

A number of high-level visits in 1989 and 1990 have demonstrated the mutual interest shared between Canada and Thailand in the defence and security sector. These include a visit by the Associate Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Mary Collins, to Thailand in August 1989, visits to Canada by the Royal Thai Army Deputy Commander-in-Chief in July 1989 and by the Chief of Staff of the Royal Thai Army Training Command in April 1990, plus exchange visits by Canadian and Thai national defence colleges in 1989 and 1990. A Thai Armed Forces Administrative mission also took place in August 1990, and the Thai National Defence College visited Canada in May, 1992.

Institution Building and Education

A number of projects under CIDA's bilateral program are designed to promote links between Thai and Canadian institutions.

A number of Canadian public policy research institutions and universities have established links through joint research with the Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI). TDRI has undertaken projects with the Conference Board of Canada, with IRPP, with former Canadian Economic Council as well as with Queen's and other Canadian Universities. Canada's support and involvement with TDRI has helped to raise Canada's profile enormously in Thailand and the ASEAN region.

Institutional support is also provided through CIDA to the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) in its dual role as the central planning agency and economic policy adviser to the Thai Cabinet, as well as to the Department of Technical and Economic Co-operation (DTEC), the agency co-ordinating the inflow of development assistance in Thailand.

External Affairs and International Trade Canada's Academic Relations Program assists Canadian Studies development in Thailand through short study visits to Canada by academics wishing to develop and teach courses about Canada. Canadian studies courses have been generally developed in the fields of the social sciences, humanities, business, economics and law. This program has the potential to generate links among academics from Canada and Thailand and increase knowledge and awareness of Canada in Thailand.

During 1989, the Alberta government provided a \$10,000 grant to Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok to support its Canadian Studies Program. EAITC provided further support to this program

in 1990 and a contribution of \$10,000. Since 1983, a University Library Book Donation Program has provided a large number of books and pedagogical materials about Canada to Thai academics to support Canadian studies activities.

Canada is an associate member of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) and in 1991 funded the Jasper/SEAMEO Silver Anniversary Fellowship which enables selected scholars to carry out research projects.

The Asia Pacific Management Cooperative Program at Capilano College in North Vancouver, which is partially funded by the Asia Pacific Foundation, matches Canadian and Asian employers with prospective management trainees. Some of the students on this program have done their professional placements in Thailand and have studied the Thai language.

The Canada-Thai Alumni Association has a large membership of over 200 paid members and is well on its way to maturity. It has implemented Canada fund projects, co-sponsored a scholarship project with Columbia International school in Hamilton and manages the Academic Resource Centre, which is very popular.

CIDA's \$8 million Institution Linkages Program has provided a strong base of arrangements between Canadian and Thai institutions and universities. Approximately 14 projects have been implemented.

In 1992, Canada's Human Resource Development Policy and Institutional Linkages Program lent support to Thailand's development priorities of developing human resources and fostering long term institutional linkages.

Additional Areas

Canada is actively involved in bilateral anti-narcotics and law enforcement co-operation with Thailand. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) has provided police assistance to Thailand since 1983, including training of Thai police personnel in Canada under the Observer Attachment Program; at the Canadian Police College; and on-site training to all major Thai drug enforcement agencies under the National Drug Strategy. Senior Thai police officials have also made operational visits to Canada to promote co-operation in the area of intelligence and ongoing operations. The Solicitor General of Canada, the Honourable Pierre Blais, also visited Thailand in November 1989.

Since 1984, Revenue Canada (Customs and Excise) has offered extensive assistance to Thailand,