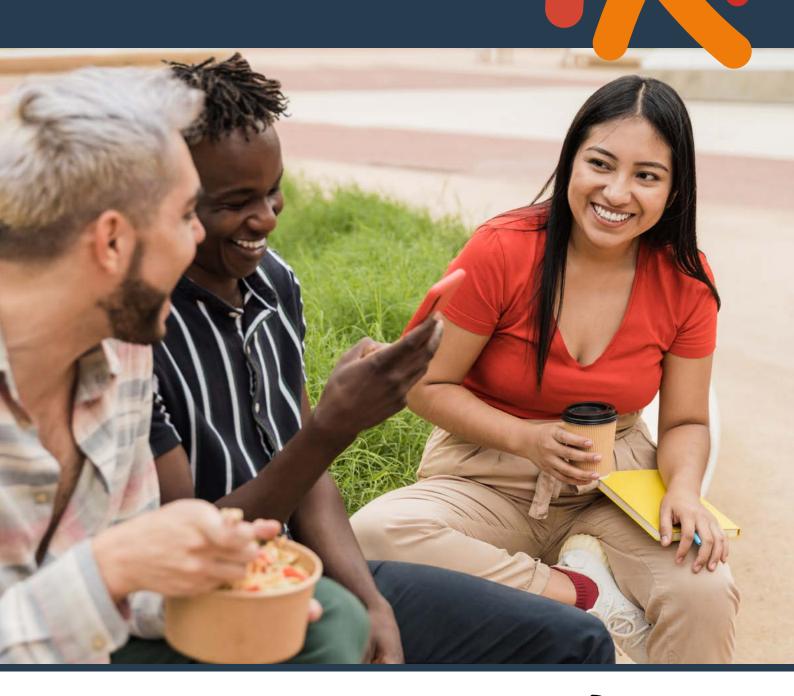
# OUR MULTICULTURAL ISLAND

**Tasmania's Multicultural Action Plan Final Report 2021-2023** 







## **Acknowledgement**

The Tasmanian Government proudly acknowledges Aboriginal people as the traditional owners, and continuing custodians of lutruwita (Tasmania).

We recognise the Tasmanian Aboriginal people's deep and continuous connection to the Land, Sea, Sky and Waterways and pay our deepest respect to Elders – past and present – and honour the cultural and linguistic diversity that has existed on this land for tens of thousands of years.



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#### Acronyms

- Culturally and linguistically diverse CALD
- Department of Premier and Cabinet DPAC
- National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters – NAATI
- Multicultural Council of Tasmania MCOT
- Migrant Resource Centre MRC
- Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology RMIT

## **Appreciation**

The Department of Premier and Cabinet would like to thank all our community partners and Government colleagues for the delivery of the numerous programs and initiatives reflected in this report, and for their ongoing commitment to Multicultural Tasmania.

We would also like to thank all the community organisations, leaders, members and volunteers who shared their stories in this report.



# Message from the Minister

As the Minister for Community Services and Development, I am deeply committed to building a Tasmania where everyone, regardless of their background, is treated fairly, with understanding and appreciation.

Multiculturalism is not just about tolerance and celebrating diversity; it goes beyond that. It embodies acceptance and inclusivity as we strive to build a stronger community around the shared values that bind us together.

Tasmania is becoming an increasingly diverse State, with more Tasmanians born overseas than ever before. It is a privilege to live in such a dynamic, resilient, and vibrant State with great diversity of cultures, languages, and religions. I firmly believe that our State is stronger and more prosperous because of our multiculturalism, and because of the valuable contributions of those who have chosen to call Tasmania home.

Our Multicultural Island: Tasmania's Multicultural Policy outlined our vision for a harmonious, inclusive, and respectful multicultural island where Tasmanians of all cultures have an equal opportunity to belong, contribute, achieve and succeed. Under the Multicultural Action Plan 2019-22 and a revised version covering the period 2021-2023 (Our Multicultural Island), the Tasmanian Government committed to delivering measures to facilitate accessible services, increase economic opportunities,

foster social inclusion and cohesion, and develop additional actions in response to, and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

This Report concludes our reporting against Our Multicultural Island and outlines our progress during the 2021-23 period. Work on the next Multicultural Action Plan is well underway, with the Multicultural Council of Tasmania (MCOT), and Migrant Resource Centres (MRC) Tasmania and MRC North leading the important consultation process, helping the Government access the voices of diverse groups and individuals representing our multicultural community. I would like to thank all the community members, organisations and leaders who have contributed to this process so far.

