

Canada announces new support for gender equality, inclusion, peace and security and democracy in Africa

November 24, 2016

During his official visit to Liberia, the Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, announced support for the following initiatives aimed at supporting democracy, peace and security, and inclusion and gender equality in Africa:

Supporting Women in West Africa

Canada will provide \$10 million over five years, beginning in 2016-2017, to support UN Women's activities in West Africa, including Liberia. Support will target priority areas such as increasing women's representation in politics and government, and supporting women leaders to champion issues of gender equality.

Women, Peace, Security and Humanitarian Action

Canada will also provide \$1.5 million in 2016-2017 to the Global Acceleration Instrument on Women, Peace, Security and Humanitarian Action. It is a rapid and flexible financing instrument that was established by civil society, the UN and Member States in February 2016. Through this contribution, Canada will help enhance women's engagement in peace and security, in preventing conflict and in responding to crises and emergencies, and in peacebuilding.

Elections in Liberia

Canada plans to support the United Nations Development Programme in the 2017 Liberia elections by providing up to \$1 million to strengthen the capacity of electoral bodies. This includes enhancing women's political participation and leadership, ensuring conflict prevention measures are in place, and ensuring the inclusion of women and youth throughout the electoral and political process.