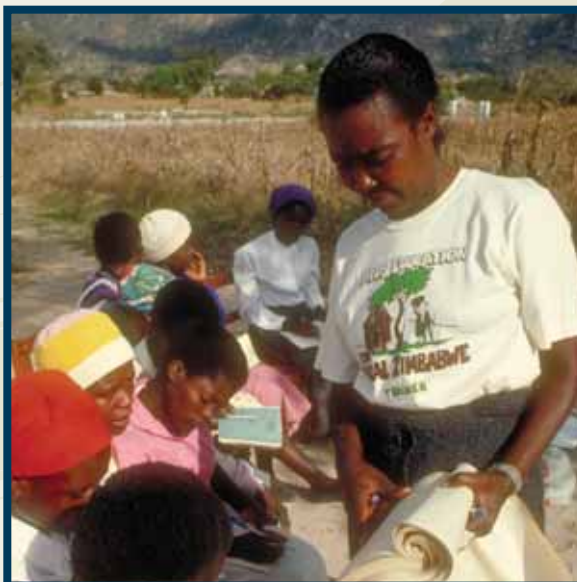


Thought Leadership in Development

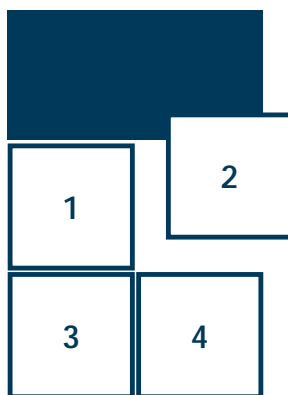
A Sampler of CIDA-Supported
Knowledge Work and Innovations



Canadian International
Development Agency

Agence canadienne de
développement international

Canada



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For more information about the Agency, and its mandate
and priorities, please visit the CIDA website:

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INTRODUCTION

As part of its support for sustainable development in partner countries around the world, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) sponsors a broad range of research, knowledge work, and thought leadership across geographic and thematic sectors. Acknowledging the critical role of evidence in policy making and programming, CIDA's Policy Research division works to strengthen the connections between development research, policy and practice. Better integration of poverty-relevant research at the policy and programming levels is essential to achieving development outcomes, and thereby meeting the needs of the world's most vulnerable people.

This document offers a sampling of timely, relevant and challenging knowledge work produced with CIDA funding or generated by thought leaders within the Agency. It reflects CIDA's commitment to using and contributing to the world's best development knowledge and innovations.

Robin McLay
Director, Policy Research Division
Strategic Policy Directorate
Strategic Policy and Performance Branch
Canadian International Development Agency

HEALTH



ZVITAMBO Project

Main partner: Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre

The ZVITAMBO project originated as a clinical research trial testing the effect of post-partum maternal/neonatal vitamin A supplementation on infant mortality, mother-to-child transmission of HIV during breastfeeding, and new maternal HIV infections among more than 14,000 mother-baby pairs in Harare, Zimbabwe. Between 1997 and 2006, CIDA's former Multilateral Branch contributed \$10 million to this research initiative, which was executed by the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre and ZVITAMBO in Harare, a local multi-disciplinary team established for the project. During the course of this initial research

phase, ZVITAMBO established an infrastructure of laboratories, clinics and data management systems in Zimbabwe. The project also developed a significant body of knowledge, experience and human development capacity with respect to the complexities of preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT).

In 2003, the Zimbabwe bilateral program at CIDA provided an additional contribution of \$4.5 million over three years for the development of a PMTCT institutional capacity-building model, subsequently rolled out in 14 rural mission hospitals in Zimbabwe. CIDA contributed a further \$2.5 million in 2006 to strengthen district health system capacity for PMTCT delivery.

