EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2004-2005 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2
Output Group: 2.2 – New Apprenticeships

DEST Question No. E394_05

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Please list all skill shortages projects, programs, grants, strategies and initiatives approved by the Minister's Department or any agency for which the Minister has portfolio responsibility, since May 1996, including:

(a) Who administers or operates the project, programs, grants, strategies and initiative;

(b) The Department or agency involved;

(c) The (i) purpose, (ii) date of approval and (iii) value or cost of the program, project, grant and /or initiative;

(d) The length of the project, grants, program and initiative; and

(e) The outcomes of the project, grants, program and initiative.

Answer:

Department of Education, Science and Training

Over the period from 1996, specific skill shortage projects (programmes, grants, strategies and initiatives) have been approved through the National Industry Skills Initiative (1999-2003) and the National Skills Shortages Strategy (2004 onwards). These projects have been funded under the Strategic Intervention (sub) Programme of the New Apprenticeships Workforce Skills Development Programme

For detail on the response to (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) see Attachment A.

Australian National Training Authority

The Minister also has portfolio responsibility for the Australian National Training Authority. While many projects conducted by the Authority contribute to addressing industry skills needs, there are no projects that address skill shortages as a primary objective.

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

Attachment A

(b) (i) Department of Education, Science and Training – Completed Projects and Outcomes

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Project / programme outcomes
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Support NISI Working Groups	23/12/1999	$70,300	23/12/1999 - 2/06/2000	• Support provided to project activities under NISI; and • Industry action plans developed to address skill shortages.
Australian Industry Group	Support NISI Working Groups	23/12/1999	$40,000	23/12/1999 – 31/03/2000	• Support provided to project activities under NISI; and • Industry action plans developed to address skill shortages.
National Electrical and Communications Association	Support NISI Working Groups	24/01/2000	$28,400	24/01/2000 - 31/03/2000	• Support provided to project activities under NISI; and • Industry action plans developed to address skill shortages.
Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce	Support involvement in NISI Working Groups	28/04/2000	$23,804	28/04/2000 - 26/06/2000	• Support provided to project activities under NISI; and • Industry action plans developed to address skill shortages.
Rural Industry Trainee Association	Support involvement in NISI Working Groups	22/06/2000	$126,595	22/06/2000 - 16/03/2001	• Support provided to project activities under NISI; and • Industry action plans developed to address skill shortages.

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Project / programme outcomes
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Support for NISI projects	17/01/2001	$53,000	17/01/2001 - 30/06/2001	• Action plans for the automotive retail and repair and electrotechnology industry projects developed and implemented; • Skill shortage issues and barriers researched, consulted and reported on, and solutions recommended; • Communication and consultation activities undertaken; • Cross industry issues responses developed; and • Projects managed, national Steering Committee meetings attended and discussions undertaken with (then) DETYA.
Australian Hotels Association	Research and consultation on skill shortages for food trades in the hospitality industry	25/01/2001	$62,210	25/01/2001 – 14/09/2001	• Benefits to employers of investing in training researched; • Skills needs of each occupational area (chefs, cooks, bakers and pastry cooks) over three to five years, including common cross industry skill sets identified; • Impediments / barriers to satisfying these skills needs identified; and • Initiatives / solutions (short, medium and long term) to assist in addressing the identified skills needs recommended.
National Centre for Vocational Education Research	Research into employer engagement with New Apprenticeships in Electrotechnology industry	09/02/2001	$50,000	09/02/2001 – 30/04/2001	• Reviews, reports and survey instrument on findings from surveys provided.

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Project / programme outcomes
Master Builders Australia	Research and consultation on skill shortages for trades-based occupations in the on-site construction sector of the building and construction Industry	26/04/2001	$62,000	26/04/2001 – 12/06/2001	- Research demonstrating the benefits to employers of investing in training undertaken; - Skills needs of each occupational area over three to five years, including common cross industry skill sets identified; - impediments / barriers to satisfying these skill needs identified; and - Initiatives / solutions (short, medium and long term) to assist in addressing identified skills needs recommended.
Australian Industry Group	Involvement in NISI Engineering Task Force pertaining to skills in the aviation industry	21/05/2001	$35,000	21/05/2001 - 30/07/2001	- Current and emerging skill shortages in the aviation sector, particularly for aircraft maintenance engineers, considered; - Consequent skill formation needs in the sector identified; and - Strategies and an integrated action plan to address these skills needs, for implementation by the task force developed.
Rural Industry Trainee Association	Involvement in NISI specifically for Task Force development and implementation of the Rural Action Plan	08/06/2001	$22,506	08/06/2001 - 30/06/2003	- Task force to oversight and direct identified skills needs solutions (short, medium and long term) established; - Marketing and promotion of national VET system options undertaken to attract young people to rural careers and improve use of New Apprenticeships in the industry; and - Better links with the wider VET system to the training needs of the rural industry advocated.

