

COLOMBIA: CIDA REPORT



THEMATIC FOCUS

CIDA's programming in Colombia aligns with the country's priorities of reducing poverty and improving quality of life for vulnerable and marginalized populations. CIDA support in Colombia is focused on:

Children and Youth

- Increasing their access to early childhood education
- Supporting and protecting the rights of the most vulnerable groups in Colombia
- Helping to prevent their exposure and involvement in violence, illicit activities, and illegal groups

Food Security

- Supporting crop diversification as an alternative to coca production in rural areas
- Providing support to increase agricultural production, productivity, and access to markets

Sustainable Economic Growth

- Delivering market-driven skills-for-employment programs
- Supporting effective corporate social responsibility in the private sector to improve the lives of the poorest population groups

KEY DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Pervasiveness of the decades-long internal conflict
- Ensuring children and youth have access to education and are protected from human rights abuses
- Income inequality despite economic growth
- Second-largest population of internally displaced people in the world

FACTS AT A GLANCE

- Population (2010): **46.3 million¹**
- HDI rank (2010): **79th of 169 countries²**
- Percentage of population living on less than US\$1.25 per day (2006): **16%³**
- Gross national income per capita (2007): **US\$4,620⁴**
- Total CIDA development assistance: **C\$20.57 million⁵**

1. United Nations Population Fund

2. Human Development Index (HDI), *Human Development Report 2010*, United Nations Development Programme

3, 4. Country Indicators, World Bank; World Development Indicators Online. 2009

5. Canadian International Development Agency funding: 2009-2010

KEY PROJECTS

Achieving the Rights of Colombian Children and Adolescents

- Supports UNICEF to help government and civil society develop public policies for the rights of children and youth, and their social inclusion and access to education

Right to Education and Participation of Children and Youth in Nariño

- Supports Save the Children Canada and the Norwegian Refugee Council in the implementation of programs for access to high-quality education for vulnerable children, youth, and adults

Local Fund for Governance and Children's Rights and Protection

- Supports local initiatives for the rights of children and youth, helping protect them from the consequences of violence and conflict, as part of the construction of peace and human security in Colombia

CIDA's work in Colombia is part of Canada's contribution to the global effort to reach the Millennium Development Goals.



2009-2010 HIGHLIGHTS

Children and Youth

- Helped prevent the involvement of 45,000 children in illegal activities
- Helped 40 schools implement measures for inclusive and quality education
- Trained 357 teachers from seven schools in alternative peace-building approaches to communication
- Helped 4,000 people understand their responsibility under UN Resolution 1612 on the protection of children in areas of armed conflict
- In Nariño, helped 11 schools and three adult learning centres complete, or advance, their plans for educational improvement
- Enrolled 2,500 children and youth (1,533 girls) in alternative, back-to-school programs



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Food Security

- Helped Ecofondo, a network of 200 Colombian NGOs, develop environmentally sustainable agricultural projects and programs, as an alternative to growing coca
- Helped produce more than 1,307 acres of agro-ecological land, benefiting 1,008 families directly and 30,000 community members indirectly



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MOVING FORWARD: ANTICIPATED RESULTS

Between 2010 and 2015, CIDA will focus its development support in Colombia on children and youth, economic growth and food security. Anticipated results include:

Children and Youth

- Access to education and conflict resolution skills, for as many as 66,000 children and youth in rural areas
- Policies and programs for as many as 165,000 children and youth affected by internal displacement, human rights violations and injuries caused by landmines
- Access to early childhood education for as many as 400,000 children
- Provide youth with skills for employment for the local market

Sustainable Economic Growth

- Implement community-level sustainable development projects working with extractive companies, regional and local governments, and non-governmental organizations

Food Security

- Some 20,000 rural women, men, and youth will enhance their agricultural productivity and crop diversification as an alternative to coca production
- The capacity of women, men, and youth in targeted communities will be strengthened to engage in sustainable agriculture, small-scale transformation, and commercialization activities

KEY PARTNERS

Canadian: Save the Children Canada, Plan International Canada, Development and Peace, Executive Services Overseas, Canadian Labour Congress, YMCA

Multilateral: UNICEF, UNHCR, UNDP, World Bank, IDB, United Nations Population Fund

Colombia

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