

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

**Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010**

**Department of Finance and Deregulation**

**Finance and Deregulation Portfolio**

**Outcome 1, Program 1.3**

**Topic: Nation Building Funds – criteria used for determining eligible projects funded through the Education Investment Fund**

**Question reference number: F28**

**Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 52, 9 February 2010**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 March 2010**

**Number of Pages: 2**

**Senator Kroger asked:**

What criteria are used in determining those [Education Investment Fund] grants?

**Answer:**

Under subsection 172(1) of the *Nation-building Funds Act 2008* the designated Ministers may formulate Education Investment Fund (EIF) criteria to be applied by the EIF Advisory Board.

Evaluation criteria for the EIF were developed by the Minister for Education and Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research. They were first registered on 16 February 2009. The criteria were revised on 4 August 2009 to reflect the Government's response to the Bradley Review, the Cutler Review and the announcement of the Clean Energy Initiative.

There are nine criteria which projects are assessed against, namely:

1. Extent to which the project will address national higher education, research, VET, and/or sustainability infrastructure priorities.
2. Extent to which the project is clearly aligned with the organisation's priorities and strategic directions.
3. Extent to which there will be a positive impact on enhancing capacity.
4. Extent to which the project will result in improvements consistent with the level of investment.
5. Project determination.
6. Extent of collaboration.

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

**Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010**

**Department of Finance and Deregulation**

**Finance and Deregulation Portfolio**

7. Extent of co-investment.

8. Project readiness.

9. Capacity of the organisation to support, maintain and integrate new infrastructure into ongoing business operations.

The evaluation criteria are available on Comlaw at:

<http://www.comlaw.gov.au/comlaw/Legislation/LegislativeInstrument1.nsf/0/9D0DE18C9F117500CA25760700281F73?OpenDocument>