

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

**Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0628\_11**

**Senator Mason asked on 21/10/2010, Hansard page 13.**

**Question**

**INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT PROJECT CONTRACT (CN325937)**

Senator MASON—So it is a fairly common sort of contract for service? This is quite common?

Mr Griew—The contracts in that general area are certainly not unprecedented. I know of others. But I do not know the details of this contract. I would have to take that on notice.

**Answer**

The Indigenous Employment Program funds feasibility studies to evaluate the effectiveness of a business idea. Quite often a feasibility study is conducted prior to, or in conjunction with, developing a business plan to expand a business idea.

Prior to the implementation of the reformed Indigenous Employment Program on 1 July 2009, the department funded the development and implementation of feasibility, business and/or strategic plans for Indigenous community organisations through the Indigenous Small Business Fund.

From July 2008 to 31 August 2010, a total of 104 economic development and business support projects were funded under the Indigenous Employment Program. A number of these were feasibility study projects, including four feasibility studies for Land Councils.