

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio
Additional Estimates
14 February 2013

Question: AR15
Topic: Tourism Industry
Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Ronaldson asked:

10. Tourism Investment Projects

With respect to the Program 4 line activity, “*working with other government agencies and stakeholders to ensure that infrastructure development contributes to the competitiveness of the tourism sector*”:

- a. How many of the ‘investment ready’ projects (contained in the government’s prospectus entitled ‘Australian Tourism Investment Opportunities’) have progressed to construction?
- b. Is the government on track to deliver against its Tourism 2020 target?

Answer:

- a. No projects have yet commenced construction – the progression to construction of such projects might take several years and involve several stages including: identifying investment partners, securing finance, making development applications, etc. However, to date, nine of the projects on the Tourism Investment Opportunities List have progressed to the next phase of the investment process and an additional 11 investment leads have been identified by Austrade and referred to state and territory tourism organisations for onshore investment facilitation.
- b. Tourism Research Australia’s *State of the Industry Report* assesses progress in meeting the Tourism 2020 targets. This assessment details progress in a range of wide range of areas covered by Tourism 2020, and shows there was growth in the level of accommodation stock from 2009 to 2011-12. The latest version was released on 1 November 2012 at the Tourism Directions Conference. This can be downloaded from: http://www.ret.gov.au/tourism/Documents/tra/Economic%20Analysis/State_of_the_Industry_2012.pdf.

The next annual update is due to be released at the 2013 Directions Conference, which is currently scheduled for late October 2013.