



**POVERTY  
STILL TAKES  
AN ALARMING  
TOLL**

Take action (p. 29)

**08·09 ANNUAL REPORT**



CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL  
STUDIES AND COOPERATION

**CECI**

# CECI

19 COUNTRIES  
150 PARTNERS  
523 VOLUNTEERS

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Mario Renaud

CECI's mission is to fight poverty and exclusion. To this end, CECI "strengthens the development capacity of disadvantaged communities; it supports initiatives for peace, human rights and equity; it mobilizes resources and promotes the exchange of know-how."



# SUMMARY

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# CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The year of CECI's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary coincides with the end of my mandate as Chair of the Board of Directors, and it is time for me to take stock. Given the turbulent times affecting so much of the world, there were many challenges to take up from the very beginning.

First and foremost was a pressing need to **revitalize the Corporation**.

Under the direction of Jean-François Simard, followed by Chantal Havard, we created "Friends of CECI" as a way for Corporation members whose activity had dwindled to withdraw while maintaining their long-standing support for our organization. Offsetting their departure, we inducted 35 new Corporate members, leading to a significant rise in activities. The remarkable success of our half century anniversary celebrations is the best example. It is now our policy to maintain Corporate membership at 95–100 members at all times. Indeed, I believe that our system of governance is one of the most important factors in our success, and that, ultimately this system in turn depends on the success of the Corporation.

Another organizational challenge was the **revitalization of our programming**.

It was essential to focus on CECI's strengths, especially its reputation for professionalism, and to base our revitalization on CECI's core competencies – local development, democratic governance, and support for social economies. These have now become the fundamental strategic directions that will guide CECI's development in the coming years.

By constantly striving for excellence over the years, CECI's core competencies have come to constitute valuable assets in our ongoing anti-poverty work. Our experience in the field of agriculture, along with our participation in the Alliance Agricole Internationale, will in the immediate future enable us to provide tangible solutions to the food crisis looming over the populations of the developing countries where we operate. If there is one area in which we excel, it is surely the management of volunteer co-operation, which has been central to our organization's mission since its beginning. Our distinctive expertise in

the area of humanitarian assistance enables us to assist with reconstruction and the resumption of development in disaster-ravaged zones. Finally, in the face of the immense challenge of gender equality, CECI deserves to be known as a trailblazer: in 2007, we adopted a progressive policy that applies across the entire organization, encompassing every division and program in Canada and abroad, i.e., all of our development projects.

At the helm of a board of directors, whose excellence and dedication I feel it is my duty to emphasize, I had the honour to represent the organization in numerous forums, to defend its interests vis-à-vis the authorities, and to contribute actively to the enhancement of its reputation in Canada and abroad. With regard to the workings of the organization, as Chair, I put a high priority on improving the ways in which the Board, which is responsible for good governance, works as a team and in harmony with the employees, with a view to increase CECI's overall effectiveness and achieving exemplary results. Furthermore, we hired a new executive director – not an easy exercise, since three excellent applicants made our short list. We are certain that our new executive director will prove an asset to the organization, even as we remain conscious that the outgoing executive director will indeed be a hard act to follow. Thus, it will be essential for the new director to be able to rely on the active support of the Corporation's members.

Finally, as we close this chapter in the history of CECI, it is essential to emphasize that all these advances, successes, and innovations are first and foremost the outcome of a team effort on the part of the Board, the managers, and the staff, every one of them devoted to our cause. My heartfelt thanks to one and all.

— PIERRE RACICOT, CHAIRPERSON



*Pierre Racicot*

▲ CANADA  
Christiane Beaulieu, Pierre  
Racicot and Luck Mervil  
at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
celebrations of CECI in  
Montreal, 4 October 2008.  
© Christian Tessier

# A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Recent decades have witnessed radical transformations in the geopolitical world. What with the worldwide trend toward globalization, the national economies of the planet are becoming increasingly interlocked. Still, too many in the global north and south remain marginalized, condemned to live a life of poverty and exclusion. It is this unacceptable situation that drives our organization's commitment.

As we begin the second half-century of CECI's history, I have joined its ranks for the second time. I return to find the organization I left over 20 years ago solidly anchored in the two bedrock features of its work: undying professionalism and a profound humanistic system of values. In my new position I intend to capitalize on the pragmatism and entrepreneurial spirit that have made our reputation. I will also step up investment in our human capital and the systematization of our knowledge, the goal being to adapt our capacity-building approaches and to enhance our operational effectiveness and tracking of results.

We will continue to rely upon professionals from the global south working in their own and other Southern countries. It is essential, as well, for CECI to carry on with its approach to direct on-the-ground co-operation, giving Canadians an opportunity to generously share their skills as

volunteers. And, in order to share what we learn with as many people as possible, we will pursue our training and public engagement activities, as well as our fundraising for projects generously supported by corporate donors, private and religious foundations, and individuals.

Civil society is playing an increasingly important role in industrialized and developing countries. It is largely responsible for a new understanding of development that does not equate to mere economic progress but encompasses respect for democracy, the environment, and human rights, particularly women's and minority rights.

In the face of mounting challenges on the food, economic, and environmental fronts, we at CECI and our Southern partners are committed to furthering a model of community development that is local, participatory and inclusive (women and men, rural and urban), viable, and sustainable. We will be there not only to respond to humanitarian crises but also to work with our partners in the interests of greater human security. And we will continue to promote volunteer work and international partnership, approaches that remain as valid as ever in attempting to overcome the challenges facing society.

— MARIO RENAUD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mario Renaud". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

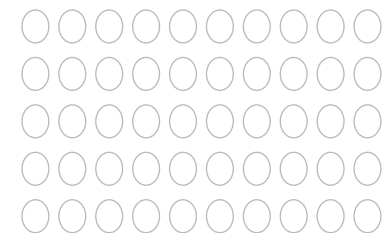




◀ BRAZIL

The ongoing economic and environmental crises framed our participation in WSF 2009 and our growing network of contacts and new knowledge will help CECI be even more effective. Says Luck Mervil, speaker at the World Social Forum 2009 in Belem and CECI spokesperson: "Another World is Possible".

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POVERTY KILLS ONE CHILD  
EVERY THREE SECONDS





CECI works to fight poverty by acting locally to ensure that all local actors are full-fledged partners in an open dialogue enabling them to participate in the social and economic development of their communities.

◀ EL SALVADOR  
CECI and its partners are building ties with populations and governments to reduce street gang violence. > PAGE 20  
© Jean-François Lemire, Shoot studio, (RTI-CECI)

RWANDA

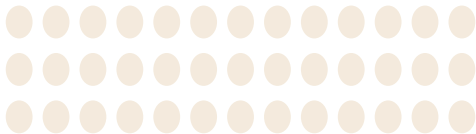
**RIGHTS AND DUTIES**

The Rwanda Local Governance Programme was implemented in May 2007 by the CECI-Experco consortium and funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). It supports the transfer of powers from central to local governments through training for government employees, local politicians, civil society organizations, the private sector, and various communities. Recent research into citizens' rights and duties, the role of decentralized bodies, participation in local planning, and accountability has provided useful materials for training sessions and discussion. All of these approaches provide the community with opportunities to assert their rights, while building trust between citizens and local authorities. Says **Suzanne Dumouchel**, project officer: "These initial steps point the way towards active participation, as well as dialogue and advocacy."

