

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

Group: 3

Program: Other Agency

Question No. BE15/052

Senator Rhiannon asked the following question at the hearing on 27 and 28 May 2015:

Senator RHIANNON: Just back on the counter-narcotic initiatives: is the AFP currently involved in any international counter-narcotics initiatives?

Mr Colvin: Again, that is very broad. I would have to say the answer to that is yes. because we are involved in counter-narcotics investigations and capacity building with partners all over the world.

Senator RHIANNON: What is the current AFP expenditure on these initiatives? I would like an overall amount and then country breakdown, please.

Mr Colvin: Are you talking about every counter-narcotics investigation that we are involved in with our overseas partners?

Senator RHIANNON: Yes. I was after a total amount and then by country.

Mr Colvin: Senator, I will be able to give you some headline figures of the AFP budget in terms of our drug work and our international engagement work, but to narrow it down more than that will be extremely difficult.

Senator RHIANNON: So you can give us a global figure?

Mr Colvin: It will be quite a generic figure, yes.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The AFP is able to provide the following information, noting there are restrictions at a geographical level, as identified by the Commissioner in the transcript.

The AFP is able to estimate the cost of drug related investigations within its International Network during the 2013/14FY.

This does not include the cost of undertaking Capacity Building activities in portfolios such as the International Deployment Group or Serious and Organised Crime as mentioned by the Commissioner. These Capacity Building activities may be in support of Drug investigations or initiatives.

The AFP is not able to break down the drug investigations that are conducted by domestic investigations teams that have an international aspect (i.e. imported or exported). Noting this, a total cost estimate for Drug Investigations for FY2013-14 (excluding ACT Policing) has been provided.

These estimates do not include any international or domestic support overhead components (i.e. intelligence, surveillance, property/exhibit management, forensics or corporate support). Including these types of activities would in all likelihood increase the costs significantly.

	Drugs Effort (Direct)	FTE
AFP Drug Investigations (Australia Based excl. ACT Policing)	\$50,681,030	1,283
AFP Drug Investigations (International Network)	\$4,209,959	26
Total AFP (Excluding ACT Policing)	\$54,890,989	1,309

The costs include centrally controlled allocations (Building and Accommodation type costs).