

of Federal, Provincial, and Territorial Governments (FPTs). The current global business environment has enabled (and necessitated) a multitude of players to enter the international commerce and trade sphere. Such proliferation of players and interests has implications for DFAIT's ability to coordinate approaches to international trade and to manage Canada's foreign affairs. Furthermore, while Canada negotiates agreements on behalf of all of Canada, it relies on provinces to respect these agreements.

Role as Platform Provider

Lastly, in DFAIT's role as custodian of the common government services abroad "platform", DFAIT must provide the platform for OGDs and Provinces and Territories, but has little control over partner priorities and platform needs. Constraints in physical assets and financial resources limit DFAIT's ability to accommodate requests from partners. For example, DFAIT may plan to reduce its presence in a country at the same time CIDA plans on increasing their presence.

This driver also relates to Risk 4: Resource Alignment.

Current Risk Mitigation

DFAIT presently has the following mitigating actions in place to address this risk:

- To manage DFAIT's role as custodian of the platform abroad, regular communication occurs between Departments, MOUs are in place for co-location, and a Committee on Representation Abroad (CORA) exists.
- With regards to DFAIT's role in coordinating partners in international initiatives, formal consultation occurs regularly at many levels, and governance structures to support such initiatives are in place. Further, the DFAIT Act works to establish roles and responsibilities in this realm.

Other strategies and tools that DFAIT has in place include:

- Whole of Government Country Strategies
- HOM mandate letters, PMAs
- The Federal-Provincial Bureau addresses F-P-T dialogue