

availability will more than double between 1990 and 2000. A recent government projection shows an increase of 44% in lumber production, of 76% in wood-based panels and of 150% in pulp and paper production over this period.

This expansion will imply strong growth in sectoral exports. Compared to the level of 1990, exports of wood-based panels will be 44% higher in the year 2000, while pulp and paper exports will expand by 200% during the same period (see Table 4 in the statistical appendix).

Obviously, these results cannot be taken at face value, due to the evolution of international markets. Still, they show a strong potential for continuity of the rapid growth enjoyed by the sector in recent years.

Much of the total investment required to face this substantial expansion in productive capacity will be in the form of imported specialized goods and services, thus opening an opportunity for countries with substantial experience in the forestry sector such as Canada. Estimates of the total investment in each sub-sector for the period 1992-2000 are presented in Table 4 of the statistical appendix.

Areas of interest for Canadian suppliers

This section identifies potential areas of interest for Canadian suppliers of goods and services in several sub-sectors of the forest industry.