International Development Research Centre Energy Related Projects

- 1. The IDRC was established by the Parliament of Canada in 1970 as a autonomous public corporation to stimulate and support research for the benefit of developing countries. Activities are carried out in four program areas - agriculture, health, science, information sciences and social sciences. In addition, a Cooperative Programs Unit has been established to help increase research collaboration between scientists in Canada and developing countries; this is a direct consequence of the commitment made by Canada at the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD).
- 2. As of June 1981, IDRC has provided over \$200 million in support of 1,150 research projects. The Centre's grant for fiscal year 1981-82 is \$47.2 million.
- 3. IDRC recognizes the increasing importance of the NRSE decisions facing developing countries. It has responded to requests for support of some 50 research projects in the energy field, for a total of about \$7.2 million. These projects have been undertaken in Africa, the Middle-East, Asia, Latin America, the Pacific, and Canada. The research is intended to enable developing countries identify their energy problems, plan the most effective use of their resources, and develop the most appropriate energy technologies.
 - The 50 energy related projects cover a broad range of research activities:
 - 23 post harvest technology, i.e. crop drying, food preservation, fish processing
 - 13 forestry, including fuelwood plantations
 - 7 microbial conversion for waste treatment, biogas generation, recycling of agricultural waste
 - 3 wind-powered water pumping
 - 2 energy policy
 - 1 firewood stove improvement
 - 1 state of art review on energy from biomass

IDRC is currently assessing the energy research needs and priorities of developing countries in anticipation of an expansion of its present acitivities. The outcome of this review will also take into consideration the recommendations put forward at UNERG.

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