and researchers around the world.
- Canada participated in a workshop of national co-ordinators on animal genetic resources, prior to the 3rd formal session of the *Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources* (March 2003). The primary goal of this gathering was to discuss national and regional action plans and to debate a global strategy for the better management of farm animal genetic resources.
- The *Canadian Expert Committee on Plant and Microbial Genetic Resources*, a non-government organization is working in concert with various agencies to consult broadly on genetic resources issues as they relate to the plant and microbial areas.

Developing Strategies for Environmentally Sustainable Production in Forestry

Canada's forestry industry is also actively developing new strategies for environmentally sustainable development. Canada's *National Forest Strategy* (1998-2003) was recently assessed by an independent team of evaluators, comprising experts from forest communities, the forest industry, environmentalists, Aboriginal peoples, academics and the international community. In its final evaluation, the Panel concluded that Canada's sustainable forest management policies and practices have shown significant advancement in recent years, with progress noted on 119 of the 121 commitments in the Strategy. The Panel also found that the Strategy is being recognized in other countries, including the Council of Europe, where it is suggested as a good model of forest management.

Building on its past success, Canada introduced its fifth *National Forest Strategy* (2003-2008), *A Sustainable Forest: The Canadian Commitment* to advance national objectives and fulfill international commitments over the next five years and beyond. Like its predecessors, the new strategy aims to guide the forest community in the pursuit of sustainable forestry through progressive legislation and policies, renewed national programs, local and regional strategies, and tools and practices for sustainable forest management. It does this by defining strategic targets and priority activities for the forest community at large to implement. The key priorities and overall vision for Canada's forest were determined by consensus through extensive cross-country consultations and public dialogue and the new strategy will provide Canadians with an updated national direction to advance sustainable forest management, nationwide.

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In September 2003, the *Canadian Council of Forest Ministers* released its revised framework of *Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management*. The revised framework is the result of a two-year review that involved participants from the federal, provincial and territorial governments, academia, the Aboriginal community, industry, the environmental community, woodlot owners and special interest groups. The revised framework consists of six criteria and 46 indicators. Compared to the 1995 framework, the criteria have not changed, but the number of indicators has been reduced to focus on those that are most relevant to Canadian values, are most often measurable with available data, and are understandable to policy makers, forest managers and an informed public. Links between criteria have also been more explicitly defined and, in some cases, indicators address multiple values under different criteria.

At the provincial level, PEI is developing a new forest policy in consultation with the public forest council to develop policy that considers timber and non timber values, landscape, water quality issues and aesthetic considerations of forestry which are important to Islanders.

Developing Strategies for Environmentally Sustainable Production in Fisheries

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is the federal government department responsible for developing and implementing policies and programs in support of Canada's economic, ecological and scientific interests in oceans and inland waters, including fisheries. An important part of that responsibility is the conservation and sustainable use of Canada's fisheries resources.

In 2002-2003, DFO spent \$421 million, or approximately 28% of the total expenditures of the department on the management of fisheries resources. In 2003-2004, Canada, through DFO, will use approximately \$478 million to manage and protect fisheries resources. These funds are used to develop and manage the policies and programs that help to ensure stable and sustainable fisheries in Canada. These policies and programs are based on the principles of conservation and protection of the coastal and marine environments, and are consistent with the Fisheries Act, Canada's primary fisheries legislation.

There are many other activities that support Canada's fisheries management programs. For instance, scientific research and related activities, such as the monitoring of aquatic environments, are the main day-to-day activities required to generate an understanding of the oceans and aquatic resources. This scientific knowledge is used to assist in decision making and in the development of policy, regulations, and standards essential to the sustainable management of Canada's oceans and aquatic resources.

Canada is also party to a number of international agreements that help to protect fisheries resources in Canada and around the world, including the *United Nations*

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Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS); the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFA); the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing; the FAO International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity; and the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

In order to ensure the prolonged productivity of Canada's fisheries the government of Canada continually looks at new ways to achieve its objective of sustainable utilization. For example, in November, 2003, Canada ratified the *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)* which sets out a comprehensive regime for the international law of the sea including provisions governing the conservation and management of living marine resources on the high seas. Canada considers international cooperation through regional fisheries management organizations and adherence to instruments such as UNCLOS and UNFA as important tools for managing fisheries in a sustainable manner, which is essential for maintaining marine food resources.

Canada has also recently released *A Policy Framework for the Management of Fisheries on Canada's Atlantic Coast*, the first comprehensive blueprint to guide fisheries management on Canada's Atlantic coast. The blueprint is a follow-up to the *Atlantic Fisheries Policy Review (AFPR)* which was launched in 1999 to promote conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources, self-reliant fisheries, a stable and predictable access and allocation approach and shared stewardship with resource users. For Canada's west coast fisheries, the government has recently finalized operational policies on salmon allocation and selective fishing as part of the *Pacific New Directions* initiative which was undertaken in the late 1990s to clarify policy direction for Pacific salmon fisheries. Three more policies on wild salmon, improved decision making and catch monitoring are in various stages of development.

In other national sustainable fisheries initiatives:

- Canada recently announced a new five-year strategy to combat overfishing in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) Regulatory Area. The strategy includes an additional \$15 million investment to stop overfishing outside the 200 mile limit which hinders Canada's ability to ensure a sustainable food source and source of income for Canadian fishers.
- Canada continues to implement the *Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy* which provides funding and develops fisheries agreements with First Nations for the management of their food, social, and ceremonial harvest. These agreements provide Aboriginal communities with increased access to commercial fisheries, as well as equipping them for success through arrangements involving capacity building and training. The target for delivering on commitments within the agreements is March 31, 2006.

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- DFO is in the process of completing its third *Sustainable Development Strategy* (SDS) to ensure that Canadians continue to derive and maintain economic and social benefits from ocean and freshwater resources while conserving the ecological integrity of the aquatic ecosystem. Following-up on the commitments from the previous 2001-2003 SDS strategy, DFO is improving stakeholder involvement in shared stewardship of estuarine, coastal and marine resources, and developing new ways to provide accurate, real-time fisheries information to fisheries managers.
- DFO is also in the process of developing a *National Plan of Action* (NPOA) to *Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing* both inside and outside of Canada's exclusive zone. The NPOA reflects Canada's commitment to implement the provisions laid out in the Food and Agricultural Organization's International Plan of Action on IUU fishing.

At the provincial level, PEI launched a 2004 awareness campaign to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species which pose a serious threat to existing plants, animals and the viability of the shellfish resource. PEI has also agreed to host *International Conference on Lobster Biology and Management* (2007).

2.3.4 Commitment Four: Trade and Food Security

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will strive to ensure that food, agricultural trade and overall trade policies are conducive to fostering food security for all through a fair and market-oriented world trade system.”

As requested by the FAO, this report highlights measures taken at the national level to ensure that food and agricultural trade and overall trade policies are conducive to fostering food security. It includes where possible the strategies or initiatives undertaken to establish well functioning internal marketing and transportation systems to facilitate better links within and between domestic and external markets;

- a) to diversify trade;*
- b) to ensure national policies related to international and regional trade agreements do not have adverse impact on economic activities towards food security, especially women's activities.*

Fair trade plays a key role in food security by stimulating investment, gearing production to demand, increasing incomes and employment, and offering consumers a broader choice of foods. As a major trading nation, Canada seeks to provide leadership in developing open, fair and predictable rules for trade and

investment which do not harm the environment or threaten the food supply at home or abroad.

To help maximise the benefits of domestic initiatives under Canada's *new Agriculture Policy Framework*, the Government of Canada has committed \$45 million in new funding to support strategic trade policy initiatives that will expand market access through industry partnerships at home and alliances abroad. This investment reflects Canada's commitment in its *Action Plan for Food Security* to harmonize domestic and international food inspection standards, identify methods for valuation of agricultural resources and engage with civil society to review the relationship between trade and food security,

Harmonizing Domestic and International Food Inspection Standards

Canada is an active participant in *Codex Alimentarius*, which develops standards to protect the health of customers and ensure fair practices in the food trade. A strategic plan for Canada's involvement in the Codex has been developed and Canada has committed \$500,000 over three years to enhance developing countries participation in the work of the *Codex Commission*. Canada is contributing a further \$100,000 to support training for developing countries to make their participation in the Codex more effective.

Engaging with Civil Society

Civil society has an important role to play in the development of food trade policy. For several years the Government of Canada has engaged in discussions with civil society to review the relationship between trade, trade agreements and food security in a number of contexts including the *Joint Consultative Group on Food Security* and the *NGO Food Security Policy Group*.

2.3.5 Commitment Five: Emergency Prevention and Preparedness

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will endeavour to prevent and be prepared for natural disasters and man-made emergencies and to meet transitory and emergency food requirements in ways that encourage recovery, rehabilitation, development and a capacity to satisfy future needs.”

As requested by the FAO, this report highlights measures taken to prevent and to be prepared for natural and man-made disasters. It includes where possible the strategies or initiatives undertaken with respect to:

- a) *Institutional arrangements for early warning and advance information on possible emergencies;*

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- b) *Mechanisms in place to combat disasters and to provide rehabilitation for people affected;*
- c) *Measures taken to link post-emergency relief operations to development programmes;*
- d) *Watershed management strategies put in place.*

The two most common emergency-related threats to Canada's food supply are weather disasters such as floods, droughts and hailstorms, and contamination from micro-organisms or chemicals. Fortunately, Canada has a well developed system of emergency preparedness that includes enabling legislation, extensive facilities coordination and well-trained human resources. Under *Canada's Action Plan for Food Security*, Canada has made a commitment to update systems to manage food-related emergencies, extend the current system to address microbial threats and ensure that a regulatory system is in place so that the products of bio-technology do not pose a risk to human health or the environment.

Updating Systems to Manage Emergencies

To help prevent the erosion of genetic resources, Canada recently participated in the 2nd *Plant* (November 2003) and 3rd *Animal* (March 2004) *Inter-governmental Technical Working Group* planning meetings on genetic resources to develop strategies that address critical genetic resource issues. Canada is prepared to assist in providing plant genetic resource samples of appropriate materials domestically and internationally to help other countries re-establish cropping programs in the event of an emergency.

