

A DFO Inspection Team will be in Thailand in March 1992 to carry out inspections of frozen shrimp processors as part of the revised 1991 MOU.

Natural Resource Management

More than \$20 million was dedicated to CIDA projects directly related to the management of natural resources between 1983 and 1991. On-going and planned projects valued at approximately \$4 million include technical and training assistance toward the implementation of a national planning process for natural resources management in Thailand. (CIDA supported the upgrading of Thailand's National Remote Sensing Program through the Landsat project the upgrading of Thailand's satellite ground station to enable reception from the Landsat Thematic Mapper and SPOT sensors).

The Geological Survey of Canada (GSC), with financial backing from CIDA (\$15.5 million over 7 years), has been involved in an extensive airborne geophysical survey of Thailand funded through the Asian Development Bank. The GSC has been responsible for the technical specifications and monitoring of the survey performed by a Canadian company. Technical assistance continues in data processing and interpretation and training to strengthen the planning and resource development capability at the Thai Department of Mineral Resources.

Trainees from the Thai Department of Mineral Resources have had an opportunity to study in Canadian universities and to review the systems of mineral industry statistical compilation and mineral commodity tracking of the Mineral Policy Sector of Energy, Mines and Resources Canada.

Transportation

In 1986, Transport Canada launched a five-year \$10 million program to assist developing countries in meeting international obligations related to civil aviation security. This involves the provision of needed equipment, technical assistance and training. Thailand has expressed an interest in receiving assistance but an agreement to proceed with the project between CIDA, the sponsoring agency, and the Thai government has yet to be signed. Air Traffic Controller training was completed in October 1987. No new training is forecasted for the near future.

CIDA has also sponsored 18 trainees from Thailand to attend courses provided by Transport Canada's Training Institute in Cornwall, Ontario on

air traffic control as well as to participate in related short-term practical training.

In addition, in November 1989, members from Canada's Airport Task Force visited Bangkok to gain experience in dealing with international transit passengers in Thailand.

In 1992, the Asia Pacific Foundation organized and hosted the Canada-Asia Transport and Trade Forum. Bringing together Canadian executives from the transportation sector with their counterparts from countries in the Asia Pacific region, the conference hoped to shape a new shared vision for transportation and trade in Canada and the Asia Pacific region.

Communications

The Department of Communications (DOC) has been very active in its marketing efforts in Thailand as well as in other Southeast Asian countries. Since 1985, DOC has sponsored several trade and technical missions to and from Thailand in collaboration with External Affairs and International Trade Canada and CIDA.

Thai officials have visited Canada regularly for training in areas of Canadian expertise such as spectrum management. High-level Thai officials have also participated in training sessions at the Telecommunications Executive Management Interchange Centre (TEMIC). This Centre, funded by the Government of Canada and the private sector, provides training in the management and use of telephone and communications systems for representatives of developing countries. Alberta Telecommunications International as well as B.C. Tel's Telecommunications Services International have also provided training and technology in their sector of expertise to Thailand. The Thai government policy to speed up the country's telecommunications services through private sector equity participation may provide opportunities for Canadian companies to penetrate the communications sector.

Defence

The recent accreditation of a Canadian Forces Attaché to Thailand has helped stimulate bilateral co-operation in the area of defence. An agreement has been approved covering participation by Thai military personnel in Canada's Military Training Assistance Program (MTAP). This agreement establishes the legal, financial, security and administrative arrangements under which Thai military personnel are trained in Canada under the MTAP.