

A field in which further Canadian technical assistance appears to be urgently required is the whole area of administration, particularly business administration. Through CIDA auspices, the Committee understands, cooperative arrangements have now been worked out between Canadian universities and the responsible faculties of the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Jamaica. The specific requirements of the region should be taken into account in such programmes, which will have to be flexible, possibly stressing extension work and on-the-job training for middle-level personnel, especially in the areas of marketing and entrepreneurship.

These fields are only partially amenable to academic approaches, however, and recommendations elsewhere in this section point out other possible methods of assistance.

6. Development Strategy in the Eastern Caribbean

The Canadian programme of development assistance to the Little Seven is part of a five year plan (1967-68 to 1971-72) based on the broad sectoral priorities derived from the findings of the Tripartite Economic Survey of the Little Eight in 1966. The Tripartite Survey concluded that tourism is the likely key growth industry in these islands and recommended that official development assistance focus on the provision of infrastructure for private investment in tourism. This is the basic rationale for CIDA's present concentration in the sectors of air transport, water resources, and education, with lesser emphasis on agriculture.

This report's section on Tourism outlines some of the reservations of the Committee about the social and economic desirability of tourist-based development. It should immediately be added that the Committee recognizes the major differences in this respect among the different islands—some can absorb a great deal of further expansion without serious problems. In general, however, the Committee is concerned that too great a reliance on the tourist industry may not promote the consistent development of these islands and the welfare of their people.

These comments do not imply criticism of the whole of the present programme. This kind of infrastructural aid is basic to all development and is generally beneficial. At the same time there appears to be growing a consensus of opinion among economic analysts who argue that expansion in the agricultural sector is feasible for most of these islands, offers them a more solid economic base, and would, at the very least, enable them to supply tourist needs and thus retain a larger proportion of tourist expenditure.

The Committee recognizes the intrinsic value of a five-year plan such as that designed for the Eastern Caribbean. A certain amount of flexibility is, however, essential to allow for changing priorities. In the view of the Committee, therefore, the Canadian Government should be sympathetically receptive to requests from