

## Relations with Canada

The development of closer relations between Canada and Burundi was hampered for a long time by the existence of a Burundian regime that was restricting the political rights of the Hutu majority. Although still not very close, Canada's relationship with Burundi has greatly improved since the accession to power of a new regime in September 1987.

## Aid from Canada

Since 1983, CIDA has launched two projects in Burundi. One involves professional training, through an agreement between the Ecole polytechnique de Montréal and the Institut de technologie supérieure de Bujumbura (Phase III of that project, amounting to C\$4.5 million, was approved during the summer of 1989). The other project concerns rural development and involves the participation of the Centre d'études et de coopération internationale (CECI), which currently has 13 experts in Burundi. There are also special projects and activities run by non-governmental organizations and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), in addition to those of the Programme de renforcement institutionnel en matière de technologie en Afrique francophone (PRIMTAF) and the programs to fight AIDS.

## Trade with Canada

Canadian exports to Burundi are very modest (around C\$252 000 in 1988) and seem to be stabilized at that level. A few Canadian firms have obtained technical assistance contracts financed by international organizations and CIDA.

## Notes for Travellers

*Time:*

EST + 7

*Passport and visa:*

Valid passports and visas are required.