

Canadians are providing many of these necessities through our Task Force on Central and Eastern Europe. Working closely with non-governmental organizations throughout Canada, the Task Force has launched hundreds of projects for democratic development in a cost-effective way and without creating a vast bureaucracy.

For example, in collaboration with the Canadian Bar Association, bilateral projects have been set up in Poland, Hungary, the Czech and Slovak Federated Republics and Ukraine to strengthen their legal systems and judiciaries. Courses for Central and East European judges and parliamentarians have been funded, and arrangements have been made for lawyers from several Central and East European countries to do internships with Canadian law firms.

But these countries also need practical technology to transport and distribute food, organize an efficient financial system and achieve some minimum level of environmental protection. Canadians (including from Saskatchewan) are helping here, too.

- The University of Saskatchewan and Meta Technologies of Saskatoon are co-operating with the University of Chernivtsi in southwestern Ukraine to establish a Centre for Western Business Concepts and Business English.
- A mission of credit union officials went to Ukraine recently to explore the possibility of organizing credit unions and providing them with technical assistance. (Among the mission participants was Bill Zerebsky, General Manager of the New Community Savings and Credit Union Ltd. of Saskatoon.)
- TDI Project Ltd. of Saskatoon has undertaken a feasibility study with a Polish joint-venture partner to examine the development of ethanol fuel plants using feedstock agricultural wastes.
- A demonstration of an agricultural extension service is being organized in southern Russia, by Saskatoon-based West Canadian Agricultural Development Company, Ltd.

All of these projects are directly relevant to the needs of emerging democracies and economies in Central and Eastern Europe. They also involve the transfer of basic democratic and economic skills and knowledge -- the foundation for any long-term stability in a country.

Education and skills transfer clearly fit right into these objectives -- hence, the Task Force on Central and Eastern Europe's provision of \$2 million to the CBIE for its work in Ukraine -- over and above funds from the Canadian International Development Agency for the CBIE's work with foreign students.