

Policy Advisors Fund

A two-year \$1-million Policy Advisors Fund will support the placement of senior Canadian policy advisors and technical experts in Ukraine to provide expertise on issues central to the country's economic reform program. A flexible, fast-acting mechanism, the Fund will respond to requests from the Ukrainian government as well as Canadian initiatives. Drawn from the public and private sectors, Canadian advisors will work in areas key to economic reform such as fiscal and monetary policy, privatization, and price and trade liberalization. The Fund will also support short-term training and study visits to Canada for a select number of senior Ukrainian officials. The project is managed by Veles Consulting Corporation of Toronto.

External Debt Management

Canada will contribute \$700 000 to an 18-month World Bank project providing technical expertise to Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus in the area of external debt management. Drawing upon Canadian experts, the project will assist in the development of effective policies and legal frameworks for external borrowing, establish clear debt-monitoring procedures for central banks and ministries of finance, and contribute to the creation of a cadre of highly trained specialists in debt management.

Science and Technology Centre

Canada will contribute \$5 million over two years to support Canadian participation in the recently established Science and Technology Centre in Kiev. The Centre will act as a catalyst for science and technology projects designed to provide Ukrainian weapons scientists and engineers with alternative employment by re-applying their skills to potentially commercially viable civilian activities. Canada's contribution will include scientific assessments and funding support for selected projects, Canada's share of Centre administration costs, and the provision of Canadian staff including the Centre's first Executive Director, Dr. Estop Hawaleshka, Professor of Industrial Engineering at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. Canada is one of four founding members of the Centre, together with Ukraine, Sweden and the United States.

Nuclear Fuel Management

A three-year \$3.3-million project managed by Ontario Hydro International Inc. of Toronto will transfer Canada's unique High Density Concrete (HDC) canister technology for the interim dry storage of spent nuclear fuel to power plants at Chernobyl and Rivne in northwestern Ukraine. Safe storage of spent nuclear fuel is an urgent problem in Ukraine which lacks reprocessing