

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNSELLORS' PROFILE

Role of S&TCs' in DFAIT's S&T Program

Science & Technology Counsellors (S&TCs) are key players in Canada's international S&T network. They profile Canada as a S&T - based country by promoting an awareness of Canadian scientific and technological excellence at their posts abroad. The S&TCs' work is guided by the three goals of the Federal S&T Strategy: i) sustainable job creation and economic growth ii) improved quality of life, and iii) advancement of knowledge. The breadth and scope of the S&TCs' functions vary by post, depending on the S&T capabilities of their host countries.

DFAIT has six dedicated S&TCs in key OECD countries. The posts are located in London, Paris, Brussels (EU), Berlin, Tokyo and Washington. DFAIT's S&T Program is delivered collectively by the S&T Division (TBR), the S&TCs, post officers responsible for technology development, and the officer looking after S&T files at Canada's permanent mission to the OECD. The program's client base is the Canadian S&T community that includes federal and provincial SBDAs, university research centres, and the business R&D sector.

Two Key Functions of S&TCs

I S&T Policy and Program Monitoring and Reporting

Objective: Contribute to Canada's S&T policy and program formulation by maintaining an up to date intelligence scan of S&T issues in the host country.

- Conduct pro-active research in their host country on S&T activities, priorities, trends and areas of strength. Fully exercise their own initiative to this end, and report to appropriate clients and to TBR for further dissemination.
- Provide insights on the host government's bilateral and multilateral positions on S&T issues to facilitate the development of Canada's international strategies.
- Liaise with foreign officials and S&T multilateral organizations, acting as the official senior S&T representative on behalf of Canada and as a key point of contact at the post on Canada's bilateral and multilateral S&T agreements.
- Provide S&T advice to TBR, SBDAs through the Tasking Group, and colleagues at their posts, in response to specific requests.

II Promotion of S&T Collaboration