NEPAL

**VOICE OF THE PEOPLE: A NEW TOOL FOR SOCIAL EQUALITY**

In rural Nepal, especially in the remote mountains, caste discrimination against women, ethnic groups, and disabled people is omnipresent. CECI's CIDA-funded joint project with the Federation of Community Forestry Users of Nepal (FECOFUN), known as *Jana Awaaj*, provides the elements of a solution. It consists of a non-partisan political and civic strategy for peace building and development in a country only now emerging from a decade of conflict, as well as centuries of discriminatory practices. Among other features, this project is designed to take the demands of a large segment of the population to the highest levels of decision-making. "The people must have a united voice with which to state that they refuse to continue being manipulated and that they intend to defend their rights," says Project Manager **Yasodha Shrestha**.



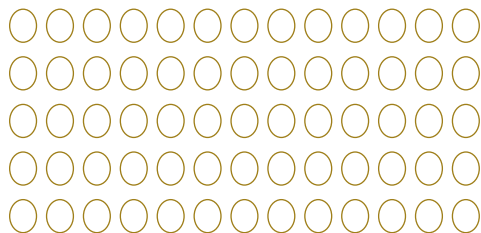
▲ Six Rwandan organizations offer training.  
Number of participants: 5,266 (50% women)



▲ NEPAL

Non-partisan civic debate in the Far West region attended by many women.

© Kiran Ambwani



HAITI ▶

The price of staples like rice doubled in Haiti in 2008.

© CECI

GUATEMALA

**SOLOLÁ DISTRICT**

This CIDA-funded rural economic development project named PROSOL has been underway since 2008. It is being carried out by a consortium made up of CECI and SOCODEVI, a Québec-based network of co-operatives and mutuels, and includes agriculture, craftwork, and tourism industry members from different municipalities. The goal is to increase family incomes by creating jobs based on development of local resources. “It is important to foster a mechanism that can support regional economic development,” says **Bernard Cloutier**, project officer for the Guatemala consortium. “The public sector must foster the creation of socially responsible and environmentally friendly businesses, since they are ultimately responsible for creating wealth locally.”

This project offers professional development opportunities to producers so that they can develop an entrepreneurial spirit and better target potential markets. In order to increase their profits and create more jobs, PROSOL is being carried out in a region that is 95% indigenous. The project offers support specific to women and youth, the latter making up 65% of the population.

HAITI

**OVER 350 SUBPROJECTS PRIORITIZED IN THREE YEARS**

Here is a convincing example of community development in Haiti. In this country, thanks to the World Bank-funded Participatory Community Development Project, CECI supports a women’s group (MOFAL), in one of 350 participatory development projects aiming to improve people’s quality of life and develop their entrepreneurial spirit. Here, a corn processing unit gives women a source of income. The members also receive the technical training necessary to take over and responsibly manage the projects.







MORE THAN ONE BILLION  
PEOPLE HUNGRY





CECI acts on food sovereignty issues through agriculture, promoting non-polluting systems that feed people and generates respectable income for growers.

BURKINA FASO

**SHEA BUTTER AND BISSAP**

In several West African countries, shea butter offers significant economic development potential, particularly for women’s social enterprises. Results for this sector over the last 12 years have been remarkable. An emphasis on product quality has allowed women producers to improve their position on domestic markets and expand their market shares in Europe and Canada. In addition, exports of shea butter to Canada doubled from 2008 to 2009.

There can be no doubt that the model of support provided to shea producers has been a stunning success, and so a similar approach is being taken to the marketing of *bissap* juice, an extract of the hibiscus flower. “*Bissap* is highly popular there, and is increasingly sought-after on North American markets,” says Uniterra project officer **Roch Harvey**.

◀ HAITI

Farmers’ challenge: to increase production capacity while using less water. > PAGE 13

© CECI

**A FIRST IN GUATEMALA**

Through its Uniterra program CECI supports agri-food production in the Americas, with an emphasis on diversification and the specific characteristics of each region. An innovative project underway in Guatemala consists of construction of the country’s first laboratory for production of commercial mushroom mycelium, an inexpensive method of producing a nutritious food. Obeying strict standards of quality and cost control, this initiative has led to the production of mushrooms by women’s groups in four municipalities of Huehuetenango. “Thanks to this laboratory, the demand for edible mushroom spawn has increased by 300%, and the women’s groups involved in this project are growing equally rapidly,” says **Marilena Bioli**, Latin America Regional Director.



The shea butter project, covering Niger, Guinea, Mali, and Burkina Faso, has reached more than 10,000 women.







### PRODUCTION AND FEED LOCALLY

CECI, SOCODEVI, and the international development arm of Québec's main agricultural union, the *Union des Producteurs Agricoles – Développement International* (UPA-DI), have renewed their partnership agreement, known as the *Alliance Agricole Internationale*, for another three years. Says **Pierre Lessard**, Director of CECI's Centre for Training, Study and Consultancy (CFÉC): "The Alliance promotes food sovereignty by emphasizing domestically grown food sources as a response to the food and economic crisis in Africa and the Caribbean." In this context, two CIDA-funded projects were begun this year: Haiti Food Security, designed to stimulate local rice production so that it is more competitive with imported rice, and Women and Food Security in Niger, in which women establish village granaries to provide a local solution to the hunger problem.

### HAITI

#### PROMOTE RICE

Three Canadian organizations (CECI, SOCODEVI, and TecSult) and one Haitian organization (PRODEVA) are jointly implementing an agricultural intensification project in the Artibonite region with funding from the Inter-American Development Bank granted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development. This rice-growing and horticultural project, which concluded in December 2007, was renewed on the strength of promising results in the pilot phase. The consortium offers growers technical assistance and support for production, processing, and marketing, the goal is being to increase the yield and quality of local rice and to make it more competitive on the Haitian market. The work of Phase II is being carried out in close co-operation with Haiti's Artibonite Valley Development Agency. "The second phase of the project, begun in April 2009, will largely focus on increasing production capacity, but will also cover user-driven organization of water management," says **Juan Gonzalez**, project officer for CECI.

#### A GREAT CONCERN

Water conservation is an ever-present concern in agriculture. CECI, in close co-operation with the Haitian Ministry of Agriculture and the Small Farmers' Association for the Development of Bas Artibonite, is implementing a project to rehabilitate the irrigation system for the Maury region in Haiti's Artibonite Valley and put it to use. This user-centered project aims to ensure the smooth running of the irrigation infrastructure and improve water distribution. In addition, this project is designed to help farmers maximize farm efficiency. For example, from December 2008 to March 2009, pea seeds were distributed to 63 planters' collectives. The farmers were able to store a portion of their production and sell it after the rainy season. More recently, 23 groups obtained credit as part of a similar campaign, this time for the purchase of corn seeds. During this time of food insecurity, initiatives like these offer year-round income and basic nutrition for everyone.