As we look towards the development of our next Multicultural Action Plan, I reflect on the pivotal role we all play in creating an inclusive and kind society – whether that be through our schools, sporting clubs, community groups or neighbourhoods. Multiculturalism enriches our society by providing us with new opportunities to learn, build connections, and boost our economy. And this should be celebrated.

Hon Jo Palmer MLC
Minister for Community Services
and Development

# **Snapshot of Tasmania 2021-2023**



Tasmanians were born in 177 different countries<sup>1</sup>



Tasmania's largest major religions are Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Sikhism<sup>7</sup>

**172 languages** are spoken in Tasmanian homes<sup>2</sup>

**8.7 per cent** of people living in Tasmania use a language other than English at home<sup>8</sup>



**85,674** Tasmanians were born overseas<sup>3</sup>



**5,994 international students** are studying in Tasmania<sup>9</sup>

The top four ancestries of Tasmanians were English, Australian, Irish and Scottish<sup>4</sup>

Tasmanian students can learn Chinese, French, German, Italian and Japanese up until year 12<sup>10</sup>



Mandarin, Nepali, Punjabi and Spanish are the most spoken languages after English in Tasmania<sup>5</sup>



Between 2016 and 2021, the number of Tasmanians born overseas increased by **40.3 per cent**<sup>11</sup>

Tasmania welcomed **5,492 new** permanent migrants in 2021<sup>6</sup>

Tasmania hosted **84,200** international visitors in 2022<sup>12</sup>





# Our Multicultural Island

Tasmania is a culturally, religiously and linguistically diverse State. It is home to many people from many backgrounds who have brought with them their skills, experiences, cultures and traditions. This diversity enriches us all and makes our State stronger and more prosperous through our global linkages and our community connectedness, resilience and adaptability.

Our Multicultural Island: Tasmania's Multicultural Policy outlines the Tasmanian Government's vision and commitment to achieving a harmonious, inclusive and respectful multicultural island where every Tasmanian can belong, contribute, achieve and succeed. The Action Plan, and revised extended Action Plan, built upon the work already achieved across Government and included a range of new initiatives in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through consultations with CALD Tasmanians to guide the Tasmanian Government's response, Our Multicultural Island identified three action areas:

- · accessible and affordable services,
- · economic opportunity, and
- to foster a harmonious, inclusive and respectful island.

The Tasmanian Government funds MCOT as the peak body representing the needs and interests of culturally, linguistically, and religiously diverse communities in Tasmania. The Tasmanian Government also engages with many groups and individuals.

This report outlines the achievements and outcomes under Our Multicultural Island and sets out the actions to date and next steps to deliver our new Multicultural Action Plan.



### The ongoing impacts of COVID-19

While no one escaped the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, many migrant and multicultural community members faced unique challenges.

In response to COVID-19, the Tasmanian Government committed to a range of new initiatives to ensure the needs of migrants and multicultural communities were supported including:

- \$750,000 to non-government organisations to provide emergency relief and assistance to temporary visa holders.
- The Migrant Support Network was established in early 2020 to identify and

- act on COVID-19 related response and recovery issues. The Network continues to meet regularly for collaboration and information-sharing to support improved health and wellbeing of migrant communities in Tasmania.
- A COVID-19 CALD communications strategy was developed to help share and promote information resources in community languages.

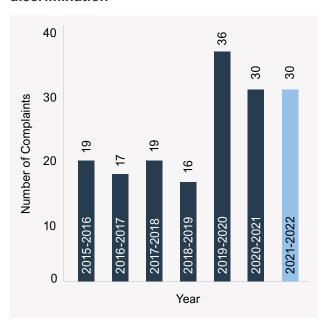
As we enter a post-pandemic world with community sector programs and activities operational again, the Tasmanian Government is focused on what we can do to respond to the needs of our migrant and multicultural communities into the future.



