



Preliminary Working Definition of Organizational Social Responsibility

For the purposes of this advisory group OSR is taken to mean a balanced approach for organizations to address economic, social and environmental issues in a way that aims to benefit people, communities and society.

Characteristics and Underlying Principles of OSR: (not exhaustive and not in any particular order)

- Based on compliance with laws & regulations
- Includes voluntary commitments
- Principle of inclusiveness and engagement of affected or / and interested parties
- Accountability
- Transparency
- Ethical Behavior
- Flexibility to reflect diversity and needs
- Part of sustainability / Sustainable Development

OSR Issues include (not exhaustive and not in any particular order)

- Human rights (Universal Declaration of Human Rights, ILO Core Conventions)
- Workplace and employee Issues (incl. Occupational Health & Safety)
- Unfair business practices including bribery, corruption and anti-competitive practices (all organizations)
- Organizational governance
- Environmental aspects
- Marketplace and consumer Issues
- Community involvement
- Social development

This was the starting point for the discussions that led to the above working definition.

What is CSR?

EU: SR is (a concept for the integration) management by organizations of social and environmental concerns in their operations and in their interaction with their stakeholders.

USCIB: Commitment by a company to manage its roles in society in a responsible and sustainable manner, including a set of voluntary principles that seek to ensure that the company has a positive impact on the societies in which it operates.

COPOLCO: A framework for measuring and reporting corporate performance against social parameters such as ethical values, compliance with laws, and respect for people, communities and the environment. This includes substantive obligations owed to all of a firm's affected stakeholders throughout the supply chain, from customers, workers and their families, to suppliers, the greater community, the environment, investors, shareholders, and governments. Key features include a consistent and comprehensive approach to process, performance, transparency, accountability, public disclosure, meaningful stakeholder involvement, and reporting

Social Responsibility is a voluntary commitment by organizations to manage their operations and their interactions with stakeholders in order to have a positive impact on the societies in which they operate.

(What)

- Commitment by an organization to comply with applicable laws and regulations, and to manage its role in society in a responsible and sustainable manner.
- Consideration of the organization's relationships with all of its affected stakeholders including employees and their families, customers, suppliers, competitors, investors, governments, and the community.

(How)

- A consistent and comprehensive approach to process, measurement and reporting of performance, transparency, accountability, public disclosure, and stakeholder involvement.

(Per COPOLCO/BSR List)

- Fundamental Human Rights
- Workplace and employee Issues
- Competitive business conduct
- Community involvement
- Corporate governance
- Environmental activities
- Marketplace and consumer issues