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Project / programme outcomes
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Support for NISI projects	29/08/2001	$90,000	29/08/2001 - 28/08/2002	• Action plans developed and implemented for the automotive retail and repair, and electrotechnology industry projects; • Skill shortage issues and barriers researched, consulted and reported on, and solutions recommended; • Communication and consultation activities undertaken; • Responses to cross-industry issues developed; and • National Steering Committee meetings attended, projects managed and ongoing discussions with (then) DETYA undertaken.
Australian Industry Group	Involvement in the NISI Emerging Technologies Working Group	07/11/2001	$104,115	07/11/2001 - 30/06/2002	• Research undertaken providing evidence of the benefits to employers of investing in training; • Photonics and nanotechnology skills needs identified for the coming three to five years, including common cross-industry skill sets; • Impediments / barriers to satisfying these skills needs identified; and • Initiatives / solutions (short, medium and long term) to address identified skill needs recommended.
Australian Retailers Association	Involvement in the NISI Retail Working Group	09/11/2001	$55,000	09/11/2001 - 31/08/2002	• Research undertaken providing evidence of the benefits to employers of investing in training; • Skills needs of each occupational area in the retail industry over the next three to five years, including common cross-industry skill sets identified; • impediments / barriers to satisfying these skills needs identified; and • Initiatives / solutions (short, medium and long term) to address identified skill needs recommended.

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Project / programme outcomes
Australian Hotels Association	Involvement in NISI and implementation of the Commercial Cookery Action Plan	09/11/2001	$440,000	09/11/2001 - 30/06/2003	• Leadership and co-ordination of whole-of-industry monitoring provided and review of skills needs priorities undertaken; • Marketing and promotion of careers in commercial cookery to young people undertaken; and • Promotion of the national VET system, New Apprenticeships and the professionalism of the commercial cookery sector undertaken.
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Implementation of *Building Brighter Futures*, the report of the NISI Building and Construction Working Group	21/12/2001	$440,000	21/12/2001 - 31/06/2003	• Building and Construction Industry Task Force and sub-committees established; • Participate in, and facilitate the work of the Task Force, including the provision of management support undertaken; • Ongoing monitoring of Task Force activities conducted and objectives met; • Progress reports on the implementation of the Action Plan prepared; • Activities and achievements of the Task Force promoted to industry forums, professional industry publications provided to conferences and seminars; and • Developments and activities undertaken by other NISI Task Forces to identify common issues monitored.
Australian Trucking Association Australian	Involvement in the NISI Road Freight Working Group	29/04/2002	$67,090	29/04/2002 - 01/08/2002	• Industry employment profile, by fleet size and ownership, for all trucks using hire and reward, including key characteristics - age profile, gender mix, mobility and educational attainment - developed; • Areas with obvious benefits of investment in training identified;

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Project / programme outcomes
Trucking Association (cont)					• Skills needs over the next decade, including links to associated sectors such as logistics, identified; • Public and privately funded training, and the extent to which existing courses meet identified skills needs, investigated; • Barriers / impediments to satisfying these skills needs identified and an action plan developed; and • Future prospects for employment in the trucking industry examined and careers promotion improved.
Australian Industry Group	Facilitation of a NISI boating industry Working Group	27/08/2002	$56,050	27/08/2002 - 28/03/2003	• Current and future skills needs in the boating industry identified through a working group of industry experts; • A report from the boating industry Working Group and Action Plan detailing strategies to address identified skills needs developed; and • The Report and Action Plan, including an introduction and executive summary, produced and distributed.
Australian Industry Group	Facilitate implementation of careers materials under the NISI Aerospace Engineering Skills Action Plan	27/08/2002	$222,000	27/08/2002 - 30/07/2003	• Appropriate industry promotion material developed for the aerospace sector of the engineering industry and for the ZOOM website; • An aerospace video and careers information developed and included on the ZOOM CD ROM; and • Printed materials promoting the CD ROM provided to NACs, RTOs, libraries and schools.

