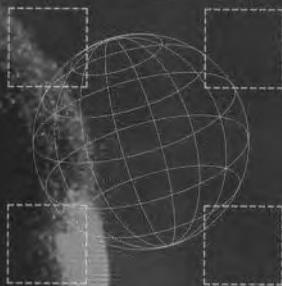


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Science for humanity

International Development Research Centre

IDRC  CRDI

IDRC supports research for international development.

It was founded in 1970 based on the conviction that development starts when communities in the South are able to take responsibility for their growth, using their own ideas and initiatives. Solutions cannot be imposed from the outside; they must be fostered from within.

IDRC supports the work of scientists and researchers in developing countries. In essence, the Centre supports innovation from within the South — creative solutions to development problems that work in local conditions and that are effective over the long run. In so doing, IDRC also strengthens the overall capability of researchers and research institutions to generate policies and technologies that can help create more equitable societies.

A public corporation created and funded by the Parliament of Canada, IDRC works in partnership with other donors to increase the resources available for research and international development in the South.

CIDA PHOTO: PIERRE ST JACQUES

Canada



CIDA PHOTO: PETER BENNETT

Solutions cannot be imposed
from the outside, they must be fostered
from within.

CIDA PHOTO: JIM WHITE

HOW RESEARCH IS SUPPORTED

PROGRAM INITIATIVES

The driving force of the Centre's programming are its program initiatives. Each of these initiatives focuses on a specific set of development issues and is managed by a team of experts from a broad range of disciplines. For example, a biologist, an economist, and an anthropologist will all work together – examining the same issues from different angles – to help Southern researchers find a holistic approach to solving a development problem. IDRC believes this multidisciplinary approach is key to addressing the complexities of international development issues. Program initiatives are the Centre's primary programming unit to support research in developing countries.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EQUITY

Targeting poverty and economic vulnerability by directing research toward:

Public Goods:

Delivering public goods – health, education, social security – in ways that are more effective, fair, and financially sustainable, as well as that promote good governance.

The Effects of Globalization:

Helping developing countries deal with the results of globalization, notably the rules and codes of the World Trade Organization.

Employment:

Supporting people, particularly women and youth, in their struggle to earn a living.

Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

- HELPS SOUTHERN COUNTRIES BUILD UP THE INNOVATIVE SKILLS AND INSTITUTIONS THEY NEED FOR DEVELOPMENT •
- HARNESSSES THE TALENTS OF SCIENTISTS AND TECHNOLOGISTS IN THE SOUTH AND IN CANADA •
- FOSTERS PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN RESEARCHERS IN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH •

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIATS

International secretariats, although housed at IDRC, involve donors from around the world. They are jointly managed and jointly funded – with IDRC providing the financial and administrative infrastructure needed to ensure continuity. The research of secretariats is guided by independent steering committees with representatives from around the world. Secretariats represent another major vehicle for supporting research in the South.

WHAT RESEARCH IS SUPPORTED?

IDRC supports research projects that relate to three main areas. In addition, the Centre is supporting research on two cross-cutting issues: gender and knowledge systems. Focusing on gender ensures the full and equal participation of women and men in development and leads to improvements in women's lives. Exploring knowledge systems means discovering the ways that knowledge is created, maintained, and used. This includes examining everything from oral histories to databases on networked computers.

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Finding ways to provide life's essentials and improve human health through better environmental practices, directing research toward:

Food and Water:

Ensuring secure sources of food and water for the poor by focusing on local resource management and appropriate policy choices.

Health and Ecosystems:

Improving human health and well-being by managing ecosystems better.

Biodiversity:

Protecting local management and control of biodiversity in the face of competing interests regarding genetic resources.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

**Harnessing knowledge to increase development opportunities, by
directing research toward:**

Access to Information Technology:

Ensuring equitable and sustainable access to information and to the use of information and communication technologies so that all of society benefits.

The Information Economy:

Understanding developments in the information economy and responding to the concerns of communities and small businesses, and exploring the local effects of global trade rules and e-commerce.

Harnessing knowledge
to increase development
opportunities.

www.idrc.ca

WHO IDRC FUNDS

IDRC provides funds and expert advice to researchers from developing countries who are working to find long-term, workable solutions to critical development problems. IDRC also helps them involve Canadian researchers in their activities. In addition, IDRC funds and administers a number of award programs in the field of international development, both for Canadians and for researchers from the South.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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IDRC has seven regional offices, located in Cairo, Dakar, Johannesburg, Montevideo, Nairobi, New Delhi, and Singapore.