

The MPMF was established to assist developing countries to phase out ozone-depleting chemicals and to replace them with benign alternatives. Canada has contributed approximately \$15 million to the fund, which includes costs related to the administration of the secretariat, located in Montreal. Canada is committed to contributing \$24 million to the current MPMF replenishment.

Federal government support for UNCED follow-up initiatives includes \$2 million by 1996 for Capacity 21, a United Nations Development Program (UNDP) initiative to assist developing countries in sustainability planning. The IDRC has also organized a consultative group on capacity building in developing countries in co-operation with its Swedish equivalent, SAREC. Canada is also providing funds to assist developing countries and NGOs participate in key international negotiations following up on UNCED, including the High Seas Fisheries Conference, the first session of the CSD, and negotiations on a convention to combat desertification.

Canada is also funding a legal adviser to the Inter-governmental Negotiating Committee on Desertification for a 15-month period. A key international institution in the follow-up to UNCED is the UNEP. Canada contributes \$2.2 million a year to UNEP's Environment Fund.

Canada has the lead role in an OECD study of the coherence of development project environmental assessment procedures among donor countries. Canada is also leading that organization's effort to establish internationally agreed guidelines and tools for environmental capacity development. In October 1993, Canada hosted an international workshop in Ottawa for the OECD on national sustainable development planning.

Canadian Official Development Assistance

In its follow-up to UNCED, Canada will continue to focus on the effective mobilization of resources from all sources. The major source of concessional financing to developing countries will continue to be ODA through bilateral and multilateral channels.

The primary purpose of Canadian ODA is to help the poorest countries and people in the world. At UNCED, Canada reaffirmed its commitment to reach the ODA/GNP target of 0.7 percent as soon as possible. Canada remains committed to this target, although efforts to move forward must be balanced against the reality of fiscal restraint.

Canada is committed to the integration of the principles of sustainability into its ODA program. We are working with our domestic and international partners to improve the capacity of developing countries to foster development that is environmentally sustainable.