

## BACKGROUND

### CANADA'S TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN UKRAINE

Canada's \$30 million three-year technical assistance program to Ukraine has approved some 25 projects worth \$6.6 million in the priority sectors of public administration, agriculture, health, democratization, and trade and investment. The projects match Canadian expertise with priorities identified by the Ukrainian government. They provide practical, hands-on training focused on human resource development, management skills and technology transfer.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, announced the technical assistance program in September 1991. This program is designed to support market-oriented reforms, democratic development and increased trade and investment links with the region. The technical assistance program is managed by External Affairs and International Trade Canada's Task Force on Central and Eastern Europe. The Task Force also co-ordinates Canada's humanitarian assistance to the region.

Technical assistance projects currently under way include:

#### **PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

##### Policy Advisors

The Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation is placing nine policy advisors with the Ukrainian government for a one-year period. They are providing policy and technical advice in the fields of public administration, taxation, financial institutions, international financial relations, legal reform, translation services, communications networks and information systems. Short-term training programs with Canadian government departments and institutions will also be offered to promising Ukrainian public officials as part of the \$772,000 project.

##### Civil Service Reform

The Alberta Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs is assisting the Ukrainian Civil Service Reform Committee to develop new government structures and mandates. The Alberta Public Service Commissioner visited Ukraine in early September to provide advice on policy reforms and the drafting of public service legislation. Two senior Ukrainian officials will visit Alberta this year to study the province's public service. The Government of Alberta will also establish an information resource centre at the Institute of Public Administration and Local Government in Kiev.