

and lower standards of building maintenance increases potential exposure to health and safety risks such as mould.

Physical Constraints

There are vulnerabilities in some physical systems in terms of infrastructure placement. For example, if certain cables are damaged or displaced accidentally, the systems will be exposed to significant disruption.

Physical (and financial) constraints, such as the cost of rebuilding and the condition of existing building footprints, limit DFAIT's ability to address some physical safety issues. In addition, some assets are located in buildings where other international targets such as embassies of other countries are co-located. In recent years DFAIT has invested relatively little in security upgrades compared to the other G8 countries.

Changing Work Environment

There is an increasing trend of having staff members operate outside mission environments away from of the protection that missions provide. At a time when incidents of cyber-attacks are increasing and the workforce is becoming more mobile, gaps in mobile information security systems expose employees and information to more risk.

Other Conditions

Additional business conditions expose DFAIT to this risk:

- There is a lack of understanding of (and thus a degree of non-compliance with) security policies by some members of staff.
- The perception of danger (often through media reports) may divert resources away from real threats, requiring DFAIT to spend money fixing the perceived problem (which, therefore, drives Risk 4: Resource Allocation).

This risk is compounded by Risk 3: Business Continuity and Risk 5: Staff Capacity.

Current Risk Mitigation

The Departmental security program is in full operation. Ongoing security measures include:

- Threat and Risk Assessments (TRAs) have been