Optimising migration outcomes – linking skills and the labour market

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Australian Permanent Mission to the United Nations
Geneva, 5 February 2015
Outline

• Industry skills needs in the Australian context
• Evolution to employer-sponsored, demand-driven migration
• Skills assessment and recognition
• Optimising labour migration programs and the wellbeing of migrants.
• Challenges of addressing needs into the future - planning to achieve the ‘triple win’
How do we plan our Migration Programme?

Annual Migration Programme

- Labour market, business and industry needs
- Stakeholder views
- Family and community needs
- State, Territory, Local Government views
- Fiscal impact consideration
- Government direction
- Economic and demographic indicators

Department of Immigration and Border Protection
Australia’s Continuous Survey of Australia’s Migrants (CSAM) is designed to examine the labour market integration of recently arrived skilled migrants.
One of the key developments associated with an increase in skilled migration over the last 10 to 15 years, has been a shift away from supply-driven, or independent, points-tested migration, towards employer-sponsored, demand-driven migration.
Australia’s skills assessment regime is effective because we assess the skills of potential skilled migrants to be able to work in their nominated occupation at the required skill level before we make a decision on their visa application.
Our Seasonal Worker Programme is a model for circular migration as it aims to give eligible migrants the opportunity to gain skills and knowledge, and send financial remittances home before returning to their country of origin at the end of a defined term.
Australia understands that as labour migration patterns and pathways diversify, ethical recruitment practices and flexible migration programmes are increasingly crucial to optimising and maintaining the integrity of labour migration programs, as well as for the safety and wellbeing of migrants.
Australia recognises that we need to be strategic and visionary in meeting the challenges of addressing needs into the future.