

Center (ISTC) and the Kyiv-based Science and Technology Center in Ukraine (STCU), were created in the early 1990s to provide former weapons scientists with new opportunities to transition to market-based economies. Canada was one of the founding members of the STCU, with that portfolio being led by the Canadian International Development Agency until early 2006 when it was transferred to Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT). Canada, through DFAIT, joined the ISTC in 2004.

Through the Science Centres, Canada is assisting former weapons scientists and their institutes in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia (a member of both Centers), Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

Progress Made in 2007–2009

In 2007–2009, through the ISTC and STCU, the GPP provided opportunities for former weapons scientists and their institutes to become involved in sustainable, civilian employment by funding research projects and capacity-building programs, involving Canadians from the private and public sectors in redirection efforts, and by providing accountable and effective leadership at the Science Centres.

Research Projects and Capacity-Building Programs

GPP contributed \$14.9 million to 71 new research projects involving over 740 former weapons scientists in Russia, Ukraine and other countries. These funds are transferred directly to the project participants. Proposals for these projects undergo a multi-stage review, involving more than 100 Canadian experts from the government, university and industry sectors, to evaluate scientific and technical merit, assess commercial viability, verify compliance with the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* and ensure that they support Canada's non-proliferation objectives.

Eighteen of these projects were funded through the newly developed Targeted Research and Development Initiative of the STCU. This sustainability-driven initiative matches science and technology priorities of Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Ukraine with those of the Western Funding Parties (Canada, the European Union, and the United States) through an annual call for proposals process. Approved projects are co-funded equally by the host states and the Western Funding Parties. A new Targeted Initiative is being developed with Moldova.

For each research project funded, GPP ensures that a Canadian collaborator is identified to assist with project monitoring, to increase



Former Weapon Scientists are producing tangible results through Canadian-funded projects at the Science Centers.