

As Prime Minister Harper Meets the G-20, Eight in Ten (77%) Agree Canada Should Commit to Additional Funding for Food Security Programs

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Toronto, ON – As the Canadian government meets with other G-20 members at a summit in Cannes, France, a new Ipsos Reid poll conducted on behalf of World Vision reveals that eight in ten (77%) ‘agree’ (33% strongly/44% somewhat) that Canada should ‘commit to give additional funding for food security programs’. Just one quarter (23%) ‘disagree’ (7% strongly/15% somewhat) that the government should make this sort of commitment.

Last year, 925 million people in the world didn’t have enough to eat. This year’s soaring prices mean that people living in poverty are being forced to eat less food and less nutritious food. Reflecting on this point, nine in ten (89%) ‘agree’ (51% strongly/38% somewhat) that they want Canada to ‘insist that emergency food reserves meet the nutritional needs of children under the age of two who are the most vulnerable’, while one in ten (11%) ‘disagree’ (4% strongly/7% somewhat). Moreover, most (88%) ‘agree’ (53% strongly/35% somewhat) that Canada should ‘make sure that food security programs support small rural farmers in developing countries, while just one in ten (12%) ‘disagree’ (6% strongly/6% somewhat).

Three quarters (75%) say that the most important thing every parent in the world should be able to offer their child is healthy food at every meal, more than the six in ten (64%) say it’s clean water, or a safe home to live in (62%). Half (51%) say that education is the most important thing every parent should be able to offer their children. Others say it’s immunizations or doctor visits (43%), toys and playtime (17%), or some other thing (7%).



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These are some of the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted between October 4 to 7, 2011, on behalf of World Vision. For this survey, a sample of 1,026 adults from Ipsos' Canadian online panel was interviewed online. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. A survey with an unweighted probability sample of this size and a 100% response rate would have an estimated margin of error of +/- 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what the results would have been had the entire population of adults in Canada been polled. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.

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- 2 -

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