Based on a philosophy that emphasizes ownership, partnership

ZVITAMBO Project (cont.)

and sustainability, ZVITAMBO has carried out cutting-edge research and has had 40 peer-reviewed articles published as of August 2008. The initiative has also successfully implemented a learning-based research approach to improve programs and policy. ZVITAMBO has been supported primarily by CIDA, but receives funding from a number of donors.

For additional information about ZVITAMBO, contact its director, Dr. Jean Humphrey, at jhumphrey@zvitambo.co.zw



Abolishing User Fees for Health: CIDA Issues Paper

Aminur Rahman, CIDA

As the international development community works towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, a debate has arisen regarding the impact of user fees on health outcomes in developing countries, as well as how donors should engage in his debate, at both the policy and the program levels. In his issues paper, Aminur Rahman, policy research analyst in CIDA's Strategic Policy and Performance Branch, examines the feasibility of user fees and their implications for policy; evaluates the evidence of impacts around application and, in a number of cases, the eradication of fees; and considers several donor policies on the issue. Rahman also notes the complexity of the user fees debate, which focuses on a symptom and not the core causes of poor performance in primary health care in developing countries. Ultimately, Rahman suggests that analysis should shift from broad evaluations of user fees to context-specific studies on effectively removing multiple barriers to health service access.

This paper is available upon request.

ENVIRONMENT

The Calabash Program

Main Partners: Southern African Institute for Environmental Assessment (SAIEA), World Bank

The enormously successful Calabash Program, led by SAIEA and funded primarily by the World Bank, was designed to build capacity for enhanced participation in environmental decision-making processes among communities and civil society in the 14 countries of the South African Development Community. The value of public involvement in participatory decision-making tools, such as environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment, was clear; however, the application and success of public involvement had been largely inconsistent in the region. Calabash architects therefore set about generating a range of essential guides and tools, including case studies, best practice models, an electronic library, a pilot course, and a website on EIA and public participation. The program was built from the ground up, with tools developed around local projects and programs in which public participation was well managed.

The wealth of resources produced through this program addressed a significant gap in the body of locally relevant public participation handbooks for environmental decision-making. Ultimately, however, the Calabash Program's impact extended beyond the arena of environmental assessment. By providing the appropriate tools and knowledge on public participation to a broad group of practitioners and industry stakeholders, Calabash was able to contribute to the region's progress in democratic reform.

To this initiative, CIDA contributed the time and expertise of an Agency specialist, Peter Croal, who was seconded to SAIEA for a two-year period to develop and manage the program. Calabash was awarded the 2005 Core Values Award for Program of the Year from the International Association of Public Participation, and received a strong letter of support from the African Union.

Publications, links, and detailed information about Calabash are available at www.saiea.com

SECURITY

Armed Violence, Small Arms and Light Weapons, and Development

Main Partner: Project Ploughshares

Responding to the donor community's emerging concern with armed violence, CIDA funded a Project Ploughshares research initiative examining the need to integrate armed violence prevention and reduction with official development assistance programs, specifically with respect to the control of small arms and light weapons (SALW). The project involved several research components and outputs, including evidence-based research reports, workshops, interviews, and international seminars.

In the project's final briefing paper, "Towards Safe and Sustainable Communities: Addressing Armed Violence as a Development Priority," Project Ploughshares summarizes the recognized linkages between armed violence, SALW and development, as well as the multilateral and national policy landscape related to the mutual resolution of these issues. The paper provides a number of policy-relevant recommendations to assist CIDA in shaping policy and practice that will achieve levels of community safety and allow development processes to take root and grow.

The report is available at
www.ploughshares.ca/libraries/WorkingPapers/wp072.pdf

FOREIGN POLICY INDICATORS

Fragile States Monitoring and Analysis

Main Partner: Country Indicators for Foreign Policy (CIFP), Carleton University

The effect of crisis and instability in fragile states is an increasingly important issue for CIDA as it works to support sustainable development and “contribute to a more secure, equitable and prosperous world.”* To increase the Agency’s understanding of state fragility and to support related programming, CIDA has therefore funded a multifaceted research project by Carleton University’s CIFP team. Research outcomes, including a set of state fragility indicators, a fragile states monitoring mechanism, and robust analysis of selected countries, will assist CIDA in addressing the development challenges posed by fragile states. Additionally, the project will strengthen the network of Canadian researchers investigating state fragility, through a series of workshops on fragile states methodology, monitoring and analysis.

