



Education *for*  
Sustainable Development  
in Canada:  
The Work of the Federal Government



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

Canada 

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# Education *for* Sustainable Development in Canada: The Work of the Federal Government

## PREFACE

Education has been internationally recognized as a necessary foundation for sustainable development. The first formal recognition of this topic appeared in Chapter 36 of Agenda 21, which emphasized the role of education, public awareness, and training. In December 2002, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 57/254, thereby embarking on plans for a United Nations Decade for Education for Sustainable Development to take place during 2005–2014 under the leadership of the United Nations Education and Scientific Cooperation Organization (UNESCO). This endeavour is designed to promote education as the foundation of sustainable society, to integrate sustainable development into all educational systems, and to encourage international cooperation in the search for innovative approaches to this task.

The “Draft International Implementation Scheme for the U.N. Decade of Education for Sustainable Development,” presented to the U.N. General Assembly in October 2004, acknowledges that “there is no universal model of education for sustainable development” and that “there will be nuanced differences according to local contexts, priorities, and approaches.” Canada, like other nations, must move forward in defining its own priorities and actions for education for sustainable development, addressing its own social, environmental, and economic needs in ways that are culturally sensitive and forward looking.

Education components are an integral part of the strategies by which the Government of Canada manages for sustainable development. This compendium, *Education for Sustainable Development in Canada: The Work of the Federal Government*, brings together the education-related commitments in the current (2004–2006) sustainable development strategies of the 29 federal departments and agencies. Among other purposes, the compendium creates a foundation on which to build in the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

Canada has a strong track record in formal environmental education and many years of experience in outreach programming through museums, nature centres, parks and reserves, community and environmental groups, and other organizations committed to environmental and cultural conservation. At the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, Canada presented *A Framework for Environmental Learning and Sustainability in Canada*, which, among other things, identified the need for a systematic approach to take environmental learning forward in the broader context of sustainable development. The Framework encouraged use of three key strategies that develop and share knowledge, build capacity, and support sustainable living. This compendium illustrates how the Government of Canada is turning many of the ideas in the Framework into action through its federal sustainable development strategies.

The Government of Canada is pleased to be involved in the early days of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and looks forward to working with other countries and sharing information and experiences as we cooperate in making education for sustainable development a priority for the next decade.

## INTRODUCTION

Sustainable development meets the needs of people today without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Education for sustainable development can help people understand what sustainable development means in everyday terms, bringing them into a clearer understanding of the issues and their interconnections. It can also help them to develop the values, outlooks, knowledge, and skills they need to move forward into a sustainable future.

Education for sustainable development is a process, not an end, taking place inside the traditional classroom but also moving beyond to encompass any means that empowers people to reach toward the goal of sustainable development. It provides a conceptual framework within which people can analyse issues critically, recognizing the interplay among the environment, economy, and society. It encourages people to lay aside simplistic explanations and linear, cause-and-effect thinking and instead to take a long-range systems approach to dealing with the issues of living sustainably in our world.

## THIS REPORT OBJECTIVES

In the *Draft International Implementation Scheme for the U.N. Decade of Education for Sustainable Development*, five major objectives for education for sustainable development are recognized (p. 5):

- *To give an enhanced profile to the central role of education and learning in the common pursuit of sustainable development*

- *To facilitate links and networking, exchange and interaction among stakeholders in education for sustainable development*
- *To provide a space and opportunity for refining and promoting the vision of, and transition to sustainable development – through all forms of learning and public awareness*
- *To foster increased quality of teaching and learning in education for sustainable development*
- *To develop strategies at every level to strengthen capacity in education for sustainable development*

It is the purpose of this report to offer a snapshot of the initiatives currently being undertaken by the Government of Canada to work toward fulfilment of these objectives for the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. This report creates a foundation on which further federal educational initiatives can be built over the next decade and helps to identify gaps where more work is needed.

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

An important vehicle through which the Government of Canada is moving toward greater sustainability is the sustainable development strategies required of most of its departments and agencies. Sustainable development strategies outline departmental objectives and action plans to integrate sustainable development into policies, programs, legislation, and operations. These strategies, now in their third generation, are useful in guiding both the Government of Canada's in-house operations and its services to Canadians. While as a group the strategies share some themes and address some common issues, they are individually tailored to reflect the unique mandates of individual departments and agencies and thus cover a broad range of interests that change over time. As progress is assessed against the targets outlined in each strategy, new issues may arise, calling for flexibility and setting the stage for continuous improvement.

## THE FOCUS OF THIS REPORT

The primary focus of the sustainable development strategies is not education, but they do contain commitments for increasing the awareness of, and

promoting education for, sustainable development and thus provide a snapshot of federal efforts to this end. Examples given in this report are drawn primarily from these strategies, and although these examples do not cover all Government of Canada education activities for sustainable development, they do illustrate the general path being taken.

## READING THIS REPORT

This report begins with a brief description of education in Canada, along with some of the steps being taken to incorporate the concept of sustainability into educational processes and curricula. It then clarifies the role of the Government of Canada in education for sustainable development, underlining its commitment to this process and identifying expected results and means of achieving those results. The largest section of the report is devoted to a description of Government of Canada activities that support education for sustainable development. These activities are divided into three sections – Raising Awareness, Engagement, and Information for Decision Making. In practice, there is considerable overlap between these sections, with activities that raise awareness also resulting in engagement, activities that invite engagement also involving decisions that require good information, and so on. For the most part, activities are described in one section only, even if they belong equally well in another.

**RAISING AWARENESS** describes the activities undertaken by the Government of Canada to expose citizens and federal workers to the concept and principles of sustainable development and to increase their understanding of related issues.

**ENGAGEMENT** illustrates the variety of ways in which the Government of Canada calls citizens, global partners, and federal workers to greater personal and corporate responsibility for sustainability and invites them to take action toward this goal.

**INFORMATION FOR DECISION MAKING** exemplifies the many types of information offered by the Government of Canada, as well as the methods by

which this information is conveyed, to help Canadians in making decisions that support sustainable development.

Further information on these and other sustainable development activities of the Government of Canada can be obtained by visiting departmental and agency websites, given at the end of the report.

The **ANNEX** at the end of the report details actual targets related to education for sustainable development contained in the sustainable development strategies of many federal departments and agencies.

## EDUCATION IN CANADA

Canada already enjoys a high level and quality of formal education, leading the world for such educational performance indicators as the share of the population that achieves tertiary education and the share of women in advanced education, and ranking among the front runners for language literacy. This success provides a strong foundation and framework for incorporating education for sustainable development into formal education systems.

In Canada, education is the mandate of each province and territory, supported by transfer payments from the Government of Canada to ensure continuing high standards. Through the intergovernmental Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC), provincial and territorial education ministers work together on common interests and consult and cooperate with national education organizations and the Government of Canada. In 1997, the CMEC formalized the inclusion of sustainable development in Canada's educational agenda in *The Common Framework of Science Learning Outcomes, Pan-Canadian Protocol for Collaboration on School Curriculum* and went on in 2002 to report on Canada's progress in education for sustainable development in *Educating for Sustainability: The Status of Sustainable Development Education in Canada* (see Sidebar). Provincial education ministries are also exploring ways to include aspects of sustainable development in their training programs.

## CANADA REPORT ON EDUCATING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

IN 2002, THE COUNCIL OF EDUCATION MINISTERS, CANADA, ISSUED THE REPORT *EDUCATING FOR SUSTAINABILITY: THE STATUS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION IN CANADA*. THIS REPORT ANALYZED CANADA'S PROGRESS RELATED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION, INCLUDING A REVIEW OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING POLICIES, GUIDELINES, CURRICULA, TEACHER EDUCATION, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, MATERIALS/RESOURCES, EDUCATIONAL MODELS, EDUCATIONAL PRIORITIES AND OTHER INNOVATIVE PRACTICES AS THEY RELATE TO EDUCATING FOR SUSTAINABILITY. IT ALSO SET THE CONTEXT FOR CONTINUING DIALOGUE AND CONSTRUCTION OF A RELEVANT FRAMEWORK FOR FUTURE ACTION. (SEE [HTTP://WWW.CMEEC.CA/ELSE/ENVIRONMENT.EN.PDF](http://www.cmeec.ca/else/environment.en.pdf)).

Education for sustainable development also takes place outside the formal classroom setting. Some communities across Canada are taking action to become healthy and sustainable through public education, participation, and communication. Environmental and conservation groups, community action groups, public service and youth clubs, and many other organizations also make education for sustainable development part of their activities. The Government of Canada is a key partner in many of these activities, offering and supporting programs that increase Canadians' awareness and understanding of sustainable development and engage them in making the changes needed to support sustainability.

## THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA'S ROLE IN EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Government of Canada's credibility in its work toward sustainability demands that we practise the principles of sustainable development in our own departments and create an environment in which all Canadians can begin to live more sustainably. Through the development of priorities, plans, policies, and programs, the foundation is being laid for a broad range of work that supports sustainable development and equips the federal government to lead in this area, from greening internal operations to bringing communities here and abroad into a fuller understanding of what it means to live sustainably. Every component of this work holds opportunities for education for sustainable development. Identifying and capitalizing on these opportunities can be guided by Canadian experience in environmental education and the values and principles enunciated in "Canada's Framework on Environmental Learning and Sustainability" (see Sidebar). This framework, released by Environment Canada at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, sets out a vision for education for environmental sustainability in Canada.

### RESULTS

The Government of Canada believes that as a result of education for sustainable development, Canadians will come to understand that sustainable development contributes to their health and well-being, sense of place, social cohesion, equity, and heritage, and supports sustainable communities. People will have better access to the knowledge and tools that allow them to seize opportunities, confront challenges, compete successfully in the global marketplace, and take advantage of the social, environmental, and economic benefits afforded by sustainable development. They will recognize the vital role of science and technology in sustainable development, value investment in research and development, and support the further building of knowledge and capacity upon which sustainable development is built. In short, Canadians will become more accepting of the changes needed to achieve sustainable development, and more willing to alter their own behaviour accordingly.

## GOALS

To achieve these results, high goals must be set. These goals include:

- *Using new approaches and encouraging dialogue that contribute to the evolution and improvement of government policy and practices in support of education for sustainable development in Canada*
- *Refining and expanding Canada's knowledge base with respect to sustainable development by tapping traditional knowledge, learning from the experience of other countries, supporting sound research and technological advances, and maintaining appropriate monitoring programs*
- *Using the best expertise and technology to compile and integrate data, and creating functional information tools and making them available to decision makers*
- *Providing Canadians with the knowledge, skills, and tools they need to make informed and responsible decisions related to sustainable development in their homes and workplaces*
- *Placing a high value on human resources by working for social equality and cohesion, making the best use of experience and expertise, and inviting the informed participation of all stakeholders in decision making*

## CANADA'S FRAMEWORK ON ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING AND SUSTAINABILITY

CANADA'S FRAMEWORK ON ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING AND SUSTAINABILITY WAS DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH THOUSANDS OF CANADIANS. IT OUTLINES VALUES AND PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE A LIFE-LONG LEARNING PROCESS FOR ECOLOGICAL LITERACY AND SUSTAINABLE LIVING. COMMUNITIES, ORGANIZATIONS, SCHOOLS, THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND GOVERNMENTS ARE ALL ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING BY DEVELOPING AND CARRYING OUT THEIR OWN ACTION PLANS, EACH DEVELOPED ACCORDING TO PARTICIPANTS' MEANS AND MANDATES. MORE THAN 230 ACTION PLANS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED TO DATE.

- *Engaging all provincial and territorial governments, indigenous peoples, industry, not-for-profit organizations, communities, and individuals in building capacity to support sustainable development in Canada at their levels of influence*





# RAISING AWARENESS

# 1.

Enhanced awareness of sustainable development supports the first of four principles for achieving sustainable human development enunciated at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in 2002 – *recognition of the challenge*. A Canadian public with heightened awareness about the concept and issues of environmental health and sustainable development can play a more significant role in practising sustainability in their homes, businesses, organizations, institutions, and communities, and influencing others in this direction. Federal government employees with such an awareness can work together to make the Government of Canada sustainable in both its operations and client services, and also take the message home.

## RAISING AWARENESS AMONG CANADIANS

### AWARENESS THEMES

Sustainable development is a broad and complex concept, touching upon numerous aspects of the lives of Canadians. In keeping with one of the principles for achieving sustainable human development agreed upon at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in 2002 – *the indivisibility of human dignity* – the Government promotes the universal themes of freedom, respect, belonging, and peace, and helps Canadians better understand and appreciate their own culture, as well as the cultures of others. On the home front, the federal government is working to strengthen Canada's social foundations by building awareness of its social

supports and services, such as those offered for children and families by Social Development Canada. Citizenship and Immigration Canada works to reduce social isolation and exclusion by promoting equity and raising the profile of the Diversity Network and the Youth Network. Canadian culture is profiled and promoted through many activities of Canadian Heritage, such as cultural exchanges, ceremonies, and other special events (see Sidebar).

### CELEBRATE CANADA!

CELEBRATE CANADA! IS A FESTIVE CELEBRATION OF CANADA'S HISTORY AND CULTURE. RUNNING FOR SEVERAL DAYS IN LATE JUNE AND CULMINATING ON JULY 1 – CANADA DAY – THIS CULTURAL EVENT FEATURES CELEBRATIONS ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY, PLANNED AND CARRIED OUT BY LOCAL GROUPS AND COMMUNITIES. LED BY CANADIAN HERITAGE, CELEBRATE CANADA! GIVES CANADIANS A CHANCE TO KICK UP THEIR HEELS IN CELEBRATION OF THE GREAT COUNTRY THEY LIVE IN AND THE PEOPLE THEY SHARE IT WITH. SPECIAL DAYS DURING THE EVENT, LIKE NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY AND CANADIAN MULTICULTURALISM DAY, HELP CANADIANS DEVELOP A BETTER APPRECIATION FOR THE MANY TYPES OF PEOPLE THAT MAKE UP CANADIAN SOCIETY.

