

As part of its emphasis on science and technology development, the federal government has endorsed the findings of the Canada-Japan Complementarity in Science and Technology study which recommended increased Canadian participation in world class Japanese programs and projects, improved access to Japanese technologies and industrial laboratories, and project collaboration aimed at strategic partnerships in key sectors. A Japan Science and Technology Fund is available to promote collaborative research projects, exchange of researchers, and joint workshops and symposia.

The Europe 1992 segment of the Going Global strategy is also intended to reinforce the Canadian infrastructure for international cooperation in science and technology. With this in view, EAITC will contribute financially to public and private sector initiatives to explore, establish or continue with European partners, joint projects in technological research and development. This support is combined with the services already provided by the Department to coordinate bilateral cooperation programs in science and technology with a number of European countries and the European Community.

EAITC's Technology Inflow Program (TIP) specifically promotes international trade in science and technology by assisting in the acquisition of foreign technologies needed to develop new or improved Canadian products, processes or services. TIP provides funding for exploratory and working visits by Canadian firms interested in acquiring foreign technologies. Technology Development Officers, who service this function in posts abroad, will be touring Canada in May.

The role of the Science and Technology Counsellor Network is to monitor scientific and technological developments overseas and to outline the usefulness of these developments for Canada. Counsellors facilitate cooperation in the field of science and technology by searching out contacts, making introductions, and locating foreign partners interested in arrangements such as joint ventures and research and development. Their contacts include government and private research organizations, universities and large corporations. Counsellors are also responsible for managing the technology transfer activities at their posts. They also gather information on specific science and technology areas, direct specialists to sources of more detailed information, and familiarize Canadian firms with the business practices and operations of science and technology organizations in foreign countries.