



**Canadian Lutheran
World Relief**

Submission to Canada's International Assistance Review

Executive Summary

CLWR supports the Government of Canada's efforts to review and renew its international assistance (IA) policy. In particular, we are pleased to see the focus on responding to the needs of displaced and vulnerable populations and how to best deliver results. Drawing on our organizational proficiency in the areas of sustainable development and humanitarian assistance, CLWR is focusing its feedback on three key areas:

1. Responding to humanitarian crises and the needs of displaced populations,
2. Clean economic growth and climate change, and
3. Delivering results.

Responding to humanitarian crises and the needs of displaced populations

Our recommendations focus on funding levels, program structures and activities, and operational practices. We suggest prioritizing the needs of displaced populations, providing funding for large-scale interventions as well as non-governmental organizations who work with local partners, and encourage an ongoing willingness to respond to emergencies that are not in the news. Additionally, we recommend expanding the types of activities supported by International Humanitarian Assistance, and lengthening project timelines so that project beneficiaries are supported at all stages of recovery, with a goal of building resiliency and self-reliance within displaced populations.

Clean economic growth and climate change

A focus on innovative approaches to agriculture would assist small-scale farmers in developing countries as they adapt to climate change and find new ways to meet increasing food demands. The expertise held by Canada's scientists, agricultural experts, and academics can contribute significantly to global discussions about the ways sustainable agricultural practices can help achieve clean economic growth.

Delivering Results

Our recommendations include increasing clarity regarding funding processes and requirements, ensuring International Humanitarian Assistance guidelines and procedures are adapted to reflect the newly announced multi-year project structures, and broadening the ways matching funds—made available by the Government of Canada for use in emergency situations—are utilized and reported on.

Concluding Remarks

We applaud the Government of Canada's efforts to renew and review its international assistance policy in order to effectively meet the needs of the most vulnerable. We encourage Canada to increase international assistance spending to meet the needs of those who are displaced, to find ways to increase flexibility in funding so as to best respond to those needs, and to annually grow its international assistance funding with the aim of reaching its commitment of 0.7 percent of Canada's Gross National Income within ten years.