On the international front, Foreign Affairs Canada raises awareness about security and respect for human rights, good governance, and the rule of law as prerequisites for sustainable development. The Canadian International Development Agency is eager to promote greater public understanding and support of international development, funding a growing number of public education projects, providing information to the media and other interested parties, and working with other federal departments engaged internationally to pool ideas and resources. The Agency also builds awareness and capacity in client countries related to environmental issues, public sector reform, and human rights.

Although Canadians are growing in their environmental consciousness, there is still a need to expand public awareness in this area and to encourage people to exercise personal responsibility for the environment. As one step toward meeting this need, Natural Resources Canada and Environment Canada are working with other federal departments to pose the One Tonne Challenge to Canadians (see Sidebar). Transport Canada is raising awareness of sustainable transportation issues, benefits, and trade-offs; practices

### **ONE-TONNE CHALLENGE**

**THE AVERAGE CANADIAN PRODUCES ABOUT FIVE TONNES OF GREENHOUSE GASES (GHGS) EACH YEAR. CANADA'S ONE-TONNE CHALLENGE ASKS CANADIANS TO REDUCE THEIR ANNUAL GHG EMISSIONS BY ONE TONNE, OR ABOUT 20%. THE CHALLENGE IS FOR EACH AND EVERY PERSON TO MAKE A PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO USING ENERGY AND RESOURCES MORE EFFICIENTLY. HOW? BY DRIVING LESS OR USING OTHER FORMS OF TRANSPORTATION, BY MAKING SMART DECISIONS ABOUT HEATING, COOLING, AND APPLIANCE USE IN THE HOME, AND BY CONSIDERING THE ENVIRONMENT EVERY TIME THEY MAKE A CHOICE. THE ONE-TONNE CHALLENGE SUPPORTS CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD-WIDE EFFORTS TO REDUCE AND ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE.**

that individuals can adopt to reduce the adverse impacts of transportation; and safety and security issues associated with transportation activities (such as rail crossings, air security, and boat safety).

Health is a key public concern, and one with strong links to the environment. Environment Canada and Industry Canada co-lead the Health and Environment Linkages Initiative, a global initiative for better public policies linking human health and the environment. The Public Health Agency of Canada promotes awareness of “active living” among Canadians, connecting increased physical activity levels with improved health. Health Canada has several initiatives under way to increase public awareness of important food safety issues.

### **MEANS OF RAISING AWARENESS**

Many federal departments provide services and educational resources to teachers and students to enhance their understanding of sustainable development. For example, Parks Canada is creating a team dedicated to reaching out to educators, curriculum writers, and provincial education ministries to build a greater appreciation for Canada's natural and cultural heritage. Awareness sessions on environmental issues are part of the academic upgrading offered to prison inmates by Correctional Service Canada.

The Government of Canada makes a variety of tools and technologies available to help Canadians become more aware of sustainable development issues and opportunities. The Internet is a key informational tool in today's world, and Industry Canada is working with partners to ensure that all communities across Canada have broadband access and are aware of the benefits of Internet applications such as e-learning and e-health. Geospatial information is being made available to a variety of audiences by Natural Resources Canada through the development of a CD-ROM, website, educational workshops, and technical papers and articles. Television and radio programming are also being employed to support sustainability, such as Canadian Heritage's English- and French-as-a-Second-Language programming on ethnic media to

make ethnocultural minorities aware of its Family Violence Program, aimed at stabilizing family structure.

### TARGETING AWARENESS INITIATIVES

The Government of Canada often directs public awareness initiatives to specific groups. For example, several federal government information programs promote awareness among consumers and assist them in making purchasing choices that support sustainable development, such as:

- *The EnerGuide program for appliances, heating and cooling equipment, houses, and vehicles, which helps consumers consider energy-efficiency ratings when purchasing these items*
- *The Auto\$mart Program, which encourages motorists to buy, drive, and maintain their vehicles in ways that reduce fuel consumption, save money, and benefit the environment*
- *The Environmental Choice<sup>M</sup> Program, an ecolabelling program that helps consumers to identify environmentally friendly products and services*

Businesses can gain a competitive advantage as they become more aligned with sustainable development and offer more-sustainable products and services, and also position themselves to help other countries on their path to sustainable development (see Sidebar). The Government of Canada has a number of initiatives to make businesses more aware of the opportunities available to them related to sustainable development, including those that reduce or prevent pollution and improve eco-efficiency, and products that capitalize on advances in nanotechnology and biotechnology. For example, Industry Canada is developing a comprehensive database to inform industry about clean and advanced manufacturing processes and practices. The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency helps businesses understand the implications of climate change, provides learning sessions on eco-efficiency, and invites other departments to make presentations to businesses and communities about the national environmental programs available to them.

## CANADIAN COMPANY SHARES INNOVATIVE WATER TECHNOLOGY IN DISASTER ZONE

SHORTLY AFTER DEVASTATING TSUNAMIS HIT SOUTHEAST ASIA IN DECEMBER 2004, ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS OF ZENON ENVIRONMENTAL INC., AN ONTARIO COMPANY SPECIALIZING IN R&D OF WATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS, INTERRUPTED THEIR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS TO WORK ON A PLAN TO TAKE THEIR TECHNOLOGY TO AREAS WORST HIT BY THE DISASTER. DAYS LATER, THE FIRST PLANES WERE LANDING IN SRI LANKA AND INDIA, CARRYING \$250,000 WORTH OF DONATED HOME-FILTRATION UNITS TO PROVIDE SAFE DRINKING WATER TO 350,000 PEOPLE IN SOME 54 DESPERATE COMMUNITIES. ZENON, RANKED AMONG CANADA'S TOP 100 EMPLOYERS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS, HAS TWICE WON A PRESTIGIOUS CORPORATE CITIZEN AWARD BASED ON ITS COMMITMENT TO SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

Many federal departments run special programs to make rural Canadians aware of the information and services available to them, including those that support sustainability. For example, Natural Resources Canada is working with partners to develop an information toolkit, communications strategy, and products to help northern Ontario residents better understand the impacts and benefits of mining, including employment and business opportunities. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Rural Secretariat works in partnership with Canadians in rural and remote areas to build strong, dynamic communities, seeking input from them through the Rural Dialogue and providing one-stop access to information through the Canadian Rural Information Service.

## RAISING AWARENESS AMONG FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

### CORPORATE AWARENESS

A key objective of the Government of Canada is to promote sustainable development among its departments and agencies by providing better information and raising awareness. Many departments and agencies have sustainable development committees to carry out this task. Corporate awareness of sustainable development is being raised among federal employees in a number of ways, such as special events and conferences, courses, workshops and seminars, lunch-time talks, information updates on departmental websites, sustainable development columns in intradepartmental

## RAISING GOVERNMENT AWARENESS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH GOVERNANCE

HEALTH CANADA RELIES HEAVILY ON ITS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE TO PROMOTE DEPARTMENTAL AWARENESS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. THROUGH APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT OF THE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE, WHICH COMPRISES BOTH SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND WORKING LEVEL COMMITTEES WITH REPRESENTATION FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY, THE DEPARTMENT FACILITATES REGIONAL NETWORKING AND PARTICIPATION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. THIS APPROACH LEADS TO CONSISTENT APPLICATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT, CREATING A BETTER ENVIRONMENT FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE. THE KEY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE ARE SPELLED OUT IN HEALTH CANADA'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICY, WHICH ALSO CALLS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIES TO EDUCATE STAFF ON THE CONCEPTS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

newsletters, information kits for new employees, fact sheets and bulletins giving notice of best practices and new developments, and awards for employees who show initiative in pursuing sustainable development options.

Departmental environmental management systems are a key tool for raising employee awareness about internal sustainable development initiatives. Through updates in their environmental management system business plan, for example, Industry Canada keeps employees abreast of environmental issues, green procurement and waste reduction programs, and best management practices for facilities and fleet management. Health Canada has committed to developing guidebooks and action plans for all facility managers and program staff to identify, prioritize, and propose department-specific issues to be addressed for adopting a departmental pollution prevention approach in administering programs.

### INFORMATION SHARING

Over time, federal departments develop expertise in sustainable development issues relevant to their mandates. Sharing this expertise and information with other federal groups is key to advancing work on these issues across the government. For example:

- *Canadian Heritage helps other departments identify ways of integrating a social and cultural perspective into their approaches to sustainable development.*
- *Public Works and Government Services Canada offers outreach sessions to other departments to make them aware of green procurement tools and activities.*
- *Environment Canada is working to expand other departments' understanding and awareness of the role of economic instruments as a tool for furthering sustainable development.*



# ENGAGEMENT

# 2.

The government has a leadership role to play in sustainable development, but sustainable development is a shared responsibility requiring joint effort. Individuals, special interest groups, businesses, non-government agencies – in fact, everyone – must become involved for sustainable development to become a way of life in our society. Beyond raising awareness about sustainable development, the Government of Canada seeks to engage people in activities that will support the goals of sustainable development. Such engagement promotes *collective responsibility and constructive partnerships*, and helps people to *act with determination*, two additional principles for achieving sustainable human development enunciated at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in 2002.

## ENGAGING CANADIANS AND GLOBAL PARTNERS

### GRASSROOTS PARTICIPATION

Countless Canadians volunteer their services to help build community and restore the environment in Canada and abroad (see Sidebar). For example, Fisheries and Oceans Canada invites public participation in the restoration and enhancement of fish habitat across the country. Parks Canada is establishing partnerships with people living in the immediate vicinity of national parks to help maintain the ecological integrity of these areas. Members of the public and organizations can also participate in the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency's review panels.

### CANADIANS PARTICIPATE IN HABITAT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

THE HABITAT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM HELPS CANADIANS PROTECT SPECIES AT RISK AND THEIR HABITATS. THE PROGRAM FOSTERS LAND AND RESOURCE USE PRACTICES THAT MAINTAIN THE HABITAT NECESSARY FOR THE SURVIVAL AND RECOVERY OF SPECIES AT RISK, ENHANCING EXISTING CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES AND ENCOURAGING NEW ONES. PARTNERSHIPS ARE KEY TO MAKING THIS VOLUNTARY STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM A SUCCESSFUL CONSERVATION TOOL. SINCE IT BEGAN IN 2000, THE PROGRAM HAS ESTABLISHED PARTNERSHIPS WITH ABORIGINAL ORGANIZATIONS, LANDOWNERS, RESOURCE USERS, NATURE TRUSTS, PROVINCES, THE NATURAL RESOURCE SECTOR, COMMUNITY-BASED WILDLIFE SOCIETIES, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS.

### DECISION MAKING AND MANAGEMENT

As the Government of Canada strives to increase transparency in its decision-making process, federal departments and agencies are taking new approaches to better inform and involve citizens. Public and stakeholder consultation is a key element of the sustainable development strategies required of most federal departments, as well as many other federal initiatives. The Government of Canada website “Consulting Canadians” streamlines this process

## ABORIGINAL INVOLVEMENT IN OCEANS MANAGEMENT

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA HAS DEVELOPED THE ABORIGINAL AQUATIC RESOURCE AND OCEANS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE ABORIGINAL PARTICIPATION IN MULTILATERAL DECISION-MAKING AND ADVISORY PROCESSES RELATED TO MANAGING FISHERIES. OTHER PARTNERS IN THIS PROCESS INCLUDE FISHERS, SCIENTISTS, INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES, CONSERVATION GROUPS, AND GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES. THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED AROUND 1) SUPPORT FOR ABORIGINAL GROUPS THAT COME TOGETHER ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS TO CREATE COMMON AQUATIC MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES, 2) POTENTIAL FUNDING FOR ABORIGINAL FISHERY OFFICERS, 3) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, 4) CAPACITY-BUILDING ASSISTANCE, AND 5) COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ACCESS AND AQUACULTURE OPPORTUNITIES. THE PROGRAM APPLIES ONLY WHERE FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA MANAGES THE FISHERY.

by providing single-window access to a listing of consultations from selected government departments and agencies.

The Government of Canada is also redesigning policy and programming in a number of areas to create management partnerships with key stakeholders. A key example of this change is Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Oceans Strategy, which seeks to engage governments, Aboriginal organizations (see Sidebar), coastal communities, and other stakeholders and interested Canadians in sharing information in support of sustainable oceans.

### SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Sustainable development applied at the community level includes aspects of society, health, culture, economy, and environment. The Government of Canada seeks to engage whole communities in becoming more sustainable by supporting them in making decisions and taking action to enhance and protect their own futures. Industry Canada's Smart Communities Program encourages Canadian communities to use

information and communication technologies in innovative ways to achieve better health care delivery, education, and business opportunities, while its Community Futures Program supports local economic development by promoting community enhancement and diversification. Through the Sustainable Community Indicators Program, a partnership program between Environment Canada, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, guidance is offered to communities interested in developing their own set of sustainability indicators. Other federal initiatives for sustainable communities include:

- *Western Economic Diversification Canada's urban development agreements – working with provincial and municipal partners to address urban development issues ranging from inner city revitalization to strengthened innovation and sustainable economic development*

### SUSTAINABLE CITIES INITIATIVE

THE SUSTAINABLE CITIES INITIATIVE (SCI) IS AN INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AIMED AT ENHANCING THE SUSTAINABILITY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN CITIES. ITS MAIN FOCUS AREAS ARE CLEAN WATER, WASTE MANAGEMENT, CLEAN ENERGY, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING, CAPACITY BUILDING, URBAN PLANNING, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS, AND PORT DEVELOPMENT. LED BY INDUSTRY CANADA, THE SCI NOW OPERATES IN 15 CITIES AROUND THE WORLD, WITH PLANS FOR EXPANSION. CANADIAN TEAM MEMBERS WORK WITH LOCAL PARTNERS TO PREPARE A ROADMAP FOR THEIR CITY THAT DEFINES A VISION FOR THE FUTURE AND TARGETS INITIATIVES THAT PROMOTE URBAN SUSTAINABILITY. THE SCI SHOWCASES CANADA'S EXPERTISE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGIES AND SERVICES, DEMONSTRATING THE IMPORTANT ROLE THE PRIVATE SECTOR CAN PLAY IN REDUCING POVERTY, ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE AND PROMOTING THE PRINCIPLES OF GOOD GOVERNANCE.