### TAJIKISTAN

#### AN ENVIRONMENTAL APPROACH

The Facilitating Agricultural Reform and Marketing in Sugd (FARMS) project is designed to improve the economic performance of cotton growers in Tajikistan. A new organic cotton growing initiative in this CIDA-funded project has just been launched in hopes of providing additional economic and environmental benefits. "Since organic production uses no chemicals, it reduces the cost of production and could create a market niche for the growers to increase their farmgate price. This would generate additional income for them," says **Dilip Chinnakonda**, Asia project officer. The project is also experimenting with a new water-saving technique for efficient irrigation.

VOLUNTEER.  
EDUCATE. ADVOCATE.





CECI's 50 years of accumulated expertise is based on North-South exchanges of skills and knowledge, guided by the needs of the populations we work with.

#### ◀ BURKINA FASO

After the first five years of Uniterra, more than 445,000 people (55% women) have better access to social and economic services.

© Jonathan Decoste

#### HAITI

##### A DYNAMIQUE EXPERTISE

Since November 2005, the volunteer co-operation program in support of governance has responded to the request of the Haitian government to help build the capacity of its public institutions and civil society organizations in the interests of the country's development. The program, which concluded in June 2009, mobilized Canadian volunteers with more than 20 years of combined experience in their respective fields. Despite the complexity of the Haitian context, the program attracted some 230 high-level Canadian volunteers and 40 equally qualified Haitian volunteers. They worked on training initiatives for 400 local Haitian organizations and institutions, and also on management and service capacity-building for 30 Haitian partner organizations and institutions that play a key role in education, local development, job creation, and women's rights promotion.

At the end-of-program review held in March 2009 in Port-au-Prince, the Haitian partners acknowledged the volunteers' contribution and the energizing effect of partnership with Canadian organizations. They requested the renewal and expansion of the program and testified to the considerable contribution of the Canadian volunteers. Beyond strictly measurable results, solidarity has clearly had a revitalizing effect on the Haitian organizations and institutions.

#### AFRICA

##### CINEMA AND SOLIDARITY

Shown at Vues d'Afrique's Festival PanAfrica International, *Africorama – Il était une fois dans l'Ouest africain* (Once Upon a Time in West Africa) relates the professional and human experience of three Uniterra volunteers working with partners in Senegal, Mali, and Burkina Faso. As their stay continues, the volunteers gradually improve their understanding of the challenges faced by countries of the global south. "In Mali, more than 60% of young people are unemployed. An option for them is to create their own jobs by developing their own businesses," says **Caroline Sangaré**, an Africorama participant and volunteer. This film, developed by Anémone Films and produced by Orbi XXI for broadcast on Canal D in the fall of 2009, was made possible by the support of Canal D, CIDA, and CECI.

▲ 270 mandates, 31 partners and 100% of results attained.

## SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY NETWORKS

In the ongoing context of economic, food, and environmental challenges, the social economy is more than ever an important tool for effective sustainable development. The Uniterra program builds bridges between North and South by supporting social and solidarity economy networks in host countries, relying on the expertise of volunteers. These self-directed, inclusive networks respond directly to the needs of communities and are more resilient in periods of economic instability.

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The Malian Social and Solidarity Economy Network (RENAPESS), created in collaboration with the Ministry of Solidarity and Senior Citizens, represents some fifty Malian social economy organizations and enterprises. It advocates for public policies that encourage the creation and development of social economy enterprises in Mali.

.....

The Economic Interest Group for Development of the Niger Crafts Industry (GIE-DANI) is a marketing and training organization representing thirteen crafts co-operatives. The group has a literacy and technical training project for craftspeople. This vocational training component is carried out in partnership with trainers from Quebec leatherwork and jewelry schools.

## UNITERRA 2

CIDA approval has been obtained for renewal of the Uniterra volunteer co-operation program over an additional five-year period. "For this next phase, Uniterra is adding a new entity whose role is to manage the knowledge that we have derived from our experiences in Africa, Asia, and the Americas." — **Sylvain Matte**, Uniterra Director

### Uniterra: source of inspiration

Uniterra is an innovative, time-tested volunteer co-operation model that is attracting interest from other international co-operation actors. In particular, the program is sharing its expertise with Austraining International (AI), an Australian crown corporation seeking to implement its own international development volunteer program. AI solicited CECI's support in moving from the basic placement of volunteers abroad to a full-scale volunteer-based development program. The Singapore International Foundation recently contacted the Uniterra team for similar support.

## BOLIVIA

### QUILTING AS A METAPHOR FOR VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

CECI recently received the Bill McWhinney Award of Excellence in International Development for "An *Aguayo* for a Risk-Free Birth," a project in Bolivia under the auspices of Uniterra. This project aims to improve the health of mothers and newborns. Bolivia has the second-highest rate of infant mortality in the hemisphere, after Haiti. CIDA's Bill McWhinney Award recognizes excellence in a volunteer project or program that helps a community in a developing country build sustainability and improve its future prospects. "When I came to this little Altiplano village with my husband and two children, I quickly realized that it was like a great big quilt: the municipality, the midwife, the doctors, everyone was there with their individual expertise, like wonderful pieces of a still-to-be-made quilt. All the skills were there to ensure that women can give birth in a safer environment," says project volunteer **Miriam Rouleau-Perez**. "I was the needle and thread that sewed all those pieces together! Today, the project is ongoing and is being replicated in other communities. It belongs to the communities."

**At the beginning of the *Aguayo* project, 9% of births were accompanied by a health professional; nine months later, this figure was 45%.**





## GUATEMALA

### CREATION OF CO-OPS

Uniterra has done similar work in the Americas, supporting the creation of the Inter-institutional Commission for Fair Trade and the Solidarity Economy of the Guatemalan Ministry of the Economy. In conjunction with the Guatemalan Exporters' Association (AGEXPORT), the commission has helped to open new markets, allowing the Nueva Alianza co-operative to export macadamia nuts and the Chirrepec co-operative to export fair trade certified tea. "This certification is a guarantee of quality and adherence to fair trade standards. It means the co-operatives can sell their products at higher prices on international markets," explains **Marilena Bioli**, CECI Director for Latin America.

### DEVELOPING SOLIDARITY ENTERPRISES

"The entrepreneurial spirit is there! There is extraordinary enthusiasm, and it's just a matter of supporting the development of solidarity enterprises. Canadian businesspeople are ideally placed to become involved in West Africa, and to benefit from it too." – **Jean Gattuso**, CEO of Lassonde Inc., on returning from Mali in March 2009 after participating in Leave for Change. Gattuso met with women entrepreneurs producing shea butter and returned enthusiastic, with a new vision of Africa.

