

project is ROSKOMZEM, the Russian federal agency responsible for land reform.

Russian Patent Office

This \$900,000 project managed by RES Policy Research Inc. of Ottawa will strengthen the management systems and capabilities of the Russian patent office, ROSPATENT, in order to help Russia meet General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) requirements for the mutual protection of intellectual rights. Under the project, patent and trademark management systems and records will be upgraded and modernized, Russian patent examiners will be trained to an international level of proficiency, and a business plan will be produced to seek financing for full automation of the patent office. The project will contribute to increased trade with Russia by providing better protection for Canadian intellectual property and investments.

Environmental Training

This \$350,000 initiative seeks to minimize the environmental impact of oil and gas exploration and production in Russia. Russia's oil and gas industry accounts for a significant share of the country's GDP and foreign exchange earnings. Under the project, 16 managers of six Russian producer associations will travel to Canada for training in Canadian technologies and operating procedures related to such areas as the prevention of leaks and spills, clean-up methods, emissions reduction, emergency preparedness, and legal and regulatory requirements. Trainees also will tour various Canadian oil and gas operations to study Canadian technologies and techniques in operation.