

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARINGS: 11 February 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE13/0025) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Cash (L&CA 34) asked:

Have any spending priorities from the department been funded from the foreign aid budget in 2011/12 or 2012/13 in the forward estimates?

Answer:

In 2011-12 the Department managed a large aid program, delivering a variety of activities deemed to be reportable as Official Development Assistance (ODA) including:

- Assisting partner countries to improve their capacity to prevent people smuggling
- Building the capacity of developing countries in the Middle East, South East Asia and the Pacific to manage migration
- Playing a strategic role in supporting cooperative regional initiatives to address people smuggling, people trafficking, transnational crime and border management.
- Contributions to strengthening international protection and managed migration through partnerships with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration.

In 2012-13 reportable ODA will include the additional activities summarised below:

- Catering for 700,000 displaced Afghans returning from Iran over the next two years
- Providing for the sustenance and care to support Irregular Maritime Arrivals in Australia who are in the community either on a Bridging Visa E or under a Residence Determination.