Leave for Change, a joint program of CECI and World University Service of Canada (WUSC), enables employees from partner companies and organizations to transform a part of their annual vacation into a two-to-four-week volunteer assignment in a developing country, contributing their knowledge and skills to an international development project in Asia, Africa or the Americas.

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Watch the testimonials of volunteers and partners on video

▶▶ [www.uniterra.ca](http://www.uniterra.ca)

#### ◀ GUATEMALA

Volunteer work to support the conservation of Maya cultural heritage and local resources.

© Carine Guidicelli



211 MILLION VICTIMS  
OF NATURAL DISASTERS







CECI is known and called upon as an organization that assists victims in fragile or disaster-affected areas, responding to basic needs, rebuilding with local communities, and preparing for a safer future.

◀ BURMA

CECI's expertise goes far beyond the areas of our offices; following the cyclone, some of our nepalese experts were sent to the disaster area.

© Marcel Mueller, DirXions

BURMA (MYANMAR)

**OVER 80,000 PEOPLE ASSISTED**

On May 3, 2008, cyclone Nargis devastated Burma, killing 138,000 people. In a difficult political environment, CECI responded immediately by distributing 5,000 survival kits to cyclone victims with Malteser International, a well-established NGO in Burma.

In the second phase, we responded with the French Agency for Technical Co-operation and Development (ACTED), providing humanitarian assistance to more than 80,000 people in the Ayeyarwadi Delta. Jointly, the organizations oversaw the desalinization of drinking water, rebuilt homes, and distributed basic necessities such as seeds and farm animals.

Following natural disasters of such a scale, economic recovery is one of the many challenges facing families. "It was critical to distribute nets to disaster victims for whom fishing is the main source of revenue," says Project Officer **Dilip Chinnakonda**.

On the strength of donations from the public, foundations, and religious communities, CECI raised over \$600,000, which led to additional funding from CIDA to implement this project.



A cyclone kills 138,000 people in Burma. Thousands are caught in four hurricanes in Haiti. Nine murders a day in El Salvador... Sadly, we all have work to do...

VIETNAM

**COASTLINE, MOUNTAINS... AND NATURAL DISASTERS**

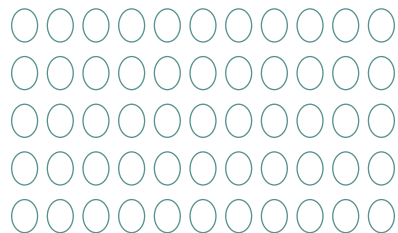
In the last ten years, Vietnam has suffered several major disasters, most recently cyclone Lekima in October 2007 and typhoon Kammuri in August 2008. The country's vulnerability to weather-related disasters continues to be of the greatest concern. Listen to two podcast reports on how CECI and its local partners, with support from the European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO) and USAID, prepare for and respond to natural disasters.

▶▶ [www.publication.ceci.ca](http://www.publication.ceci.ca)

EL SALVADOR ▶

"Here, there is no violence"

© Jean-François Lemire, Shoot studio, (RTI-CECI)



HAITI

**FROM HURRICANE VICTIMS TO PARTICIPANTS IN RECONSTRUCTION**

The hurricanes that struck Haiti one after the other in August and September 2008 ravaged the landscape. CECI, known for its capacity to respond in critical situations, immediately implemented a project called Haiti Emergency. With \$713,000 raised from the public and from religious communities, plus contributions from CIDA, Ville de Montréal, and the ministère des Relations internationales du Québec, this initiative succeeded in reaching 20,800 people in six of the hardest-hit communities. For example, in the Trou Sable neighbourhood in Gonaïves, response teams carried out a highly-successful humanitarian operation, and distributed hygiene kits to families affected by the disaster. CECI, in partnership with the local organization Hands Together (*Mains Unies*), and in concert with several dozen neighbourhood youths and affected families, often worked day and night to clean up homes and roads. Moreover, the agricultural revitalization project for the plain of Gonaïves, financed by a local CIDA fund, allowed the rebuilding of the irrigation infrastructure needed to produce rice in this region, already struck by a food crisis. In the course of carrying out these emergency response projects, CECI acted in close collaboration with the Office of Civil Protection of Haiti and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

EL SALVADOR

**PREVENTING YOUTH VIOLENCE**

**There was an average of nine murders per day in El Salvador in 2008 – 3,179 in total.**

El Salvador suffers from one of the highest homicide rates in the world. The annual cost of the violence amounts to twice the national budget for education and health. The El Salvador Community Violence Prevention project, implemented by CECI with RTI International, with support from USAID aims to improve security in El Salvador by investing in development and youth. While street gangs commit a large number of the crimes, youth are the main victims. The project seeks to provide alternatives to the violence by offering activities, such as sports, education, vocational training, job search skills, and entrepreneurship. The project's work in the community of Altavista has led to a decrease in violence: "We see a reduction in crime as well as a feeling of increased security among the population," explains **Alan Quinn**, CECI's Sub-director for the project.

This project works in partnership with five Salvadoran municipalities in collaboration with the mayors and residents, as well as several government institutions and civil society organizations. Close to 200,000 people benefit from new prevention activities led by a dozen organizations working in some twenty at-risk communities.



AQUI  
NO CABE  
LA VIOLENCIA



WOMEN: THE HARDEST-HIT  
VICTIMS OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS





CECI strives for inclusive, equitable, sustainable development with a view to transforming unequal gender relations and supporting women's rights. CECI rejects the status quo.

◀ HAITI  
PALIH2 in support of  
STI/HIV-AIDS campaigns in  
Haiti draws heavily upon  
women's participation.  
© Steeve Duguay

MALI  
**CHANGING POLICIES**

Through its Gender Equality Project (PROJES), CECI works with Mali's Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Children and the Family to develop a national gender equality policy. Currently in the consultation stage in eight regions where the opinions of the public and Malian civil society are being gathered, this policy is expected to be adopted soon. The policy would cover issues such as violence against women, education, parity in politics, and women's contribution to economic development.

PROJES provides support for gender equality initiatives to two other ministries and two civil society organizations through institutional support and training. "We also work with the Ministry of Justice on a project to support the adoption of the Family Code, which will enable its dissemination throughout the country and in several languages. Most importantly, we hope to have it adopted by the National Assembly," explains **Louise Camiré**, project officer. Finally, the project contributes to reducing the incidence of female circumcision by carrying out several awareness-raising activities for communities with the aim of ending this practice.

SOUTH AFRICA  
**WOMEN'S RIGHT**

Uniterra's gender equality approach places an emphasis on networking among women's organizations as well as dialogue between government and civil society so that women's demands are brought to the political level. In November 2008, Uniterra supported the participation of some fifteen women's organizations from the Americas, Asia, and Africa in the 11<sup>th</sup> International Forum of the Association of Women's Rights in Development (AWID) in South Africa. The goal is to increase their understanding of women's issues around the world and allow them to build ties with feminist networks and other women's organizations. In parallel with the forum, a professional seminar on women's rights and networking was held with a view to creating linkages among the countries where Uniterra works and agreeing upon joint actions and strategies for the next five years. The theme of violence against women is a common concern for women on all continents.





