

IOM in Australia



FACTSHEET

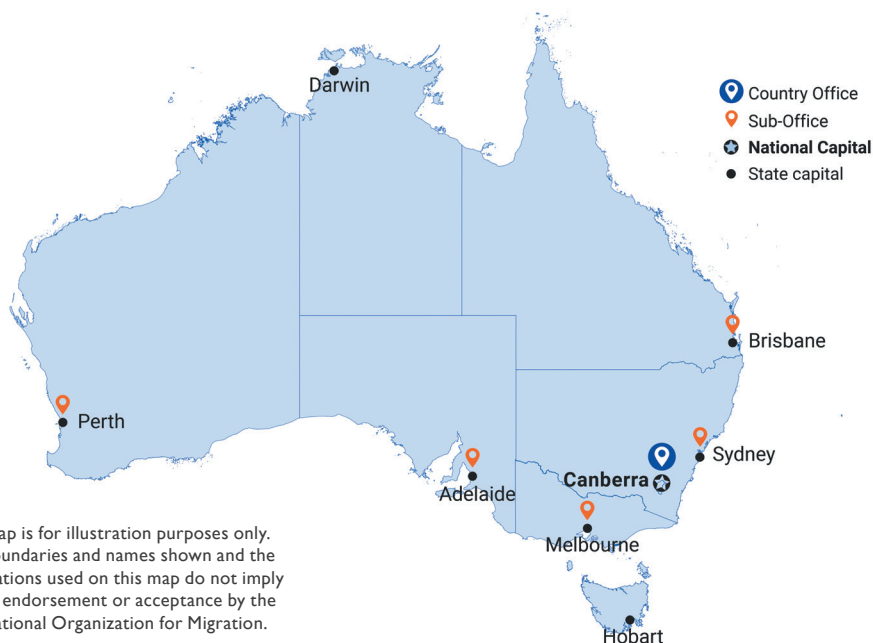


Overview

IOM has worked closely with Australia, a founding member state, for over 70 years, and is present in six Australian states and territories.

IOM Australia enjoys long-term partnerships with Australia's Government, mainly the Department of Home Affairs and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. IOM also works with community, faith-based and civil society organizations, in delivering migration related assistance to migrants. More recently, IOM is exploring collaboration with academia and the private sector.

Among its key projects is the Assisted Passage contract, offering medical and travel assistance to refugees. Through the Australian IOM sub offices it also supports the voluntary return and reintegration of migrants. IOM Australia contributes to policy discussions on resettlement, migrant protection, and labour mobility, and runs the Australian Cultural Orientation (AUSCO) program to prepare refugees for life in Australia. Beyond government-funded efforts, IOM Australia offers self-funded services, including migration advice, travel for non-government funded migrants, and social inclusion and post arrival resettlement, enhancing its support for migrants' diverse needs



Key Figures 2023

45+ staff



6 Offices



\$38 Million

projects managed from Australia (USD)



\$13 Million

Activities in Australia (USD)



+10,000

People assisted



Main Areas of Work

Driving Solutions to Displacement

(IOM Strategic Plan Objective 2)



Resettlement of refugees

The Australian Assisted Passage Programme consisting of travel and medical components supports over 7,000 refugees, every year, to arrive in Australia under the government sponsorship. IOM provides cultural orientation to assist refugees in preparing for their new life.

To complement to this, IOM assists annually the resettlement of close to 3,000 humanitarian migrants sponsored by communities in Australia.

Pacific Project Support



A dedicated IOM Project Support Unit assists IOM Pacific missions in project development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Facilitating Pathways for Regular Migration

(IOM Strategic Plan Objective 3)



Protection

The Australian Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programme has assisted over 8,000 migrants to return to over 120 countries since its inception in 2006, over 3,000 returnees received post arrival reintegration assistance.

Despite not having a dedicated programme, IOM is engaging in supporting the Government, Private Sector and Civil Society in addressing trafficking in persons and modern slavery in Australia. IOM provide technical guidance to these stakeholders, including for legislative reforms, and raise awareness on migrant workers vulnerabilities in different forum.

Social inclusion

IOM accompanies eligible migrants to settle in Australia over the first twelve months upon arrival. The support entails a team dedicated to case management with migrants and their sponsors, offering orientation, employment and education, amongst others, assisting comprehensively their settlement journey in Australia.

IOM has engaged with over 200 migrants to settle in Australia so far.

Cooperation and Partnerships

IOM supports Australia's regional engagement and policy dialogue on migration, by providing technical, logistical and administrative assistance to the Australian Government as the co-chair of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, and Australia's engagement with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. In 2023, IOM assisted over 450 delegates to come together on regional forums.

Regular pathways

IOM provides migration information and advice on migration pathways through information sessions in Australia and overseas, which have attracted more than 750 participants in 2023.

The programme is expanding to include information on employment rights and how to access reliable information and support to reduce exploitation risks, empowering them with information about their rights and choices, and increasing confidence to make informed decisions regarding their migration.

IOM assists migrants to obtain skilled, family or employer sponsored visas through in-house registered migration agents.