

provide \$150 million in support over five years, has six priority sectors: energy, private sector development, agriculture, democratic development and good governance, northern development, and nuclear and security issues.

Canadian assistance to the energy sector focuses on regulatory and legislative advice, energy business management and technical training. One key Canadian project that supports the Russian energy sector is a two-year, \$2.2-million program to train 40 Russian electrical utility managers. The program will help strengthen the in-house training capacity of the Russian utilities.

Private sector development activities include management training, financial services for entrepreneurs, and the Renaissance Eastern Europe program, which promotes trade and investment between Canada and Russia. In support of the city of Zhukovsky's local economic development plan, Canada is contributing to the two-year, \$500,000 Zhukovsky Community Futures project, to provide business counselling, a small business development loan fund, and entrepreneurial training. Canada is contributing to the pilot phase of the \$300-million Russia Small Business Fund, which is jointly funded by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the G-7. Canada is also participating in the G-7's Special Privatization and Restructuring Program in Russia.

Agricultural assistance is being given for land reform, grain handling and distribution systems, and the establishment of rural co-operatives. A \$2.5 million agricultural credit union project is helping to develop a network of 20 agricultural credit unions throughout rural Russia as well as the legal and regulatory framework for the credit unions.

Canada supports **democratic development and good governance** in Russia through human rights training, electoral reform, federalism, civic education and support for women's issues. A special Yeltsin Democracy Fellowships Program brings Russian public sector officials to Canada for training and internships with government agencies. Canada is mounting a two-year, \$2.9 million project to help Russia's central and regional governments achieve a workable form of collaborative federalism.

The **northern development** strategy focuses on aboriginal economic and social development and on environmental issues unique to the North. Canada's contributions include the three-year, \$1.2 million Northern Public Works and Infrastructure Management Program to help the government of the Sakha Republic strengthen its public works programs.

Nuclear and security issues are being addressed through defence conversion, participation in the founding of the Moscow International Science and Technology Centre, and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Initiative. A key initiative is the \$8.75-million Nuclear Safety and Engineering Program which assists with safety analysis, design improvement and operating procedures.