

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009-2010; February 2010

Answers to questions on notice from AusAID

Violence Against Women

Question 1

Senator Kroger asked on notice:

Last estimates, Senator Payne asked on notice: What is the total amount of Australian aid funding for programs to reduce violence against women, globally and in Melanesia and East Timor, for 2007-2008, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010?

Department provided following chart:

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (estimate)
Papua New Guinea	\$2,500,000	\$2,800,000	\$7, 445,999
Vanuatu	\$2,428,374	\$2,965,063	\$2,372,610
Solomon Islands	\$442,492	\$722,527	\$2,001,115
Fiji	\$806,775	\$1,174,737	\$1,036,379
East Timor	Nil	\$200,000	\$757,000
Total	\$6,177,641	\$7,862,327	\$13,613,103

Could you please provide a breakdown of where this increased funding (with special regards to PNG, Solomons and East Timor) has been spent?

Answer

The 2009-10 figures provided for the question on notice in October 2009 are estimates only. Final figures will be available following the end of the 2009-10 financial year.

The increases in funding over the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 with regard to PNG, Solomon Islands and East Timor have been or are planned to be spent in the following areas:

Papua New Guinea: increased spending to assist with a coordinated response to ending violence against women across the health, education and justice sectors, with both government and non-government organisations, for example, to support the Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee which coordinates activity by civil society groups in such areas as legal reforms, working with perpetrators and data collection and research; and programs aimed at prevention such as support to the Yumi Lukautim Mosbi program (a skills development project for survivors of family and sexual violence that also runs awareness campaigns on elimination of violence against women.)

Solomon Islands: Bilateral program: improved access for women subjected to violence to support services through training of health professionals and through Oxfam to support groups providing counselling and referral services in Honiara and Western Province; Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) program: increased spending to improve community access to justice, for example, through support to the Law Reform Commission, provision of legal aid through free

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legal clinics for women who have experienced violence and to support the work of non-government organisations.

East Timor: spending is focused on increasing women's access to justice, including women in rural areas, principally through a grant based mechanism under the East Timor Justice Sector Support Facility.

Sri Lanka

Question 2

Senator Payne asked on notice:

In light of the civil war in Sri Lanka officially ending, what are AusAID's plans and budget allocation for reconstruction and recovery assistance in conflict affected areas of Sri Lanka moving forward?

Answer

In 2008-09 the total overseas development assistance to Sri Lanka was \$33.9 million. This included \$24.5 million in humanitarian assistance. For 2009-10 Australia allocated more than \$38 million in overseas development assistance to Sri Lanka. The allocations which specifically targeted reconstruction and recovery assistance in conflict affected areas included:

- \$5 million in humanitarian assistance;
- \$6 million for demining;
- \$3 million through the UN to help with housing; and
- \$2 million for food through the World Food Program.

As the Minister has said in Parliament on 17 March 2010, an additional \$20 million will be allocated in 2009-10 to support the recovery and reconstruction in northern Sri Lanka. This funding will be used to co-finance the World Bank's Emergency Northern Reconstruction Project and the Asian Development Bank's North East Community Restoration and Development Project. Each of these projects will help over 100,000 displaced people by providing cash grants, raising standards of living and rebuilding essential community infrastructure.

Swine flu

Question 3

Hansard, page 95

Senator Kroger asked:

1) Have Australian swine flu vaccines been delivered to Pacific island countries? 2) Have they been used? 3) What was the outcome?

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Answer

The Australian Department of Health and Ageing is the lead department for Australia's H1N1 vaccine donation to the WHO. AusAID can provide the following information:

1) Vaccine delivery to the 11 Pacific Island Countries listed below has taken place, with dates delivered as follows:

- Nauru Saturday 27 February 2010
- Tonga Wednesday 3 March 2010
- Vanuatu Wednesday 3 March 2010
- Fiji Wednesday 3 March 2010
- Kiribati Thursday 4 March 2010
- Solomon Islands Thursday 4 March 2010
- Cook Islands Wednesday 24 March 2010
- Samoa Wednesday 24 March 2010
- Tokelau Wednesday 24 March 2010
- Niue Friday 26 March 2010
- Tuvalu Tuesday 30 March 2010

For Papua New Guinea, the vaccines arrived Friday 26 February 2010.

2) Figures are not yet available on the use of vaccines. Before countries receive donated vaccines, they must develop and agree with WHO a national vaccine deployment plan. The National Deployment Plan clearly describes the actions to be taken when vaccine arrives in the country and the steps that will be taken to vaccinate target populations. It is only after a country meets the criteria for receiving donated pandemic vaccine that WHO deploys donated vaccines to the country.

The WHO will be reporting to the Australian Department of Health and Ageing. WHO will be reporting on the distribution and supply of the vaccine in accordance with the national deployment plans.

3) All Pacific Island Countries receiving the Australian donated vaccine will receive a sufficient number of doses to cover 10 per cent of their population (with the exception of Tonga which will have 9.6 per cent coverage) providing coverage to front line health care workers and at risk groups. To ensure there is no disruption of health care services and to protect many of those at greatest risk, a 1-2 per cent of population vaccination rate covers front-line health care workers; while a 10 per cent of population coverage rate provides coverage for specific at risk groups, such as pregnant women, to reduce morbidity and mortality. The objective of the Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 vaccines deployment coordinated by WHO to which Australia is contributing is to provide sufficient quantities of vaccine for a coverage target of 10 per cent of the population.

Australian-donated vaccines are also being provided through WHO to East Timor, Laos, Sri Lanka and the Comoros Islands.

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Indonesia

Question 4

Hansard, page 88

Senator Ferguson asked:

Please respond to the claims by Mr Rob Cannon regarding AusAID and the Education Sector Support Program (ESSP) Indonesia (Please see attachment).

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For QON Senator Ferguson.

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Education Sector Support Program (ESSP) Indonesia

Introduction

1. This technical commentary is based on information contained in a document circulated by GRM International on 13 January 2010 titled: *Education Sector Support Program (ESSP) Indonesia, Operational Planning TA for Component 2 of AusAID's Program of Support*. Two emailed requests in November and December to AusAID Jakarta for further information about ESSP to complement the document have been met with complete silence.
2. The purpose in providing this commentary is to ensure that the significant sums (approximately \$500 million dollars) of Australian financial support being canvassed are spent wisely to achieve educationally worthwhile goals for Indonesia that reflect well on Australian development assistance and achieve the Australia Indonesia Partnership (AIP) Country Strategy 2008 – 2013.

Evident Weaknesses in the ESSP Design

3. In brief, it is argued that the conception of ESSP, as stated in the document, is seriously flawed. The document provides ample evidence of a lack of understanding about the present operation of education in Indonesia, of its governance, and of the fundamentals of good development practice and lessons learned from prior donor assistance to the sector.
4. There is a major misunderstanding about how Indonesian education is managed in the decentralized environment that began in 1999. Throughout the ESSP document, the term 'Government of Indonesia' (Gol) is used in a sense that equates it with the central government in Jakarta. In the decentralized system this is not so; 'Gol' includes provincial and district government, particularly the latter, in the case of education. So it is simply wrong for the document to state in 2.4: "...training will be provided to district-based Ministry of National Education (MoNE) ... officials and school supervisors." These officials belong to district governments, not the central MoNE. This statement demonstrates the fundamental misunderstanding of decentralisation.
5. This misunderstanding permeates the whole design concept. Education is strongly decentralized yet there is no evidence in the document that district government has, or will be, consulted in the design and implementation of activities outlined, a fundamentally important matter. Moreover, the program will have no sustainability once Australian funding ceases if district ownership is not developed.
6. Unless decentralisation in Indonesia is properly understood, programs such as ESSP will continue to make serious errors of strategy and planning. This lack of understanding will weaken all related development efforts at best and, more likely, lead to failure and waste.
7. The intention to 'strengthen the organisation and planning of local-level education management capacity development systems and functions focusing on upgrading school management and school supervision capacity...' (para 2.2) is laudable in principle if it were part of a broader school development strategy. However, development experience in Indonesia is that little or no school improvement will result from sending only principals for a few days training. Supervisors have no role in school or district financial management. The recently passed School Bodies Law completely excludes them from school management, so it is difficult to see why ESSP proposes to train them in school finance at all.