Fragile states briefs are available at www.carleton.ca/cifp

Democracy and Governance Processes

Main Partner: Country Indicators for Foreign Policy (CIFP), Carleton University

Based on CIFP’s methodology for analyzing state fragility, the organization has also led a CIDA-funded project to develop practical tools for assessing democracy and governance processes in developing countries. These tools will assist decision making for Canadian foreign policy and development assistance related to democratization and governance.

Examining an extensive combination of indicators through structural analysis, event monitoring and expert survey, CIFP has produced in-depth case studies and baseline reports on five countries: Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Nicaragua and Pakistan. Based on the country studies, CIFP produced *Assessing Democracy & Governance: A CIFP Handbook*, which is designed to provide decision support to government desk officers, program planners, non-governmental organizations and international governmental organizations involved in country planning and project evaluation.

Project information is available at www.carleton.ca/cifp/app/serve.php/1164.pdf

* See CIDA website at www.acdi-cida.gc.ca

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND PROTECTION



Child Protection Research Fund (CPRF)

In 2000, CIDA launched the CPRF, an innovative research initiative that would respond to a gap in the field of children's rights and protection. The fund was designed to identify sustainable, practical solutions to problems faced by children in need of special protection, using multidimensional, rights-based and participatory applied research with children, and was intended to influence policy and programming. Between 2001 and 2005, the CPRF funded 13 projects in 15 countries (totalling \$2 million) in four main subject areas: children and armed conflict; children in institutional care; child labour, violence and sexual exploitation; and alternative approaches to children's rights and protection. Researchers were required to partner with organizations in developing or transition countries.

Approved as part of CIDA's Action Plan on Child Protection, the CPRF was the Agency's first experience in creating a research fund, and demonstrated innovation in several ways. Prior to its creation, there had been no solely dedicated research fund in this field, and many of the supported projects were the first in-depth exploration of the research subject in the targeted country or region. The fund was designed to include capacity building among its expected results, and projects were explicitly relevant to, and anchored in, local realities. These design elements paid off. The research results of most of the 13 projects were used by local and/or national organizations and decision makers in programming, policy and awareness raising initiatives. Additionally, the CPRF successfully supported a wide range of partnerships, engendering tremendously positive outcomes such as increased individual and institutional research capacity, ownership and empowerment of

local partners, increased awareness of participatory, action-oriented research, and the generation of applicable and user-relevant research results.

The research generated through the CPRF formed the basis for a three-day conference, hosted jointly by CIDA and the University of Ottawa in June 2006, which brought together academics, practitioners and policy makers from government and civil society.

CPRF research findings are available on the Child Rights Information Network at www.crin.org

Impacts of Microfinance Initiatives on Children

Main Partners: Partners in Technology Exchange Ltd. (PTE), Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA)

This seminal study, commissioned by CIDA, examines how microfinance programs affect the lives of children of different ages and levels of involvement in microenterprises. PTE and MEDA conducted the research in collaboration with partner agencies in four countries where microfinance institutions have a history of following best-practice principles: Bolivia, Egypt, India and Tanzania.

The study explores three ways in which children are affected by microfinance initiatives (MFIs): through work in a family business, employment in a non-family enterprise, or as the owner-operator of their own business. It identifies the positive and negative effects of their involvement, and presents findings with respect to education and learning, health, children's contributions to the growth of family businesses and other social development considerations. A better understanding of the significant and wide-ranging impacts of MFIs on children's lives will help determine how microfinance programs can be modified to increase the short- and long-term benefits to children. This study was presented at the 2006 Global Microcredit Summit in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

An overview of the report is available in the publications section of CIDA's website.

