

CANADA-SENEGAL COOPERATION

The cooperation program in Senegal began in 1965, when teachers were assigned to that country and scholarships were first granted. Beginning in 1973, the emphasis shifted to more diversified and economically oriented forms of technical assistance. Official development aid to Senegal from Canada totalled some \$180 million from 1965 to 1986. Rural development, fishing, forestry, energy and education have been the focal point for most projects implemented in recent years. At the third Joint Commission held in Dakar in January 1986, the three objectives of cooperation set in 1982 were reaffirmed, these being to reduce the food deficit, to continue to combat desertification and to develop human resources.

REDUCTION OF THE FOOD DEFICIT

Four projects are under way in small-scale fishing, the main field of intervention. Canadian support for this important segment of the life and traditional economy of Senegal was reaffirmed at the sectoral meeting of funding bodies in October 1986. Canada has some involvement in the rural development sector, where Canadian and Senegalese non-governmental organizations are carrying out rural development projects. Other activities are to be planned for this sector, particularly the Senegal Riverregion. Moreover, every year Canada sends food aid to Senegal to offset its chronic grain shortage. The food aid program totalled \$4.0 million in 1985-86. Canada also took part in the very recent emergency operations to combat the invasions of locusts in this region. There are plans for longer-term support to help prevent and minimize the effects of such invasions.

ANTI-DESERTIFICATION MEASURES

Canada's contribution in this sector consists mainly of three reforestation and forest protection projects.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

By far the most important project is the Thiès Polytechnical School. Phase IV, currently under way, is the disengagement phase and should make it possible for Canadian assistance to be withdrawn gradually. The first multi-year