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International Trade Canada

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Canada



# CSR & the Canadian Extractive Sector overseas

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## Outline of presentation

1. Government of Canada's CSR Strategy
2. CSR Counsellor – the mandate and role
3. What next?

## Development of the GOC CSR policy

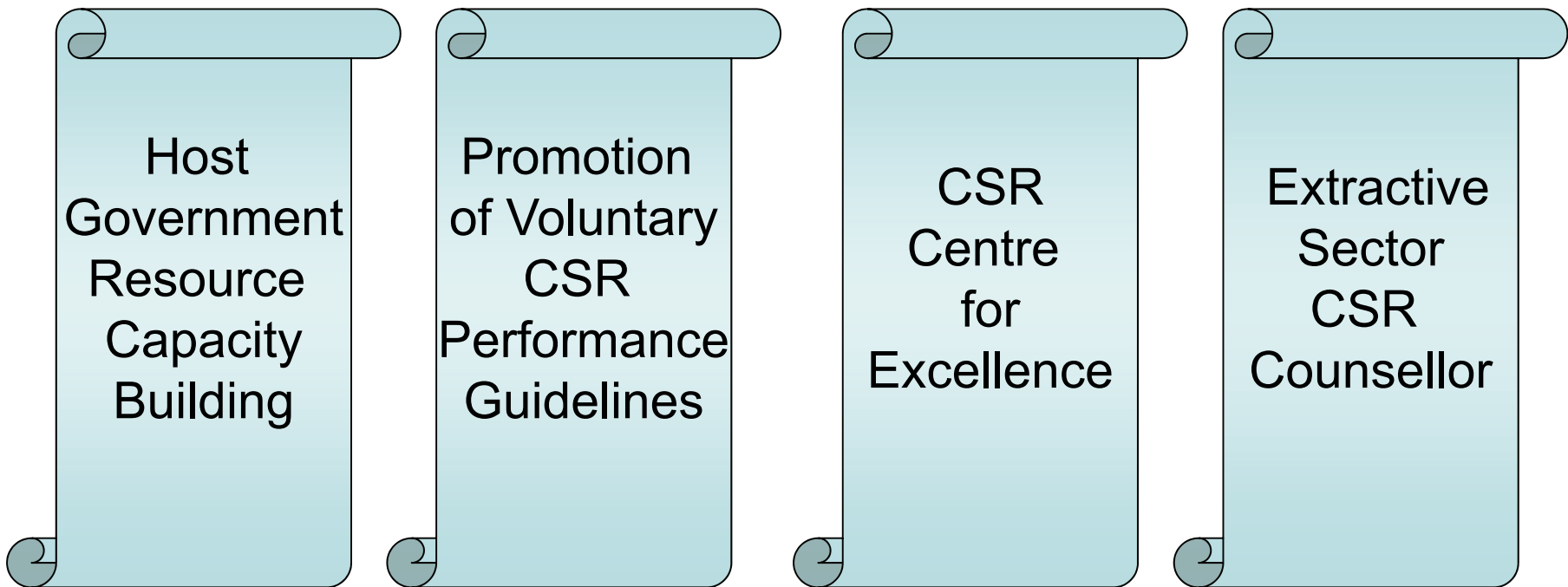
- **2005: Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade (SCFAIT)**
  - Report on CSR and the Canadian Extractive Sector in Developing Countries
- **2006: *National Roundtables on CSR and the Canadian Extractive Sector in Developing Countries.***
  - Led by an interdepartmental government Steering Committee and a multi-stakeholder Advisory Group.
- **2007:** Advisory Group recommendations to the GOC.
- **2008:** Additional consultations with industry and civil society.
- **March 26, 2009:** CSR Strategy for Canada's International Extractive Sector was tabled in Parliament.



***CSR Strategy: Building the  
Canadian Advantage***  
***March 2009***

# Building the Canadian Advantage: A CSR Strategy for the Canadian International Extractive Sector

The Strategy adds 4 pillars to the suite of existing government CSR policies





*CSR Counsellor –  
the mandate and role*



## Extractive Sector CSR Counsellor

- Order-in-Council appointment, 3 year term
- Toronto based
- Direct report to Minister of International Trade, “arms length”
- Report to Parliament every year



## Mandate:

- 1. “review CSR practices of Canadian extractive sector companies outside of Canada”**
- 2. “advise stakeholders on the implementation of the performance guidelines”**





## “Review Mandate”

- Individual, group or community “reasonably believes” it may be affected by a Canadian extractive company

AND/OR

- A Canadian extractive company which perceives itself “the subject of unfounded allegations concerning its corporate conduct”



## The Standards

1. IFC Performance Standards
2. Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights
3. OECD Guidelines for Multinationals  
(remains under National Contact Point)

And...

Global Reporting Initiative



*What next?*



## Creating a review mechanism:

- Focus on prevention
- Focus on performance improvement/problem solving on the ground
- Benchmark to existing mechanisms
- Listening to what makes sense in country (for communities and companies)



## Steps in the creation of the review mechanism

- Opening of Office (March 2010)
- Launch of website (April 2010)
- Draft rules of procedure (April 2010)
- Public consultations (Spring 2010)
- Rules of Procedure established
- Close work with CSR Centre for Excellence