The federal and provincial governments also provide insurance programs for agricultural producers to recover from natural disasters. For example, in September 2003 and again in February 2004, Prince Edward Island was struck by hurricane force winds exceeding 130 km/hr and 50-80 mm of rain/snowfall which resulted in widespread property damage and extended power outages. *The PEI Emergency Measures Organization*, which had been in existence since 1966, and the resources of the Department of Health were tested by the requirement to provide timely public information on maintaining safe food and adequate water supplies during extended periods of power disruption and unsafe travel conditions. These events reaffirmed the requirement for emergency and disaster preparation guides that the public, care facilities and food service operations can access.

To protect the agricultural industry in times of natural disaster, PEI provides production insurance programs to Island producers to minimize the economic effects of crops lost due to weather, insects and disease. Premiums are cost shared by the producers and government.

2.3.6 Commitment Six: Promoting Investment

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will promote optimal allocation and use of public and private investments to foster human resources, sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries and forest systems, and rural development, in high and low potential areas.”

As requested by the FAO, this report highlights measures taken to promote optimal allocation and use of public and private investments to foster human resources, sustainable food, agriculture, fishery and forestry system. It includes where possible the:

- a) Share of national budget allocated for human resource development indicating its impact in terms of primary and secondary school and higher education development;*
- b) Share of the national budget allocated to agriculture and fisheries and food security programmes;*
- c) Nature and extent of investment in infrastructure aimed at improving access to markets and food;*
- d) Initiatives undertaken and resources allocated to promote technology development and transfers for improved production;*
- e) Strategies for sustainable watershed management and associated investments;*
- f) Measures taken to control deforestation and to enhance national forest cover.*

The continuing economic viability of Canada's food producers and processors is highly dependent on investment in production capacity, productivity improvements, marketing, human resources and related infrastructure. This particularly true in rural areas where many communities have limited access to the skills and resources they need to thrive and prosper. To help meet these challenges the Government of Canada promotes both public and private investment to help rural Canadians enhance their quality of life and compete successfully in the global economy. Canada's investment strategy in the agri-food sector is designed to make Canada a preferred investment location for both domestic and international investors.

To ensure that all Canadians share in the benefits of today's knowledge-based global economy, *Canada's Action Plan for Security* calls for increased access to federal programs and services in rural areas, the promotion of agri-food-related opportunities for domestic and international direct investment, the encouragement of venture capital funds for new agri-food businesses and increased support for research to speed the development of new technologies and products.

Ensuring Rural Communities Share in the Benefits

Canada is committed to enabling Aboriginal self-reliance through capacity building for sustainable forest management. In 1996, the federal government launched the *First Nations Forestry Program* (FNFP) to enhance the capability of First Nations to participate in, and benefit more fully from, local and regional forest-based economic development opportunities both on- and off-reserves. From 1996 to 2003, the FNFP invested some \$33 million in approximately 1,300 projects involving 350 First Nation communities, and resulted in some \$73 million in funding support from First Nations, provinces/territories and industry. These projects had a significant impact on enhancing First Nations' capacity and on-the-job training in forestry-related activities such as forest management planning, traditional land use studies, forestry harvesting practices, silviculture, business development and joint venture partnerships. The recently completed program evaluation (2003) concluded that the FNFP is a very effective and needed capacity-building program. It has been renewed by the Government of Canada for the five-year period 2003-2008 with total funding of \$6.5 million annually.

Canada's *Model Forest Program* is well recognized as a global trendsetter in advancing sustainable forest management knowledge and practice. Created in 1992, the *Model Forest Program* is a unique partnership program involving industry, federal and provincial governments, environmental groups, academia and Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities to advance sustainable forest management innovations and demonstrations on the ground by forest managers and owners. The program is delivered through 11 model forest partnerships across Canada and Aboriginal forest managers participate as active members in most of the model forest organizations. This "Canadian model" has been copied widely and some 20 model forests now exist in Asia, Latin America, South America, Russia and the United States. The program was renewed in 2002 for Phase III (2002-2007) with total funding of \$8 million per year.

2.4 International Implementation

2.4.1 Commitment One: An Enabling Environment

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

"We will ensure that an enabling political, social and economic environment is designed to create the best possible conditions for the eradication of poverty and for durable peace, based on the full and equal participation of women and men, which is most conducive to achieving sustainable development for all."

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As requested by the FAO, this report highlights policies pursued to create an enabling political, social and economic environment. It includes where possible the details of strategies or initiatives undertaken by Canada with respect to:

- a) Strengthening democratic political systems and broad-based participation;*
- b) Improving human rights;*
- c) Preventing conflict and creating a peaceful environment;*
- d) Enhancing gender equality and women's empowerment*

Canada has a long tradition of respect for democracy, good governance and human rights and, as an active member of the international community, Canada plays an important role in supporting the efforts of other countries to create a climate conducive to food security. A key element in Canada's approach at both the bilateral and multilateral level is the promotion of policies to support a stable macroeconomic environment with enhanced opportunities for employment, investment, poverty reduction and social security programs. Canada also works through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to provide technical assistance to developing countries and countries in transition, and supports efforts through a variety of initiatives to strengthen civil society and promote transparency and inclusiveness in public administration and governance.

Besides encouraging developing countries and countries in transition to adopt stable monetary and fiscal policies, *Canada's Action Plan for Food Security* defines a variety of actions to promote food security internationally through the promotion of the democratic process and the participation of all stakeholders, the provision of technical assistance, the promotion of efficiencies in food processing and distribution, and ongoing support for the implementation of the *Platform for Action* from the *Fourth World Conference on Women* and the *Highly Indebted Poor Country Debt Initiative*.

Encouraging Stable Monetary Policies

Canada continues to work jointly with the World Bank and other international financial institutions to encourage developing countries and countries in transition to adopt or consolidate stable monetary and fiscal policies that will help them to achieve sustainable and equitable economic growth and thus increase their access to food. In this regard, Canada fully supports programs aimed at building the capacity of national governments to implement these policies.

Canada also supports the effective implementation of the *Highly Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) Debt Initiative* through the following activities and programs:

- Canada has been involved in a variety of bilateral and multilateral debt relief initiatives since the debt crisis emerged in the late 1970s. To date, Canada has forgiven roughly \$120 million in debt owed by Health Insurance

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Purchasing Cooperatives (HIPCs), of which \$19 million has been in flow relief (debt service payments) under Paris Club treatments and in accordance with the *Canadian Debt Initiative*. The remaining \$101 million is debt stock (principal) reduction for seven HIPCs (Benin, Bolivia, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Ghana, Senegal and Guyana) with debts owed to Canada. Procedures are underway to clear the debts of Ethiopia, Ghana, Senegal and Guyana that recently reached the required stage that triggers Canada to clear their debts.

- In 2003, two more countries (Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo) were added to the *Canadian Debt Initiative*. Canada is also working with other donors and the international financial institutions to extend the HIPC sunset date until December 31, 2006. Canada supports the reduction of the vast majority of Iraq's debt, the exact level will be decided in the context of multilateral negotiations at the Paris Club.
- To date, the Canadian government has contributed \$247 million to the World Bank administered HIPC Trust Fund, and \$65 million to the *Poverty Reduction Growth Facility (PRGF-HIPC) Trust Fund* administered by the International Monetary Fund. In addition, Canada has spent well over \$318 million in trade-related technical assistance and capacity building in this area since 2001. The purpose of this assistance is to help developing and least-developed countries more fully participate in the international trading system and thus lends to economic development which is necessary for poverty reduction.

Promoting the Democratic Process

CIDA has conducted extensive consultations have been conducted with NGOs, agriculture research institutes (ARIs), and developing country partners concerning the development of its new Agriculture Policy which will increase investments to the agriculture sector from its current level of approximately \$95 million to \$300 million by 2005-2006, aiming to reach \$500 million by 2008. The consultation plan resulted in immediate acceptance from stakeholders regarding the policy agenda and its accompanying Implementation Plan. In addition to demonstrating transparency and information sharing in its policy development, good will was created and a more informed policy were the immediate results.

Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is a public corporation that works in close collaboration with researchers from the developing world in their search for the means to build healthier, more equitable, and more prosperous societies. IDRC promotes the democratic process through a variety of programs. The *ECOHEALTH Program* has a focus on multi-stakeholder participation and community empowerment, and gender equity that contributes to this process. The *Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (SUB) Program* focuses on gauging the participation of historically marginalized groups in biodiversity conservation. Since 2000, *SUB* has funded 11 research projects

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worldwide concentrating on empowering women and indigenous populations. Another 10 projects have been funded to study local crop biodiversity and traditional agricultural methods and products (bananas in East Africa, maize in Southeast China, fruit trees in Burkina Faso) and their contribution to peace and food security.

Encouraging Participation and Gender Equality

IDRC has also been encouraging the participation of all stakeholders in the democratic process through a variety of programs, including the *Managing Natural Resources, Latin America and the Caribbean (MINGA) Program* provides support to Masters thesis research on gender and natural resources in Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru. The aim of the program is to contribute to the training of natural resource management professionals with a solid understanding of the social and gender dimensions of natural resource management issues that they will be able to apply in their work.

IDRC's *People, Land and Water (PLAW) Program* supports the development of local capacity to use participatory communications methods for a strengthened voice of the community in multi-stakeholder consultations. For example, the '*Communication among Banana Growers to Improve Soil Management Practices (Uganda) II*' project supports producers' efforts to reach their counterparts using participatory development communication. Covering the period 2004-2007, the project allows illiterate small scale banana growers to acquire and utilize improved soil management knowledge.

The *PLAW* program also supports initiatives to build capacity for social and gender analysis. Over the last two years, *PLAW*:

- Explored issues of equity in the context of gender and built capacity for gender sensitive research on natural resource management and development efforts in Africa with a project covering period 2002-2006; and
- Developed the capacity of agricultural researchers in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa to incorporate gender-disaggregated information into agricultural and natural resource management (NRM) decision-making, policy-making, and research agenda formulation, with a project covering the period 2001-2004.
- Supported gender analysis of intra-household dynamics and natural resource management research in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).
- Provided assistance for multi-stakeholder (resource managers, policymakers, and marginalized groups such as women) input into policy and decision-making in the African Highlands around community-based natural resource management, covering the period 2003-2006.

