

# Eastern Islands Universities Project

The Canadian and Indonesian Governments have undertaken an important project to strengthen the universities in the eastern islands of Indonesia.

Initially planned for five years, each government will contribute C\$20 million and will help strengthen the university system of the eastern islands of Indonesia through a combination of human resources development and institutional development activities.

## Long-term links

The eastern islands are a primary development area for the Indonesian Government. This project aims to assist in human resources development, a top priority for higher education in the region, and to establish long-term institutional links between Canadian and Indonesian universities.

Planning and implementation of the project is being undertaken by the Indonesian Government, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and Simon Fraser University of British Columbia.

Simon Fraser's interest and involvement stems from a keen awareness of the importance of the Pacific Rim, a desire to expand the University's knowledge of the area and to become more involved with development projects in the region.

The project emphasizes development of expertise in the Basic Sciences at three "target" universities: Universitas Sam Ratulangi, Universitas Pattimura in the Mollucas and Universitas Cenderawasih in Irian Jaya.

Five other eastern islands universities are "participating" institutions: Halu Oleo and Tadulako in Sulawesi; Udayana in Bali; and Mataram and Nusa Cendana in Nusa Tenggara Timur.

Personnel from these schools will have access to training activities such as fellowships and short courses. All the universities involved are centres of excellence for their respective provinces and are trying to develop an advisory capacity in order to serve the whole region.

Canada will provide 68 fellowships for graduate studies in Canada in Applied and Basic Sciences and other disciplines serving the area's development needs. Specially designed short courses, practical attachments and other short-term training

opportunities, again concentrating on the Basic Sciences, will be offered, as well as technical assistance to the Directorate General of Higher Education and the three target universities.

The project also provides for equipment and other teaching research materials needed to upgrade facilities already at the universities.

This project's integrated approach is unique. It endeavours to link institutional development with the long-term process of human resources development in the region. The project is designed to ensure that the upgrading of faculty skills and research are carefully co-ordinated with the needs of each institution as it develops.

## Multi-donor effort

The project is part of a multi-donor effort to develop the universities of Eastern Indonesia which also involves the governments of Australia and the Netherlands as well as the World Bank and Asian Development Bank.

# New Business from Indonesia

New business has been secured for Canadian exporters announced the Honourable Pat Carney, Minister for International Trade, at the conclusion of her January visit to Jakarta.

Hawker Siddeley of Trenton, Nova Scotia, has received an order for coal transport hopper cars worth C\$17 million. It is also expected that General Motors Diesel Division of London, Ontario, will shortly obtain an order for locomotives valued at \$28 million.

The hopper cars and locomotives will be used on the South Sumatra railway as part of a plan by the Indonesian Government to develop its domestic-use coal reserves.

Minister Carney indicated that further orders are also close to completion for steel rail valued at \$7 million from Sydney Steel, Sydney, Nova Scotia, and for a \$9 million extension to the Merak Serpong Communications Network linking Sumatra and Java.

Indonesia is Canada's largest market in Southeast Asia. To further strengthen Canada's competitive position, Miss Carney met with several Indonesian ministers, including Ali Wardhana, Indonesia's Co-ordinating Economic Minister.

She advised them that Canada will provide a major new concessional line of credit to Canadian firms to match the terms offered by their competitors in the market.



*Minister Carney attending the Fourth Asia-Pacific Trade Conference in Bali.*

Miss Carney said, "This new credit underlines the Canadian Government's commitment to expanding the Canadian private sector's participation in Indonesia's economic development." The Minister noted that this new concessional credit was additional to the more than \$125 million in financing offered by Canada in recent months.

Minister Carney's host during her official visit to Indonesia was Indonesia's Trade Minister Rachmat Saleh. Together they discussed the new Canada - U.S.A. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and progress at the Uruguay Round of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MNT) - a continuing negotiation which will lead to improvements in the world trading environment.

Miss Carney emphasized that the FTA is part of a broader two-track trade strategy which seeks to liberalize trade through both bilateral negotiations and the MTN.

The Minister said that Canada recently provided training to Indonesian officials assisting them to participate fully in the complex MTN discussions and offered to provide further assistance should Indonesia wish it.