



The Center for Copper and Mining Studies, Cescos, is a non-profit Corporation that has sought, since its founding in 1984, to present a specialized view on mining subjects that balances the necessary technical base required by mining subjects and the implications on public policies. Cescos aspires to incorporate mining into national decision-making in a useful way that will enable this important activity to contribute its full potential to the country's development.

Cescos's basic definition is that mining does not constitute a blessing or a curse *per se*; it is the appropriate set of public policies that will enable mining activity to become a tool for national development. Cescos's efforts are focused on the search for appropriate public policies.

It is hard to find another civil society organization in the world that focuses its activity on a favorable view of the contribution made by mining, whereas there are many cases where non-governmental organizations approach this economic activity with a negative bias and act accordingly.

Cescos's long history is a fundamental pillar that supports its reputation and credibility as well as its drawing power. In the beginning, Cescos played a critical role in the reforms of public policies that modified old legal structures in the mining industry and opened the way for the massive influx of foreign investment. Its activity made it possible to harmonize positions on the process, and its subsequent evolution has permitted better understanding of the changes this investment has caused in Chile.

In the last few years, Cescos has understood that the main challenge facing the country is how to take advantage of the platform built by the mining industry in order to create opportunities for development. The obstacles to this effort are immense and deep since changes must be addressed in the cultural and political aspects that create a separation between mining and society as well as an improper understanding of its activity.

To achieve its objectives, Cescos believes it is fundamental to act independently of public and private interests. Thus, its opinion is based on experience and technical skill, but especially on a neutrality of interests that enables the corporation to maintain its reputation and credibility with the public.

The independence that sustains the reputation and credibility of the institution is only possible if its financing does not come from a source that influences its activity through any kind of contractual or financial dependence. To maintain its independence, Cescos has defined that its financing must be obtained through remuneration for the activities it organizes, and the most important of these is widely known as Cescos Week. The key milestone of the Week is the Cescos Dinner, which is attended by mining companies, both producers and consumers, from around the world, companies engaged in engineering, mining supply, freight forwarding, banks and consulting companies, as well as other state-owned and non-governmental institutions. It is important to emphasize that in order to guarantee the maximum impact of its activity, all activities that take place during the year, other than Cescos Week, are free of charge.



The success of Cesco Week, whose participants come from the highest levels around the world, has made it one of the most important events on the calendar of the mining industry, which is a source of great prestige for Chile. This success is a clear example of the joint work between Cesco, through its history and reputation, and the mining industry, which has supported it firmly over the years.

Cesco works with a small operating structure, maximizing the impact of its activity through its continuous presence in the specialized and local press, the contribution of an analysis of the mining industry in the "Informe Financiero de la Minería," and multiple presentations at government, political, industrial circles and international forums.

Cesco also has two scholarship programs that are co-financed with companies related to the mining industry. The first one is a scholarship program for undergraduate students with economic needs and academic merits, and the second is a one-month program in Europe for young professionals, which is administered in conjunction with CRU.