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CARE Canada is another key player in Canada's efforts to reduce poverty, promote participation and encourage gender equality. Over the last six decades, CARE has grown to become one of Canada's pre-eminent international-development agencies, widely admired for its expertise in emergency assistance and development programming, and celebrated for its commitment to ending poverty. CARE focuses on the economically and socially disadvantaged, those suffering from conflict and discrimination, and groups too often systemically excluded from national development efforts—in particular women, children and the elderly. As a member of CARE International, CARE Canada is currently operational in more than 45 countries in Asia, Africa and Americas. Recent CARE initiatives promoting participation and gender equality include:

- The *POWER* project in Nepal focuses on rights of citizens in rural areas including rights to appropriate, relevant education and rights to participate in political processes. Using established partner selection guidelines, CARE identifies local and national level Nepali organizations and conducts gender sensitization orientations with male local government members and community leaders, as well as the household partners of women political representatives. This CIDA funded project contributes to national policy by sharing field-based experience and promoting better approaches to strengthening women's effective political participation. In the first year of implementation, the *POWER* project trained nearly 2000 spouses, guardians and male local government leaders in gender sensitivity and equality.
- The *Canada-Southeast Asia Regional HIV/AIDS Program, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Lao PDR (CSEARHAP) Program* is assisting the national governments, specifically AIDS authorities, of Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Lao PDR, to develop multi-sectoral gender-sensitive policy environments that will enable prevention programmes to reach mobile people and migrants with HIV/AIDS prevention services. When these already vulnerable people become infected they are more often than not excluded from programmes because of various regulatory and policy frameworks that restrict access to health and social services and become food insecure. CSEARHAP, a four year project funded by CIDA, seeks to protect their rights through building the capacity of AIDS authorities to lead policy reform across key sectors such as immigration, labour and social security.

Canada's Centre for Studies in Food Security at Ryerson University is also helping to promote the participation of all stakeholders in developing food security solutions in Brazil in collaboration with the Reference Centre for Food and Nutrition Security at the University of Rio de Janeiro. Funded by CIDA, the project will provide community-based education and training models that meet the needs of the most vulnerable populations in developing countries. The initiative's pilot projects in the poorest regions of Brazil will be replicated in Angola with the anticipation that the Brazilian Centre will become a catalyst for international collaboration in food security training for Portuguese speaking countries.

Peace-building

CARE Canada's peace-building projects in Burundi, Sudan, Bosnia, Palestine, Indonesia and Afghanistan, share a common theme of securing livelihoods in the form of access to water and land, and addressing other household livelihood issues in resource scarce communities. In dealing with conflict, CARE Canada has adopted a two-pronged strategy aimed at building peace and providing tools for conflict resolution. This approach includes the use of media (theatre, local media sources) to transmit and teach messages of peace and provide positive avenues to address sensitive issues within beneficiary communities, and peace education activities tied with more fundamental restructuring and rehabilitation work.

The CIDA funded *Peace Education Project* in Burundi aims to augment and strengthen successful traditional mechanisms for conflict management through creative means with modern methodologies rather than trying to superimpose entirely new approaches and methodologies on civil society. This is done through the promotion of community level proactive conflict management and peace maintenance via civil society activities in selected northern provinces, and through traditional methods of conflict management, in conjunction with the integration of peace education in all facets of development for civil society. Direct beneficiaries include 40,164 participants, with the overall project indirectly reaching 200,825 people.

Providing Technical Assistance for Sustainable Development

CIDA spends over half a billion dollars annually on technical assistance initiatives in developing countries and countries in transition and IDRC continues to support sustainable development goals through its *Environment and Natural Resources Management (ENRM)*, *PLAW* and *ECOHEALTH* programs.

2.4.2 Commitment Two: Access to Food

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will implement policies aimed at eradicating poverty and inequality and improving physical and economic access by all, at all times, to sufficient, nutritionally adequate and safe food and its effective utilization.”

As requested by the FAO, this report highlights the policies pursued and actions taken to eradicate poverty and inequality and to improve physical and economic access to food by all. It includes where possible the strategies or initiatives undertaken with respect to:

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- a) *Specific policies and targeted interventions to generate income and employment for the urban poor;*
- b) *Specific policies and targeted interventions to generate on-farm and off-farm income and employment for the rural poor, women and minority groups, including land reform, protection of property and use rights and other strategies to ensure access to land and water resources.*
- c) *Provisions made to develop social safety nets, if any, to meet the needs of the poor, including those affected by HIV/AIDS, in rural and urban areas;*
- d) *Measures taken to ensure access to basic education and primary health care.*

Poverty is one of the leading causes of food insecurity. Canada strives to reduce poverty by helping other countries to address the root causes and build their self-reliance through the provision of basic needs, education and training, and the reduction of barriers limiting the participation of the poor in society. Canada's Official Development Assistance (ODA) program is designed to reduce poverty in developing countries by supporting sustainable development, and all of CIDA's six programming priorities contribute both directly and indirectly to poverty reduction.

But improving access to food and the means of production is not enough to ensure food security. Food needs to be safe and nutritionally adequate and Canada continues to promote good nutrition through a variety of health, education, breastfeeding and food fortification initiatives.

To help reduce poverty in developing countries, *Canada's Plan of Action for Food Security* includes directives to review existing food security programs, support international poverty reduction efforts, increase aid levels and ensure that at least 25 per cent of Canada's ODA budget is invested in basic human needs including food and nutrition. The Plan also calls for continued action to combat nutrition deficiency-related diseases, to support research on micro-nutrients and nutritional enhancements, and to promote breastfeeding initiatives.

Reducing Poverty through Sustainable Development

In the spring of 2003, CIDA launched a new agriculture policy to promote sustainable rural development via five specific programming areas: strengthening national capacity in developing; using new science and research to address yields and environmental stresses; addressing the degradation of natural resources such as land, water and bio-diversity; and to assist rural poor participate in local and international markets.

As part of its new agriculture policy, CIDA has strengthened its contributions to a few key multilateral organizations central to the fight against food insecurity and

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poverty, including the FAO. While negotiations of a more official partnership agreement are still underway, CIDA has agreed to strengthen extra-budgetary support (\$1.2 million over 3 years ending 2006) to assist with developing country participation in the *standard setting processes of Codex and the International Plant Protection Convention*.

IDRC's *ECOHEALTH*, *Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (SUB)*, *Cities Feeding People (CFP)*, and *MINGA* programs have also been actively engaged in reducing poverty. For example, *ECOHEALTH* explored the relationships between food insecurity, malnutrition and poor health in the poor households of Northern Malawi; explored the impact the AIDS epidemic is having on agricultural systems in eastern and southern Africa; explored the links between malaria and agriculture, and between malaria and other environmental (including socioeconomic) determinants of health in East and Southern Africa; and supported research for improving food security and nutritional values among poor indigenous Mexican communities in Veracruz through the use of traditional uncultivated food.

IRDC's *SUB Program* supports a project titled *Promoting Peace and Food Security by Strengthening Biodiversity-based Livelihoods in South Asia*. Led by a coalition of NGOs in South Asia and Canada, this project is creating spaces and processes for producers and community based organizations to generate knowledge and formulate policy positions that can then be creatively communicated to policymakers. The goal is to address the imbalance in the policy dialogue on agriculture and food insecurity.

IRDC's *CFP Program*, in collaboration with the UN-HABITAT's *Urban Management Program* has developed a series of policy briefs on urban agriculture for municipal governments in Latin America and the Caribbean . The briefs consist of guidelines on topics ranging from municipal food sovereignty to gender equity and reducing urban poverty through agriculture. During a regional consultation in 2002, several municipalities signed *The Villa Maria del Triunfo Declaration* whereupon they committed to implementing these guidelines.

The *CFP Program* also supported a *Ministers' Conference on Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture (UPA)* in Harare, Zimbabwe in 2003 which included seventy-five delegates from five countries; and supported a project, in partnership with Queen's University, that examines food security strategies used by the urban poor in Southern Africa. A follow-up initiative involving a partnership with McGill University has recently been funded to investigate issues of food security in the context of land-use planning and site design in urban areas.

IRDC's *MINGA Program* supported research on tenure, access to and use of land, water and forest resources (Bolivia). This project has explored issues surrounding land tenure and access to, and use of, natural resources in Bolivia as the basis for formulating a policy agenda.

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Care Canada has also been involved in a number of projects to reduce poverty through sustainable development: Some recent projects include:

- *Local Initiatives for Tomorrow, Sri Lanka* (LIFT) is a CIDA funded project that addresses the livelihood issues faced by people in the North and East, which have been severely impacted by Sri Lanka's conflict of over 20 years. The purpose of the *LIFT* project is to develop the capacity of community based organizations located in conflict affected areas to support economic activities, improve food security, create employment, provide basic human needs to the conflict affected population, as well as empower communities to participate in the decision-making processes related to achieving basic human needs and rights. Through partner NGOs and CBOs, the project works with 4,500 producers, 3,000 families growing home gardens (1500 direct and approximately 1500 indirectly), savings and credit groups, 80 farmer groups maintaining agro-infrastructure and approximately six selected NGOs. It is estimated that at least 27,000 producers will benefit indirectly from the project activities.
- Care's *Agriculture, Micro-finance and Health* (AMH) program for communities in transition in Indonesia has three main components: agricultural recovery, microfinance and health recovery. The recovery component of the project helps producers to identify problems, look for appropriate solutions, and make decisions on what experiments should be performed and tested, and the microfinance component targets low-income micro-entrepreneurs in urban and peri-urban areas of Java. The project provides credit to target clients through local micro-finance institutions (MFIs) and aims to increase the economic livelihood security of at least 5,000 poor micro-entrepreneurs through improved access and utilization of credit. The project's nutrition/health education and promotion of supplementary feeding activities are centered on community-level health posts run by health volunteers in an estimated 50 villages.
- Through its *Tools for Development* program, CARE is offering a package of services for the urban poor and unemployed. Access to credit, training in production techniques and in business administration and management, and most importantly, access to equipment, is helping urban microentrepreneurs to grow their businesses and create employment opportunities for the poor. As many as 5,000 jobs have been or will be created or strengthened over the life of the program in Jamaica, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Peru.

