Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee: Senate Suplementary Budget Estimates, October 2011 Questions on Notice: AusAID

Question No. 1

Senator Boyce asked on notice

How many [TB] clinics does the $146,000 funding for joint handover clinics provide?

Answer:

Advice from Queensland Health is that each TB clinic costs $100,000. There is sufficient funding within the existing Record of Understanding between AusAID and Department of Health and Ageing for two more joint hand-over clinics. These have been scheduled for April and June 2012. There will be a review of progress in June 2012.

Question No. 2

Senator Boyce asked on notice

Where have the extra patients been going during the construction of the interim TB isolation ward?

Answer:
Daru General Hospital has an existing 29 bed medical ward, which is also used for TB patients. Three beds in this ward are TB isolation beds.

Question No. 3

Senator Boyce asked on notice

a) Is there a functional overhead X-ray unit in the Daru Hospital?
b) How many patients have been X-rayed in the hospital in the last two quarters?

Answer:

a) Daru hospital's current X-ray machine is functional for chest X-rays and other basic radiography.
b) 304 patients were X-rayed in the hospital during Quarters 3 and 4 of 2011.

Question No. 4

Senator Boyce asked on notice

Can you confirm that no Papua New Guinean patient who previously accessed the TB clinics in the Torres Strait has gone untreated since they have gone back to PNG?

Answer:

Patients transferred from Queensland Health in the first two handover clinics held in 2011 have been reviewed by the AusAID-funded TB Physician based at Daru General Hospital. All patients have received regular medical reviews, are responding to treatment and are clinically well.

Patients transferred during the handover clinic in February this year will shortly receive a review.

Question No. 5

Senator Boyce asked on notice

When did AusAID first become aware of the need - and was a request made to you – to invest in TB services in the South Fly region of PNG?

Answer:

Following the 2008 PNG-Australia Ministerial Forum, a Joint Package of Measures was developed between the Governments of Australia and PNG to address cross border health concerns in the Torres Strait. This package included actions to strengthen health services on both sides of the border, including expanding infrastructure, providing clinical support and improving communications. It also included support for TB services in the South Fly District of Western Province.

Since 2011, AusAID has been implementing an expanded program to help PNG health authorities strengthen TB services in Western Province, building on previous support delivered as part of the joint Package of Measures.

Question No. 6

Senator Rhiannon asked in writing

a) Will the transfer of all PNG nationals currently being treated at TSI clinics be completed as planned in February 2012?

b) What improvements have been made to Daru Hospital to accommodate for additional persons accessing TB services? What limitations still exist?

c) Can the Government ensure that all patients at Daru Hospital have adequate and consistent access to the required TB treatment services?

d) What is the Government's strategy for tackling the high incidence of TB and MDR-TB in PNG?

 Answer:

a) AusAID is providing funding through a Record of Understanding with the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing to support a series of joint clinics to transfer patients from the Torres Strait to Western Province.

A total of 68 PNG TB patients have been transferred to the care of Western Province Health as an outcome of this process.

On 29 February 2012 Queensland Health reported that an estimated 25 patients are yet to be transferred. It is expected that these remaining patients will be transferred during two joint handover clinics to be held in April and June 2012. There will be a review of progress by Queensland Health, the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing and AusAID, in June 2012.

b) AusAID has funded the construction of a five-bed interim TB isolation ward at Daru Hospital which was completed and operational in February 2012. With Australian support, a Communications Centre has been built and equipped to allow the health centres in South Fly and Torres Strait to communicate with the Daru based TB Physician TB Physician and TB Coordinator about patients, including new referrals and arranging review visits. The Communications Centre became operational on 20 December 2011.

In 2012, AusAID is also funding the construction of a new, purpose-built TB Ward. The new building will augment Daru Hospital's current 29 bed medical ward. The new ward will include a 6 bed multi-drug resistant TB (MDR-TB) isolation ward and a 16 bed TB ward. Construction will also include a purpose designed TB drug storage facility and sleeping, cooking and ablution facilities for guardians of patients. The plans for this ward were assessed in October 2011 by the World Health Organization (WHO) as compliant with international infection control standards. Detailed construction design has commenced. The tendering process will commence shortly.

AusAID will also provide a diagnostic (GeneXpert) machine, that provides an indication of TB drug resistance within two hours (expected April 2012) and a new X-ray unit for the Radiology Department (expected in June 2012). These timeframes reflect requirements for procurement processes and shipping schedules to Daru.

Staff housing is also an identified need and the PNG Government has earmarked funding for this.

c) Health service delivery is ultimately the responsibility of the PNG Government; Australia can only play a supporting role. Current and proposed TB services in South Fly are based on the recommendations and standards set by the WHO. In October 2011, WHO conducted an independent review of TB management in South Fly District of Western Province, which assessed AusAID's support as appropriate. AusAID regularly monitors reporting based on WHO standard protocols. All TB patients under the care of Daru Hospital are reviewed regularly by the AusAID-funded Papua New Guinean TB Physician, including those who have been transferred from Queensland Health clinics.

d) The Australian aid program is directly supporting the Government of PNG to implement the South Fly District TB Management Program. Early detection and treatment combined with community treatment support are key to reducing the spread of TB including MDR-TB, in PNG.

AusAID is funding and training key TB health staff, including a Papua New Guinean TB coordinator and TB physician who are based in Daru and supported by regular visits from PNG's senior TB physician. Community Health Workers at rural health facilities will be trained and supported to improve their TB education and management.

Through AusAID funding to World Vision, community volunteers are being trained to support TB patients to complete the full course of medication - a key element of WHO's recommended approach for TB management in order to reduce drug resistance. In addition, a program to increase community awareness of TB and its symptoms will be rolled out across the Province to encourage people to attend health centres for TB testing and treatment.

AusAID provides support beyond the South Fly District to address TB in PNG through:

- significant funding ($240 million since 2004) to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, which supports implementation of PNG's National TB Program across 11 provinces.

- support for PNG's main medical research institution, the Institute for Medical Research, to undertake studies into effective management of MDR-TB in Madang Province in 2011. As a result, the PNG National Department of Health has adopted a new treatment protocol for management of MDR-TB throughout PNG.

Senator Rhiannon asked on notice.

Could you provide details of the aid programs that you have in the north east of Sri Lanka and other areas that are predominantly made up of Tamil communities?

Answer:

Since the end of the civil war (2009-10 and 2010-11), Australia has provided approximately **$98 million** for projects helping disadvantaged people in the Tamil-majority Northern and Eastern Provinces. This funding was primarily used for humanitarian activities, including demining, agricultural support and house and school reconstruction. In addition to this, in 2011-12 Australia is providing approximately **$23.8 million** (or 55% of estimated total Australian aid to Sri Lanka) to projects in the north and east.

Senator Rhiannon asked on notice

We want to get a sense about aid money going to Sri Lanka; particularly to Tamils or to North East. Please detail what [the aid projects in the North East] are, how much money and which organisations you work with?

Answer:

AusAID Sri Lanka Projects Funded in 2011-12

Projects	Partner	Cost (m)
Humanitarian – Housing & Agriculture Support	Multiple UN agencies, including United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Food and Agriculture Organisation, International Organization for Migration (IOM), UN Habitat	5
Humanitarian - Demining	Multiple NGOs including Mines Advisory Group, Foundation for Demining, Devlon Assistance for Social Harmony	4
Water and Sanitation in Schools (50% of total project in north and east)	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	0.75
Sustainable Economic Development (80% of total project in north and east)	International Labour Organization, World Vision, UNDP, ZOA (Zuidoost-Azië –a Dutch-based NGO), GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit – German Aid Agency), The Asia Foundation, Oxfam Australia, IOM	7
Post-Conflict Mental Health Project	World Vision Australia	0.35

Community Forestry Project (15% of total project in north and east)	UNDP	0.15
Education Sector-Wide Project (30% of total project in north and east)	World Bank	1.5
North East Local Economic Infrastructure Project	World Bank	5
Total		**23.8**
% of Total Australian ODA to Sri Lanka (43.5m)		**55%**

AusAID is also currently supporting two projects in the north and east of Sri Lanka using funds expensed in 2010-11. This includes a Water Supply and Sanitation Program through the World Bank ($2.3 million) and a Basic Education Support Program through UNICEF ($3.5 million).

Question No. 9

Senator Ludlum asked on notice

Is it possible to provide a geographic breakdown by region of where aid to Burma is distributed?

Answer:

Table 1: Indicative Geographic Breakdown of Australian aid to Burma

States / Regions	Proportion of Australian aid to Burma* (2010-2011)	Population^ (millions)	Proportion of total population*
Ayeyarwady Division	35.6%	7.1	14.2%
Bago (East)	1.7%	2.5	5.0%
Bago (West)	1.8%	2.5	5.0%
Chin	4.5%	0.5	1.0%
Kachin	3.6%	1.3	2.5%
Kayah	1.1%	0.3	0.6%
Kayin	1.2%	1.3	2.7%
Magway	2.6%	1.3	2.7%
Mandalay	4.2%	2.5	5.1%
Mon	6.8%	4.8	9.6%
Rakhine	5.9%	6.9	14.0%
Sagaing	11.4%	2.6	5.3%
Shan (East)	1.9%	5.4	11.0%
Shan (North)	6.3%	1.6	3.1%
Shan (South)	3.2%	1.6	3.1%
Tanintharyi	2.3%	1.6	3.1%
Yangon	5.9%	5.9	12%
Total	**100%**	**49.7**	**100.0%**

*The above figures represent estimates of Australia's aid which is channelled through UN organisations and international NGOs as well as multi-donor funds which operate across the states and regions of Burma. In the latter case, Australia's contribution to pooled funds has been apportioned as per the distribution of the total volume of funds.
^Population data by State and Division is indicative and based on internal Burmese Government statistics.

Question No. 10

Senator Rhiannon asked on notice

AusAID has announced a funding round based on partnering with NGOs to support the Cambodian maternal and child health strategy. It might be called Partnering to Save Lives. I think that this is a priority for the Cambodian government. Will AusAID support NGOs to provide programs in the context of the Cambodian government priority? Will they be comprehensive sexual and reproductive health programs?

Answer:

AusAID has requested submissions from Australian NGOs to participate in a new partnership program known as Partnering to Save Lives: Australia/Cambodia Maternal and Child Health Program.

Sexual and reproductive health is a priority of the Cambodian Government. The Partnering to Save Lives program will partner Australian NGOs with the Cambodian Ministry of Health to implement those components of the Government's Maternal and Child Health Fast Track Initiative that the Government has identified as needing NGOs as lead partners. This is in the area of sexual and reproductive health where NGOs have a strong capacity to reach remote and high need communities.

In the first half of 2012 participating Australian NGOs will work with the Cambodian Ministry of Health, especially the National Reproductive Health Program and the Sexual Reproductive Health Working Group (which includes World Health Organisation, United Nations Population Fund and USAID) to develop the design of a four year sexual and reproductive health partnership program.

Question No. 11

Senator Rhiannon asked on notice

From reading the external Social Monitoring Reports from RediCam Group with interest on the Cambodia Railways project, my understanding is that there is, or at least was, a separate Australian funded position reviewing resettlement work

1. Has their project reports ever been released
2. If so would AusAID consider doing so under proactive disclosure?

Answer:

1. AusAID provided funding to the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in 2009 to hire consultants to work on the Cambodia Rail Rehabilitation project, including a resettlement adviser whose position ended in late 2010. The resettlement adviser produced internal ADB working documents, including resettlement reports, which have not been publicly released.

2. The reports are internal ADB documents and any decision on their public release remains a matter for ADB management.

Question No. 12

Senator Rhiannon asked in writing:

Follow up questions regarding the Mekong mainstream dams.

a) To clarify, is the $1 million for the Mekong Delta study that Australia has agreed to support the study entitled *MONRE REOI: Delta Study on the impacts of Mekong mainstream hydropower*?

Australia is the sole funder for the MRC's Procedures for Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement (PNPCA) and Australia has acknowledged that there have been some shortcomings regarding the Xayaburi Dam's PNPCA and prior consultation process.

b) Does Australia plan to carry out a review of the PNPCA and its implementation?
c) What measures is Australia taking to evaluate the success of its funding to the PNPCA?
d) What outcomes does Australia seek to obtain by providing funding for the PNPCA process, and does Australia consider these outcomes to have been met?

Australia and possibly the Mekong River Commission (MRC) are under the view that the PNPCA for Xayaburi Dam has not yet concluded. However, the government of Lao PDR on numerous occasions has publicly stated that the process is complete, which the government of Thailand used as justification for the signing of the dam's Power Purchase Agreement on October 29th, 2011.

e) What measures has Australia taken or does Australia plan to take to clarify the different understandings held between the MRC member countries regarding the current status of the Xayaburi Dam's PNPCA?

Preparatory construction on the Xayaburi Dam has been underway since late 2010 and the government of Lao PDR and Xayaburi's main dam builder, Ch. Karnchang, have indicated that construction activities will continue even while further study is carried out as agreed at the December MRC Council meeting.

f) As this no longer appears to be a hypothetical question, how will the continued construction of the Xayaburi Dam impact Australia's aid to Lao PDR and the MRC?

g) What steps is Australia taking to develop an appropriate response to this situation?

h) What risks do the Mekong Mainstream Dams pose to Australia's foreign aid?

i) To what extent would the Mekong Mainstream Dams pose a risk to Australia's aid programs in the region for poverty alleviation, food security, sustainable development, and regional cooperation?

j) Why is the Australian government so heavily supporting the Challenge Program on Water and Food when the program is clearly promoting hydropower development in the region at the expense of other, potentially more sustainable options for meeting energy needs?

Answer:

a) The study for which the Australian Government has agreed to contribute up to $ 1 million is titled *Delta study on the impacts of Mekong mainstream hydropower*. The Vietnamese Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) has issued a request for expressions of interest (REOI) to organisations they deem qualified to undertake the study.

b) The Australian Government intends to review the effectiveness of the PNPCA process and has commenced discussions with the MRC Secretariat, representatives from MRC member governments, and civil society representatives regarding the best way to undertake such a review.

c) The Australian Government's funding support for the MRC's Mekong Integrated Water Resources Management Project includes support for the implementation of five MRC procedures, including the Procedure for Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement (PNPCA). A mid-term review of the project is scheduled to be undertaken in 2012. This review will contribute to Australia's assessment of the Xayaburi Hydropower Dam PNPCA deliberation process.

d) The Australian Government's financial contribution to the PNPCA aims to support deliberation processes to be inclusive, well-informed, transparent and allow for contestability. Activation and implementation of the PNPCA process for Xayaburi Dam has contributed to a more informed, more inclusive and more transparent decision-making process than would have otherwise been the case. The Australian Government believes the process could be further strengthened in several areas. These include: more timely and full dissemination of environment and social impact assessments; more extensive public consultation processes; and an enhanced level of transparency of the process as a whole.

e) The Australian Government, together with Japan, has written to the MRC's Chief Executive Officer on behalf of MRC development partners, seeking clarification of the status of the PNPCA process for Xayaburi Dam. The Australian Government is also seeking clarification via bilateral discussions with government officials of MRC member countries.

f) The Australian Government will continue to provide Australian aid to Laos in line with development priorities mutually agreed between the Australian Government and Government of Laos. The Australian Government will continue to provide the MRC and its member governments with support under the Australian Mekong Water Resources Program.

g) The Australian Government is continuing to engage in discussions with the Lao Government and other MRC member states as appropriate to advocate for a robust examination of the pros and cons associated with the Xayaburi Hydropower Dam proposal and to urge that the results of further research be considered and discussed before dam construction proceeds. Ultimately the decision to proceed or not is a sovereign one for the Government of Laos to make.

h) & i) Mekong River mainstream dams have the potential to cause negative impacts on fisheries, food security, livelihoods and ecosystem health. With this in mind Australia has urged relevant Mekong Basin Governments to work together, using a credible evidence base, to ensure that major developments in the Mekong Basin undergo stringent and transparent environmental, social and economic assessment. Our assistance to the MRC and MRC member countries supports this ambition. We believe that robust and well-informed deliberation processes will help minimise the risk of poor water resources development decisions. This reduces the risk of poor decisions eroding the development gains that Australian aid and MRC member countries are working to achieve. Again, ultimately these decisions are ones for sovereign governments of the region to make.

In parallel with on-going Australian aid support for enhanced water resources governance, Australian aid will continue to support regional and bilateral development priorities in the Mekong as agreed with partner governments and development partners.

j) Hydropower is seen as a significant potential energy source to support the economic development of Mekong region countries. The Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF) is a global research-for-development program, managed by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), but open to many research organisations. The CPWF is an approved program under the CGIAR Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers. Australia's support for CPWF-Mekong funds projects that aim to support better-informed decisions and improved hydropower-related governance.

CPWF-Mekong program managers are concerned that much large dam development in the region fails to address the long-term environmental and social costs of these developments, and the ways these costs are transferred to society and those least able to bear them. Australia recognises that 'hydropower' is more than the construction of large dams. The CPWF-Mekong is currently commissioning new research to improve understanding of the benefits and costs of hydropower development (big and small), explore alternative renewable energy options, and provide resources for local experiences to be documented and local voices to be heard.

Question No. 13

Senator Rhiannon

a) Please provide a list of private companies contracted to administer aid in 2010/2011 and the value of the contracts in each case?
b) Please provide the total value of aid contracts going to GRM?

Answer:

a) For the 2010/2011 financial year, details of AusAIDs contractual agreements valued at $10,000 or more for are available via the AusTender website (www.tenders.gov.au).
b) See above

Question No. 14

Senator Rhiannon asked on notice

a) Given that the leading killer of people living with HIV is TB, does the Government have a firm policy and strategy for treating TB amongst people living with HIV?
b) Can the Government give examples of where these programs are being successfully implemented?

Answer:

a) Yes. Australia's international development strategy for HIV titled *Intensifying the response: Halting the spread of HIV* recognises the importance of integrating or appropriately linking HIV within services that address other health issues, including tuberculosis (TB). The Australian Government supports the World Health Organization in providing technical leadership on global efforts to achieve TB control. This includes processes for the joint prevention, diagnosis and treatment of TB and HIV. The Australian Government, through AusAID, supports the integration of HIV and TB services, including testing, in partner countries where this has been identified as a national priority.

b) The Australian Government supports the PNG Government to implement its National Health Plan and National HIV and AIDS Strategy (2011-2015), both of which aim to associate TB and HIV services. In the period 2009 to 2010, the number of people with TB being tested for HIV increased by approximately two thirds, from 2057 to 3350. In addition, AusAID commenced funding World Vision in February 2012 to implement the 'Stop TB in Western Province' project, which includes cross testing for TB and HIV.

