

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0345_12

Senator Abetz asked on 31/05/2011, Hansard page 45.

Question

Jobs Fund - Projects Delayed By Queensland Floods And Cyclone

Senator ABETZ: With all the individual projects, how many of them are there, do we think? Ms Paul: I think the projects are on our website but, at any rate, we will—

Senator ABETZ: Can you provide that, and the amount of funding provided to each one. Ms Paul: Yes, that is fine. Senator ABETZ: And whether they are anticipated to continue after their funding runs out. Ms Paul: We may not know for all of them, but we will do our best. Senator ABETZ: If you could, that would be good. Thank you. Is it correct that funding for the jobs fund has been extended by 12 months? Ms Buffinton: It is extended for 20 projects that have been affected because, out of the project's control, there were delays in, say, council approvals for infrastructure, or there were climatic conditions like Cyclone Yasi or the floods. All the others are expected to be completed by 30 June, as was agreed. Senator ABETZ: In that table, then, can you provide us, with an asterisk, those 20, and how much.

Senator ABETZ: And then how many were delayed as a result of the flood in Queensland or, indeed, Cyclone Yasi. Ms Paul: Yes.

Answer

The majority of Jobs Fund projects will finish on 30 June 2011. However, as at 17 June 2011, 23 projects have been identified for extension into the 2011–12 financial year.

The completion of these projects was affected by delays due to circumstances outside of their control:

- 14 projects were affected by floods, Cyclone Yasi and other extreme weather conditions
- 9 construction projects have been affected by unexpected delays in development/construction approvals from state or local government authorities.

Some construction projects, which were initially delayed by final development approvals, have been further delayed by the direct or indirect impact of floods and heavy rains.

Refer to Attachment Ain EW0346_12 for the list and details of extended projects including the reason for extension.