



The Partnership for Advancing Human Development in Africa and Asia



The Partnership for Advancing Human Development in Africa and Asia is a five-year agreement between the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) and the Government of Canada, through the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development.

The partnership, which began its full range of programming in April 2013, is expected to **reach more than a million beneficiaries**. Investments in local institutions and professional capacities will reach millions more over the long term.

New Approach to Development Cooperation

The partnership represents a new, strategic approach to development cooperation that:

- Allows for projects of **significant scale** – with greater numbers of beneficiaries and tailored support to build the regional institutional and professional capacity essential to sustain development gains over the long term.



- Adopts a **regional perspective** on persistent development challenges. Poverty, instability and lack of human development are often rooted in factors that are regional or cross-national in character. The partnership takes advantage of economies of scale, past investments, existing expertise and emerging cross-border collaboration in East Africa and Central Asia. In addition to country-specific strategies, it is increasingly necessary to design and deliver programs regionally, to address common development challenges.

- Employs **system-wide interventions** to address critical issues, such as access to quality health care and education in remote areas and marginalized communities. Over time, the partnership seeks to support a spectrum of connected institutions, from strong regional bodies to local, grassroots civil society initiatives. Collaborating with public, private and social/not-for-profit sectors to strengthen local capacities and ownership – particularly in the health and education systems – enabling institutions at various levels to not simply respond to development challenges, but help shape national and regional development priorities.

- Promotes **innovative and effective civil society responses** to issues of gender equality, climate change adaptation, and poverty alleviation. Where state institutions are highly centralized or relatively weak, civil society can play an integral role in improving governance and democratic participation, reaching the most vulnerable or isolated communities, and, in the process, contribute to gradual strengthening of public sector institutions.

- Creates **platforms for Canadian institutions and individuals** to both gain and contribute expertise on development issues.

- Recognizes that **development requires a long-term commitment**. Although framed as a five-year project, with clear, significant and measurable results at the end of the agreement, the partnership incorporates careful consideration of long-term strategy. This approach allows for realistic time horizons to achieve lasting human development results and provides the ability to assess, adjust and learn from efforts over time.



A Partnership in Six Parts

The partnership is made up of six principal components, which work in unison to promote human development from a number of angles:

1. Strengthening Education Systems in East Africa focuses on supporting education systems in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, to improve and sustain learning outcomes for students in pre-primary and primary school. It provides learning opportunities for educators, strengthens the education system through technical assistance and professional development, and works with local officials to implement a regional learning agenda to inform and improve policy, programs and practices.

Early Results:

Over 2,300 teachers and local government education officials – out of a five-year target of over 9,000 – were trained and supported to deliver better education services and improve learning outcomes for children in pre-primary and primary schools.

2. Central Asia Health Systems Strengthening addresses barriers to quality and accessibility of health systems in Afghanistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan and Tajikistan. By increasing access to health care services, training health care professionals, strengthening health systems and education at the community level, facilitating research on key health systems issues, and promoting dialogue with government on policy and procedures, the project aims to improve the health of men and women in the target areas of Central Asia, especially women of reproductive age, newborns and children under five.

Early Results:

Gender-responsive health promotion programming reached 15,600 people – out of a five year target of 330,000 – living in poor and remote communities, focusing on improved health, hygiene and nutrition awareness.

To improve the availability of quality health care in remote communities, 311 doctors, nurses and other health care providers (194 women and 117 men) – out of a five year target of 1,202 – enhanced their skills and knowledge through a variety of professional development courses.

3. Support to Civil Society Initiatives provides assistance to civil society organizations in Asia and Africa to develop more effective, innovative programming to foster gender equality, help communities adapt to climate change, or alleviate poverty.

Early Results:

Over 1,000 people (668 of which were women) from vulnerable communities in Africa and Asia – out of a five year target of 5,000 – were trained on practical methods of adapting to climate change.



4. Public Engagement & Professional Learning

seeks to inform, inspire and equip Canadians to address critical issues of development. It includes specialized programmes for educators, the media, young Canadians, and globally-minded professionals from a variety of sectors. Wide-ranging programming, delivered across Canada, will focus on shared development priorities, including: education; health; civil society; food security and rural development; and economic development and financing. Insights gained through these activities will be incorporated back into the partnership's overseas components and disseminated to Canadian and international development practitioners and policy makers.

Early Results:

More than 2,000 Canadians – out of a five year target of 32,000 – expanded their awareness and understanding of important human development issues including maternal, newborn and child health, food security, innovative financing, quality of life assessments, gender and education, media and development, and global citizenship.

5. Canadian Professionals for Development

leverages the deep and diverse expertise of Canadians from many professional backgrounds, to strengthen the quality, effectiveness and sustainability of development initiatives undertaken by local institutions in Asia and Africa. Through targeted, demand-driven placements with institutions overseas, Canadians are strengthening local development capacities, while at the same time acquiring new knowledge and skills.

Early Results:

Fifty-two young Canadians – out of a five-year target of 183 – have directly contributed to improving human development outcomes, while also enhancing their professional skills and career prospects, through short and medium term placements with 19 development institutions in Africa and Asia.



6. Institutional Partnerships for Human

Development forges networks between Canadian universities and higher education institutions in Asia and Africa to strengthen expertise and develop capacities across a range of technical fields including health, education, public policy and natural resource governance. Initially, eight Canadian universities will work with the Aga Khan University and the University of Central Asia, two higher education institutions within the AKDN. Additional partnerships will be identified over the course of the program, based on opportunity and mutual interest.

A Significant, Joint Investment

Through Aga Khan Foundation Canada's annual World Partnership Walk and World Partnership Golf fundraising events, the AKDN is contributing \$25 million of the total \$100 million investment in this partnership.

In addition to this financial commitment, the AKDN brings substantial institutional assets, local expertise, and strong relations with governments, private enterprise and civil society. From universities to preschools, world-class hospitals to rural health clinics, microfinance banks to women's organizations, the AKDN has a diversified presence and unparalleled intellectual and technical resources in Central Asia and East

Africa. The partnership will harness these assets and expertise to help ensure the quality, effectiveness and sustainability of this investment.

This new partnership is founded on shared experience, lessons and trust borne of the relationship between the AKDN and Canada that goes back over three decades. This relationship has produced lasting improvements in the quality of life and opportunities for millions in some of the poorest regions of Asia and Africa. Underpinning and enhancing this work been the critical intellectual, technical and financial resources of Canadian universities and other civil society institutions, the private sector and tens of thousands of individuals from across the country.

Many of the joint investments that Canada and the AKDN have made over the past 30 years in Asia and Africa have informed the design and implementation of this partnership, an important new stage in the wider strategic partnership between the Government of Canada and the AKDN.

Aga Khan Foundation Canada

Aga Khan Foundation Canada (AKFC) is a non-profit international development agency, working in Asia and Africa to find sustainable solutions to the complex problems causing global poverty. Established in 1980, AKFC is a registered Canadian charity and an agency of the worldwide Aga Khan Development Network.

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