EDUCATION

Civil Society Participation in Sector-Wide Approaches to Basic Education

Main Partner: Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE)

In 2004, in response to new trends in aid funding for public educational systems, CIDA sponsored a baseline study through OISE to evaluate the role played by Canadian and Southern civil society organizations (CSOs) in education sector reform in developing countries. The research was framed around eight desk studies in countries where Canada is engaged in sector-wide approaches to basic education, and provided insight into the effectiveness of CSO participation in planning and implementing national education plans and policies.

CIDA launched a second project phase in 2006 that enabled in-depth field studies in Burkina Faso, Kenya, Mali and Tanzania, as well as a detailed cross-case analysis. The research indicates that while civil society participation in educational policy deliberation is growing, new aid architecture has created significant challenges to CSO engagement. The cross-case analysis notes key policy challenges for increased civil society engagement in education sector planning, and underscores the need to understand CSO capacity in specific contexts.

The OISE research project received funding support from CIDA, IDRC, the University of Toronto and the University of Ottawa.

Desk studies, field-based reports and the cross-case analysis are available upon request.

INVESTING IN RESEARCH CAPACITY

Graduate Student Research Competition, Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences

Main Partner: Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences (CFHSS)

Since 2006, CIDA has partnered with CFHSS to administer and fund a graduate student research competition as part of the annual Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Based on an international call for proposals, the CIDA-CFHSS research competition awards a stipend and subsidizes travel for selected graduate students to present their research at the congress.

The congress is the largest multidisciplinary academic gathering in Canada, with delegates from more than 70 scholarly associations and universities in Canada and from around the world. The CIDA-CFHSS research competition expands the dialogue among established academics, policy makers and practitioners by supporting the input of dynamic new scholars. In an effort to strengthen the link between research and policy making, the 2008 student winners were challenged to present research that is explicitly policy-relevant.

See the CFHSS website at www.fedcan.ca for information about the congress and the CIDA-CFHSS student competition. Individual papers are available upon request.

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE



Middle East Good Governance Fund

Main Partner: International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

Part of the regional component of Canada's program for the reconstruction of Iraq, the Middle East Good Governance Fund (MEGGF) is designed to increase and disseminate policy-relevant knowledge and build local capacity that will promote good governance in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Recognizing a knowledge gap on the issue of political reform in the Arab world, CIDA and IDRC established the MEGGF to contribute to, and benefit from, the growing dialogue on governance and democratic processes in the region. The fund supports research and related activities to achieve key objectives, including: analysis of the role of civil society as a contributor to good governance; identification of and

capacity building among potential agents of change within civil society; assistance in establishing a research agenda and research community focusing on political Islam issues; and promoting policy dialogue and linkages between the research community, policy makers and decision makers in the MENA region. The MEGGF is responsive to local priorities and strives to link with existing processes. To date, the fund has supported 17 research projects.

Established in 2004, the MEGGF is CIDA-funded and IDRC-managed, and is designed to serve the programming priorities of both organizations. The MEGGF also works in cooperation with Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada.

Project descriptions and preliminary publications are available at
www.crdi.ca/en/ev-119658-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html

Democracy and Economic Development

David Gillies, CIDA

Exploring an imagined development dystopia in this think piece, David Gillies, Africa program analyst and governance specialist at CIDA, examines the complex relationship between political systems, policy choice and economic performance. Responding to the widespread focus on democracy promotion among donors, Gillies interrogates the causal link frequently made between democracy and high economic performance, and concludes that the relationship is, at best, indirect. Indeed, Gillies argues that regime type is not an obvious predictor of economic performance, and underlines instead the significance of the *quality* of governance. Gillies suggests that donors and policy makers may need to shift their focus to reinforcing enabling conditions for growth, and embrace foreign policy reasons, such as values claims, globalization and security, in order to substantiate democracy promotion efforts.

