

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2012-2013**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0993_13

Senator Mason asked on 14 February 2013 , Hansard page 76

Question

One laptop per child program

Senator MASON: How many have been distributed thus far? Ms Bloor: I would have to take that on notice. As I understand it, it is still very much in the planning phase. Senator MASON: On the DEEWR website there is a document that lists all grants provided. At the period ending 30 June 2012—and documents such as this were uploaded late last November—I came across grant reference No. GRM22973. This particular grant was for \$12.8 million and was given to One Laptop Per Child Australia Limited, the company that administers this program. Is that right? Ms Bloor: It is. One Laptop Per Child Australia administers the program. There is obviously a discrepancy between the figure that I cited earlier, which is \$11.7 million, and that amount. Senator MASON: How does that work? What is the difference? It is about a million dollars. Ms Bloor: I would have to take that on notice.

Answer

The Australian Government provided a one-off grant of \$11.7 million (GST exclusive; \$12.87 million GST inclusive) to One Laptop Per Child Australia Ltd (OLPCA), an Australian private company registered as a charitable institution, in June 2012. The grant was to support the expansion of OLPKA's laptop initiative, which aims to support the learning opportunities of primary school children, particularly those in remote Australia, by providing children with a connected custom-designed laptop (XO Laptop) or tablet (XO Duo) as well as teacher training and support. As at 4 March 2013, 889 laptops had been distributed under the grant with a significant ramp up scheduled for the 2013 school year. OLPKA have indicated a total target figure of 22 500 XO laptops and XO Duos shipped to schools by the end of the 2013 calendar year. The remaining 24 500 laptops are targeted to be shipped in the period January to June 2014.