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8. The ESSP design makes further errors that only compound the difficulties canvassed above in paragraph 4. This is because:
- no mention is made of the School Committee in local capacity development, an essential structure in school management, nor of the Education Board at District level. The involvement of School Committees in school management, particularly in budgeting, is a key GoI accountability and transparency strategy in controlling corruption, an endemic problem in the school system, yet this has been completely ignored;
 - no consideration is given to the fact that in 'organising' and 'planning' (para 2.2) or in placing 'emphasis on financial management' (para 1.1) that schools and districts must have a strong prior understanding of *educational* needs, processes and outcomes to organise and plan for and to finance. The total focus on financial management in an *educational* program is alarming – there is not a single reference in the document whatsoever to students, teachers, learning, teaching or to gender (which happens to be a priority in the AIP);
 - no consideration is given at to the existing and profound weaknesses in the organisational design of Indonesian government institutions. The majority of education officials in government offices (including the central government Ministries of National Education and Religious Affairs) are general administrative officers with little or no practical experience in teaching or school management. Their professional capacities for support are grossly overestimated in the document. In addition, there are very high levels of staff turnover in districts. This turnover makes district capacity development of the kind envisaged in ESSP extremely wasteful and almost pointless.
9. In the ESSP focus on school construction, finance, organising and planning, there is not a single reference to corruption or to the *AIP Anti-Corruption for Development Plan 2008 – 2013*. There is an assumption that these aspects of government are handled in ways comparable to those found in western countries, yet corruption permeates all these functions and this has to be addressed.
10. Paragraph 2.10 makes reference to planned consultation with GoI and other programs. The intention is sound but there are two further errors in design evident here.
- The first is that donors have been active for several years in building school and district capacities and in financial management. There is no mention of building on this work at all but rather wastefully duplicating much of this prior work by 'upgrading on a nationwide basis' (para 2.3) for 'every district' (para 2.4). This extravagant ambition further ignores recent lessons learned that not all districts will be willing participants in such a 'top-down' plan and will create resistances that will further waste development resources.
 - A second error in para 2.10 provides further evidence of weak knowledge and experience in Indonesian education by nominating for consultation two *closed* programs (DBEP and JICA/REDIP).
11. The document correctly anticipates that GoI may not be forthcoming with resources as at least four references are made to MoNE's 'anticipated' commitments. A reasonable question arises in such a large activity as ESSP why is it 'anticipated' that GoI will contribute in certain ways and why is GoI not making a 'commitment'?

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Conclusion

12. A World Bank study that preceded AusAID's preparation for the ESSP concluded that: "In educational development projects, the best conceptual frameworks are those that are firmly based on educational and development principles. These principles are derived from repeated field experience or from more formal evaluation and research, or both."¹ Judged on this evidence, the design of the ESSP, as reflected in the document is flawed. Moreover, it is seriously flawed against its own design criteria as it is not possible to 'develop new frameworks and integrated systems ...[for] management' that are based on erroneous understanding of the Indonesian government systems of decentralised education management and governance.
13. The concerns expressed in this technical commentary are reflected in the recent World Bank strategy: *Country Partnership Strategy (2009 - 2012), Investing in Indonesia's Institutions*. The Bank notes that the quality of public services in Indonesia still does not fully represent those of a middle-income country. Further, that Indonesia is not constrained by a lack of financial resources (sic) but by a lack of effective procedures and accountability in its institutions (www.worldbank.org/id/mitraindonesia). If Indonesia is not constrained in this way, one must question why Australian development resources are being spent on a massive school construction program in the ESSP. Moreover, the risk of relying on support from Indonesian public services is reinforced.
14. It is suggested that Australia's future development activity in the ESSP receive further constructive inputs through a process of public, professional consultation to address the demonstrable shortcomings in design. This input may minimise the high level of risk in the present ESSP design, including the risk that Australian development financing will be wasted, and that Australia's reputation for sound development assistance eroded.

¹Cannon, R. and Arlianti, R., *Review of Education Development Models for Increasing Access to Quality Basic Education in Indonesia*. The World Bank, Jakarta. Final Report, Joint Donor Technical Support to the Ministry of National Education in the Republic of Indonesia to Progress Harmonization of Development Partner Effort, TF070811 – Basic Education Capacity Trust Fund, November 30, 2008.

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Answer

The document Mr Cannon refers to is a terms of reference document for a short term technical advisory position, advertised by Cardno Acil on 7 January 2010 on the Australia Indonesia Basic Education Program website. These terms of reference, Operational Planning TA for Component 2 of AusAID's Program of Support, are not the design for the Education Sector Support Program (ESSP). Mr Cannon appears to have based his claims on these terms of reference. The design remains commercial-in-confidence and has not been distributed beyond AusAID and its immediate implementing partners. The design is still in draft and is still subject to AusAID's standard quality processes, which include anti-corruption measures.

AusAID has developed significant expertise in Indonesia's education sector through recent programs, including the Australia Indonesia Basic Education Program. We increasingly use Indonesian Government systems to deliver our support. This has enabled AusAID to develop a strong understanding of the governance, policy and financial environments present in the decentralised Indonesian education sector. The ESSP will aim to train school principals and supervisors, and strengthen governance systems. It is in line with Indonesian Government priorities and its five-year Medium Term Development Plan. The Indonesian Government's strong commitment to education is illustrated through its decision to allocate at least 20 per cent of its total budget to the sector, the biggest single outlay in the national budget.

AusAID and its ESSP design team have consulted extensively with national, district and provincial governments over the past 14 months. AusAID has extensive experience with district level government in education across 200 districts, and has consulted in the field and with development partners with similarly significant district involvement, notably the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, USAID and the Japan International Cooperation Agency. Measures are being designed across the ESSP to ensure the equal participation of girls in schools and of women in the delivery and management of education services.

Family planning

Question 5

Hansard, page 84

Senator Hanson-Young asked:

- 1) Please provide a precise figure in relation to funding family planning over next four years?
- 2) Please provide the outline of who, where and which countries will receive the \$15 million over four years, and where will this be assisted in terms of the family planning activities?

Answer

1. Specific funding for family planning activities from the aid program is currently estimated to be \$12.3 million for 2009-10. Precise future year funding figures are not yet available as programming decisions are still being made.

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2. In March 2009 the Minister for Foreign Affairs announced Australia would provide additional funding of up to \$15 million over four years through United Nations agencies and non-government organisations.

As at February 2010, of the additional \$15 million, \$7.536 million has been programmed for family planning as follows:

- In addition to existing core funding to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), a further \$14.5 million will be provided over three years, of which \$6.8 million is estimated to be for UNFPA's global family planning and reproductive health activities.
- Funding to Australian non-government organisations of \$736,000 for five new activities including provision of contraceptives at health centres and hospitals and use of community educators to provide information and raise awareness of family planning issues, as follows:
 - International Needs Australia, Ghana, \$49,000;
 - Marie Stopes International Australia, East Timor, \$500,000 (2 activities);
 - Marie Stopes International Australia, Papua New Guinea \$93,000;
 - Marie Stopes International Australia, Fiji, \$94,000.

Question 6

Family planning
Hansard, page 85

Senator Hanson-Young asked:

What percentage of the health programming budget is spent particularly on family planning issues?

Answer

To date in the financial year 2009-10, it is estimated that direct spending on family planning will be in the vicinity of two per cent of the estimated support for health and HIV activities.

Question 7

Hansard, page 83
Family planning

Senator Boswell asked:

In answer to a question on notice last Senate estimates AusAID provided a breakdown by name of country and name of organisation that money is going to. Could AusAID please provide details of how much money is given to each organisation for the family planning?

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Answer

Replicating the answer to question on notice 15 from the last Senate Estimates, a funding column has been included in the table below, along with five new activity approvals.