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Project / programme outcomes
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Facilitation of NISI with emphasis on Retail, Building and Construction and Commercial Cookery	16/09/2002	$80,000	16/09/2002 - 30/06/2003	• Australian Retailers Association assisted to establish a Task Force; • Activities of the Building and Construction Task Force co-ordinated; • Support provided to the Australian Hotels' Association to manage the Commercial Cookery Task Force; and • NISI promoted broadly across industry.
Motor Trades Association of Australia	Reproduction and distribution of occupation-specific career information products	19/12/2002	$40,150	19/12/2002 - 25/03/2003	• Existing occupation-specific brochures for schools reproduced and distributed; • Customised occupation-specific brochures for dealerships reproduced for distribution by dealerships to schools; • Promotional poster and purpose built stands for dealerships produced; and • Dealer packs distributed.
Automotive Training Australia (WA)	Promotion of the Automotive Career Education (ACE) programme to build on the Careers Industry Partnership Programme pilot	06/01/2003	$101,200	6/01/2003 - 30/10/2003	• Effective industry working groups in each region established involving key players in developing opportunities for training and employment in their region; • Awareness developed among students, teachers and parents of the opportunities for training and work within the automotive industry; • Closer school-industry partnerships developed to enhance training and work opportunities for students and assist in overcoming skill shortages within the industry; and A positive image of the automotive industry promoted.

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Project / programme outcomes
Automotive Training Australia	Production of the careers promotion video "Formula for Training"	06/01/2003	$22,000	06/01/2003 - 05/03/2003	• An automotive careers video in CDROM, DVD and VHS formats produced.

Australian Industry Group	Reprint of NISI Reports	29/10/2003	$16,000	29/10/2003 – 31/05/2004	• Occupation-specific career information products reproduced and delivered:
					  o Aerospace Engineering Skills Action Plan;
					  o Emerging Technologies Working Group Report and Action Plan;
					  o Engineering Industry Task Force – Progress Report; and
					  o Engineering Skills Shortages.

Motor Trades Association of Queensland	"Top Gear Careers" career education programme	12/02/2004	$49,995	12/2/2004 - 31/05/2004	• An automotive careers video / CD produced and distributed widely; • Printed careers material developed; and • A careers expo conducted.

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

(b) (ii) Department of Education, Science and Training – Current Projects and Anticipated Outcomes

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Anticipated project / programme outcomes
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Support the Plastics and Chemicals Industry Association NSSS skills research project	25/05/2004	$55,000	25/05/2004 - 24/05/2005	• Research and consultation on strategies to enhance industry access to suitably qualified staff in the plastics and chemicals industry undertaken.
ElectroComms & EnergyUtilities Industry Skills Council	Analysis of the skill requirements of the Energy/Utilities industry	08/06/2004	$99,330	08/06/2004 - 07/06/2005	• Encourage increased participation in the skills training in the energy and utilities sectors through a comprehensive analysis of skills needed and recommendations to overcome barriers to skills acquisition.
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Investigate cross-sectoral skills solutions in the Townsville region	11/06/2004	$73,700	11/06/2004 - 10/06/2005	• Work in the Townsville region with Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry member organisations, relevant government agencies, training bodies, Job Network providers and other organisations, to research and document the region's industries, their skills needs, available data and resources.
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Update and enhance the 'Big Plans' website	11/06/2004	$95,700	11/06/2004 - 10/06/2005	• Develop enhancements to the building and construction *Big Plans* web site and promote the site to industry.
Transport and Distribution Training Australia Ltd	Development of a road freight website	11/06/2004	$154,000	11/06/2004 - 10/06/2005	• Develop a web portal to enable transport and distribution businesses access to training information from a single source. This portal will include information on the broader transport and logistics industry, including road freight.
Australian	A national review	30/06/2004	$276,500	30/06/2004 -	• Conduct research and analysis of the skill