Improving Access To Safe and Nutritious Food

IDRC is also actively engaged in a variety of projects to improve access safe and nutritious foods. For example, the *ECOHEALTH Program* explored how to alter fish consumption habits of riverine communities in the Brazilian Amazon to lower

mercury intake. It also explored ways to ways to alter agricultural practices in Jamaica to generate food with safe levels of cadmium using lands with naturally high levels of cadmium, and explored how the use of agrochemicals in potato production in Ecuador can lead to improved human health of farming communities without lowering production levels.

IDRC's *CFP Program* has been supporting development research that aims to mitigate public health risks and enhance benefits associated with producing food in and around cities. Several projects are currently being implemented to develop technological options and identify policy measures to reduce the negative human health and environmental impacts associated with urban and peri-urban agriculture while improving the benefits. In 2004, with *CFP* support, three research teams in Kenya, Tanzania and Senegal began implementing projects that examine the public health risks and benefits associated with livestock production in and around cities.

IDRC's *SUB Program* funded research to explore the relationships between managing plant diversity and dietary diversity and its contribution to nutrition and health.

Improving Nutrition and Effective Utilization

CIDA recently launched its *Action Plan on Health and Nutrition* to guide its policy dialogue and programming in these important social development areas. CIDA also supports research to identify interventions to reduce the transmission of diseases via breastfeeding. CIDA is also providing funding to the World Food Program to pilot test the fortification of cereal products.

IDRC's *ECOHEALTH Program* supported research for improving food security and nutritional values among poor indigenous Mexican communities in Veracruz with high levels of malnutrition through the use of traditional uncultivated food.

Reinforcing Healthy Eating Practices

IDRC's *ECOHEALTH* and *SUB* programs both supported new initiatives to reinforce healthy eating habits. *ECOHEALTH* explored the relationships between food insecurity, malnutrition and poor health in the poor households of Northern Malawi. The program tested organic matter technologies, such as intercropping grain legumes or perennial legumes that are promising soil improvement methods to increase the agricultural production of resource poor producers for both marketing and subsistence by providing nutritious alternatives for improved diets. Together these efforts can lead to improved household food security, nutrition and general health.

The *SUB Program* funded research in Zimbabwe examining the critical role played by indigenous vegetables to food security. Often better suited to the

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rigours of marginal environments, indigenous vegetables are cheap, nutritious, reliable and culturally appropriate. They also tolerate drought, poor soils, and local pests and diseases, and require little in the way of management and inputs. These projects attempt to strengthen household food security by promoting the conservation, production, processing and utilization of indigenous vegetables, identify lessons learned and key research gaps in this area.

Raising Awareness

IDRC's *PLAW Program* supported dialogue around rural poverty eradication through better community-based natural resource management. Topics covered included "*Securing Tenure in Common Property Institutions in South Africa*", in the context of *Land Reform Programs*. This project enabled *the Legal Entity Assessment Project (LEAP)*, a collaborative effort on the part of NGOs, academic institutions and a provincial government, to further develop and refine its concepts, approaches, methods and resource materials, and develop workable recommendations for amending constitutions, revising policies and strengthening institutional practices for establishing and supporting common property institutions.

The *PLAW Program* also funded a project on "*Land Accessibility for Internally Displaced People in Uganda*" to research the insurgency in Gulu District-northern Uganda; provided financial support for analyzing experience with new approaches to people-centred natural resource management for rural development in Southern Africa; provided support for researchers to participate in the *Conference of the International Association for the Study of Common Property (IASCP)* in Oaxaca, Mexico; and promoted awareness of land reform and sustainable development as key policy issues in South Africa at the *World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)*, held in Johannesburg in 2002.

IDRC's *CFP Program* supported dialogue between researchers and policy makers regarding the reuse of grey water for urban agriculture in the Middle East. A panel on grey water use was convened in 2004 and a current research agenda developed based on dialogue between different stakeholders. IDRC continues to work with the WHO on the development of appropriate guidelines for policy makers deciding national water quality standards for the safe reuse of wastewater in agriculture.

Reviewing Food Security Programs

CIDA's increased focus on aid to selected countries to strengthen aid effectiveness has allowed countries with well established food security programs to scale up within the last two years. For example, in 2004, the Ghana bilateral program allocated \$93 million over six years to assist Ghana's efforts to implement its *Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy*; \$85 million over 5 years to provide budgetary support for implementation of *Ghana Food and Agriculture*

Sector Development Policy; and \$15 million over 5 years to support the three northern regions of Ghana with the implementation of their development plans. The Canadian Treasury Board also recently approved a \$30 million contribution for a new Ghana water project. CIDA's Ethiopia and Vietnam programs have also been strengthened significantly.

2.4.3 Commitment Three: Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will pursue participatory and sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development policies and practices in high and low potential areas, which are essential to adequate and reliable food supplies at the household, national, regional and global levels, and combat pests, drought and desertification, considering the multifunctional character of agriculture.”

As requested by the FAO, this report highlights measures taken to pursue participatory and sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development policies and practices and to combat pests, drought and desertification. It includes where possible the strategies or initiatives undertaken with respect to:

- a) Policies and actions taken to intensify and diversify food production;*
- b) Actions taken to combat environmental threats to food security, in particular drought and desertification, pests, erosion of biological diversity, and degradation of land and aquatic based natural resources;*
- c) Transfer and use of agricultural technologies;*
- d) Formulation and implementation of integrated rural development*

High levels of malnutrition, expected increases in population and changing food preferences will necessitate a doubling of food production over the next three decades -- and it must be done sustainably. This is a particular challenge for developing countries where most of this growth will appear. To ensure productivity enhancement and natural resource sustainability, Canada supports food security research through participation in the *Consultative Group on International Research (CIGAR)*, a network of 16 international research centres related to food and agriculture. Many of Canada's domestic initiatives under the *Agricultural Policy Framework* also provide critical information required for enhancing sustainable production.

Canada supports rural development in developing countries by working with local communities to restore the natural resource base for farming, grazing, fishing and hunting, and participates in a variety of international agreements in areas

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such as biodiversity, desertification, climate change, pollution prevention and the conservation of fish stocks.

Besides participating in various international initiatives and supporting the implementation of international conventions, *Canada's Action Plan for Food Security* contains extensive commitments to build risk assessment and management capacity for issues related to biotechnology, to promote research capacity and the adoption of new policies by developing countries to enhance food production, processing and distribution, and to encourage the transfer of agriculture-related technologies.

Implementing International Conventions and Agreements

Canada continues to actively support the *UN Convention to Combat Desertification*. Canada was President of the COP5, from 2001 to 2003, and emphasized the need to move towards strengthened implementation. From 2002 to 2004, Canada has made significant contributions to support the efforts of developing countries to implement the Convention through partners like the UNCCD Global Mechanism (IFAD), the UNCCD Secretariat and the UNDP Drylands Center. The total amount of these contributions since 2001 is \$2.5 million.

IDRC has also been active in the implementation of the international convention to combat desertification. IDRC's *PLAW Program* supports participatory communication to combat desertification by assisting the *Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control* in the Sahel to use participatory communication approaches into its various programs and the national coordination bodies, diffusing of the results of research on participatory communication by video, a book and a Web page, and documenting, analysing and disseminating the results of *National Programs of Desertification Control*.

Other *PLAW* initiatives to combat desertification include the *Elangata Wuas: Environmental Management Phase III* project in Kenya, which supported the local community in their efforts to obtain a greater share in the benefits of dry-land development; the development of alternative institutional arrangements for the joint management of the transboundary rivers in Syria and Lebanon to promote sustainable land and water use; and the promotion of water demand management (WDM) in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) at the *VIII International Water Technology Conference*.

CARE Canada's CONESA project in Zambia also supports *the* Conventions on Biodiversity and Desertification through an integrated conservation and development program. The project builds the capacity of communities and the Ministry of Natural Resources in mapping protected areas, inventory of biodiversity, protected corridors for migration of wildlife, co-management of parks and alternate livelihoods for communities through agro-forestry systems,

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agriculture diversification, marketing of non timber forestry and herbal products, and eco-tourism. The project has developed sustainable natural resource management systems in two national parks in Zambia improving the livelihoods of more than 20,000 rural poor living in and around the protected areas.

Climate Change

CIDA continues to administer the \$100 million *Canada Climate Change Development Fund* for the Government of Canada, which supports projects in developing countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help adapt to the adverse effects of climate change. CARE Canada, for example, administers four climate change projects in Indonesia, East Timor, Bangladesh and Albania, all funded by CIDA. These projects build the capacity of communities and local institutions to manage natural resources in a sustainable manner, promote reforestation and afforestation to sequester carbon in natural sinks while improving the livelihoods of rural communities. CARE Canada's project in Bangladesh – *Reducing Vulnerability due to Climate Change* - builds the adaptive capacity of local institutions and communities to adapt to adverse impact of climate change, conserve biodiversity and protect the environment through alternate livelihood options.

Genetic Resources

Canada has signed and ratified the *International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (June 10th 2002) which came into full force on June 29, 2004. Canada is committed to working towards the full implementation of the Treaty through participation in *Material Transfer Agreement* meetings and other broad ranging discussions. In 2003-04, CIDA made a significant decision to support the work of the Treaty by committing Cdn\$10 million over 10 years to support vulnerable collections of PGR held ex-situ in gene banks outside of the 11 under the protection of the CGIAR.

The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food submitted Canada's *Country Report on Animal Genetic Resources* to the FAO on February 18, 2004. As it stands now, the first draft of a *State of the World Report on Animal Genetic Resources* (based on input from country reports) will be reviewed by the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group (4th Session) in 2005 and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (11th Session) in 2006. The process is expected to be completed in 2007, through an intergovernmental technical conference.

Canada participates in the America's plant genetic resources network (Norgen -- Canada, United States of America and Mexico) under the IICA umbrella and is working towards the development of a crop diversity strategy for the America's in concert with all networks in the Americas. Canada will also be part of a global effort developing strategies under the *Global Crop Diversity Trust*.

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U.S. and Canada held a *North American Regional Meeting on Animal Genetic Resources* in February, 2004 in Fort Collins, CO. The intent was to share experience and the discussions were focused on potential activities that could benefit both countries' programs. Regional coordination will be further strengthened in the animal genetic resources area in the Americas context. Coordinators and associates from Canada, U.S., the Caribbean, Central and South America countries voluntarily agreed to hold an *America's Animal Genetic Resources Workshop* in April 2005 (in Montevideo). An international *Discovery Conference on "Food Animal Agriculture: Protecting and Managing Animal Genetic Resources for Future Generations: The Next Steps"* will be held in Cheyenne, Wyoming in November 2004. Canada was invited to speak at this Discovery Conference.

