

# International Development Research Centre

*Science for humanity*

## NICE Knowledge Exchange

6 June 2008





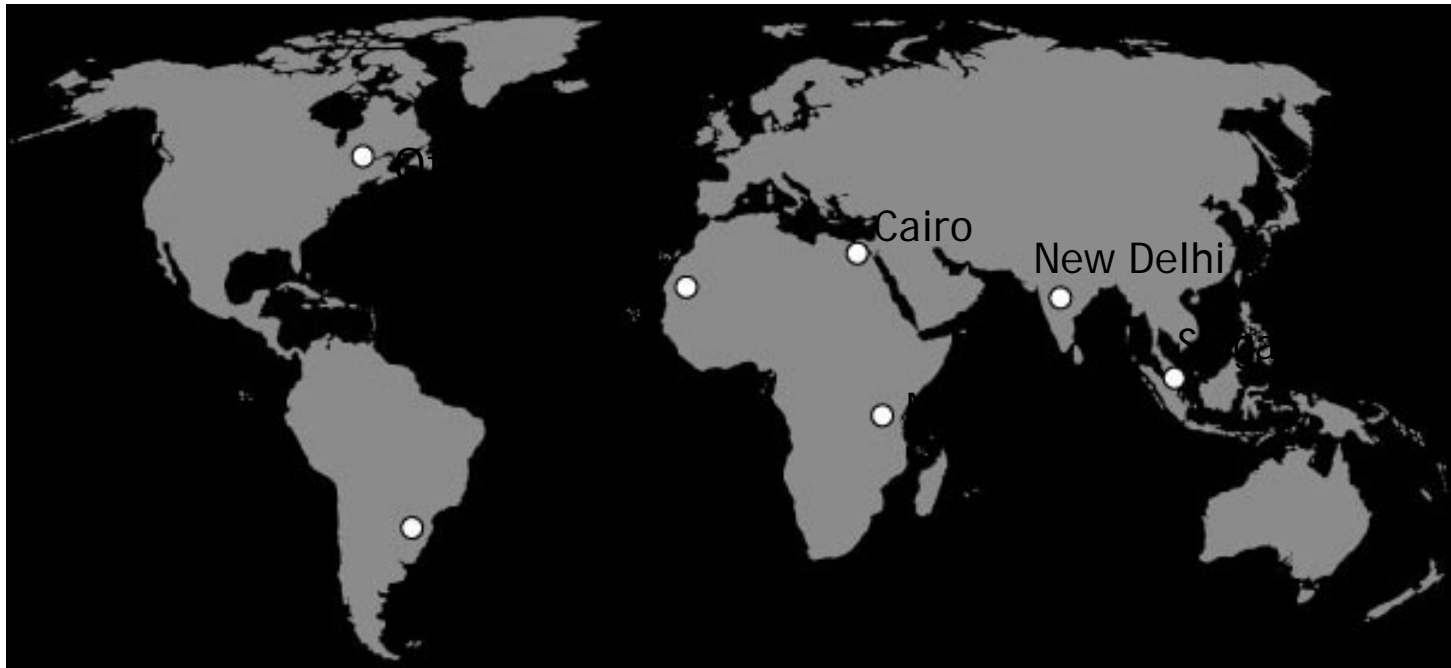
# IDRC's Mandate

- ▶ Canadian Crown Corporation (1970)
- ▶ The *IDRC Act* mandates IDRC

*“ ... to initiate, encourage, support, and conduct research into the problems of the developing regions of the world and into the means for applying and adapting scientific, technical, and other knowledge to the economic and social advancement of those regions ... ”*



# IDRC Offices



# Strategic Goals 2005–2010

1. A research funding council responding to researchers from developing regions of the world (continuation - Mode 1)
2. Partner effectively with other research councils and departments (new direction - Mode 2)
3. Support the production, dissemination, and application of research results that lead to changed practices, technologies, and laws that promote sustainable and equitable development and poverty reduction (new emphasis on research outcomes)

# Implications for IDRC

- ▶ **Objective #1: Who we support**
  - ▶ Take the lead from researchers based in developing regions of the world
- ▶ **Objective #2: Facilitating global research**
  - ▶ On issues of particular relevance to developing regions
  - ▶ On global issues
- ▶ **Objective #3: What and how we support research**
  - ▶ From research to innovation: in society, in public policy

# Research Funding Modes

## Mode 1

- ▶ Applicants from the South
- ▶ Competitive calls & responsive programming
- ▶ Small to large scale projects

## Mode 2

- ▶ Co-directors: Canada / South
- ▶ Joint initiatives with other Research councils
- ▶ International in scale and scope
- ▶ Open competitions



# Mode 1 Funding

- ▶ Researchers in low and middle income countries apply to IDRC / may involve co-applicants elsewhere

## New Health program under development

- ▶ Major focus: Health systems research
  - ▶ How health systems are structured
  - ▶ How people understand the health system
  - ▶ Access and equity
  - ▶ Organizational basis for improving health outcomes
- ▶ [http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-3073-201-1-DO\\_TOPIC.html](http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-3073-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html)



# Mode 2: IDRC Research Partnership Challenge Fund

Supports larger scale, collaborative, and comparative research initiatives in collaboration with Canadian and international research councils and agencies

▶ Examples:

1. International Partnership Initiative
2. International Community-University Research Alliance
3. International Research Chair Initiative
4. Global Health Research Initiative

# Mode 2: International Partnership Initiative

## IDRC and the NCE

- ▶ To encourage the formation of research networks between NCE networks and their peers in developing regions
- ▶ 17 IPI applicants
  - ▶ Of which, 7 requests for IDRC co-financing
  - ▶ Of which, 3 awards made
- ▶ 2 year pilot underway; future tbd

# Mode 2: International Community- University Research Alliance Initiative IDRC and Social Science and Humanities Research Council

- ▶ Create alliances between community organizations and universities
- ▶ Foster comparative research, training and the creation of new knowledge in areas of shared importance for the social, cultural or economic development of communities in Canada and in developing countries.
- ▶ 1 round underway; 2 round under consideration

# Mode 2: International Research Chairs Initiative

## IDRC & Canada Research Chairs

- ▶ Establish 5 IDRC Research Chairs of similar stature to the CRC program
- ▶ Support involvement of CRCs to promote joint research, create unique training and fieldwork opportunities for students, and identify new avenues for knowledge, policy or technology transfer.
- ▶ 1 round underway; 2 round under consideration

# Mode 2: Global Health Research Initiative Teasdale-Corti Partnership Program

Health policy and systems research

Prevention and control of chronic diseases



Health - Environment Interactions

Pandemics and emerging infectious diseases



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