- *Infrastructure Canada Program – working with urban and rural communities to invest in projects that enhance the quality of the environment, support longterm economic growth, and enhance community infrastructure*
- *Human Resources and Skills Development Canada's National Homelessness Initiative, which builds the capacity of communities to address homelessness locally*
- *Social Development Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program, which encourages the social involvement of seniors through community-based projects*

Canada will host the 2006 United Nations World Urban Forum in Vancouver, British Columbia. This forum engages governments, the private sector, and not-for-profit groups in dialogue aimed at building sustainable urban communities around the world and influencing national urban policies.

### **SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES**

The Government of Canada promotes sustainable business and economic development, engaging enterprises in becoming more socially and environmentally responsible. Environment Canada's Corporate Environmental Innovation initiative aims to accelerate innovation and improve environmental performance in the corporate sector by encouraging and supporting corporate sustainability leadership. Canadian businesses are also challenged to report on their social and environmental practices and performance.

To support and encourage companies in reporting on their sustainability performance, several federal departments cooperated with the private sector to launch the on-line Corporate Sustainability Reporting Toolkit. The toolkit details reporting methods that can be adapted to specific businesses and stakeholder interests.

A key method of engaging business is through promoting environmentally sustainable practices. In this line, Industry Canada works with partners to demonstrate the contribution of eco-efficiency to enhanced productivity and environmental performance, promote technological innovation, and apply the tools in the marketplace. A concrete example of actions taken to achieve these goals is the Enviroclub Program (see Sidebar), a partnership of Canada Economic

### **ENVIROCLUB**

TO HELP SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESSES IMPROVE THEIR PROFITABILITY AND COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH BETTER ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, CANADA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR QUEBEC REGIONS, ENVIRONMENT CANADA, AND NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL CANADA HAVE CREATED A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO OFFER A PROGRAM CALLED ENVIROCLUB. AN ENVIROCLUB IS A GROUP OF ABOUT 15 COMPANIES FROM A GIVEN REGION OR ACTIVITY SECTOR THAT RECEIVE FUNDING AND THE ASSISTANCE OF A SPECIALIZED CONSULTANT TO HELP THEM CARRY OUT AN IN-PLANT PROJECT TO PREVENT POLLUTION AND THUS SAVE ON PRODUCTION COSTS. PARTICIPATING COMPANIES ALSO ADD TO THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE THROUGH PRACTICAL, INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS, AT THE SAME TIME EXPANDING THEIR NETWORK OF PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS. BESIDES THE ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS THEY PROFER TO SOCIETY, THESE COMPANIES ARE EXPECTED TO BENEFIT ECONOMICALLY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1.5 MILLION A YEAR.

Development for Quebec Regions, Environment Canada, and National Research Council Canada. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada encourages producers to develop environmental farm plans that identify the environmental risks and benefits of their farming operations, and to develop an action plan to mitigate the risks, thus stabilizing both the environmental and economic aspects of production.

Another means of engaging businesses is by assisting them in taking advantage of new sustainable business opportunities, including those in the rapidly expanding sector of environmental services and products. For example, the Western Economic Diversification Canada carried out consultations with business, academic, not-for-profit, and government decision-makers across Western Canada on how to expand the environmental technologies sector, a process that led to the Western Canadian Environmental Technology Forum (see Sidebar). The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency

## **WESTERN CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY FORUM**

**THE WESTERN CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY FORUM, HELD IN VANCOUVER IN DECEMBER 2003, BROUGHT TOGETHER MORE THAN 120 OF WESTERN CANADA'S ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY LEADERS. AT THE FORUM, PAUL MARTIN, NOW PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA, CHALLENGED THE INDUSTRY TO PROPOSE THREE CONCRETE ACTIONS THE GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE TO SUPPORT THE GROWING ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY SECTOR. SUBSEQUENT CONSULTATION WITH INDUSTRY LEADERS GAVE RISE TO THREE RECOMMENDATIONS: 1) PROVIDE MEANINGFUL SUPPORT FOR DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS, 2) ADOPT REGULATORY REGIMES THAT ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF INNOVATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES, AND 3) IMPLEMENT FISCAL INCENTIVES TO PROMOTE THE EARLY ADOPTION OF NEW ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES.**

is also working with the private sector to target strategic growth sectors, such as ocean industries, biotechnology, aquaculture, and ecotourism, and work with the environmental industries sector to expand export of their products and services.

### **RESEARCH PARTNERS**

Innovation is key to our progress toward sustainable development, making research and development a critical focus. The Government of Canada works closely with a variety of research partners to build the knowledge and develop the technologies needed to make sustainable development possible. For example, Parks Canada is establishing cooperative study units at Canadian universities, as well as partnerships with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and conservation data centres in the provinces and territories, to expand the scientific knowledge about national parks and apply it through management plans. Foreign Affairs Canada and International Trade Canada are identifying partners to collaborate in international research and development and capital investment in

innovative, pollution-reducing, and energy-efficient Canadian products and services.

Research networks offer good support for collaboration and effective transfer of information. Environment Canada is developing closer collaboration between environmental science and technology performers (universities, governments, industry) through the establishment and promotion of science and technology networks, including the federal Assistant Deputy Minister Science and Technology Integration Board, the Canadian Environmental Sciences Network, and regional and issue-specific networks. Industry Canada is working to increase awareness of a Green Chemistry Network within government and industry research organizations to promote cross-fertilization of ideas, research collaboration, and commercialization of new products and services.

Collaboration to build the knowledge base also takes place outside government circles, as illustrated by the partnership of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency with the academic and private sector on research and development in the environmental industries sector. Together they are exploring new technologies and other innovations that have good commercialization potential and hold promise for

## **CANADA'S MODEL FORESTS**

**CANADA'S MODEL FOREST PROGRAM, INITIATED BY THE CANADIAN FOREST SERVICE, BRINGS LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS TOGETHER TO FIND NEW WAYS OF MANAGING FORESTS SUSTAINABLY. PARTNERS INCLUDE ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, INDIGENOUS GROUPS, INDUSTRY, EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS, ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, COMMUNITY-BASED ASSOCIATIONS, RECREATIONISTS, AND LANDOWNERS. A MODEL FOREST IS A HANDS-ON LABORATORY IN WHICH LEADING-EDGE MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES ARE RESEARCHED, DEVELOPED, APPLIED, AND MONITORED. IT ENCOMPASSES A WORKING-SCALE LAND BASE WHERE PARTICIPANTS HAVE A DIRECT INTEREST IN, AND INFLUENCE ON, USES IN THE FOREST.**



supporting the economy of Canada's Atlantic Provinces at a time when traditional industries, such as fishing, are unstable.

### INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

The perspectives of Canada's indigenous peoples are valuable, and many federal departments and agencies are developing ways to incorporate traditional knowledge into their policies and programs, enhance indigenous peoples' understanding of sustainable development issues, and increase their participation in developing approaches to resolving these issues, as shown by the following:

- *The Urban Aboriginal Strategy engages indigenous peoples in improving their social conditions in Canadian cities.*
- *Indian and Northern Affairs Canada is developing regional cooperative processes among federal departments and indigenous communities and organizations to discuss common priorities, as well as tools to foster and assess the sustainability of indigenous communities.*

### WALPOLE ISLAND HERITAGE CENTRE

THE WALPOLE ISLAND HERITAGE CENTRE, OR NIN.DA.WAAB.JIG (MEANING, "THOSE WHO SEEK TO FIND"), WAS OFFICIALLY FOUNDED IN JULY 1989 WITH THE GOALS OF PRESERVING AND RESTORING THE WALPOLE ISLAND FIRST NATION'S NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE; RESTORING THE RIGHTS, AND IMPROVING THE CAPACITY, TO MANAGE AND GOVERN THE WALPOLE ISLAND FIRST NATION AND ITS TRADITIONAL HOMELANDS FAIRLY, EFFECTIVELY, AND EFFICIENTLY; AND PROMOTING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF WALPOLE ISLAND INTO THE NEXT CENTURY. THROUGH THE CENTRE'S WORK, WALPOLE ISLAND HAS BECOME ONE OF THE FIRST ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES IN CANADA TO TAKE LEADERSHIP IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, INFLUENCING ITS OWN MEMBERSHIP, OTHER FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES, PRIVATE INDUSTRY, AND GOVERNMENTAL POLICY MAKERS.

- *The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency is working to incorporate Aboriginal perspectives into environmental assessment policy and establish an Aboriginal Advisory Committee that will have a role in emerging environmental assessment processes under self-government and land claims agreements.*
- *Health Canada is working in collaboration with First Nations and Inuit, along with provincial and territorial governments, to better integrate health services.*

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Canada's children and youth are tomorrow's decision makers, and the Government of Canada is investing in preparing them for this task. Through the SchoolNet program, Canada's schools and libraries are being equipped with the information technology to connect young Canadians with the best information and knowledge the world has to offer, readying them to participate in the knowledge-based society. Federal departments and agencies are also involving children and youth in learning more about their environment and sustainable development through targeted programming. For example, Fisheries and Oceans Canada hosts a children's section on their website, entitled "The Big Blue Bus," that is designed to teach children about ocean issues and encourage them to get involved in ocean conservation. Other departments offer on-line learning sites for young people, such as NRCat's Scratching Post, Natural Resources Canada's portal to child-friendly science learning.

Youth also bring energy and enthusiasm to sustainable development programming, offering valuable insights and volunteer time. Many federal departments operate volunteer and intern programs for young people, such as the Canadian International Development Agency's Youth Action Program, which encourages the participation of young people in international development.

## **CIDA COOPERATES IN HIV/AIDS PROGRAM**

TO HELP ENSURE THAT THE HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC IS HALTED IN ITS EARLY STAGES IN BANGLADESH, CANADA HAS JOINED THE WORLD BANK AND NINE OTHER COUNTRIES IN FUNDING A PROGRAM THAT ENHANCES WOMEN'S ACCESS TO A WIDE RANGE OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES, INCLUDING INFORMATION ABOUT HIV/AIDS AND OTHER SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES. IT AIMS TO STRENGTHEN THE LINKS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT HEALTH PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH WORKERS. PEOPLE WILL BE MADE AWARE OF HIV/AIDS, HOW TO PREVENT ITS TRANSMISSION, AND THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THEM IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

### **GLOBAL PARTNERS**

At the international level, Canada engages with a variety of international bodies to carry out planning and work for sustainable development, including its educational components. Foreign Affairs Canada and International Trade Canada have a key interest in ensuring that Canada's commitment to sustainable development is evident in our bilateral, regional and multilateral relations. The Canadian International Development Agency works to enhance the capacity of partner institutions to deal with such issues as agriculture, private sector development, water and land, regulatory affairs, financial stability, legal and judicial reform, economic development, social development (including health, education, and child protection), trade, human rights, gender equality, indigenous peoples, and resource management (see Sidebar). They are also focussing greater attention on conflict prevention, post-conflict reconciliation, peace building, and security.

### **ENGAGING FEDERAL EMPLOYEES**

#### **CHAMPIONS AND COMMITTED LEADERS**

As with all large organizations, leaders and managers help set the tone for each federal department and agency, so it is critical that they fully understand,

and are committed to, the principles of sustainable development. In many departments, selected managers have become champions for sustainable development, dedicating themselves to raising its profile in their workplace and bringing fellow managers into a better understanding of this concept. For example, Industry Canada designates senior management champions in the areas of overall implementation and monitoring of their sustainable development strategy, industry outreach, and greening operations. Justice Canada's champion, also a senior manager, advocates sustainable development issues within the department, chairs a sustainable development working group, and coordinates departmental responses to environmental petitions.

### **GREENING GOVERNMENT**

Green procurement is a key means of engaging federal employees in sustainable development in the work place. Environment Canada's Environmental Choice® Program, North America's leading benchmark of environmentally responsible products and services, helps consumers, including government purchasers, identify products and services that are less harmful to the environment. Similarly, the international ENERGYSTAR® system, promoted and administered by Natural Resources Canada, identifies energy-efficient products, including office equipment; appliances; heating, ventilating, and cooling equipment; consumer electronics; lighting; signage; and commercial and industrial equipment. The Government of Canada also maintains a green procurement network and offers many on-line tools to assist federal workers in greening the operation of plants and fleets, organization of meetings, and procurement of goods and services. For example, GreeningGovernment provides one-window web-based access to information about best practices for greening government operations.

When employees opt for greener ways of getting to and from work, encouraged by departmental initiatives such as Transport Canada's GreenCommute Program, they make an important contribution to meeting Canada's greenhouse gas reduction targets. Transport Canada is also expanding this program to

other departments and agencies and private sector employers (see Sidebar). Employees can also make a contribution by reducing the quantity of paper and electricity used in the workplace. Federal departments are working to make meetings more sustainable, such as by replacing face-to-face meetings with teleconferencing whenever possible, and minimizing travel for meetings. A Government of Canada website offers guidelines to assist in this approach. Besides the corporate benefits of these and other green practices, making these practices habitual at work helps to influence individual living patterns outside of the workplace.

## COMMUTER OPTIONS

CANADIAN EMPLOYERS CAN USE A PRACTICAL AND COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE ISSUED BY TRANSPORT CANADA TO HELP THEIR EMPLOYEES IDENTIFY OPTIONS FOR GETTING TO WORK. THE GUIDE PRESENTS PRACTICAL, PROVEN APPROACHES TO INCREASING THE USE OF ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION (SUCH AS WALKING AND CYCLING), PUBLIC TRANSIT, RIDESHARING, TELEWORKING, AND OTHER ALTERNATIVES TO DRIVING TO WORK ALONE. IT TEACHES EMPLOYERS HOW TO SET UP A COMMUTER OPTIONS PROGRAM, AND GIVES INFORMATION ON LOCAL RESOURCES THAT CAN BE USED TO SUPPORT THE PROGRAM. MATERIALS TO RUN A ONE-DAY TRAINING WORKSHOP ARE ALSO AVAILABLE. THE COMMUTER OPTIONS GUIDE AND WORKSHOP ARE DESIGNED FOR USE BY SMALL, MEDIUM, OR LARGE EMPLOYERS ANYWHERE IN CANADA, IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS.