IDRC also participates in the international arena of genetic research. IDRC has had a research program exclusively focussed on the relationship between plant genetic resources and the marginalized people that depend on them since the initiation of the Convention on Biodiversity in 1992.

Soil Biodiversity

Another important multilateral agreement for Canada is the *International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity*. This initiative promotes soil health through the ownership and adaptation by producers of soil biological management practices as an integral part of their agricultural and sustainable livelihood strategies. In 2002, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada submitted a series of reports on soil biodiversity in Canadian agro-ecosystems, which was published as a Special Issue in the *Canadian Journal of Soil Science*. These reports were submitted as case studies to FAO's Land and Water Development Division and were also used as background material for Canadian participation in addressing priority issues on agricultural biological diversity at past meetings of the *Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)* under the *Convention of Biological Diversity*.

AAFC's *National Agri-environmental Health and Reporting Analysis Program (NAHARP)* contributed to the hosting of an *Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Expert Meeting* in the National Capital by Region, on the topic of indicators for Soil Carbon Content. Canada also participated in an *Expert Meeting on Soil Erosion and Soil Biodiversity* that was hosted Italy.

Forestry

Sustainable forestry is another important area of international cooperation and Canada hosted the *XII World Forestry Congress*, in Québec City, under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in September, 2003. The Congress attracted more than 4,000 individuals from

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more than 140 countries spanning five continents. Some 900 delegates came from developing countries. Of these, 400 received financial support from the Government of Canada, other national governments advancing their development agendas through the Congress, and other sources. Approximately \$1.75 million was assembled to provide financial assistance to developing country participants. Out of this amount, more than \$1,000,000 was provided by Canada.

The Congress included an Indigenous People's forum, a youth event, many renowned keynote speakers and more than 150 exhibitors, and resulted in a Final Statement that was adopted by acclamation by the 4,000 participants. While recognizing the importance of the three pillars of sustainable forest management (economic, social and environmental), the Statement also places a great emphasis on the achievement of broad societal goals such as poverty alleviation and human development, and sets out a vision for the future of the world's forests. As custodian of the Final Statement, Canada intends to show that it is exemplary in pursuing the goals articulated, both in terms of its own domestic initiatives and how it is engaging the international community to do the same.

Plant Protection

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) delivers 14 inspection programs related to foods, plants and animals in 18 regions across Canada. Our role is to enforce the food safety and nutritional quality standards established by Health Canada and, for animal health and plant protection, to set standards and carry out enforcement and inspection. As such, CFIA is an important participant in Canada's efforts to facilitate sustainable food production and plant protection systems.

CFIA participates in and implements the standards of the *International Plant Protection Convention* (IPPC) which aims to secure common and effective action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products, and to promote appropriate measures for their control. Outputs from the IPPC include harmonization of phytosanitary measures, enhanced international plant protection and, therefore, reduced crop losses to plant pests. Canada deposited formal instruments of acceptance of the *New Revised Text of the IPPC* in October, 2001, having been a contracting party to the IPPC since 1951. Other IPPC activities include:

- CFIA's Plant Health Division is Canada's *National Plant Protection Organization* (NPPO) as provided for in the IPPC. An NPPO is the official service established by a government to discharge the functions specified by the IPPC. These functions result in enhanced crop protection both for Canada's crop resources and for trading partners. In this role, the CFIA manages surveillance for pest outbreaks and control of pests; conducts

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inspection and, if necessary, disinfestation of traded consignments of plants and plant products; ensures phytosanitary security of consignments from certification until export; establishes and protects pest free areas; and undertakes pest risk analyses for the development of phytosanitary measures.

- CIDA has committed \$600,000 to the IPPC's *Special Trust Fund*, with full donations to be completed during the next two years. The *Special Trust Fund* is used exclusively for technical assistance, capacity building projects and information exchange related to developing countries, and assistance in their participation in standard setting meetings. Application of this fund will improve crop protection in developing countries.
- Canada also participates in meetings of the IPPC's *Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures* (ICPM) which meets annually to implement the objectives of the IPPC. Amongst its main tasks, the ICPM reviews global plant protection needs and develops and adopts *International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures* (ISPMs). These standards improve international plant protection, reducing pre- and post-harvest crop losses to plant pests. The ICPM also agrees on technical assistance and capacity building work for developing countries in the field of phytosanitary measures and standards.
- Canada sends nominated representatives to the IPPC's Standards Committee, the body responsible for overseeing the standard-setting process and assisting in the development of ISPMs. Currently, this Committee meets twice per year. The Standards Committee approves draft standards for country consultations and finalizes draft standards for presentation to the ICPM. Implementation of these standards, once adopted, improves international plant protection, reducing pre- and post-harvest crop losses to plant pests.
- Canada also participates in the *North American Plant Protection Organization*, a *Regional Plant Protection Organization* (RPPO) as provided for in the IPPC. NAPPO develops regional standards for phytosanitary measures which harmonize protection of food crops from plant pests on a regional basis. NAPPO also engages in communications with other RPPOs to build consensus on IPPC standards issues.
- Canada nominates representatives to serve on *Expert Working Groups* convened by the IPPC to draft standards on specific subjects. A number of *Expert Working Groups* are convened each year, their number and frequency being dependent on budgetary resources and on work plan priorities as established by the ICPM. The *Expert Working Groups* develop draft standards for phytosanitary measures on specific subjects. These lead ultimately towards harmonized phytosanitary measures and improved international crop protection.

Canada is also an active participant in *the International Pollinators Initiative*. Canada has been known for pollination management research since the 1940s and is taken an international leadership role with the *North American Pollinator Protection Campaign* (NAPPC), the *Declining Pollination Task Force of the World Conservation Union* (IUCN), and the initiation of the *International Network of Expertise for Sustainable Pollination* (INESP). Canada will continue and further its international role with the recent informal formation of the *Canadian Pollination Initiative* to complement and integrate opportunities with global partners including Africa, Brazil, Mexico, Europe and the IPI of the FAO.

Facilitating the Adoption of Sustainable Crop Systems

RDC's *ECOHEALTH*, *SUB*, *CFP* and *MINGA* and *PLAW* programs are all actively engaged in facilitating the adoption of sustainable crop protection and production systems. The *ECOHEALTH* program explored how lowered use of agrochemicals in potato production in Ecuador can lead to improved human health of the farming communities without lowering production levels.

The *SUB* Program has invested \$2.5 million in several projects with the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI) and the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA). *SUB* also recently published *In-Focus: Seeds that Give*, a collection of findings based on 10 years of IDRC support for projects promoting agricultural biodiversity and participatory plant breeding in different parts of the world ranging from the Andes to the Himalayas. This book also serves as the focal point for an IDRC thematic web site on participatory plant breeding.

The *CFP Program* and the International Potato Centre (CIP) have been co-funding a three-year position for an international research coordinator on urban and peri-urban agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa as part of the CGIAR's *Urban Harvest Program*. Thanks to the regional *Urban Harvest* coordinator, several urban agriculture initiatives have been implemented in the region. For example, efforts in Kampala have led the City Council to recently approve new ordinances on city farming that opened up restrictive regulations on urban farming, food trading and distribution. *CFP* is also funding research projects implemented by the International Water Management Institute (\$360,000), the International Livestock Research Institute (\$480,000) and the World Agroforestry Centre.

The *MINGA Program* supported a research on Fisheries co-management in Brazil which contributes to develop the capacity of fishing communities to improve their livelihoods. The *MINGA Program* also supported research on *Scaling-up of Successful Agroecological Experiences in Latin America and the Caribbean*. This project has tested a series of strategies to scale up successful agroecological experiences in specific areas of Chile, Cuba, Honduras and Peru. The project experience shows that there is the need for combining scaling-out

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activities (such as training) with efforts to change organizations, strengthen their inter-institutional links and their capacity to influence different decision making areas. Also "down-scaling" is fundamental to strengthen local responsibilities and pro-active capacities which enable flexible answers adapted to diverse contexts. In this sense the dissemination and replication of agro ecological technologies are not seen as mechanical transfer methodologies but as learning social processes where the role of local actors, small producers, producers and their social organizations is fundamental.

Since 2002, the *PLAW Program* has supported five projects with various members of the CGIAR in Africa, and the *ECOHEALTH Program* has funded five activities with CGIAR centres. The *PLAW Program* has also supported the exploration of new technologies for soil improvement through community-based activities, including research on improvement and maintenance of soil fertility by means of ramial chipwood in Sénégal; research on the use of market gardens in the the Sahel; exploration of integrated crop-livestock systems for sustainable natural resources management in the sub-humid and highland zones of West and Central Africa; exploration of agroforestry-based options to improve socioeconomic and environmental well-being of rural households in the Sahel with a new 3 year project; research on the commercialization of tissue culture bananas for smallholder producers in Kenya; and research to improve the current system for trans-boundary natural resources management in Southern Africa.

The *PLAW Program* also supported improved management of water resources through a variety of initiatives, including three studies on the socio-economic impact of the Water Hyacinth on the livelihoods and welfare of the people who depend on Lake Victoria in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania; research on conflict management related to water resources and their use in the Nakanbé Basin in Burkina Faso; research on social and cultural values in the context of water management in Egypt, and research on farmer management of agricultural water resources in Senegal; the sustainable development of the Dead Sea Basin under the tri-national management of Israel, Jordan, Palestine, and the sustainable management of the Litani River in Lebanon with integrated wastewater management policies and technologies for marginal communities in Jordan.

CARE Canada also supports sustainable crop production through *the Food Security Project* in Northeastern Corridor, Ghana. The project is funded by CIDA to support community based innovations to improve food security, prevent desertification, promote crop diversification and halt land and natural resource degradation. The project aims to increase the capability of smallholder farm families to adopt improved livelihood strategies through sustainable agricultural production and increased incomes in a dynamic environment, thus increasing their household food security. This is being done in three ways: building farmer's and community groups' capacity for informed development analysis, planning and implementation of sustainable agriculture; facilitating mechanisms for farmer access to services and resources they identify to support farm and off-

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farm activities, producer associations for improved access to input and output markets; and facilitating capacity building and food security networks at District level where government, non government and private sector actors coordinate/link to producers for integrated and community demand-responsive service provision.

