

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY

SUPPORT PROGRAMME



FACILITATING A COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAY THROUGH HUMANITARIAN VISAS

As the UN Migration Agency, IOM assists its Member States in developing and operationalizing flexible and complementary pathways that facilitate safe, regular, and orderly migration, including through humanitarian visas. Owing to its extensive migration management experience and global presence, IOM is uniquely positioned to support migrants in vulnerable situations throughout the migration process, including their integration into host societies.

A recent example is the Australian Community Support Programme (CSP) which enables communities, businesses, families and individuals to sponsor eligible migrants that seek to apply for a Subclass 202 Global Special Humanitarian Visa. Through this programme IOM supports the significant role that potential employers and community groups fulfill in striving for sustainable integration, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Global Compact on Migration. By improving access to information, visa and travel services and post-arrival assistance, the CSP contributes to fluid migration and sustainable integration of migrants to facilitate positive impacts for both migrants and host communities.



Goal 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility.

Objective 5: Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration.

Objective 3: Migration should take place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner.

IOM is one of the Approved Proposing Organisations (APO) appointed by the Government of Australia (Department of Home Affairs) and can propose migrants whose application could be considered under this visa category. Introduced in March 2018, CSP allocates 1,000 places within the Australian humanitarian migration program for eligible migrants. With substantial experience and expertise in coordinating the resettlement of humanitarian migrants to Australia, IOM is well placed to assume such responsibilities. IOM, under various humanitarian programmes assists nearly 10,000 migrants annually to travel to Australia and has worked with over 400 community organizations. Moreover, IOM is in the unique position to leverage its broad network of field offices close to migrants to arrange in-person support, for example with health assessments, departure formalities, domestic and international transportation as well as pre-departure orientation.

FURTHER IOM FUNCTIONS WITHIN THE CSP INCLUDE:

- Identifying suitable Australian supporters and employers
- Assessing the applicants against the eligibility criteria
- Facilitating application for the visa through Registered Migration Agents.
- Coordinating beneficiaries' travel to Australia
- Ensuring beneficiaries receive appropriate settlement services from their Australian supporters, employers, the Human Settlement Programme (HSP) and other relevant agencies.



SPONSORS IN AUSTRALIA

Relatives, community organisations, businesses or registered charities who enter an arrangement with IOM to support the applicants. They would provide support in the following ways:

- Introducing client to IOM
- Setting up employment pathways for applicants
- Paying costs relating to the services provided
- Providing an Assurance of Support (AoS)



HUMANITARIAN SETTLEMENT SERVICE PROVIDERS (HSPs)

HSPs will be engaged at the visa lodgement stage to ensure that the client has services available when the client arrives in Australia.



EMPLOYERS

IOM and the Australian supporters will reach out to reputable employers who are able to provide assistance to applicants with sustainable employment to create a pathway to financial independence within 12 month. Employers can also act as Australian supporters by introducing clients to IOM.

1

ASSESSMENT

- Identify eligibility
- Assess the Australian supporter
- Assess the employment prospects

2

VISA APPLICATION LODGEMENT

- Assist with visa application
- Secure HSPs and settlement services
- Secure employment pathway
- Assurance of support

3

VISA PROCESSING

- Assist with medical clearances
- Assist with exit clearances
- Preparation for interview

4

ASSISTED TRAVEL

- Pre departure orientation
- Booking air tickets
- Transit assistance
- Reception upon arrival

5

SETTLEMENT SERVICES FOR 12 MONTHS

- Accommodation
- Employment
- Other services

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Living outside his or her home country and is subject to substantial discrimination amounting to gross violation of his/her human rights in the home country.
- Having an offer of employment (or a pathway that leads to employment) and appropriate level of English considering to the job offered.
- Personal attributes that would enable the applicant to become financially self-sufficient within 12 months of arrival.
- Willingness to live and work in regional or rural Australia.
- Between 18 and 50 years of age.