Family planning activities as at November 2009			
Country	Organisation to which funding is provided	Family planning activities provided by that organisation in 2009-10	Funding estimate for financial year (FY) 2009-10 as at November 2009
Philippines	UNFPA	Information, education and communication activities, capacity building and training, delivery of contraceptives	*
	Gutmacher Institute	Information, education and communication activities	The activity has no funding estimate for FY 2009-10
	UNFPA	Information, education and communication activities	The activity has no funding estimate for FY 2009-10
Indonesia	Coffey International Ltd	Information, education and communication activities and capacity building and training	\$300,000
Cambodia	World Bank	Counselling, information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building and training	\$819,368
	UNFPA	Delivery of contraceptives, information, education and communication activities, capacity building and training	\$300,000
	Australia Volunteers International	Capacity building and training	\$25,000
	WHO	Capacity building and training	The activity has no funding estimate in FY 2009-10
Vietnam	Adventist Development & Relief Agency	Information, education and communication activities	The activity has no funding estimate in FY 2009-10

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Family planning activities as at November 2009			
Country	Organisation to which funding is provided	Family planning activities provided by that organisation in 2009-10	Funding estimate for financial year (FY) 2009-10 as at November 2009
Bangladesh	UNICEF and Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee	Information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives	*
	UNICEF	Information, education and communication activities, capacity building and training, delivery of contraceptives	*
Regional Pacific	International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)	Counselling, information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building/training	\$1,000,000
	Secretariat of the Pacific Community	Counselling, information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building/training	*
Fiji	Government of Fiji	Counselling and capacity building/training	\$125,000
	Marie Stopes International Pacific	Counselling, information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives and capacity building/training	\$53,194
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands Ministry of Health	Counselling, information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building/training	\$560,000
	Sexual Health and Family Planning Australia	Information, education and communication activities	The activity has no funding estimate in FY 2009-10
Samoa	Samoa Ministry of Health	Counselling, Information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building/training	\$50,000
Vanuatu	Vanuatu Ministry of Health	Counselling, information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building/training	\$245,000
	Wan Smol Bag	Information, education and	\$48,825

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Family planning activities as at November 2009			
Country	Organisation to which funding is provided	Family planning activities provided by that organisation in 2009-10	Funding estimate for financial year (FY) 2009-10 as at November 2009
	Theatre Company	communication activities	
Kiribati	Kiribati Ministry of Health	Counselling, information, education and communication activities, capacity building/training	The activity has no funding estimate in FY 2009-10
Afghanistan	World Bank	Counselling, delivery of contraceptives, information, education and communication activities	*
	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Delivery of condoms, capacity building / training	*
	Australian Red Cross	Delivery of condoms, capacity building / training	*
PNG	Sexual Health Family Planning Australia	Capacity building/training	\$208,350
	Save the Children Australia	Counselling, Information, education and communication activities, capacity building/training	\$260,800
	Burnet Institute	Information, education and communication activities, capacity building/training, delivery of contraceptives	\$223,085
	Marie Stopes International Australia	Delivery of contraceptives	The activity has no funding estimate in FY 2009-10
	National Department of Health, Provincial Health Offices	Counselling, information, education and communication activities, capacity building/training	\$87,333
East Timor	World Bank	Counselling, Information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building and training	*
	Marie Stopes	Counselling, Information, education	The activity has

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Family planning activities as at November 2009			
Country	Organisation to which funding is provided	Family planning activities provided by that organisation in 2009-10	Funding estimate for financial year (FY) 2009-10 as at November 2009
	International Australia	and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building and training	no funding estimate in FY 2009-10
	Child Fund	Counselling, information, education and communication activities, capacity building and training	The activity has no funding estimate in FY 2009-10
	Sexual health and Family Planning Australia	Counselling, information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building and training	The activity has no funding estimate in FY 2009-10
Asia-Pacific and Africa	SPRINT	Counselling, Information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building and training	\$30,000
150 countries	UNFPA	Counselling, Information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building and training	\$4,230,000 (This is the reproductive health component being 47 per cent of total FY funds)
150 countries	IPPF	Counselling, Information, education and communication activities, delivery of contraceptives, capacity building and training	\$3,000,000
		Sub-total estimate of activities at November 2009	\$11,565,955

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Family planning new approvals as at February 2010			
Country	Organisation to which funding is provided	Family planning activities provided by that organisation in 2009-10	Funding estimate for financial year (FY) 2009-10 as at February 2010
Ghana	International Needs Australia	Counselling, Information, education and communication activities, capacity building/training	\$49,000
East Timor	Marie Stopes International Australia	Counselling, Information, education and communication activities, capacity building/training (2 activities)	\$500,000
Papua New Guinea	Marie Stopes International Australia	Counselling, Information, education and communication activities, capacity building/training	\$93,000
Fiji	Marie Stopes International Australia	Counselling, Information, education and communication activities, capacity building/training	\$94,000
		Sub-total estimate new activity approvals at February 2010	\$736,000
		Total estimate at February 2010	\$12,301,955 #

* For these activities, an estimate for family planning is unable to be determined because family planning is integrated within broader program budgets.

These totals do not include those activities for which an estimate for family planning is unable to be determined because family planning is integrated within broader program budgets.

Scholarships

Question 8

Senator Kroger asked on notice:

The Australian Government is preparing to launch a new scholarship scheme to help build ties with the emerging leaders of Pacific countries and East Timor. AusAID has issued a request for tenders for the management and administration of the Prime Minister's Pacific-Australia Award program. The new awards, supported by \$3 million of funding over four years, will supplement existing scholarships for high achieving postgraduate students in the Pacific region, including PNG and East Timor. Student intake will begin in the current academic year with about 30 scholarships awarded each year for four years. (*Source: Canberra Times 27/1/2010 Page: 2*)

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1. Please provide update on the PM's Pacific-Australia Award program—where are we at?
2. Please confirm information provided by the Canberra Times with special regards to the budgeted funding amount for the program and the number of students the program will support through scholarships.
3. Please explain how the scholarships will be structured under the umbrella of the Pacific-Australia Award program.
4. How do you define 'high achieving postgraduate' students?
5.
 - a) When will students be able to apply?
 - b) How long will it take to finalise the implementation of program?
6. How many applications for the 30 scholarships do you expect every year?
7. Please advise how the scholarships will be spread across locations, universities, subjects/courses etc.

Answer

1. An initial group of students have been selected for 2010 and participated in a leadership development program in Canberra from 15-17 March 2010. A Request for Tender was issued seeking the Managing Contractor for the implementation of the program which closed on 16 March 2010. The successful Contractor is expected to commence in early June 2010.
2. Funding for the Awards is \$3 million over 4 years, with up to 30 awards being made each year.
3. All development awards, including the Prime Minister's Pacific-Australia Awards, will come under the Australia Awards initiative announced by the Prime Minister in November 2009.
4. High achieving post-graduate students should have demonstrated exemplary academic achievement, as well as outstanding leadership potential and potential contribution to development and the broader community. Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:
 - (a) Academic:
 - for coursework students, high grades of at least distinction average (or equivalent)
 - for research students, a reference from their supervisor outlining their high academic achievement
 - (b) Personal attributes:
 - contribution to and involvement in community and university activities while in Australia
 - demonstrated leadership potential
 - (c) Relevance of their application to their home country's development priorities and Australia's aid program.

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5.
 - a. It is expected that students will be able to apply in July of each year. Students will be nominated by universities on the basis of their academic performance, leadership potential, and potential contribution to the broader community. Final selection will take into account the recommendations of universities and comments from the relevant Australian Embassy or High Commission.
 - b. See answer to question 1.
6. Around 50 nominations per year are expected.
7. While the allocation of awards will be based on the relative merit of the nominations, AusAID will strive for gender balance and equitable allocations across pacific island countries and universities.

Food security

Question 9

Hansard, page 79-80

Senator McEwen asked:

Last Budget announced a \$465 million food security initiative, \$100 million of which has been earmarked for Africa. Please provide a breakdown by country or region of where the rest of it is allocated?

Answer

By the end of 2009-2010 the Government will have spent \$38.7 million of the four-year \$465 million Food Security through Rural Development initiative (2009-13). This funding will be allocated to initiatives in Africa (regional), Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, East Asia (regional), Indonesia, the Pacific (regional), the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, South Asia (regional) and East Timor, in addition to a range of global, multilateral and multi-country initiatives. Departmental and implementation costs are included in this total.