In Burma, AusAID co-funds the Three Diseases Fund (3DF) which, since 2007, has supported a HIV and TB initiative implemented by the Asian Harm Reduction Network. One of the main components is screening HIV positive patients for TB and, if diagnosed, patients receive treatment and support for HIV and TB. From January to June 2011, there were 4581 TB patients tested for HIV, up from 1999 during this same period in 2010.

Australia supports the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. At its November 2008 meeting, the Board recommended that TB/HIV collaborative activities be included in both HIV and TB proposals. With Global Fund support, in Cambodia 100,182 TB patients have been tested for HIV; in Laos, 141 National Tuberculosis Program staff have been trained in providing HIV counselling to TB patients; in PNG TB/HIV testing and treatment activities have been introduced; and in the Pacific, 52.1% of registered TB patients were tested for HIV.

Question No. 15

Senator Rhiannon asked on notice

a) Could you provide more information about the Mining for Development Initiative and also the mining related projects prior to the AMDI announcement?
b) Which Australian mining companies were involved in the study tours?
c) Could you provide the details of those programs that will be provided under this initiative?

Answer:

a) On 25 October 2011, the Prime Minister of Australia announced a new package of assistance for Mining for Development ($127.3 million through to June 2015). http://www.ausaid.gov.au/keyaid/mining.cfm

The objective of Mining for Development is to support developing countries to translate their resource endowment into significant and sustainable development. Mining for Development will support developing country governments through the provision of short course training in Australia and overseas, through fellowships in Australia, through mentoring and capacity building of local institutions, and through the provision of guides and tools.

The International Mining for Development Centre ($31 million through to June 2015) is a major component of the Initiative. http://im4dc.org/

It provides assistance on a broad range of issues in the mining sector. Through the Centre, developing countries have access to education and training, as well as technical and other advice. Over the next 4 years, approximately 1,870 people from developing countries will undertake training through the Centre.

Mining related projects that AusAID implemented prior to the Prime Minister's announcement are listed in Annex A.

b) Study tours that come to Australia typically have a component in which field visits or discussions with stakeholders including the private sector occur to show study tour participants how Australia enacts policy or programming in practice. Mining companies that have participated in study tours in this fashion include: Alcoa; Anglo America Metallurgical Coal; BEC Engineering; BHP Billiton; Coal and Allied; Galaxy Lithium; Kalgoorlie Mining Company; KCGM Superpit; Natural Resources Geo-Strategy; Newmont; North Parkes Copper Mine; Pay Dirt; Port Waratah Coal Terminal; Rio Tinto; Santos Ltd.; and Xanadu Mines.

c) Mining related projects that AusAID is implementing since the Prime Minister's announcement are listed in Annex B.

Question No. 16

Senator Eggleston asked on notice

What was the cost of the establishment of the AusAID office in Zimbabwe?

Answer:

The total cost of the construction and fit out of the new AusAID office in Harare, Zimbabwe was AU$1,185,838.

Question No. 17

Senator Eggleston asked on notice

What programs are you running in African countries?

Answer:

In 2011-12, the Australian Government will provide around $360 million in Official Development Assistance to Africa (including contributions to the Horn of Africa crisis). Australia's aid to Africa is supporting efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals in sectors where Australia has experience and expertise and

where Australia is best able to make a difference. Please see Attachment A for sector specific program details in African countries.

Question No. 18

Senator Boswell asked on notice

Given that Australia considers Hamas a terrorist organisation and that Hamas refuses to recognise Israel or renounce violence:

c) If the PA enters into a power sharing arrangement with Hamas, would the Australian government cease funding to the PA?
d) Given that this funding agreement was made in September 2011, the Australian government would have been aware that a power sharing relationship with Hamas and Fatah was in the works? Why didn't the Agreement deal with this possibility?
e) Will Australia apply new conditions to a Fatah-Hamas unity government?

Answer:

- Arrangements under AusAID's program of assistance to the Palestinian Territories are carefully designed to ensure aid funds cannot flow to terrorist entities. In all agreements with its partners, AusAID has provision to review funding arrangements, if required.

- The AusAID – Palestinian Authority Partnership Arrangement, signed in September 2011, was designed to reflect the PA governance arrangements at the time of signature and to allow for funding arrangements to be reviewed if the governance arrangements should change.

Question No. 19

Senator Boswell asked on notice

What investigations were undertaken by AusAID to ensure that no AusAID funds were being used towards Boycott Divestment and Sanctions by Ma'an Development Centre or APHEDA?

Answer:

AusAID has confirmed that no Australian Government funds have been used to support Ma'an Development Centre's Boycott Divestment and Sanctions activities.

The Palestinian Non-Government Organisation Ma'an Development Centre is funded by AusAID through Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad (APHEDA, also called Union Aid Abroad) to undertake development activities that improve the incomes of poor rural communities.

      o   This is part of the Australia Middle East Non-Government Organisation Co-operation Agreement, which also involves ActionAid, CARE and World Vision.

AusAID and The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade met with Ma'an Development Centre and APHEDA in June, July and September 2011 to discuss this issue and to ensure that no aid program funds are used to fund Ma'an Development Centre's Boycott Divestment and Sanctions activities.

      o   On 7 July 2011, AusAID was advised by Ma'an Development Centre and APHEDA that no AusAID funding has been used for activities outside the agreed scope of our development projects.

      o   In August 2011, AusAID undertook a financial assessment and scrutinised Ma'an Development Centre and APHEDA program budgets for extraordinary expenditure. No funds provided to Ma'an Development Centre were used inappropriately.

Funding to Ma'an Development Centre is paid once a year after AusAID is satisfied with the progress of project implementation as demonstrated during monitoring visits and six monthly reporting.

      o   AusAID received the last acquittal from Ma'an Development Centre in July 2011. The next full financial acquittal report is due in April 2012.

AusAID will continue to require APHEDA to provide assurances where necessary that AusAID funds do not financially support Ma'an Development Centre's Boycott Divestment and Sanctions activities.

AusAID retains the option to withdraw Ma'an Development Centre funding in line with the relevant clauses in the funding arrangement, should funds be found not to be going to services previously agreed.

Question No. 20

Senator Rhiannon asked on notice

   a) How much did AusAID provide to the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative managed by the World Bank?

   b) How much is left to pay?

   c) Does the AusAID money go into a general pool or does AusAID track which countries receive their debt relief and what conditions are imposed on those countries?

Answer:

   a) $184,449,000

   b) $424,340,000

c) AusAID money is pooled with that of other contributors. Eligibility of countries for the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative is determined by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund governing bodies on which Australia is represented.

Question No. 21

Senator Rhiannon asked on notice

Please provide list of AusAID funding in 2010/11 to selected multilateral organisations, broken down to WB, ADB, UNICEF, WFP, Global Fund, UNHCR, WHO, ICRC, ILO.

Answer:

Organisation	AusAID 2010-11 Total Funding ($ million)
World Bank	575.4
Asian Development Bank	167.1
UNICEF	139.8
WFP	110.4
Global Fund	30.0
UNHCR	36.7
WHO	59.5
ILO	7.5
ICRC	40.0

Note: The World Bank figure includes funds for debt relief. The World Bank figure does not include funding where the World Bank is acting as a trustee or fund administrator: the Global Agriculture, Food and Security Program, Strategic Climate Fund; the Global Environment Facility; Clean Technology Fund; Haiti Reconstruction Fund; and the Global Partnership for Education (formerly the Fast Track Initiative).

Question No. 22

Senator Rhiannon asked in writing

a) Is any data available for the 2010/11 year on parallel financing, or plans to provide this?
b) Which of the AusAID projects fall into the parallel financing category?

Answer:

Australia supports aid activities in partnership with a range of organisations, including multilateral organisations, NGOs, other donors and partner governments. This includes joint co-financing towards a single pool of money for an agreed program (e.g. Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund), or parallel co-financing where Australia implements a program or project in parallel with a separate program or project being delivered by another aid organisation or partner government to contribute to a common development result.

However, as the Australian aid program works closely with other development partners in all of our programs, in many types of partnership arrangements, our internal reporting mechanisms do not specifically distinguish those development activities which are parallel or jointly co-financed from those which are not.

Question No. 23

Senator Rhiannon asked on notice

Concerns have been raised with me that AusAID policy and practice discriminates against small NGOs (like SAWA) in relation to

- Tax deductibility (for internationally-oriented NGOs raising money for Australian 'charities')
- AusAID grant scheme (AusAID's Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) which is oriented towards large NGOs and makes it hard for small ones to participate)

1. Can you pls provide the amount and actual percentage of aid budget going to small single-country NGOs versus multinational NGOs and multilateral development banks in 2010-11?
2. How does this compare to previous years?
3. Thru your NGO Cooperation Program, what is the breakdown of funding going to small NGOs versus larger NGOs?
4. Do you acknowledge the important job of small NGOs and what measures do you have in place to open up the program?

Answer:

1. 53 small Australian NGOs (classified as having annual revenue of less than $5 million) received $13.13 million in funding in 2010-11, representing 0.3% of the aid budget. This was an increase of almost 21% from the previous year. Of these small Australian NGOs, two focus on single countries and between them received $200,000 in 2010-11. The table below provides more detailed information on funding to other Australian NGOs and multilateral development banks over the past two financial years.

Table 1.

Organisations funded by AusAID	Year					
	2009-10			2010-11		
	No. of Organisa	$ AUD	% total ODA	No. of Organisa	$ AUD	% total ODA
Multilateral Development Banks	2	$596,900,000	15.3%	2	$742,200,000	17.0%
Multinational Australian Based NGOs[1]	21	$151,539,257	3.9%	21	$198,483,762	4.6%
Medium to Large Australian Based NGOs[2]	27	$83,027,311	2.1%	27	$77,757,266	1.8%
Small Australian Based NGOs[3]	52	$10,881,037	0.3%	53	$13,126,263	0.3%

[1] Multinational Australian based NGOs are defined as Australian NGOs that are part of a global network of NGOs. These NGOs are represented in all major donor countries and work in developing countries around the world.
[2] Medium to Large Australian based NGOs are defined as Australian NGOs that receive annual community donations over $5 million and have a comprehensive international development program covering multiple countries and poverty issues. They are not part of a multinational NGO network.
[3] Small Australian based NGOs are defined as Australian NGOs with annual revenue under $5 million and focus on less than five specific countries or five development issues.

In addition, as part of the strategy to reduce poverty by building local capacity, AusAID also provides funding support directly to small, locally based NGOs in developing countries. This amounted to $51.5 million to 143 organisations in 2009-10, and $52.5 million to 119 organisations in 2010-11.

Numerous other small NGOs in developing countries are directly supported through NGO small grant schemes including the Direct Aid Program (DAP) and the Human Rights Small Grants Scheme, both administered by DFAT Posts around the world.

2. See Answer 1 and *Table 1*. above

3. Please refer to Table 2 below which provides details of funding to accredited Australian NGOs through the AusAID-NGO Cooperation Program. The size of the NGO is based on funding raised from the Australian public and used on their international development activities, which is known as 'Recognised Development Expenditure' (RDE).

Table 2.

Organisations funded by AusAID through ANCP	Year		
	2011-12		
	No. of Organisations	$ AUD	% total ANCP
Large NGO[1]	8	$62,927,784	73.4%
Medium NGO[2]	21	$18,861,021	22.0%
Small NGO[3]	13	$3,972,637	4.6%

[1] Large NGOs have RDE of over $8 million.
[2] Medium NGOs have RDE between $1 million and $8 million.
[3] Small NGOs have RDE under $1 million.

4. AusAID acknowledges the important work of small NGOs, especially in a local context, bringing diversity to our aid program responses, and fulfilling niche and specialist roles. In line with the Government's aid policy *An Effective Aid Program for Australia: Making a real difference – Delivering real results,* AusAID is developing a Civil Society Engagement Framework and opening up more opportunities for civil society organisations, Australian NGOs and small community organisations to participate in the aid program. This will be achieved through the expansion of the AusAID-NGO Cooperation Program, improving the NGO accreditation process for smaller NGOs, and through the development of a new community grants scheme.

Question No. 24

Senator Kroger asked on notice

a) What AusAID projects in the last twelve months have been climate change specific, including projects in the Independent Pacific Islands Nations?

b) Can AusAID please give a detailed account of the overall expenses associated with the climate change related initiatives outlined in response to question one?

c) Will the Department please outline how these expenditures rate against the new benchmarks set by the Hollway review, such as the new 'country strategy' processes?

d) Will the Department please confirm if 'climate change' is defined as one of the flagship sectors for country programs identified by the Hollway review?

Answer:

a) and b). The table below lists all projects and the total expenditure for the 2011-12 financial year for the aid program's four climate change specific budget measures
- the International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative;
- the International Forest Carbon Initiative;
- the Multilateral Climate Change Financing Initiative; and
- the Climate Change Bilateral Partnerships Initiative.

Activities funded in 2011-12 from climate change specific budget measures		
	Project	Expenditure in FY2011-12 Australian $ millions
Pacific island countries	The **Pacific Climate Change Science and Adaptation Planning Program (PACCSAP)** will improve Pacific Island Country scientific understanding of climate change, increase awareness of climate science, impacts and adaptation options, and support the integration of climate change adaptation into future development planning.	13.000
Pacific island countries	The **Pacific Standards and Labelling (Energy Efficiency) Assistance Program** will work with several Pacific Island countries to promote access to affordable, efficient energy for poor people.	1.000
Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Marshall Islands	The **Climate Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction and Education Project** will develop climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction plans focused on the schools sector and, based on these plans, finance small-scale improvements in schools to improve their resilience to climate change impacts and climate-related natural disasters.	1.400
Kiribati	**South Tarawa Sanitation Improvement Program**. A project to improve the health of communities on South Tarawa through rehabilitation and upgrading of existing sanitation and water supply infrastructure and sanitation services by factoring in future climate change impacts.	2.850
PNG	**Funding for NGOs** to improve the food security of climate-sensitive communities.	1.002
	PNG-Australia Forest Carbon Partnership. The partnership is supporting PNG to build the foundations and framework for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+), including REDD+ measurement, reporting and verification (MRV).	1.000
Solomon Islands	**Transport sector adaptation.** Funding the upgrading of roads and bridges in Guadalcanal that are vulnerable to extreme weather events by factoring in future climate change impacts on this infrastructure.	2.000
Tuvalu	**Drought support**. Mini solar/diesel desalination units to support Tuvalu to respond to the ongoing drought situation and improve long-term water security.	0.803
Vanuatu	**Transport sector adaptation.** Support to increase the resilience of transport infrastructure to the impacts	1.000

	of climate change.	
Nauru	**Household water tanks** in Nauru to increase water catchment and storage facilities to assist poor households during prolonged droughts.	0.500
East Timor	**Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Program** to support the Government of East Timor establish water resources monitoring and management systems including groundwater monitoring; developing standards for drilling of wells and establishing a national census of springs and wells.	0.610
	Capacity building of meteorological services to improve East Timor's scientific understanding of climate change, increase awareness of climate science, impacts and adaptation options, and support the integration of climate change adaptation into future development planning.	1.075
Vietnam	**Climate Change & Coastal Ecosystems Program.** Working with German development partners, supporting three coastal Vietnam provinces to integrate the future impacts of climate change responses into provincial development planning, including mangrove rehabilitation, alternative farming practices and livelihoods, and improved dyke construction and management.	4.800
	Climate change science research to produce community level projections of the likely impacts of climate change on weather patterns to assist future development planning.	1.000
	A climate change bilateral partnership program to identify low emissions development pathways in agricultural production and improve household energy efficiency and electricity access for poor people.	1.000
Indonesia	**Indonesia-Australia Forest Carbon Partnership.** The partnership is assisting Indonesia prepare a framework for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+), including measurement of greenhouse gas emissions from forests and implementing the REDD+ demonstration activity in Central Kalimantan.	13.800
Indonesia	**A climate change bilateral partnership** program to assist Indonesian provinces and districts to develop greenhouse gas action plans that are integrated into broader development strategies to promote growth, jobs and poverty alleviation.	2.000
Bangladesh	Contribution to Phase 2 of the **Comprehensive Disaster Management Program**, a joint UNDP-Government of Bangladesh initiative which aims to reduce Bangladesh's vulnerability to adverse natural hazards and extreme events that threaten Bangladesh's development goals.	4.000
Other Asia	Support for **lites.asia** (Lighting Information and Technical Exchange for Standards) to promote access to	0.500

	affordable and efficient lighting for poor people in Asia.	
South Africa	**Climate Change Bilateral Partnerships**. This program will support capacity building for measurement of greenhouse gas emissions and a pilot of retrofitting houses with facilities including solar water heaters, street lighting and rainwater harvesting to improve energy efficiency.	0.500

c) Consistent with all aid program activities, these climate change projects have been designed and implemented in accordance with the aid program's performance management systems.

d) *An Effective Aid Program* identifies ten key development objectives, including Objective 8 'Reducing the negative impacts of climate change and other environmental factors on poor people'.

Question No. 25

Senator Humphries asked on notice

a) How many contractors are currently employed in the department/agency?
b) How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 2 years?
c) How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 5 years?
d) How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 10 years?
e) Does the department/agency make a habit of employing contractors to fill positions on a permanent basis?

Answer:

a) At 31 January 2012 AusAID employed 90 employees on a non-ongoing contract under the PS Act 1999.
b) Eight employees have been employed on a non-ongoing contract for a period of more than 2 years.
c) Two employees have been employed on a non-ongoing contract for a period of more than 5 years.
d) There are no employees who have been employed on a non-ongoing contract for a period of more than 10 years.
e) No. AusAID limits employment of non-ongoing contractors to specific tasks or to fill staffing gaps while recruitment activity takes place.