Sharing Knowledge and Transferring Technology

CIDA continues to implement a growing number of projects related to sustainable land and water management as part of its sectoral programming. Many of these projects involve the transfer of Canadian technology and know-how.

AAFC's Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) works with CIDA to link its domestic activities to combat land degradation, drought, and desertification to the *United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification* (UNCCD). PFRA worked with CIDA to prepare the first (2001) and second (2002) reports to UNCCD. In August 2004, AAFC participated with CIDA at COP 6 in Havana. AAFC's participates in a number of CIDA funded projects to build capacity in developing countries to promote sustainable agriculture and combat land degradation including the *Hebei Drylands Project* in China.

AAFC's expertise in the area of environmentally sustainable agriculture is being shared with many less developed countries to build scientific, technical, and educational capacity to reduce poverty and contribute to food security. Initiatives include a *Tri-National Initiative* (USA, Canada and Mexico) on information sharing and collaborations on water quality issues related to agriculture, particularly a *Partnership Initiative* with the UN-FAO on *Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development*, and CIDA-funded project on agri-environmental policies in Latin America.

Through the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA), AAFC is also involved in short term technical assistance to medium-term feasibility studies, and to multi-year capacity building projects in various countries, including *National Water Quality and Availability Management* in Egypt, *Water Harvesting and Institutional Strengthening* in Ethiopia, and promotion of environmentally sustainable agricultural practices, in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

Developing Research Capacity

CIDA has significantly increased multilateral and bilateral support to CGIAR and its research centres. Through the *Canada Fund for Africa*, CIDA invested more than \$40 million over 3 fiscal years to strengthen this multilateral channel and to buttress its diminished core resources to aid smallholder producers and women producers in Africa. To compliment its investments in the CGIAR, CIDA is also supporting both the regional and national agricultural research systems through the *Global Forum on Agricultural Research* (\$3 million over 3 years starting 2003-

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04) and the *Forum on Agricultural Research for Africa* (equivalently \$3 million over 3 years starting 2003-04).

All projects of IDRC's *ECOHEALTH* and *PLAW Program* also include a strong research capacity building element. IDRC's *SUB Program* also continues to "promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the development of appropriate technologies, local institutions and policy frameworks through the application of interdisciplinary and participatory research that incorporates gender considerations and local and indigenous knowledge". To these ends *SUB* has allocated just over \$10 million since 2002 to development research.

The *Gines-Mera Fellowship Fund for Graduate Studies in Biodiversity* administered by the *SUB Program* has provided scholarships for young women and men from developing countries to complete Master's-level theses in molecular biology, and/or social and rights-related aspects of agrobiodiversity and its conservation. *SUB* also funds the *Gender Leaders on Biodiversity in Ethiopia*, (GLOBE) which has sponsored two PhDs. Several interns have also been hired by the Center to work with CFP and SUB on research in developing countries relating to food security.

IDRC's *CFP Program* continues to support development research that seeks to remove constraints and enhance the potential of urban agriculture to improve household food security, income generation, public health as well as the management of waste, water and land for the benefit of the urban poor. Since 2002, *CFP* has invested over \$5.5 million in urban agriculture initiatives carried out in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and the Middle East. Currently IDRC is developing its 2005-2010 program directions and urban agriculture and food security will remain key programmatic areas.

The *AGROPOLIS Graduate Research Awards Program* hosted and funded by Canada and coordinated by the *CFP Program*, has supported over 40 southern country students in carrying out master's and doctoral field research on urban agriculture around the world. The *CFP Program* has also sponsored three regional training courses -- in Dakar in 2000, in Quito in 2001 and in Nairobi in 2004 -- on methodologies for action-research in urban agriculture. The latest course has led to the establishment of an African regional network on urban and peri-urban agriculture and the development of distance learning materials. Based on the success of these regional courses, *CFP* is currently planning a fourth regional training course on the safe use of wastewater for urban agriculture irrigation in the Middle East. Approximately \$500,000 will be invested on this initiative.

2.4.4 Commitment Four: Trade and Food Security

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will strive to ensure that food, agricultural trade and overall trade policies are conducive to fostering food security for all through a fair and market-oriented world trade system.”

As requested by the FAO, this report highlights measures taken at national level to ensure that food and agricultural trade and overall trade policies are conducive to fostering food security. It includes where possible the strategies or initiatives undertaken to:

- a) Establish well functioning internal marketing and transportation systems;*
- b) To facilitate better links within and between domestic and external markets;*
- c) To diversify trade;*
- d) To ensure national policies related to international and regional trade agreements do not have adverse impact on economic activities towards food security, especially women's activities.*

It also includes where possible the steps taken to:

- a) Promote financial and technical assistance to improve agricultural productivity and infrastructure of developing countries, especially Low Income Food-Deficit Countries (LIFDCs) in order to optimize opportunities arising from the international trade framework;*
- b) Reduce subsidies on food exports in conformity with the Uruguay Round Agreement in the context of the on-going process of reform in agriculture conducted in the World Trade Organization (WTO);*
- c) Implement the Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries through the WTO Committee on Agriculture.*

Canada's trade policy emphasizes the maintenance and extension of a rules-based multi-lateral trading system through the World Trade Organization (WTO) and through participation in regional and bilateral initiatives. However, Canada also recognizes that not all nations or groups in society benefit from freer trade in the short term and that transitional measures may be necessary to help countries adjust. Under the international component of the *Agricultural Policy Framework*, Canada is working with domestic producers and processors and governments abroad to ensure that trade rules are fair, fairly enforced, and reinforce food security.

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Canada's Action Plan for Food Security calls for continued action by Canada to promote the benefits of rules-based trade, to study the impact of trade policy on food security, to help developing countries prepare for trade talks, to facilitate the development of an internationally acceptable organic certification and accreditation system, and to work toward the development of international standards for food safety and plant and animal health.

Helping Developing Countries Prepare for Trade Talks

Canada helps developing countries prepare for trade talks and participate more fully in the global trading arena through a variety of initiatives including capacity building and the exchange of expertise. Canada has also taken steps to diversify trade in least-developed countries (LDCs) by expanding its *Least Developed Country Tariff Initiative* from January 2003 to provide duty-free access to all products imported to Canada from LDCs, except for supply-managed agricultural products in the dairy, poultry and eggs sectors.

As noted earlier, Canada has committed \$500,000 over three years to enhance developing countries participation in the work of the Codex Commission. Canada is contributing a further \$100,000 to support training for developing countries to make their participation in the Codex more effective.

IDRC helps developing countries prepare for trade talks through the *Genetic Resources Policy Initiative*, which is building the analytical and technical capacity of southern actors engaged in genetic resource-related law and policy development. It will do so by assessing the demand for various research and capacity building services in the field of genetic resources; acting as knowledge broker and linking the demand with existing resources, which will be compiled in a centralized policy information clearinghouse; and developing recommendations for national law and policy where southern policymakers' needs cannot be met through the use of existing materials. The project constitutes a 3 year process for institutionalizing the work of the Crucible Group into a more independent, multi-donor, long-term initiative on genetic resource policy supported by a secretariat

IDRC is also working to identify methodologies for valuation of agricultural resources the *SUB Program*. *SUB* is funding a project that will strengthen the capacity of research partners to assess alternative paths of agricultural development in economic terms. Researchers will undertake a state of the art review of the methodological options available for doing economic analysis of diverse farming systems from a gendered perspective; enhance the quality of research on the economics of diverse farming systems by building effective working relationships with economists; and organize an international workshop on the economics of ecological agriculture and experiences with economic methods.

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CARE Canada's strategy *Making Markets Work for the Poor* is a deliberate attempt to link trade and food security. CARE's *Rural Enterprise and Agri-service Promotion Program* supports the Millennium Goals through rural economic diversification, commercialization of smallholder agriculture and increased private sector investment in rural economies. The *New Partnership for Africa's Development* (NEPAD) envisions expanding economic opportunities for poor through stimulating private investments and rural economic growth. Most recently, the release of the UNDP report *Unleashing Entrepreneurship: Making Business Work for the Poor*, delivered by the Commission on the Private Sector and Development - of which Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin served as co-chair - calls for NGOs, governments and private businesses to set free smallholders and rural entrepreneurs in developing countries as a way of eradicating poverty.

CARE participated in the *UNCTAD XI Conference* in Sao Paulo and contributed civil society perspective to the debate on 'enhancing the coherence between national development strategies and global economic processes towards economic growth and development'.

CARE's *REAP* project in Kenya, with funding from CIDA and IFAD, links smallholder producers with exporters to produce and market quality horticultural produce to Europe. The supply by *REAP* smallholders to horticulture export firms has grown from US \$60,000 in the first year to almost US\$ 186,000 by June 2003, with potential contract value in excess of US \$800,000 if the targets are met. The average farmer's income has increased from US \$120 per annum to between US \$400 and \$600 per annum depending upon their stage of evolution. Smallholder farmer groups organized as Farmer Controlled Enterprises (FCE), producer associations or limited liability companies, now have access to input and output markets; equity in their companies; and access to credit from the private sector.

In Mozambique, *REAP* smallholder producers produced and marketed over US\$ 1 million of Paprika, introduced pigeon pea as a new crop for export, reintroduced onion and potato production in the target areas and developed the capacity of smallholder producers to engage with the private sector effectively and as equal partners. Similar projects are now underway in Uganda, Zimbabwe and Tanzania.

CARE's *AGENT* Project in Zimbabwe, with funding support from CIDA, improves access to inputs by stimulating trader activity in less-favoured rural areas. The *AGENT* program built up and trained a network of rural traders that provides access for smallholder producers to input and output markets on improved terms, with credit as the vital market lubricant. Since 1995, a total of 580 traders have been set-up and linked to the private sector, and 60% were fully absorbed into the private sector distribution network. Eleven private-sector companies have worked with the program and other NGOs have also adopted and adapted the

AGENT model and developed their own schemes for the benefit of smallholder producers.