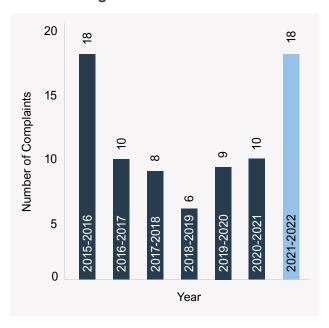


# Profile of Multicultural Tasmania

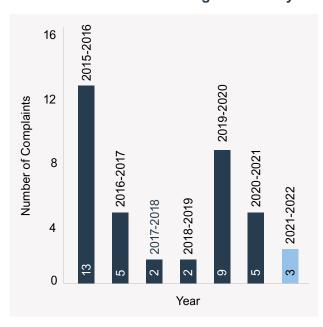
Number of complaints made to Equal Opportunity Tasmania alleging race discrimination<sup>13</sup>



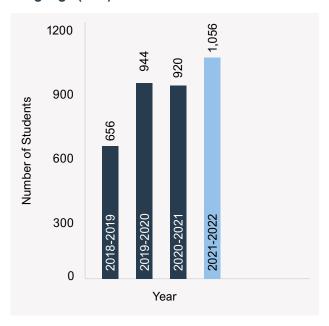
Number of complaints made to Equal Opportunity Tasmania alleging discrimination based on religious belief or affiliation<sup>14</sup>



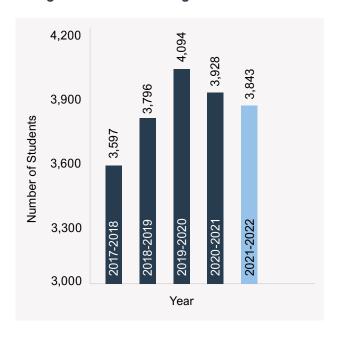
Number of complaints made to Equal Opportunity Tasmania alleging discrimination based on religious activity<sup>15</sup>



Number of students from CALD backgrounds supported by the English as an Additional Language (EAL) Service<sup>16</sup>



## Number of students enrolled from a language background other than English<sup>17</sup>



#### Engagement by recent migrants to Tasmania in employment, education and training<sup>18</sup>

| Level of engagement                       | Arrived 2001-2010 | Arrived 2011-2020 | Arrived Jan 2021<br>- August 2021 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Fully engaged                             | 54.3%             | 55.9%             | 31.6%                             |
| Partially engaged                         | 22.2%             | 18.9%             | 12.4%                             |
| At least partially engaged                | 3%                | 2.0%              | 2.6%                              |
| Not engaged                               | 17.5%             | 13.1%             | 24.2%                             |
| Engagement status undetermined/not stated | 0.4%              | 0.6%              | 2.4%                              |
| Not applicable                            | 2.6%              | 9.6%              | 26.8%                             |



# **Key Achievements** 2021-2023

### **Priority Area One: Accessible and Affordable Services**

#### Language Services

 Service Tasmania launched a new website with content in plain English to enable greater accessibility for people with limited English skills. Interpreter contact information and a language selector option are included on the website to make information more accessible to people from CALD backgrounds.

Actions 1.1 & 1.3

 In response to COVID-19, the Tasmanian Government developed and implemented a communications strategy, leading to improved information sharing and the translation of resources, including fact sheets about important health information, in community languages. Live radio reads were conducted in several languages on City Park Radio Launceston and Hobart FM.

Actions 1.2, 1.5 & 1.6

 The Tasmanian Government, in partnership with RMIT University, introduced the Interpreter Training Scholarships Program to address the shortage of NAATI-accredited interpreters in Tasmania. Between 2021-23, there were 41 successful completions of the course in 20 community languages.

Action 1.9

• The Tasmania Police Recruit Training Program initiated training in relation to the use of interpreters, cultural difference, and prejudice.