Question No. 26

Senator Humphries asked on notice

a) What is the effect of the efficiency dividend increase from 1.5 per cent to 4 per cent on the department/agency's budget bottom line during financial years 2012/13, 13/14, 14/15?
b) What percentage of the department/agency's budget is designated to staffing?

c) What is the size of the department/agency's staffing establishment? Include figures for FTE, PT, casual, contractors, and consultants.

d) What specific strategies will the department/agency adopt to ensure continued operation within budget?

e) Will or has consideration been made to reducing staffing compliment including contractors, and consultants?

Answer:

a) Refer to page 56 of DFAT Portfolio Additional Estimate Statements 2011-12.

b) Refer to page 65 of DFAT Portfolio Additional Estimate Statements 2011-12.

c) At 31 January 2012 AusAID employed 1407 APS employees (1274.21 FTE). Of this number 90 employees were employed on a non-ongoing contract, 152 employees worked part-time hours and two employees were casual. In addition, AusAID employed 570 Overseas-based staff.

d) The efficiency dividend will be absorbed through a reduction in discretionary supplier expenses.

e) There is no plan to reduce APS staff numbers.

Question No. 27

Senator Kroger asked on notice

Does AusAID currently have a budget for social media? If so, what is this budget?

Answer:

No. AusAID is considering a social media budget for the 2012/2013 financial year as social media is becoming a useful avenue to communicate with the Australian public.

Question No. 28

Senator McEwen asked on notice

By reducing the number of advisers in PNG by an additional 70 over and above the number of advisers recommended to be phased out in the Joint Adviser Review, what will be the size of the savings to be reallocated to other programs?

Answer:

As a result of phasing out an additional 70 advisers in PNG an estimated $15.26 million will be reallocated to other programs in a joint decision making process with the PNG Government.

Question No. 29

Senator Eggleston asked on notice

Expressed an interest to see full details of AusAID's mine action program.

Answer:

Australia is a strong supporter of mine action and is currently ranked as the sixth largest mine action donor globally. In November 2009, Australia launched a five year $100 million Mine Action Strategy for the Australian Aid Program 2010-2014 (Attachment A). The Strategy will bring Australia's support for mine action to more than $275 million since signing the Mine Ban Convention in 1997.

Australia's mine action is delivered primarily through AusAID country (bilateral) aid programs and targets partner government mine action priorities and contributes to other development priorities including the Millennium Development Goals.   Our support is also channelled through multilateral, international and non-government organisations including the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Australia is well on track to deliver on its $100 million pledge to mine action. Since launching the strategy, Australia has provided $75.77 million for mine action activities across 21 countries and territories (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Georgia, Iraq, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Libya, Palau, Palestinian Territories, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda, Tajikistan and Vietnam. Details of Australia's mine action expenditure and achievements over 2009-10 and 2010-11 can be found on the AusAID website at http://www.ausaid.gov.au/publications/pubout.cfm?ID=6054_3677_5442_6832_9909 &Type=PubKAMA and http://www.ausaid.gov.au/keyaid/mineaction2010-11.cfm.

Australia's assistance is reducing the number of deaths and injuries from landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war through mine risk education and land clearance. For example, Australia's assistance has enabled the removal of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war from nearly twelve million square metres of land across Cambodia and Laos and returned this land to productive uses.

Australia's assistance is also improving the quality of life for victims of landmines, cluster munitions, and other explosive remnants of war. For example, Australia's support to the mine action work of the International Committee of the Red Cross is enabling thousands of victims to be fitted with prosthesis and other mobility aides and provided with rehabilitation services.

Australia is also helping affected countries to develop and manage their mine action programs and achieve their international mine action obligations. For example, Australia's support is assisting Guinea Bissau, Jordan and Uganda to complete the clearance of all known landmines during 2012 thereby meeting their clearance

obligations under the Mine Ban Convention and ensuring no more of their citizens will die or be injured by landmines. Australia's assistance is also supporting global efforts to universalise international mine action conventions and undertake priority research.

A mid-term review of Australia's Mine Action Strategy is underway and will report by mid-2012. In November 2011, Australia was appointed Chair of the Mine Action Support Group, the peak donor mine action group for a two year period. As Chair, Australia will work to enhance donor coordination and assistance in mine action.

Question No. 30

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

    a) How many consultancies have been undertaken in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10?

    b) How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.

    c) How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

Answer:

    a) Data on consultancies is available via AusTender and is also reported in AusAID's Annual Reports for the 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 Financial Years. Information in the report includes:
- A table in each Annual Report that provides the total number of all consultancy contracts entered into over each of the last 3 financial years, the financial limits of the new contracts awarded and the amount expensed against each financial year (Appendix G: Consultancy Services, Table 14: Summary of Consultancy Contracts)
- A concise summary of all consultancies entered into during the financial year reporting period for each of the last 3 financial years and the amount expensed for them as of 30 June of that financial year (Appendix H: Consultancy Services, Table 15 Consultancy Services let during 2010-11 of $10,000 or more).
- More information in relation to consultancies valued at $10,000 or more is available on the AusTender website (www.tenders.gov.au) through the contract notice record for each individual consultancy.

b) As an agency subject to the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997, AusAID is required to report Australian procurement contracts awarded where the contract value is $10,000 or more on AusTender, the government's procurement information system. From 3 September 2007, departments and agencies have been required to include on AusTender details of those contracts which are consultancies and the reason for the consultancy. The information sought by the honourable Senator in relation to consultancies valued at $10,000 or more will therefore be available on the AusTender website (www.tenders.gov.au) for both individual consultancies and for the total value of all consultancies entered into by AusAID.

c) The Annual Procurement Plan is published by financial year. For the 2010 calendar year the planned consultancies were published in the 2010-11 and 2011-12 Annual Procurement Plans. These are available through the AusTender website at www.tenders.gov.au .

Question No. 31

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

(a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

(b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

(c) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

(d) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

<u>Answer</u>

Under the Legal Services Directions, each portfolio department and agency is required to report on its legal services expenditure. However, there is no requirement to report on each service and the cost of each service.

To require AusAID to review each service and its cost for the Financial Year to Date would involve an unreasonable diversion of government resources, having regard to the extent of the legal services expenditure.

(a) AusAID's total legal services expenditure for this financial year to date was $790,769.64 (inc GST). This amount comprises $298,980.24 for in-house legal services and $491,789.40 for external legal services as detailed below.

(b) AusAID's total expenditure on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor for this financial year to date was $323,214.53 (inc. GST).

(c) AusAid's total expenditure on legal services from private firms for this financial year to date was $168,574.87 (inc. GST). The names of these firms and costs are as follows:

Blake Dawson	$ 28,618.92
Clayton Utz	$ 34,844.60
Sol-Law	$ 28,196.41
Norton Rose	$ 16,791.50
Minter Ellison	$ 60,123.44
	$ 168,574.87

(d) Nil -

Question No. 32

Senator Eggleston asked in writing:

a) How will the efficiency dividend applied in the 2011-12 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook be implemented in your agency/department?
b) What percentage of your budget must be cut?
c) Will any staff position be cut to meet the efficiency divided? If yes, provide details of where the positions are locate, the classification, whether the position is ongoing or not.
d) Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.

Answer:

a) The efficiency dividend will be absorbed through a reduction in discretionary supplier expenses.
b) The efficiency dividend is 2.5% of departmental appropriation.
c) No.
d) The efficiency dividend does not impact current year.

Question No. 33

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a) What was the total cost of all advertising for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11?

b) For each of those years, list whether the advertising is campaign or non-campaign and details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.

c) Did the Department of Finance and Deregulation provide any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.

d) Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Provide the details for each advertising item.

e) Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.

f) What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?

Answer:

a) The information is available in the AusAID Annual Report for each of those years.

b) For each of those years, all advertising was non-campaign.

c) Not applicable.

d) Not applicable.

e) All communication activities are undertaken in-house or in partnership with NGOs or multilateral agencies. Editing, designing, printing and multimedia expertise is contracted as necessary from the Department of Human Services panel.

f) The only advertising planned is for recruitment, tenders and public notices as required. Communication programs will continue with community forums and outreach activities, publications and video production for broadcast and web.

Question No. 34

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and useage of YouTube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since publication of the Australian Public Service Commission's Circular 2012/1: Revisions to the Commission's guidance on making public comment and participating online? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue. If no, please explain why not.

Answer:

Yes. AusAID's Social Media Guidelines were updated in March 2012 to include the APSC's new advice (please see Attachment A).

Question No. 35

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a). In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:

   i.   Total spending on these services
   ii.   The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
   iii.   The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted
   iv.   The names of all service providers engaged.

b). For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:

   i.   The name and nature of the service purchased
   ii.   Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
   iii.   The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
   iv.   The total number of hours involved for all employees
   v.   The total amount spent on the service
   vi.   A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)

c). Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises please provide:

   i.   The location used
   ii.   The number of employees who took part on each occasion
   iii.   The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part
   iv.   Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location

Answer:

a)
   i. $3,200 plus GST
   ii.   Five SES staff members were offered the training
   iii.   Three SES staff members have participated in the training. No study leave was granted.
   iv.   Kirsty McIvor and Associates has been the sole service provider.

b).
   i.   Media training. Equipping senior executives, especially those about to embark on postings senior overseas representatives for AusAID, with the skills to conduct professional media interviews.
   ii.   Group based
   iii.   Three SES staff members received the training.
   iv.   Five hours

v. $3200 plus GST
vi. This was for a complete training package.

c).
i. AusAID offices, 255 London Circuit, Canberra
ii. On a single occasion, three staff members took part
iii. Five
iv. Nil

Question No. 36

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for.
b. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for.
c. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for designed to better suit the needs of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for, and how many employees attended and their classification.

Answer:

a) b) & c) The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade manages and funds the portfolio Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries' training requirements.

Question No. 37

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a. What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this financial year to date?
b. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel?
c. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses.
d. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?

Answer:

a) Information on Ministers' domestic travel costs is available from the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD).

b) Information on Ministerial Staff domestic travel, including costs, is available from DoFD.

c) None.

d) There was no additional cost to the Agency arising from Community Cabinet meetings in 2011-12. Information on the cost to Ministers' offices for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2011-12 is available from DoFD.

Question No. 38

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a) Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?

b) What was the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for 2009-10 and 2010-11?

c) What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?

d) How many FOI requests did the Department receive for the financial year 2009-10 and 2010-11? For each financial year, how many requests were denied and how many were granted? Did the department fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?

e) How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?

Answer:

a) Yes, The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, established under the Australian Information Commissioner Act 2010, provides advice to all agencies governed by the Freedom of Information Act, with respect to responding to FOI requests. This advice is captured primarily in the form of guidelines and other guidance available at www.oaic.gov.au/publications/guidelines.html#foi_guidelines.
AusAID also receives legal advice from time to time from the Australian Government Solicitor, on specific FOI matters.

b) In 2009-10, AusAID spent approximately $26,000 processing FOI requests.
In 2010-11, AusAID spent approximately $108,000 processing FOI requests.

c) For this financial year to date, AusAID has spent approximately $42,000 processing FOI requests.

d) For the financial year 2009-10, AusAID received four FOI applications. Of these, one application was granted in full, one application was granted in part, one application was transferred to another department and one application was refused.

For the financial year 2010-11, AusAID received 21 FOI applications. Of these 21 FOI applications, three applications were granted in full, eleven applications were partially granted and seven applications were withdrawn. Of the seven applications that were withdrawn, five were withdrawn because an agreement on release was reached outside the FOI Act. None were denied in full. The deadline was exceeded in one case. No requests remain outstanding.

e) For the financial year to date, AusAID has received 12 FOI applications. Of these 12 FOI requests, two applications were granted in full, one application was partially granted, one application was transferred to another department, five requests were withdrawn and three requests are pending resolution. Of the five requests that were withdrawn, two were withdrawn because an agreement on release was reached outside the FOI Act. The deadline has been met in all cases.

Question No. 39

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) this financial year to date?

Answer:

AusAID has not incurred any costs in regard to stationery requirements for the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary this financial year to date.

Question No. 40

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a) List all of the boards within this portfolio, including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.
b) What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?
c) Please detail any board appointments for this financial year to date.

Answer:

AusAID does not have any boards.

Question No. 41

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

1. How many Reviews are being undertaken?
2. What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded?
3. Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
4. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
5. What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
6. What reviews are planned?
7. When will each of these reviews be concluded?

Answer:

1. to 5.   An update to AusAID's answer to question 92, from Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing October 2011, is provided in this table.

Reviews	Completion Date (Q29.2)	Provided to Government (Q29.3)	Government Response (Q29.4)	Cost (Q29.5)
1. Australian Multilateral Assessment	Dec 2011	Dec 2011	n/a	$402,006
2. African Development Bank Assessment	Sept 2011	Apr 2012*	n/a	$67,825

*To be provided to Government as part of the formal 2012-13 Budget process

6. and 7.   There are no further reviews planned for 2011-12.

Question No. 42

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

1. How many reports were commissioned by the government in your portfolio in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11?
2. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
3. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
4. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answer:

1. Please refer to:

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee, Additional Estimates 2009-10, Answers to questions on notice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the answer to Question No. 24.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee, Budget Supplementary Estimates 2010-11, Answers to questions on notice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the answer to Question No. 29.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee, Budget Estimates 2011-12, Answers to questions on notice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the answer to Question No. 83.

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee, Budget Supplementary Estimates 2011-12, Answers to questions on notice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the answers to Questions No. 156 and 157.

2-4. To date, for 2011-12, no reports have been commissioned by the Government in relation to AusAID.

Question No. 43

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

For this financial year to date, detail all education[1] expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant. Also include the reason for the study.

Answer:

As at 14 March 2012, this financial year the agency has expended $173,197 on education with 83 AusAID staff participating in AusAID's study support scheme. The average cost per participant is $2,086.71. The courses studied by participants include: development studies; international relations; international law; strategic studies; development economics; public policy; Asia Pacific studies; and environmental management. The average amount of study leave granted per participant is 46.35 hours.

The subject areas are in line with AusAID's workforce plan and ensure the agency has relevant and recent technical knowledge to deliver the Government's aid program.

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[1] As previously agreed with DFAT 'education' is defined as study leading to or receiving an award.

Question No. 44

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

1. How many ongoing staff recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
2. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
3. This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

Answer:

1. AusAID has recruited 291 ongoing staff in the current financial year to 29 February 2012. These employees are classified as follows:

Classification	Number
Graduates	39
APS3	2
APS4	17
APS5	49
APS6	82
EL1	72
EL2	24
SES1	5
SES2	1
SES3	0
Total permanent staff recruited	**291**

2. One hundred and seventy-five non-ongoing positions have been created in the current financial year to 29 February 2012. These employees are classified as follows:

Classification	Number
APS4	11
APS5	30
APS6	47
EL1	70
EL2	17
Total non-ongoing positions	175

3. In this period AusAID recruited 121 temporary employees. The average employment contract length is 6.6 months.

Question No. 45

Senator Eggleston asked on notice

a) How many ongoing staff left in the year 2010-11? What classification were these staff?
b) How many non-ongoing staff left in the year 2010-11? What classification were these staff?

Answer:

a) In the year 2010-11, 108 ongoing staff left AusAID. These employees were classified as follows:

Classification	Number
Graduate	2
APS3	3
APS4	10
APS5	18
APS6	33
EL1	28
EL2	8
SES1	5
SES2	1
Total ongoing staff ceased 2010-11	**108**

b) In the year 2010-11, 43 non-ongoing staff left AusAID. These employees were classified as follows:

Classification	Number
APS1	3
APS2	1
APS3	6
APS4	8
APS5	9
APS6	8
EL1	7
EL2	1
Total non-ongoing staff ceased 2010-11	**43**

Question No. 46

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.

Answer:

There are no plans for staff reduction.

Question No. 47

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

Please list the SES positions you have in your department/agency in the years 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011 and financial year to date. Identify the different levels and how many are permanent positions.

Answer:

- AusAID's SES cohort has grown to accommodate AusAID's growth arising from the expanding aid program. The growth in SES numbers saw the majority of these roles based in Canberra.

- SES numbers over the past four financial years are classified as follows:

Financial year	SES B1	SES B2	SES B3	Perm	Temp	Total
2007 - 2008	25	7	1	32	1	**33**
2008 - 2009	32	7	1	34	6	**40**
2009 - 2010	47	11	1	53	6	**59**
2010 - 2011	47	10	2	56	3	**59**
As at 29.02.12	50	10	2	58	4	**62**

- As at 29 February 2012 AusAID has 62 SES employees. Of the 62 SES employee's 58 are permanent SES officers.

Question No. 48

Senator Eggleston asked on notice

a) How many graduates have been engaged this year? Where have they been placed in the department/agency? Were these empty positions or are they new positions?
b) List what training will be provided, the name of the provider and the cost.

Answer:

a) In 2012, 40 graduates were employed at AusAID, 15 of these were new positions. For their first rotation graduates have been placed in the following divisions:

Division	Number
Africa and Community Programs	4
Corporate Enabling Division	2
East Asia Division	1
Economics Advisory Group	2
Government Finance & Information Services	4
Humanitarian Division	1
International Programs and Partnerships	8
Pacific Division	4
Policy and Sectoral Division	10
South and West Asia Division	4

b) The following training has been provided to graduates in 2012:

Training	Provider	Cost
Cultural Awareness Training	Beasley Intercultural	$ 9,364.04
Introduction to Aid Policy	Australian National Institute for Public Policy	$ 55,000.00
Becoming Better Writers	Francesca M Beddie & Associates	$ 3,425.04
Theory of Change	Clear Horizons	$ 5,228.10
APSC Series of Events	Australian Public Service Commission	$ 15,960.00
Partnerships Training	International Business Leaders Forum	$ 15,000.00
National Security Development Overview	National Security College	$ 0
New Starters Induction Program	In-house by AusAID Staff	$ 0
Productive Relationships in the Workplace.	In-house by AusAID Staff	$ 0
Team Building Activities	In-house by AusAID Staff	$ 0
Safe Guards & Crosscutting Issues	In-house by AusAID Staff	$ 0
Individual Performance Program Training	In-house by AusAID Staff	$ 0
Aid Works	In-house by AusAID Staff	$ 0
Introduction to Aid Management Cycle	In-house by AusAID Staff	$ 0
Financial Management Training	In-house by AusAID Staff	$ 0
Humanitarian Action Workshop	In-house by AusAID Staff	$ 0
Risk Management Training	In-house by AusAID Staff	$ 0
Fraud Management	In-house by AusAID Staff	$ 0

Question No. 49

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a) In relation to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each portfolio department and agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:

> i. Total spending on these services
> ii. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
> iii. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted
> iv. The names of all service providers engaged

b) For each service purchased from a provider listed under (iv), please provide:
> i. The name and nature of the service purchased
> ii. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
> iii. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
> iv. The total number of hours involved for all employees
> v. The total amount spent on the service
> vi. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)

c) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
> i. The location used
> ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion
> iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part
> iv. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location

<u>Answer:</u>

a)   i. This financial year to 29 February 2012 the agency has expended $129,364.28 on executive coaching and $941,391.69 on leadership training programs.

ii. This financial year to 29 February 2012 a total of 848 employees have been offered these services including: all SES band levels; Executive Level 2; Executive Level 1; and development specialists posted overseas at the Executive Level 1 and APS 6 level or equivalent.

iii. This financial year to 29 February 2012 a total of 306 employees used these services including: all SES band levels; Executive Level 2; Executive Level 1; and development specialists posted overseas at the Executive Level 1 and APS 6 level or equivalent. No study leave was granted to employees who used these services.

iv. Providers engaged for leadership development services for this financial year to 29 February include: the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC); the Australian Graduate School of Management (AGSM); the National Security College (NSC); the St James Ethics Centre (SJEC); the Australia and New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG); and the Centre for Public Management (CPM).

