



**INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY,
A GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC COMMITMENT**

Ministère des Relations internationales

Québec   



Québec's contribution to international solidarity

The Government of Québec's commitment to international development and solidarity is an expression of Quebecers' desire to participate in the efforts being made by the international community. In keeping with Québec's means, these efforts are designed to deal with the challenges of poverty, exclusion and economic and social inequality, in a world in which nations are becoming steadily more interdependent.

An objective of Québec's International Policy, Québec's activities in international solidarity aim to encourage the social and economic development of countries in a context of respect for the values shared by Québec and the rest of the world such as sharing, mutual assistance, freedom, democracy, justice and fairness, while encouraging the emergence of a responsible world that is characterized by solidarity.

In concert with international cooperation organizations and Québec institutions, the Government of Québec takes action primarily in areas in which it has confirmed expertise: human resource training and developing governance capabilities.

Québec's International Policy is designed to guide Québec's international development and solidarity action toward the least privileged countries in Francophone Africa, Latin America and the West Indies, particularly Haiti.

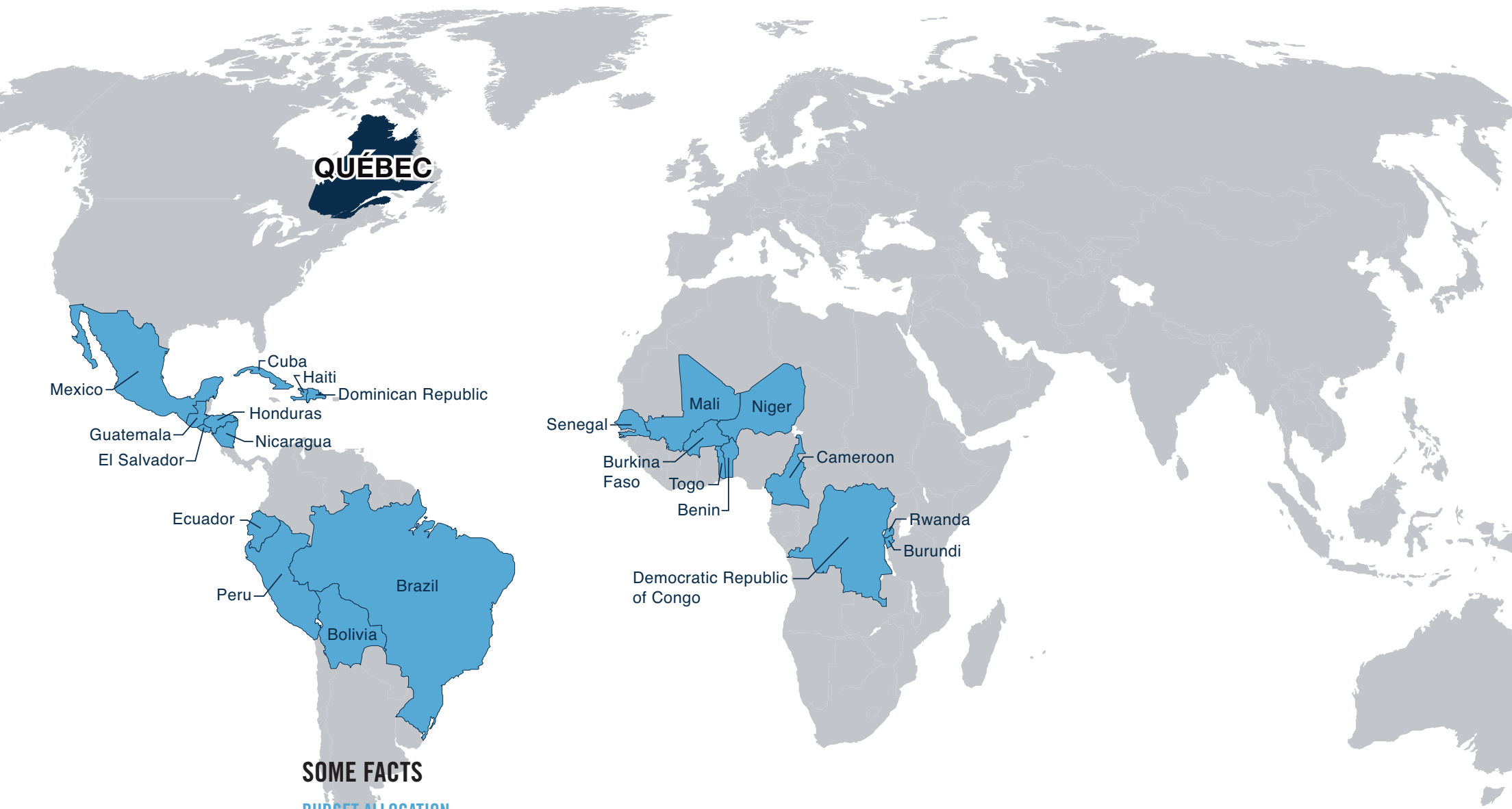
I invite you to find out more about the Québec government actions to support the development initiatives of the international community.

