

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Additional Estimates Hearing 2011-12
15 February 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

TOPIC: Enterprise Portfolios

REFERENCE: Written Question –Senator Bushby

QUESTION No.: AI-88

How regularly are new ‘enterprise portfolios’ nominated by the CSIRO? For each of the 11 items listed under the Enterprise Portfolio heading on pages 15 and 16 of the CSIRO Operational Plan 2011-12: from which part of the broader CSIRO Budget is the funding drawn; from what financial year does the funding begin; and how much has been allocated to them over each year of the forward estimates?

ANSWER

There is no recurring process for creation of new enterprise portfolios. When new needs are identified, a case for a new portfolio is developed via the CSIRO Science Investment Process for consideration and ratification by the CSIRO Executive. While there has been some restructuring and re-organisation of portfolios to better manage resources within budget constraints, there have been no completely new portfolios created in the last 10 years.

Due to this re-organisation and the fact that CSIRO’s research priorities evolve over long periods, it is not possible to ascribe a specific start date to an enterprise portfolio.

Table 1 shows funding for enterprise portfolios for next three-year forward estimates. Enterprise portfolios are funded under Program 2 of CSIRO’s Portfolio Budget Statement and their funding is comprised of both appropriation and external revenue.

Table 1: Sources of funding for enterprise portfolios for three-year forward estimates

Portfolio	Forward Estimates Total Revenue (\$m)		
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Advanced Coal Technology	49.10	51.54	54.11
Astronomy and Space Sciences	18.67	19.22	19.79
Biodiversity	12.11	12.73	13.39
Digital Technologies and Services	38.31	39.98	41.73
Ecosystems Sciences	23.59	24.64	25.76
Food and Nutritional Sciences	32.27	33.59	34.98
Livestock Industries	43.28	44.96	46.73
Marine and Atmospheric Research	39.71	41.75	43.89
Materials, Science and Engineering	39.29	41.08	42.96
Petroleum and Geothermal	36.02	37.58	39.22
Plant Industry	84.33	88.96	93.86