

Canadian support for enhancing biosecurity and biosafety assists partner countries to replace traditional work methods with modern, safe and efficient alternatives.



In many biological laboratories, scientists and researchers conduct their work on dangerous human and animal pathogens without the benefit of appropriate personal protective equipment.

REDIRECTION OF FORMER WEAPONS SCIENTISTS

Canadian funding of approximately \$8.5 million to the International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) and the Science and Technology Center (STCU) allowed 38 scientific research projects to go ahead. These projects involve 700 former weapons scientists with expertise in nuclear, chemical, biological sciences and delivery systems. This brings the cumulative total (since March 2004) to 125 projects funded by Canada, worth approximately \$26 million and involving the redirection of over 2,640 former weapons scientists of priority interest to Canada.

Canada also supported several 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

Canada has continued to target initiatives that promote biological security (biosecurity) and biological safety (biosafety) through training, the founding of associations and the development of appropriate standards and guidelines.

Canada also completed visits of priority institutes in 2006 and identified the facilities in most pressing need of biosecurity/ biosafety upgrades. Canada is exploring the possibility of supporting the construction of new facilities to ensure proper storage and security of dangerous pathogens.

In addition to biosecurity/biosafety, the Global Partnership Program supports a broad range of biological non-proliferation projects and initiatives aimed at redirecting former biological weapons scientists. To date, most of these activities have been supported through Canada's contribution to the ISTC and STCU.

"Terrorism hurts all nations—large and small, rich and poor. It takes its toll on human beings of every age and income, culture and religion. It strikes against everything the United Nations stands for. The fight against terrorism is our common mission."

— Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General, United Nations, February 16, 2007.

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