

# Presentation to the Conference on Corporate Social Responsibility

Venice, Italy,  
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Department of Enterprise, Trade and  
Employment, Ireland

Encouraging and  
Supporting the Adoption of  
Socially Responsible  
Attitudes and Practices  
by Enterprises

# Definition

*“A concept whereby companies integrate social and environmental concerns in their business operations and in their interactions with their stakeholders on a voluntary basis”.*

# Role of Government

Sustainable Development Policy

Legal Framework

Financial and Institutional Support for Social Inclusion

Facilitating/Encouraging/Raising Awareness

# Policy Framework for Sustainable Development

*Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland (1977)*

- Strategies in Place on
  - Waste Management
  - Climate Change
  - Sustainable Local Communities
  - National Spatial Strategy
  - National Biodiversity Plan

# Policy Framework for Sustainable Development Contd.

## **Developing Strategies on**

- Waste Prevention
- Recycling

# Policy Framework on Sustainable Development Contd

## **Institutions**

- Comhar – National Sustainable Development Partnership
- ENFO – The Environmental Information Office
- The Environment Network of Government Departments
- A Cross-Departmental Climate Change Team

# **Sustainable Development Strategy for the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, January 2003**

## **Four Key Goals**

- Climate Change
- Competitive Sustainability
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Departmental Sustainability

# **Sustainable Development Strategy Contd.**

- Good Corporate Practices
- Sustainable Management Practices
- Sustainable Trade
- Sustainable Consumerism

# Legal Framework

Finance Act 2001 – Charitable  
Donations

Legislation on Dormant Accounts

Waste Management Amendment Act

# Financial and Institutional Support for Social Inclusion

**The FIT Initiative – Long Term Employed**

**The Linkage Programme – Ex-Offenders**

**Read to Work Programme – Homeless**

**Training and Employment Programmes – People  
with Disabilities**

# **Facilitating/Encouraging/Raising Awareness of CSR Practices**

Forum – Overseas Development Aid

Special Olympics

Establishment of Business in the  
Community – Ireland

Awareness Raising Campaigns