

networks were established. During the mid-1980s, two areas that drew significant support were "population and agriculture" and "population and health." Studies that were supported developed concepts and methods for the diagnosis of emerging problems and the assessment of policy initiatives. Innovative anthropological, survey and demographic techniques were also investigated.

IDRC's earlier interest in census methodologies has been rekindled more recently through the REDATAM (Retrieval of Data for Small Areas by Microcomputer) project in Chile, which has resulted in the development of a

quantitative population database composed of information from more than one source. Various national agencies for statistics and planning in Latin America, the Caribbean and Southeast Asia have shown interest in this innovative package. In IDRC's Health Sciences Division, "population" as a discrete area for attention is part of the division's "reproductive choice" focus. The most significant population-related project currently being undertaken by IDRC is that on the development of a contraceptive vaccine at India's National Institute of Immunology.

Future Policies and Priorities for International Population Assistance

The policies and priorities for international population assistance of the Government of Canada are currently being considered as part of a comprehensive review of foreign-policy including foreign-aid policy. Nonetheless the population sector has been an important one for Canada and is one that can be expected to remain a priority.