Providers of executive coaching services were: Amanda Horne Pty Ltd; Foresight Management; Interaction Consulting Group; Geoff Garrett and Associates Pty Ltd; Yellow Edge; Emergence International Pty Ltd; Dragonfly Consulting and Coaching; Sue Adams Coaching and Facilitation Services; Centre for Public Management Pty Ltd; Workforce Strategies; The Winding Staircase Pty Ltd; Alan Morris; and PEP Worldwide Pty Ltd.

b)   i. Executive coaching services provided as per Question 49 a) iv, are tailored to individual employee development needs and use coaching and mentoring techniques to improve work performance.

Leadership development services provided as per Question 49 a) iv, include: Strategic Change Leadership (AGSM); SES leadership (APSC); National Security Senior Executive Development (NSC); Leading Australia's Future in the Asia-Pacific (APSC); Decision Making in a Political Context (St James Ethics Centre); Executive Master of Public Administration (ANZSOG); Executive level learning (APSC); Career Development Assessment Centre (APSC); and Building Leadership (CPM).

ii. Executive coaching services are provided on a one-on-one basis. All leadership programs are group based.

iii. This financial year to 29 February 2012 a total of 306 employees received executive coaching and leadership training including: all SES band levels; Executive Level 2; Executive Level 1; and development specialists posted overseas at the Executive Level 1 and APS 6 level or equivalent.

iv. This financial year to 29 February 2012 executive coaching and leadership training has totalled approximately 5,867 hours for all employees.

v. This financial year to 29 February 2012 the Agency has expended $1,070,756 on executive coaching and leadership training programs.

vi. Executive coaching services are charged on a per hour basis. Fees for leadership programs are charged on a complete package basis.

c)   i. Training locations that have been used externally include: the Australian Public Service Commission locations in the ACT and NSW; National Security College in the ACT; The Carrington Inn in Bungendore, NSW; The Lobby, University House and Cliftons Canberra in the ACT; Monash University in Melbourne (EMPA); and The Novotel in Bogor, Indonesia (note: the leadership training in Bogor was delivered only to staff based in Indonesia).

ii. A total of 269 employees were trained at external locations.

iii. Training provided at external locations totalled approximately 5,501 hours for all employees.

iv. The total cost to deliver training at external locations is included in the complete package. The agency does not incur additional costs.

Question No. 50

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a) Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave Scheme?

b) For this financial year to date list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments.

Answer:

a) As per the Government's Paid Parental Leave guidelines all AusAID employees who
   - are Australian Residents;
   - are the primary carer of a newborn child or recently adopted child;
   - meet the Paid Parental Leave scheme work test before the birth or adoption occurs;
   - are on leave or not working from the time they become the child's primary carer until the end of their Paid Parental Leave period
   are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave Scheme.

b) AusAID provides its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme. Fourteen employees are in receipt of this payment for this financial year to date.

Question No. 51

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a) Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to who it is provided.

b) What equipment is provided to department/agency staff? Please list what the equipment is, the cost, the classification of the staff receiving the equipment and the reason why.

Answer:

a) No

b)

Equipment type	Cost	Classification of staff	Reason why
PCs, monitors & terminals	$3,937,307	Staff at all levels in APS	To conduct AusAID business
Phones and portable devices	$1,024,989	Staff at EL2 level and above	To conduct AusAID business
Printers	$238,241	Staff at all levels in APS	To conduct AusAID business
TOTAL	**$5,200,537**		

Question No. 52

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11?
b) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department agency for 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11?
c) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for this financial year to date?
   i. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
   ii. What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for 2011-12?
   iii. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?
d) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date?
   i. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
   ii. What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for 2011-12?
   iii. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?

Answer:

a) Nil (all years)
b) The total cost of agency media monitoring services is as follows
   • 2007-08 was $136,126.33
   • 2008-09 was $159,399.37
   • 2009-10 was $299,927.90
   • 2010-11 was $249,671.59
c) Nil
   i. Not applicable
   ii. Not applicable
   iii. Not applicable

d) The total cost of media monitoring this FY as at 15 March is $104,503.60.
    i.   Media Monitors
    ii. $225,000
    iii.   See answer at d.

Question No. 53

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a) What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

b) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

c) What is the Department's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

d) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

e) What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

f) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

g) What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

h) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

Answer:

a-h) AusAID spent $130,643 to date for the financial year to 29 February 2012 on hospitality, entertainment and overseas representation events. Details of hospitality, entertainment and overseas representation events costing over $1,000 are provided at Attachment A.

Hospitality and entertainment expenditure by the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary offices are not funded by AusAID.

It is not possible to provide an accurate total or breakdown by date, location, purpose and cost, for planned hospitality, entertainment or overseas representation events.

Question No. 54

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

Answer:

AusAID payments are considered to be Official Development Assistance and do not fall within the definition of grants under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act*.

Question No. 55

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

- Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details.

- Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details.

- Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details.

- Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details.

- Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details.

- Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details.

- Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

AusAID has not employed any of the firms listed.

Question No. 56

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.

Answer:

AusAID payments are considered to be Official Development Assistance and do not fall within the definition of grants under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act.*

Question No. 57

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

For this financial year to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days?) If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.
   (a) For accounts not paid within 30 days, was interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
   (b) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer:
a) AusAID has paid 93.67 per cent of its accounts within 30 days for the period ended February 2012 this financial year. A breakdown of payment timeframes is provided below:

	Paid within 30 days	Paid between 31-44 days	Paid within 45-60 days	Paid greater than 60 days
% of invoices by number	93.67	3.46	1.42	1.45
% of invoices by value	97.05	2.02	.54	.39

b) No interest payments have been made during the current financial year.

Question No. 58

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)?
•If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
•What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?
•What is the cost for this financial year to date?

b) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers?
•If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
•What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?
•What is the cost for this financial year to date?

c) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines?
•If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
•What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?
•What is the cost for this financial year to date?

Answer:

a) Yes.

- News channel package required by the business for current affairs, media monitoring and keeping informed of international issues relevant to AusAID's operations. The subscribed channels are:
  - BBC
  - Bloomberg
  - CNBC
  - CNN
  - Sky News
  - APAC
- The estimated cost for 2011-12 is $22,000
- The cost for the financial year to date is $13,797.47

b) Yes.
- Newspapers are required for the purpose of providing senior managers in Australia and overseas up to date information and advice on current affairs and international issues that impact on the delivery of the aid program. The newspapers provided on a daily basis are as follows:

  - Canberra Times
  - Daily Telegraph
  - Sydney Morning Herald

- − Financial Review
- − The Age
- − The Australian

- The estimated cost for 2011-12 is $45,000
- Cost for the financial year to date is $28,897.00

c) Yes, AusAID subscribes to magazines.

- Magazine subscriptions are required for the purpose of providing senior managers in Australia and overseas up to date information and advice on current affairs and international issues that impact on the delivery of the aid program. The magazines provided are:

  - − New Scientist
  - − Guardian Weekly
  - − The Economist
  - − Time Magazine
  - − Business Review Weekly

a) The estimated cost for 2011-12 is $29,000
b) Cost for financial year to date is $18,502.30

Question No. 59

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a) For the financial year to date, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.

b) For the financial year to date, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.

c) For the financial year to date, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

d) Are employees taking the most direct route when travelling? If not, please explain why.

e) Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the cost per employee.

f) When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as their Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.

Answer:

c) The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) administers the Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretary travel arrangements.

d) For details on departmental officers who accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on travel please see attachments A and B respectively. Note that there were no costs incurred for department officers for security or gifts. AusAID does not itemise separately the amounts spend on food, beverages and incidentals for each departmental officer for each visit.

e) From 01 Jul 2011 to 29 Feb 2012, AusAID spent $7,335,150.09 on travel by all employees. This included $5,553,289.84 on airfares, $641,853.72 on accommodation, $83,345.69 on medical and visa costs and $1,056,660.84 on other costs including meals, incidental allowances and other costs which could not be further broken down. Employees are entitled to travel allowance which covers food, beverages and incidentals, it is therefore not possible to itemise separately the amounts spent on food, beverages and incidentals.

f) Our employees take the most direct route possible considering their destination and airline schedules.

g) Currently lounge memberships are provided to SES officers as part of their employment agreements.

AusAID currently pays for 6 x Qantas Club memberships for AusAID SES officers in total $2910.00.

Virgin Australia has provided 12 x Gold memberships to SES officers. The memberships have been at no cost to AusAID.

h) From 01 Jul 2011 – 29 Feb 2012 the cost of support staff accompanying SES officers has been $83,669.86. (This figure does not include allowances still awaiting acquittal). The support staff provide essential administrative support (such as meeting and briefing management, travel management, and media liaison) so that the SES officer can focus on their attention on the purpose of their visit.

Question No. 60

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

    a) How many cars are owned by each department and agency in your portfolio?
    b) Where is the car/s located?
    c) What is the car/s used for?
    d) What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date?
    e) How far did each car travel this financial year to date?

Answer:

a) AusAID owns 130 cars.

b) The cars are located at 30 posts. The Post and number of cars at that post is as follows:

Post	Number of Cars	Post	Number of Cars
Addis Ababa	1	Geneva	1
Manila	4	Pretoria	4
Accra	1	Harare	3
Nairobi	4	Rangoon	1
Apia	1	Hanoi	3
Nauru	18	Ramallah	1
Beijing	1	Honiara	5
New Delhi	1	Suva	4
Bangkok	1	Islamabad	3
Nuku'alofa	3	Tarawa	3
Colombo	2	Jakarta	12
Phnom Penh	4	Port Vila	3
Dhaka	3	Kabul	2
Port Moresby	28	Vientiane	3
Dili	8	Kathmandu	2

c) The cars are used for office related travel, and for access to remote areas needing 4 wheel drive or high ground clearance.

d) The cost for all cars for this financial year to 29 February 2012 is $251,728. We do not maintain records on costs by individual car.

e) We do not maintain records on the distance travelled by each car in a financial year.

Question No. 61

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

a) How much did each department/agency spend on taxis in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.

b) How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.

Answer:

a) The total spend on taxis for the above periods is:

2007-08……………………….	$255,547
2008-09……………………….	$200,570
2009-10……………………….	$206,384
2010-11………………………..	$436,828
2011-12 to end Feb 2012……..	$252,812

b) Due to organisation restructures over this period, breakdown of each business group is not possible.

Question No. 62

Senator Eggleston asked in writing

Does the department/agency print any hard copies of reports/statements/papers they produce? If yes, please list how many copies, where they are delivered and the cost.

Answer:

Since July 2011, AusAID has two published reports. Details are provided below:

Title	Print Run	Distribution	Printing cost
2010-11 Annual Report as required by legislation	1850	Parliament, media, foreign embassies and high commissions, other government departments, non-government organisations and others on request.	$20,646.60 excluding GST
An Effective Aid program for Australia: Making a real difference—Delivering real results	3500	Parliament, media, foreign embassies and high commissions, other government departments, non-government organisations, multilateral agencies, managing contractors, academic and others on request.	$14,455.35 including GST

<u>Annex A Past AusAID Supported Mining-Related Projects (2006-07 to 2010-11)</u>

Analysing Pathways to Sustainability in Indonesia
Australia provided assistance to increase understanding of 'triple bottom line' outcomes of proposed macro policy decisions by assessing economic, ecological and social consequences of alternative development pathways.

APEC Mining Sustainable Development Workshop
Australia provided assistance for the facilitation of a workshop on sustainable mining for APEC.

Assessment of Mining Sector Governance in Mozambique
Australia provided assistance to the World Bank to support the Government of Mozambique's assessment of the governance of its mining sector including support for mining contract negotiations and licensing and the preparation of a long-term capacity building plan for the mining sector.

Assistance to the PNG University of Technology Department of Mining Engineering
Australia provided assistance to assess academic, managerial and equipment capacity gaps in the UNITECH Department of Mining Engineering.

Australia-India Workshops on Resource & Energy Issues
Australia provided assistance to build the capacity of Indian officials in advanced mining and minerals exploration technologies and exploitation methods that are environmentally sustainable and demonstrated approaches to implementing policies and regulatory mechanisms which promote the usage of clean and renewable energy.

Australian Leadership Awards - Regulation and Management of Extractive Resources
Australia provided training to fellows from Cambodia, Mali, East Timor and Uganda in the regulation and management of extractive resources.

Building Capacity for Social and Environmental Impact Assessment in Sulawesi, Indonesia
Australia provided assistance to improve practices related to social and environmental impact assessment in Indonesia.

Capacity building to improve environmental health and safety practices in mining
Australia provided assistance to build the competency of mine inspectors in conservation, occupational health and safety, mining operation safety, environmental management and mining technology.

Developing capacity in environmental monitoring and management of mining operations
Australia provided assistance to develop capacity in environmental monitoring and management of mining operations.

Developing China's Capacity in Coal Mining Safety Management
Australia provided assistance for a leadership program for senior executives and provincial and sub-provincial industry bureaus. The program included Australian safe mining leadership practices. Study topics included leadership and reform, mining safety principles, legislation, training and practice, government regulation, auditing, training and practice, rescue techniques, review and action planning.

Developing management strategies for community-based ecological restoration projects
Australia provided assistance to strengthen community based activities and address land degradation.

Independent Policy Think Tank in Mongolia
Australia provided assistance to start-up and build the capacity of a mining sector policy think-tank through a grant to the World Bank.

Indonesia Geothermal Project Preparation Technical Assistance
Australia provided technical assistance to prepare pre-feasibility studies for two Asian Development Bank candidate projects, assess the environmental and social safeguards and develop project financing and procurement plans.

Indonesia's natural resource management framework study – mineral resource taxation
Australia provided assistance to assess the policy options for revenue and investment optimisation in the oil, gas and minerals sectors.

Integrating Sustainable Development into Minerals Education in the Philippines
Australia provided assistance to review university curricula, integrating sustainable development into appropriate courses.

Managing Environmental Issues within the Regulatory Framework of the Minerals Sector
Australia provided training to the Philippines' Mines and Geosciences Bureau including in curriculum development and needs analysis.

Mining cost-benefit analysis support in Mongolia
Australia provided assistance to improve the consistency of policies for protection, proper use and rehabilitation of natural resource wealth, and to increase accessible information related to natural resources.

Restoration of forests along waterways and land areas affected by mining activities
Australia provided assistance to train middle and high level officers in how to undertake a review of policies regulations and practices, producing a handbook on restoring forests along waterways and land areas affected by mining activities and establishing a test and demonstration site.

Support the Development of Frameworks for the Mitigation of Social Impacts in Mining
Australia provided support to the World Bank for the development of frameworks for the mitigation of social impacts in mining.

Supporting sustainable mining through building the capacity and expertise of university faculty

Australia provided assistance to support sustainable mining through building the capacity and expertise of university faculty in the Philippines.

Technical Assistance to Government of Mongolia - Mining - Review and Amend Minerals Law 2006

Australia provided assistance to the Government of Mongolia to undertake a review and prepare necessary amendments to the Mineral Law 2006, as requested by the Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy in Mongolia.

Annex B: Current AusAID Supported Mining-Related Projects (to 2014-15)

Australia Africa Partnerships Facility
Australian assistance is supporting capacity building for mining, agriculture and public policy requests through deployments of people, exchanges of people between Australian and African organisations, training, workshops, seminars and grant funding.

Australian Mining Awards
Australian Mining Awards enable undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships in fields such as engineering, geology, public administration, natural resource economics and environmental management.

Copiapo River Basin – Analysis Study of shortfalls in water rights, industrial usage and social requirements
Australian assistance is supporting Chile in basin analysis and water management procedures so Chile can better utilise its limited water.

Developing strategies to build capacity to support the development of improved planning standards Uruguay
Australian assistance is supporting the development of standards and procedures for the planning and monitoring of potentially environmentally or socially important aspects of mining activities.

Enhanced Capacity for the Design and Deployment of New Technology for Increased Mining Safety
Australian assistance is supporting comprehensive, sustainable and long-term solutions to the prevalent safety problems in the mining industry in Latin America, with a particular focus on Argentina.

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
Australian assistance is supporting improved resource governance through the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) - a coalition of governments, companies and civil society groups that support improved governance and transparency in resource-rich countries through the verification and publication of company payments and government revenues from the oil, gas and mining sectors.

GIS for Resource Professionals
Australian assistance is training officials from Ghana and Malawi in implementing and managing spatial data.

Governance Partnership Facility
Australian assistance is supporting the World Bank's Governance Partnership Facility for the implementation of governance and anti-corruption projects targeted in the extractive industries and natural resource management sector.

Ground Water Management – Mongolia
Australian assistance is strengthening local authorities to manage ground water resources in the Southern Gobi Region.

Human rights protection in the context of natural resource exploitation in Burma
Australian assistance is supporting an engagement program with business, mine-affected communities and government.

Implementing the Papua New Guinea Liquid Natural Gas Joint Understanding
Australian assistance is supporting the Papua New Guinea Government in establishing sovereign wealth funds to manage the revenue flowing from PNG LNG, assistance to address urgent capacity constraints, and economic modelling of the potential impacts of PNG LNG.

