

PAKISTAN: CIDA REPORT



THEMATIC FOCUS

CIDA's programming in Pakistan aligns with the country's 2008 Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, as endorsed by the World Bank. In response to the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, CIDA support in Pakistan currently focuses on:

Children and Youth

- Supporting teacher training and professional development activities
- Improving the ability of teachers colleges to deliver their programs effectively and building the capacity of district education managers
- Improving the quality of basic education and strengthening the poor's access to education, giving equal attention to the needs of girls and boys

Sustainable Economic Growth

- Increasing employment and self-employment opportunities for women by emphasizing skills training, policy improvements, and "value-chain development"
- Improving the access of women-led enterprises to profitable local, regional, and global market opportunities

KEY DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- Volatile and insecure environment, combined with frequent natural disasters (floods, earthquakes)
- Large numbers of internally displaced persons and refugees
- Global economic crisis and the high cost of government military campaigns are complicating already depressed economic conditions
- Inadequate energy supplies and resulting power shortages inhibit economic growth
- Economic challenges, including high inflation and shortages of key commodities, cause increased poverty
- High rates of illiteracy, especially among women and the rural poor, limit opportunities for these groups
- Lack of productive employment opportunities for a growing youth population leads to alienation from mainstream society
- Corruption

FACTS AT A GLANCE

- Population (2010): **184.8 million¹**
- HDI rank (2010): **125th of 169 countries²**
- Percentage of population living on less than US\$1.25 per day (2005): **22.6%³**
- Gross national income per capita (2008): **US\$950⁴**
- Total CIDA development assistance: **C\$83.80 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

Canada-Pakistan Debt for Education Conversion Program

- Converts Pakistan's debt to Canada into public education system improvements
- Supports the repair and equipping of teachers college facilities
- Supports the training of faculty and student teachers

Canada-Pakistan Basic Education Project

- Works with provincial-level ministries of education to improve their planning and management functions in areas such as developing standard operating procedures, teaching manuals, and improved computer systems to track professional development

Integration of Women Producers into Effective Markets

- Teaches housebound and isolated rural women how to access markets for their goods
- Teaches how to develop links to markets, improve products, ensure quality control, and locate better market supplies
- Helps women gain access to growing markets with the products demanded by contemporary consumers



Community Infrastructure Improvement Project

- Targets up to 10,500 rural women in selected districts in Sindh province for skills training and employment opportunities
- Builds partnerships with the district government to strengthen investment in road and infrastructure maintenance
- Creates employment opportunities for poor rural women

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



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2009-2010 HIGHLIGHTS

Children and Youth

- Supported the training of more than 120,000 teachers and education professionals, almost half of whom are women, in subjects such as learner-centred teaching, classroom management, and subject content
- Trained staff of the national Curriculum Wing in professional skills such as developing curriculum frameworks and evaluating textbooks
- Developed and piloted a system of participatory planning in two districts of Punjab, connecting senior district-level decision-makers and community representatives
- Developed and piloted an improved model of teaching in two districts of Punjab

Sustainable Economic Growth

- Provided some 5,500 women with skills in entrepreneurship and business management in support of their own financial independence, through the Women's Employment Concerns and Working Conditions Project. More than half of these women use these skills to earn a living
- Supported more than 85 different initiatives, including providing technical assistance for 130 industrial training centres for women, through the recently completed Program for Advancement of Gender Equality Fund

MOVING FORWARD: ANTICIPATED RESULTS

Between 2009 and 2014, CIDA will focus primarily on making improvements in such areas as education and economic growth. Key anticipated results include:

Children and Youth

- More than 360,000 teachers and teacher educators will use new knowledge, skills, and competencies at the primary, middle, and secondary school levels
- The quality of basic education will improve, and access to a higher quality of education will be strengthened for both girls and boys

Sustainable Economic Growth

- About 6,300 women and men across Pakistan will receive skills training and business support services to eventually obtain formal employment
- Existing democratic institutions will be strengthened, reinforcing the government's accountability to its citizens
- More than 19,500 women will benefit from improvements such as skills training and access to the job market

KEY PARTNERS

Canadian: Aga Khan Foundation Canada, CARE, Cowater International

Multilateral: UNIFEM, UNICEF, International Labour Organization, Asian Development Bank, United Nations Population Fund, World Bank

Pakistani: Semiotics

Pakistan

For more information, including CIDA's country strategy, visit our website or scan the QR code:



www.cida.gc.ca