

Question on Notice

Number. 189

Asked on Wednesday, 1 March 2006

MR McNAMARA MP asked the Minister for Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (**MR PITT**) -

With reference to the Strengthening non-Government Organisations project—

How will this project assist and strengthen Indigenous non-Government organisations?

ANSWER:

The Strengthening Non-Government Organisations (SNGOs) project builds an overarching framework to support non-government service delivery across Queensland.

A small Strengthening Indigenous NGOs project team has been established within the broader reform project to support the implementation for Indigenous non-government organisations of Strengthening NGO initiatives, including the introduction of new standards for community services and take-up of initiatives such as the Community Bookkeeper and Standard Chart of Accounts.

This project has a practical focus, pulling together existing and developing new culturally-adapted business models and resources for Indigenous providers. There are approximately 100 Indigenous-managed NGOs funded by the Department of Communities and Disability Services Queensland, with the majority being located in north and far north Queensland (including Cape York). These NGOs provide a range of valuable community services including childcare, domestic violence prevention services, youth development and justice, homelessness services, family support, disability service, and community support.

One of the key deliverables of the project will be the development of a 'virtual-office' CD-ROM "tool-box" that will provide easy access to practical administration and management resource materials useful in managing an Indigenous not-for-profit organisation. This CD-ROM will be based on the CD-ROM developed by the Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation for Aboriginal Councils transitioning over to shire status.