Action 1.14



#### Health and wellbeing

- Culture, Language and Health learning resources, including an introductory online module, web resources, and a team discussion guide, were launched in May 2023 for health service providers.
- In response to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan, the Tasmanian Government provided \$10,000 each to MRC Tasmania and MRC North in 2021 to support Tasmania's Afghan community. Emergency funding of \$50,000 was provided to the Tasmanian Refugee Legal Service (TRLS) to enable it to provide urgent legal advice and lodge family reunion visa applications for Tasmanian residents with family members in Afghanistan.
- Between 2020-22, the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service ran the 'Get Outside with Women Friendship Group' program to introduce new Tasmanians to national parks and reserves in a supported and safe group setting. 17 nature-based trips were delivered to women and children from six separate CALD communities in the greater Launceston region.
- Between 2020-22, 1,325 adult learn-to-swim sessions were delivered to 284 participants, including migrants, through funding provided by the Tasmanian Government to the Hobart City Council.

Action 1.17

Action 1.18

Action 1.19

Action 1.21

#### **Transport**

 In conjunction with MRC Tasmania, the Tasmanian Government developed information sheets on 'Preparing for your Driving Assessment' in Hazaragi, Mandarin, Nepali and Oromo, Filipino, Persian and Ukrainian and educational videos on obtaining a Tasmanian Driver Licence in Hazaragi, Mandarin, Nepali and Oromo.

Action 1.30

#### **Education**

 Between 2021-23, MRC Tasmania delivered the Multicultural Youth Transition Mentor Program to support young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds to transition into higher education, vocational education and training, and/or work.

Action 1.39

 In 2022, the Department of State Growth funded training for skilled migrants to access industry-specific knowledge, skills, and training in partnership with MRC Tasmania, with 12 out of 14 participants attaining short-term and ongoing job opportunities.

Action 1.40

 The Tasmanian Government provided almost \$2 million in funding to the Training and Work Pathways Program for 2022-23, which included four projects for migrants delivered by the MRC North, MRC Tasmania, and MCOT.

Action 1.42

 In 2022 and 2023, the Tasmanian Government signed or extended six Memoranda of Understanding with Vietnam, Japan and China to support opportunities for student exchange, outbound and inbound mobility for students and teachers of partner schools, and online exchanges focused on intercultural understanding.

Action 1.46

• In Tasmanian Government schools a needs-based model was implemented in 2021, which involves assessing a student's level of English and distributing resources to schools to support the student based on their level of need.

Action 1.47



| Actio | on   | Complete | Ongoing  | In progress |
|-------|--|----------|----------|-------------|
| Acce  | ssible and Affordable Services   |          |          |             |
| Lang  | uage Services  |          |          |             |
| Ongo  | plete - action delivered in full ing - action continues to be delivered by agencies or service p ogress - time-limited action is yet to be completed | roviders |          |             |
| 1.1   | Promote the requirements of the Tasmanian Government Communications Policy.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.2   | Develop and implement a COVID-19 Communications Plan for CALD communities.   | <b>✓</b> |          |             |
| 1.3   | Enhance Service Tasmania services for CALD clients. Revise and update internal staff processes for provision of interpreter services.                |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.4   | Develop and promote participation in training modules for selection panels on recruiting for diversity and addressing biases.                        |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.5   | Use appropriate communication strategies with CALD people in Tasmania about important health information related to COVID-19.                        |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.6   | Provide information to CALD people in Tasmania about the COVID-19 vaccination program.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.7   | Support agencies in their implementation of the revised Multicultural Language Services Guidelines for Tasmanian Government agencies.                |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.8   | Jointly fund NAATI to set and maintain high national standards in translating and interpreting.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.9   | Increase the number of NAATI credentialed interpreters in new and emerging languages, through the Interpreter Training Scholarships Program.         | <b>~</b> |          |             |
| 1.10  | Work through the NAATI Regional Advisory<br>Committee to address regional challenges in<br>interpreting.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.11  | Finalise the revised cultural competency training program and work with agencies to increase crosscultural competencies across the State Service.    |          |          | <b>✓</b>    |
| 1.12  | Facilitate access to information on services through the Multicultural Access Point website.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.13  | Provide information on agency websites to enable those who require an interpreter to contact one.  |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 1.14  | Consider options for staff training on use of interpreters and cross-cultural competence within emergency services.                                  | <b>~</b> |          |             |

