

Indian Ocean Territories Economic Development Funding Program

Funding Recipient	Project	2006/2007	Description	NOTE
Christmas Island				
Christmas Island Tourism Association Inc	The Essential Christmas Island Travel Guide	\$ 17,511.00	Publication to support tourism on Christmas Island	
Christmas Island Tourism Association Inc	Walking Trails Report	\$ -	To fund a scoping study for a Christmas Island walking trail network	\$57,489 carried over to 2007/2008 budget
Christmas Island 06/07 Total :		\$ 17,511.00		
Cocos (Keeling) Islands				
Cocos (Keeling) Islands Economic Development Association	Administration Fee	\$ 3,750.00	Administration expenses for Cocos (Keeling) Islands Economic Development Association	
Island Explorer Holidays	Destination Brochures	\$ -	To fund brochures promoting both Christmas & Cocos (Keeling) Islands as a holiday destination.	\$44,000 carried over to 2007/2008 budget
Cocos (Keeling) Islands 06/07 Total :		\$ 3,750.00		
TOTAL FUNDING 2006/2007		\$ 21,261.00		

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Funding Recipient Christmas Island	Project	2007/2008	Description	NOTE
Christmas Island Tourism Association Inc	Walking Trails Report	\$ 62,500.00	To fund a scoping study for a Christmas Island walking trail network	\$57,489 carried over from 2006/2007 budget
Christmas Island Tourism Association Inc	Explorers Guide	\$ 11,250.00	To promote the tourist destination of Christmas Island and enhance visitors experience.	
Christmas Island Economic Development Committee	Administration Fee	\$ 3,750.00	Administration expenses for Christmas Island Economic Development Committee	
Shire of Christmas Island	Cultural Tour Guides - Stage 2	\$ 5,400.00	To develop a business model for the establishment of a cultural tour guide business	
Christmas Island Tourism Association Inc	Tourism Strategy for Christmas Island	\$ 10,000.00	To fund the preparation of a five year strategy for improving tourism on Christmas Island	
Christmas Island Chamber of Commerce Inc.	Feasibility Study - Internet options	\$ 19,000.00	Feasibility study of options to improve internet and other telecommunications on Christmas Island	
Shire of Christmas Island	Four Pilot Cultural Tourism Experiences	\$ 6,890.00	To establish four pilot tourism businesses on Christmas Island to enhance tourism opportunities and promote economic activity.	
Christmas Island 07/08 Total :		\$ 118,790.00		
Cocos (Keeling) Islands				
Island Explorer Holidays	Destination Brochures	\$ 44,000.00	To fund brochures promoting both Christmas & Cocos (Keeling) Islands as a holiday destination.	\$44,000 Carried over from 2006/2007 budget
CKI Muslim Small Business Association	Pulu Cocos Adventures (small tourism businesses)	\$ 2,750.00	To fund the establishment of four small tourism businesses on Cocos (Keeling) Islands	
Cocos (Keeling) Islands Economic Development Association	Administration Fee	\$ 3,750.00	Administration expenses for Cocos (Keeling) Islands Economic Development Association	
Shoeline Pty Ltd	Reflections of Cocos (Keeling) Islands Coffee Table book	\$ 25,000.00	To fund the printing of a coffee table book showcasing the Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Funding of \$65,000 approved over two financial years - 07/08 and 08/09
Big Barge Art Co. sponsored by Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Big Barge Art project	\$ 32,500.00	To fund the restoration of an historic barge for establishment of an arts and cultural facility on West Island	
Cocos Castaway	Cocos Portable Sawmill	\$ 12,758.00	To fund the purchase of a portable sawmill for precision cutting of timber on Cocos (Keeling) Islands to promote economic use of the timber resource	
Cocos (Keeling) Islands 07/08 Total :		\$ 120,758.00		
TOTAL FUNDING 2007/2008		\$ 239,548.00		

