

# INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION, PEACEBUILDING, AND SECURITY: ANALYZING DATA AND TRENDS

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The increasing concentration of poverty, insecurity, and humanitarian response in so-called fragile and conflict-affected states has led to the coming together of the development and conflict/peace/security agendas. Official development assistance (ODA) has become increasingly “securitized”—used to support interventions aimed at conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, and security system reform—according to some research of the international assistance of northern donor countries, including Canada. This study compares and analyzes three data sources on the allocation of Canadian international assistance for the twelve years from 2007–08 to 2018–19, and finds that the data given in the annual Statistical Report on International Assistance provides more complete data on disbursement amounts to the conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, and security sector (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development [OECD] sector code 152) than either the Historical Project Data Set or the OECD Development Assistance Committee’s Creditor Reporting System (CRS) database. A multi-year dataset created from this source shows that aid disbursements have not significantly increased to the conflict, peacebuilding, and security sector over these twelve years, nor have aid disbursements to related (but “softer”) sectors of government and civil society capacity-building. This dataset does show the effect of the merger of the Canadian International Development Agency with Canada’s Foreign/Global Affairs department in governmental sources of assistance to this sector. The analysis also shows the increasing open inclusion of Canada’s