Allocation of resources in subsequent years (2010-2013) is under consideration by the Government.

Environment and climate change

Question 10

Senator Brown asked on notice:

Further to past Estimates questions about the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and its decisions around Official Development Assistance (ODA) eligibility for greenhouse gas emission mitigation in developing countries:

- Which mitigation activities have the DAC determined not to be fully ODA-eligible? And what percentage of these activities has been determined to be ineligible?
- If the DAC provided the reason(s) for ineligibility, what were they?

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- Of the mitigation activities that have not yet been reviewed by the DAC, which activities does AusAID expect not to be fully ODA-eligible?
- Does AusAID expect that any of the mitigation activities listed will be eligible under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Clean Development Mechanism or Joint Implementation?
- What are the criteria for assessing ODA eligibility of climate change related activities?

Answer

The DAC has not determined any official climate change mitigation funding for developing countries ineligible to be reported as ODA.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is the only climate change related multilateral fund supported by Australia and reviewed by the DAC that is not fully ODA-eligible. The DAC has determined that 96 per cent of core funding to the GEF can be reported as ODA, because a small proportion of GEF funds is distributed to countries that are not on the DAC List of ODA Recipients. The DAC has not yet considered the ODA status of the multilateral Climate Investment Funds (CIFs). AusAID has included Australia's contributions to the CIFs to date in its ODA reporting, as have other contributors to the CIFs.

The DAC agreed in 2004 that if ODA is used to finance a project under the Clean Development Mechanism, then the value of any carbon credits (known as 'certified emissions reductions') received by the donor country in connection with the project must be deducted from the total value of ODA expenditure. The DAC also ruled out using ODA to purchase carbon credits. Australian ODA has not been used to finance Clean Development Mechanism or Joint Implementation projects.

Question 11

Environment and climate change

Senator Brown asked on notice:

Will the \$120 million promised by Australia to the UN's deforestation program at Copenhagen be additional to existing budget appropriation or taken from existing budget appropriation? If the latter, which initiative will it come from?

Answer

The \$US120 million (A\$129.7 million) comprises \$56.7 million in funding already within the forward estimates for the International Forest Carbon Initiative (IFCI) for 2010-11 and 2011-12 and \$73 million to increase the allocation to the Initiative and extend it into 2012-13. The allocation of these additional resources to specific purposes is under consideration by the Government.

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Question 12

Environment and climate change

Senator Brown asked on notice:

What does AusAID expect will be the outcome of the DAC's assessment of Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) eligibility for this initiative? What percentage of the announced \$120 million will AusAID submit to the DAC as ODA eligible?

Answer

Australia reports as ODA those mitigation related activities that meet the DAC's definition of ODA. The DAC monitors overall compliance with its reporting directives but does not assess the ODA eligibility of individual initiatives.

All of the funding associated with the initiative will be reported as ODA.

Question 13

Environment and climate change

Senator Brown asked on notice:

Does AusAID expect that this contribution may be offset against Australia's Kyoto Protocol target as a Clean Development Mechanism or Joint Implementation project? Why or why not?

Answer

No. Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) is not recognised under the Kyoto Protocol.

Question 14

Environment and climate change

Senator Birmingham asked on notice:

How much of the \$150 million promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election for assisting neighbouring countries prepare for and adapt to climate change has been allocated and granted? Please provide a breakdown of projects funded by country and funding amount.

Answer

The International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative is fully allocated. Programs to the value of \$129.89 million have already commenced implementation or are currently undergoing contracting processes. A breakdown of these programs is provided in the table below.

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Project	Duration	Amount (\$,000)	Country/region	Status
Pacific Bilateral Adaptation Program	2009-2011	25,000	Pacific Island countries	Announced, in process
Pacific Climate Change Science Program	2009-2011	20,000	Pacific Island countries and East Timor	Implementation
Pacific Adaptation Strategy Assistance Program	2009-2011	12,000	Pacific Island countries and East Timor	Announced, in preparation
Support for Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) adaptation activities	2009-2011	4,500	Pacific Island countries	Implementation
Sea Level Network Upgrade	2010-2011	4,300	Pacific Island countries	Announced, in preparation
Australia-Pacific Climate Adaptation Platform	2009-2011	3,000	Pacific Island countries and East Timor	Implementation
Pacific Future Climate Leaders Program	2009-2011	3,000	Pacific Island countries	Implementation
Community-based Adaptation NGO Grants	2010-2011	2,700	Pacific Island countries and East Timor	Announced, in process
Support for Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) adaptation work program	2009-2011	1,500	Pacific Island countries	Implementation
Support for SPREP-led review of Pacific Regional Meteorological Services	2009-2010	129	Pacific Island countries	Complete
Pacific Island summary chapter – input to CARICOM regional climate modelling report	2009	50	Pacific Island countries	Complete
Production/distribution of Conscience Call: Climate Change in the Pacific DVD	2009	37	Pacific Island countries	Complete
Mekong and Asia-Pacific Community-based Adaptation Program	2009-2014	6,000	Pacific Island countries, East Timor, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Sri Lanka	Implementation
Support to adaptation components of East Timor's Initial National Communication to the UNFCCC	2009	250	East Timor	Implementation
Mekong River Commission Climate Change and Adaptation	2009-2013	3,000	Mekong Sub-region	Implementation

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Project	Duration	Amount (\$,000)	Country/region	Status
Initiative				
Climate Change Impact and Adaptation in the Mekong Delta	2009-2010	1,140	Vietnam	Implementation
South Asia Water Initiative	2009-2011	3,000	Regional South Asia	Implementation
Pilot Program on Climate Resilience	2009-2011	40,000	Multilateral (covering: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cambodia, Caribbean (Dominica, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Pacific (Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga), Tajikistan, Yemen, Zambia)	Implementation
UNFCCC 'Mechanisms to manage financial risks from direct impacts of climate change in developing countries' Technical Paper	2008-2009	285	Global	Complete
TOTAL commenced implementation or undergoing contracting		\$129.891		

The remaining \$20.11 million has been allocated to a number of activities which are yet to be contracted or announced.

Mine action

Question 15

Senator Kroger asked on notice:

The Australian Government has announced to extend Australia's five-year mine action funding for a further five years and to increase it from \$75 million to \$100 million.

Could you please explain why this program has been extended and how the increased funding will be spent?

Answer

Considerable progress has been made globally, but landmines and other explosive remnants of war continue to contaminate more than 70 countries around the world and kill and maim at least five thousand people a year. For many of the poorest countries, these weapons constrain development and threaten the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

The Australian Government remains firmly committed to contributing to international mine action efforts. The new Mine Action Strategy for the Australian aid program 2010-14 will support the achievement of Australia's obligations under relevant international conventions, including the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention; the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, in particular Protocol V on explosive remnants of war; and our future obligations under the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Funding will be directed towards improving quality of life for victims, their families and communities, reducing deaths and injuries, enhancing capacity of countries to manage their mine action programs and effective leadership and advocacy by Australia on mine action.

Australia's assistance will focus on supporting heavily contaminated countries in the Asia-Pacific region, with flexibility to respond to other emerging priorities. Countries of focus are expected to include Sri Lanka, Cambodia and Laos, with continued support to countries of increasing need such as Afghanistan and Iraq, and targeted engagement in Africa on a case-by-case basis.

The strategy will be delivered primarily through Australia's bilateral country programs, targeting priorities identified by partner governments, and supporting the work of multilateral bodies and Australian and international non-government organisations.

Afghanistan

Question 16

Senator Kroger asked on notice:

Different newspapers have reported that Prime Minister Kevin Rudd promised US-President Obama more aid workers in Afghanistan.

1. Please provide an update on the Defence-AusAID strategic partnership agreement.
2. Please provide further details on how many additional AusAID staff will be sent to Afghanistan?
3. How will they be selected?
4. When will they go?

Answer

1. The Strategic Partnership Agreement between AusAID and the Department of Defence was signed on 29 April 2009. The Strategic Partnership Agreement is a principles based agreement that does not give primacy to either development or security objectives. Rather, it provides a framework for cooperation and outlines the different skills, attributes and strengths that AusAID and the Department of Defence can contribute when they work together.

