

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

An important possible source of financing for Canadian ventures in Mexico is the special fund available through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) under the Industrial Co-operation Program or CIDA/INC. CIDA's Industrial Co-operation Program provides financial contributions to stimulate Canadian private-sector involvement in developing countries by supporting long-term business relationships such as joint ventures and licensing arrangements. INC supports the development of linkages with the private sector in Mexico, encouraging Canadian enterprises to share their skills and experiences with partners in Mexico and other countries. A series of INC mechanisms help enterprises to establish mutually beneficial collaborative arrangements for the transfer of technology and the creation of employment in Mexico. There are five INC mechanisms that help eligible Canadian firms to conduct studies and provide professional guidance and advice to potential clients. Where a project involves environmental improvement, technology transfer, developmental assistance to women, job training or job creation, early contact with CIDA's Industrial Co-operation Division is suggested.

An important CIDA criterion is that the project creates jobs in Mexico without threatening jobs in Canada. In fact, most CIDA-assisted projects have produced net increases in Canadian jobs.

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ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY

Atlantic Canada companies seeking to develop exports to Mexico may be eligible for assistance from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA). The agency works in partnership with entrepreneurs from the Atlantic region to promote self-sustaining economic activity in Atlantic Canada.

The ACOA Action Program provides support to businesses as they look to expand existing markets

through the development of marketing plans. Efforts include monitoring trade opportunities arising from global economic change, communications efforts to promote the region, trade missions and associated activities, as well as better co-ordination with federal and provincial bodies that influence trade and investment opportunities.

ACOA Head Office

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