## BOLIVIA

**ACCESS TO WATER: A WOMEN'S ISSUE**

Women are particularly affected by lack of access to water because of their role in the daily management of the resource. Women for Equity and Equality (AMUPEI), a network of Bolivian women's organizations, promotes women's rights and better access for women to services, including water services. AMUPEI helps to enhance the role of women in society and is working on the development of a public policy for the equitable and participatory management of water resources.

"It started out as *Eau Secours!*, a Quebec partner of Uniterra, giving AMUPEI new tools, such as a simple method of measuring water toxicity, but then it turned into a reciprocal relationship," says Uniterra program officer **Diane Bachand**. From January 2008 to March 2009, Uniterra facilitated interaction that led to joint action between the two partners.

Eighty percent of diseases in developing countries are water-related; and they cause 1.7 million deaths every year.

## ◀ VIETNAM

Here as elsewhere, despite progress achieved, the status of rural and/or unmarried women remains a constant concern.

© Patrick Alley

## EQUALITY

**STRATEGIC OUTCOMES**

CECI is well known for its expertise in the area of gender equality. Its team of specialists offers gender-based research and analysis of development policies and strategies as well as sector-specific issues. At CECI's Centre for Training, Study and Consultancy, gender equality specialists offer training to the teams implementing our projects and to external organizations. This year our specialists, in consortium with the Foundation for International Training, took part in a third mission, this one focusing on capacity building for the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa as part of the CIDA-funded Gender Equality and African Regional Institutions project. Our specialists also consulted on gender equality strategies for the Rural Economic Development Project in Sololá, Guatemala, and on a project to combat STIS/HIV/AIDS in Haiti (PALIH2). The name of the game is empowerment: this is as essential to the processes as it is to the results of development, and is a precondition for the political, social economic, cultural and environmental advancement of all peoples.

**HEALTHY WOMEN AND GIRLS**

PALIH2 is a project to combat STIS/HIV/AIDS in the Artibonite region of Haiti implemented by the *Centre de Coopération Internationale en Santé et Développement* (CCISD) and CECI. Due to the impact of unequal gender relations on health, the project has integrated gender equality considerations into all its components and strategies. **Hélène Lagacé** gender specialist explains: "Among the most salient socio-cultural factors leading to the transmission of sexually transmitted infections are multiple partners, forced sexual relations causing injury, and the difficulty women experience in negotiating protected sex." To counter these problems, PALIH2 offers training in equality between women and men that aims to improve understanding of the issues and the actions needed to influence behaviour. It also raises awareness in the community of the issues surrounding violence against women.

**In Artibonite, over 350,000 people benefited from the project's services.**

— PREVALENCE RATE IN 2001: 5%. IN 2008: 2.2%.

SOLIDARITY:  
PEOPLE HELPING EACH OTHER





After 50 years, CECI remains true to its spirit of professionalism, dynamism, and constancy as we work towards greater solidarity worldwide.

#### ◀ CANADA

Four craftspeople from Niger set up a Tuareg room at the 50th anniversary celebrations for CECI in Montreal. Internship and media appearances were also on the program during their one-month stay.  
© Christian Tessier

#### CECI IS GETTING GREENER

CECI is known for its development work in the poorest countries of the world, but its staff also performs volunteer work in line with the organization's mission. The ethics and environment committee, created in 2007 at the initiative of a dynamic group of volunteers, is working to improve the environmental footprint of the staff by inducing behavioural/lifestyle changes designed to reduce the use of resources in preparation for the adoption of an organization-wide sustainable development policy.

#### CELEBRATING GREEN

The organization of festivities around CECI's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary is a good example. Highly successful receptions held in Montreal, Ottawa and Quebec placed a special emphasis on the "three Rs" (reduce, recycle, reuse) as they apply to our organization. Partners, religious communities, volunteers, staff, Corporation members, Friends of CECI, and individuals with past connections to our organization came together to celebrate fifty years of responsible engagement. The celebrations paid homage to all those who have contributed to CECI's history as well as to the tens of thousands of people everywhere who have mobilized to create a more just and sustainable world. Over 1,000 people participated in the activities, including thirty organizations from the global

south and north. "The diverse backgrounds of the people in attendance shows what a wide-ranging and complementary set of partnerships we have developed," said **Michel Chaurette**, outgoing executive director.

Among the public figures attending the October 4 event in Montreal, which was hosted by CECI spokesperson Luck Mervil, were popular speaker and environmentalist Steven Guilbeault; Her Excellency Sina Maiga Damba, Minister of the Promotion of Women, Children, and the Family of Mali and honorary president of the event; the ambassadors of several countries, including Niger, Mali, and Bolivia, and the Consul General of Haiti, Pierre-Richard Casimir, who presented the humanitarian aid prize. CECI's Board of Directors paid homage to eighteen people and organizations who distinguished themselves in six of CECI's fields of excellence.

**Find out who the candidates and honourees were ▶▶▶**  
[www.publication.ceci.ca](http://www.publication.ceci.ca)

Such celebratory events and our responses to other, more tragic ones around the world, such as hunger riots and humanitarian disasters, have resulted in a substantially heightened media profile for CECI; indeed, this year has been one of unprecedented coverage. In stories and interviews, CECI has been given an opportunity to explain its mission to fight poverty and exclusion, and to highlight the contributions of the 10,000 volunteers and staff members who have built CECI over the last five decades.

## MULTIPLY THE GENEROSITY

With a total of \$1,632,000 in donations, CECI was able to fund over \$16,500,000 in on-the-ground anti-poverty work, since every dollar of individual donations is multiplied by a factor of ten through matching funds from institutional donors such as CIDA. We thank the religious communities, who are ever-loyal supporters of CECI's mission on behalf of local communities in Asia, Africa, and the Americas. Devoted to the cause, CECI staff have also, once again, demonstrated their creativity, generosity and enthusiasm by raising \$14,000.

## VOLUNTEER SPOKESPEOPLE

Uniterra's volunteers and partners are often invited to participate in important public events linked to wider campaigns, such as International Women's Day, Fair Trade Weeks, *Journées Québécoises de la Solidarité Internationale* (Quebec International Co-operation Days), and International Volunteer Day. Everyone can draw on their own experience and act as a spokesperson for the sector in which they work and for international co-operation in general. They frequently grant interviews to the media, give talks, and share their well-founded opinions by participating in online forums.

