

QUESTION ON NOTICE / Spoken

003 – Public Hearing 10 November 2021

Topic: Australians delivering aid

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Senator Julian Hill

Question

Mr HILL: In the same vein, Ms Bell, a follow-up question picking up on what Senator Rice asked, regarding our aid interests and activities: do we have Australian citizens currently in Ethiopia undertaking aid projects?

Ms Bell: I will pass over to Ms Chartres.

Ms Chartres: We may have to take that on notice. There was a discussion with Australian NGOs this morning on a range of issues, including of course Ethiopia, so I can't give you a clear answer at the moment. I am not aware of Australians—most of them are being run through local partners at this moment in time. We would have to clarify that.

Mr HILL: If you could take it on notice. They are often, we know from other conflicts, some of the more vulnerable people given the nature of the work they do.

Answer

Australia Assist

There are currently no Australian citizens in Ethiopia as part of the Australia Assist program.

Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP)

All eight ANCP NGOs programming in Ethiopia confirmed (email from 5 November 2021) that no Australians were in-country.

Other

We are aware of one Australian working for the Barbara May Foundation in the Afar Region. We cannot comment on how many Australians may be working for the United Nations or other international NGOs in Ethiopia.