This paper was published by the Institute for Research on Public Policy, and is available at www.irpp.org

Corruption and the Development Challenge

Shaukat Hassan, CIDA

In this paper, Shaukat Hassan, a senior policy advisor in CIDA's Strategic Policy and Performance Branch and the Agency's leading expert in anticorruption, highlights the damaging effects of corruption on the development process, affirms its significance as a development challenge and emphasizes the importance of addressing corruption quickly. He further underscores the need for donor coordination on anticorruption initiatives and advocates for continuing dialogue on this issue, both at CIDA and within the Canadian government at large. Hassan emphasizes that the roots of corruption are complex and unique to the specific political and economic circumstances of any given society. It is therefore essential to adopt solutions that consider local context. Among the challenges particular to CIDA, Hassan discusses the potential difficulties of implementing a strong anticorruption policy within the Agency, and the need for a policy framework to identify policy parameters, help order priorities and potential action, and assist in evaluating CIDA's anticorruption work.

This article, published in CIDA's Journal of Development Policy and Practice, served as the basis for launching CIDA's anticorruption initiatives.

Partnering with the Canadian Justice Sector for Effective Rule of Law Programming

The rule of law is recognized within the international community as an essential element of both good governance and the wider development agenda, and is also one of the four elements of CIDA's focus on democratic governance. While Canada has achieved credibility and shown a competitive advantage in the area of legal and judicial reform, there is a need for more coherence between CIDA and the Canadian justice sector in order to strengthen our capacity and contribute to sustainable development results.

In an effort to improve Canada's rule of law programming and respond to a growing demand for justice sector expertise, CIDA commissioned a study that involved an extensive consultation process with key justice sector partners, to determine the essential

requirements for strengthening Canada's capacity in this area. The study identifies five priority areas for strengthening rule of law initiatives: developing comprehensive approaches aligned with partner countries; investing in knowledge building for more evidence-based programming; strengthening project management; improving coordination between Canadian parties; and optimizing partnerships between CIDA and the justice sector. The study's recommendations have been incorporated into the Agency's action plan outlining the way forward in rule of law programming.

The study is available in both French and English upon request.

EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN

BRIDGE Cutting Edge Packs: Gender and Trade, Gender and Indicators

**Main Partner: Institute of
Development Studies,
University of Sussex**

CIDA has been a world leader in integrating gender equality analysis into its programming, and supports related research in various ways. In 2006 and 2007, the Agency provided funding to BRIDGE, a specialized gender and development knowledge service at the Institute of Development Studies, to subsidize the production of two research collections in themes related to gender equality. BRIDGE “Cutting Edge Packs” provide accessible overviews and useful resources on a wide range of gender themes in an effort to bridge the gaps between theory, policy and practice.

The CIDA-supported pack on “Gender and Indicators” provides analysis and recommendations on the political and technical challenges of developing and applying gender-sensitive measurements of change.

The “Gender and Trade” pack examines the role of gender in the complex relationship between trade, growth and development, and specifically the gendered impacts of trade agreements. The packs also point readers to valuable supporting resources, including key texts, case studies, tools, guides and organizations.

*BRIDGE packs are available at
www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/*

AGRICULTURE

The Invasive Species Compendium (ISC)

Main partner: CAB International (CABI)

Drawing together scientific information and databases from hundreds of specialists around the world, the Invasive Species Compendium will offer a comprehensive, multimedia knowledge base on all aspects of invasive alien species for use by policy makers, scientists, extensionists, students and practitioners. The development of the ISC, led by CABI, will meet an acute need for a science-based, authoritative source on this topic that can provide more efficient decision support for the management of invasive species. The ISC will be delivered on a web-based platform to facilitate broader access and collaboration; stand-alone CD-ROM versions will also be provided for use in developing countries where Internet access may be limited. A shorter initial compendium covering 1,000 species will be released in 2008. The full version will be available by 2010.