## REGÉNÉRATION 2008: A MODEL FOR ENGAGEMENT

From August 10 to 21, Quebec City hosted *ReGénération 2008*, bringing together 500 young people from 110 countries to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> World Youth Congress. On August 12, Uniterra proudly supported the World Youth Walk, in which 1,000 people, young and old, celebrated UN International Youth Day. Luck Mervil, humanist artist and Uniterra spokesperson for the event, gave the send off to the walk. This first activity emerging from the partnership between Uniterra and the *Chantier de l'économie sociale* gave 18 young volunteers from all over the world an opportunity to give lectures and chair workshops.

## DEVELOPING OUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE

The mission of CFÉC, CECI's training and research arm, is to develop the organization's public profile around the core components of knowledge and expertise. CFÉC is working in four main areas, the most visible being training, which is implemented through the *Université de Montréal's* certificate program in international co-operation, and through the popular training series called Introduction to International Co-operation. The three other areas of work are a) the systematization of our intervention approaches, b) the consistency of our organizational profile around the world, and c) the optimization of the use of our development results.

## INFLUENCE TO IMPROVE

CECI is often solicited to express a public position on the food crisis, the role of civil society, and on the social economy. The executive director has frequently been invited to speak on various platforms, such as the *Rendez-vous de la Coopération Canadienne et Québécoise dans la Francophonie*, CIDA's International Development Days, and the UN's Conference in Brussels on the World Financial and Economic Crises and Its Impact on Development.

## HAND IN HAND WITH RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

The 49<sup>th</sup> International Eucharistic Congress 2008 was held in Quebec City in 2008. Founded by the Jesuits, CECI has a long history of collaboration and interaction with religious communities and organizations. CECI took advantage of this event to highlight its work with religious communities and to raise awareness with participants of varied backgrounds and nationalities about development issues and opportunities for international solidarity through CECI.

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## THANKS TO THE SPONSORS OF OUR 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**Aéroports de Montréal, Rio Tinto Alcan,  
Caisse d'économie solidaire Desjardins,  
Air Canada – Horizons enfance, Paradoxe**





# 1.2 BILLION PEOPLE LIVE ON JUST ONE DOLLAR A DAY

Don't pass the buck: pass around this annual report. Leave it on a bench, in a library, in the metro, in a meeting room, at the office. Anywhere, as long as it gets seen and read by as many people as possible. Sure, CECI has had another very productive year, but that doesn't mean poverty has stopped taking its terrible toll around the world. We want to warmly thank everyone who supported us this year. Crisis or no crisis, solidarity is just the thing we need to stay strong. Help us in 2009–2010.

## SIGN THIS ANNUAL REPORT AND PASS IT AROUND.

[www.publication.ceci.ca](http://www.publication.ceci.ca) 1 877 875-2324

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF  
CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND COOPERATION  
MARCH 31, 2009

Auditors' report  
To the Members of the Board  
of the Centre for International Studies and Cooperation

We have audited the balance sheet of the Centre for International Studies and Cooperation as at March 31, 2009 and the statements of revenue and expenses, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Centre's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Centre as at March 31, 2009 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

*Samson Bélaire / Deloitte & Touche s.e.n.c.r.l.*

SAMSON BÉLAIR/DELOITTE & TOUCHE S.E.N.C.R.L.<sup>1</sup>  
JUNE 12, 2009

1. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT AUDITOR PERMIT N° 13852



## Statement of revenue and expenses

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
		(restated, Note 2)
<b>Revenue</b>		
CIDA - Partnership	7,299,445	7,358,904
CIDA - Bilateral and other	10,010,052	8,273,116
Other funding organizations	12,465,141	10,448,607
Donations	1,631,957	911,597
Contributed services (Note 11)	4,574,278	3,871,210
Other revenue	521,557	476,222
	<b>36,502,430</b>	<b>31,339,656</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Offices and departments	6,695,014	6,402,642
Programs	24,694,948	20,445,274
Contributed services (Note 11)	4,574,278	3,871,210
Interest on long-term debt	169,765	180,651
Amortization of capital assets	287,040	315,723
	<b>36,421,045</b>	<b>31,215,500</b>
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>81,385</b>	<b>124,156</b>

## Statement of changes in net assets

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

	Invested in capital assets	Restricted for endowment purposes	Unrestricted	TOTAL 2009	TOTAL 2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		(Note 10)			(restated, Note 2)
<b>Balance, beginning of year, as previously reported</b>	1,591,867	8,385	897,666	2,497,918	2,376,705
Changes in accounting policies (Note 2 i)	(50,344)	-	-	(50,344)	(53,287)
<b>Restated balance, beginning of year</b>	1,541,523	8,385	897,666	2,447,574	2,323,418
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(280,293)*	-	361,678	81,385	124,156
Write-off of capital assets	(298,438)	-	298,438	-	-
Investment in capital assets	222,883	-	(222,883)	-	-
Reimbursement of long-term debt	152,443	-	(152,443)	-	-
Disposal of capital assets	(1,651)	-	1,651	-	-
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>1,336,467</b>	<b>8,385</b>	<b>1,184,107</b>	<b>2,528,959</b>	<b>2,447,574</b>

\* Including amortization of capital assets of \$287,040, amortization of deferred contributions related to the capital assets of \$6,130 and a gain on disposal of capital assets of \$617.

## Balance sheet

AS AT MARCH 31, 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
		(restated, Note 2)
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash	5,155,394	4,272,161
Term deposit, 0.25%, maturing in April 2009	94,853	77,241
Accounts receivable (net of deferred contributions of \$1,883; \$161,191 in 2008)	612,405	911,290
Advances to partners	1,477,615	1,943,479
Prepaid expenses	225,714	413,988
	7,565,981	7,618,159
<b>Capital assets - tangible and intangible (Note 5)</b>	3,974,991	4,338,620
	11,540,972	11,956,779
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,111,766	1,760,838
Amount due - Pension plan (Note 8)	220,979	86,812
Deferred contributions (net of accounts receivable of \$888,498; \$853,649 in 2008)	4,040,744	4,864,458
Current portion of long-term debt (Note 7)	159,195	152,355
	6,532,684	6,864,463
<b>Deferred contributions related to capital assets (Note 9)</b>	111,099	117,229
<b>Long-term debt (Note 7)</b>	2,368,230	2,527,513
<b>Net assets</b>		
Invested in capital assets	1,336,467	1,541,523
Restricted for endowment purposes (Note 10)	8,385	8,385
Unrestricted	1,184,107	897,666
	2,528,959	2,447,574
	11,540,972	11,956,779

## Statement of cash flows

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
		(restated, Note 2)
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Excess of revenue over expenses	81,385	124,156
Adjustments for:		
(Gain) loss on disposal of capital assets	(617)	158
Amortization of capital assets	287,040	315,723
Amortization of deferred contributions	(6,130)	(6,130)
Write-off of capital assets	298,438	-
	660,116	433,907
<b>Changes in non-cash operating working capital items (Note 12)</b>	614,404	(678,430)
	1,274,520	(244,523)
<b>Financing activities</b>		
Reimbursement of long-term debt	(152,443)	(145,727)
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Disposal of capital assets	1,651	324
Acquisition of capital assets	(222,883)	(197,843)
Acquisition of term deposit	(17,612)	(77,241)
	(238,844)	(274,760)
<b>Increase (decrease) in cash</b>	883,233	(665,010)
Cash, beginning of year	4,272,161	4,937,171
<b>Cash, end of year</b>	5,155,394	4,272,161
<b>Supplementary information</b>		
Interest paid	156,754	165,533



## 1. DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Centre for International Studies and Cooperation is incorporated under Part III of the *Companies Act* (Quebec).