A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink, reading "Monique Gagnon-Tremblay".

MONIQUE GAGNON-TREMBLAY
Minister of International Relations and
Minister responsible for La Francophonie

Québec international solidarity action in the world

(Main countries of intervention)



SOME FACTS

BUDGET ALLOCATION

Territories	Programme québécois de développement international (PQDI, Québec International Development Program) since 1997	Québec sans frontières (Québec Without Borders)	Participant's distribution (QSF) since 1995
Africa	\$ 10 619 477	\$ 10 696 659	1722
Latin America	\$ 8 645 453	\$ 9 402 106	1689
West Indies	\$ 8 293 638	\$ 3 100 777	583
Others	\$ 1 708 725	--	--
Subtotal	\$ 29 267 293	\$ 23 199 542	3994
Québec (OCI projects)	--	\$ 1 758 153	148
Grand total	\$ 29 267 293	\$ 24 957 695	4142

Québec International Development Program

The *Programme québécois de développement international* (PQDI) supports solidarity initiatives from Québec international cooperation organizations carried out in conjunction with civil society partners in underprivileged communities in Francophone Africa, Latin America and the West Indies.

Focus areas

The initiatives supported meet basic needs in the areas of health, education, food safety and social and community organization. They also incorporate basic principles such as human rights and democracy, protection of the environment, and the use of communication technologies as development tools.

In implementing this program, the Ministère des Relations internationales relies on a dynamic partnership with international cooperation organizations that mainly belong to the Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale (AQOCI, Québec Association of International Cooperation Organizations).

Did you know?

That Québec international cooperation organizations strive for an integrated approach to development in both the South and the North?

That, every year, Québec's Ministère des Relations internationales supports about twenty development projects that have a direct, immediate impact on underprivileged people in terms of basic services such as water, education, basic health care, farming and access to microfinancing?





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Oxfam, Québec, CLUB 2/3, Togo, 2006.



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Did you know?

That, every year, 400 young Quebecers participate in Québec Without Borders fieldwork in developing nations.



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Did you know?

That Québec's Ministère des Relations internationales invests 14% of its international solidarity budget in educating Quebecers?



© Joannie Gagné, Mer et Monde, Sénégal, 2006.



© Marianne Guillemette
Mer et Monde, Sénégal, 2006.

Québec Without Borders

Participate in concrete projects in developing countries, share the values of solidarity, discover new cultures, and develop personal and vocational skills: this is what Québec Without Borders offers young Quebecers aged 18 to 35.

Since it was instituted in 1995, the Québec Without Borders program has helped young people from all over Québec to learn about international cooperation by doing fieldwork in a country in Francophone Africa, Latin America or the West Indies, or in Québec, with a Québec international cooperation organization. It also offers young people who are active in a partner organization in a southern country the opportunity to gain Québec fieldwork experience related to their studies or work.