The ISC will become part of CABI's Compendium Programme, a collection of interactive benchmark knowledge tools that support science-based decision-making. CIDA is a member of the ISC Development Consortium, an international group of sponsors



represented through the project's steering committee. CIDA is also a consortium member for four existing CABI compendia.

For additional information about the program, see
www.cabicompendium.org

AID ARCHITECTURE

Southern Perspectives on Reform of the International Development Architecture

Main partners: The North-South Institute (NSI), UK Department for International Development (DFID), Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Despite increasing emphasis on developing country leadership and “ownership,” donors most often determine the amounts of aid delivered to low-income countries and the terms, conditions and modalities of support. Likewise, proposals to reform the international development architecture, even those that attempt to capture developing country concerns, continue to emanate from donor countries. To alter this imbalance, a group of four donors (DFID, CIDA and the Foreign Affairs ministries for Sweden and Norway) funded this innovative research project, led by NSI, to increase knowledge of Southern perspectives on reform of the international development architecture. The project is aimed at advancing a reform agenda that genuinely reflects the priorities and concerns of low-income countries.

A Steering Group of 10 eminent Southern development thinkers leads the program, which has produced original research findings expected to inform deliberations at the 2008 Accra High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness. Three thematic papers examine overarching issues relevant to the current development system: power imbalances and development knowledge, policy coherence, and the geopolitics of aid. The project has also produced five detailed country studies (Bolivia, Burundi, Nigeria, Vietnam, and Sri Lanka), each examining the operation of the international development architecture and offering key recommendations for reform.

Further information on the program, including published research papers, can be found at www.nsi-ins.ca/english/research/progress/41.asp

PROGRAM-BASED APPROACHES

The increased focus on new aid modalities during the 1990s led donors to consider program-based approaches (PBAs) as a new way of engaging in international cooperation, based on the principle of coordinated support for locally owned development programs. This concept gained currency through the Learning Network on PBAs (LENPA), a group of analysts, specialists and program officers from international development agencies worldwide. Launched in 2001 under the leadership of Réal Lavergne, CIDA's expert in program-based approaches, LENPA's work has since led to international recognition of PBAs. Today, the share of aid accorded under PBAs is one of the principal indicators of the Paris Declaration.

Lavergne has contributed to the international discourse around PBAs through network support, research and thought leadership. In his paper "Program-Based Approaches: A New Way of Doing Business," published in CIDA's *Development Express* journal, he examines the rationale behind the global shift to PBAs and its specific implications for Canada's aid programming. His "CIDA Primer on Program-Based Approaches," co-written with colleague Anneli Alba, summarizes central concepts involved in PBA programming, the related aid modalities, and the issues that must be addressed in considering increased use of this approach. This document has informed aid effectiveness policy at CIDA and has been widely referenced by other donors in developing PBA guidelines. The Primer is posted to several key websites such as Eldis and the OECD Development Assistance Committee site.

AID EFFECTIVENESS AND CIVIL SOCIETY



CIDA Thought Leadership

CIDA has contributed to research and thinking on the topics of aid effectiveness and civil society, thanks largely to the analytical work and forward thinking of in-house experts Réal Lavergne and Alison Van Rooy, and consultant Jacqueline Wood. Beginning as separate streams of thought, the aid effectiveness and civil society agendas have come together over time. Lavergne's, Van Rooy's, and Wood's contributions have helped advance the agenda, both within the Agency and internationally, addressing an international policy gap and garnering support from local and international governments and civil society stakeholders.