| Actio | on  | Complete | Ongoing  | In progress |
|-------|---|----------|----------|-------------|
| Heal  | th and Wellbeing  |          |          |             |
| 1.15  | Continue to provide free comprehensive assessments through the Refugee and Humanitarian Arrival Clinic.   |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 1.16  | Continue to assist acute and primary health services to work CALD patients accessing care.  |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 1.17  | Continue to provide advice and system support through Public Health Services to improve the health of CALD people in Tasmania.                          |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.18  | Provide support to organisations and communities impacted by emerging humanitarian crises.  |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 1.19  | Deliver the 'Get Outside' program for CALD groups.  | <b>✓</b> |          |             |
| 1.20  | Promote Ticket to Play to boost participation in sport and physical activity for Tasmanians aged five to 17.  |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 1.21  | Provide funding to the Hobart City Council to work in partnership with the Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre and MRC to offer learn-to-swim programs. |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.22  | Provide ongoing support to community programs, such as Police and Citizens Youth Clubs to empower young people to reach their potential.                | <b>~</b> |          |             |
| 1.23  | Continue to convene the COVID-19 Migrant Support Network as a communications and information-sharing group.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.24  | Recognising the continued vulnerability of temporary visa holders, provide emergency relief and assistance.   | <b>~</b> |          |             |
| 1.25  | Provide financial assistance for families to meet the cost of energy through the Energy Hardship Fund.  |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 1.26  | Invest in the NILS Network to support low-income Tasmanians to purchase essential household items.  |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 1.27  | Promote and annually update the Tasmanian Government Concessions and Discounts Guide.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.28  | Provide a range of concessions to asylum seekers and temporary refugees, including transport.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |

| Actio | on  | Complete | Ongoing  | In progress |
|-------|---|----------|----------|-------------|
| Trans | sport   |          |          |             |
| 1.29  | Fund the Learner Driver Mentor Program.   | <b>~</b> |          |             |
| 1.30  | Assist migrants to obtain a Tasmanian Driver Licence by continuing to develop educational videos in a range of languages.                             | <b>~</b> |          |             |
| 1.31  | Provide services that run earlier in the morning, later in the evening and on the weekend to provide better transport choices for all passengers.     | <b>~</b> |          |             |
| 1.32  | Ensure consistency of concession types and fare methodology on all public bus services.   | <b>✓</b> |          |             |
| Hous  | ing   |          |          |             |
| 1.33  | Continue to make available on-arrival properties for refugees.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.34  | Raise awareness of the services of Housing Connect.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.35  | Progress implementation of Tasmania's Affordable Housing Strategy 2021-25.  |          |          | <b>~</b>    |
| 1.36  | Develop a new comprehensive Tasmanian Housing Strategy.   |          |          | <b>~</b>    |
| Educ  | ation and Training  |          |          |             |
| 1.37  | Fund dependent children of Skilled Regional (Provisional) (subclass 489) visa holders so that they can be supported to learn English.*                |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.38  | Continue to provide per capita grants under the Community Languages School Program (Prep to Year 12).   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.39  | Support migrant students with their learning in senior High School years, and with transition into Years 11 and 12, and vocational education.         | <b>~</b> |          |             |
| 1.40  | Support skilled migrants to gain meaningful employment through onsite assessment.   | <b>✓</b> |          |             |
| 1.41  | Offer a range of programs through TasTAFE to develop English language skills.   |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 1.42  | Fund and support innovative projects that address barriers for humanitarian entrants, through the Skills Tasmania Training and Work Pathways Program. |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.43  | Work with industries and employers to establish practical initiatives to assist humanitarian entrants to overcome barriers to employment.             |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.44  | Provide State Government subsidised training for Tasmanian residents who hold temporary humanitarian visas.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |

| Actio | on  | Complete | Ongoing  | In progress |
|-------|---|----------|----------|-------------|
| Educ  | ation and Training (continued)  |          |          |             |
| 1.45  | Support initiatives designed to enhance student experience and develop connections with the local community.  | <b>~</b> |          |             |
| 1.46  | Foster opportunities for outbound mobility and international engagement for Tasmanian students and teachers.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.47  | Implement the new EAL Support Model that provides needs-based support to assist students to increase their English.   | <b>~</b> |          |             |
| 1.48  | Increase training program delivery to skill people to work in the growing aged care and disability support sectors.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 1.49  | Proactively engage with the Multicultural Consultative Reference Group (MCRG) on how to facilitate economic opportunities for people from CALD backgrounds. |          | <b>~</b> |             |

<sup>\*</sup> GETI provides funding to the EAL Program on an as-needs basis for a multitude of Temporary Resident Program visa types, not just the Skilled Regional (Provisional) (subclass 489/491) visa holders.

