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**Corporate Social Responsibility and the National Contact
Point for the OECD Guidelines for MNEs**

***RCEN Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on
Corporate Social Responsibility
Ottawa, March 3, 2010***



Agenda

- **Who are we, what we do and how we do it**
- **Canada's CSR Approach**
- **Canada's CSR policy for the International Extractive Sector**
- **Thoughts to take away**



Who, What, How

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE CANADA

- conduct all diplomatic and consular relations on behalf of Canada;
- conduct all official communication between the GOC and the government of any other country and between the GOC and any international organization;
- conduct and manage international negotiations as they relate to Canada;
- foster the expansion of Canada's international trade;
- foster the development of international law and its application in Canada's external relations.

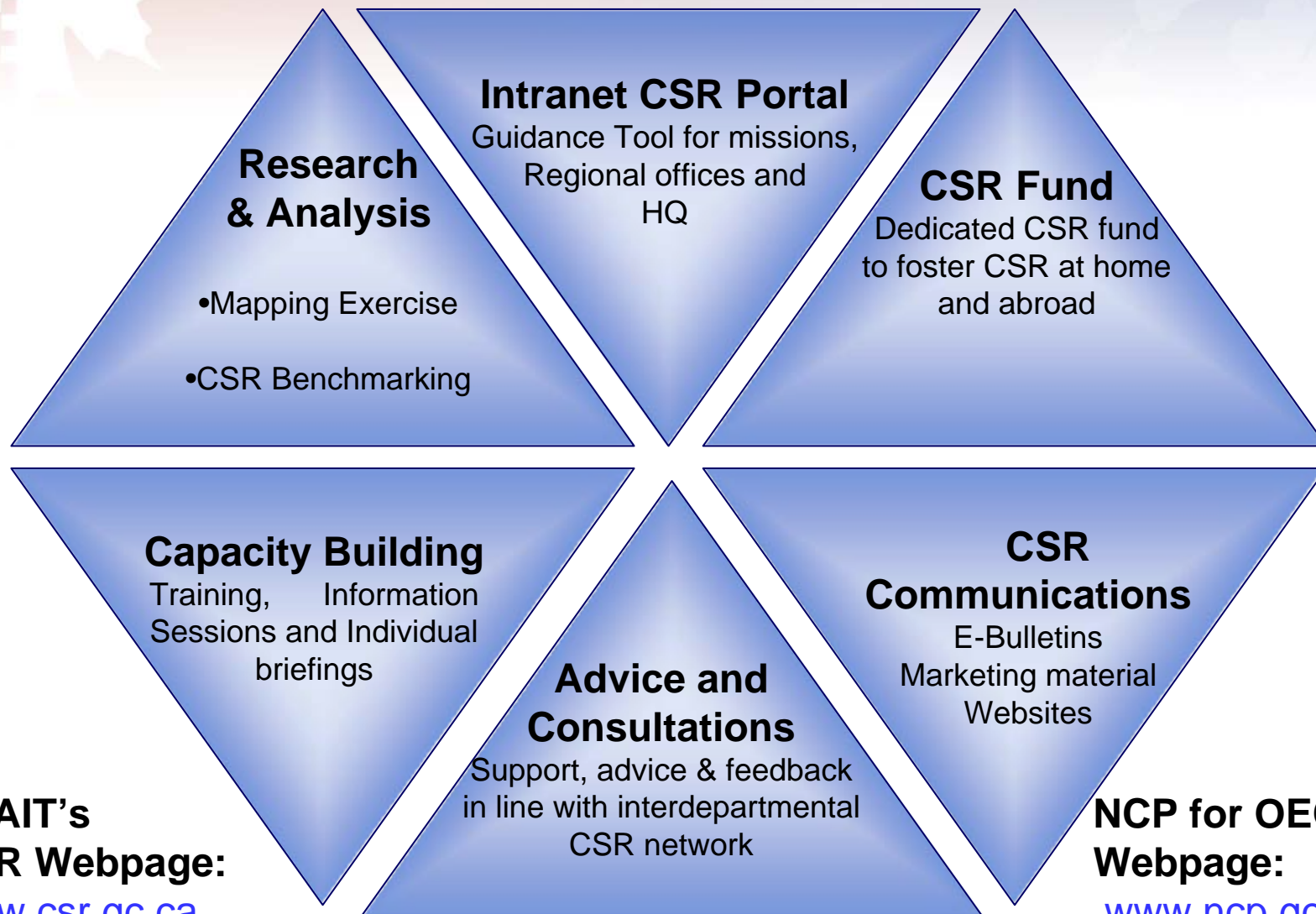
TRADE COMMISSIONER SERVICE *Helps companies succeed globally and lower costs of doing business through four key services:*

- Preparing for International Markets
- Assessing Market Potential
- Finding Qualified Contacts
- Resolving Problems

GOC Role in CSR



CSR Tools/Support



**DFAIT's
CSR Webpage:**
www.csr.gc.ca

**NCP for OECD
Webpage:**
www.ncp.gc.ca



Canada's CSR Approach

Encourage and expect Canadian firms operating abroad to respect applicable laws, international standards, to reflect our values and international commitments.

