- Canada's $4 million contribution to the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund (NSF) has been used to fund important physical protection upgrades and training projects in Russia, Ukraine and Central Asia.
- Canada's $9 million contribution to the U.S.-led project to shut down the last Russian nuclear reactor that produces significant quantities of weapons-grade plutonium has helped to ensure that the reactor is shutdown in 2011.
- Canada also continues to work closely with its G8 partners to conclude a multilateral agreement in support of Russia's plutonium disposition program. Canada has committed $65 million to this initiative, which will help Russia convert 34 tonnes of weapons-grade plutonium into forms not usable for weapons.
- Canada concluded a series of agreements with key partners in Russia for cooperation on the physical protection of nuclear materials.
- Raytheon Canada Limited was engaged through an open and competitive procurement process to provide technical expertise in support of physical security projects.

REDIRECTION OF FORMER WEAPONS SCIENTISTS

- During 2005-2006, Canadian funding of approximately $10 million to the International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) allowed 38 scientific research projects to go ahead. These projects involve 906 new former weapons scientists with expertise in nuclear, chemical, biological sciences and delivery systems (e.g., missiles). This brings the cumulative total (since March 2004) to 76 projects funded by Canada, worth approximately $20 million and involving the redirection of over 1,750 former weapons scientists of priority interest to Canada.
- Canada also supported 12 science and technology and industrial workshops and events aimed at developing new research projects, enhancing collaboration between Canadian and FSU experts and promoting industrial linkages.

BIOLOGICAL NON-PROLIFERATION

- In particular, Canada has focused on scientific projects that engage the biological sector. To date, Canada has funded 25 biotechnology and life sciences projects through the ISTC aimed at the redirection of former "bioweaponeers" and the employment of scientists working at facilities formerly associated with the Soviet biological weapons (BW) program, a commitment worth an approximate $7 million. Altogether, Canada is redirecting nearly 500 former BW scientists.
- In fiscal year 2005-2006, Canada targeted funding to initiatives that promote biological safety (biosafety) and biological security (biosecurity) through training, founding of associations and the development of appropriate guidelines.

The Redirection of Former Weapons Scientists Program ensures that scientists can focus their research on peaceful and sustainable goals

Canada's Nuclear and Radiological Security team discusses strengthening security at Russian nuclear facilities to prevent terrorism. Photo Credit: Obninsk – ISTC