

## Measuring Australia's Progress: Inviting Your Comments

Measuring Australia's Progress (MAP) is the title of a proposed new ABS publication that will assess progress in Australia across the environmental, social and economic aspects of life. The first issue of MAP is scheduled for release in early 2002; the ABS expect to issue updates of the publication thereafter, perhaps annually. We are now consulting selected interested parties about the project, and some papers are enclosed that describe the proposed new publication.

This consultation has a number of aims. The first is to test what style and content of ABS publication would make the most valuable contribution to discussions of national progress. The second aim is to test the choices we have made while putting the publication together, especially our rationale for choosing indicators and our descriptions of the linkages between aspects of progress.

We are asking those we consult for general comments on our proposals. In addition, we are asking some specific questions to help focus the responses.

First and foremost,

- After reading the publication described in the enclosed materials, would you be better able to assess Australian progress?

And, more specifically:

- Which parts of the publication work well, and which could be improved or removed?
- Is MAP interesting, informative and readily digestible?
- Should other information or analysis be added?
- Does MAP give too much or too little emphasis to particular aspects of progress?
- Does our choice of indicators, and the criteria that guided our choice, seem transparent and defensible?
- Have we omitted headline indicators or dimensions of progress that should, and could, be included?

Could you please send your responses to me by 30 June 2001,

Jon Hall  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
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Belconnen ACT 2616  
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I will be away from the office until mid-June, so if you have any queries please telephone Cristy Williams on 02 6252 5546, or email [cristy.williams@abs.gov.au](mailto:cristy.williams@abs.gov.au).

I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your help.

### Jon Hall

**NB** During May, I will be presenting seminars in each capital city to discuss this consultation and answer questions. Details are attached and if you would like to attend could you please contact the relevant ABS office.

#### Seminar Details

Date	City	Contact
1 May	Canberra (10.30am)	John Connor 02 6207 0244 <a href="mailto:John.Connor@abs.gov.au">John.Connor@abs.gov.au</a>
3 May	Sydney (2pm)	Cameron Sach 02 9268 4376 <a href="mailto:Cameron.Sach@abs.gov.au">Cameron.Sach@abs.gov.au</a>
4 May	Brisbane (10.30am)	Henry Zuk 07 3222 6125 <a href="mailto:Henry.Zuk@abs.gov.au">Henry.Zuk@abs.gov.au</a>
8 May	Darwin (9.30am)	Megha Raut 08 8943 2122 <a href="mailto:Megha.Raut@abs.gov.au">Megha.Raut@abs.gov.au</a>
9 May	Hobart (10.30am)	Louise Hawker 03 6222 5816 <a href="mailto:Louise.Hawker@abs.gov.au">Louise.Hawker@abs.gov.au</a>
10 May	Melbourne (10.30am)	Sophie Vassiliou 03 9615 7864 <a href="mailto:Sophia.Vassiliou@abs.gov.au">Sophia.Vassiliou@abs.gov.au</a>
11 May	Adelaide (11.00am)	Caroline Lower 08 8237 7312 <a href="mailto:Caroline.Lower@abs.gov.au">Caroline.Lower@abs.gov.au</a>
14 May	Perth (10.30am)	Sue Koo 08 9360 5234 <a href="mailto:Sue.Koo@abs.gov.au">Sue.Koo@abs.gov.au</a>