Supports and encourages the Canadian business community to develop and implement CSR standards, tools, and best practices.

There is a limit to what companies can do to support the communities where they operate. Host governments are responsible for meeting the needs of their citizens.

Canada is active in fostering and promoting CSR at bilateral and multilateral levels.

The Government provides training and tools which assist Officers, at home and abroad, to promote CSR.



Canada's CSR Policy

Developed following broad-based consultations, *Building the Canadian Advantage: a CSR Strategy of the Canadian International Extractive Sector* is founded on four complimentary pillars designed to engage multiple stakeholders and foster different aspects of CSR

Improve the competitiveness of Canadian international extractive sector companies by enhancing their ability to manage social and environmental risks.

Reinforces Canada's commitment to work with host countries, to better enhance economic development and benefits to communities from responsible natural resource management.

Building the Canadian Advantage

Building on Canada's commitment to the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises; the CSR Policy adds 4 pillars to the existing suite of government CSR policies and programs

Host
Country
Resource
Capacity
Building

Promotion
of Voluntary
CSR
Performance
Guidelines

CSR
Centre
of
Excellence

Extractive
Sector
CSR
Counsellor



Resource Governance Capacity Building

The Policy develops and supports initiatives aimed at strengthening host country resource governance.

- Commitment to work with developing countries to enhance capacity to manage natural resources (i.e. Andean initiative, Bolivia Hydrocarbon Tax Project and the Aboriginal Mining Toolkit)
- Enhanced support for the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative through a secondment to the World Bank

Status

- CIDA has established an internal focal point for extractive sector development issues and continues to consult with stakeholders
- CSR to be included under "Sustainable Economic Growth" Thematic Strategy



Promotion of Voluntary CSR Performance Guidelines

Beyond Canada's commitment to the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises the Policy endorses and promotes the following widely-recognized international CSR performance guidelines:

- International Finance Corporation Performance Standards
- Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights
- Global Reporting Initiative

Status

- Standards are being promoted at home and abroad through HQ, Missions, ROs and the interdepartmental community
- GOC is engaged on current and potential standards/ guidelines reviews



CSR Centre of Excellence

The Policy calls for the development of a CSR Centre of Excellence in an existing institution outside of government that will provide:

- Up-to-date, relevant information on CSR for all stakeholders
- Develop information packages for key markets and an inventory of Canadian company CSR contacts, activities and best practices
- “Community of practice” platform for stakeholders to share information

Status

- The Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) hosts the Centre **for** Excellence and acts as its Secretariat
- Multi-stakeholder Interim Executive Committee to provide guidance and direction
- Minister of International Trade announced CSR Centre's on line platform on Jan. 13, 2010



Extractive Sector CSR Counsellor

The Policy creates the Office of the CSR Counsellor, to address CSR issues related to the Canadian extractive sector abroad.

The Counsellor:

- Provides informal fact-finding and mediation to assist in resolving CSR disputes
- Advises stakeholders on implementation of performance guidelines
- Reports results of all inquiries and is accountable to the Minister of International Trade
- Is a “special advisor” to the Minister but operates at arm’s length

Status

- Minister of International Trade announced the appointment of Dr. Marketa Evans as the first CSR Counsellor for the Extractive Sector on Oct.2, 2009
- Her Toronto office is being set up and the review process being developed.



Final thoughts

- **International community support for a voluntary approach to CSR**
 - Voluntary initiatives can advance public policy objectives in a flexible, expeditious and less costly way than regulation
- **GOC doing its part as an engaged stakeholder at home and abroad**
 - OECD *Guidelines for MNEs* and Canada`s NCP (potential Guidelines Review)
 - CSR Policy for Canadian International Extractive Sector (IFC Policy Review)
 - Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
 - Intergovernmental Forum on Mining and Sustainable Development
 - UN Secretary for Business & Human Rights, Dr John Ruggie
 - UN Global Compact
 - ILO Tripartite Declaration
 - Equator Principles
 - Multilateral i.e. OAS, APEC, G8, IADB, Francophonie
 - CSR in Free Trade Agreements and Foreign Investment Protection Agreements
 - **Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act & OECD Anti-Bribery Convention**
- **What it means for companies**
 - An investment in company`s own success, business case well documented
 - GOC engaged, interested and active