



Agence canadienne de
développement international

Canadian International
Development Agency

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NOV 26 2009

Ms. Helen Darbishire
Executive Director
Access Info Europe
c/Principe de Anglona 5
28005
Madrid, Spain

Dear Ms. Darbishire,

Thank you for your letter of October 20, 2009, addressed to Minister Oda. The survey conducted by Access Info Europe of selected aid agencies is very insightful, particularly in connection to CIDA's website.

I am pleased to inform you that we are currently undertaking a major revision of our website, and this exercise will undoubtedly remedy some of the specific points you have raised. CIDA's renewed website will not only provide accurate and informative content about Canada's role in international development, but will also build understanding and to encourage action in support of development assistance, particularly among Canadians.

The website's content will be enhanced in terms of both its quality and its scope and will be more dynamic with the addition of audio and video files. In this way we will more accurately share the nature of our work and the results of our investments with the Canadian public.

As part of our goal to be transparent and to provide relevant information about our policies and programming to Canadians, CIDA is progressively publishing all of its operational projects in the Project Browser. Currently the Project Browser displays details on more than 2,400 projects but does not yet contain all projects for all CIDA programs.

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These efforts, as mentioned, are all part of a wider effort to align ourselves with current technologies and audience demands, to assist with the successful delivery of a new and effective CIDA website.

I appreciate your input concerning the CIDA website and wish to assure you that we will take your comments under consideration as we progress in our revision exercise.

Thank you for your interest in this important matter.

J. Robichaud
for. Tracy Thiessen
A/Director General
Communications Branch