Organizing initiatives in partnership

Québec Without Borders is coordinated by the Ministère des Relations internationales (MRI) in partnership with the Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale (AQOCI). The international cooperation organizations that belong to AQOCI are in charge of implementing, organizing and guiding the fieldwork in collaboration with southern partners.

Québec Without Borders offers stimulating opportunities in international cooperation and solidarity to groups or individuals in a variety of areas.

Visit our website at www.quebecsansfrontieres.com.

Public awareness program on development and international solidarity issues

This program support the action of international cooperation organizations that foster Québec society's commitment to development that is based on the principles of equity, justice and mutual respect. The MRI's key partner, the Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale (AQOCI), implements two out of the three program components.

Every fall, in most regions of Québec, the AQOCI coordinates a series of activities that promote reflection regarding the social changes taking place globally. The ***Journées québécoises de la solidarité internationale*** are designed to promote international solidarity and build bridges between the people of Québec and the people of developing countries.

The ***Fonds pour l'éducation et l'engagement du public à la solidarité internationale*** supports activities that raise awareness in Québec society, bring on attitude changes and develop a willingness to act as responsible citizens of the world. The Fund gives financial support to about fifteen organizations a year to carry out awareness activities.

Run by the Ministère des Relations internationales, the **International Cooperation Education Support Program** is intended to support and consolidate international cooperation organizations whose main vocation is educating the public about international solidarity.

Haitian governance enhancement project (PARGEP)

On November 7, 2007, the Governments of Québec, Canada and the Republic of Haiti signed a memorandum of understanding for implementing PARGEP, a five-year project valued at almost 7.2 million dollars. PARGEP is designed to facilitate the transfer of Québec's public service know-how to Haiti's government, thus helping to strengthen Haiti's senior civil service and improve the public services offered to Haitians.

Centre de valorisation internationale de l'expertise publique québécoise (CVIEPQ)

Created in January 2007, CVIEPQ, the centre for promoting Québec's public service expertise, is the outcome of an interest-based, joint financing partnership between the Ministère des Relations internationales, the Ministère du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation and the École nationale d'administration publique, which houses the Centre.

CVIEPQ's mission is to promote Québec's civil service expertise internationally, by putting the expertise and know-how of senior Québec public servants at the disposal of foreign governments. Thanks to financing from multilateral development banks, governments overseas will be able to draw on Québec's civil service expertise to contribute to their development.



Contribution of the International Organization of La Francophonie

The Government of Québec, which belongs to the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie plays an active role in the initiatives of all Francophonie organizations in a variety of areas, such as education, culture, democracy, the French language and sustainable development. Over 10 million dollars a year are allocated to international solidarity activities in Francophonie-member developing nations.

Support for students in developing nations

Since 1979, each year, the Government of Québec has granted 22 million dollars in tuition waivers to students from many developing or emerging nations, particularly southern nations that are part of the Francophonie. Tuition waivers are granted to students pursuing postgraduate studies in fields that are in line with their country of origin's primary development needs.

Emergency assistance

In conjunction with the Ministère des Relations internationales, the Civil Security Disaster Committee is mandated to coordinate the Government of Québec's action in the event of humanitarian disasters in affected countries, by making experts and equipment available.

Since September 2006, the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS) has partnered with the Canadian Red Cross' Québec division in setting up an emergency response unit (ERU). This team of health care and social service professionals works in units of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement for some international humanitarian operations.

The Government of Québec also responds to emergency initiatives undertaken by international cooperation organizations in the poorest countries in Francophone Africa, Latin America and the West Indies, in the context of the Québec International Development Program.

Collaboration with civil society

Québec society features many international solidarity actors who are working on major development issues, whose expertise can enrich the government's action. Proposed after public consultations, Québec's International Policy introduces a mechanism for collaborating with international cooperation organizations so as to enhance intervention planning and focus the Government of Québec's action.





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