Aid Effectiveness

This stream of work began in 2002, when CIDA produced its policy statement, *Canada Making a Difference in the World: Strengthening Aid Effectiveness*

(SAE), which supports the prevailing consensus about how development cooperation should be managed to ensure long-term effectiveness. Feeding into this dialogue, Lavergne produced "Strengthening Aid Effectiveness: Principles, Operational Implications and Approaches," in which he proposed a broad interpretation of the aid effectiveness principles identified in CIDA's SAE policy. His analysis highlights the policy's references to a comprehensive approach to development, and the importance of adopting a long-term vision that embraces institutional development and civil society participation. This broad interpretation of the aid effectiveness agenda helped to open the door for further consideration in CIDA of civil society's role in that agenda.

Civil Society

Since then, CIDA has promoted a broad understanding of aid effectiveness that considers

the roles of non-state actors in development. In response to a clear gap in the research around aid effectiveness with regard to partnerships and civil society, Lavergne and Wood produced "Aid Effectiveness and Non-State Partnerships: Analytical Considerations," which explored how the prevailing aid effectiveness agenda could be enriched to better address partnerships with civil society and the private sector.

Van Rooy, CIDA's civil society expert, led a first round of work on a civil society policy at CIDA. With the support of an internal Expert Group, this process included the preparation of background evidentiary documents, policy outlines and discussion paper drafts. Picking up on this work, Lavergne and Wood produced a paper titled "CIDA, Civil Society and Development: A Discussion Paper" (February 2008), which is intended to pave the way for a formal CIDA statement on civil society.

In October 2006, the early work by Lavergne and Wood paid dividends when CIDA announced it would take a lead, internationally, on recognizing civil society's roles in the context of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. Canada also became Chair of the new DAC Advisory Group on Civil Society and Aid Effectiveness (AG-CS) when this group was created in January 2007.

As Chair, Canada has played a central role in producing analytical documentation on behalf of the AG-CS. Together, Lavergne and

Wood have been responsible for drafting a number of key AG-CS documents, in consultation with other AG-CS members, who provided written inputs and advice. These documents include two that were intended to guide the work of the AG-CS in the early stages: the AG-CS's "Concept Paper on Civil Society and Aid Effectiveness," and the AG-CS's "Issues Paper." It also includes three papers prepared for distribution at the Accra High Level meeting on Aid Effectiveness on September 2-4, 2008: The AG-CS's "Synthesis of Findings and Recommendations" (now available in English, French and Spanish) which was endorsed by Working Party on Aid Effectiveness when it met on July 9-11, 2008 and two companion documents: "Civil Society and Aid Effectiveness: An Exploration of Experience and Good Practice" and "Civil Society and Aid Effectiveness Case Book." All of these papers are available on the AG-CS extranet site: <http://web.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cs>.

Results of this work include formal recognition of the need for donors and governments to engage with CSOs in the Accra Agenda for Action, and growing awareness and understanding of the issues around the world.

AID AND COUNTRY OWNERSHIP

Ethiopia: Aid, Ownership, and Sovereignty

**Xavier Furtado, CIDA
W. James Smith**

In this case study on aid dependency in Ethiopia, Furtado and Smith examine the complex set of factors that has shaped the country's approach to donor relations, aid coordination and the national policy agenda. As a result of various political and geopolitical events, aid flows to Ethiopia have historically been erratic. This instability, combined with the government's rigorous approach to guarding its sovereignty, has resulted in fragile donor-government relationships. Furtado and Smith question the degree to which donors have come to terms with the full implications of country ownership, specifically when faced with policies they question or an apparent lack of openness to

donor involvement. The authors also examine the country's formal aid management framework, which has had an uneven effect on development policy, and note the surprisingly low number of aid instruments available in Ethiopia despite the complexity of its development challenges.

From 2004-2006, Xavier Furtado managed CIDA's general budget support program in Ethiopia. He is currently an assistant director in CIDA's China program.

This paper was published by University College, Oxford, in June 2007, and is available at www.globaleconomicgovernance.org/research.php?id=2. The paper will also appear in an edited volume to be published by Oxford University Press in the autumn of 2008.

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