

## CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE AND COUNTRIES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION

- The successful transition of Central and Eastern Europe and countries of the former Soviet Union to democracy and market economies is fundamental to international security and stability.
- Canadian assistance to Central and Eastern Europe and countries of the former Soviet Union consists of technical, nuclear safety and humanitarian assistance as well as assistance for trade and industrial development.
- The Canadian assistance program aims to promote democratic development, to support the transition to market-based economies and to increase Canadian trade and investment links with all countries of the region.
- The Canadian assistance program is based on partnership with the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), professional associations, labour, academia, ethnic communities and all levels of government.
- This program emphasizes people-to-people initiatives and draws on the language skills and cultural ties of the 10 percent of Canadians who trace their roots to the region.
- The Renaissance Eastern Europe program aims to increase familiarity and co-operation with the private sector in the region and to facilitate the transfer of technology expertise and investment which will promote the development of free market enterprises.
- Canada has responded generously to the humanitarian needs of the region. We have pledged some \$50 million worth of humanitarian assistance to the former Yugoslavia alone.
- Canadians are contributing to efforts to improve the safety of nuclear plants in Central and Eastern Europe and the countries of the former Soviet Union through a \$30-million, three-year Canadian Nuclear Safety Initiative.