



SENATOR THE HON MARK ARBIB

Minister for Employment Participation
Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Government Service Delivery

MEDIA RELEASE

Massive \$132 million investment in Australian jobs

Minister for Employment Participation, Senator Mark Arbib today unveiled details of a massive \$132 million investment in Australian jobs as part of the first round of projects approved under the Rudd Government's \$650 million Jobs Fund.

Senator Arbib will be joined by the AFL's Western Bulldogs in announcing that the club's \$1.2 million redevelopment of Footscray's Whitten Oval was one of the 172 successful projects across Australia to receive funding.

"Today's announcement means over 6,000 jobs, 1,800 traineeships and 3,600 work experience places for communities hard hit by unemployment," Senator Arbib said.

"This is a Government with our shoulder to the wheel to keep Australia working.

"These 172 projects will help cushion the blow of the global recession on families and small business," he said.

The details of successful projects are:

State	Funds	Projects	Jobs	Traineeships	Work Experience
South Australia	\$5,663,501	8	312	40	355
Victoria*	\$34,385,468	44	1,560	340	1,030
NT	\$3,224,502	3	70	0	0
Queensland	\$29,333,675	37	1129	908	765
WA	\$4,518,152	6	194	3	62
NSW*	\$49,830,758	66	2789	528	1213
TAS*	\$5,256,319	8	127	56	250

Over 2,500 applications were received for the first round of funding, with projects needing to be viable, ready to start and in areas impacted by unemployment or labour market vulnerability.

Senator Arbib will be joined by local MP and the Federal Minister for Health and Ageing, Nicola Roxon and Senators Steve Fielding and Sarah Hanson-Young, who helped the passage of the Jobs Fund through the Senate.

"It's important to pay tribute to the work of Senator Fielding and The Greens in helping the Government unlock funding that assists Australians into work and deliver community facilities around the state," Senator Arbib said.

"Without stimulus measures like the Jobs Fund, Treasury estimates 210,000 more Australians would be out of work and communities denied vital infrastructure like Whitten Oval," he said.

Details regarding individual projects can be located at www.deewr.gov.au.

**Includes projects announced as part of the Victorian Bushfires Recovery, Dandenong, Western Sydney & Tasmania Keep Australia Working Forums*

Media inquiries: Andrew Downes 0407 433 929 / 02 9251 3766

DEEWR Media: media@deewr.gov.au **Non-media queries:** 1300 363 079

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