

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09**

**Outcome/Agency**        **8**

**DEEWR Question No. EW1010\_09**

Senator **Siewert** provided in writing.

**Question**

*Indigenous Enterprise Development*

What economic development programs and funds are available to support new enterprise development? (in NT, and in other areas).

**Answer**

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) has a number of programs that are specifically designed to support new enterprise development in the Northern Territory and other area. These programs include:

- Indigenous Capital Assistance Scheme (ICAS) provides access to loans for Indigenous businesses delivered under an agreement with Westpac.
- Indigenous Small Business Fund provides funding for the development and expansion of Indigenous businesses and enterprises.
- Emerging Indigenous Entrepreneurs Initiative (EIEI) is a flexible program aimed at establishing an economic base from which to build future prosperity in communities where historically employment, self-employment and business opportunities have been limited. Funding is available to support initiatives which will improve the economic development, business skills and financial literacy of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS) helps eligible unemployed people to start up and run a new, viable small business.