The Centre takes part in activities to promote economic, social and cultural development in Third World countries. It does so through training, by sending volunteers and technical assistants to these areas and by undertaking projects, conducting research and publishing specialized works.

## 2. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### i) Change in amortization method of computer equipment

During the year, the Centre decided to use the straight-line method instead of the declining balance method to depreciate computer equipment. This change in method was adopted because straight-line depreciation more closely reflects the actual depreciation rate. The straight-line depreciation method was applied retroactively to computer equipment from previous years. The impact of this change on the 2009 financial statements was a \$2,185 increase in excess of revenue over expenses and a \$50,344 decrease in the opening balance of net assets. The 2008 results presented for comparative purposes were retroactively adjusted to reflect the impact of the change, resulting in a \$2,943 increase in excess of revenue over expenses and a \$53,287 decrease in the opening balance of net assets.

### ii) Capital disclosures

The Centre adopted the recommendations of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants ("CICA") Handbook Section 1535, Capital disclosures. This Section requires the disclosure of information about externally-imposed and internally-imposed capital requirements. The adoption of this Section had no impact on the financial statements of the Centre.

### iii) Future accounting changes

In November 2008, the CICA issued amendments to Section 4400, Financial statement presentation by not-for-profit organizations. This Section has been amended in order to eliminate the requirement to treat net assets invested in capital assets as a separate component of net assets and, instead, permit a not-for-profit organization to present such an amount as a category of internally-restricted net assets if it chooses to do so. It also clarifies that revenue and expenses must be recognized and presented on a gross basis when a not-for-profit organization is acting as a principal in transactions. The new standards will be applicable to interim and annual financial statements relating to fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2009. Accordingly, the Centre will adopt the new standards as of April 1, 2009.

The Centre is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of these new standards on its financial statements.

## 3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Centre elected to use the exemption granted by the CICA to permit not-for-profit organizations not to apply Section 3862 of the *CICA Handbook* requiring entities to provide disclosures about the significance of financial instruments for the entity, their nature, the extent of their risks and how the entity manages those risks, or Section 3863 of the *CICA Handbook*, which contains the same requirements on the disclosure of financial instruments as Section 3861. These sections were otherwise applied to the Centre's financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2009. The Centre is continuing to meet the requirements of Section 3861 of the *CICA Handbook*.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") and reflect the following significant accounting policies:

### Revenue recognition

The Centre follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Endowment contributions are recognized as direct increases in net assets.

**3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES  
(CONTINUED)**

**Foreign transaction recognition**

The Centre accounts for expenses using the following accounting practices:

- i) Capital expenditures incurred for overseas activities are charged as operating expenses, with the exception of the capital expenditures of regional offices, which are capitalized.
- ii) Gains or losses due to changes in exchange rates are charged to the programs to which they are related.

**Financial instruments**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are initially recognized at fair value and their subsequent measurement is dependent on their classification as described below. Their classification depends on the purpose for which the financial instruments were acquired or issued, their characteristics and the Centre's designation of such instruments. Settlement date accounting is used.

**Classification**

Cash	Held for trading
Term deposit	Held for trading
Accounts receivable and advances to partners	Loans and receivables
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	Other liabilities
Amount due - Pension plan	Other liabilities
Long-term debt	Other liabilities

**Held for trading**

Held-for-trading financial assets are financial assets typically acquired for resale prior to maturity or that are designated as held for trading. They are measured at fair value at the balance sheet date. Fair value fluctuations including interest earned, interest accrued, gains and losses realized on disposal and unrealized gains and losses are included in other revenue.

**Loans and receivables**

Loans and receivables are accounted for at amortized cost using the effective interest method.

**Other liabilities**

Other liabilities are recorded at amortized cost using the effective interest method and include all financial liabilities, other than derivative instruments.

**Transaction costs**

Transaction costs related to held-for-trading financial assets are expensed as incurred. Transaction costs related to other liabilities and loans and receivables are added to the carrying value of the asset or netted against the carrying value of the liability and are then recognized over the expected life of the instrument using the effective interest method.

**Effective interest method**

The Centre uses the effective interest method to recognize interest income or expense which includes transaction costs or fees, premiums or discounts earned or incurred for financial instruments.



**3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES  
(CONTINUED)**

**Capital assets - tangible and intangible**

Capital assets are recorded at cost and amortized using the following methods and rates:

<b>Buildings</b>	STRAIGHT-LINE	4%
<b>Furniture and equipment</b>	DECLINING BALANCE	20%
<b>Computer equipment</b>	STRAIGHT-LINE	25%
<b>Automotive equipment</b>	DECLINING BALANCE	30%
<b>Software</b>	STRAIGHT-LINE	25%
<b>Leasehold improvements</b>	STRAIGHT-LINE	Lease term

**Foreign currency translation**

Monetary assets and liabilities are translated into Canadian dollars at the exchange rates in effect at year-end, whereas non-monetary assets and liabilities are translated at historical rates. The market values are translated into Canadian dollars at the exchange rates in effect at year-end. Revenue and expenses are translated at average rates prevailing during the year. Resulting gains and losses are reflected in the statement of revenue and expenses.

**Investment in joint ventures**

The Centre has elected to record its investments in joint ventures using the equity method.

**Use of estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian GAAP requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

**4. INTEREST IN JOINT VENTURES**

The Centre participated in international mutual aid projects by forming joint ventures. These consortium projects generated revenue and expenses of approximately \$15,258,000 in 2009. The percentage of the Centre's interest in management revenue typically ranges from 30% to 60%.

As at March 31, 2009, the Centre's financial statements included the following amounts attributable to joint ventures:

	\$
<b>Assets</b>	3,529,923
<b>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities</b>	902,201
<b>Deferred contributions</b>	2,807,686

Notes to the financial statements YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

5. CAPITAL ASSETS - TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE

	2009			2008
	Evaluation cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value	Net book value
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Tangible assets</b>				
Land	869,445	-	869,445	869,445
Buildings	3,337,228	669,672	2,667,556	2,794,474
Furniture and equipment	1,027,206	931,383	95,823	93,734
Computer equipment	607,336	531,992	75,344	70,395
Library	-	-	-	325,567
Audio-visual equipment	-	-	-	565
Automotive equipment	482,944	315,134	167,810	164,588
Leasehold improvements	65,340	1,867	63,473	-
	6,389,499	2,450,048	3,939,451	4,318,768
<b>Intangible assets</b>				
Software	183,825	148,285	35,540	19,852
	6,573,324	2,598,333	3,974,991	4,338,620

The fair value of the two buildings, determined using the income approach, as at January 7, 2005, is approximately \$6,000,000. Using the comparable transaction analysis, the fair value is essentially the same.