# Case Study – The 'Get Outside with Women's Friendship Group' program (Action 1.19)

The 'Get Outside with Women's Friendship Group' program was an extension of the 'Get Outside' program funded by the Tasmanian Community Fund which provides nature-based experiences for refugees and new migrants in northern Tasmania.

Through the program, participants visited national parks and reserves including Mole Creek Caves, Low Head Pilot Station, and Trowunna Wildlife Park.

A highlight of the program was an arts and craft trip planned for female migrants to Chudleigh/Alum Cliffs. During the trip, the group was able to relax in nature, engage in creative activities, and have meaningful conversations with the volunteers through an interpreter.

Through the program, participants developed connections with other participants which has led to families holding independent outings outside of the program in local Launceston parks, reserves, and public spaces.

### **Priority Area Two: Economic Opportunity**

#### **Employment**

 In July 2023, the Tasmanian Government established the Employer of Choice Assist program to support small businesses to develop and retain a diverse workforce.

Action 2.5

 The Tasmanian State Service is supporting recent university graduates from CALD backgrounds through TasGrad. TasGrad is a graduate development program where graduates are employed across agencies and participate in a Development Program designed to build foundation skills for a successful career.

Action 2.6

 Between 2021-22, the Tasmanian Government funded MRC Tasmania to deliver the Industry Insights and Migrant Talent program which provided career coaching sessions, networking opportunities and industry information to 866 international students and skilled migrants.

Action 2.9

 In June 2021, MRC Tasmania launched Career Coaching Online Learning Modules for international students and State-nominated skilled migrants, with 631 users accessing the platform.

Action 2.9

 Over 400 participants engaged with the Multicultural Employment Program supporting migrant job seekers to utilise and build on their existing skills and experience. A draft inclusive recruitment toolkit has been developed in consultation with Agencies to support workforce participation of candidates from diverse backgrounds including people from CALD backgrounds.

Action 2.12

 The Tasmania Government has established seven regional Jobs Hubs across Tasmania, which are available to any person with the right to work in Australia.

Action 2.14

#### **Entrepreneurial**

NILS Tasmania's MicroBusiness Loan program is available to eligible
migrants, including Temporary Skilled and Humanitarian visa holders.
These loans have helped clients establish a range of micro businesses such
as landscaping and garden maintenance, cleaning services, fine arts and
crafts, hospitality and restaurants to name a few.

Action 2.17

 Migration Tasmania nominated business migrants under the Tasmania State Nomination Migration Program which seeks entrepreneurs to develop businesses that will deliver genuine innovation to the Tasmanian economy.

Action 2.18

| Actio | on  | Complete | Ongoing  | In progress |
|-------|---|----------|----------|-------------|
| Econ  | omic Opportunity  |          |          |             |
| Emp   | oyment Opportunities  |          |          |             |
| 2.1   | Support workforce participation of people with CALD backgrounds and reduce barriers to employment by developing training resources and other tools.       |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 2.2   | Support the MRCs to build and extend their existing migrant and multicultural employment job-readiness programs.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 2.3   | Through the Office of Tasmanian Assessment,<br>Standards and Certification, work to improve the<br>system for the recognition of overseas qualifications. |          |          | <b>~</b>    |
| 2.4   | Promote the Public Sector Recruitment Skills course.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 2.5   | Deliver the Tasmanian Employer of Choice Awards.  |          |          | <b>~</b>    |
| 2.6   | Promote Tasmanian State Service graduate programs to people from CALD backgrounds.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 2.7   | Target work placement and work experience opportunities towards people from CALD backgrounds.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 2.9   | Support initiatives that enhance international student employability.   |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 2.10  | Work with employers, as well as temporary and permanent refugees, to meet labour shortages in growth areas of the Tasmanian economy.                      |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 2.11  | Support initiatives to increase employment for people from CALD backgrounds through increasing work experience opportunities.                             |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 2.12  | Support the MRCs to build and extend migrant and multicultural job-readiness programs.  |          |          | <b>~</b>    |
| 2.13  | Increase internships and work experience for CALD Tasmanians.   |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 2.14  | Establish four new job hubs in regional communities.  | <b>✓</b> |          |             |
| 2.15  | Continue to partnership between Jobs Tasmania and MRCs.   |          |          | <b>~</b>    |