## EMPLOYEE QUALIFICATIONS AND JOB DESCRIPTIONS

The federal government strives to be an employer of choice and is committed to attracting and retaining individuals who are trained and experienced in the field of sustainable development. The Canada Revenue Agency, for example, has added a sustainable development component to many of its positions, and also ensures that a certain percentage of new management contracts include a responsibility for sustainable development. Where certain technical skills are needed to

carry out a job that supports sustainable development, the Government of Canada seeks to hire competent and committed personnel. Along this line, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency is striving in an extremely competitive and mobile labour market to attract and retain highly qualified individuals that will help build Canada's professional community for environmental assessment.

## TRAINING

Several departments are currently working together to develop and deliver interdepartmental training on sustainable development. Some departments already offer sustainable development courses related to their mandates, such as Industry Canada's twice-yearly course on the implementation of sustainable development in industry. Health Canada offers an online course called "Your Guide to Implementing Environmental Management and Sustainable Development," to help employees understand sustainable development and its role in their work.

Sustainable development material can also be integrated into regular corporate training programs. International Trade Canada includes the role of environmental and socio-economic review in management courses on trade finance risk, and Foreign Affairs Canada is developing sustainable development training modules specific to the sectoral needs of their personnel at missions abroad. Similarly, Justice Canada has added a sustainable development component to its client training program on legal awareness. Other successful training tools include special presentations and workshops. For example, Industry Canada features three expert speakers each year on topics relevant to sustainable development.

Seeking to expand the number of employees working in the area of sustainability, many federal departments support the training of highly qualified personnel in university graduate programs. Support includes improving the financial incentives of masters and doctoral fellowships and scholarships awarded through federal granting councils, and creating a scholarship program to facilitate a coordinated international student recruitment strategy led by Canadian universities.



# INFORMATION FOR DECISION MAKING

Living sustainably requires decision making that considers the long-term future of the people, economy, and ecology of all communities. Whether these decisions are made at the grassroots level or come from the top levels of business or government, their soundness depends to a large extent on the availability of reliable information.

## **EXPANDING THE KNOWLEDGE BASE**

The more we learn about the workings of sustainable development, the more it becomes clear that our knowledge base has gaps that need to be filled. Considerable federal government work is devoted to identifying and filling those gaps. For example, several federal departments cooperate under the Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Program (see Sidebar) to carry out research that addresses gaps in our knowledge of Canada's vulnerability to climate change and to provide information for adaptation decision-making. In the area of food quality and food safety, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is developing knowledge and strategies to enhance food quality to meet consumer expectations, increase and preserve nutritional value throughout the food chain, and support the development of functional foods and nutraceuticals in Canada. Natural Resources Canada is expanding the current knowledge of the societal benefits of sustainable wood lot management. Transport Canada is filling in analytical gaps by increasing knowledge about the full cost of different modes of transportation, and is working to improve data collection and availability.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS AND ADAPTATION PROGRAM**

MANY CRITICAL RESEARCH NEEDS EXIST IN THE FIELDS OF CLIMATE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT, AND IMPACTS AND ADAPTATION. EXPANDING KNOWLEDGE IN ALL OF THESE AREAS IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF CANADA'S RESPONSE TO THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE. THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA'S CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS AND ADAPTATION PROGRAM PROVIDES FUNDING FOR RESEARCH AND ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE OUR KNOWLEDGE OF CANADA'S VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE, TO BETTER ASSESS THE RISKS AND BENEFITS POSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE, AND TO BUILD THE FOUNDATION UPON WHICH APPROPRIATE DECISIONS ON ADAPTATION CAN BE MADE. THE PROGRAM ALSO FACILITATES INTERACTION BETWEEN STAKEHOLDERS AND RESEARCHERS THROUGH SUPPORT OF THE CANADIAN CLIMATE IMPACTS AND ADAPTATION RESEARCH NETWORK.

On the social side, greater effort is being made to work with indigenous peoples to better understand their cultures, perceptions, and issues. For example, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are broadening their knowledge base to develop cross-Canada perspectives on indigenous policing.

A key element of expanding the knowledge base is the enhancement of national core data sets, from which sustainable development information is built. These datasets include:

- *The National Soil DataBase, maintained by the Canadian Soil Information System of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada – a national archive of land resources information on soil, landscape, and climate*
- *The National Topographic DataBase, developed by Geomatics Canada of Natural Resources Canada – covering the entire Canadian landmass and featuring hydrography, contours, vegetation, road and rail networks, electric power network, land forms, wetlands, designated areas, and anthropogenic features*
- *Meteorological records, maintained by Environment Canada’s Meteorological Service of Canada – a key tool for evaluating patterns in weather and environmental conditions and forecasting*

## **MAKING INFORMATION AVAILABLE**

National information systems enable timely access to, and effective application of, relevant, credible, integrated data and information. For example, Environment Canada is working with partners to develop the Canadian Information System for the Environment (see Sidebar), a portal to integrated environmental information, including raw data, interpreted information, indicators, reports, and standards. GeoConnections, an initiative of Natural Resources Canada, is building a Canadian infrastructure for geospatial information relevant to decision making in areas as diverse as resource management, marine navigation, traffic and transportation, and public safety.

Information networks enhance cooperation and coordination among a wide range of parties, including government agencies, the private sector, academia, non-governmental organizations, Aboriginal peoples, and others. For example:

- *Health Canada supports the Canadian Health Network, which links to more than six thousand non-profit organizations across Canada, connecting Canadians to high quality local, regional, and national health information and resources.*

## **CANADIAN INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

THE CANADIAN INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IS INTENDED TO BE A COMPREHENSIVE PORTAL TO ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION, INCLUDING RAW DATA, INTERPRETED INFORMATION, INDICATORS, REPORTS, AND STANDARDS. THE SYSTEM IS INCLUSIVE, DEVELOPED THROUGH THE INNOVATION AND EFFORTS OF A STRONG PARTNER NETWORK THAT INCLUDES OTHER FEDERAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS, THE PROVINCES, AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS. ULTIMATELY, CANADIANS WILL BENEFIT FROM THE SYSTEM BY HAVING TIMELY ACCESS TO ROBUST, HIGH QUALITY INFORMATION ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND THUS A GREATER ABILITY TO EVALUATE OPTIONS AND MAKE WELL-INFORMED DECISIONS.

- *Indian and Northern Affairs Canada supports the Northern Information Network, designed for sharing information about Canada’s northern territories for more effective decision making in areas such as resource management and economic development.*
- *Natural Resources Canada and Environment Canada support the Canadian Climate Impacts and Adaptation Research Network, dedicated to improving knowledge of Canada’s vulnerabilities to climate change, identifying ways to minimize the negative effects of future impacts, and exploring opportunities that take advantage of any positive impacts.*

Canada’s progress toward sustainable development is regularly documented and evaluated in various reports. Federal departments and agencies report on their progress toward meeting the objectives of their sustainable development strategies through their departmental performance reports. Departments may also prepare public reports of sustainability progress in their sector, such as Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada’s *Environmental Sustainability of Canadian Agriculture: Report of the Agri-Environmental Indicator Project*. Reports of Canada’s Commissioner on the Environment and Sustainable Development, available to the public, examine the federal government’s

actions in response to specific commitments. The federal government also prepares regular sustainability reports for international bodies, such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. A key summary document, *Sustainable Development: A Canadian Perspective*, was commissioned by the Government of Canada for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002.

Sustainability reporting is not limited to government. Industry Canada is working to make Canadian businesses more aware of the benefits of corporate sustainability reporting with the goal of creating another information source for decision makers and enhancing the environmental reputation of these businesses. The department is conducting research and performance studies, developing tools and frameworks, and providing a Canadian clearinghouse for sustainability reporting information.

### CANADIAN FARM BUSINESS ADVISORY SERVICES

THESE SERVICES WILL REPLACE THE CURRENT FARM CONSULTATION SERVICE, PROVIDING SINGLE-WINDOW ACCESS TO ALL RENEWAL PROGRAMS AND THREE SETS OF BUSINESS PLANNING SERVICES. AFTER A PROGRAM ENTRY INTERVIEW, PRODUCERS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE FARM BUSINESS ASSESSMENT AND ACTION PLAN SERVICE, OFFERING UP TO FIVE DAYS OF CONSULTANT SERVICES TO HELP THE PRODUCER DEVELOP A BUSINESS PLAN. MORE SPECIALIZED BUSINESS CONSULTING WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGH BUSINESS PLANNING SERVICES, AND FARMERS INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING VALUE-ADDED BUSINESSES CAN USE THE PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT FOR VALUE-ADDED ENTERPRISES PROGRAM SERVICES.

### CREATING USEFUL TOOLS

Frameworks are an integrative tool that provides a means of organizing component parts into a meaningful whole. They also help in incorporating and interpreting new information, making it more accessible and practical for users. For example, Natural

Resources Canada is working with partners to develop a framework to report on forest-associated species, compiling common databases on species at risk, alien invasive species, and species of special significance. An interdepartmental team led by Foreign Affairs Canada developed a Framework for the Environmental Assessment of Trade Negotiations, which is being applied to World Trade Organization negotiations and others. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) is developing a framework for Canadian farmers on environmental farm certification by examining existing tools, including regulations, standards, best practices, and codes of practice. Health Canada is working with other federal departments to develop a compliance framework for drinking water quality in areas of federal jurisdiction.

Indicators provide an effective means of transforming complex data into easy-to-use communication and decision-making tools that can help keep track of the state of the economy, the environment, and human health, as well as measure progress towards sustainable development. In this line,

- *Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is currently expanding and refining its suite of agri-environmental indicators (see Sidebar).*
- *Natural Resources Canada has supported the development of the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management in Canada.*
- *Environment Canada has produced Canada's National Environmental Indicators Series 2003.*
- *Transport Canada is working with partners to improve sustainable transportation indicators.*

Guidelines and standards help to educate people about appropriate action and acceptable levels of human effects on the environment. For example, Health Canada is continuing to develop the *Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality*, the basis for all drinking water requirements in Canada. Guidelines can also be instrumental in implementing policy initiatives. For example, Fisheries and Oceans Canada is working to establish Marine Environmental Quality guidelines, objectives, and criteria to guide the implementation of ecosystem-based management. Guidelines may also be

## AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS

AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS ARE MEASURES OF KEY ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS, RISKS, AND CHANGES RESULTING FROM AGRICULTURE. THEY ARE NATIONAL IN SCOPE BUT SENSITIVE TO REGIONAL VARIATIONS IN THE AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE AND TO THE FARMING PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED. THE OVERALL PURPOSE OF THESE INDICATORS IS TO BETTER INFORM THE POLICY DISCOURSE SURROUNDING AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN CANADA. THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPING THE INDICATORS CONSIDERS AGENTS OF CHANGE AFFECTING AGROECOSYSTEMS, BIOPHYSICAL AGROECOSYSTEM RESOURCES, AND PROVISION OF SOCIETAL BENEFITS. AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH PARTNERS TO DEVELOP INDICATORS IN SIX CATEGORIES: ENVIRONMENTAL FARM MANAGEMENT, SOIL QUALITY, WATER QUALITY, AIR QUALITY, AGRO-ECOSYSTEM BIODIVERSITY, AND AGRICULTURAL ECO-EFFICIENCY.

used to evaluate the effects of policy. The Department of Justice has a special toolkit that includes guidelines on how to conduct a preliminary environmental scan and assess in greater detail the environmental effects of departmental policy, plan, and program proposals.

Computer modelling provides a tool to extrapolate from field measurements to predict future scenarios under changing conditions. This forecasting tool is particularly useful in anticipating the effects on the environment and society of certain human courses of action. Environment Canada is developing environmental models and tools for integrated analysis of water quality and quantity and using this information to address issues of sustainable water management. Economic models are also useful to policy makers, such as Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's model to quantify the economic costs and benefits of environmental change in agriculture to farmers and society.

The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency promotes the application of strategic environmental assessment, in accordance with the *Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program*

*Proposals*, a valuable tool in assessing the environmental implications of policy, plan and program proposals. Federal departments and agencies are also responsible for implementing strategic environmental assessment systems and tools within their own organizations.

## IMPROVING FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

Good internal communication allows information to move freely throughout an organization, ensuring that everyone is kept up to speed on new developments and is making decisions based on the latest and best information. Besides conventional print media, electronic reporting offers fast and accessible communication modes. For example:

- *Health Canada has developed an internal web-based reporting tools that allow its branches and regions to report performance on targets in their sustainable development action plans.*
- *Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is creating a tracking and reporting system of assets and environmentally related information.*
- *Fisheries and Oceans Canada is developing a cohesive, cross-sectoral data management system linking its major data holdings and initiatives, with an on-line inventory for managers.*

## FEDERAL REPORTING

Progress toward sustainable development is achieved incrementally as action is taken, results are evaluated, the approach is adjusted, and then a new line of action is taken. Departmental reports provide a written record of this process as it relates to the Government of Canada's work. The departmental Report on Plans and Priorities outlines expected results and related expenses of departmental activities over a three-year period. The Departmental Performance Report provides the actual results achieved compared to those put forward in the Report on Plans and Priorities. Learning from the experience charted in these reports allows decision makers to chart new directions and move forward with new ideas that support sustainable development. The Treasury Board Secretariat is uniquely positioned to help departments better integrate sustainable development considerations into these two annual reporting requirements.



## NEXT STEPS

Although the Government of Canada has many initiatives in progress to enhance awareness of the issues of sustainable development, engage people in making the changes necessary to live sustainably, and provide the information needed for good decision making, much work remains to be done. Federal departments are currently considering their role in supporting education for sustainable development, and the federal government is working with the provinces and territories and other stakeholders to develop a national approach for the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. Formulating such an approach presents many challenges – the challenges of coordinating the work of many federal departments and agencies, each with unique mandates; harmonizing the approaches of federal and provincial/territorial governments; overcoming the barriers posed by the vastness of the country and regional differences; and keeping up with the rapid advance of new technologies, to name a few.