During the year, the Centre revised the useful life of library books. This revision increased the offices and departments expense for the year by \$298,438.

As the book collection is obsolete and has no market value other than perhaps heritage value, the library has been closed to the public since 2001 and the Centre does not anticipate future benefits from this asset, the library was consequently written off the Centre's assets.

## Notes to the financial statements YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

### 6. BANK LOAN

The Centre has an operating line of credit of an authorized amount of \$2,400,000, bearing interest at the prime rate, secured by a movable hypothec on the universality of accounts receivable and is repayable on demand. The balance as at March 31, 2009 is nil.

### 7. LONG-TERM DEBT

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Loan secured by a first-rank hypothec on a building, for a maximum authorized amount of \$1,121,250, payable in monthly instalments of \$3,738 plus interest calculated at 6.65%, renewable on January 15, 2012, maturing on January 15, 2017	799,825	844,675
Loan secured by a second-rank hypothec on a building, payable in monthly instalments of \$4,050 plus interest calculated at 6.7%, renewable on February 15, 2010, maturing on February 15, 2017	297,748	325,389
Loan secured by a first-rank hypothec on a building, payable in monthly instalments of \$12,248 plus interest calculated at 6.5%, renewable on September 29, 2019, maturing on December 29, 2021	1,233,166	1,297,719
Loan secured by a first-rank hypothec on a building, payable in monthly instalments of \$1,821 plus interest calculated at 6.5%, renewable on August 24, 2010, maturing on March 24, 2022	190,436	199,585
Loan payable in annual instalments of \$6,250 plus interest, maturing on December 15, 2009, bearing interest at 5% in 2009 and 4% in 2008	6,250	12,500
	2,527,425	2,679,868
Current portion	159,195	152,355
	2,368,230	2,527,513



## Notes to the financial statements YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

### 7. LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)

Estimated principal payments required in each of the next five years are as follows:

	\$
2010	159,195
2011	160,247
2012	167,815
2013	176,367
2014	185,262

### 8. AMOUNT DUE - PENSION PLAN

The amount due – Pension plan is made up of amounts accumulated in a pension plan for CECI employees in Haiti. The Centre contributes to this defined contribution pension plan by matching employee contributions. Contributions paid and expense for the year totalled \$55,579 (\$43,406 in 2008). This amount is reported in the statement of revenue and expense.

### 9. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS RELATED TO CAPITAL ASSETS

Deferred contributions related to capital assets represent contributions received to acquire capital assets. They are amortized using the same methods and rates as the related capital assets. Changes for the year are as follows:

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Balance, beginning of year	117,229	123,359
Amortization for the year	6,130	6,130
Balance, end of year	111,099	117,229

### 10. NET ASSETS RESTRICTED FOR ENDOWMENT PURPOSES

Net assets restricted for endowment purposes are as follows:

- a) An amount of \$4,305 is subject to external restrictions requiring that any resources be maintained permanently in the Fonds Pelletier. The related investment income is used to finance projects aimed at education and training for women and girls.
- b) An amount of \$4,080 is subject to external restrictions requiring that any resources be maintained permanently in the Fonds Jean Bouchard. The related investment income is used to finance projects aimed at basic human needs.

### 11. CONTRIBUTED SERVICES

Contributed services represent the value of contributions made by participants to volunteer co-operation programs. This value was revised following a CECI study conducted in 2006. The study takes into account the changes in the volunteer co-operation programs and volunteer work conducted in Canada and is based on recent data from Statistics Canada.

The contributions in the form of services rendered by the Board of Directors have not been reflected in this data.

### 12. CHANGES IN NON-CASH OPERATING WORKING CAPITAL ITEMS

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Accounts receivable	298,885	(107,242)
Advances to partners	465,864	(935,741)
Prepaid expenses	188,274	(101,481)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	350,928	340,120
Amount due - Pension plan	134,167	86,812
Deferred contributions	(823,714)	39,102
	614,404	(678,430)

## Notes to the financial statements YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

### 13. COMMITMENTS

The Centre is committed under renewable, non-cancellable leases for equipment that expire through December 2015. The total amount payable of \$150,188 is detailed as follows:

	\$
2010	18,490
2011	25,150
2012	24,955
2013	23,980
2014 and after	57,613

### 14. CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS

The Centre is subject to litigation in the normal course of business. Management believes that this litigation will have no significant adverse impact on the Centre's financial position. Therefore, no provision has been made in the financial statements.

The Centre has signed partnership agreements with other organizations for the purpose of carrying out projects. Under these agreements, the Centre is jointly and severally liable with the other organizations to lenders. As at March 31, 2009, the signed agreements totaled approximately \$96,700,000 and expire through March 2015. Management is nonetheless of the opinion that there is no significant risk, as all partnerships for projects are subject to a contract between the organizations, and these contracts clearly specify the respective financial liabilities of the partners.

### 15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

#### Currency risk

The Centre carries out transactions in foreign currencies and is, therefore, exposed to foreign exchange fluctuations. The Centre does not actively manage this risk, as most of the exchange gains and losses are included in program costs.

The balance sheet includes the following amounts expressed in Canadian dollars with respect to financial assets and liabilities for which cash flows are denominated in the following currencies:

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
<b>US Dollars:</b>		
Cash	2,616,166	2,091,399
Accounts receivable	185,649	175,257
Advances to partners	535,613	588,274
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	87,277	37,963
Deferred contributions	1,328,149	2,155,607
Amount due - Pension plan	220,979	86,812
<b>CFA Franc:</b>		
Cash	448,164	813,918
Accounts receivable	16,548	-
Advances to partners	156,883	-
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	182,000	13,195
Deferred contributions	240,574	72,152
<b>Haitian Gourde:</b>		
Cash	532,702	188,337
Accounts receivable	107,457	17,551
Advances to partners	168,616	843,102
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	31,917	-
<b>Other currencies:</b>		
Cash	748,048	523,772
Accounts receivable	13,778	25,473
Advances to partners	220,100	512,103
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	4,957	17,150
Deferred contributions	280,309	106,276

**15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**Fair value**

The fair value of accounts receivable, advances to partners and accounts payable and accrued liabilities is approximately equal to their carrying values due to their short-term maturities.

The fair value of long-term debt is determined using the present value of future cash flows under current financing agreements, based on the Centre's current estimated borrowing rate for loans with similar terms and conditions. The fair value of long-term debt is approximately equal to its carrying value.

**16. COMPARATIVE FIGURES**

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

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# CECI

# \$1,632,000 IN DONATIONS THANK YOU!

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CECI's corporation is composed of no more than 100 people from different sectors, each of which is represented on the Board.

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