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Anticipated project / programme outcomes
Chamber of Commerce and Industry	of training pathways in the building and construction industry			29/06/2005	development needs of the building and construction industry across Australia and review training pathways and delivery in the industry.
Manufacturing Engineering and Related Services Industry Training Advisory Bodies	Promote the Competitive Manufacturing Initiative	30/06/2004	$100,000	30/06/2004 - 29/06/2005	• Further progress the Competitive Manufacturing Initiative on behalf of a consortium of former Industry Training Advisory Bodies - Manufacturing Engineering and Related Services Industry Training Advisory Bodies, Automotive Training Australia, Light Manufacturing Australia, Manufacturing Learning Australia and the National Food Industry Training Council.
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Group Training Australia	Increase the uptake of trade New Apprenticeships through group training organisations	30/06/2004	$88,000	30/06/2004 - 29/06/2005	• Increase the take up of New Apprenticeships, through group training organisations, by mature age job seekers and those returning to work in industries with designated skill shortages.
International Specialised Skills Institute	Provide traditional trade fellowships	30/06/2004	$176,000	30/06/2004 - 29/06/2005	• Provide overseas study opportunities in traditional trades in order to return overseas experience to Australia.
Australian Industry Group	Establish and support an Emerging Technologies Task Force	06/07/2004	$104,115	06/07/2004 - 05/07/2005	• Investigate and identify skills and competencies required to work with emerging technologies and include them in identified national Training Packages. The focus of the project will be on nanotechnology and photonics-related skills.
Australian	Implement an	06/07/2004	$66,000	06/07/2004 -	• Develop an "adopt-a-school" toolbox for use by

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Anticipated project / programme outcomes
Industry Group	'Adopt-a-School' toolbox			05/07/2005	industry, employers and schools - Local Community Partnerships - across Australia.
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Co-ordination of NSSS projects	15/07/2004	$187,000	15/07/2004 - 14/07/2005	• Cost and design an industry placement programme for career teachers; • Support industry and project-specific activities to address skill shortages, including regional projects. • Use industry research to underpin development of strategies to address industry skills needs.
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Implement the Retail Industry Action Plan and support the retail industry Task Force	15/07/2004	$302,500	15/07/2004 - 14/07/2005	• Implement projects arising from the NISI Retail Industry Working Group Report and the Action Plan.
Master Plumbers' and Mechanical Services Association of Australia	Develop a national online, multi-media training pilot for type "A" gas appliance servicing	20/07/2004	$351,422	20/07/2004 - 19/07/2005	• Support national development, pilotting, and promotion of a type "A" gas appliance servicing multi media online learning product.
Australian Industry Group	Redevelopment of selected ZOOM careers materials	28/07/2004	$490,380	28/07/2004 - 27/07/2005	• Revise the engineering ZOOM CD ROM, update the operating platform and include ten additional engineering industry sectors to the product.

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Anticipated project / programme outcomes
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Assess and address skills needs for non-cooking, hospitality occupations	12/08/2004	$302,500	12/08/2005 - 11/08/2005	• Look at the skills needs of the non-cooking occupations in the hospitality, accommodation, café and restaurant sector and implement practical projects to deal with these skills needs, difficulties and shortages.
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Implement a marketing plan for New Apprenticeships in the building and construction industry	03/09/2004	$231,762	03/09/2004 - 02/09/2005	• Campaign to increase the uptake of New Apprenticeships in the building and construction industry, through Master Builders Australia.
Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce	Testing a fast track approach for New Apprentices in the retail motor industry	20/09/2004	$555,000	20/09/2004 - 19/09/2005	• Test the effectiveness of "fast tracked" New Apprenticeships pathways for three areas of the retail automotive industry - new industry entrants - migrants with related skills, parents returning to the workforce and mature age workers seeking a career change.
Australian Industry Group	Investigate cross-sectoral skills solutions in the Hunter and Illawarra Regions	24/09/2004	$275,000	24/09/2004 - 23/09/2005	• Co-ordinate a collaborative, "whole of strategy" approach to resolving skill shortages in the Hunter and Illawarra regions (NSW).

National Industry Skills Initiative (NISI – 1999 to 2003) and National Skills Shortages Strategy (NSSS - 2004 onwards)

(a) Project / programme administrator	(c)(i)Project / programme purpose	(c)(ii) Date of approval	(c)(iii) Funding allocated	(d) Contracted length of project / programme	(e) Anticipated project / programme outcomes
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Report on links in skill shortages between the Electro-technology and data communications sectors	05/10/2004	$374,550	05/10/2004 - 04/10/2005	• Investigate and report on links between electro-technology and data communications skill shortages, licensing, the ageing workforce and industry information: analyse issues and develop solutions.
Minerals and Energy Western Australia	Address skill shortages in the Australian mining industry through the national VET system	11/10/2004	$110,000	11/10/2004 - 10/10/2005	• Increase the use of the national training system to address skill shortages in the minerals industry.