

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

Budget Estimates Hearings 2003-2004, 26-27 May 2003

**Question: PM60**

**Outcome 1, Output 2.2**

**Topic: Evaluation of Administered Items**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 235**

**Senator Crossin asked: Provide examples of how you evaluate each one of the administered items.**

**Answer:** OSW undertakes quantitative and qualitative evaluations of its programmes. Evaluation methodologies are developed to reflect the nature of the specific programme.

For individual projects/grants, recipients are required to provide an evaluation as part of their reporting against the contract. Where appropriate, OSW contacts a representative sample of participants to obtain feedback.

External evaluations are also undertaken. For example, an external consultant was contracted to undertake a meta-evaluation of the PADV1 programme. The evaluation of the National Secretariats under the Women's Development Programme is a three part process involving: an external evaluation; an internal compliance audit of the contracts since the Secretariats were established in 1999; and a self-evaluation by each of the Secretariats in the form of standardised quarterly reports.

The Australian Women Speak conference was evaluated by delegates and an external audit and evaluation has been commissioned.

Other types of evaluations include: demand for particular OSW products; the number of 'hits' and feedback received on the OSW website, portal and data warehouse; the proportion of women on Commonwealth boards and bodies; and the number of women nominated for Australian Honours.