Since the signing of the Strategic Partnership Agreement, there has been a strengthening of consultation and coordination between AusAID and the Department of Defence at all levels. This has resulted in the improved delivery of development activities where both AusAID and Defence are making valuable contributions to development and security, such as in Afghanistan, and in response to humanitarian crises, such as the recent Fiji cyclone, the Samoa and Tonga tsunami, and the Padang earthquake.

2. Agencies were requested in December 2009 to prepare detailed plans for additional assistance to Afghanistan.

On the 24 April 2010, the Prime Minister announced that Australia will increase its civilian effort in Afghanistan to help build the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan. The enhanced civilian contribution will be based in Kabul, Kandahar and Tarin Kowt, and in Oruzgan will complement the work being done by the Australian Defence Force to build roads and bridges, and rebuild schools.

The increase will bring the total of Australian Government civilians working in Afghanistan to around 50 personnel.

AusAID personnel will help expand Australia's delivery of practical development assistance projects to improve the capacity of national and local officials, and to improve governance and service delivery at a local level.

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3. Through normal AusAID recruitment processes.
4. They will be deployed to Afghanistan as soon as practicable

Question 17

Afghanistan

Senator Payne asked on notice:

Please provide a breakdown of total AusAID spending to Afghanistan, including the total percentage of aid distributed to Oruzgan in 2009/2010? Please indicate if the percentage to Oruzgan is likely to increase in subsequent years or remain stable?

Answer

On current estimates AusAID expects to spend approximately \$70 million in Afghanistan in 2009-2010 financial year. Actual expenditure will be finalised after 30 June 2010.

AusAID funding is divided into nation-wide and provincial-level programs. Nation-wide programs provide benefits across the country, including in Oruzgan, but are not directed to any one specific province. Oruzgan-specific programs such as those that are helping to clear landmines and reconstruct rural infrastructure are expected to make up around 10 per cent of total program funding in 2009-10 financial year.

The share of Oruzgan-specific spending is likely to increase in subsequent years, following the Prime Minister's April 2009 announcement of enhanced support for capacity development of the Oruzgan provincial administration and subsequent statement on 2 December 2009 announcing increases to Australia's civilian development assistance effort.

Question 18

Afghanistan

Senator Payne asked on notice:

What is the total Australian Government expenditure to the World Bank's Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund in 2009-2010? Is this likely to increase in subsequent years?

Answer

Australia has contributed \$21 million to the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund so far in the 2009-10 financial year. On 28 January 2010, Minister Smith announced that Australia will contribute \$50 million over three years (2009-2010 to 2011-2012 financial years) to the Trust Fund. Specific contributions are considered by Government on a year-by-year basis.

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Africa

Question 19

Senator Payne asked on notice:

Given increasing insecurity and rising humanitarian needs in Darfur and South Sudan is the Australian Government considering increasing humanitarian expenditure to Sudan in 2010?

Answer

The Australian Government remains deeply concerned about the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Darfur and Southern Sudan. In 2009-10, the Government has committed \$4 million in humanitarian assistance to Sudan, comprising \$2 million for the United Nations World Food Programme's operations in Darfur and \$2 million through the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) country level operations to provide critical humanitarian assistance, protection, livelihood support and medical care. The Government continues to monitor the situation across Sudan and will consider options for further assistance.

Question 20

Africa

Senator Brown asked on notice:

Of the \$163.9 million in ODA to Africa in 2009/10, how much has been earmarked, committed or spent for the following activities:

- Emergency preparedness
- Humanitarian response activity
- Climate change adaptation programming
- Protection programming
- Human rights programming
- Funding Australian NGOs
- Funding UN agencies

Answer

Of the estimated \$163.9 million ODA to Africa in financial year 2009-10 (as at 2009-10 Budget), \$4.5 million is estimated to be delivered by other government departments and agencies (including ACIAR).

In financial year 2009-10, as at 1 April 2010, the following funding allocations have been announced in relation to emergency preparedness, humanitarian response activity, climate change

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adaptation programming, human rights programming, funding Australian NGOs and Funding UN agencies (there have been no announcements relating to protection programming):

Nominated Category	Approximate Funding (\$ million)
Emergency preparedness	1.22
Humanitarian response activity	31.45
Climate change adaptation programming	0.25
Human rights programming	0.88
Funding Australian NGOs	30.3
Funding United Nations agencies	28.85

Question 21

Africa

Senator Brown asked on notice:

What is the percentage breakdown of this ODA by country for 09/10?

Answer

The percentage breakdowns, by-country, for the ODA categories to Africa detailed in the table in response to Question 22 are approximately as follows:

Country	%
Regional	28.11
Botswana	0.21
Burkina Faso	0.04
Burundi	0.24
Cameroon	0.61
Cape Verde	0.24
Dem. Rep. of Congo	5.00
Egypt	0.16
Ethiopia	8.13
Ghana	0.92
Kenya	6.86
Lesotho	0.23
Liberia	0.09
Malawi	3.16
Mozambique	4.54
Namibia	0.14
Nigeria	0.84

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Country	%
Rwanda	0.09
Senegal	0.27
Somalia	3.95
South Africa	1.92
Sudan	5.31
Swaziland	0.20
Tanzania	2.32
Togo	0.10
Uganda	4.25
Zambia	0.75
Zimbabwe	21.32
Total	100

Question 22

Africa

Senator Brown asked on notice:

For the following countries, what is the percentage breakdown of spending on humanitarian response and preparedness activity in 09/10?

- Chad
- Sudan (indicating percentage spend on Darfur and south Sudan separately)
- Somalia
- DR Congo
- Ethiopia.

Answer

Announced spending on humanitarian response and preparedness activities in 2009-10 totalled \$32.67 million and was provided to Sudan, Somalia, DR Congo, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Cape Verde and Uganda.

The following table provides a percentage breakdown of announced spending for the five countries requested:

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Country	Amount (\$m)	Activity breakdown (\$m)	%
Chad	0.00	N/A	0.00
Sudan	4.00	WFP - 2 (Darfur)	12.24
		ICRC - 2 (Sudan-wide)	
Somalia	4.00	ICRC - 3.5	12.24
		UNDSS - 0.5	
DR Congo	5.00	UNHCR - 3.5	15.30
		WFP - 1.5	
Ethiopia	7.50	WFP - 7.5	22.96

Key

ICRC – International Committee of the Red Cross

UNDSS – United Nations Department of Safety and Security

UNHCR – United Nations Department of Safety and Security

WFP – United Nations World Food Programme

Question 23

Africa

Senator Brown asked on notice:

Please provide a breakdown of funding (ODA and ODA-eligible) allocated to Sudan between 2002–03 and 2009–10. Specifically:

- Funding by agency/organisation
- Funding by sector
- Funding by region of Sudan.

Answer

The following tables provide a breakdown of funding (ODA and ODA-eligible) allocated to Sudan, and funding and support of Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries (Central African Republic, Chad and Kenya) between 2002-03–2009-10 (as at 1 April 2010).

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(i) Total funding to Sudan by agency/organisation from 2002/03–2009/10

Organisation	Funding for Sudan 2002/03 – 2009/10 (\$m)	Funding to Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries* 2002/03 – 2009/10 (\$m)	Total Funding 2002/03 – 2009/10 (\$m)
Australian Red Cross (ARC)	4.75		4.75
Austcare	2.41	0.08	2.49
Care Australia	0.50	0.75	1.25
Care International		0.50	0.50
Christian Blind Mission (CBM)	0.55		0.55
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	11.75	2.00	13.75
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) / ARC	0.10		0.10
International Organisation for Movement (IOM)	2.00		2.00
Lokita Charitable Society	0.09		0.09
Maskadour Charity Society	0.03		0.03
Nikana Development Organisation	0.03		0.03
Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	0.50		0.50
Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Relief and Aid	0.03		0.03
Oxfam	0.50	1.00	1.50
RedR	2.50		2.50
Sudanese Community AIDS Support	0.03		0.03
Sudanese Human Rights Monitor	0.04		0.04
Tear Australia	1.89		1.89
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	1.73		1.73
The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	17.75	1.50	19.25
Uniting Churches Overseas Aid	0.16		0.16
Vision Africa	0.14		0.14
World Food Programme (WFP)	49.00	4.55	53.55
World Health Organisation (WHO)	0.78		0.78
World Vision	2.31	0.50	2.81
Scholarships**	0.02		0.02
ANCP**	0.68		0.68
Total	100.27	10.88	111.15

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Notes: Funding rounded to 2 decimal places (\$0.00 million)

*Neighbouring countries are Central African Republic, Chad and Kenya

**Name of organisation was not defined in the transitioning of data from different database systems (expenditure pre 2005).

