

- water conservation, pollution abatement, river basin management and flood control;
 - natural resources management, including sustainable agriculture and forestry;
 - hazardous and solid waste management;
 - application of the Montreal Protocol to lessen ozone depletion;
 - nature reserves and biodiversity;
 - energy conservation and efficiency;
 - reduction in the adverse effects of climate change.
- Canada provides direct support to the China Council for International Co-operation on Environment and Development, a Chinese environmental policy body.

Human rights, good governance and the rule of law

- China's human rights record continues to be a concern for the Canadian government and for Canadians. The Canada-China Joint Committee on Human Rights provides a forum for examining human rights problems in detail and for working on the development of good governance, the rule of law, and an active civil society in China. The committee held its seventh meeting in Ottawa, in October 2003.
- Canada and China also work together on human rights through the Plurilateral Human Rights Symposium, which provides an opportunity for participating countries, primarily from the Asia-Pacific region, to discuss a range of human rights issues. The first conference, in Beijing in 1998, marked the first time that China co-hosted a human rights event involving several countries. Additional symposiums co-hosted by Canada, China, and Norway were held in China, Thailand, and Indonesia. The latter took place in March 2003. Issues at these meetings included human rights treaties, labour rights, human rights, and the police and minority rights.
- During their visits to China, the Prime Minister, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) each raised questions about human rights and good governance with Chinese authorities.
- A Chinese delegation, led by the Director General of the State Administration for Religious Affairs, visited Canada in February 2003. This followed up a Canadian ecumenical delegation to China in 1999.