

according to project director Joseph Kairys. "There are some tangible benefits for young Canadians to establish contact with possible business partners of the future," he stresses.

Doing Business in Russia

The Task Force has also provided matching funds to Canadian businesses to explore new opportunities in the region through its Renaissance Eastern Europe (REE) program. For example, a Downsview, Ontario, company has received funding to train workers in a construction joint venture in St. Petersburg. Bell Canada International is conducting a feasibility study on modernizing telecommunications in the Moscow region. And initial studies financed partially by REE led a Victoria, B.C., company to a joint venture with Russian fishing industry officials to produce waste sampling bottles. These projects and others are expected to lead to more Canadian investment and trade with Russia. ■

UKRAINE: THE EMERGENCE OF A NEW COUNTRY

The first Western country to recognize Ukrainian independence last December, Canada has also taken the lead in assisting Ukraine in its transition to a market-based economy and supporting the establishment of its democratic institutions.

During a visit to Ukraine last September, Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, Barbara McDougall, announced a \$5-million technical assistance package and offered \$50 million in trade credits to the former Soviet republic. Since Ukraine's new independence, Andrij Hluchowecy, director of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress's Ottawa-based Information Bureau, says that Canadian interest has increased "one hundredfold."

*To convert
its mammoth
defence industry
to civilian purposes,
Russia requires
technical assistance,
Western investment
and technology.*

Support for Reform

External Affairs and International Trade Canada's Task Force on Central and Eastern Europe is supporting various projects in the key sectors of agriculture, education, business management training, government operations and health.

For instance, the Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre at Edmonton's Grant MacEwan College is leading a consortium of five Canadian universities and colleges in an innovative agriculture curriculum development and training project. Professors at two Ukrainian colleges are being taught how to develop curriculum that meets the needs of a competitive marketplace in a range of subjects, including farm management, fruit production and marketing.

On a similar front, the International Livestock Management School in Kemptville, Ontario, offers specialized courses in Canada and Ukraine for dairy farmers in such areas as herd management and technology and for veterinarians in reproduction and disease prevention. As a result, some 450 Ukrainians will receive much needed training by the time the 15-month project draws to a close in September 1992.

CHERNOBYL'S CHILDREN

The establishment of a model children's hospital in Kiev providing comprehensive paediatric care and medical training is the ambitious aim of a joint Canadian-U.S. initiative known as Chernobyl's Children.

"It's a tall order but it is nothing short of essential," says Canadian Project Director, Dr. Ernest McCoy. "Some 25 000 children have been affected by the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster, and the level of care they are receiving is, without question, inadequate."

Chernobyl's Children, led by the University of Alberta in Edmonton and Washington's Georgetown University, was launched eight months ago to build on an earlier medical research and treatment project initiated by Greenpeace International at the request of the Ukrainian government.

McCoy drew heavily on his first-hand experience as medical director of the former Greenpeace