

of issues. The second part of the CSR Counsellor's Office mandate is to review the CSR practices of Canadian extractive sector companies operating outside Canada. The Office's non-judicial Review Process, designed to bring companies and project-affected stakeholders together to resolve differences, will be offered to parties at early stages of a dispute, as part of the Government's efforts to help companies and communities resolve issues before they escalate. The Review Process will operate more closely with Canada's NCP for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises to ensure coherence. Specifically, as outlined later in this document, in cases where formal mediation is required, the Parties will be referred to the National Contact Point.

The Centre for Excellence in CSR

The Government contributed to the creation of the Centre for Excellence in CSR (the CfE) as a key element of its CSR Strategy in 2009. Housed within the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM), the CfE was envisaged as a focal point for the development and dissemination of practical tools and information to a broad range of extractive sector stakeholders. Through its Executive Committee, the CfE has provided an important venue for regular dialogue among key actors in the extractive sector, and has helped to identify extractive sector needs, understand diverse stakeholder views, and forge a common way forward on guidance for responsible resource and community development. Recognizing the potential of the CfE to effect improvement in companies' CSR performance on the ground, the Government of Canada values its role as an observer on the CfE Executive Committee and will continue to participate in CfE activities.

Canada's Network of Missions Abroad

With regional offices across Canada and diplomatic missions in more than 100 countries around the world, the Government is well positioned to assist Canadian companies abroad. [The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service \(TCS\)](#) provides on-the-ground intelligence and practical advice on foreign markets to help companies make better, timely, and cost-effective decisions. The TCS can assist extractive sector companies that are part of the Canadian business community, are actively contributing to Canada's economic growth, have a demonstrated capacity for internationalization, and have strong potential to add value to the Canadian economy.

Canada's representatives around the world are a crucial delivery mechanism for advice and guidance to help raise CSR performance among Canadian extractive sector companies on the ground. Canadian Trade Commissioners can provide contacts and advice related to identifying, managing and mitigating environmental and social risks, including those related to human rights. Trade Commissioners are well-placed to share information on what works and what doesn't in a given country. Going forward, stronger support will be provided for CSR initiatives at Canada's missions abroad, aimed at ensuring a consistently high level of CSR-related service globally.