International Mining for Development Centre
Australian assistance is providing practical advisory and education services to developing country governments. Over the next 4 years, approximately 1,870 people from developing countries will undertake training in Australia or in country among other services.

International Monetary Fund Topical Trust Fund on Managing Natural Resource Wealth
Australian assistance is supporting the IMF to deliver technical assistance to improve economic management in developing countries rich in oil, gas and minerals; 51 developing countries with large current or prospective oil, gas and mineral sectors are eligible for assistance.

Joint research on the effects of mining and land use agreements on women
Australian assistance is researching the extent to which land use agreement with traditional owners and communities facilitate sustainable development outcomes for women and their households from natural resource development.

Laos Hydropower & Mining Technical Assistance
Australian assistance is supporting the Government of Laos oversight of the hydropower and mining sectors in the use of standardised and transparent concession agreements and licensing, which incorporate environmental and social issues, and stipulate financial and legal responsibilities of parties.

Leading Practice Sustainable Development in Mining – Life of Mine Capacity Building Workshops
Australian assistance is supporting improved governance and technical management of resources sectors in Mexico and Peru.

Media, Mining and Communities: a program for Mongolian journalists
Australian assistance is training Mongolian journalists in Australian professional practice in mining and journalism so that they can produce more informed reporting and analysis for their news organisations and constituents.

Maternal and Child Health in Africa				
Geographic Focus	**Major programs/projects and total cost**	**Development partner(s)**	**Planned AusAID 2011-12 expenditure**	**Key result(s) sought**
Ethiopia	• Government of Ethiopia Health Sector ($45 m 2011/12 – 2014/15) • Hamlin Fistula Hospital ($5.5 m 2010-15)	Ethiopian Government, Hamlin Fistula Australia	$8.59 million	• Improved maternal mortality rates and child health through strengthened health system and training of midwives. • Prevention of fistula through increasing trained midwives and free treatment for obstetric fistula patients.
Tanzania	• African Medical Research Foundation (AMREF): Women's and child health care ($1 million 2011-13) • Global Health Alliance of Western Australia (GHAWA): midwifery teaching ($1 m 2011-13)	AMREF, GHAWA	$0.92 million	• African Medical Research Foundation (AMREF) is expanding access to family planning services and improved integrated child health management. • Midwifery students provided with practical skills through training at two Tanzanian institutions.
Uganda	• AMREF: Women's and child health care ($1 million 2011-13) • Uganda Fund: child future project ($1.5 million 2009-12).	AMREF, Uganda Fund	$0.92 million	• Expanding access to family planning services and improved integrated child health management. • Provide children and youth with greater access to education and training, better economic outlooks and improved prospects for sustained peace.
South Sudan	• Multi-donor Pooled Fund (Planned) • UNFPA: volunteer midwives ($2 million 2010-12)	Multiple donors, UNFPA	$6 million	• Provision of urgent health services throughout South Sudan. • To support the placement of volunteer midwives and provide midwifery training in South Sudan.
Regional	• Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa	African Union, USAID	$3.36 million	• Dissemination of information on best practice interventions to reduce maternal mortality in African countries.
Total $19.79 million				

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene				
Geographic Focus	**Major programs/projects and total cost**	**Development partner(s)**	**Planned AusAID 2011-12 expenditure**	**Key result(s) sought**
Mozambique	• Water Services and Institutional Support project. • Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene in Nampula Province. • Sustaining and scaling pro-poor urban water and sanitation services in Maputo. • Total funding $27.9 million	World Bank, UNICEF, Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP), Mozambique Government	$8.6 million	• To provide safe water by 2014 to more than 160,000 people. • To provide approximately 100,000 people by 2014 with access to improved sanitation. • To pilot new institutional arrangements for managing water supply and sanitation assets in small towns.
Malawi	• National Water Development Program • USD14 million	Government of Malawi, African Development Bank (AfDB)	$1.9 million	• To provide safe water by 2013 to approximately 78,000 people, with improved sanitation services expected to benefit around 93,000.
Zambia	• Water Sector Reform Program • Total funding $4 million	GIZ (German aid agency), Zambia Government	$0 million (activities are ongoing following disbursement of $4 million in 2010-11)	• To provide safe water by 2013 to approximately 40,000 people
Zimbabwe	• UNICEF's Emergency Rehabilitation and Risk Reduction (ER&RR) program. • Collaboration with Germany in water and sanitation in Zimbabwe. • Total funding, including planned expenditure, is $34.9 million.	UNICEF, GIZ	$15.5 million	• ER&RR: Help rehabilitate water and sanitation systems and promote hygiene in seven Zimbabwean towns, building on early support for water treatment chemicals in 20 Zimbabwean towns. Program benefits around 550,000 people. • GIZ collaboration: Help improve water and sanitation services in selected Zimbabwean towns and regional growth centres.
Regional	• Africa Water Facility • GIZ Transboundary Water Management in SADC Program • World Bank Africa Regional Water and Sanitation Program (WSP)	AfDB,GIZ, World Bank	$7 million	• Promotes sector reform to help African governments more effectively manage water supply and sanitation service delivery and to leverage additional investments for the water and sanitation sector. Improve the capacity of regional, national and local organisations and government bodies to more effectively develop and govern their transboundary water resources.
Total $33 million				

Food Security				
Geographic Focus	**Major programs/projects and total cost**	**Development partner(s)**	**Planned AusAID 2011-12 expenditure**	**Key result(s) sought**
Regional East Africa Regional West Africa	• CSIRO Partnerships with BecA and CORAF/WECARD	CSIRO, BecA (Biosciences east and central Africa) CORAF/WECARD (West and Central Africa Council for Agricultural Research and Development)	$10.1 million	The BecA-CSIRO partnership aims to develop new technologies in food and agriculture. It also provides fellowships and training opportunities across the region and will facilitate partnerships with Australian research institutes The CORAF/WECARD-CSIRO partnership aims to build capacity in West Africa to undertake quality research to increase profitability and food availability. It also aims to build capacity for research which tackles current new challenges posed by climate change.
Kenya	• The Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP)	DFID (through delegated cooperation)	$8 million	HSNP is a long term social protection program which aims to reduce extreme poverty, vulnerability and hunger by delivering regular, guaranteed cash transfers to chronically food insecure people in the districts northern Kenya.
Regional West Africa	• Australia-France Agreement for scientific cooperation for food security and climate change.	CSIRO; Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherché Agronomique pour le Développement; Agence Francaise de Développement	$3 million	Support joint research initiatives between CSIRO scientists engaged in the CORAF/WECARD partnership and their counterparts in the French international agricultural research agency CIRAD.
Regional	• African Enterprise Challenge Fund (AECF) 'Research into Business' funding window	A Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and AECF	$1 million	Provides grants and interest free loans to businesses for innovative, commercial viable, high impact agricultural technology projects in Africa.
Ethiopia	• Ethiopian expansion of the ACIAR led SIMLESA program.	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)	$2.4 million	AusAID is funding ACIAR to expand its existing Sustainable Intensification of Maize – Legume cropping systems for food security in East and West Africa (SIMLESA) program in Ethiopia. The program in Ethiopia is targeting a 30 per cent increase in maize and legume productivity in small holder farms.
Total: $24.5 million				

The Australia-Africa Partnerships Facility				
Geographic Focus	**Major programs/projects and total cost**	**Development partner(s)**	**Planned AusAID 2011-12 expenditure**	**Key result(s) sought**
51 African countries were supported through the AAPF in 2010-11.	• The AAPF is open to activities throughout Africa, and works with the public and private sectors and civil society. The AAPF's primary tools for implementing activities are: training and study tours; professional development assignments; applied research; short-term advisory support; and grant support for implementing capacity development projects. AAPF normally supports activities of up to two years duration with a maximum allocation of AUD 1 million per activity.	African Governments, Australian Federal and State Departments (including DFAT, ACIAR, CSIRO, AGWEST, etc), Managing Contractor (Cardno), Australian academic and private sectors	$35 Million	The Australia-Africa Partnerships Facility (AAPF) is designed to respond to development priorities of and requests from African governments, particularly where these align with areas where Australia has relevant experience or expertise. The AAPF will continue to retain the flexibility to respond to diverse high-level requests and undertakings, but will increasingly focus on mining and agriculture, two areas of consistent and growing demand for assistance.
Total $35 million				

Australia Awards				
Geographic Focus	**Planned AusAID 2011-12 expenditure**	**Development partner(s)**	**Planned AusAID 2011-12 expenditure**	**Key result(s) sought**
In 2012, a minimum of 750 Australia Awards will be delivered to up to 49 countries in Africa.	Long Term Awards Short Term Awards ($55 million)	Long Term Awards Short Term Awards	$55 million	In 2010, the Australian Government announced funding of $346.9 million over four years to provide up to 1,000 annual Australia Awards (scholarships) in Africa by 2012–13. Building human resource capacity through education and training is central to achieving all MDGs and to Africa's long-term development.
Total $55 million				

Zimbabwe			
Major programs/projects and total cost	**Development partner(s)**	**Planned AusAID 2011-12 expenditure**	**Key result(s) sought**
• Protracted Relief Programme – food security/agricultural assistance. • Total funding is $25 million.	DFID	$8 million	Australia expects to provide approximately $41 million in aid to Zimbabwe in 2011-12. Australia has been at the forefront of assistance for early recovery and reform efforts, focusing on support for the Inclusive Government's restoration of basic services and on engagement with reform-minded Ministries. Water and sanitation and food security are Australia's priority sectors for aid in Zimbabwe, while some support is also provided for economic governance and public policy. Australia's water and sanitation support has been vital to containing cholera in Zimbabwe, following the devastating outbreak that killed more than 4,200 people in 2008-09. Australia's food security support is improving access to adequate food for Zimbabweans, including by facilitating a private sector-led revival of agricultural markets. Australia's support has helped reduce the number of Zimbabweans needing food aid from almost seven million in early 2009 to just over one million in 2012. Australia's support to the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority is helping to improve Zimbabwe's domestic taxation administration. Through the Zimbabwe Multi Donor Trust Fund, Australia is supporting the priority recovery activities of the Inclusive Government, with an initial focus on infrastructure investments in water and sanitation, and energy. Australia's aid to Zimbabwe aims to promote early recovery and economic growth.
• Zimbabwe Revenue Assistance Program.	Zimbabwe Revenue Authority	$2 million	
• Emergency Rehabilitation and Risk Reduction program – water and sanitation assistance. • Total funding is $25.9 million.	UNICEF	$6.5 million	
• African Enterprise Challenge Fund (AECF) Zimbabwe Window – food security/agricultural. • Total funding, including planned expenditure, is $22.1 million	Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund (AECF)	$6 million	
• Collaboration in water and sanitation with Germany. • Total funding, including planned expenditure, is $9 million.	GIZ	$9 million	
• Zimbabwe Multi Donor Trust Fund (round 2). • Total funding, including planned expenditure, is $17 million.	African Development Bank	$7 million	
• Support for civil society in Zimbabwe	Various NGOs	$3 million	
Total $41.5 million			

* Programs/projects are indicative only and are subject to change

Funding for Non-Government Organisations in Africa				
Key country strategy sectors	Major programs/projects and total cost	Development partner(s)	Planned AusAID 2011-12 expenditure	Key result(s) sought
Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe	• Africa Community Engagement Scheme (AACES) 2011–2016 $90 million	10 Australian NGOs and their African partners	$14.8 million	AACES has three objectives: Marginalised people have sustainable access to the services they require AusAID policies and programs in Africa are strengthened particularly in their ability to target and serve the needs of marginalised people The Australian public is more informed about development issues in Africa
All countries	• Australia Africa Community Grants Scheme (AACGS) 2010-2013 $15 million	African NGOs	$3.5 million	To support community-based activities implemented by local community organisations that promote sustainable economic and social development.
All countries	• AusAID NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) 2011-2012 $11.8 million	Australian NGOs	$11.9 million	Australian NGOs accredited to receive Government funding through the AusAID-NGO Cooperation Program may also choose to direct Government co-funding to their programs in Africa, in accordance with the guidelines for that program. In 2010-11 21 Australian NGOs directed $12,411,852.00 of their ANCP funding to 22 countries in Africa.
Total $30.2 million				

Africa Humanitarian Program				
Geographic Focus	**Major programs/projects**	**Development partner(s)**	**Planned AusAID 2011-12 expenditure**	**Key result(s) sought**
Central African Republic	• Agriculture and food security	FAO	$1 million	Improve food security, household income, and food security monitoring system
Cote D'Ivoire	• School Rehabilitation Project	UNICEF	$.5 million	Assist in providing quality education to children attending schools in crisis-affected areas
Ethiopia	• Horn of Africa humanitarian response including Dollar for Dollar Initiative	WFP, NGOs	$14.2 million*	Provide humanitarian assistance in response to the Horn of Africa drought and famine
Kenya	• Horn of Africa humanitarian response including Dollar for Dollar Initiative	WFP, NGOs	$17.7 million*	Provide humanitarian assistance in response to the Horn of Africa drought and famine
Libya	Humanitarian response to the Libya Crisis: • $4.6 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) • $2 million to the WHO • $1.5 million to International Medical Corps (IMC) • $1 million to the Libya Recovery Trust Fund administered by the UNDP. • $2 million for United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)	ICRC, WHO,IMC, UNDP, UNMAS	$11.1million	• Provide urgent medical care for the wounded and distribute humanitarian supplies inside Libya and the border camps. Also provide food and water in Tripoli and help remove explosive ordnance and unexploded devices from civilian areas so people can return home safely. • Provide urgently needed vaccines, medicines and medical supplies to hospitals and clinics in Misrata and Benghazi. Support for mental health activities in past-conflict environment. • Provision of medical assistance for injured evacuees on board IOM evacuation ships and in Benghazi, the provision of front line clinics, 4WD ambulances in remote and conflict affected areas. • Support the election process and democratic transition. • Support mine action activities in Libya, including mapping, marking, clearing and mine risk education, through AusAID's Global Mine Action Program
Mozambique	• Mine Action	UNDP	$1.6 million	• Support mine action, including mine clearance
Somalia	• Horn of Africa humanitarian response expensed in 2011-12, including Dollar for Dollar Initiative $52.2m* • Maternal and Child Health $5m	WFP, UNICEF, ICRC, FAO, UNDSS	$57.2 million*	• Provide humanitarian assistance in response to the Horn of Africa drought and famine • Support UNICEF's work to improve maternal and child health in Somalia

South Sudan	• Response to humanitarian needs $5m • Australian NGO Funding Round $3.4m	Australian NGOs	$8.4 million	• Provide assistance in response to growing humanitarian needs, including due to displacement and food insecurity • Support for humanitarian and early-recovery programs
Togo	• School feeding program	WFP	$.5 million	• Contribute to sustainable nationally owned school feeding programme
Regional	• Horn of Africa humanitarian response regional funding	UNHCR	$15 million	• Provide humanitarian assistance in response to the Horn of Africa drought and famine
Sahel Region	• Humanitarian response to Sahel food crisis	WFP and other UN partners	$10 million*	• Provide humanitarian assistance in response to the Sahel food and nutrition crisis
Total $137.2 million				

Includes allocations from AusAID's multilateral regular contribution (core contribution) to WFP

Australian Government

AusAID

Mine Action Strategy for the Australian aid program

Towards a world free from landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war

2010–14

These icons symbolise the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)—eight goals representing an agreement by world leaders to reduce poverty and enhance human development by 2015. More information about the MDGs is available online at www.ausaid.gov.au/keyaid/mdg.cfm

Ministerial foreword

Australia has made a significant contribution to global efforts towards a world free from landmines and other explosive remnants of war by providing more than $175 million to mine action since 1997.

Australia has actively promoted universal participation in the Mine Ban Convention and other international instruments that prohibit the use of landmines and seek to minimise the risks and effects of explosive remnants of war.

In December 2008 in Oslo, I signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions on behalf of Australia. The Convention is a significant humanitarian achievement, prohibiting these abhorrent weapons that scatter battlefields with hundreds of explosive devices. Many of them fail to detonate and pose a long-term threat to civilians for years after hostilities have ceased.

In August 2009, Australia met its pledge to provide $75 million through the aid program under the Mine Action Strategy 2005–10, almost one year ahead of schedule. Now we need to take the next step—to renew our commitment and to build on this foundation of success.

I am pleased to present Australia's new Mine Action Strategy for the Australian aid program 2010–14.

Under the Strategy, Australia pledges $100 million to work towards a world free from landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war over the next five years.

This is the largest five-year commitment made by Australia to mine action.

We will seek to reduce deaths and injuries from these devices and improve the quality of life for victims, their adversely affected families and communities.

To further reduce the threat and social and economic impact of landmines and explosive remnants of war, Australia will support and encourage affected countries to increase their own national mine action efforts.

Victims will benefit from Australia's efforts to ensure that people with disability—often among the poorest and most vulnerable—are better supported by our aid. As part of our leadership role in this area, Australia ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in July 2008 and announced a new strategy for 2009 to 2014 for the Australian aid program, *Development for All*, to ensure that people with disability play an active and central role in development processes.

At the heart of Australia's mine action effectiveness is a network of partnerships that includes other governments, United Nations bodies, international mine action groups, aid donors, civil society, local communities, victims and people with disability.

We will continue to work with these partners and draw on their experiences, expertise and support to implement this strategy.

Our commitment will support Australia's objectives to reduce poverty, promote sustainable development and contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

We will build on the success of Australia's leadership in mine action, reflecting Australia's commitment as a good international citizen.

Stephen Smith MP
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Australia

Deminers at work in Iraq.
Photo: Victor Mello / UNDP Iraq

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A school teacher trained by the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) presents a mine risk education lesson to children in Bavel, Cambodia.
Photo: Sean Sutton/MAG

Summary

Since signing the Mine Ban Convention in 1997, Australia has actively contributed to global efforts to protect civilians from the threat and impact of landmines and other explosive remnants of war. These weapons still contaminate more than 70 countries around the world and kill and injure more than 5000 people a year. They constrain development and bring devastating social and economic impacts to some of the poorest countries in the world—both during and after armed conflicts. Their presence can adversely affect broader political stability and security. In heavily affected developing countries, the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals is under threat.