(ii) Total funding to Sudan by sector 2002/03–2009/10

Sector	Sudan 2002/03 – 2009/10 (\$m)	Funding to Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries* 2002/03– 2009/10 (\$m)	Total Funding 2002/03 – 2009/10(\$m)
Agriculture	0.12		0.12
Coordination & Support	2.50		2.50
Education	1.77		1.77
Food Aid	48.00	5.55	53.55
Governance	0.94		0.94
Health	8.46		8.46
Mine Action	1.00		1.00
Multi-Sector	3.60	4.25	7.85
Nutrition	16.75		16.75
Protection	11.95	0.58	12.53
Rural Development & Food Security	1.43		1.43
WES	3.75	0.50	4.25
Total	100.27	10.88	111.15

Notes: Funding rounded to 2 decimal places (\$0.00 million)

*Neighbouring countries are Central African Republic, Chad and Kenya

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(iii) Total funding to Sudan by region 2002/03–2009/10

Region	Total funding 2002/03–2009/10 (\$m)	Funding to Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries	Total funding 2002/03–2009/10 (\$m)
Darfur	76.33	Central African Republic	1.00
Southern Sudan	18.85	Chad	7.00
Darfur and Southern Sudan	3.90	Kenya	2.88
Sudan unspecified region	0.71	Total neighbouring countries	10.88
Northern Sudan	0.48		
Total Sudan	100.27		

Australian Civilian Corps

Question 24

Senator Kroger asked on notice:

The Minister's press release stated that the new office will be created within AusAID and is scheduled to commence work midway through 2010. The press release indicated that it will be fully operational at the start of 2011.

1. Please confirm this timeline: Will the office be operational at the start of 2011?
2. How many AusAID staff will look after the registry? Will there be new AusAID positions created?

Answer

1. The Australian Civilian Corps is on track to be fully operational by 31 December 2010.
2. Twenty-one new positions will be created to manage all aspects of the planning and management of Australian Civilian Corps deployments.

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Question 25

Australian Civilian Corps

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Senator Heffernan asked on notice:

Could AusAID provide the pay and conditions and terms of employment of the civilian corps recruits wherever the deployment?

Answer

Australian Public Service terms and conditions will apply to personnel deployed under the Australian Civilian Corps. Each deployment position will be classified in accordance with the Public Service Classification Rules 2000, following consideration of the skills and abilities required for the position.

Until specific legislation is enacted, terms and conditions of employment for deployees up to Executive Level 2 will be governed by the AusAID Enterprise Agreement 2009-2011. Should a position be classified at the Senior Executive Service (SES) level, the terms and conditions will be consistent with those of AusAID SES officers. Country-specific allowances will be based on the rates set by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for each location.

Pacific/Microfinance

Question 26

Senator Kroger asked on notice:

Australia will provide \$2 million over the next three years for the Pacific Financial Inclusion Program (PFIP) to help increase access to financial services among low income, rural and remote households in Pacific Island communities. The Program works with microfinance institutions and financial service providers to help them deliver better quality services to more people, including the poor, many of whom have not had access to banking before. (Source: Media Release, AusAID, 29 January 2010)

Please provide more details on the PFIP in terms of the size and number of loans given, business areas, recipient countries, timeframe of loans and if any loans have been paid back.

Answer

The Pacific Financial Inclusion Program (PFIP) is a multi-donor program supported by Australia, the European Union, the United Nations Development Program and the United Nations Capital Development Fund. Australia is providing \$2 million over three years to PFIP.

PFIP supports changes needed in Pacific finance sectors to increase access to financial services such as savings and loans. It is not a microfinance lender and does not provide loans to individuals, businesses or countries.

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One element of PFIP is a competitive small grants scheme for financial service providers. The first round, awarded in the third quarter of 2009, includes grants for pilot projects using technologies such as mobile phone banking to extend saving, money transfer and other financial services to remote areas. These projects will commence during 2010.

Two current grants are to assist established microfinance providers, Nationwide Microbank (Papua New Guinea) and National Bank of Vanuatu, to build their capability to provide banking services in locations where opening physical bank offices is not possible. Between them, these two institutions:

- service approximately 90,000 savers. (Access to safe saving accounts is the service which is most in demand in the Pacific.)
- service around 6,000 microfinance borrowers with an average loan outstanding of \$1306. (Most loans are for a period of 12 months or less and cover purposes as diverse as urban micro-enterprise, hard wood production and school fees. Over 95 per cent of loans from these two microfinance providers are repaid.)

Pacific

Question 27

Senator Kroger asked on notice:

Australia has signed PPDs with 8 countries: PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Vanuatu, Nauru, Tuvalu, and Tonga. PPDs will be reviewed by Annual Program Performance Reports, which will not be conducted by independent authorities.

1. Please provide a status update for each signed PPD on both proposed and operational projects and provide costs for each individual program.
2. a) When will the first Annual Program Performance Report be published?
b) For which PPD?
3. Are there new PPDs being considered, eg with Micronesia? If yes, please provide status update.
4. Last estimates Ms Callan stated that the total value of the PNG partnership amounts to 74 per cent of the total aid program in PNG, around \$360 million in 2009-10.
a) Could you please provide an updated estimate for this figure?
b) Please provide the percentage of total aid figure for the other 7 partnerships?

Answer

1. While some discrete projects may be funded under the Partnerships for Development, the structure of each Partnership for Development is centred on priority outcome areas for which implementation strategies are agreed with the respective governments.

Details on the status of the development of implementation strategies under each Partnership are provided in Table 1.

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Table 1

Pacific Partnerships for Development—Status of implementation strategies

Partnership signed	Implementation strategies	Status
PNG 20 August 2008 AusAID: \$388.2m	1) Key national roads, ports and airports providing access to markets and services	Endorsed at the Ministerial Forum June 2009.
	2) Significant, measurable progress towards the achievement of universal basic education by 2015	
	3) Improved health outcomes	
	4) An efficient and effective public service	
	5) Development policy and program formulation based on sound statistics and performance reporting	
	6) HIV/AIDS	Expected to be considered at 2010 Ministerial Forum.
	7) Higher education	
	8) Law and justice	
Samoa 20 August 2008 AusAID: \$22.0m	1) Private Sector Growth and Employment	Approved by the Samoan Ministry of Finance 30 January 2010.
	2) Improved Health	
	3) Improved Education	
	4(a) Improved Governance (Law and Justice)	Expected to be approved in 2010.
	4(b) Improved Governance (Public Financial Management, Statistics and Public Service Capacity)	As per 1-3 above.
	5) Climate Change	
Solomon Islands	1) Improved service delivery (health)	Approved with Partnership Agreement 27 January 2009.

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Partnership signed	Implementation strategies	Status
27 January 2009 AusAID: \$109.3m	2) Improved economic livelihoods	Expected to be approved in 2010.
	3) Improved economic infrastructure	Endorsed at 8 September 2009 Annual Partnership Discussions.
	4) Address economic and fiscal challenges	
Kiribati 27 January 2009 AusAID: \$13.2m	1) Improved basic education	Approved 31 July 2009 by Kiribati cabinet.
	2) Workforce skills development	Expected to be approved in 2010.
	3) Improved growth and economic management	Expected to be approved in 2010.
Vanuatu 27 May 2009 AusAID: \$41.6m	1) Improved education	Expected to be approved in 2010.
	2) Improved health	Expected to be approved in 2010.
	3) Improved infrastructure	Approved with Partnership Agreement.
	4) Economic governance	Expected to be approved in 2010.
Tonga PIF 2009 (7 August) AusAID: \$14.9m	1) A more efficient and effective public sector	Approved with Partnership Agreement.
	2) Improved health	Approved with Partnership Agreement.
	3) Improved technical and vocational skills	Approved with Partnership Agreement.
	4) Develop infrastructure to improve the everyday lives of the people	Expected to be approved in 2010.
Tuvalu PIF 2009 (6 August)	1) Support long term economic prospects	Expected to be approved in 2010.

