

**Australian Parliament
Joint Standing Committee on Migration
Submission No. 68**

Australia has benefited enormously from the immigration of people from all parts of the world, and over time has developed programmes and approaches that have made it one of the most successful culturally diverse countries in the world.

However, this success should not be taken for granted; continued efforts are needed to build on the benefits we enjoy today.

To achieve this, we require continued positive input from our leaders at all government levels and a strengthening of programmes that are community based. Locally based programmes are best placed to know the needs of both newcomers and established members of the community.

Programmes that enable newcomers to become productive members of society are particularly important. Valuing and harnessing their skills not only benefits the newcomers but obviously also greatly benefits Australia, economically and socially.

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