Australia has been a committed donor to partner governments in 16 affected countries across the Asia–Pacific, the Middle East and Africa. We have contributed more than $175 million to mine action over the past 12 years. Our assistance has helped affected countries achieve their mine action goals and obligations.

The international framework for mine action has now expanded beyond a focus on anti-personnel landmines to include explosive remnants of war, cluster munitions and rights for people with disability who are victims of such weapons. The Australian Government remains committed to fulfilling its obligations under—and supporting developing countries to implement—the Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Cluster Munitions and other international instruments that aim to reduce the threat of explosive remnants of war and ensure the rights and needs of victims are addressed.

Australia's new Mine Action Strategy, with a pledge of $100 million, will build on our successful past efforts and guide our assistance for the next five years. It will support the Australian aid program's overarching objectives of poverty reduction and sustainable development. It will also contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Our goal—**to reduce the threat and socioeconomic impact of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war**—will be achieved through the following four outcomes:

1. Improved quality of life for victims of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war.
2. Reduced number of deaths and injuries from landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war.
3. Enhanced capacity of countries to manage their mine action programs.
4. Effective leadership and advocacy by Australia on mine action.

The decisions of the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World in 2009 will be taken into account in the implementation of the strategy. The strategy also supports the achievement of Australia's disability-inclusive development strategy for the aid program, *Development for All*. It sits within Australia's whole-of-government commitment to mine action and will complement the roles played by other Australian Government departments, particularly the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Defence.

Production of prosthetics in Iraq.
Photo: Victor Mello / UNDP Iraq

Australia's mine action assistance will focus on the most heavily affected countries in the Asia–Pacific region, while maintaining the flexibility to respond to emerging needs and priorities. We will retain a holistic approach to programming across the key areas of mine action and integrate mine action within broader development programs and activities.

The strategy will be delivered primarily through our bilateral country programs, targeting priorities identified by partner governments. It will also contribute to the work of multilateral bodies, such as the United Nations, and of Australian and international non-government organisations engaged in mine action at the country, regional and international levels. Australia will measure the success of action under the strategy against strong performance-based principles.

What is mine action?

Mine action includes activities aimed at reducing the social, economic and environmental impact of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war. The objective is to ensure that people can live safely, in an environment where economic, social and health development occurs free of the constraints imposed by these weapons, and in which victims' needs are addressed.[1]

The 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (the Mine Ban Convention) is the principal international instrument prohibiting the use of anti-personnel landmines. It recognises that mine action is not just about removing dangerous landmines from the ground; it is also about understanding how people interact with mine-affected environments. The Convention identified five pillars, or key areas, for action: mine clearance, mine risk education, victim assistance, stockpile destruction and advocacy.

A country affected by landmines and other explosive remnants of war can benefit from intervention at any stage along the spectrum from conflict to stability. Mine action can help to meet urgent humanitarian needs during a conflict. It can contribute to peace-building and stabilisation efforts in the aftermath of a conflict. And it can be a key component of longer term reconstruction and development.

Through its aid program, Australia undertakes mine action in both conflict and post-conflict situations. Because progress from conflict to stability is not always linear, and may proceed at different rates in different parts of a country, we carefully analyse the context to ensure our work can proceed safely.

Puth Sothe, ex-soldier and landmine victim, from Chrok Porn in Cambodia, is able to plant his own vegetables and carry water from the spring because of the prosthetic leg he was given.
Photo: AusAID

Nineteen year-old Ponchan has been working for the Mines Advisory Group in Cambodia for nearly four months: 'There is so much unexploded ordnance around and it is a big problem. I am very happy that I have this job, I can support my family and at the same time clear the fields and villages and save lives.'
Photo: Sean Sutton/MAG

International progress and Australia's contribution

What has been achieved and what challenges remain?

Considerable progress has been made in the 10 years that the Mine Ban Convention has been in force. Forty-four million stockpiled landmines have been destroyed[2] and 11 countries have fulfilled their obligation to destroy all landmines under their jurisdiction and control.[3] Tens of thousands of square kilometres of once-contaminated land have been freed from landmines, bringing significant socioeconomic benefits in many countries. The number of recorded casualties from landmines and explosive remnants of war has steadily declined.[4] And more than US$4 billion in funding has been provided for activities consistent with the Convention since 1996.[5]

In recent years, the international framework for mine action has expanded beyond a focus on anti-personnel landmines. Protocol V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons[6] came into force in 2006, focusing on removing explosive remnants of war and providing assistance to victims. In December 2008, the Convention on Cluster Munitions was opened for signature. This new convention prohibits cluster munitions, which scatter battlefields with sometimes hundreds of submunitions that pose a threat to civilians for years after hostilities have ceased. In May 2008, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities entered into force, setting out the fundamental human rights of people with disability, with implications for victims of landmines and explosive remnants of war.

These achievements are the result of a strong partnership between governments, civil society and international organisations. However, much remains to be done:

> Landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war continue to contaminate more than 70 countries around the world and kill and injure more than 5000 people a year.[7]

> In the past decade, new use of landmines has been reported in some parts of the world, including by non-state armed actors.

> Multiple factors—technical, environmental and financial—impede the ability of countries to meet their mine clearance deadlines under the Mine Ban Convention—19 countries have applied for extensions to their mine clearance deadlines, 15 of which were granted in 2008.[8]

> Twenty-six countries under the Mine Ban Convention have indicated that they provide ongoing care and support to significant numbers of landmine survivors—ranging from hundreds to thousands.

Unexploded ordnance found in Oruzgan province in Afghanistan. Photo: Jacob Simkin / MACCA

For many of the poorest countries, these weapons also constrain development and threaten the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.[9] They can prevent poverty-stricken families and communities from developing land resources, safely accessing basic services and effectively participating in economic opportunities. Poor individuals in vulnerable situations may place themselves at risk to meet their survival needs—such as men and boys who collect unexploded ordnance for scrap metal. This contamination has such a serious impact on development in heavily affected countries that some, including Afghanistan and Cambodia, have included mine action as an additional Millennium Development Goal in their poverty reduction and development plans. Appendix 1 summarises the links between mine action and the Millennium Development Goals.

Ensuring universal adherence to the international framework for mine action is crucial to guaranteeing the protection of civilians. Although 156 states are parties to the Mine Ban Convention, 39 countries remain outside its provisions.[10] There are only 61 States Parties to the Protocol V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.[11] And the Convention on Cluster Munitions is a new international instrument. Maintaining interest, cooperation and support for mine action will be vital to ensuring that the momentum gained over the past decade is not lost.

Victim assistance activity in Iraq.
Photo: Victor Mello / UNDP Iraq

How does Australia contribute?

Australia has long supported action to eradicate landmines, reduce the threat and impact of other explosive remnants of war and ease the suffering of affected individuals and communities. We have pursued our international obligations under the Mine Ban Convention and Protocol V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. And we have actively participated in efforts to expand the international framework for mine action, including negotiation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, to which Australia was one of the original signatories in December 2008, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which Australia ratified in July 2008. We have actively engaged in international forums related to these conventions, seeking progress and solutions.

Australia has made consistent and tangible contributions to mine action. In 2008, we were the 11th largest donor to mine action,[12] and since 1997 we have provided $175 million. We have adopted a multi-year approach to the provision of our assistance. This has allowed us to commit to long-term mine action strategies and programs, which has improved the sustainability of outcomes in the countries where we have worked. This approach has also given our partners greater budgetary certainty and flexibility, allowing for effective strategic planning and resource allocation.

In 2008, a mid-term review of the previous Mine Action Strategy 2005–10 found that Australia's mine action program had made a significant contribution to global efforts to address the needs of survivors, support their rehabilitation and reintegration, and reduce the threat of landmines and other explosive remnants of war to civilians.[13] Working with partner governments and international organisations, Australia has assisted 16 mine-affected countries, mainly in the Asia–Pacific region but also in the Middle East and Africa. One area where Australia is seen as a leader is integrated mine action—an approach to improving the social and economic well-being of mine-affected communities that involves undertaking complementary programming across more than one of the five pillars of mine action and incorporating mine action activities into development programs.

The mid-term review also found that a flexible approach to programming has allowed Australia to respond to emerging needs. For example, our support for mine clearance in Afghanistan, Iraq and Lebanon has helped to create a secure environment for humanitarian operations and early recovery. In Afghanistan, we have supported a large-scale, community-based initiative to tackle the problem of mines and explosive remnants of war in Oruzgan and border provinces. The initiative has been deemed an innovative approach for insecure areas. Successful program features included engaging local communities in the scoping and implementation of plans and using demining teams composed of appropriately trained villagers from affected communities.

What have we learned?

Australia's engagement in mine action to date has enabled us to identify what works well and what can be done better. Through our mine action assistance, we have learned that a key to sustainability is for affected countries to have ownership of their mine action programs. Also crucial is building the capacity of partner governments and local organisations. This is particularly the case in countries that have high levels of contamination and a significant number of people who will require long-term assistance.

In the area of mine clearance, impact surveys that combine hazard assessment with an analysis of the socioeconomic impact on communities, including through community consultation, allow for better prioritisation of mine action activities based on the severity of impact. In addition, the focus of mine risk education should be expanded beyond one-way mass communication. While such approaches can be relevant and useful in emergency situations, they do not provide long-term solutions. Sustained community participation in mine risk education and reduction activities is essential.

Gender equality must also be considered in the development and implementation of mine action activities to ensure they meet the needs of those who are most vulnerable or at highest risk. Strategies and programs must take into account the different roles of men, women, boys and girls. Disability considerations need to be integrated into programming to ensure greater access and participation by people with disability, including victims, in all aspects of mine action. The context in which mine action assistance is delivered must also be clearly understood and a 'do no harm' approach adhered to in the delivery of aid to conflict-affected states.[14]

Training of school teachers in mine risk education in Oruzgan province in Afghanistan.
Photo: Jacob Simkin / MACCA

What will we do?

Australia's Mine Action Strategy 2010–14 builds on our experience and accomplishments and outlines our priorities for the next five years. The Australian Government is committed to fulfilling its international obligations under—and supporting developing countries to implement—the international instruments that aim to reduce the threat and impact of explosive remnants of war and ensure that the rights and needs of victims are addressed. In implementing the strategy, Australia will take into account measures agreed at the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World in 2009—an important milestone in the life of the Mine Ban Convention.

The strategy will support the objectives of Australia's disability-inclusive development strategy for 2009–14, *Development for All*, by seeking to ensure the active participation of people with disability, including victims of landmines and other explosive remnants of war, in developing, implementing and reviewing Australia's mine action programming. The Mine Action Strategy will also support the Australian aid program's overarching poverty reduction and sustainable development objectives by integrating mine action within our broader development activities and thereby contribute towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Our approach is reflected in the strategy's goal and intended outcomes.

Goal

To reduce the threat and socioeconomic impact of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war.

Outcomes

1. Improved quality of life for victims of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war

Enabling victims to become self-reliant, productive and valued members of society is a fundamental component of the strategy. Australia endorses the expanded definition of victims in the Convention on Cluster Munitions,[15] which includes survivors and their affected families and communities, who may also suffer emotional, social and financial loss. We will consider the different experiences of men, women, boys and girls as survivors, and as family and community members who provide support to the injured.

Australia will also support victims' access to appropriate medical care, physical and sensory rehabilitation, psychosocial support, education and skills training, and income-earning opportunities. We will seek to ensure that these services are available to all, regardless of gender, age or socioeconomic status. We will encourage and assist partner governments to integrate such assistance for victims into their national policy frameworks on healthcare, social services and disability-inclusive development, in order to foster more sustainable and socially inclusive development.

The International Committee of the Red Cross is producing low-cost prosthetics for landmine victims in Cambodia.
Photo: AusAID

A holistic approach to victim assistance and disability services

The Royal Government of Cambodia has recorded more than 63 000 casualties from landmines and explosive remnants of war since 1979. Though the number of new casualties has fallen significantly in recent years, there are still thousands of survivors who require ongoing assistance to meet their rehabilitation needs. People with disability in Cambodia are among the poorest—most live below the poverty line.

Cambodia recognises the importance of interministerial cooperation and collaboration to ensure a holistic approach to addressing the rights and needs of landmine survivors. In 2006, an interministerial Steering Committee for Landmine Victim Assistance was established, co-chaired by the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation and the Cambodia Mine Action Authority, with secretariat support from Cambodia's Disability Action Council. The committee agreed that victim assistance should be integrated into broader national disability policies and planning to ensure disability inclusion across all ministries and sectors.

Australia is supporting the Royal Government of Cambodia to implement the National Plan of Action for Persons with Disabilities including Landmine and Explosive Remnants of War Survivors, adopted in July 2009. This plan will assist Cambodia to meet its victim assistance obligations under the Mine Ban Convention. Responsibility for implementing the plan rests with the newly formed National Disability Coordination Committee, in consultation with key actors in the disability sector, mine survivors and other persons with disability.

Source: Based on Royal Government of Cambodia, 'Statement by Cambodia on Victim Assistance', presented to the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration, 3 June 2008, Geneva.

To achieve this outcome, Australia will work with relevant partners to:

> give priority to initiatives that integrate services for victims and people with disability generally, into partner government development policies and programs, and health, education and socioeconomic services and budgets, particularly in heavily affected countries

> support the care, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims, with an emphasis on improving livelihoods and well-being.

2. Reduced number of deaths and injuries from landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war

Only by clearing land of mines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war can the risk to individuals, households and communities be removed. Eliminating these hazards also frees land for access and development to support livelihoods and community needs. In keeping with our commitment to assist developing countries meet their mine action obligations under relevant international instruments, the Australian aid program will support partner governments achieve their clearance targets on time. This will include assistance for technical and non-technical land release surveys which have a proven track record for declassifying land previously suspected to be contaminated and restoring it to productive use.

Australia will continue to support activities to reduce the risk of death or injury to people living in areas affected by landmines and other explosive remnants of war. Priority will be accorded to identifying contaminated land and assessing its impact on the population; marking and fencing off contaminated areas; providing mine risk education and supporting risk-reduction activities, such as alternative income sources for those dependent on high-risk sources of income (for example converting unexploded ordnance into scrap metal); and removing the risk of the future use of such weapons by a state's armed forces or non-state actors by destroying stockpiles of landmines and caches of abandoned ordnance.

Making steady progress in Afghanistan

Australia's mine action assistance is making a significant contribution to one of Afghanistan's Millennium Development Goals: to destroy all anti-personnel landmines and other explosive contaminants by 2015. Since 2008, Australia has provided more than $17 million for demining, mine risk education and victim assistance activities to the United Nations Mine Action Programme for Afghanistan, one of the oldest and largest mine action programs in the world.

The Mine Action Programme for Afghanistan has supported the Government of Afghanistan to achieve 84 per cent of its mine clearance goal under the Afghan Compact (a five-year international cooperation agreement from 2006–11, between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community), and 38 per cent of the total clearance required under the Mine Ban Convention by 2013. The number of people falling victim to landmines and other explosive remnants of war in Afghanistan has declined steadily, from 100 per month in 2005 to 62 per month in 2007 and 58 in 2008. This progress has been made despite the current civil conflict and the discovery of new mine-affected areas in recent surveys.

Source: 'Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan Fast Facts', Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan, June 2009.

Mine clearance activity in Oruzgan province in Afghanistan.
Photo: Jacob Simkin / MACCA

To achieve this outcome, Australia will work with relevant partners to:

> support the clearance of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war, where it has a high potential to reduce casualties, enhance livelihoods, reduce poverty and vulnerability, promote peace and security in conflict situations, and allow refugees and displaced people to regain safe access to their land

> support and promote the use of additional methods to physical mine clearance such as land release and the incorporation of mine action into broader land use planning

> involve communities in the process of prioritising areas for mine clearance and in planning development and poverty reduction activities after clearance

> provide assistance for mine risk education that is carried out in coordination with mine clearance activities and includes appropriate community consultation

> support the development of national and local mine risk education programs, including their integration into school curricula in highly affected countries

> assist partner governments to identify alternative income sources for individuals and communities in vulnerable situations who are dependent on high-risk occupations.

3. Enhanced capacity of countries to manage their mine action programs

Primary responsibility for mine action rests with affected states. In poor, heavily contaminated countries, it can be expected to take several years to clear all mines and other explosive remnants of war and meet the needs of victims. Australia is committed to assisting partner governments in such countries build their capacity to manage their own mine action activities.

This strengthening of national ownership requires political will, and for national authorities, local organisations and civil society to assume responsibility for all five pillars of mine action. The aim is for the government of the affected country to have in place the institutional mechanisms and the operational capability to continue whatever mine action it considers necessary on its own, in accordance with relevant international instruments.

Many local mine action organisations, including disabled people's organisations, already play a valuable role in national efforts. However, many of these organisations still need considerable support to become more capable and self-sufficient. Australia will assist by providing such organisations with equipment and training, in both technical and program

management skills, with a view to the gradual withdrawal of external support as capacity is built. At the same time, we recognise that investing in capacity building, while bringing benefits and savings in the longer term, is likely to increase the costs and timeframe for mine action in the shorter term.

Supporting national ownership in Laos

Laos is the country most affected by cluster munitions in the world, and 18 out of its 19 provinces are contaminated with unexploded ordnance. Australia has provided technical support to the National Regulatory Authority in Laos to improve its capacity to regulate the mine action sector through improved standards and quality assurance. Technical advisers have worked with the authority's staff to develop national standards on unexploded ordnance and mine action, as well as an unexploded ordnance database and information system. At present, the government's national clearance agency, UXO Laos, and eight non-government organisations and commercial clearance companies, are undergoing accreditation processes using these standards.

Australia also assisted the National Regulatory Authority in strengthening its Information Management System on Mine Action by providing support to the National Victim Survey in 2008. This survey is helping the government to gather accurate, credible and verified data on unexploded ordnance and landmine casualties and, where accidents have occurred, to assist in planning and prioritising resources. The initial results have indicated a possible 50 000 deaths or injuries from these devices since the war ended. From 1998 to 2007, it was further estimated that there is an average of 300 deaths or injuries a year from unexploded ordnance-related accidents. The Government of Lao PDR has further plans to establish a national surveillance system for unexploded ordnance and landmine casualties.

Sources: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining website (2009); United Nations Mine Action Service E-Mine website (2009); and UXO Laos website (2008).

