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# **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE PMRA**

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**Pest Management Advisory Council  
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## **Sustainable Development**



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## Definition

"Sustainable development is meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987. Our Common Future, . Oxford: Oxford University Press) "



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# Sustainable Development

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## International Commitment

UNCED (Rio, 1992): UN Conference on Environment and Development)

Agenda 21: comprehensive global action programme for sustainable development



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# Sustainable Development

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## Interpretation

Integrating environmental,  
social/cultural and economic factors in  
decision-making to ensure quality of  
life

Commitment to equity



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# Auditor General Act

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## Amendments (1995)

Establish the position of Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development (CESD) within Office of the Auditor General

Require each federal Department to prepare Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS)

Require SDS to be tabled in Parliament by December 1997 and updated every 3



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years



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# Sustainable Development Strategies

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Accountability mechanism to ensure that departments integrate environmental / social / economic aspects of

programs

plans

activities

physical operations

Progress on SDS commitments reported annually to Parliament by Departments Audited by Commissioner of Environment and Sustainable Development (Auditor General's Office)



# Sustainable Development and PMRA

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## Integration of elements in regulatory decision-making:

Health risk assessment

Environmental risk assessment

Value assessment

## Parallel to components of sustainable development:

Social

Environmental



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# Economic



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Cabinet-mandated program for reform of the pest management regulatory system includes:

Support integration of pest management with broader goals of environmental sustainability

Increase access to pest management strategies that reduce risk of harm to human health, safety and the environment

Support development of sustainable systems that reduce need for traditional pest control products



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## PMRA Strategic Plan for 1998-2003

The **first** of three key **objectives**:

"to protect health, safety and the environment from the risks of pesticides through the use of sound, progressive science, including innovative approaches to sustainable pest management"



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## Sustainable Pest Management

Economically viable

Meets society's needs for human health protection, food and fibre production and resource utilization

Conserves or enhances natural resources and the quality of the environment for future generations

(Defined in PMRA Strategic



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Plan)



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# PMRA Commitments - SDS 1997

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## HC SDS Theme 2: Identifying and reducing health risks from the environment: Control of Toxic Substances in the Environment

The Department plans to:

increase its capacity to integrate sustainability into decision making for pest control products

support the development and adoption of sustainable pest management systems



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# Speech from the Throne, 1999

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## The government will:

continue to build partnerships at home and abroad to focus on sustainable development and improve the quality of the environment in our communities

strengthen its capacity for environmental research and place greater emphasis on sustainable development in government decision making



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# SDS 2000

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**Updated** SD Strategies are **due** to be tabled in Parliament by **Dec.15, 2000**

## **Commissioner's expectations:**

Focussed commitments  
Measurable results

## **Cohesive** federal agenda

**Interdepartmental** committees ensure that senior managers and policy staff **work together** to create next round of departmental Strategies



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# SDS 2000 - Federal Action Plan

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8 key themes identified by Deputy Ministers:

**Federal House** in Order  
**International** Aspects of SD  
**Northern** SDS  
SD and **Healthy Canadians**  
**Social and Cultural** Aspects of SD  
Productivity through **Eco-efficiency**  
(Corporate Stewardship)  
**Knowledge** and Information / Indicators  
and Reporting  
Sustainable **Communities** Initiative



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# SDS 2000 - Federal Action Plan

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## Coordinated Consultations

**National Consultation** organized by NRTEE  
on behalf of Deputy Ministers  
target audience: private sector and  
federal department CEO's, senior  
managers and policy makers

**Focussed consultations** for key federal  
themes and departmental SD Strategies  
approaches under development

## Conclusion



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SD is international  
SD is government-wide  
SDS is an accountability mechanism to  
ensure that commitments are met  
PMRA commitments derived from key  
elements of the government's reform of  
the pest management regulatory system  
and of the Strategic Plan  
Updated Health Canada SDS due Dec. 2000

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