| Actio | pn  | Complete | Ongoing  | In progress |
|-------|---|----------|----------|-------------|
| Entre | epreneurial Opportunities   |          |          |             |
| 2.16  | Through the Business Enterprise Centres, increase small business support and mentoring to assist migrants to establish and grow their own small business.   |          |          | <b>~</b>    |
| 2.17  | Provide no-interest micro-business loans to migrants on low incomes to start or grow their business.  |          |          | <b>~</b>    |
| 2.18  | Work with the Australian Government to attract successful business investors to establish new or develop existing businesses in Tasmania through the Tasmania State Nomination Migration program. |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 2.19  | Support social and individual enterprises for migrant and multicultural communities.  |          | <b>✓</b> |             |

# Case Study – Multicultural Employment Services Pathway Support (Actions 2.1, 2.7, 2.11 & 2.13)

In August 2022, a young couple was referred to the Multicultural Employment Services (MES) at CatholicCare Tasmania. At this time, the couple had a young child and were expecting their second. They had moved to Tasmania via the Skilled Regional (Provisional) Visa (489) program, and were first seeking to secure employment for one partner in his relevant professional field. However, due to a range of factors associated with their migration, this partner's mental health was suffering, and he was finding it difficult to focus on applying for employment.

To address the immediate concerns, the MES Facilitator provided a range of referrals and supports to help ease the pressing burdens on the family. This included referrals to counselling and Emergency Relief providers, food orders from local charities, donations of children's clothing and toys, and assistance with applying for financial support. These actions helped ease some of the pressures on the family, creating space to focus on employment support. After two months of intensive assistance, employment was secured, and the family's situation was improving.

However, they were still finding it difficult to provide for their family of four on a single wage. After seeing the successful outcomes of MES support, the other partner decided to also register for employment support in her relevant professional field. After three months of intensive application and interview assistance, she also gained employment.

### Priority Area Three: Harmonious, Inclusive and Respectful Island

 In 2023, the seventh annual Harmony Week celebration was held from 20-26 March. MCOT coordinated and collaborated with various organisations to promote and support large events in Hobart and Launceston during the week. To support smaller events small grants were provided to 17 cultural organisations.

Action 3.2

 To ensure established and emerging communities across Tasmania have dedicated spaces to foster social integration and receive information and training, the Tasmanian Government continues to support Multicultural Hubs in Moonah and Launceston, including the re-development of Launceston's Multicultural Hub in Mowbray.

Actions 3.3 & 3.4

 Between 2021-23, the Tasmanian Government nominated 7,550 skilled migrants for skilled work visas to help meet workforce needs in Tasmania. Actions 3.6 & 3.7

The Tasmanian Government promoted the Skilled Migration State
 Nomination Program through a webinar series for the hospitality, tourism,
 and manufacturing industries, a promotional roadshow, an ITC migrants
 career event, and a forum hosted by the Tasmanian Minerals and
 Energy Council.

Action 3.10

 Tasmania was showcased as an international destination of choice to international students and education agents as part of Study Tasmania activities and Austrade Fairs in India, South Korea and Japan and during the Tasmanian Trade Mission to Singapore and Vietnam in 2022. The Tasmanian Government also delivered inbound agent familiarisation tours, met with embassy officials and hosted and participated in digital events in support of international education.

Action 3.11

 Brand Tasmania launched key projects such as Women in Tasmania and Little Tasmanian which highlighted the experiences, achievements and contributions of Tasmanians from a range of multicultural backgrounds, with the Little Tasmanian book translated into 28 languages.

Action 3.12

 Equal Opportunity Tasmania (EOT) developed a multilingual poster 'Discrimination is against the law: Know your rights' to enable non-English speakers to access information about discrimination law and complaints mechanisms in their language of choice. This has been translated into 20 languages and is complemented by audio recordings in several languages.