In November 2004, the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment agreed to work towards a national framework for environmental sustainability. Under this framework, much work will be done toward education and engagement for sustainable development. Integrated approaches like this cast the Government of Canada as both leader and partner, while capitalizing on the effective work being done in the private sector and by civil society to educate and engage people in sustainable development.

## CONCLUSION

Canada is pleased to join other nations as we embark on the United Nations Decade for Education for Sustainable Development. The Government of Canada's efforts related to education for sustainable development provide a solid foundation on which to build future work. Where there is need for adjustment, improvement, and innovation, Canada will remain open to change.

The Government of Canada is committed to this new vision of education and will continue to work diligently to transform goals and objectives into action and develop the capacity of Canadians and Canadian society to move smoothly into a sustainable future. We commit ourselves to the five objectives identified for the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, and will do our part to raise the profile of this endeavour and to support the partnership approach, particularly at the level of national organization.

## READING

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. 2005. United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014: Draft International Implementation Scheme. Available online at [http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=27234&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=27234&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)



## WEBSITES

Federal Departments and Agencies Noted in this Report:

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada .....	<a href="http://www.agr.gc.ca">www.agr.gc.ca</a>
Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency .....	<a href="http://www.acoa.ca">www.acoa.ca</a>
Canada Revenue Agency.....	<a href="http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca">www.cra-arc.gc.ca</a>
Canadian Economic Development for Quebec Regions .....	<a href="http://www.dec-ced.gc.ca">www.dec-ced.gc.ca</a>
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency .....	<a href="http://www.ceaa.gc.ca">www.ceaa.gc.ca</a>
Canadian Heritage .....	<a href="http://www.pch.gc.ca">www.pch.gc.ca</a>
Canadian International Development Agency.....	<a href="http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca">www.acdi-cida.gc.ca</a>
Citizenship and Immigration Canada .....	<a href="http://www.cic.gc.ca">www.cic.gc.ca</a>
Correctional Services Canada .....	<a href="http://www.csc-ccc.gc.ca">www.csc-ccc.gc.ca</a>
Department of Finance Canada .....	<a href="http://www.fin.gc.ca">www.fin.gc.ca</a>
Department of Justice Canada .....	<a href="http://canada.justice.gc.ca">canada.justice.gc.ca</a>
Environment Canada .....	<a href="http://www.ec.gc.ca">www.ec.gc.ca</a>
Fisheries and Oceans Canada .....	<a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca">www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca</a>
Foreign Affairs Canada .....	<a href="http://www.fac-ae.gc.ca">www.fac-ae.gc.ca</a>
Health Canada .....	<a href="http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca">www.hc-sc.gc.ca</a>
Human Resources and Skills Development Canada .....	<a href="http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca">www.hrsdc.gc.ca</a>
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada .....	<a href="http://www.aicn-inac.gc.ca">www.aicn-inac.gc.ca</a>
Industry Canada .....	<a href="http://www.ic.gc.ca">www.ic.gc.ca</a>
International Trade Canada .....	<a href="http://www.itcan-cican.gc.ca">www.itcan-cican.gc.ca</a>
Natural Resources Canada .....	<a href="http://www.nrcan.gc.ca">www.nrcan.gc.ca</a>
Office of the Auditor General.....	<a href="http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca">www.oag-bvg.gc.ca</a>
Parks Canada .....	<a href="http://www.pc.gc.ca">www.pc.gc.ca</a>
Public Health Agency of Canada .....	<a href="http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca">www.phac-aspc.gc.ca</a>
Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada .....	<a href="http://www.ocipep.gc.ca">www.ocipep.gc.ca</a>
Royal Canadian Mounted Police .....	<a href="http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca">www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca</a>
Social Development Canada .....	<a href="http://www.sdc.gc.ca">www.sdc.gc.ca</a>
Transport Canada.....	<a href="http://www.tc.gc.ca">www.tc.gc.ca</a>
Treasury Board Secretariat .....	<a href="http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca">www.tbs-sct.gc.ca</a>
Veterans Affairs Canada .....	<a href="http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca">www.vac-acc.gc.ca</a>
Western Economic Diversification Canada.....	<a href="http://www.wed.gc.ca">www.wed.gc.ca</a>

# TARGETS

# 1.

The sustainable development strategies (SDS) of Canada's federal departments include targets by which progress toward sustainable development can be measured. SDS targets specific to the three areas of education for sustainable development outlined in this report – Public Awareness, Citizen Engagement, and Information for Decision Making – are listed below. Internal targets, listed first for each department, pertain to the department's internal activities, while external targets pertain to activities with departmental partners and clients.

1. Internal Targets
2. External Targets

## RAISING AWARENESS

### AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA

2. • Deliver educational material related to the development of Environmental Farm Plans to producers
  - Improve access to, and awareness of, services that assist farmers in securing financing for farms and other agri-business ventures (Canadian Farm Business Advisory Services [CFBAS], Planning and Assessment for Value-Added Enterprises [PAVE])

### ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY

1. • Participate on the Program's Steering Committee to advise on best management and evaluate performance
2. • Continue to work with partners on at least five new initiatives (e.g. environmental technology development services in Atlantic Canada)
  - Have businesses and communities attend one of three information sessions, over the three-year period, on national environment funding and assistance programs available and how to access them

- Develop and implement at least four projects directed at youth to link sustainable development to entrepreneurship
- Fund three projects from ClimAdapt, a private sector-driven network providing innovative climate change adaptation expertise in Canada and internationally
- Refer two ACOA clients to ClimAdapt for integration of climate change considerations into their decision-making process with respect to undertaking a project
- Fund five R&D projects specifically focussed on climate change
- Build SME's awareness of climate change initiatives such as emissions trading, pollution prevention and alternative energy sources by holding at least four information sessions
- Fund at least one policy research project examining the implications and opportunities climate change represents for a strategic sector
- Fund the Nova Scotia Eco-Efficiency Business Assistance Program pilot project, which will work with SMEs to identify pollution prevention and efficiency options and opportunities
- Refer a minimum of ten ACOA clients to the Program for Eco-Efficiency Reviews
- Undertake eco-efficiency workshops during Small Business Week to demonstrate how eco-efficiency can improve business viability
- Forty Atlantic outdoor adventure operations exposed to the Gros Morne Institute of Sustainable Tourism (GMIST) outdoor leadership, adventure tourism training and business development program

- Forty Atlantic accommodations establishments, forty food service businesses and twenty Signature Attractions exposed to the GMIST sustainable tourism techniques and practices program
- Twenty-five Atlantic operations (e.g. museums, parks, attractions) exposed to the natural/cultural experience-based program

### **CANADA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR QUEBEC REGIONS**

2. • Continue to provide financial support for research centres, institutions and university chairs in order to foster sharing, networking and dissemination of knowledge with respect to sustainable development. In concrete terms, the Agency plans to carry out 15 projects in this area.

### **CANADA REVENUE AGENCY**

1. • Number of unique hits to the main page of the SD website (national knowledge centre for sustainable development at the CRA); and number of CRA learning courses that include sustainable development content
2. • Convey our SD commitment to the public by March 31, 2006

### **CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AGENCY**

2. • Launch a central electronic repository for information from follow-up programs, by January 2004
- Launch a follow-up page on the Agency website, by March 2006
- Finalize and publish on the Agency's website, a report drawing the linkages between environmental assessment and sustainable development, by the end of 2004
- Develop and release communications materials on how environmental assessment contributes to sustainable development, by the end of 2005
- In cooperation with Public Works and Government Services Canada, develop practical tools to integrate sustainable development principles into the Public Works and Government Services Canada environmental assessment process, by the end of 2005
- Integrate the resulting tools and lessons learned into the Agency's screening workshop materials, by 2006

### **CANADIAN HERITAGE**

2. • Distribute Sports Canada's Environmental Toolkit for event management to Canadian sports organizations, measured annually, with the first report due on November 1, 2004
- Develop a Sustainable Development Toolkit for event management for Canadian cultural organizations, by March 31, 2005

- Distribute the Sustainable Development Toolkit for event management to Canadian cultural organizations, measured annually, with the first report due on June 1, 2005
- Develop a set of sustainable development principles that can be applied to the design and delivery of the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics, by March 31, 2005

### **CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

1. • Achieve 100% compliance with CEAA and SEA
2. • Quadruple CIDA's investment in basic education, HIV/AIDS and child protection, and double investments in health and nutrition, 2000-2005
  - Meet the G8 Kananaskis Education for All objective in Africa, by 2005
  - Improved reach and results for CIDA's public engagement and education projects over time
  - Broader range of Canadians involved in consultations

### **CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION CANADA**

1. • Develop program for SD promotion events – yearly schedule, 2004-2005 and ongoing
  - Disseminate information on SD tips through monthly "Did You Know Messages," 2004-2005 and ongoing
  - Produce and update SD modules on CIC websites semi-annually, 2004-2005 and ongoing
  - CCSD to create Environment week activities schedule to be implemented by responsibility centres, 2004-2005 and ongoing
  - Prepare/disseminate information kit on sustainable development, 2004-2005 and ongoing
  - Develop award program criteria and implement, 2005-2006 and ongoing
  - Develop fact sheets, 2005-2006 and ongoing
2. • Develop appropriate SD messaging for prospective new Canadians, 2004-2005
  - Sharing of best practices and other information, 2004-2005 and ongoing
  - Develop and promote the values of sociocultural sustainability for and through each of the action venues, 2004-2005 and ongoing
  - Define and capture quantitative data on social and economic integration for action activities, 2005-2006
  - Develop messaging (Promote the themes "freedom, respect, belonging and peace" in various promotional and educational materials that are distributed to schools, youth groups and community organizations), 2004-2005
  - Disseminate through Integration channels, 2004-2005 and ongoing

### **CORRECTIONAL SERVICE CANADA**

1. • 25% of inmates released every year have participated in awareness sessions on environmental issues provided during their academic upgrading (Grades 9–12)

### **DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE CANADA**

1. • Increase the proportion of employees participating in the ongoing promotion of SD principles in the workplace to 20% by 2006
  - Increase the number of requests for materials on greening initiatives, policies and achievements by 30% by 2006
2. • Support initiatives to enhance the understanding of linkages between Multilateral Environmental Agreements and trade rules
  - Collaborate with other government departments on Canada's ongoing approach to international negotiations and activities on climate change, focussing primarily on economic and fiscal issues under negotiation
  - With DFAIT and Industry Canada, strive to promote free trade in the environmental sector and continue to review specific requests to remove tariffs unilaterally where they are identified as a significant disincentive to the acquisition of environmental technology products
  - Work with other donor governments during the 14th replenishment of the World Bank/International Development Association's (IDA14) financing for the world's poorest countries to ensure that sustainable development issues remain high priorities (the replenishment negotiations are expected to begin in early 2004, with the three-year replenishment period to become effective in July 2005)
  - Undertake consultations in 2004 with interested Canadian non-governmental organizations to exchange views on how best to support sustainable development within the IDA14 negotiations and within the international financial institutions more broadly
  - Work with the Executive Boards of the World Bank and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to support operations that promote sustainable development

### **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CANADA**

1. • Communicate information on sustainable development issues to all employees at least four times per year

### **ENVIRONMENT CANADA**

1. • Implement a GHG emissions reduction action plan, including a "carbon footprint" that would exceed departmental targets, and provide leadership to others on reducing GHG emissions
  - Promote the Leadership Challenge, an initiative that encourages voluntary action to reduce GHG emissions, to increase our reach to federal employees in other departments, agencies and Crown Corporations
2. • Implement a climate change social marketing campaign with messages linked to the Clean Air Agenda
  - Expand understanding and awareness outside Environment Canada of the role of economic instruments as a tool for achieving sustainable development

### **FOREIGN AFFAIRS CANADA AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE CANADA**

2. • Promote ratification of the Kyoto Protocol by a sufficient number of countries so that the Protocol can enter into force (including Russia whose ratification is essential and then as many other Parties to the UNFCCC as possible before 2008)

### **HEALTH CANADA**

1. • Health Canada will increase employee awareness about sustainable development by developing and implementing a social marketing campaign for March 31, 2007

### **HUMAN RESOURCES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CANADA AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CANADA**

2. • Support knowledge development, dissemination and application and strengthen networks to better promote best practices in policies, programs and services for young children and their families through the Social Development Partnerships Program, by March 31, 2006
  - Support, and raise awareness of, research initiatives that increase our knowledge of the pathways to healthy child development, such as Understanding the Early Years and the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, by March 31, 2006
  - Raise awareness of Building Environmental Aboriginal Human Resources (BEAHR) initiative amongst Aboriginal Human Resources Development Agreement (AHRDA) holders by providing opportunities for BEAHR to disseminate information to AHRDA holders, by March 31, 2006
  - Develop and disseminate an inventory of AHRDA best practices in relation to sustainable development, by December 31, 2006

## **INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA**

1. • Develop an SD communications and employee awareness-raising strategy to help integrate sustainable development into decision making, programs, policies, planning and operations. Coordinated by the department's SD Unit in close cooperation with Corporate Services and regional offices, this target is expected to be completed, by December 2005.

