

## Report Background

The following report is based on the findings of cross-country consultations conducted by the Centre for Innovation in Corporate Responsibility (CICR), in collaboration with the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development.

The purpose of this report is to provide recommendations based on these consultations by which DFAIT and the Canadian Federal Government can act as a catalyst to encourage, support and reward further positive corporate sustainability efforts through enhancements to Canada's foreign policy.

The report also outlines basic findings regarding the positive role of Canadian companies in contributing to democratic development and citizen participation in developing countries through their commitment to sustainable development and stakeholder engagement in corporate decision-making.

Consultations involved roundtable discussions and one-on-one interviews with forty-two participants outlined in Appendix II. While the primary focus was on the private sector (twenty-eight participants), the research also involved participants from civil society groups, academia, government agencies and youth. The guiding questions for the roundtables and interviews can be found in Appendix I.

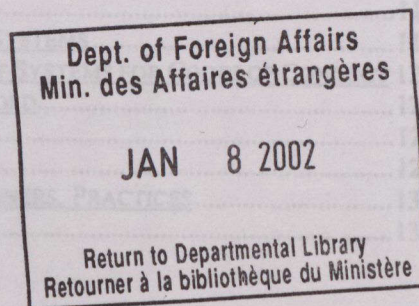
The Centre for Innovation in Corporate Responsibility works in partnership with business to enhance business performance through socially and environmentally responsible business practices. CICR specializes in international, and particularly developing country, corporate responsibility management. CICR provides training and consulting services to businesses in the development of stakeholder engagement management systems and Sustainability management systems, conducts research and consultations to provide program and policy recommendations for the Canadian government, and provides services to NGOs relating to the development of business-NGO partnerships, codes of conduct and corporate funding criteria.

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