

CANADIAN SUSTAINABLE CITIES INITIATIVE

Canadian companies are finding good business opportunities through the Sustainable Cities Initiative (SCI) being undertaken in several cities around the world, including the Brazilian city of **Salvador** and, most recently, the Argentine city of **Córdoba**.

Under the SCI, Canadian private-sector, government and non-profit organizations are joining forces with local authorities and companies to develop integrated strategies and solutions to the range of urban problems generated by rapid urbanization.

A strong and committed partnership has been established in Salvador, particularly in the areas of sustainable economic development and tourism, water and wastewater issues, transportation, sustainable waste management, infrastructure, municipal management, energy management, information technology and smart communities.

In December 2000, 13 Canadian companies met with Córdoba City Hall officers and representatives of local industrial associations during a mission to define the "roadmap" for six areas of co-operation – transportation, water/wastewater, solid waste management, telecommunications, energy, and

sustainable economic development/tourism. The Canadian and local teams agreed that opportunities for business exist in all sectors, through technology transfer, joint venture, consulting services, and sales. There are opportunities for other Canadian companies to join this initiative.

SCHOOL.NET INITIATIVE

A School.Net Mission from Uruguay to Ottawa and Toronto in January 2001 is opening up opportunities for Canadian educational institutions and Information Technology companies. The mission was attended by representatives of the National Administration of Public Education (ANEP), the National Administration of Communications, and the Presidency of the Republic. It highlighted Industry Canada's School.Net program, distance education, continuing professional training, second-language training in public schools, and promotion of the software industry.

The Uruguayan delegates showed particular interest in presentations of School.Net, SkillNet.Ca, and Carleton, McGill and Montreal Universities, as well as programs presented by **Electronics Workbench**, **Centrinity** and the **Toronto District School Board**. The representatives of ANEP expressed their belief that the Canadian programs could be a useful tool for the restructuring of the Uruguayan institution.

Exports/Imports between Canada and Mercosur Countries, 1999

Trade with Canada (C\$ millions)	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Exports to Brazil	1310.6	1428.7	1674.9	1381.8	1037.8
Imports from Brazil	1038.4	1133.6	1314.1	1377.1	1358.7
Two-way Trade	2349.0	2562.3	2989.0	2758.9	2096.5
Balance	272.2	295.1	360.8	4.7	-320.9

Trade with Canada (C\$ millions)	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Exports to Argentina	237.4	205.1	409.0	342	211
Imports from Argentina	169.9	186.4	231.4	259	304
Two-way Trade	407.3	391.5	640.5	601	515
Balance	67.5	18.7	177.6	83.3	-93

Trade with Canada (C\$ millions)	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Exports to Uruguay	23.0	23.1	24.0	24.0	37.5
Imports from Uruguay	24.7	33.5	66.4	60.8	89.1
Two-way Trade	47.7	56.6	90.4	84.8	126.6
Balance	-1.7	-10.4	-42.4	-36.8	-51.6

Trade with Canada (C\$ millions)	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Exports to Paraguay	11.8	6.1	11.1	14.0	7.49
Imports from Paraguay	3.5	2.9	3.3	3.7	1.55
Two-way Trade	15.3	9.0	14.4	17.7	9.04
Balance	8.3	3.2	7.8	10.3	5.94

