

The Industrial Co-operation Program of CIDA can be of interest to other Canadian private sector initiatives including seminars and a visits program. Bringing together Canadian and developing country experts to increase opportunities for an exchange of knowledge and information on industrial development opportunities may be supported by CIDA through the provision of travel and living expenses where there is a good likelihood of follow-up business collaborations. An example of this was the support for experts from several Asian countries to attend the Pacific Rim Opportunities Conference III. This mechanism is particularly useful in China initially for Canadians to establish their credentials with the Chinese. Several companies have received support from CIDA to carry out training seminars in fields ranging from forestry to cement production. These training seminars should go beyond the presentations of a firm's products and services in that they should be designed as leads into prospective transfer of technology activities.

Many private educational institutions, co-operatives, professional associations and other non-governmental organizations in Canada are developing linkages with their Chinese counterparts to share their joint expertise and experience in development activities from which both Chinese and Canadian partners can benefit. The organizations concerned are responsible solely for planning and implementing these activities. CIDA's Special Programs Branch has various ways of assisting this work through matching contributions, each method is designed to ensure that support is provided in the most appropriate and flexible way.