To achieve this outcome, Australia will:

> work with partner governments to help them meet their national mine action priorities where possible, as set out in national mine action strategies, poverty reduction strategy papers and the Millennium Development Goals, or other measures that clearly demonstrate their commitment to mine action

> continue to support partner governments to build efficient and appropriate national and subnational mine action structures with an effective technical and managerial capacity

> build partner government capacity to integrate mine action into national development policies, plans and programs

> support partner governments to strengthen mine action monitoring and evaluation systems and capacity, including the development of Information Management Systems for Mine Action[16] linked with national injury and disability surveillance systems and the production of data that is disaggregated by gender

> work with local and international organisations to develop tools and methodologies, provide training and capacity building and offer technical expertise in support of national efforts.

4. Effective leadership and advocacy by Australia on mine action

Australia will continue to play a strong and proactive role in advocating for mine action, with a focus on building links between victim assistance and disability-inclusive development. Advocacy has been a major factor in achieving a comprehensive international framework for the prohibition of landmines and cluster munitions, and has promoted the commitment of resources by the international community to mine action.

The Australian Government has played a key role in promoting universal participation in the Mine Ban Convention and other international instruments that seek to minimise the risks and effects of explosive remnants of war. Where appropriate, we have supported organisations that promote adherence to the humanitarian objectives of these instruments by non-state actors. Australia also played an active and constructive role in negotiations of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and we will continue to strongly support their universalisation.

Research into trends and developments in mine action is also vital to assessing progress and guiding future approaches and priorities. Australia will maintain its support for such research, where appropriate.

To achieve this outcome, Australia will:

> support the efforts of Australian and international mine action partners to advocate for universal accession and adherence to the international mine action conventions

> work with Australian and international partners involved in mine action and disability-inclusive development to advocate for universal accession and adherence to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs Stephen Smith signs the Convention on Cluster Munitions in Oslo, Norway, on 3 December 2008.

From left to right: Steve Martin, Head of Australian Defence Staff, London; Rachel Moseley, Acting Adviser in Mr Smith's office; Sharyn Minahan, Australian Ambassador to Norway; Caroline Millar, Australian Ambassador for Disarmament; Minister for Foreign Affairs Stephen Smith; Mr. Peter Taksøe-Jensen, Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, UN Office for Legal Affairs.
Photo: The Commonwealth of Australia

What is our approach to implementation?

The Mines Advisory Group recruits and trains deminers from the very same communities that are mined. Battambang Province, Cambodia.
Photo: Sean Sutton/MAG

The Australian Government will provide $100 million over the next five years to advance assistance under the Mine Action Strategy. We will deliver this support primarily through our bilateral programs targeting priorities identified by partner governments. We will also contribute to the work of multilateral bodies, such as the United Nations, and Australian and international non-government organisations engaged in mine action at the country, regional and international levels.

Australia will continue to focus on supporting the countries most heavily affected by landmines and explosive remnants of war in the Asia–Pacific region while retaining the flexibility to respond to emerging needs and priorities globally. We will retain an emphasis on integrating mine action with broader development programs. We will also look for ways to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of mine action in all our programming.

While assistance under the Mine Action Strategy will be delivered primarily through the Australian aid program, the strategy sits within the broader framework of Australia's whole-of-government commitment to mine action. Activities under the strategy will complement the work of other Australian Government agencies. In particular, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade plays a key role in policy coordination, representation and advocacy,[17] and the Department of Defence[18] provides technical support and assistance on the operational elements of mine action, including stockpile destruction and mine clearance.

Guiding principles

Australia's mine action assistance, delivered in collaboration with our partners, will be guided by the following principles:

1. A state's commitment to the international mine action conventions and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will be a factor in deciding whether Australia will provide mine action assistance, with allowances made for exceptional circumstances, humanitarian need and progress towards ratification and implementation.

2. We will demonstrate and promote gender equality in our mine action assistance, with reference to the United Nations Gender Guidelines for Mine Action and the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security,[19] and in accordance with the gender policies of the Australian aid program.

3. We will seek to ensure that mine action is socially and economically inclusive and meets the needs of the most vulnerable people and communities. Our work will recognise, respect and promote rights and build understanding of diversity as a basis for inclusive and stable societies.

4. We will promote and enable the active participation of victims and people with disability in mine action policy development, programming, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

5. We will deliver Australia's mine action assistance in line with the principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship, as outlined in our policy on humanitarian assistance.[20]

6. We will work with our implementing partners to ensure that the 'do no harm' approach is adopted in line with our policy on peace, conflict and development.

7. We will work in partnership with mine action stakeholders, where possible aligning our support with existing partner government policies, priorities and systems and also harmonising our efforts with other donors, in line with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action.[21]

Partners

We will work with a wide range of partners to implement the Mine Action Strategy 2010–14, including governments, multilateral agencies such as the United Nations, international and regional organisations, other donors, non-governmental organisations, the private sector, civil society groups, disabled people's organisations and—most importantly—organisations representing the victims of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war.

Australia will advocate with our partners to deepen and strengthen their commitment to coordination and cooperation. This will involve creating defined roles and divisions of labour based on comparative advantage, to ensure a comprehensive response. At the country level, efforts will be made to coordinate funding through national planning and reporting mechanisms, where possible and appropriate. Within this context, we will promote the use of the International Mine Action Standards, and other relevant standards, to guide mine action by all.

A Mines Advisory Group (MAG) community liaison session. The team discussed the priorities for clearance determined by the community. Amongst other things, this involved drawing a community map, explaining MAG's methodologies and unexploded ordnance awareness discussions. Khammouane province, Cambodia.
Photo: Sean Sutton/MAG

How will we measure our progress?

Strong performance-based principles will underpin the way Australia measures the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of action under the strategy. Investments will need to demonstrate that funds are being used appropriately and delivering a lasting impact. To achieve this, Australia will:

> review the strategy at its mid-term point and on its completion, using the performance framework at Appendix 2. The recommendations from these reviews will be shared with key stakeholder groups and used to further improve and develop the strategy and Australia's mine action assistance

> develop and refine appropriate data collection and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms that align with the strategy's performance framework, including among our implementing partners

> seek to ensure that people with disability and victims of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war, including their representative organisations, are involved in performance assessment processes and feedback mechanisms related to Australia's mine action assistance

> give increased emphasis to documenting and sharing examples of good practice and enhancing learning opportunities on mine action, both within Australia's aid program and internationally.

In addition, Australia will fulfil its reporting obligations under the framework of international mine action conventions, including on steps taken to implement these instruments.[22]

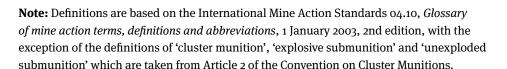| Millennium Development Goals	How landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war may affect these goals	Mine action can help achieve these goals by:
Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	The presence of, or fear of the presence of, landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war increases poverty and hunger as farmers cannot use their land, vital livestock is destroyed through accidents, people cannot reach their workplaces or markets to buy or sell goods, and key supporting services, such as transport, may be inaccessible. Important sectors of the economy—such as tourism, which employs many poorer people—can be affected, with people wary of investing in businesses or visiting famous sites in areas suspected of contamination. The victims of accidents, including their families and communities, can suffer loss of their livelihoods due to death or disability.	> Physically removing landmines, cluster munitions, and other explosive remnants of war > Reducing the risk of accidents through marking and fencing off contaminated areas, mine risk education and reduction, and stockpile destruction > Providing quality emergency medical services to reduce the impact of accidents and physical rehabilitation for victims > Providing social and economic opportunities for victims
Achieve universal primary education	Child survivors with disability may face social and physical barriers to education. If a family member is killed or disabled by an accident, children may be withdrawn from school to become carers, or to help the family earn an income.	> Building or adapting school structures and systems to be accessible to children with disability > Educating children, families, teachers and communities on disability-inclusive development > Providing social safety nets (e.g. disability pensions) and income-earning opportunities for victims > Physically rehabilitating victims
Promote gender equality and empower women	Men and boys suffer the most from landmine, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war accidents. At the same time, girls are more likely to be withdrawn from school and/or enter the workforce to support a family affected by an accident. Women and girls with disability also can face increased stigma. Understanding the differences in roles and risks by gender and age is critical to designing appropriate mine action activities that protect lives and provide rehabilitation services for all victims.	> Ensuring that mine action systematically and adequately takes into account gender and age differences and considerations, including consultation with different gender and age groups in affected communities about their roles, risks and coping mechanisms
Reduce child mortality	Children are particularly vulnerable to accidents from landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war, which reduce or prevent access to important health services (e.g. immunisation against major childhood diseases and clean water and sanitation), as access to roads, bridges and the facilities themselves may be destroyed or become contaminated.	> Physically removing landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war, particularly from and around wells and other water and sanitation access points > Providing quality emergency medical services to reduce the impact of accidents > Accounting for the needs of children for specialised physical rehabilitation services, such as changing prostheses as they grow > Building or adapting health structures and systems to be accessible to children with disability
Improve maternal health	Landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war reduce or prevent access to prenatal care and safe birthing environments, as access to roads, bridges and the facilities themselves may be destroyed or become contaminated.	> Removing landmines, cluster munitions and explosive remnants of war, particularly from health centres and access roads > Providing safe birthing environments for women in mine-affected areas > Building or adapting health structures and systems to be accessible to women with disability
Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases	The prevention and treatment of contagious diseases like malaria can be disrupted by lack of access to health services. Poverty that is worsened by the impact of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war may put people at greater risk of HIV/AIDS infection by forcing more women into sex work and increasing the vulnerability of people with disability to physical and sexual abuse.	> Incorporating HIV/AIDS education and disability-inclusive approaches into public health systems and messages > Providing livelihood security to those affected to prevent impoverishment and vulnerability to sex work and abuse
Ensure environmental sustainability	Contamination from landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war can damage the environment and prevent access to safe drinking water. Many such devices contain toxic substances that leach into the soil over time. In addition, landmine accidents have killed endangered animals.	> Removing landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war using environmentally safe techniques
Develop a global partnership for development	The Mine Ban Convention was born from a civil society movement that developed into a strong partnership between government, civil society, non-government organisations, international organisations and the private sector. The partnership has continually strengthened and extended its reach to include dealing with explosive remnants of war and making development work inclusive of disability, all with the broader objectives of meeting a compelling humanitarian need and contributing to poverty reduction and sustainable development.	

Appendix 2 Mine Action Strategy performance framework

Goal

To reduce the threat and socioeconomic impact of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war

Outcome	Performance questions	Information to consider*	Sources of information
1. Improved quality of life for victims of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war	> Are men and women affected by landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war participating on an equal basis with others in the social and economic life of their communities? > To what extent has Australia's assistance under the Mine Action Strategy contributed to the development of sustainable services for victims, both male and female?	> Extent to which males and females who are victims report that they are able to participate in meaningful ways in the social and economic life of their communities. > Changes, for both men and women victims, in: – education and health outcomes – income levels or livelihoods sources – access to and quality of services.	> Annual mine action progress reports for AusAID-funded activities > AusAID annual program performance review reports > AusAID quality at implementation reports > Landmine Monitor reports > United Nations reports > National country reporting
2. Reduced number of deaths and injuries from landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war	> Are men and women at less risk of death or injury from landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war? > How has Australia's assistance under the Mine Action Strategy contributed to the prevention of deaths and injuries?	> Number of new deaths and injuries. > Amount of land and/or social and economic infrastructure (e.g. schools, health centres, roads, access to water and sanitation) restored to productive use. > Number of refugees or internally displaced people able to return to their land.	> Annual mine action progress reports for AusAID-funded activities > AusAID annual program performance review reports > AusAID quality at implementation reports > Landmine Monitor reports > United Nations reports > National country reporting
3. Enhanced capacity of countries to manage their mine action programs	> How has the capacity of partner governments and associated stakeholders (e.g. civil society, private sector) to effectively implement, monitor and evaluate mine action changed?	> Partner government policies, strategies and programs for mine action. > Partner government resource allocation to mine action programs. > Participation of other stakeholders in national mine action strategies and programs.	> Annual mine action progress reports for AusAID-funded activities > AusAID annual program performance review reports > AusAID quality at implementation reports > National country reporting
4. Effective leadership and advocacy by Australia on mine action	> How have country, regional and international commitments to mine action been influenced by Australia?	> Progress of states that have been supported by Australia in their efforts to become party to the Mine Ban Convention and/or other complementary international instruments and/or to support their principles. > Implementation of the obligations under the Mine Ban Convention and/or other complementary international instruments.	> Annual mine action progress reports for AusAID-funded activities > AusAID annual program performance review reports > United Nations reports > Landmine Monitor reports > Feedback from relevant international agencies, donors, mine action and disability organisations, non-government organisations and other stakeholders > National country reporting

* Information will be disaggregated and analysed by gender, age and disability, where possible.

Guiding principles	Performance questions	Sources of information
1. Consider a state's commitment to the Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Cluster Munitions, Protocol V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	> How has the design and implementation of initiatives taken into account a state's commitment to the Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Cluster Munitions, Protocol V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities?	AusAID quality at entry reports Partner government strategies, plans and reports
2. Ensure that mine action is designed and implemented using gender-sensitive approaches	> Has gender-sensitive data been collected, analysed and used to inform mine action programming decisions? > Have women and men equally participated in, contributed to and benefited from Australia's mine action assistance?	AusAID quality at entry reports AusAID quality at implementation reports AusAID quality at completion reports
3. Ensure that mine action is socially and economically inclusive and meets the needs of the most vulnerable	> Have mine action programs and initiatives used appropriate analysis procedures for design and implementation—in particular, analysis of vulnerability? > How have mine action programs addressed social and economic inclusion? > Do vulnerable populations, including people with disability, report that their rights are promoted, recognised and respected in mine action assistance and that mine action assistance has demonstrated an understanding of diversity in its approach?	AusAID quality at entry reports AusAID quality at implementation reports AusAID quality at completion reports
4. Promote and enable the active contribution and participation of victims of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war, and people with disability	> Do victims of landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war, and people with disability, report that they are active and central participants and contributors to Australia's mine action assistance? > To what extent have mine action programs actively included people with disability and victims in planning, decision making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation?	AusAID quality at entry reports AusAID quality at implementation reports AusAID quality at completion reports
5. Follow principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship	> Do new and ongoing initiatives in mine action reflect attention to key humanitarian donorship principles?	AusAID quality at entry reports AusAID quality at implementation reports
6. Follow the 'do no harm' approach	> Do new and ongoing initiatives in mine action comply with the 'do no harm' approach?	AusAID quality at entry reports AusAID quality at implementation reports
7. Align support with partner government priorities and harmonise our efforts with those of other donors	> Have mine action programs and initiatives sought to align the support provided with existing partner government plans, policies and priorities? > Have the coordination and harmonisation of needs/impact assessments, resource mobilisation, and monitoring and evaluation improved? > Have donors and partner governments: — conducted quality and participatory hazard and impact assessments to identify priority areas for mine action and target resources accordingly? — developed complementary or joint mine action support programs and/or funding mechanisms? > Have common donor-government reporting formats and mechanisms been adopted?	AusAID quality at entry reports AusAID quality at implementation reports Partner government strategies, plans and reports Donor government strategies, plans and reports

Glossary of mine action terms

Note: Definitions are based on the International Mine Action Standards 04.10, *Glossary of mine action terms, definitions and abbreviations*, 1 January 2003, 2nd edition, with the exception of the definitions of 'cluster munition', 'explosive submunition' and 'unexploded submunition' which are taken from Article 2 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

abandoned explosive ordnance—Explosive ordnance that has not been used during an armed conflict, that has been left behind or dumped by a party to an armed conflict and that is no longer under the control of the party that left it behind or dumped it. It may or may not have been primed, fuzed, armed or otherwise prepared for use.

anti-personnel landmine—A mine that is designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person and that will incapacitate, injure or kill one or more people. Command-detonated munitions, such as the M18 Claymore, are not considered anti-personnel landmines.

anti-vehicle mine—Mines designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a vehicle, also known as 'mines other than anti-personnel mines'. Anti-vehicle mines are outside the scope of the Mine Ban Convention and are regulated through the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.

cluster munition—A conventional munition that is designed to disperse or release explosive submunitions each weighing less than 20 kilograms. The term includes the explosive submunitions. It does not mean any of the following:

a. A munition or submunition designed to dispense flares, smoke, pyrotechnics or chaff; or a munition designed exclusively for an air defence role;

b. A munition or submunition designed to produce electrical or electronic effects;

c. A munition that, in order to avoid indiscriminate area effects and the risks posed by unexploded submunitions, has all of the following characteristics:

  i. Each munition contains fewer than 10 explosive submunitions;

  ii. Each explosive submunition weighs more than four kilograms;

  iii. Each explosive submunition is designed to detect and engage a single target object;

  iv. Each explosive submunition is equipped with an electronic self-destruction mechanism;

  v. Each explosive submunition is equipped with an electronic self-deactivating feature.

confirmed hazardous area—An area identified by a non-technical survey in which the necessity for further intervention through either technical survey or clearance has been confirmed.

defined hazardous area—An area, generally within a confirmed hazardous area, that requires full clearance. A defined hazardous area is normally identified by a thorough survey.

demining—Activities that lead to the removal of mines and explosive remnants of war hazards, including technical surveying, mapping, clearance, marking, post-clearance documentation, community mine action liaison and the handover of cleared land.

demining organisation—Any organisation (government, non-government, military or commercial) responsible for implementing demining projects or tasks.

explosive remnants of war—Unexploded ordnance and abandoned explosive ordnance.

explosive submunition—Means a conventional munition that in order to perform its task, is dispersed or released by a cluster munition, and is designed to function by detonating an explosive charge prior to, on, or after impact.

impact survey—An assessment of the socioeconomic impact caused by the actual or perceived presence of landmines and explosive remnants of war, in order to assist the planning and prioritisation of mine action programs and projects.

Information Management System for Mine Action—The United Nations' preferred information system for the management of critical data in United Nations-supported field programs. The system provides users with support for data collection, data storage, reporting, information analysis and project management activities. Its primary use is by the staff of mine action centres at national and regional level, however the system is also deployed in support of the implementers of mine action projects and demining organisations at all levels.

integrated mine action—Action that aims to improve the social and economic well-being of mine-affected people through complementary programming involving more than one of the five pillars of mine action and by incorporating mine action activities into broader development programs and budgets.