CARE Canada, along with MEDA and the private sector, has also established a social investment fund – Microvest – to support investments in SMEs in developing countries. The fund will improve access to capital by small entrepreneurs at reasonable rates and conditions in developing countries.

2.4.5 Commitment Five: Emergency Prevention and Preparedness

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will endeavour to prevent and be prepared for natural disasters and man-made emergencies and to meet transitory and emergency food requirements in ways that encourage recovery, rehabilitation, development and a capacity to satisfy future needs.”

As requested by the FAO, this report includes measures taken to prevent and to be prepared for natural and man-made disasters. It also includes where possible the strategies or initiatives undertaken with respect to:

- a) Institutional arrangements for early warning and advance information on possible emergencies;*
- b) Mechanisms in place to combat disasters and to provide rehabilitation for people affected;*
- c) Measures taken to link post-emergency relief operations to development programmes;*
- d) Watershed management strategies put in place.*

War and civil unrest often have a serious impact on food security due to disruptions in the regular cycle of food production and distribution, and in some cases, to the widespread deployment of land mines in productive areas. Canada is a world leader in efforts to ban and eliminate landmines and Canadian diplomacy, both bilateral and multilateral, strives to prevent and find diplomatic solutions to conflict. Canada's armed forces continue to be a mainstay of UN peace-building efforts.

Canada is also an active supporter of international efforts to enhance the preparedness of countries prone to natural disasters which can seriously impact food security and people's lives. In some cases, emergency food aid is the only way to save lives over the short term and Canada continues to give priority to providing highly nutritional food aid in emergency situations. In 2003, Canada donated US\$ 112.5 million to the World Food Programme, the United Nations

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frontline agency in the fight against hunger. This positioned Canada as the fifth largest donor to this life – saving agency.

To reinforce Canada's effectiveness in peace-building, *Canada's Action Plan for Food Security* calls for continuing action to prevent and resolve conflicts, to provide peacekeepers where appropriate, to strengthen the foundations of democracy, civil society and human rights, and to continue work to implement and universalize the treaty to ban landmines. Canada's Action Plan also calls for continuing action to assist countries in the area of disaster preparedness, to develop links between the Food Aid Convention and the World Food Summit Plan of Action, to enhance Canadian efforts in the provision of emergency food aid, and to work with other donors to find cost-effective means to increase the micro-nutrient value of food aid commodities.

Preventing Conflict

IDRC's *PLAW Program* explored the issue of conflict prevention around natural resource management (NRM) in Africa and the Middle East through a number of initiatives, including sustainable management of the Dead Sea's water resources for the sustainable development of the Dead Sea Basin under tri-national management (Israel, Jordan, Palestine); capacity strengthening in multi-stakeholder approaches to managing conflicts in NRM and use through the *Eastern and Central Africa Program (and Network) on Agricultural Policy Analysis* (ECAPAPA); and conflict management related to water resources and their use in the Nakanbé Basin in Burkina Faso.

Supporting Peacekeeping Operations

Canada continues to provide peacekeepers to support peace operations led by the United Nations and regional organizations, such as NATO. While the numbers vary from month to month, in June 2004, 726 soldiers, military observers and police were serving in eight UN missions around the world. A further 3,100 Canadian Forces personnel are serving with NATO in UN-mandated peace support operations in Bosnia and Afghanistan. As of June 2004, Canada has 51 police officers deployed to peace support operations in Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire, Bosnia as well as providing trainers and policy advisors in Jordan, Iraq and Afghanistan. A further 100 police officers will deploy to the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti, beginning in July 2004.

Banning Landmines

Canada is proud to be a world leader in efforts to ban and eliminate landmines and considers its work in mine action to be an important element in ensuring food security and a prerequisite for effective development and poverty alleviation in any mine-affected country. Following the *Ottawa Convention* banning anti-personnel mines, a \$100 million, 5 year *Canadian Landmine Fund* was

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announced by the Prime Minister. In December 2003, a 2nd phase of the *Canadian Land Mine Fund* was approved for \$72 million over 5 years - a collaborative effort involving the departments addressing political, development and defense concerns.

Improving Disaster Preparedness

Led by Foreign Affairs Canada, the Government of Canada has developed a set of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure a more effective and efficient government-wide response to natural disasters abroad. These SOPs clarify the roles and responsibilities of our Embassies abroad, as well as respective departments and divisions in Ottawa. They have significantly improved Canada's ability to respond quickly and appropriately to rapid on-set natural disasters in support of affected countries, including food aid where appropriate, through trusted international and non-governmental organizations.

Canada has actively supported, including through multi-year funding, the development and promotion of the Sphere Project and its *Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response*. The Sphere initiative has sought to contribute to an operational framework for accountability in disaster assistance efforts. Among the five areas where minimum standards have been identified, Chapter Three focuses on *Minimum Standards in Food Security, Nutrition and Food Aid*. The Sphere standards were updated in 2004.

Canada has been pleased to chair the follow-up process to the June 2003 donors meeting on *Good Humanitarian Donorship*. In collaboration with other donor countries, efforts have been focussed on concretely advancing the 23 principles and practices adopted in Stockholm. This includes developing an agreed definition of humanitarian action for statistical purposes in part to better measure overall humanitarian aid flows, and the creation of a peer review framework for humanitarian aid within the existing OECD/DAC peer review mechanism to enhance overall donor accountability for humanitarian assistance. These efforts should help to lead to more coherent and effective donor responses to humanitarian emergencies, including in the area of food aid.

IDRC has been exploring issues of emergency food aid through the *SUB Program* which launched several research initiatives to examine the effectiveness of conventional and new food aid related measures. A *SUB* grant to the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) made in 2003 supports a review of approximately 20 emergency seed relief and germplasm restoration interventions, with a view to drawing lessons learned and promoting better practice. A second *SUB* grant of \$500,000 was allocated in 2002 to the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) to allow for a multifaceted study that will be used to inform seed aid programs within and outside of Afghanistan.

AAFC has been working to enhance emergency preparedness at home and abroad through the re-establishment of crops in the event of emergency. In the context of prevention of erosion of genetic resources, Canada participated in the 2nd Plant (November 2003) and 3rd Animal (March 2004) *Inter-governmental Technical Working Group* planning meetings on genetic resources to develop strategies addressing a variety of critical issues. Canada is prepared to assist in providing plant genetic resource samples of appropriate materials to help countries to re-establish cropping programs in the event of an emergency.

2.4.6 Commitment Six: Promoting Investment

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will promote optimal allocation and use of public and private investments to foster human resources, sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries and forest systems, and rural development, in high and low potential areas.”

As requested by the FAO, this report highlights measures taken to promote optimal allocation and use of public and private investments to foster human resources, sustainable food, agriculture, fishery and forestry systems, including where possible:

- a) *Share of national budget allocated for human resource development indicating its impact in terms of primary and secondary school and higher education development;*
- b) *Share of the national budget allocated to agriculture and fisheries and food security programmes;*
- c) *Nature and extent of investment in infrastructure aimed at improving access to markets and food;*
- d) *Initiatives undertaken and resources allocated to promote technology development and transfers for improved production;*
- e) *Strategies for sustainable watershed management and associated investments;*
- f) *Measures taken to control deforestation and to enhance national forest cover.*

It also includes where possible the measures taken:

- a) *Towards the fulfilment of the agreed Official Development Assistance (ODA) target of 0.7% of Gross National Product (GNP), and to ensure that the flow of concessional funding is directed to economically and environmentally sustainable activities;*
- b) *To focus ODA towards countries that have a real need for it, especially low-income countries;*

- c) *To intensify the search for practical and effective solutions to debt problems and support the initiatives to reduce the total external debt of Heavily-indebted Poor countries (HIPCs).*

The health of any country's agriculture and food sector depends largely on policies that provide a stable environment for investment in human resources, agricultural research and technology improvements, production capacity and supporting infrastructure. This can be a major challenge in many developing countries where the scarcity of investment resources and lack of credit severely limit the potential for domestic food production and distribution.

Canada's Action Plan for Food Security identifies a number of important actions to further promote investment in developing countries, including support for new policy initiatives conducive to investment, encouragement for the reduction and redirection of excessive military expenditures, support for Canadians seeking to invest internationally, and continued financial and technical assistance for micro-credit institutions in the third world.

Assisting Micro-credit Institutions

IDRC's *CFP Program* supported, in conjunction with *UN-HABITAT* (Nairobi) and the *Urban Management Program for Latin America and the Caribbean* (UMP-LAC) a world survey of city experiences with credit and investment for urban agriculture interventions. Based on this work an international panel on credit and investment for urban agriculture is being organized for the *World Urban Forum* to be held in Barcelona in 2004. The panel will combine viewpoints of international agencies as well as local actors on public financing of urban agriculture, micro-credit systems and producers cooperatives and is aimed at triggering the elaboration of a future action-research agenda.

2.3.7 Commitment Seven: Implementing and Monitoring

Rome Declaration, World Food Summit, 1996:

“We will implement, monitor and follow-up the World Food Summit Plan of Action at all levels in co-operation with the international community.”

As requested by the FAO, this report highlights steps taken to facilitate the implementation of the WFS Plan of Action, including where possible the progress made in establishing:

- a) *Institutional arrangements at national and local levels to implement the Plan of Action and monitor the progress of implementation;*
- b) *Food for All campaigns to mobilize stakeholders and their resources at all levels of society in the implementation of the WFS Plan of Action;*

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- c) *Mechanisms to ensure food security for every person in the country.*

It also includes where possible the steps taken to:

- a) *Direct development assistance policies and resources towards sustainable development including agriculture for food security, and effectively contribute to the improved situation of food insecure households;*
- b) *Focus technical assistance more effectively on building-up and mobilizing national capacity, expertise and local institutions.*

The Government of Canada, with the active involvement of civil society, will continue to participate with the international community in the search for solutions to world food security in order to reduce by half the number of undernourished people by 2015. Canada will fulfil its commitment made at the *World Food Summit* by working with partners to address food security concerns, placing emphasis on effective donor action and co-ordination through integration of the targets set out in the OECD's development strategy, *Shaping the 21st Century*.

