

The *Projet de société*, established in November 1992, is developing a framework for a national sustainable development strategy for Canada. All sectors of Canadian society have been represented in the effort to help fulfil our Agenda 21 commitments.

Governments

All governments have developed plans that take into account the shift to sustainable development. The Green Plan is the Government of Canada's policy framework and action plan for sustainable development. Since 1990, it has funded many activities that now support Canada's commitments to Agenda 21.

The governments of each province and territory have also undertaken many activities to meet their responsibilities as a result of UNCED. They have also used vehicles such as the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) to help develop common post-UNCED plans.

Many of the goals of Agenda 21 require action at the local level. Canada's municipalities are working both individually and through their common organizations.

International

Canada continues to play a significant role internationally, implementing our quick-start agenda on the conventions on biological diversity and climate change. Another focus has been the negotiations for an agreement that will allow effective management of fish stocks on the high seas. Further, a country with vast forests, Canada is working toward internationally accepted forest management criteria. We are providing technical aid to other countries through our International Model Forests Program.

Future Directions

There is a need to gather information on sustainable development issues. Canada's International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) is creating an information system to track Agenda 21-related activities. The governments are doing the same for their programs. During recent years, Canada's governments have been facing significant financial pressure. This is creating an even greater emphasis on innovative methods to achieve the goals of sustainable development.

International Co-operation

Canada's approach to international co-operation for sustainable development recognizes the importance of economic vehicles such as trade, investment and development assistance. Canada believes the environment can benefit from freer trade. We also believe that environmental considerations must be taken into account in trade negotiations. That belief has influenced our positions in the Uruguay Round of multilateral negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The NAFTA included the first environmental review of a trade agreement by any country and the first effort to