International Mine Action Standards—Standards developed by the United Nations on behalf of the international community. They aim to improve safety and efficiency in mine action by providing guidance, establishing principles and, in some cases, defining international requirements and specifications.

land release—The process of applying all reasonable effort to identify or better define confirmed hazardous areas and remove all suspicion of mines and other explosive remnants of war through non-technical survey, technical survey and/or clearance.

mine action—Activities that aim to reduce the social, economic and environmental impact of anti-personnel landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war. Mine action comprises five complementary groups, or pillars, of activities: mine clearance; mine risk education; victim assistance, including rehabilitation and reintegration; stockpile destruction; and advocacy against the use of anti-personnel landmines and to promote the clearance of explosive remnants of war.

mine risk education—Activities that seek to reduce the risk of injury from landmines and other explosive remnants of war by raising awareness and promoting behavioural change, including public information dissemination, education and training, and community mine action liaison.

mine risk reduction—Actions that lessen the probability and severity of physical injury to people, property or the environment. Mine risk reduction can be achieved by physical measures such as clearance, fencing or marking, or through behavioural changes brought about by mine risk education.

mined area—An area that is dangerous due to the presence or suspected presence of landmines or other explosive remnants of war.

non-technical survey—A survey activity that involves collecting and analysing new and/or existing information about a suspected hazardous area. Its purposes are to determine whether there is evidence of a hazard; to identify the type and extent of hazards within any hazardous area; and to define, as far as possible, the perimeter of the actual hazardous areas without physical intervention. A non-technical survey does not normally involve the use of clearance and verification assets.

technical survey—A detailed intervention with clearance or verification assets into a confirmed hazardous area, or part of a confirmed hazardous area. It should confirm the presence of mines or explosive remnants of war leading to the definition of one or more defined hazardous area and may indicate the absence of mines or explosive remnants of war which could allow land to be released when combined with other evidence.

unexploded ordnance—Explosive ordnance that has been primed, fuzed, armed or otherwise prepared for use or used in an armed conflict. It may have been fired, dropped, launched or projected, yet remains unexploded either through malfunction, or design, or for any other reason.

unexploded submunition—An explosive submunition that has been dispersed or released by, or otherwise separated from, a cluster munition and has failed to explode as intended.

victims—In the mine action context, people who have suffered physical, sensory or psychological injury, economic loss, social marginalisation or substantial impairment of the realisation of their rights caused by the use of landmines, cluster munitions or other explosive remnants of war. This includes the people directly impacted as well as their affected families and communities.

victim assistance—All aid, relief, comfort and support provided to victims, including survivors and their affected families and communities, with the purpose of reducing the immediate and long-term medical and psychological implications of their trauma.

Endnotes

1   Source: IMAS 4.10 Glossary of mine action terms, definitions and abbreviations, Second edition, 1 January 2003.

2   States parties to the Mine Ban Convention have collectively destroyed about 44 million stockpiled anti-personnel landmines. *Landmine Monitor Report 2009*, p. 16.

3   Under the Mine Ban Convention, 52 states parties have reported mined areas under their jurisdiction or control. Eleven of these parties—Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Djibouti, France, Guatemala, Honduras, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malawi, Suriname, Swaziland and Tunisia—have indicated that they have fulfilled their clearance obligations. Mine Ban Convention website, http://www.apminebanconvention.org (accessed 18 November 2009).

4   *Landmine Monitor Report 2009*, p. 46.

5   *Landmine Monitor Report 2009*, p. 78.

6   The full name of the convention is the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

7   More than 70 states were believed to be mine affected as at August 2009. In 2008, there were 5197 recorded casualties from mines, explosive remnants of war and victim-activated improvised explosive devices. *Landmine Monitor Report 2009*, pp. 1, 46.

8   In 2008, 15 states parties with deadlines in 2009 submitted requests for extensions which were considered at the November 2008 Ninth Meeting of the States Parties. In 2009, four states parties with deadlines in 2009 (Argentina, Cambodia, Tajikistan and Uganda) submitted requests for extensions to be considered at the November–December 2009 Second Review Conference. Mine Ban Convention website, http://www.apminebanconvention.org (accessed 18 November 2009)

9   The Millennium Development Goals are eight agreed targets/goals set by the world's nations to reduce poverty by 2015. See Appendix 1.

10 Mine Ban Convention website, http://www.apminebanconvention.org (accessed 18 November 2009).

11 The United Nations Office at Geneva website, http://www.unog.ch (accessed 18 November 2009).

12 *Landmine Monitor Report 2009*, p. 82.

13 *Mine Action Strategy Mid-term Review*, Dr Linda Kelly (November 2008).

14 The 'do no harm' analytical framework provides a tool for mapping the interaction between development assistance and violent conflict. It can be used to plan, monitor and evaluate aid interventions and to assist in identifying opportunities to foster peace and stability—ensuring that aid interventions do not contribute unwittingly to instability and further violence. Collaborative for Development Action, *Do No Harm Handbook: The Framework for Analyzing the Impact of Assistance on Conflict* (November 2004).

15 Article 2(1) of the *Convention on Cluster Munitions*.

16 The Information Management System for Mine Action, or IMSMA, is the United Nations' preferred information system for the management of critical data in UN-supported field programs. IMSMA provides users with support for data collection, data storage, reporting, information analysis, and project management activities. Its primary use is by the staff of mine action centres at the national and regional level; however, the system is also deployed in support of the implementers of mine action projects and demining organisations at all levels. Source: *IMAS 4.10 Glossary of mine action terms, definitions and abbreviations*, Second edition, 1 January 2003.

17 The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) coordinates Australia's whole-of-government policy with regard to the negotiation, implementation and development of treaties and international agreements (including the Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) and the wider United Nations process. In consultation with other stakeholder agencies, DFAT represents Australia's position in multilateral forums—such as the Annual Meetings of States Parties, and Review Conferences—and institutional matters such as paying Australia's assessed contribution. DFAT is also the lead agency for mine action advocacy, which is generally managed through Australia's bilateral relationships.

18 The Department of Defence is an implementing agency for the operational elements of mine action and works closely with DFAT and AusAID on mine action issues. Defence provides technical support to other government agencies on the implementation of the Mine Ban Convention, in the areas of stockpile destruction and mine clearance. The Australian Government considers requests from other countries for technical assistance on stockpile destruction on a case-by-case basis.

19 United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security was adopted by the Security Council at its 4213th meeting, on 31 October 2000. The text of the resolution calls for all parties to ensure that mine clearance and mine awareness programs take into account the special needs of women and girls.

20 The Good Humanitarian Donorship initiative provides a forum for donors to discuss good practice in humanitarian financing and other shared concerns. Under the initiative, 36 donor bodies have signed up to a set of 23 principles and standards that provide both a framework to guide official humanitarian aid and a mechanism for encouraging greater donor accountability.

21 The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, endorsed in 2005, is an international agreement to increase efforts in harmonisation, alignment and managing of aid for results with a set of monitorable actions and indicators. The Accra Agenda for Action was the major outcome of the Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Accra, Ghana in 2008. The purpose of the forum was to review progress in implementing the commitments made in the Paris Declaration. The agenda commits donors and recipient countries to take action to further improve aid delivery.

22 This currently includes Australia's obligations under the Mine Ban Convention and Amended Protocol II and V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.

AusAID Social Media Guidelines

March 2012

Attachment A

AusAID uses social media tools to:

- enhance the distribution of information

- foster greater public understanding and engagement of AusAID's work and activities

- monitor relevant topics and developments as they happen.

The use of social media complements AusAID's use of traditional media and communications tools, allowing it to reach a wider audience with the release of timely information.

Social media tools used by AusAID

The social media tools currently used by AusAID are Twitter, YouTube, Flickr and the Engage blog. The use of Facebook is still being explored.

1. Twitter

Twitter is an online social networking and micro-blogging service that enables its users to publish and read text-based messages of up to 140 characters (tweets). There are more than 300 million users worldwide and this figure continues to grow.

Twitter is an increasingly powerful, real-time way of communicating. In the Australian government context, Twitter is successfully used by almost 100 government departments. @AusAID is the AusAID Twitter account and has more than 4,000 followers.

2. YouTube

AusAID uses YouTube to publish videos online. Our videos range from those taken in the field by staff using small hand-held cameras, to scripted and professionally recorded productions.

3. Flickr

AusAID uses Flickr to publish photos online. Like videos, our photos range from those taken in the field by staff using small digital cameras, to those taken by professional photographers on assignment for AusAID.

4. Blogs

The AusAID blog, Engage, is used to communicate and discuss Australia's aid program. It features views of domestic and international development experts and their analysis of important emerging trends and world events as they impact the aid program.

All blog posts are open for public comment, subject to a moderation policy which is clearly outlined on the blog.

www.ausaid.gov.au

AusAID staff use of social media

The Australian Public Service Commission has issued guidance for Australian Government agencies on making public comment and participating online. Circular 2012/1 sets out the basic principles to be observed, which relate directly to the Australian Public Service (APS) Values and Code of Conduct.

AusAID staff who contribute to the agency's social media channels will be required to follow these principles:

- behaving with respect and courtesy, and without harassment

- dealing appropriately with information, recognising that some information needs to remain confidential

- delivering services fairly, effectively, impartially and courteously to the Australian public

- being sensitive to the diversity of the Australian public

- taking reasonable steps to avoid conflicts of interest

- making proper use of Commonwealth resources

- upholding the APS Values and the integrity and good reputation of the APS

- not acting in a way that would call into question the APS employee's ability to be apolitical, impartial and professional in the performance of their duties.

If you are participating in social media as a private citizen, remember the standard of behaviour expected of public servants. Do not post information that could be interpreted as an official position or statement on behalf of AusAID.

Operations and management

The Online Communications section within the Communications, Ministerial and Transparency Branch is the primary operator of all AusAID social media channels. The section manages the agency's day-to-day social media activity.

All social media activity is cleared by the ADG Communications, Ministerial and Transparency Branch, in consultation with the Executive and/or Foreign Minister's Office.

Line areas wanting to use the AusAID Twitter account as part of a communication strategy will need to provide approved tweets (cleared by relevant ADG) to Online Communications for final clearance. The Online Communications section ensures:

- **Message quality** –messages are relevant, useful and timely so they are valued by recipients.

- **Use of an appropriate tone** –use of an appropriate tone at all times which is informative but conversational (the accepted style of social media) and complement AusAID's other communications.

- **Moderation** – content and tone may be moderated, where appropriate.

Further assistance

Any social media issues or queries should be directed to Online Communications on x6063.

AusAID's Official Hospitality between 1 July 2011 to 29 February 2012

Date	Location	Proposed Purpose Statement	Catering, Food, Beverages and Venue
2/08/2011	Canberra	Reception for Aid Review implementation launch	4,946
10/08/2011	Santiago	Reception for Chilean stakeholders including country partners, NGO representatives, academics and business representatives	3,576
24/08/2011	Port Vila	Reception for Vanuatu-Australia Partnership Development talks	3,764
7/09/2011	Jakarta	Reception for Indonesian officials attending discussion on the future development prospects and challenges for Indonesia	3,427
10/08/2011	Canberra	Workshop for accreditation and Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme assessors to promote understanding of Child Protection and Anti-Terrorism	2,327
1/08/2011	Canberra	Launch of the green growth seminar series with universities and independent experts	2,236
17/08/2011	Canberra	NGO round table seminar/conference to discuss Australia's objectives for the Commonwealth Heads Of Government meeting 2011 and G20 development agenda	1,785
24/08/2011	Colombo	Reception for key Sir Lankan government contacts, NGOs, aid agencies and UN Organisations	1,539
18/07/2011	Canberra	Reception for the second gathering of Canberra Women In Development Network	1,300
18/07/2011	Canberra	Briefing of Diplomatic Corps on release of Independent Review of Aid Effectiveness and the Government's response	1,250
5/09/2011	Canberra	Function for the 2010-11 AusAID/NGO Cooperation Program Annual Thematic Review	1,235
30/09/2011	Port Moresby	Reception with PNG government officials and NGOs	1,133
31/10/2011	Port Moresby	Prime Minister's XIII dinner in PNG to promote the Government's key messages to the audience and players	1,758
31/10/2011	Canberra	Seminar with Chief Financial Officers of other government departments on implementation of the whole of government aid budget strategy	3,441
31/10/2011	Canberra	Parliamentary lunch for visit of head of UN Capital Development Fund	4,051
9/11/2011	Harare	Opening Ceremony for new AusAID building in Harare	4,518

23/11/2011	Manila	Dinner reception for volunteers to provide an overview of AusAID's programs in the Philippines	1,556
30/11/2011	Port Moresby	Dinner for the PNG-Australia Alumni Association (PNGAAA) as part of the broader Australia Awards strategy	1,441
14/12/2011	Beijing	Reception celebrating 30 years of Australia and China's development cooperation	1,230
14/12/2011	Hanoi	International Volunteer Day function to highlight the contribution of Australian volunteers to development work in Vietnam	1,445
21/12/2011	Nairobi	Dinner for the Australia Africa Community Engagement Scheme (AACES) Steering Committee	1,425
21/12/2011	Dili	Function for approximately 300 volunteers and scholarship alumni in East Timor	9,767
21/12/2011	Jakarta	AusAID reception as co-chair of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) in Jakarta	2,818
4/01/2012	New York	United Nations function for over 100 people in conjunction with the 2011 High Level Conference on the Central Emergency Relief Fund and official launch of Australia's new Humanitarian Action Policy	9,802
29/02/2012	Pretoria	Dinner with key donor representatives in Mozambique	1,293
15/02/2012	Tarawa	Reception for key Kiribati Government officials to discuss AusAID's economic, infrastructure, gender and disability portfolios	1,365
		Total Hospitality over $1,000 threshold	74,429
		Total Hospitality under $1,000 threshold	56,214
		Total Official Hospitality between 1 July 2011 to 29 February 2012	130,643

Note: The above list for hospitality, entertainment and overseas representation events includes functions that further the conduct of public business and include participants external to AusAID. It does not include catering for working lunches, conferences or other internal functions that do not include participants external to AusAID.

Question on Notice 59: Mr Marles' Travel

Travel Costs - AusAID Departmental Officers 1 July 2011 to 29 February 2012

Country	Location	Dates Visited	AusAID staff from Canberra (Name)	Position	Costs of accompanying AusAID staff					Other Costs	Total AusAID Officers' Costs
					Airfares	Ground Transport	Total Transport	Accommodation	Travelling Allowances		
Vanuatu	Port Vila	26 to 27 July 2011	Susan Connell	Assistant Director General	0.00	0.00	0.00	80.00	207.91	0.00	287.91
Maldives	Addu City	9 to 11 November 2011	Paul Nichols	Assistant Director General	12,852.00	34.91	12,886.91	1,098.75	194.04	0.00	14,179.70
Bangladesh	Dhaka	12 to 13 November 2011	Paul Nichols	Assistant Director General	0.00	0.00	0.00	188.57	139.36	0.00	327.93
Guyana	Georgetown	29 to 31 January 2012	Hannah Bleby	First Secretary	198.07	0.00	198.07	303.13	95.45	0.00	596.65
Grenada		31 January 2012	Hannah Bleby	First Secretary	245.93	0.00	245.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	245.93
Barbados	Bridgetown	31 January to 1 February 2012	Hannah Bleby	First Secretary	172.05	0.00	172.05	232.07	158.32	0.00	562.44
St Lucia		1 to 2 February 2012	Hannah Bleby	First Secretary	165.98	0.00	165.98	269.87	115.10	0.00	550.95
St Vincent & the Grenadines		2 February 2012	Hannah Bleby	First Secretary	190.27	110.47	300.74	0.00	0.00	159.44	460.18
Total					**13,824.30**	**145.38**	**13,969.68**	**2,172.39**	**910.18**	**159.44**	**17,211.69**

Question on Notice 59: Mr Rudd's Travel
Travel Costs - AusAID Departmental Officers 1 July 2011 to 29 February 2012

Country	Location	Dates Visited	AusAID staff from Canberra (Name)	Position	Division	Costs of accompanying AusAID staff from Canberra						Other Costs	Total AusAID Officers' Costs
						Airfares	Ground Transport	Total Transport	Accommodation	TA			
Burma	Rangoon	30 June to 2 July	Richard Moore	First Assistant Director General	Asia Division	4,539.56	0.00	4,539.56	130.57	351.37		0.00	5,021.50
Indonesia	Bali	2 to 23 July	Chris Elstoft	Assistant Director General	Asia Division	2,883.72	0.00	2,883.72	295.83	80.93		0.00	3,260.48
USA	Washington DC	23 September 2011	Robin Davies *	First Assistant Director General	International Programs and Partnership Division	16,351.06	75.53	16,426.59	1,657.05	1,775.52		0.00	19,859.16
PNG	Port Moresby	30 September to 1 October 2011	James Batley	Deputy Director General	Asia Pacific and Program Enabling Group	1,054.13	78.07	1,132.20	341.31	179.86		0.00	1,653.37
Phillipines	Manila	20 to 21 October	Chris Elstoft	Assistant Director General	Asia Division	4,832.95	0.00	4,832.95	106.42	20.86		0.00	4,960.23
USA	Honolulu	10 to 11 November	Chris Elstoft	Assistant Director General	Asia Division	7,135.56	91.23	7,226.79	885.48	354.84		0.00	8,467.11
India	Bangalore	14 to 15 November	Paul Nichols **	Assistant Director General	North & South Asia	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,298.72	132.78		0.00	1,431.50
Libya	Tripoli	8 December	Tony O'Dowd	Director	Africa	8,500.00	0.00	8,500.00	200.00	100.00		0.00	8,800.00
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	25-27 January	James isbister	Minister Counsellor	Pretoria Post	1,490.87	0.00	1,490.87	736.95	155.50		0.00	2,383.32
Mexico	Los Cabos	19 to 21 February	Paul Wojciechowski	Assitant Director General	International Programs & Partnerships	8,581.00	61.72	8,642.72	2,414.70	468.00		0.00	11,525.42
						55,368.85	306.55	55,675.40	8,067.03	3,619.66		0.00	67,362.09

* This trip was not previously reported
** Cost of airfares are recorded on against travel with the Parliamentary Secretary to Bangladesh 12-13 Nov 11