Canada's Action Plan for Food Security identifies a number of actions to support Canada's commitment, including efforts to ensure the participation of civil society in the CFS monitoring process, to encourage developing countries to prepare national action plans for food security, and to encourage multilateral development institutions to enhance their co-operation and 'manage for results'. In accordance with its Plan, Canada will also continue to develop and use food insecurity mapping systems, indicators and monitoring systems and provide periodic reports to the CFS on Canada's contribution to the *World Food Summit*.

Promoting the Right to Food

Since the World Food Summit, Canada has played an active role in the four meetings of the *Inter-Governmental Working Group (IGWG)*, with the participation of stakeholders, to elaborate in a period of two years a set of voluntary guidelines to support Member States' efforts to achieve the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security. Canada's participation is to assist in developing voluntary guidelines that will be used as a practical tool for states to implement for their own citizens

The IGWG is the first formal setting where States are discussing the scope and content of the right to adequate food in detail. The participants of the IGWG have diverse areas of expertise and diverging views on legal issues. In addition; there is a divide between developing and developed countries concerning the emphasis of the international dimension (i.e. enabling environment) on the implementation of the right to adequate food at the national level.

Although the IGWG has not yet reached consensus on the voluntary guidelines, many positive results have been achieved. Canada is optimistic that these guidelines will be adopted by consensus by the November 2004, deadline.

Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination

IDRC is working to encourage the organizations of the UN Development System and other multilateral development institutions to enhance their co-operation and co-ordination through the *CFP Program*, which continues to support the Resource Centre on Urban Agriculture and Forestry (RUAF) and facilitated collaboration between the UN Development Group and this agency. In 2002, RUAF Magazine published a special edition on *Enhancing the Contribution of Urban Agriculture to Food Security*, 5 years after the *World Food Summit*. RUAF is currently collaborating with FAO on an issue on urban forestry.

As part of its strategy for partnership building, the *CFP Program* will actively participate in the planning and implementation of *UN-HABITAT's World Urban Forum* (WUF) that will be held in Vancouver in 2006. *CFP* is representing IDRC on the Canadian Inter-Departmental Committee (IDC) charged with organising the event. In WUF 2006, IDRC plans to feature the benefits accruing to municipalities from their involvement in urban agriculture research and development co-operation.

2.5 Lessons Learned

Canada has implemented a number of policies and action programs that contribute to the improvement of food security at home and internationally. The most noteworthy initiatives, with some of the key lessons learned through implementation and monitoring of *Canada's Action Plan for Food Security*, are highlighted below.

The Agricultural Policy Framework

Over the last several years, the federal, provincial and territorial governments of Canada have been working with the agriculture and agri-food industry to develop an effective architecture for 21st century agricultural policy that will make Canada a world leader in food safety, innovation and environmentally-responsible production. The lesson for food security is that by more tightly integrating Canada's efforts on agriculture, it will improve productivity, strengthen food safety, increase producers' adaptability and risk management, and reduce environmental impacts.

The success of the APF is founded largely on the inclusive, consultative process that characterized its creation, established its priorities and identified its actions. The Government of Canada is committed to the success of the APF and will continue to work with provincial and territorial governments, private sector

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partners and individual Canadians through a wide variety of forums and initiatives to ensure that Canada's agricultural policies continue to provide an effective foundation for achieving our commitment to reduce food insecurity by half, no later than the year 2005.

Importance of Agriculture to Fight Hunger, Poverty

Canada's technical advice, capacity building and other assistance to improve agriculture in developing countries has re-enforced the fact that agriculture is critical in the fight against hunger and poverty. The lesson is that development agencies, development banks and other parties should increase their support of agriculture in developing countries.

The Need for Data

There are few regular data sources on food security issues in Canada. Evaluating how projects or programs impact food security in Canada, or internationally, is also difficult. Canada has begun to collect food security – related data in national health surveys, but additional quantifiable information is needed. This is especially the case for at risk populations such as Aboriginal peoples. More data would help us better understand the food security picture in Canada, and the effect of our efforts on food security in developing countries.

Strengthening Civil Society's Input

Members of Canadian civil society – non-governmental organizations, academics, and other interested parties – play a vital role in food security in Canada and abroad. More efforts can be made to include their ideas and input in future reports on Canada's food security.

International Agreements and Regulatory Frameworks

Canada continues to work towards a coherent international regulatory framework, which is science-based and rules-based, to provide stable markets for producers and safe quality products for consumers. To this end, Canada has continued to play a key role in many international forums including the WHO, the FAO, the Codex Alimentarius, the OECD and the WTO, to name but a few. Canada has also been actively implementing the Conventions of Biological Diversity, Climate Change and Desertification, playing a strong leadership role to encourage ratification of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), and supporting the Consultative Group on International research (CIGAR). To complement these efforts, Canada continues to pursue reform in the international trade of food and agricultural products to provide a fair and fairly implemented system that respects the needs of both developed and developing countries.

Long-Term Commitment and Partnerships

The outstanding lesson learned from the many activities highlighted in this report is that the issues relating to food security -- from poverty alleviation to micro-nutrient enhancement -- are universally complex and require long term

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commitments from all stakeholders for resolution and impact. Partnerships in the design and implementation of food security-related initiatives remains essential to success and Canada has adopted the development principles established by the OECD which support effective partnerships, local ownership, improved donor coordination, a results-based approach and greater coherence in the trade, investment and technology transfer policies of industrialized countries.

2.6 Explanatory Notes About the Indicators

1. Food Security Indicators

Average per person dietary energy supply (kcal/p/day)

Food available for human consumption, expressed in kilocalories per person per day (kcal/person/day). At country level, it is calculated as the food remaining for human use after deduction of all non-food consumption (exports, animal feed, industrial use, seed and wastage).

Food production index

Food self-sufficiency ratio

Ratio of domestic production to domestic consumption. An indicator of the need for food imports.

Cereal supply per person

Kg per capita per year. Please indicate which cereals are included.

Animal protein supply per person.

Protein per capita per day in grams, estimated from food balance sheets.

Ratio of food imports/export earnings

Ratio of food imports value/exports of good and services.

Debt service ratio

Ratio of total debt service to exports of good and services.

Value of gross investment in agriculture

Outlays in addition to the fixed assets of the economy plus net changes in the level of inventories, also known as gross capital formation.

Food price index

Change in the cost to the average consumer of acquiring a fixed basket of food.

Index of variability of food production ²

Magnitude of fluctuations in a production curve.

Ratio of national food reserves to domestic food consumption

Ratio of national food reserves to annual domestic food consumption. The ratio of national food reserves to annual domestic food consumption, maintained as a matter of policy for food security purposes, in the event of food emergency.

Export earning instability

The average percentage deviation of total exports of goods and services from their trend.

Rate of growth in real GDP per person/per year

Annual percentage growth rate of GDP per person at market prices, converted into real GDP per person by a price deflator.

Gini index of income distribution

Extent to which the distribution of income (or, in some cases, consumption expenditure) among individuals or households within an economy deviates from a perfectly equal distribution. A Lorenz curve plots the cumulative percentages of total income received against the cumulative number of recipients, starting with the poorest individual or household. The Gini index measures

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the area between the Lorenz curve and a hypothetical line of absolute equality, expressed as a percentage of the maximum area under the line. Thus a Gini index of zero represents perfect equality, while an index of 100 implies perfect inequality.

Percentage of population living below national poverty line (%)

Share of population earning less than the nationally defined poverty line.

Percentage of population living on less than \$ 1 a day (%)

Share of population living on less than \$ 1 a day per person.

Percentage of household income spent on food

Share of total household income that is spent on food items.

Consumer Price Index

Change in cost to the average consumer of acquiring a fixed basket of goods and services.

Estimated number of undernourished people

Total number of people with dietary energy intake less than the nationally established dietary energy supply requirement (e.g. 2100 kcal/person/day).

Percentage of population undernourished

Share of population with dietary energy intake less than the nationally established dietary energy supply requirement (e.g. 2100 kcal/person/day).

Percentage of children under 5 that are underweight

Share of children aged under five years whose weight relative to their age is more than two standard deviations below the average for a reference population of well-nourished children.

Percentage of children under 5 that are stunted

Share of children aged under five years whose height relative to their age is more than two standard deviations below the average for a reference population of well-nourished children.

Percentage of children under 5 that are wasted

Share of children aged under five years whose weight relative to their height is more than two standard deviations below the average for a reference population of well-nourished children.

2. Social Indicators

Life expectancy at birth

Number of years a newborn would live if prevailing patterns of mortality at the time of its birth stayed the same throughout its life.

Under-5 mortality rate

Probability that a newborn will die before reaching age 5, if subject to current age-specific mortality rates.

Net school enrolment in primary education of children aged 5-12

Number of students enrolled in primary school as a percent of the total number of children aged 5-12 years.

Ratio of girls to boys in primary education

Ratio between the numbers of girls aged 5-12 years to boys aged 5-12 years enrolled in primary education.

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Adult literacy rate

The ratio of adult population (15 years of age and above) who can read and write to total adult population

Total number of doctors, nurses and other health personnel per 100 000

Number of doctors, nurses and other health personnel per 100 000 persons.

Infant mortality rate

Expected number of children who will die before reaching the age of one year, per 1 000 live births.

Adult morbidity rates

Number of people who are sick or have a disease compared with the number who are well, also known as sickness rate.

Adult male mortality rate (per 1,000 male adults)

Adult mortality rate (male) the probability of dying between the ages of 15 and 60 – that is, the population of 15-year olds who will die before their 60th birthday.

Adult female mortality rate (per 1,000 female adults)

Adult mortality rate (female) the probability of dying between the ages of 15 and 60 – that is, the population of 15-year olds who will die before their 60th birthday.

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births

The death of women while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management but not from accidental causes.

3. Infectious Diseases and HIV/AIDS Indicators

Rate of deaths by infectious diseases

Number of people dying from infectious diseases per year per 100 000 people.

Rate of deaths from HIV/AIDS

Number of people dying from HIV/AIDS per year per 100 000 people.

Percentage of population orphaned

Share of orphans out of the total population.

Average age of household head

National average age of head of household.

Rate of population with HIV/AIDS infection

Share of total population infected by HIV/AIDS.

4. Economic and Trade Indicators

Terms of trade

Ratio of import prices to export prices

External agricultural income terms of trade

The index of the value of agricultural exports deflated by import unit value index. A sectoral indicator of the purchasing power of the agricultural/rural sector vis-à-vis food from the world market.