NEWS RELEASE



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CANADIAN MINISTERS ANNOUNCE NEW DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH ASEAN

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, and the Minister for External Relations and International Development, the Honourable Monique Landry, today announced that Canada and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have signed an agreement for a \$ 9.1 million training project. The Ministers also announced four new development projects totalling \$ 31.9 million to be funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The new projects will involve long-term training to improve human resource management, technical assistance and equipment for environmental management in areas such as marine science and harvest technology and the establishment of solar energy plants for food processing.

"The agreement just signed will forge new partnerships with individuals and institutions in Canada and the ASEAN nations and further enhance the excellent relations Canada enjoys with one of the most important regions in the world today. These human and institutional bonds will prove to be invaluable assets in our future relations," stated Mr. Clark.

"These projects are just the latest example of Canada's commitment to development in the ASEAN region. They are focussed on human resource development through technology transfers and training, and promote environmentally sound practices," said Mrs Landry.

The Ministers also announced the appointment of 12 new members of the Advisory Council for the Canada-ASEAN Centre in Singapore. The Centre was established in 1989 to promote better understanding between Canadian and ASEAN institutions and cultures, as well as to coordinate CIDA regional projects. It has organized conferences and seminars in the region and supports on-going bilateral efforts at building closer relations between Canada and the ASEAN countries.

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For further information, media representatives should contact:

Media Relations Office External Affairs and International Trade Canada (613) 995-1874

Public Affairs Branch Canadian International Development Agency (819) 953-6060

CANADA-ASEAN DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION PROGRAM

The principal thrust of Canada's development assistance program to ASEAN (Association of South East Asia Nations) and to Regional Institutions is to improve human resource development through technology transfer and training, and to promote environmentally sound practices within the framework of sustainable development. Canada's ASEAN and Regional Institutions Programs consist of 21 projects in such areas as management training, environmental preservation, integration of women into management, forestry and fisheries. The five new ASEAN development projects represent \$41 million in funding commitments by the Canadian International Development Agency. These programs are managed from the Canada-ASEAN Centre which was officially opened in Singapore by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Joe Clark, in July 1989.

NEW CIDA-ASEAN PROJECTS

Following is a short description of each of the five new projects funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) announced today.

The Canada-ASEAN Regional Training Programme

To help ASEAN countries manage development in key areas, this six-year project, worth \$9.1 million, has three major objectives:
1) increase the skills and knowledge of middle and senior level ASEAN public officials; 2) encourage co-operation among ASEAN officials; and 3) strengthen linkages between ASEAN and Canadian individuals and institutions.

The main components of this project are long-term training such as fellowships for Master's level, diploma or certificate study at Canadian universities, colleges and technical institutes, as well as short-term training such as formal courses, practical attachments and study tours, both in Canada and in the ASEAN region.

An early result of this project is the presence in Calgary of senior ASEAN trade officials who are currently participating in a workshop to discuss Canada-ASEAN trade opportunities.

Solar Energy in Drying Processes Project

This 5-year project, worth \$4.7 million, demonstrates how solar energy can be used for food-drying. The project will use existing Canadian technical assistance and equipment to establish solar-drying demonstration plants in each participating country and to disseminate information on this new technology throughout the region.

The focus will be primarily on agriculture and food processing, but will also include small-scale industrial applications.

<u>SEAMEO-Canada Programme of Co-operation in Human Resource</u> <u>Development</u>

The South East Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) was established in 1965 to promote regional co-operation in post-secondary education. The 5-year project, worth \$8.2 million, will fund approximately 1,000 scholarships, develop new curricula, strategic planning and management capacities, as well as strengthen the institutional capacities of the SEAMEO centres.

The goal of the project is to increase the pool of skilled human resources in education, science and culture in SEAMEO member countries. An associated benefit of the project will be the creation of long-term linkages between Canadian and South East Asian education institutions.

Canada-ASEAN Co-operative Programme on Marine Science

Faced with over-exploitation of living marine resources and pollution of the marine environment, ASEAN countries are working to establish environmental criteria to develop and manage these marine resources as well as to protect human health.

This 6-year project, worth \$11 million, will help ASEAN countries upgrade their technical ability to address these problems through formal training and studies to be carried out by joint teams of ASEAN and Canadian marine science professionals.

ASEAN-Canada Fisheries Post-Harvest Technology Project

This 5-year, \$8 million project will assist ASEAN populations in increasing the production and export of fishery products through technology transfer. Three regional centres will be established in Malaysia (for information preparation), Indonesia (for fishery inspection and quality control) and Singapore (for fishery processing technology).

Pilot projects will also be carried out to develop new postharvest technology in the area of quality control, processing, packaging and marketing.

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For further information, please contact: Jean-Marc Emery Public Affairs Branch, CIDA (819) 953-6060

Advisory Council for the Canada-ASEAN Centre

Newly-appointed members

CANADA

Mr. Graeme McDonald - President and Chief Executive Officer, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, Vancouver

Mr. Andre Saumier - Alpha Capitale Inc., Montreal

Mr. Jeoffrey Lyons - Fogler, Rubinoff. Toronto

Ms. Lorna Wright - School of Business, Queen's University, Kingston

His Excellency Mr. Bernard Gagosz - High Commissioner, Canadian High Commission, Singapore

Mr. Ian Robertson - Executive Director, Canada-ASEAN Centre, Singapore

MALAYSIA

Tunku Naguiyuddin ibni Tuanku Ja'afar - Chairman, Antah Holdings Berhad, Kuala Lumpur

INDONESIA

Mr. Sabam Siagian - Editor, Jakarta Post, Jakarta

PHILIPPINES

Mr. Roy Navarro - Senior Partner, Sycip, Gorres, Velayo (Chartered Accountant and Management Consulting Firm), Vice-President of Philippines Chamber of Commerce, Canada-ASEAN Business Council, Manilla

SINGAPORE

Mr. Lim Pin - Professor, Vice-Chancellor, National University of Singapore, Singapore

BRUNEI

Ms. Dattin Aziza - Vice-Chancellor, Brunei National University, Bandar Seri Begawan

THAILAND

Mr. Anand Panyarachon - Chairman, Sahunion Corp. Ltd., Former Ambassador to Canada and the U.S.A., Bangkok