## **INDUSTRY CANADA**

2. • Work in partnership with industry, other government departments and others to promote corporate responsibility and sustainable development practices in businesses and encourage sustainable development for communities

## **NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA**

2. • Develop a plan to foster a more comprehensive understanding of environmental assessment and how it can be used to support sustainable development objectives among industry, special interest groups and the Canadian public, by 2005
- Investigate and report on opportunities for NRCan to enhance public consultation when developing SEAs of policies, plans and programs, by 2005
- Produce a regional communications strategy and develop a video on the mining cycle for Aboriginal communities, by 2004
- Develop and upgrade the website mapping Aboriginal community information with up-to-date information on mine sites and the mineral industry information in Canada, by 2004
- Facilitate an international workshop on Aboriginal best practices in the sustainable development of mining, by 2006
- Develop a complete and integrated package of communication, outreach tools and activities to increase use of geospatial information to support sustainable development and management of natural resources, by 2006
- With municipal and/or provincial partners, produce and disseminate plain-language reports that describe impacts of climate change and best practices for municipal response to climate change, by 2006
- Establish and maintain awareness levels at 80%, by 2007

## **PARKS CANADA**

2. • Visitation to targeted national historic sites increased by 10%
- National school curriculum programming in 75% of jurisdictions
- 75% of visitors understand key messages

## **PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CANADA**

2. • Build on awareness campaign to promote employee actions to achieve SD, 2003-2006
- New communications plan developed and approved for action, by March 31, 2004

## **ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE**

1. • Implement IPM (Integrated Pest Management) and communicate the benefits to employees and the local communities, by March 31, 2007
- Communicate the understanding of RCMP's role in sustainable communities through awareness programs, by March 31, 2009

## **TRANSPORT CANADA**

1. • One of Transport Canada's strategic challenges within its Sustainable Development Strategy is to encourage Canadians to make more sustainable transportation choices. The challenge is to create awareness and educate Canadians about sustainable transportation. This includes awareness of the issues, benefits and trade-offs, as well as practices and choices that individuals can adopt to reduce the adverse impacts of transportation. Examples of initiatives that the department will undertake include:
  - Transport Canada will coordinate sustainable development, climate change and the One Tonne Challenge (OTC) communications initiatives with federal partners, beginning in 2003/2004.
  - Subject to funding and working with partners, Transport Canada will build on its work to promote active transportation (walking, cycling, in-line skating, etc.), beginning in 2004/2005.
  - Transport Canada will expand distribution of Commuter Options: The Complete Guide for Canadian Employers, by 2005/2006. The department will provide training programs to other federal departments and agencies, and private sector employers, in 2004/2005.
2. • At the same time, the department is committed to raising awareness among Transport Canada employees on sustainable development issues and initiatives. To this effect, the department has made several commitments within its 2004-2006 Sustainable Development Strategy. For example:
  - Transport Canada will provide Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) training sessions to departmental staff at least once per year.

- Transport Canada will promote awareness of the requirements of the SEA Cabinet Directive and the Transport Canada SEA Policy, on an ongoing basis.
- The Sustainable Development Capacity Course, piloted under the 2001-2003 SDS, will be offered regularly to Transport Canada employees, beginning in 2004/2005.
- The department will undertake additional efforts to increase employee awareness and understanding of sustainable transportation. This will include learning events and sustainable transportation articles in departmental newsletters on an ongoing basis.

### **VETERAN AFFAIRS CANADA**

1. • Conduct regular briefing sessions with CF members during orientation sessions with new recruits, at pre- and post-deployment seminars, Second Career Assistance Network seminars, through multi-media communication vehicles as well as other opportunities, when and where they present themselves. Provide information on the types of briefings on an annual basis, beginning March 31, 2004.
2. • Acquire and distribute to VAC offices for clients' use promotional material (pamphlets and videos) on falls prevention and use of assistive devices, by March 31, 2004
  - Enhanced awareness and use of falls prevention aids and devices among retailers, hoteliers and the construction industry, by March 31, 2006
  - Provide on-line capability for students to obtain information about the student guide program for the VAC's overseas memorials, by September 2004
  - Provide access to an on-line calendar of commemorative events, by March 31, 2005
  - Provide on-line capability for educators to receive educational materials, by March 31, 2005
  - Have a searchable database for Veterans' burial sites within VAC's responsibility, by March 2008
  - Improve upon the on-line interpretation of the overseas memorials, by March 31, 2007
  - Develop the on-line capability for promotion of the "Maple Leaf Trail" as well as provide a virtual tour capability, by March 31, 2008

### **WESTERN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION CANADA**

2. • Develop an SD website on the WD public Internet site, including a Sustainable Resources Online Tool for SME's; developed by Year 1 and fully functional by Year 3. Post updates of the SD Action Plan annually.
- Increase the number of WD-supported conferences that are SD-related

- Increase the number of articles related to SD in WD's Access West Newsletter

## **ENGAGEMENT**

### **AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA**

1. • Deliver green procurement awareness training to the integrated service managers community and all NCR Assets Management/Procurement staff, by 2004
  - Deliver green procurement awareness training to all AAFC procurement staff, by 2005
2. • Develop, in consultation with governments, industry and stakeholders, a common vision and an overarching strategy for food safety and food quality in Canada, featuring, for example, specific policies on animal welfare, food quality standards, and animal health
  - Establish a joint public and private process to develop a consensus on the type of skills that are needed for future development of the agriculture sector, where such a process does not already exist (advice to HRDC on sector council)
  - Develop the federal position and a federal/provincial/territorial approach to address gaps in information, advisory services and learning initiatives
  - Engage expertise within HRDC, Farm Credit Canada (FCC), provinces/territories, community colleges, Canadian Farm Business Management Council (CFBMC) and industry associations in program design
  - Support and develop networks relating to scientific advances so as to create new economic opportunities for farmers

### **ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY**

2. • A minimum of nine communities to attend the training workshop in Bouctouche entitled "What Makes a Sustainable Tourism Community"
  - Fifteen current and previous workshop attendee communities to receive follow-up consultancy aftercare
  - Fifteen current and previous workshop attendee communities to subscribe to restricted access website for monthly discussion forums
  - Twenty-seven community leaders to take an on-line training session on advanced sustainable tourism topics
  - Under BDP, fund Université de Moncton to have two students (one full-time, plus the co-ordinator) to complete course work for their Master of Environmental Studies degrees with their Master's theses on sustainable tourism development (by the end of the project). The completed project will include case studies that will be posted to ACOA's SDS Web page.

- Account Managers to liaise with nine communities to assess the degree of integration of tourism objectives into community economic development planning
- Support the nine communities to attend the Bouctouche workshop and obtain testimonials on integration of tourism objectives
- Fund at least 20 projects or initiatives that support environmental industries through their associations
- Provide tools and assist the CBDCs to provide small businesses with SD information (e.g., guides, information on sustainable initiatives, funding sources)
- A minimum of 80% of Regional Economic Development Organizations (REDOs) are made aware of the concepts and benefits of SD
- Twenty-five projects funded per year that promote eco-efficiency, over a three-year period
- Fund four projects to increase exports from environment and energy technology
- Provide support to a minimum of 10 R&D/innovation/ new technology projects in the environmental industry, to be implemented over the next three years
- Fund three tourism projects that support healthy environments

### **CANADA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR QUEBEC REGIONS**

2. • Make it possible for 120 SMEs to carry out concrete in-plant productivity projects through pollution prevention and for 500 others to be made aware of new business practices associated with sustainable development
- Enable some 40 enterprises to experiment with new technologies or processes associated with the exploitation of natural resources. It will also make it possible to back 25 projects to support SMEs wishing to commercialize their products on international markets.

### **CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AGENCY**

1. • Complete consultations with participating organizations regarding program structure and priorities, by February 2004
  - Renew the terms and conditions for the Participant Funding Program, by March 2004
  - Support Agency staff in the voluntary establishment of learning plans to assist them in their career development, by April 2005
2. • Regulations for Indian Reserves: Initiate the formal development of a regulation for Indian band councils in Nova Scotia in 2004

- Regulations for Indian Reserves: Initiate dialogue in other regions of Canada with a view to developing band council environmental assessment regulations under the Act, in 2004
- Establish the terms of reference for the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, by end of 2004
- Develop interim principles on the consideration of traditional knowledge in federal environmental assessments, by end of 2004
- Develop finalized traditional ecological knowledge procedural guidelines, by 2006

### **CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

1. • Develop CIDA's sectoral policies in consultation with other government departments
  - Involve government departments more in the planning of CIDA's country programming (e.g., through CDPFs)
2. • Strengthen multilateral humanitarian assistance and development systems
  - Align partnership programming with CIDA's strategic objectives
  - Align CDPFs with PRSPs or equivalent wherever possible (this may exclude fragile states, countries in crisis, etc.)
  - Increase CIDA's investment in agriculture fivefold (from \$95 million to \$500 million) between 2002-2003 and 2007-2008
  - Reduce the number of sectors in which CIDA is involved in each developing country
  - Increase public-engagement coherence, mutually reinforcing efforts in pursuit of common objectives
  - Improve reach and results for CIDA's public-engagement and education projects over time
  - Stabilize or increase Canadian partners' leverage of Canadian networks, knowledge, and funds
  - Increase the number of youth participating in the butterfly 208 program
  - Increase the number of submissions to the Global Classroom Initiative (Development Information Program) from NGOs, schools, and school boards

### **CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION CANADA**

2. • Develop appropriate SD messaging for prospective new Canadians, 2004-2005 and ongoing

### **DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE CANADA**

2. • Participate in upcoming events such as the annual UNEP Finance Initiative Global Roundtable and other corporate social responsibility events

## ENVIRONMENT CANADA

2. • Adopt pollution prevention planning and improve eco-efficiency and environmental performance
  - Work with industry and provinces to develop a national stewardship program for end-of-life electronics waste
  - Influence land-use decisions and practices around migratory bird habitats by engaging representatives from industry through the North American Bird Conservation Initiative
  - Develop and implement, with provinces, territories, and other federal departments, a collaborative agenda for implementing the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy on invasives, access-benefit sharing regarding genetic resources, biological information and stewardship
  - Develop recovery strategies for species at risk, in collaboration with the provinces, territories, other federal government departments, Aboriginal peoples, wildlife management boards, industry and non-governmental organizations, for inclusion in the public registry under the *Species at Risk Act*
  - Develop materials and provide expertise in support of the delivery of the First Nations Water Management Strategy in partnership with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Health Canada

## FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA

2. • Put Integrated Management Plans into place for priority Large Ocean Management Areas (LOMAs) (Placentia Bay and the Grand Banks, Eastern Scotian Shelf, Gulf of St. Lawrence, Beaufort Sea and Pacific North Coast)
  - Develop options and a strategy to address over-fishing outside the 200-mile limit by working with international partners to strengthen the international governance regime
  - Establish an Advisory Panel on the Sustainable Management of Straddling Fish Stocks in the Northwest Atlantic
  - Negotiate contribution agreements with respective First Nations
  - Finalize consultations for Fisheries Operations Management Initiative (FOMI) program design
  - Pre-qualify professional facilitators/co-ordinators to assist First Nations through use of an expression of interest process
  - Negotiate contribution agreements with respective First Nations for funding for community-based workshops
  - Establish co-operative management projects for the improvement of the management of fisheries
  - Establish Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management Program (AAROM) and Aboriginal Inland Habitat Program (AIH) resource management bodies

- Complete the development of bilateral fish habitat federal, provincial and territorial Memorandums of Understanding (MOU)
- Advance implementation of MOU with Canadian Electricity Association on protecting fish habitat near hydro development
- Advance partnership with seven national resource industry associations on streamlining practices in forestry, electricity, mining, oil and gas
- Move forward on initial discussions with non-governmental organizations, Aboriginal groups, municipalities on habitat protection

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS CANADA AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE CANADA

1. • Strengthen the voice of Indigenous Peoples in the development of Canadian policies and Arctic Council activities by facilitating their engagement in the processes, 2004-2006
  - Implement the strategic priorities for gender equality and women's human rights, 2004-2006
  - Engage partners, geographic bureau, and missions (including post visits) in Human Security planning, programming, and monitoring, by March 2005

## HEALTH CANADA

1. • Increase employee awareness about sustainable development by developing and implementing a departmental training curriculum on sustainable development to be provided to at least 1000 Health Canada employees, by March 31, 2007
  - Contribute to increased federal employee awareness of sustainable development through partnering with other government departments, federal committees and networks to design and deliver an interdepartmental course about sustainable development, by March 31, 2007
  - Provide all facility managers with in-depth training on the sustainable operation and management of Health Canada facilities, by March 31, 2006
  - Provide 1500 employees with in-depth training on the departmental pollution prevention approach, by March 31, 2006

## HUMAN RESOURCES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CANADA AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CANADA

1. • Provide all program operation consultants with training on the principles of sustainable development and the application of the sustainable community development lens, by June 30, 2005





- Ensure attendance of NHQ HRSDC personnel at SDC sponsored information sessions
    - 50% of HRSDC NHQ personnel involved in procurement and contracting activities, by March 31, 2007
  - Develop and deliver a lunch-and-learn session within NHQ on sustainable development
  - Program to be developed, by December 31, 2004
  - Program to be delivered twice yearly, by March 31, 2006
2. • Maintain and enhance the preventive mediation program in order to help union and management representatives develop problem resolution skills and practices designed to improve union-management relations and avoid costly labour disputes, thereby establishing more co-operative and stable workplace environments, by December 31, 2006
- Ensure broader engagement of partners to address homelessness, by March 31, 2006

#### **INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA**

2. • Develop an INAC Consultation Framework. Led by Policy and Strategic Direction, by December 2004
- Establish, in regions where no formal cooperative mechanism exists, an ongoing sub-committee of the Federal Regional Council or other appropriate body to address Aboriginal issues interdepartmentally, by December 2005
  - Increase Innu participation in decision making in the Atlantic Region with respect to the provision of services and resourcing, by April 2005
  - Establish concrete initiatives with the provinces and the private sector to address First Nation access to natural resources, by December 2006
  - In cooperation with First Nations communities, develop a federal comprehensive community planning strategy, by April 2005
  - Develop and implement a plan, which uses existing territorial, federal and NGO programs and relationships, to improve northern human resource capacity and enhance sustainable development efforts in Nunavut, by March 2006
  - On a community-by-community basis, address capacity, and organizational and management issues identified within the Manitoba Capacity Development Initiative, by December 2006
  - Provide SD awareness-building training for First Nation Economic Development Officers in Ontario, by December 2006
  - In partnership with First Nations organizations and communities, establish a First Nations Community Accounts System project to develop sustainability indicators, by December 2006

#### **INDUSTRY CANADA**

2. • Work in partnership with industry and others to demonstrate the contribution of eco-efficiency to enhancing productivity and environmental performance through capacity building in R&D and skills, promote technology innovation, and apply the tools in the marketplace

#### **NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA**

2. • Visit 10% of northern communities to provide introductory geoscience resource educational programs by 2007
- Achieve a 30% increase in participation in outreach activities
  - Co-fund a minimum of 30 projects in partnership with other government departments, provinces, municipalities, industry and non-governmental organizations, by 2007
  - Provide training in wood frame housing systems in China, by 2005
  - Provide training in wood frame housing systems in Taiwan and Korea, by 2007
  - Conduct three training sessions of Indian engineers in Ottawa, by 2004
  - Conduct six training programs on HVFAC technology in India, by 2005
  - Hold a workshop to review the evaluation and report, and to identify opportunities for partnerships to implement an ecosystem approach to sustainable forest management, 2006
  - Coordinate discussions among partners with a view to refining the tools and methodologies to measure indicators of sustainable forest management, by 2004
  - Conduct discussions with international partners aimed at further refining and harmonizing Montreal Process indicators and Canadian Council of Forest Ministers indicators of sustainable forest management, by 2004
  - Work with three regional Aboriginal housing committees to integrate energy efficiency into their decision-making processes, by 2006

#### **OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL**

2. • Increase the number of environmental presentations we deliver to our clients and stakeholders, beginning in 2004

#### **PARKS CANADA**

2. • Support the Minister's direction to "do more to mark the historic achievements of Canada's Aboriginal peoples, women, and multi-cultural communities."

