

- Investment in the Caribbean diversified in the late 1990s with increased business activity in the energy sector of Trinidad and Tobago and the mining sectors of Guyana and Suriname. Canada has signed foreign investment protection agreements with Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago. Negotiations have been initiated with the Bahamas, Guyana and Jamaica.
- Recognizing the challenges that smaller economies face in negotiating trade agreements, Canada supported the creation of the FTAA Consultative Group on Smaller Economies.
- Canada also provides capacity-building and trade-related technical assistance to CARICOM's Regional Negotiating Machinery.

Development co-operation

- Canada provides development aid to Caribbean countries through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Canadian overall assistance to countries of the Commonwealth Caribbean has stabilized at \$26 million to \$29 million a year.
- In 1998–99, Canada's aid to Haiti totalled \$41.22 million.
- Canada also has regional programs worth about \$8 million a year. CIDA aims to help CARICOM countries become more competitive in the regional and global economy by developing human resources and strengthening institutions, and Canada is helping strengthen the region's capacity to manage its environment and natural resources.
- Canada has forgiven about \$182 million in overseas development debt owed by Caribbean Commonwealth countries since 1990.