

A major milestone occurred in 1983 when the federal government identified biotechnology as a strategic technology to be promoted in Canada and allocated IRAP specific funds for this purpose. Since most of the technology was resident in universities, IRAP needed to develop new operating principles, particularly with regard to shared ownership of intellectual properties between the client company and subcontracting university and to mutually agreeable arrangements respecting the university's wish to publish and the company's wish to maintain confidentiality. IRAP's success in finding a way through these hazards led it to expand its dealings with universities to all technologies in the following year.

The Laboratory Network's most recent expansion has been into the international arena, where we are easily able to extend our Canadian practices as regards transfer of technology from publicly-funded institutions. We are now also finding ways of facilitating the transfer of technology from overseas companies to our Canadian client companies without compromising our policy of supporting industry only within Canada. In addition, we have initiated specific agreements with individuals or organizations in foreign countries, for instance an agreement with an Israeli technology transfer agent who informs us of new technologies developed in his country which may be of value to Canadian industry.

Slides 8 and 9 show the distribution of IRAP Laboratory Network projects among industry sectors and by sources of technology for the year 1985-86 when we handled 366 projects with a budget of 39 million dollars. It is interesting to compare the breakdown of our technology sources with slide 10 which shows Canadian gross expenditures on research and development for calendar 1986. We see that projects funded by the IRAP Laboratory Network have not yet achieved the same distribution regarding source of technology as is