- Ensure that sufficient nominations are considered by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada to meet the target, and maintain an annual average of 27 new designations a year

## **PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CANADA**

2. • Conduct community satisfaction survey of 25 communities in Quebec, by March 31, 2005
  - Carry out Saskatchewan Community Tripartite Agreement (CTA) community satisfaction project, by March 31, 2005
  - Strengthen joint partnerships with other government departments, ongoing
  - Utilize green procurement criteria in all departmental purchasing decision, by 2006-2007

## **ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE**

1. • Personnel understand the link between sustainability and the initiatives to address the root causes and consequences of youth crime, by FYE 2005
2. • Understand the added value of RCMP's role in communities, by March 31, 2006
  - Improve relationships with Aboriginal communities, by March 31, 2010
  - Understand how to improve/adjust services to meet community needs, by March 31, 2006
  - Become an active partner in addressing root causes of youth crime, especially in Aboriginal communities, by March 31, 2005

## **TRANSPORT CANADA**

1. • In order to promote sustainable transportation, Transport Canada works with a number of partners including other federal departments, other levels of government, industry, NGOs and other stakeholders. Given the nature of sustainable transportation issues, shared jurisdiction, and the range of private and public sector stakeholders involved in the transportation sector, working together is essential.
  - Transport Canada will work with partners to promote best practices for environmental management and corporate responsibility in the transportation sector. To this end, the department will:
    - Consult and negotiate with marine stakeholders to establish a Greenship program in Canada, by 2006/2007
    - Support the purchase and installation of equipment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in non-road transportation, beginning in 2004/2005

- Support the adoption of Environmental Management Systems (EMS) and ISO 14000 certification by promoting environmental management best practices, by 2005/2006
2. • With respect to engaging Transport Canada employees, the department offers a number of programs that promote sustainable development and sustainable transportation within the department. For example:
    - Transport Canada has committed to achieve a 5% increase in the number of employees green commuting in urban areas where services exist, by 2006/2007
    - The department will also achieve a 5% increase in the number of sustainable business travel trips in Quebec region and Headquarters, in urban areas where services exist, by 2006/2007
    - The department will provide annual environmental assessment training and awareness sessions for departmental staff and Crown Corporations

## **TREASURY BOARD SECRETARIAT**

1. • Increase the proportion of employees participating in the ongoing promotion of sustainable development principles in the workplace and community to 20%, by 2006
2. • Work with other departments to develop an approach to the climate change agenda that assures accurate reporting on expenditures and results, measurement and reporting frameworks, risk and evaluation frameworks, management systems and a governance structure, by March 2004
  - If agreed upon, work with the SFHIO community to initiate the development of a results-based management accountability framework for SFHIO, by January 2005
  - Conduct a pilot test for a training program, using analysts from the Environment and Transportation Division of the Economic Sector of the Secretariat, by January 2005
  - Work with departments to improve reporting on horizontal initiatives relating to sustainable development, such as climate change, by each spring
  - Work with departments to strengthen strategic outcomes and horizontal areas of activity by reporting on the balance between economic, social and environmental goals in government activity and on trends in the quality of life in Canada, by each fall

## **VETERAN AFFAIRS CANADA**

1. • Educate staff on benefits of workplace well-being, 2003
  - Set up a review committee of HR and Environmental Management (EM) Staff to review all current and planned training with a mandate to add more training and EMS/SDS items into this training, by September 2004
  - VA Procurement Branch in conjunction with the EMG to develop a training package for this, by November 2004
  - Training to begin April 2005 and to be run yearly after this date
2. • Form and sustain coalitions or other groups for the purpose of promoting falls prevention, by March 31, 2006
  - Initiate and develop a project with Winnipeg Regional Health Authority to test other telehealth possibilities, such as telemental health and telerehabilitation, by March 31, 2006
  - Continue to provide young Canadians with the opportunity to participate in overseas learning events, ceremonies and pilgrimages, and to serve as guides at overseas memorials. While this is ongoing, progress will be reported bi-annually, commencing September 2004
  - Increase youth learning and knowledge of Canada Remembers activities through the production and distribution of learning resources and continued promotion of the VAC website. While this is ongoing, progress will be measured through demand for, and the level of satisfaction, with learning resources. This will be reported bi-annually, commencing September 2004.
  - Partner with organizations to increase youth participation in remembrance activities. On an annual basis new opportunities for partnering will be explored and previous partnerships will be reviewed for effectiveness based on pre-determined deliverables, commencing April 1, 2004

## **WESTERN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION CANADA**

2. • Increase WD investments in projects that develop and commercialize environmental technologies and processes
  - Increase the amount of new investments leveraged from other sources supporting R&D of environmental technologies
  - Increase the number of leveraged public and private partnerships created to support investment in environmental technology development

- Increase WD investment in projects that enable Western Canadian communities to improve their social, environmental and economic sustainability
- Increase the amount of new investments leveraged from other sources into Western Canadian communities
- Increase the number of leveraged intergovernmental partnerships with Western Canadian communities

## **INFORMATION FOR DECISION MAKING AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA**

1. • Specifically for the management of its asset, develop a fully populated Environmental Information and Performance Management System (EIPMS) database for monitoring and reporting on environmental performance, by March 2005
  - Develop integrated economic/environmental modelling and forecasting tools for ag. policy decision makers
2. • Share among governments and, where appropriate, with industry and other partners, relevant data and information to support public health and food safety systems, and the ready availability of such data and information, by 2008
  - Develop a framework for Canadian farmers on environmental farm certification by examining existing tools, including regulations, standards, best practices and codes of practice (components of National Study of Regulations, Standards Development and Farm Certification)
  - Provide land use decision makers with the best land and water information and decision support systems that encourage improved decision making through access to technical skills and spatial information
  - Enhance and improve access to public and private management and consulting services providing business and succession information, using contracted expertise or public expertise, or any combination thereof, to deliver services Canadian Farm Business Advisory Services (CFBAS)
  - Provide access to training and support programs for farmers who, in their pursuit of off-farm options, choose to further develop and apply their skills to other career-related activities

## **ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY**

- Develop a “Sustainable Development Handbook” for SMEs
- Profile successful entrepreneurs using advanced environmental practices
- Outline ACOA’s position regarding business and SD

## **CANADA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR QUEBEC REGIONS**

1. • Develop integrated tools for advisors in the business offices in order to facilitate project analysis and monitoring, as well as monitoring and identification of anticipated environmental results in line with the specific nature of the production of each SME involved. Training will be provided to skill all the advisors in the use of these tools by giving examples of concrete cases adapted to the situation in the field, by summer 2004.

## **CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AGENCY**

1. • Develop an evaluation model for the Agency's class screening program, by the end of 2004
  - Using the evaluation model, evaluate the class screening program, by the end of 2005
  - Develop replacement class screening information material for responsible federal authorities, by the end of 2004
  - Revise model class screening information material for responsible federal authorities, by the end of 2004
  - Develop model and replacement class screening marketing material targeting federal departments and agencies, industry and Crown corporations, by the end of 2006
  - Develop and implement a coordinated action plan dedicated to achieving accessible learning, sharing knowledge, building strong linkages among federal organizations on strategic environmental assessment and improving capacity
  - Host a federal workshop on strategic environmental assessment, early 2004
  - In a follow-up to the workshop, develop training, guidance and knowledge materials, with federal partners, by 2005
  - Publish materials for federal departments, by 2006
2. • Establish a process to regularly inform those having interest in the results of the program, by the end of 2005
  - Develop communication materials to increase awareness of the Research and Development Program, by the end of 2006

## **CANADA REVENUE AGENCY**

1. • CRA leaders will demonstrate their support for SD in the workplace, by March 31, 2007
  - Integrate SD messages into processes for attracting new employees, by March 31, 2006
  - Annually strengthen and support the national SD Network, other SD committees, and grassroots employee efforts in all branches and regions

- Integrate sustainability criteria into negotiations, discussions, partnerships, and decision-making with provinces and territories and other government departments/agencies on CRA business, by March 31, 2007

## **CANADIAN HERITAGE**

1. • Include information on sustainable development in existing courses, measured annually, with the first report due on November 1, 2004
  - Develop an intranet site that features tip sheets on sustainable development and promotes availability of educational opportunities covering sustainable development, by March 31, 2005
  - Offer employees information on green procurement as a part of low dollar value procurement, measured annually, with the first report due on November 1, 2004
  - Develop and incorporate "green" selection criteria into departmental requests for proposals, tenders or quotation documents, by March 31, 2006
  - Increase employee awareness of the "Green Leaf" hotel program and encourage employees to use this program, by March 31, 2005
2. • Consult on potential approaches with the agencies and Crown corporations in the Canadian Heritage Portfolio to discuss how they can become more eco-efficient, by March 31, 2005
  - Establish a vision of sustainable development for Canadian Heritage, by March 31, 2005
  - Develop a first phase action plan for integrating this vision of sustainable development into the context of the operations, programs and policies of Canadian Heritage, by March 31, 2006
  - Participate in at least two interdepartmental projects to improve understanding of the Department's role in supporting the social and cultural dimensions of sustainable development, by June 1, 2006

## **CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

2. • Each branch of CIDA will determine where PBAs are most effective, concentrating on the poorest countries (e.g. in Africa, by 2005, approximately 75% of incremental, new resources will be channelled through direct budget support, SWAps, and common funds)
  - Develop a coding scheme for PBAs, budget support, and pooled funding
  - Develop sound risk-management strategies for PBAs (including risk assessment, monitoring, and mitigation)

## **CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION CANADA**

1. • Distribute resources to all staff who work on specialized files, 2004-05 and ongoing

- Print SD column on a regular basis, 2004-05 and ongoing
  - Participate within policy networks, 2004-05 and ongoing
  - Include consultations on certain SD-related issues in the immigration levels consultation process, 2004-05 and ongoing
2. • Participate within research networks, 2004-05 and ongoing
    - Share best practices and other information, 2004-05 and ongoing

#### **DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE CANADA**

1. • Participate in further work in cooperation with other federal departments, other governments and stakeholders on the design of a system of covenants with the large industrial emitters sector to achieve reductions in their greenhouse gas emission intensities to help further Canada's climate change objectives under the Kyoto Protocol. Additionally, the Department will participate in work on potential mechanisms to facilitate a domestic and international permit-trading system.
  - In the context of planning for future budgets, work with other federal departments and stakeholders to identify ways to address environmental sustainable development priorities
  - Develop a tracking system to determine the baseline and benchmarks for the recommendation of environmentally preferred products and services by 2006
  - Develop and implement a strategy to reduce resource consumption by 2005
  - Continue to participate in the Steering Committee and as observers at working group levels with the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy on its Ecological Fiscal Reform program over 2003-2005
2. • In conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), examine trade and environment linkages in the context of the World Trade Organization and trade negotiations

#### **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CANADA**

1. • Name departmental SD champion and coordinator, in 2004
  - Develop and approve Implementation plan for the SDS, by June 30, 2004
  - Develop a green procurement policy and guide, by December 2005

#### **ENVIRONMENT CANADA**

1. • Continue to work towards the implementation of the Canadian Information System for the Environment to develop the national data sets needed to support select Environment and Sustainable Development Indicators recommended by the NRTEE
  - Finalize and begin implementation of the Environment Canada Indicators and Reporting Strategy
  - Develop and report on a key set of indicators of children's health and the environment in North America
  - Develop national agri-environmental standards related to water quality, water conservation, pesticides, air quality and biodiversity
2. • Develop closer collaboration between environmental science and technology performers (universities, governments, industry) through the establishment and promotion of science and technology networks, including the federal Assistant Deputy Minister Science and Technology Integration Board, the Canadian Environmental Sciences Network, and regional and issue-specific networks
  - Enhance water science and understanding through new collaborative approaches with stakeholders to develop tools for integrated analysis and implementation of water quality, quantity and sustainable use issues and strategies
  - Provide new, integrated services to key weather-sensitive economic sectors (including road transportation, agriculture, forest and marine) to reduce their vulnerability to, and capitalize on opportunities which can be derived from knowledge of daily weather conditions, changes in climate and severe weather events

#### **FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA**

1. • Develop Environmental Management Plans in conjunction with regions
  - Ensure plans include management model component, standard operating procedures and training components
  - Delivery of training in-person and via intranet training modules
  - Implement a science-based, objective risk management framework and supporting tools and management measures
  - Streamline measures for low-risk activities, including establishing one-window service delivery, where appropriate with provinces and territories
  - Develop tools and practices to improve coherency and predictability in decision-making
  - Implement a new management model for addressing environmental assessments and major projects