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Partnership signed	Implementation strategies	Status
AusAID: \$5.0m		
Nauru PIF 2009 (7 August) AusAID: \$15.4m	1) More efficient and accountable public sector	Expected to be completed progressively during 2010.
	2) Improved education	Expected to be approved in 2010.
	3) A cost-effective health system which delivers improved health outcomes	Expected to be approved in 2010.
	4) Reliable and cost-effective provision of essential infrastructure and service	Expected to be approved in 2010.
	5) Increased private sector growth	Expected to be completed progressively during 2010.

2. Annual Partnership Reports charting the progress of each Partnership will be prepared jointly with partner governments and discussed at Annual Partnership Talks, commencing in 2010.

Annual Partnership Reports will be prepared for all eight Partnerships for Development in 2010 and will be made available to the public via the AusAID website once they have been jointly agreed.

3. Australia has commenced Partnership negotiations with the Republic of Palau, the Republic of Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, with the aim of signing these Partnerships at the 2010 Pacific Islands Forum.

4.

A. In the October 2009 Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing Ms Callan, Acting Deputy Director General AusAID said that she would like to verify the figure of \$360m of Australian assistance to PNG directed toward Partnership priorities. In the October 2009 Questions on Notice (see attached), AusAID corrected this figure and stated that in 2009-10, Australia will allocate approximately \$232 million to the five existing Partnership priority areas.

This amount of \$232 million remains unchanged, representing approximately 60 per cent of the total aid program to PNG. The proportion of Australian development assistance directed toward identified Partnership priorities is expected to increase once schedules for the three new priority areas of HIV and AIDS, law and order, and higher education are endorsed. The three new schedules will be considered at the 2010 Ministerial Forum (scheduled for June 2010).

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B. All development assistance will be delivered consistent with our Partnerships for Development. However, the Partnerships identify certain priority outcomes as the areas upon which Australia and partner governments will initially concentrate high level attention and dialogue. The identification of initial priority outcomes does not preclude Australia from providing support in other areas and we are not necessarily seeking 100 per cent coverage of program activities under specific implementation strategies.

In that context, the 2009/10 estimated percentage expenditure of total AusAID program funds against the Priority Outcomes in each Partnership is as follows:

PNG	60 per cent
Solomon Islands	82 per cent
Kiribati	95 per cent
Samoa ¹	50 per cent
Vanuatu	39 per cent
Tuvalu	100 per cent
Tonga	67 per cent
Nauru	100 per cent

Millennium Development Goals

Question 28

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Senator McEwen asked on notice:

Can AusAID provide details on what amount of the overall AusAID budget is going to each MDG and then by country for each MDG (possible for out years to 2011-12)?

Answer

AusAID is not able to provide a breakdown of its budget according to each MDG. Statistical reporting on the Australian aid program follows the guidance for aid donors developed by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD. The DAC has not yet developed guidance for reporting ODA against the MDGs.

A constraint to reporting expenditure on the MDGs is that the eight goals are not mutually exclusive. Disaggregating expenditure against non-exclusive criteria introduces an elevated level of subjectivity when aid activity managers (responsible for coding expenditure data) make different decisions about attribution.

¹ This figure does not include any of the funding in response to the 2009 Samoan tsunami because the amount apportioned to the Partnership priority areas cannot be determined at this stage. The Government of Samoa considers that funding for the Partnership for Development only includes activities commencing after the Partnership was signed – this would be a lower figure.

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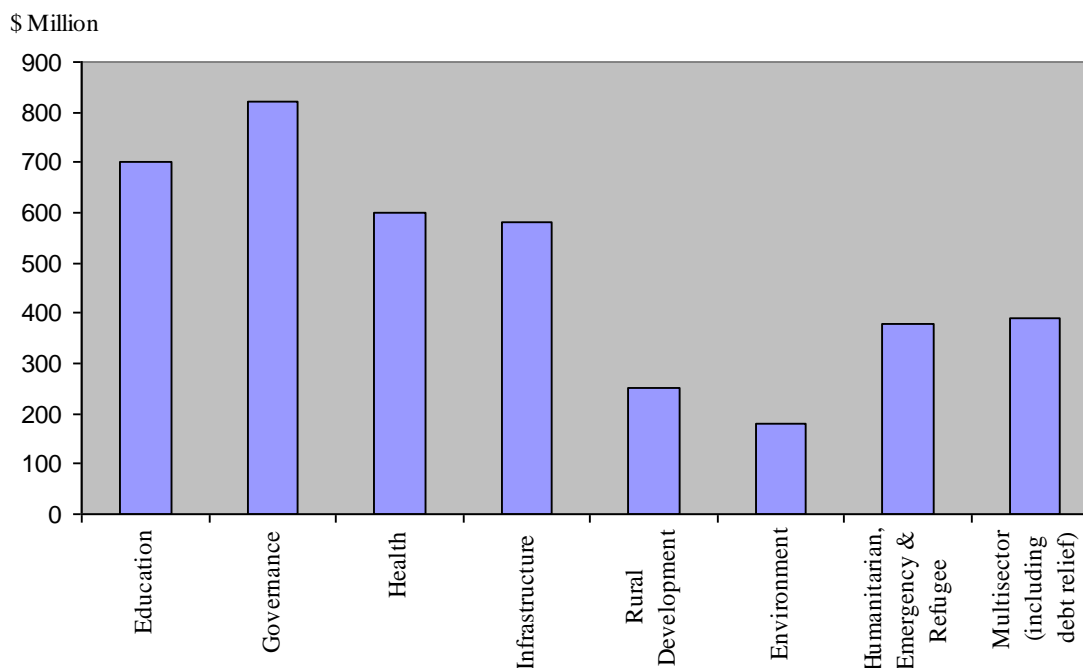
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For example, the PNG Basic Education Development Program is focused on establishing a national system of primary school infrastructure development and maintenance which is managed by school communities (MDG 2). Increasing the participation of women in decision-making about school infrastructure is a key objective of the program (MDG 3). Another objective is increasing student's access to clean water and toilets and ensuring that school infrastructure is environmentally sustainable (MDG 7).

The decision about how to split total expenditure against these three MDGs is a highly subjective exercise. An alternative which attributes the total value of the activity to each of the three MDGs would triple-count the same expenditure. Like the PNG Basic Education Development Program, the majority of aid activities managed by AusAID contribute to more than one of the eight MDGs.

Annual expenditure of donors (including Australia) is reported by sectors established by the DAC. While there is a degree of correlation between some of these sectors and the MDGs, sectoral spending should not be taken as indicating that all funding for that sector (or that only funding from that sector) contributes to a particular MDG. For example, Australia's Education sector expenditure funds basic education, which contributes to MDG2 Achieve universal primary education, as well as to vocational and technical education and scholarships, among other things. Estimated AusAID expenditure by sector in 2009-10 is shown in the table below.

Estimated breakdown of Australian ODA by sector 2009-10



AusAID spending by country in 2009-2010 is provided in Table 13 of the Budget on page 71.

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**QUESTION REFERRED TO AUSAID FROM
DEPARTMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

Climate Change and Environment

Question 29

Senator Birmingham asked on notice:

What action has been taken in regard to the following 2007 Labor election commitments?

- (a) \$150m over three years from aid budget to assist neighbours to prepare for climate change (from within existing forward estimates)
- (b) Develop a Pacific Climate Change Strategy (Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency responding separately).²
- (c) Assist countries to develop climate change adaptation plan, esp low-lying countries
- (d) Ensure climate change a key consideration in the design of Australia's aid program
- (e) Build capacity for avoided deforestation and better forest management in the Asia Pacific
- (f) Share Australia's scientific and technological expertise, incl. through the creation of a Pacific Climate Centre
- (g) Increase support for NGOs that assist with the implementation of new approach to climate change in the region
- (h) Participate in multilateral and bilateral programs for international assistance on climate change.

