

## KEY QUESTION

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## What are Canada's strategic priorities for development?

### **MNCH remains a top focus; increasing emphasis on SRHR, climate change, and humanitarian assistance**

As part of Prime Minister (PM) Trudeau's commitment to "restore and renew" Canada's international assistance, the government is expected to publish a new international assistance policy framework, informed also by comprehensive consultations with the public and civil society organizations (CSOs), in March 2017 after the FY2017/18 budget is released. The government has already provided indications of future priority areas for Canada's development policy: 1) health and rights of women and children, 2) clean economic growth and climate change, 3) governance, pluralism, diversity and human rights, 4) peace and security, and 5) responding to humanitarian crises and the needs of displaced populations. Further, the government has stressed it will place a special emphasis on women and girls, and apply a 'feminist lens' across all development policy and international assistance.

Global health is a key priority of Canada's development policy. Canada was the fourth-largest DAC donor to global health in 2015 at US\$791 million. This corresponds to 16% of Canada's total ODA, well above the average (9%) spent by members of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC). Health is also among the largest sectors of Canada's bilateral funding, at 14% of bilateral ODA in 2015 (see figure below). Within health, Canada places a strong focus sexual and reproductive rights and health and on maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) and has shown strong international leadership in this area. It spearheaded the G8 Muskoka Initiative in 2009, and pledged CAD3.5 billion for MNCH for 2015 to 2020. In addition, Canada hosted the replenishment conference of the Global Fund to fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) in September 2016, pledging CAD804 million (US\$727 million) for 2017 to 2019. This is a 23% increase compared to its pledge for 2014 to 2016 in nominal CAD terms.

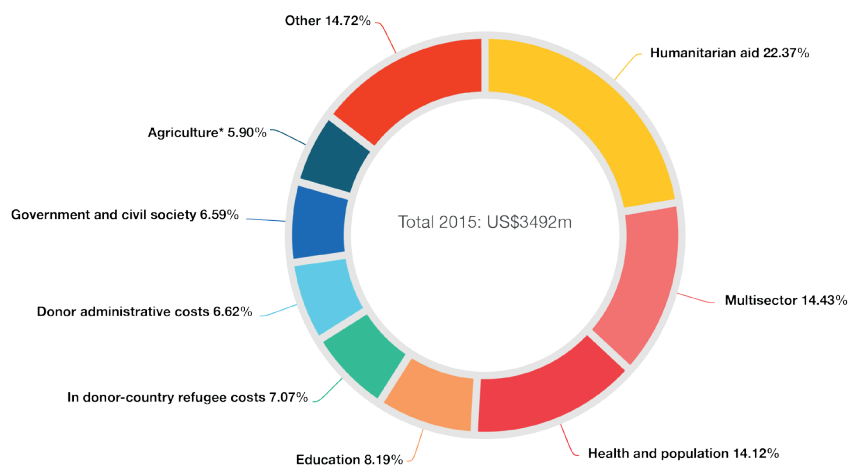
### **Canada's key development priorities:**

- Health and rights of women and children
- Clean economic growth and climate change
- Governance, pluralism, diversity and human rights
- Peace and security
- Responding to humanitarian crises and the needs of displaced populations

The Canadian government has also increased its focus on climate change-related issues, committing CAD2.65 billion (US\$2.4 billion) by 2020 for climate change-related programs. Under PM Trudeau, Canada has begun to more strongly emphasize climate change, reframing programming within the greater nexus of agriculture, food security, and climate change. This includes integrating food-security policies into a more holistic approach for clean economic growth.

According to OECD data, Canada channels 70% of its ODA bilaterally. Humanitarian aid was the largest sector of Canada's bilateral ODA at 22% in 2015, followed by health at 14%, corresponding to Canada's focus on international peace and security, humanitarian crises, and health and rights of women and children.

CANADA'S BILATERAL ODA BY SECTOR



Source: OECD CRS. \*Includes agriculture, forestry, fishing, and rural development.