Multicultural Development Australia (MDA Ltd) and ACU Partnership
Presenters

Carla Zafiriadis
Program Manager

Kelly Sibanda
Youth Engagement Officer
Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

MDA Acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Land on which we meet – and why we believe this is important.
Who is MDA?

• MDA is a Not-for-Profit organisation.
• We have been working with diverse communities in Queensland since 1998
  • 60+ cultures
  • 200+ staff
  • 4 offices
  • 250 cultural supports workers
  • 300+ volunteers
What’s the difference?

A MIGRANT

is someone who chooses to leave their country of origin for personal or economic reasons.

A REFUGEE

is someone who has been forced to flee their country because of persecution, war or violence. They have sought asylum and after processing have been assessed as having a genuine need for protection.

AN ASYLUM SEEKER

is someone seeking protection but whose claim for refugee status has not yet been assessed.

The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees
Global Situation

65.3 million forcibly displaced people worldwide

Refugees 21.3 million
16.1 million under UNHCR mandate
5.2 million Palestinian refugees registered by UNRWA

 Stateless people 10 million

Refugees resettled 107,100 in 2015
Global Situation

Where the world’s displaced people are being hosted

- 12% Americas
- 6% Europe
- 29% Africa
- 39% Middle East and North Africa
- 14% Asia and Pacific

Top hosting countries

- Jordan: 664,100
- Ethiopia: 736,100
- Islamic Republic of Iran: 979,400
- Lebanon: 1.1m
- Pakistan: 1.6m
- Turkey: 2.5m

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### Offshore grants
#### Top 10 Countries of Birth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Birth</th>
<th>Refugee</th>
<th>SHP</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>2,069</td>
<td>2,289</td>
<td>4,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>1,710</td>
<td>2,551</td>
<td>4,261</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>1,031</td>
<td>920</td>
<td>1,951</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>1,418</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>1,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo (DRC)</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>515</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>437</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>337</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eritrea</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,284</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,268</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,552</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Offshore grants
#### By Age and Gender

- **70+**
  - Female: 219
  - Male: 132
- **50-69**
  - Female: 802
  - Male: 789
- **30-49**
  - Female: 2,158
  - Male: 2,011
- **18-29**
  - Female: 1,681
  - Male: 1,528
- **0-17**
  - Female: 2,968
  - Male: 3,264
MYAN – Youth Resettlement Trends in Australia, July 2016-17

Of the 17,446 young people who settled in Australia in 2016/17, 5,646 came via the Humanitarian Programme.

MIGRATION STREAM

- **Humanitarian Arrivals**: 50% Male, 50% Female
- **Family Arrivals**: 32% Male, 68% Female
- **Skilled Arrivals**: 43% Male, 57% Female

YOUTH ARRIVALS BY AGE & MIGRATION STREAM

- **All Arrivals (Skilled, Family & Humanitarian)**: 59% (12-17 years), 41% (18-24 years)
- **Humanitarian Arrivals**: 49% (12-17 years), 51% (18-24 years)

% OF ARRIVALS AGED BETWEEN 12 AND 24

- **Humanitarian**: 23%
- **Family**: 21%
- **Skilled**: 8%
What is the Migrant Youth Vision Project?

The Migrant Youth Vision Project (MYVP) is funded by the Department of Home Affairs. The project links young people to:

- Employment
- Education
- Training
- Sport

Eligibility for support

- Aged 15-24
- Have been in Australia for less than 5 years
PERSONAL WELL-BEING
- Positive relationships – connections with peers, family, community
- Positive self-esteem
- Positive physical, mental and sexual health
- Goals for the future and understanding of pathways to achieve these goals
- Well developed life skills
- Positive intergenerational relationships - in Australia and overseas

ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION
- Acquiring English language skills
- Engaged in pathways towards employment, including education/training
- Stable income
- Safe, stable housing

SOCIAL PARTICIPATION
- Participation in community life, eg sport and recreation
- Free from racism and discrimination and/or able to manage experiences of racism and discrimination
- Positive peer networks
- Bridging and bonding networks

CIVIC PARTICIPATION
- Understanding and enjoyment of Australia’s political and civil rights and responsibilities
- Participation in democratic processes/political decision-making
- Understanding and enjoyment of legal rights and responsibilities
- Participation in volunteering activities

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP
- Navigation of multi-cultural identity
- Sense of belonging in Australian society
- Positive cultural and religious expression – freedom to engage with cultural/religious expression
- Understanding Australian culture and society
- Access to and capacity to navigate a range of services
Challenges for young people from a refugee of migrant background

• English language

• Difference in cultural norms and values

• Lack of social and cultural capital and networks

• Unfamiliar with services in general (education, training, general support services, government, etc)

• Racism and discrimination

• Settlement pressures (from themselves and family)
Sports and Settlement

“Sports programs can help counteract psychological problems and environmental and health issues as well as stress and loneliness. They contribute to a physical fitness, mental well-being and social integration by providing a safe forum in which a child develop physically, emotionally and mentally”

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees

- Entry point to broader social participation
- A place for trust building
- A way of facilitating settlement and transitional support
- Capacity building opportunity
- Therapeutic outcome
- A way to promote health and wellbeing
- A way to build community understanding
- A cultural and racial bridge-builder
Exploring the partnership

• MDA and ACU with similar values and Mission.
  • MDA is committed to delivering a welcoming Queensland where all new arrivals have the opportunity to fully contribute to and participate in a multicultural society. Queensland’s diversity is our strength.
  • Within the Catholic intellectual tradition and acting in Truth and Love, Australian Catholic University is committed to the pursuit of knowledge, the dignity of the human person and the common good.

• MDA with links in different communities – migrants and refugees – trust with communities, parents and cultural understanding. Recruitment for program.

• MDA cross cultural understanding

• ACU with expertise in sport, community engagement and education and access to a field.
• Welcoming and supportive environment for multiple cultures and faiths

• Free participation cost and support with transport

• Education component with Skill Up

• Volunteers and students as crucial for success - support on Skill Up sessions and organizing the soccer competition as well as playing on it – connection & inclusion

• Food as important to create welcome and generate conversations – brings people together. Example: Ramadan and sharing a meal

• Flexibility for different levels of English
Partnership Results

- A place to make new friends, share different cultural backgrounds and languages, religions – a place of inclusion and connection outside their own communities.

- A starting point to explore skills and interests and explore possibilities in education, training and employment

- A place to share the love of sport and find other communalities

- A place to practice English

- A place to heal

- A place to build understanding of other cultures and how to work across cultures
Challenges and Opportunities

- Low female participation – how to engage girls in participation – opportunity for new activities

- Competitive versus inclusive competition – how to make it attractive to everyone – incentives for continuous involvement (for instance participate ACU sport)

- Keep engagement levels in both Skill Up and Soccer but allow flexibility of participation

- Funding – MYVP funded till end of 2019. Uncertain can create opportunity for others funding sources – importance of keeping work – opportunity for evaluation of program success and outcomes

- Settlement and cultural needs and levels of participation – importance of keeping relationships with community organisations and community leaders and use “role models”

- Staffing – cross cultural appropriate and motivated volunteers/students
Thank you!