Answer

(a) The International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative of \$150 million over three years is fully allocated. Programs to the value of \$129.89 million have already commenced implementation or are currently undergoing contracting processes. A breakdown of these programs is provided in the table below.

Project	Duration	Amount (\$,000)	Country/region	Status
Pacific Bilateral Adaptation Program	2009-2011	25,000	Pacific Island countries	Announced, in process
Pacific Climate Change Science Program	2009-2011	20,000	Pacific Island countries and East Timor	Implementation
Pacific Adaptation Strategy Assistance Program	2009-2011	12,000	Pacific Island countries and East Timor	Announced, in preparation
Support for Secretariat of the Pacific Community	2009-2011	4,500	Pacific Island countries	Implementation

² This part of the question was referred to the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency for an answer.

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Project	Duration	Amount (\$,000)	Country/region	Status
(SPC) adaptation activities				
Sea Level Network Upgrade	2010-2011	4,300	Pacific Island countries	Announced, in preparation
Australia-Pacific Climate Adaptation Platform	2009-2011	3,000	Pacific Island countries and East Timor	Implementation
Pacific Future Climate Leaders Program	2009-2011	3,000	Pacific Island countries	Implementation
Community-based Adaptation NGO Grants	2010-2011	2,700	Pacific Island countries and East Timor	Announced, in process
Support for Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) adaptation work program	2009-2011	1,500	Pacific Island countries	Implementation
Support for SPREP-led review of Pacific Regional Meteorological Services	2009-2010	129	Pacific Island countries	Complete
Pacific Island summary chapter – input to CARICOM regional climate modelling report	2009	50	Pacific Island countries	Complete
Production/distribution of Conscience Call: Climate Change in the Pacific DVD	2009	37	Pacific Island countries	Complete
Mekong and Asia-Pacific Community-based Adaptation Program	2009-2014	6,000	Pacific Island countries, East Timor, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Sri Lanka	Implementation
Support to adaptation components of East Timor's Initial National Communication to the UNFCCC	2009	250	East Timor	Implementation
Mekong River Commission Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative	2009-2013	3,000	Mekong Sub-region	Implementation
Climate Change Impact and Adaptation in the Mekong Delta	2009-2010	1,140	Vietnam	Implementation
South Asia Water Initiative	2009-2011	3,000	Regional South Asia	Implementation
Pilot Program on Climate Resilience	2009-2011	40,000	Multilateral (covering: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cambodia, Caribbean (Dominica, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Mozambique, Nepal,	Implementation

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Project	Duration	Amount (\$,000)	Country/region	Status
			Niger, Pacific (Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga), Tajikistan, Yemen, Zambia)	
UNFCCC 'Mechanisms to manage financial risks from direct impacts of climate change in developing countries' Technical Paper	2008-2009	285	Global	Complete
TOTAL commenced implementation or undergoing contracting		\$129.89		

The remaining \$20.11 million has been allocated to a number of activities which are yet to be contracted or announced and for departmental outputs and capital.

(b) This is a matter for the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency.

[*Secretariat note:* This part of the question was referred to Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency for an answer.]

(c) The International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative will assist partner countries, including low-lying countries, develop climate change adaptation plans in a number of ways. The \$20 million Pacific Climate Change Science Program is funding a major research effort in the Pacific and East Timor that will provide more comprehensive climate science information to help decision-makers in the region make climate sensitive development decisions. The \$12 million Pacific Adaptation Strategy Assistance Program will strengthen the capacity of partner countries to assess their vulnerabilities to climate change and develop evidence-based adaptation strategies. A \$40 million commitment to the multi-donor (World Bank-administered) Pilot Program on Climate Resilience will assist in integrating adaptation into national planning processes, including through a regional pilot in the Pacific focusing on Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Tonga.

(d) AusAID has:

- through a new program of training, enhanced the capacity of AusAID activity managers to better assess potential environmental impacts and climate change vulnerabilities of new aid activities and integrate these considerations into activity design and management;
- provided activity managers with improved guidance on integrating climate change considerations into activity design; and
- increased access for AusAID activity managers to climate change advisory services to support the integration of climate change adaptation and mitigation considerations into the design of aid activities.

(e) Australia's International Forest Carbon Initiative (IFCI) aims to demonstrate that reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD) can be part of an effective international response to climate change. Initially, total funding allocated for IFCI was \$200 million over five years (2007-8 to 2011-12). Following Australia's contribution to fast-start REDD financing announced at Copenhagen, overall funding for IFCI increased from \$200 million

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to \$273 million over six years (2007-8 to 2012-13). Existing activities under IFCI relevant to building capacity in the Asia Pacific include:

- Bilateral forest carbon partnerships with Indonesia and Papua New Guinea providing for cooperation in relation to policy development and capacity building; technical support for carbon accounting and monitoring; and REDD demonstration activities.
- Support to the World Bank to develop and implement two related multilateral trust funds (the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the Forest Investment Program).
- The Asia Pacific Forestry Skills and Capacity Building Program, managed by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, that assists countries to increase their capacity to manage forests sustainably and to reduce deforestation and forest degradation.
- A research partnership with the Centre for International Forestry Research based in Indonesia for research on policy and technical issues associated with REDD.

(f) The Pacific Climate Centre initiative was discussed in the region with partner governments, donors and regional organisations. At the same time the United Nations launched a similar idea for a climate change centre of excellence in the Pacific. Pacific Island country governments determined that support for climate change coordination should be through existing regional institutions, particularly the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). Accordingly, the Government decided to establish the Australia-Pacific Climate Adaptation Platform in place of the Pacific Climate Centre. The Platform aims to ensure all Australian adaptation assistance in the Pacific is well coordinated and aligned with assistance provided by other donors and regional organisations. The Platform will also assist in coordinating and processing requests for specific technical assistance from partner countries. Part of the Platform is to be co-located with SPREP in Apia, Samoa.

As part of the International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative, Australia is sharing scientific and technological expertise with partner countries through the \$20 million Pacific Climate Change Science Program. The Program will provide better climate change science information to stakeholders in Pacific Island countries and East Timor by delivering early outcomes in priority knowledge areas while providing the base upon which longer-term climate change science outcomes can be delivered. The Initiative is also funding a major refurbishment of the network of 12 sea level monitoring stations in the Pacific. This will ensure high quality data is available for use by Pacific governments and communities and the international scientific community for an estimated further 15 years.

(g) The Mekong and Asia-Pacific Community-based Adaptation Program is providing \$6 million to support community groups and NGOs undertake priority adaptation activities at the local level in 15 Pacific Island countries, Cambodia, East Timor, Laos, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. This program is being implemented by the United Nations Development Programme through the existing Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme. Additionally, AusAID is managing a Community-based Adaptation NGO Grants Program, through which funding will be provided to support Australian and International NGOs working on climate change adaptation in Pacific Island countries and East Timor. The call for proposals closed on 26 February 2010 and a selection process is underway with decisions to be made in April 2010.

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(h) The major multilateral and bilateral programs for international assistance on climate change that Australia supports are:

- **International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative (ICCAI)**—\$150 million provided over three years (starting 2008-2009) to meet high priority climate change adaptation needs in vulnerable countries in our region. This includes \$40 million to the World Bank-administered Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (PPCR) to demonstrate how climate change adaptation can be fully integrated into national development planning.
- **International Forest Carbon Initiative**—\$273 million provided over six years (starting 2007-2008) to support international efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. This includes \$10 million to the World Bank-administered Forest Investment Program and \$11.7 million to the World Bank-administered Forest Carbon Partnership Facility.
- **The Least Developed Countries Fund** of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change—\$7.5 million provided in 2007-2008 to help Least Developed Countries develop and implement National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs).
- **Clean Technology Fund** of the World Bank Climate Investment Funds \$100 million from 2008-09 to 2010-11 to finance the demonstration, deployment and transfer of low carbon technologies in the energy and transport sectors.
- **Global Environment Facility**—(\$59.8 million 2006-2010; contribution for 2010-2014 under negotiation) to fund practical programs and shape policy reform to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss, ozone depletion, contamination by persistent organic pollutants and degradation of land and transboundary water systems.