

- Canada continues to actively help Canadian business capitalize on the new opportunities created by the NAFTA. As part of this program, exporters can use the services provided on a cost-recovery basis by the new Canadian Business Centre in Mexico, which maintains state-of-the-art exhibit, office and conference facilities to host solo trade shows, seminars and individual business meetings.

#### **Development Assistance Co-operation**

- There is no Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) bilateral program with Mexico. There is, however, a \$375,000 Canada Fund for Local Initiatives administered by the Canadian Embassy to support programs aimed at Mexico's poorest groups.
- Many Canadian non-governmental organizations (NGOs), funded by CIDA, are active in Mexico. Since 1993-94, CIDA has made contributions worth almost \$1 million to Canadian NGOs for projects focusing on community health, education and private sector development.
- CIDA's Industrial Co-operation (INC) program in Mexico is its most important. Since 1992, Canadian firms have reported profits in the \$3.5 million dollar range.
- Currently under way are 31 joint-venture viability studies and 18 technology transfer projects for recent joint ventures. An additional 18 project proposals are under review.
- CIDA-INC program activities in Mexico focus primarily on environmental technologies, transportation, gas and the food sector.