- Support Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) assessments of the status of species at risk
  - Develop and implement recovery strategies, action and management plans, and enforcement mechanisms
  - Adjust the Introduction and Transfer authorization process to integrate social, economic and environmental considerations, and establish effective appeals process
  - Implement improvements to the process for reviewing site applications and renewal applications
2. • Implement Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) at all current client-managed harbours (559), by end of 2002:
    - Sensitize client-managers to the benefits of EMPs and sound environmental practices
    - Consult with client-managers to mould the EMPs to specific harbour needs
    - Work with new client-managed harbours to develop EMPs within three years of establishment
  - Progress toward long-term management of fish harvesting capacity in Canada:
    - Complete a National Action Plan to manage harvesting capacity and to facilitate self-adjustment by commercial fleets, as part of Canada's commitment to the FAO, by end of 2003
  - Make more accurate, in-season, real-time fisheries information available to fisheries managers:
    - Develop a harmonized Fisheries Information Management database with online access through a common window, by end of 2003

## **FOREIGN AFFAIRS CANADA AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS CANADA**

1. • Include role of environmental and socio-economic review in trade finance risk management courses, by May 2004
  - Pilot an SD awareness training course specific to needs of mission personnel, in 2004
  - Include SD module in sectoral training session at Globe 2004 for trade officers attending from missions
  - Develop a SD communication package appropriate to the outreach programs of missions abroad, in June 2004
2. • Develop communication products promoting Canadian sector SD capabilities to foreign buyers, by December 2005
  - Establish a repository on the SD website highlighting SD success stories – departmental, provincial, federal, corporate or international, by June 2004

- Develop awareness material on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), in 2005
- Continue promotion of the entry into force of the Convention for the Conservation of Highly Migratory Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC) by Feb. 2005 including consultation with the provinces and territories, participation in the WCPFC Preparatory Conference, encouraging engagement in the process by key fishing states and consideration of Canada's own ratification
- Continue promotion of effective implementation of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFA), including the advancement of Canadian objectives at the Review Conference for the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, in 2006
  - Well-laid groundwork for the entry into force of the Convention and subsequent management of fish stocks to ensure their sustainability
  - Increased international adherence to, and use of, UNFA

## **HEALTH CANADA**

1. • Improve the integration of SD considerations within the Department by developing a framework to identify key planning, reporting activities and modern management practices that could incorporate SD considerations, and will integrate sustainable development into these areas where appropriate, by March 31, 2007
- Conduct a comprehensive impact assessment and develop a departmental guidebook and action plan by March 2005, for use by all Health Canada facility managers, to identify, prioritize and propose mitigation/remediation steps in addressing department-specific issues regarding the sustainable operation and management of Health Canada's facilities (laboratories, hospitals, health care centres and leased space)
- Conduct an environmental impact assessment and develop a departmental guidebook and action plan, by March 2005, for use by Health Canada program staff, to identify, prioritize and propose department specific issues to be addressed for adopting a departmental pollution prevention approach in administering programs
- Improve the integration of SD considerations within the Department by developing a framework to identify key planning, reporting activities and modern management practices that could incorporate SD considerations, and will integrate sustainable development into these areas where appropriate by March 31, 2007

## **HEALTH CANADA'S PEST MANAGEMENT REGULATORY AGENCY**

- Improve the process for making regulatory decisions for pest control products, including providing access to safer products, and provide information on pest control products and on sustainable pest management practices

## **HUMAN RESOURCES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CANADA AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CANADA**

1. • Develop an HRDC vision for Sustainable Development (SD) that clearly defines HRDC's role in contributing to SD and provides a long-term framework and direction for HRDC's SD objectives, by March 31, 2005
- Develop an SDC vision for Sustainable Development (SD) that clearly defines SDC's role in contributing to SD and provides a long-term framework and direction for SDC's SD objectives, by March 31, 2005
- Develop an HRSDC vision for Sustainable Development (SD) that clearly defines HRSDC's role in contributing to SD and provides a long-term framework and direction for HRSDC's SD objectives, by March 31, 2005
- Develop an HRDC Sustainable Development (SD) policy that provides guidance on department-wide SD priorities, and clearly situates the SDS within HRDC's Integrated Management Framework, by March 31, 2006
- Develop an SDC Sustainable Development (SD) policy that provides guidance on department-wide SD priorities, and clearly situates the SDS within the Integrated Management Framework, by March 31, 2006
- Develop an HRSDC Sustainable Development (SD) policy that provides guidance on department-wide SD priorities, and clearly situates the SDS within the Integrated Management Framework, by March 31, 2006
- Develop a performance measurement framework for sustainable development issues in HRDC, by March 31, 2004
- Develop a tool for implementing sustainable development in new HRDC projects, by June 30, 2004
- Develop a tool for implementing sustainable development in new HRSDC projects, by June 30, 2004
- Develop a commuter options strategy (with assistance from Transport Canada) for HRDC, by December 31, 2004
- Develop a commuter options strategy (with assistance from Transport Canada) for SDC, by December 31, 2004
- Develop a commuter options strategy (with assistance from Transport Canada) for HRSDC, by December 31, 2004

- Ensure that appropriate reference is made to sustainable development in the HRDC orientation and leadership development materials developed by the Human Resources Branch, by March 31, 2005
  - Ensure that appropriate reference is made to sustainable development in the SDC orientation and leadership development materials developed by the Human Resources Branch, by March 31, 2005
  - Post sustainable development material to the on-line employee orientation package, by March 31, 2005
  - Prepare a green representative package to help regions promote awareness, by November 1, 2004
2. • Open Aboriginal In-Service Support Supply Arrangement (AISS SA) for use by other government departments (specifically Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Health Canada initially, by March 31, 2004
  - Increased use of effective e-learning opportunities among Canadians, by December 31, 2005
  - Develop three new occupational health and safety regulations addressing violence at work prevention, ergonomic standards and injury prevention programs, in order to decrease work injury rates and enhance the overall quality of work of employees under federal jurisdiction, by December 31, 2006
  - Conduct research on the cost of stress in the workplace to:
    - Find out how and to what extent stress in the workplace experienced by employees and managers induces costs for employers as well as the Canadian economy
    - Assess the cost savings potentially available to organizations implementing specific solutions to alleviate stress in the workplace, by December 31, 2005
  - Increase knowledge and understanding of homelessness, by March 31, 2006

## **INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA**

1. • Develop a regional and national "best practices/lessons learned" network, by December 2004
- Establish a national community of interest to share experience and discuss best practices on the integration of horizontal issues into decision making, by December 2005

## **INDUSTRY CANADA**

2. • Enhance the capacity of Industry Canada's management systems by focussing on the planning, performance measurement and evaluation functions, and improve the integration of sustainable development in decision-making processes



## NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA

1. • Complete the training program for all NRCan staff on the revised Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2003), by 2004
  - Develop formal Strategic Environmental Assessment training materials and mechanism for all appropriate NRCan staff, by 2004
2. • Initiate the deployment, in increments, of the National Forest Information System, by 2004
  - Complete initial establishment of the National Forest Inventory, by 2005
  - Initiate 5-year re-measurement cycle for photo/satellite plots and a 10-year re-measurement cycle for ground plots, by 2006
  - Develop products from remote sensing tools and methods, by 2006
  - Develop report describing contributions of woodlots to society, by 2004
  - Complete an initial component of the database on alien invasive insects (Scotylidae) with bioclimatic modelling capacity, by 2004
  - Develop a database on forest-associated species at risk, by 2004
  - Complete additional components of the database on alien invasive species, by 2005
  - Develop a series of customized websites allowing direct access to statistical information, in collaboration with provinces and territories
  - Verify that historical trade and mine production statistics are of the highest quality and accuracy, by 2004
  - Complete an evaluation of the status of ecosystem-based forest management in Canada, by 2004
  - Complete a report on the ecosystem approach and its relationship to sustainable forest management, by 2005
  - Provide free access to accurate, consistent, current online national maps, by 2004
  - Provide tools to allow simple inclusion of national maps in any Government of Canada website, by 2005
  - Deliver online national maps to citizens through a number of Government of Canada websites, by 2006
  - Complete Canadian coverage of basic geospatial information layers (geographical names, atlas thematic frameworks, transportation networks and satellite ortho-imagery) will be produced and upgraded periodically, by 2006
  - Canadian coverage for elevation data and hydrographic network layers will be 60% complete, by 2006
  - Provide base geospatial information and earth observation imagery, by 2006

- Operate a legal survey system in support of the extent of property rights, 2006
- Provide access to a national geodetic reference frame, by 2006
- Develop techniques and methodologies to portray and integrate geospatial information, by 2006
- Complete conversion of map-based geospatial products to digital environment in order to permit digital image and cartographic mapping, seamless integrated databases, real-time mapping and print-on-demand, by 2007
- Complete a forecast providing a benchmark of emissions and energy use for governments and stakeholders, by 2004
- Develop advanced prototype decision-support systems and data models which will be operational in 2008, by 2006
- Identify for a number of natural resource industries the consensus sustainability indicators being reported, the best practices companies are adopting with respect to sustainable development, and the cost-benefits of those practices; disseminate the results as a toolkit to small- and medium-sized enterprises to assist them with integrating sustainable development into their operations, by 2004
- Develop new environmental assessment training materials and tools to comply with the revised Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2003), by 2004
- Complete a synthesis report on indicators of sustainable forest management developed by or for Aboriginal communities in Canada, by 2004
- Develop and produce specialized geomatics products in support of effective Aboriginal land administration, by 2005
- Disseminate information to targeted industry and government audiences in various formats, by 2005
- Publish digital libraries of landscape sensitivity appropriate to the requirements of other government departments for priority regions, by 2005
- Develop national information toolkit targeted for tabling at Mines Ministers Conference, by 2006

## OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

2. • Create a publicly accessible database of 2003-2006 strategy commitments, by October 2004

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CANADA

2. • Update the approved 2003-2006 research agenda annually to address gaps as they are identified, ongoing

- Complete the study on correlation between economic development and First Nations policing, by March 31, 2005
- Complete the study of community policing in a Quebec First Nation community, by December 31, 2004
- Develop material to guide integrated strategic planning at First Nations community level, by March 31, 2004

### ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

1. • The opportunities for waste reduction and waste management understood by the RCMP, by March 31, 2005
  - RCMP understands the relationship between organized criminal activities and environmental degradation, by March 31, 2006
2. • Knowledge of Aboriginal peoples and communities (perceptions, issues, culture) increased, by March 31, 2007

### TRANSPORT CANADA

1. • One of Transport Canada's strategic challenges is to improve decision-making by governments and the transportation sector. The challenge is to understand transportation issues fully, including a better understanding of the scale of transportation activities, their impacts (positive and adverse), and the cost and benefits of policy measures. The goal is to use and disseminate better information, and to use better decision-making processes and frameworks to reach more balanced, timely, transparent and effective decisions. To this end, Transport Canada has made the following commitments:
  - Transport Canada proposes to amend the Canada Transportation Act provisions on data collection to ensure the availability of consistent, useful information on the various elements of the transportation system. The federal-provincial-territorial Climate Change Data Strategy Steering Committee (chaired by Transport Canada) will, by 2005/2006, improve data available by implementing a strategy to:
    - Improve national and provincial estimates of vehicle fuel use
    - Improve provincial and regional activity data by exploring the feasibility of obtaining records of vehicle odometer readings
    - Transport Canada will increase its understanding of the full cost implications of, and better pricing signals for, the use of different modes of transportation. Transport Canada will conduct a number of studies and research projects, in 2004/2005, to help fill analytical gaps identified during the work of the Transportation Climate Change Table; and, to contribute to a national perspective on key sustainable transportation issues.

- The department will evaluate and improve current Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) tools and methods, to simplify and better integrate the conduct of SEA with the policy analysis framework. The department will also assess and promote greater compliance with its policy on SEA, beginning in 2004/2005.
- Develop a *Sustainable Transportation Lens*, by 2006/2007, that will serve as a tool to enhance Transport Canada's ability to make integrated decisions. If successful, the Lens could be institutionalized and promoted within Transport Canada's decision-making process. The Lens could also be shared with the transportation sector for use within other organizations.

### TREASURY BOARD SECRETARIAT

1. • Using current levels of consumption to establish targets and measure progress, develop and implement a strategy to reduce resource consumption, by 2005
  - Develop and implement a strategy to engage employees in making sustainable development a reality in the workplace, by September 2004
2. • Lead the collection of policy and program information related to water from all involved federal departments under the guidance of the IWAC, by February 2004
  - With the SFHIO (Sustainable Federal House in Order) community, explore the value of developing expenditures and results frameworks to better articulate initiatives to prevent pollution and protect the environment while the government carries out its activities, by March 2004
  - Provide departments and agencies with guidelines every fall to develop their spring RPPs, including guidelines for reporting on their plans involving sustainable development strategies, by each fall
  - Provide departments and agencies with guidelines to develop their fall DPR, including guidelines for reporting on their performance involving sustainable development strategies, by each spring
  - Meet with departmental fleet managers and periodically publish Fleet Talks, an on-line publication designed to provide information and best practices for responsible management of the federal fleet, ongoing

### VETERAN AFFAIRS CANADA

1. • Establish a framework in best practices among Well-Being Initiatives in the Department, by March 31, 2004
  - Establish link between Workplace Well-Being and Pride and Recognition, by December 31, 2003

2. • Make evidence and baseline data available through Final Evaluation of Falls Prevention Initiative, by spring 2004
- Put National Falls Prevention Strategy into place, by 2008
- Carry out comparative analysis of video and computer monitoring equipment used for homecare, service delivery relating to chronic disease management, wound management and medication management, by March 31, 2007
- Create a benchmarking database by 2008 that will consolidate evaluation information and issues
- Develop and distribute Knowledge Products, such as PTSD Booklet, PTSD – A Guide for Families, and a “Wellness Kit,” by September 30, 2005
- Develop and implement Vocational Counselling Policy, by March, 31, 2004

### **WESTERN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION CANADA**

1. • Increase the percentage of WD employees attending SD-related training sessions
- Promote generic SD information among WD employees by increasing the number of staff notices about SD Strategy/Action Plan updates, events, training sessions and green tips
- Develop a website within WD’s Intranet, with a subsection devoted to Greening Operations; developed by Year 1 and fully functional by Year 3. Post progress updates annually.
- Develop a new SD website within WD’s Employee Orientation page; developed by Year 1 and fully functional by Year 3
- Increase the percentage of WD purchases recognized as green purchases