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Funding Recipient	Project	2008/2009	Description	NOTE
Christmas Island				
Indian Ocean Territories Group Training Association	IOT Entrepreneurial & Leadership program	\$ 8,500.00	To conduct five-day courses on Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands to build skills in leadership, communication, presentation, networking, business development, marketing and accounting, and increase cultural awareness within these communities.	Funded equally from Christmas and Cocos budgets
Christmas Island Tourism Association Inc	Christmas Island Cruising Project	\$ 43,500.00	To provide a single point coordination resource to develop a work plan and activities to support the initial cruise ship season.	
Christmas Island 08/09 Total :		\$ 52,000.00		
Cocos (Keeling) Islands				
Big Barge Art Co. sponsored by Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Big Barge Art project	\$ 32,500.00	To fund the restoration of an historic barge for establishment of an arts and cultural facility on West Island	Funding of \$65,000 approved over two financial years - 07/08 and 08/09
Seacreature Leisure Sports Pty. Ltd.	Cocos (Keeling) Islands Kite Beach Infrastructure Upgrade project	\$ 21,500.00	To fund a purpose built semi-permanent shelter at Kite Beach on West Island, to support the activities of the growing kite surfing market.	
Indian Ocean Territories Group Training Association	IOT Entrepreneurial & Leadership program	\$ 8,500.00	To conduct five-day courses on Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands to build skills in leadership, communication, presentation, networking, business development, marketing and accounting, and increase cultural awareness within these communities.	Funded equally from Christmas and Cocos budgets
Cocos (Keeling) Islands 08/09 Total :		\$ 62,500.00		
TOTAL FUNDING 2008/2009		\$ 114,500.00		

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL CAPITAL
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ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Question No. 2

Senator Crossin asked the following question in relation to the establishment of the Economic Development Committees for the Indian Ocean Territories at the hearing on 16 September 2009:

Senator CROSSIN—How were those bodies set up originally? Was it on advice from the AG's department some years back?

The answer to the Honourable Senator's question is as follows:

In July 2000 the former Minister responsible for Territories, Senator the Hon Ian MacDonald, announced the Commonwealth Government intended to establish a mechanism for assisting economic development in the Indian Ocean Territories.

This included establishing two incorporated bodies tasked with assisting to help the Islands develop more sustainable economic futures. This mechanism was developed following community consultations. Funding of \$75,000 per annum, each, for Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island was made available for economic development projects. The economic development committees were able to access up to five percent of this funding (\$3,750) to assist with administrative expenses.

The bodies were established in 2002.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL CAPITAL
AND THE EXTERNAL TERRITORIES
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Question No. 3

Senator Crossin asked the following question at the hearing on 16 September 2009:

Senator CROSSIN—There was always a lot of confusion about whether the IOTs actually came under the area consultative committees or not. I think that, by the time we sorted that out, the ACCs were abolished. Have we worked out what the relationship of the IOTs with Regional Development Australia is and what role you play in that, if any?

The answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

Regional Development Australia (RDA) is an Australian Government initiative, managed by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (Department of Infrastructure). The RDA network aims to bring together all levels of government to enhance the growth and development of regional Australia. Its key functions are:

- to provide advice on consultation and community engagement;
- regional planning;
- to promote whole-of-Government programs, policies and initiatives; and
- community and economic development.

The network will also play a key role in ensuring that advice about key issues in the regions is provided to all levels of government.

On 25 August 2009, the Australian and Western Australian Governments signed a Memorandum of Understanding setting out the arrangements for Regional Development Australia in Western Australia.

The Attorney-General's Department, including the Economic Development Officer, have entered into discussions with the Department of Infrastructure and the Western Australian Government regarding engagement of the Territories with RDA.

The Economic Development Officer has been active in raising awareness of the RDA network with the Economic Development Consultative Groups, the local Shires and the policy area of the Attorney-General's Department. It is anticipated that the Economic Development Officer will play a key role in engaging with the RDA network upon agreement of suitable arrangements for the Indian Ocean Territories.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL CAPITAL
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ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Question No. 4

Senator Lundy asked the following question at the hearing on 16 September 2009:

CHAIR—I will probably place some questions on notice, given the time, but can I ask you what the department's approach is to procuring the department's bandwidth needs and whether the department bandwidth needs help underpin the business case of the local business Christmas Island internet services?

The answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

The Christmas Island Internet Association (CIIA) provides local on island domestic style connectivity within the Territories.

The arrangements for AGD connectivity between Canberra, Perth and the Territories are:

1. Telstra
 - Currently provide connectivity from AGD Canberra to Perth.
2. Optus
 - Perth to Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands
 - Note: Connectivity from Canberra to Christmas Island & Cocos (Keeling) Islands is via Perth.

The Department's arrangements are based on a value for money assessment, including internet capability, technical skills and security standards. As contracts with current suppliers expire, the Department will be required to utilise the Whole-of-Government Telecommunications procurement arrangements currently in development.