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# news release

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## ASIA PACIFIC FOUNDATION RECEIVES GRANT FROM EAITC MINISTERS

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today that the Asia Pacific Foundation (APF) will receive \$10 million to help Canada expand its trade in the world's fastest growing region.

The funding, provided through the federal government's Going Global market development initiative, will enable the APF to establish and develop Asian language and awareness programs across the country. These new programs will include:

- support for curriculum and course development at secondary school level;
- assistance to employees of small- and medium-sized firms wishing to attend courses;
- seed money for language and area studies programs at the university level; and
- funding for recruitment and training of Japanese language teachers.

With these resources, the Foundation will be able to respond to a wide range of initiatives aimed at introducing or enhancing Asian language training and applied studies programs to meet the needs of the business community.

The Foundation will also develop an Asia Pacific Data Base to provide business circles with a full listing of Canadians with linguistic and other relevant regional expertise.

Canadian trade with the region was \$36 billion in 1989, and is expected to grow by at least 50 per cent by the year 2000. "Four of our 10 largest markets are in this region," Mr. Crosbie noted. "This fund, under the capable guidance of the Asia Pacific Foundation, will expand the practical opportunities for Canadians, especially the business community, to better acquaint themselves with the fundamentals of Asian languages and the basics of doing business in the region," he added.

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