

# Canada

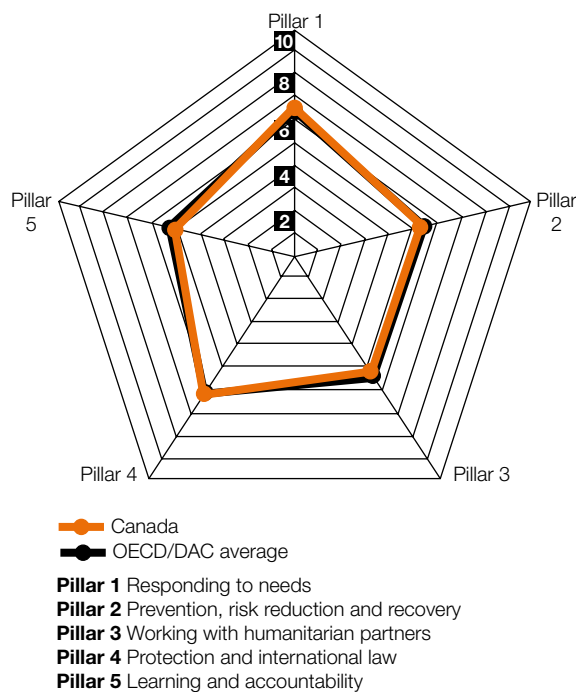
HRI 2010 ranking: 12th

## Policy framework

Canada's humanitarian aid is managed by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), within the Ministry of International Cooperation. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) is responsible for developing its humanitarian aid policy, and the International Humanitarian Assistance Directorate (IHA) for managing Canada's response to international humanitarian crises. The 2008 Development Assistance Accountability Act requires all humanitarian aid to prioritise poverty relief, international humanitarian law and beneficiary engagement. It also requires aid in crisis situations to be distributed rapidly, efficiently and transparently. It is Canada's policy to reduce earmarking at the country level, support pooled funding mechanisms, such as the CERF and in-country pooled funds, and provide funding in proportion to the size of appeals. Canada also stresses the importance of evaluating its response to major crises. In 2009, Canada's development cooperation budget dropped by about 18%, resulting in a lower ODA/GNI ratio of 0.30% compared to 0.33% in 2008. Humanitarian assistance represented 12.01% of Canada's ODA and 0.031% of its GNI.

Canada continues to play a central role in the *Good Humanitarian Donorship* (GHD) group and adheres to its GHD domestic implementation plan, adopted in 2005 and revised in 2006.

## HRI 2010 scores by pillar



\* The OECD/DAC average does not include scores for Austria, Greece or Portugal.

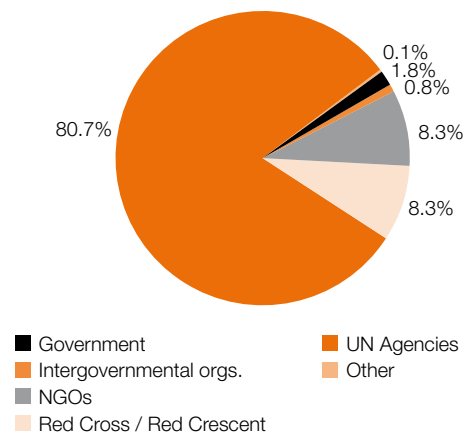
## Performance

Canada ranked 12th in the HRI 2010. Based on the patterns of its scores, Canada is classified as a Group 2 donor. Donors in this group tend to perform around average in all pillars, with slightly better scores in Pillar 1 (Responding to needs), and somewhat poorer in Pillar 2 (Prevention, risk reduction and recovery). Other donors in the group include Australia, the European Commission, Germany, Greece, (based on quantitative scores only) Ireland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Overall, Canada's performance is close to the OECD/DAC averages in all pillars. It also scored close to the Group 2 average in all pillars, with the exception of Pillar 5 (Learning and accountability) where it scored below average. Canada followed the pattern of other Group 2 donors in Pillar 1, receiving its highest pillar score here with marks close to the OECD/DAC and Group 2 averages. It departed from other Group 2 donors in that it received its lowest pillar score in Pillar 5, where Group 2 donors tend to perform well.

