

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

**Question No:** 309  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 2  
**Program:** International Climate Change and Energy Innovation Division (ICCEID)  
**Topic:** International Savanna Fire Management Initiative  
**Hansard Page:** n/a  
**Question Date:** 31 October 2016  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Siewert, Rachel asked:**

Is the Government advancing the International Savanna Fire Management Initiative (ISFMI)?

- a) If so, where is this up to?
- b) If not, why not?

**Answer:**

- From 2013 to 2015, the Australian Government provided \$2.25 million in aid funding to support the International Savanna Fire Management Initiative (ISFMI).
  - ISFMI assessed the feasibility of using indigenous Australian savanna fire management to establish similar approaches for emission reductions in developing countries.
  - The Australian Government funded the United Nations University (UNU) to manage the initiative and the Department of the Environment and Energy managed the project.
  - This funding was used to design, research and identify potential pilot sites for applying indigenous Australian savanna fire management overseas.
  - The initiative was completed and the final report was released during the Paris United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP21) in December 2015.
  - As part of the Initiative the Australian Government supported three members of the Kimberley Land Council (KLC) to attend COP 21 in order to present their on-ground experience in undertaking savanna fire management emission reduction projects.
- A) The Final Report concluded that there was a promising indication for the feasibility of savanna fire management methods to be adopted in other countries.
- B) ANU and KLC are currently in discussion with Australian Government agencies about the potential for additional Australian Government support for the implementation of savanna fire management pilot projects.