

**Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee**  
Senate Budget Estimates, June 2011  
Questions on Notice: AusAID

**Question No.25**

**Senator Kroger** asked on notice:

Please provide a breakdown of the recently announced new funding of \$462.6 million to Africa, South & Central Asia and the Middle East and what it will fund.

**Answer:**

The 2011-12 Budget measure “Official development assistance - expanding aid to Africa, South and Central Asia and the Middle East” provides \$783.1 million new funding to AusAID Program 1.3 Africa, South and Central Asia, Middle East and Other for initiatives to expand aid in Africa and the Middle East, improve water, sanitation and hygiene, and eliminate violence against women.

The components of this budget measure are set out in table 1 below.

**Table 1. Official development assistance - expanding aid to Africa, South and Central Asia and the Middle East**

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Total
AusAID (\$m)	31.8	132.9	242.1	376.2	<b>783.1</b>
<i>a. Africa</i>	9.4	53.5	116.8	154.8	<b>334.5</b>
<i>b. Middle East</i>	0.0	26.3	30.9	70.9	<b>128.1</b>
<i>c. Improving Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (Cross Regional and South Asia components)</i>	20.4	45.1	84.4	134.5	<b>284.4</b>
<i>d. Eliminating Violence against Women (Cross Regional and Middle East components)</i>	2.0	8.0	10.0	16.0	<b>36.0</b>

New funding for these components will support the following outcomes.

- a) Help Africa progress towards the Millennium Development Goals by providing Australian assistance to:
- support health workforce development, particularly midwifery training, improve basic obstetric and new born health care for mothers and children in East Africa;
  - improve water and sanitation to 1.2 million people in Southern Africa, in partnership with the World Bank and African Development Bank;
  - build the capacity of African governments in areas where Australia has expertise such as agricultural, natural resource management and public administration; and
  - support humanitarian, peace building and recovery needs in fragile and conflict affected countries.

- b) Expand assistance to the Middle East by:
- helping the Palestinian Authority to deliver basic education and health services; and
  - humanitarian assistance to an estimated 4.7 million Palestinian refugees in the region through support to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).
- c) Improve water, sanitation and hygiene through:
- improved access to clean water and effective sanitation in rural towns and villages throughout South Asia (particularly Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka); and
  - support for global and regional water supply, sanitation and hygiene activities delivered by NGOs, and multilateral organisations such as the World Bank and UNICEF, particularly in Asia and Africa.

These activities, along with new funding for water and sanitation in East Asia (\$148.6 million) through the 2011-12 Budget measure “Official development assistance - expanding aid in Indonesia and South East Asia” will contribute to assisting over 4 million people to access safe water, basic sanitation and improved hygiene practices.

- d) Make progress towards eliminating violence against women by:
- providing support services to women in South and West Asia who have been subjected to violence, through partnerships with NGOs and the United Nations; and
  - expanding programs that address violence against women in conflict-affected environments.

The focus of funding for eliminating violence against women under this budget measure will be South Asia, West Asia and the global response.