

cing assistance with departmental funding assuming the full costs as projects prove feasible and are developed.

The absence of some modest seed funds available to encourage the process of initiating joint activities has undoubtedly contributed significantly to the difficulties encountered and lack of return obtained from many of Canada's government-to-government international S&T activities. If, for good and valid reasons, intergovernmental cooperation in S&T is to be undertaken then the necessary resources to give such cooperation a chance to succeed should obviously be provided. Departments should not be morally obliged to participate at the cost of competing with their own domestic programs nor should officials of the coordinating agencies be put in the position of requesting such participation without at least having some contribution to offer.

A Catalytic or Seed Fund

The basic key function of the proposed central fund is to catalyse international activity which would otherwise not happen or, by the judicious application of some modest financing, to revitalize a flagging initiative. It aims at attracting other resources to an activity rather than itself providing the main means of support. Its main purposes would be to encourage international collaboration in S&T within a government-to-government framework by:

- Supporting collaborative S&T activities undertaken primarily to meet Canadian foreign, economic or international development assistance policy needs for which funding would normally not be provided under existing domestic programmes; and
- Supporting initial steps to identify and organize collaborative international S&T activities.

The fund will never be large and should not be dissipated in a large number of small activities. To obtain maximum benefit resources should be applied in a highly selective manner and concentrated on a relatively few important initiatives chosen both for substantive promise and for their potential to attract other sources of support. Examples of main categories of activity qualifying for support are:

- Travel, and where necessary, basic living costs involved in bringing representatives of industry, research institutes and the universities together in Canada to: