

Project: Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership Support Fund (Nuclear Window) of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

The threat of serious environmental contamination and related security concerns are also part of Russia's nuclear submarine legacy. The Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership (NDEP), established in 2001, is an innovative cooperative effort that responds to calls from both Russia and the international community for a concerted effort to tackle some of the most pressing problems, such as the safe and secure management of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive wastes from Russia's Northern Fleet. Funds assigned to the "nuclear window" of the NDEP Support Fund are used specifically for nuclear-related environmental projects in northwestern Russia.

Canada contributed \$32 million to this program in March 2004 as a logical complement to the submarine dismantlement project. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) manages the NDEP Support Fund on behalf of donors (including Canada, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the European Union). The current Canada-EBRD funding arrangement is in place until March 2006.

Five urgent projects have been identified for support: four deal with the safe and secure handling and storage of highly unstable SNF, and one is looking to establish a radiological monitoring system for northwestern Russia.



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