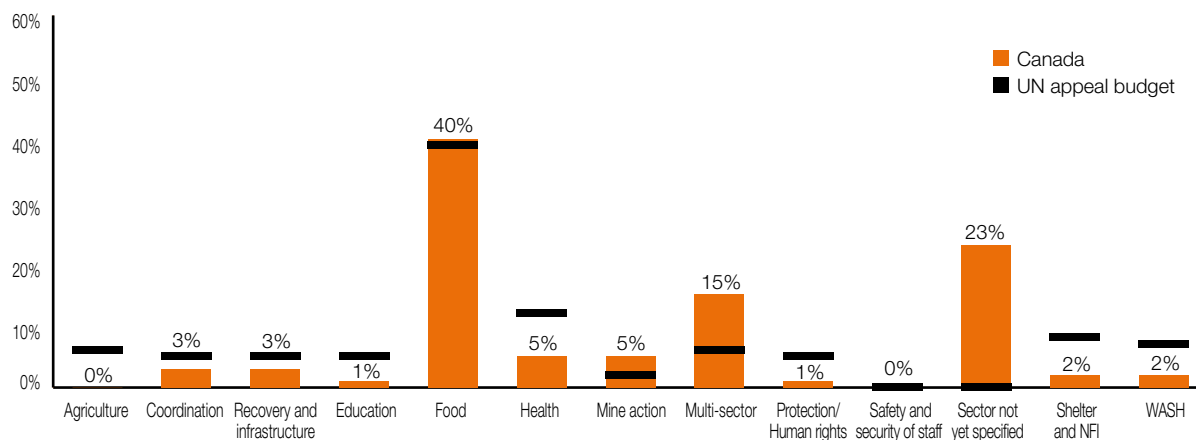
Canada did best compared to its OECD/DAC peers in the indicators on *Funding of risk mitigation mechanisms*, *Timely funding to sudden onset disasters*, *Funding UN and Red Cross Red Crescent appeals*, *Participation in accountability initiatives* and *Funding based on level of vulnerability and to forgotten crises*. Its scores were lowest in indicators on *Funding for accountability initiatives*, *Un-earmarked funding*, *Timely funding to complex emergencies*, *Reducing climate-related vulnerability* and *Funding for reconstruction and prevention*.

## Aid distribution by type of organisation



Source: OCHA/FTS October 2010.

## Sectoral distribution of funding to UN appeals, 2009 (%)



\* Distribution of donor funding to these sectors includes flows within and outside an appeal that has been reported to OCHA/FTS. This is compared to the “distribution of needs” based on the 2009 UN appeal budget allocation.

Source: OCHA/FTS October 2010.

### Recommendations

Of all pillars, Canada performed best in Pillar 1. However, it also received one of its lowest scores in Pillar 1, for the quantitative indicator *Timely funding to complex emergencies*. Canada provided 14% of its humanitarian funding in the first three months following the launch of the appeal, while the OECD/DAC average was 34% and the Group 2 average, 41%. Canada, does, however do exceptionally well in the timeliness of its funding to sudden onset disasters. Together, with Greece and Japan, Canada is one of the best donors in this indicator.

- Canada should review the timeliness of its funding to complex emergencies.

Canada is an average donor in Pillar 2, yet was below average in *Funding for reconstruction and prevention*. Canada allocated 14% of its humanitarian aid to this area, slightly below the Group 2 average of 15%. The best performing group in this area, Group 3, allocated an average of 25%.

- Canada should look for ways to increase its support of reconstruction and prevention.

Canada’s partners in the field consider it an average donor in terms of flexibility. However, it receives a very low score for the quantitative indicator *Un-earmarked funding*. Of all Canada’s humanitarian aid, only 15% was not earmarked. The OECD/DAC average for un-earmarked funding is 35%.

- Canada should review the flexibility and consider reducing the earmarking of its funding.

Canada is above the OECD/DAC average in its participation in accountability initiatives. It received its lowest score of the index, however, for its funding of them as Canada allocated only 0.09% of its humanitarian aid to support them. The OECD/DAC average, in contrast, was 0.46% and the Group 2 average, 0.36%. Group 1, which performs the best in this indicator, allocated an average of 0.71%.

- Canada should consider finding ways of increasing its support for accountability initiatives.

For more information, please see [www.daraint.org](http://www.daraint.org).

Strengths			
Indicator	Donor score	OECD/DAC donor average	% over average
Funding of risk mitigation mechanisms	8.52	5.49	55%
Timely funding to sudden onset disasters	10.00	6.97	44%
Funding UN and Red Cross Red Crescent appeals	6.92	5.05	37%
Participation in accountability initiatives	6.33	4.73	34%
Funding based on level of vulnerability and to forgotten crises	7.24	6.11	18%

Areas for improvement			
Indicator	Donor score	OECD/DAC donor average	% below average
Funding for accountability initiatives	0.65	2.75	-76%
Un-earmarked funding	1.52	3.45	-56%
Timely funding to complex emergencies	1.91	4.35	-56%
Reducing climate-related vulnerability	3.63	7.19	-50%
Funding for reconstruction and prevention	3.52	4.12	-15%