

3.1.3 Framework Agreements to Facilitate Co-operation

EAITC is also involved in managing agreements between Canada and other countries that set the framework for international S&T collaboration. These agreements provide a formal structure for researchers to evaluate prospects for co-operation, to identify partners and to facilitate collaboration (see Table 1). Bilateral meetings are held regularly to review priorities as well as the status of existing and potential joint projects under these agreements. To illustrate the variety of activities in play, a sample of projects undertaken within the context of selected arrangements is listed in Table 2.

Table 1. Framework S&T Agreements*

Agreement	Year Established	Key Sectors of Co-operation
Canada/Federal Republic of Germany	1971	In the 1989 consultations, more than 100 projects were approved in sectors such as biotechnology, environment, energy, space, marine science, communications and transportation.
Canada/Belgium	1971	Sectors of interest include biotechnology, environment and information technologies.
Canada/France	1973	In 1988, priority was given to biotechnology, space, oceanology, information technologies, cold region technologies, environment, new materials and transportation. There are 83 co-operative research projects in these areas.
Canada/European Community (Framework Agreement for Industrial Co-operation)	1976	In 1989, priority was given to energy, biotechnology, materials, information technology, telecommunications, environment, marine science and medical research.
Canada/Japan	1986	There are 85 co-operative projects in place covering areas such as agriculture, ocean sciences, advanced manufacturing technologies and space science.

* Canada also has established a formal Exchange of Letters on science and technology co-operation with the United Kingdom, Finland and Norway.