

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 265  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)  
**Topic:** Reef 2050 Plan – private investments and offsets  
**Hansard Page:** 5  
**Question Date:** 04 March 2016  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Singh asked:**

**Senator URQUHART:** In question on notice 32 from the estimates, the department said that it would provide details of which stakeholders it had been talking to about private investments and offsets, and that further information regarding private and philanthropic investment in The Reef Trust would be made available later in 2015. Is that information available?

**Ms Parry:** I would need to go back and look specifically at the question. I do not have that with me.

**Answer:**

On 15 December 2015 the Australian and Queensland governments jointly released the Reef Trust document *Partnerships for the Reef*, which is available on the Department's website. The document showcases how private and philanthropic sectors can be involved in tackling the key pressures and challenges facing the Reef in partnership with the Reef Trust. It sets out a range of opportunities available for sponsorship, co-investment and collaboration, including six project ideas ready for development and delivery with interested parties.

The Partnerships document refers to the Reef Trust's first co-investment project, which is with Greening Australia (and its partners). This project will restore and repair priority wetland areas along the Great Barrier Reef coast. The Reef Trust will contribute \$2 million to match funds raised by Greening Australia and its partners.

Discussions with other prospective investors, and approval holders under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* in relation to the provision of offset funds, are not yet sufficiently advanced to provide further details.