Action 3.17

• EOT have established a new position for a Community Engagement Officer to focus on building networks, connections and collaborations across various Tasmanian communities.

Action 3.20

 In response to concerns raised by the Faith Community Network of Tasmania, EOT facilitated a visit by a crime prevention expert to six religious buildings across greater Hobart in 2022 to provide security advice to religious groups experiencing discrimination and harassment at their places of worship.

Action 3.20

 The Tasmanian Government has partnered with the Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators to deliver family violence training for interpreters.
 Workshops delivered in 2021 and 2022 focused on raising awareness about family and domestic violence and how to support to victim-survivors.

Action 3.26



| Actio | on  | Complete | Ongoing  | In progress |
|-------|---|----------|----------|-------------|
| Harn  | nonious, Inclusive and Respectful Island  |          |          |             |
| 3.1   | Support MCOT to promote a CALD and harmonious Tasmania.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.2   | Support Harmony Week and a range of Multicultural Festivals and Events that celebrate Tasmania's diversity.                               |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.3   | Support development of a new Multicultural Hub in Northern Tasmania.  | <b>✓</b> |          |             |
| 3.4   | Facilitate access to accessible and affordable meeting spaces for multicultural communities.  |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 3.5   | Finalise and distribute the updated Community Use of Facilities Policy.   | <b>✓</b> |          |             |
| 3.6   | Work with the Australian Government to facilitate migration opportunities for Tasmania.   |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 3.7   | Encourage and facilitate overseas and interstate migration to Tasmania and encourage Tasmanians living elsewhere to resettle in Tasmania. |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.8   | Build and promote Tasmania's liveability and foster a culture which is vibrant, inclusive, respectful and supportive.                     |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.9   | Ensure family and skilled migrants are provided with information and support on arrival in Tasmania.                                      |          | <b>✓</b> |             |
| 3.10  | Support Tasmanian businesses to attract and retain skilled migrants through Tasmania's Skilled Migration State Nomination Program.        |          | <b>~</b> |             |

| Actio | on  | Complete | Ongoing  | In progress |
|-------|---|----------|----------|-------------|
| Harn  | nonious, Inclusive and Respectful Island (continued)  |          |          |             |
| 3.11  | Implement the Tasmanian Global Education Strategy to grow Tasmania's international education sector.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.12  | Promote the Tasmanian Showcase to direct people to opportunities across trade, tourism, workforce attraction, investment attraction, and liveability.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.13  | Ensure that the Tasmanian brand is collectively owned and promoted by government, business and the community.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.14  | Work in partnership at the inter-governmental level to plan and deliver settlement services under the National Settlement Framework.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.15  | Explore outreach clinics with the Tasmanian Refugee Legal Service, Culturally Diverse Alliance of Tasmania and African Communities Council of Tasmania to increase awareness of discrimination law. |          |          | <b>~</b>    |
| 3.16  | Provide training to promote non-discriminatory practices and increase awareness of rights and responsibilities under discrimination law.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.17  | Promote the availability of other language versions of<br>the EOT's website to enable non-English speakers to<br>access information about discrimination law.                                       |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.18  | Work across government agencies and with key non-<br>government organisations to increase awareness of<br>how to make a discrimination complaint.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.19  | Work with the Commonwealth to examine models for a National Anti-Racism Framework and areas for intergovernmental cooperation.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.20  | Through the role of a Training, Education and Development Officer, have a focus on community engagement with multicultural communities.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.21  | Support Tasmanians to be safe and secure through Safe Homes, Families, Communities: Tasmania's response to family and sexual violence 2019-2022. *This continues under Survivors at the Centre.     | <b>~</b> |          |             |
| 3.22  | Administer funding to the legal assistance sector to ensure the provision of legal assistance to vulnerable Tasmanians.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.23  | Through the Multicultural Liaison Officer, Tasmania Police will continue to build upon the contact officer network established in 2021.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.24  | Through the newly established Multicultural liaison network, Tasmania Police is considering strategies to further strengthen community engagement.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.25  | Ensure that information on family violence is available in languages other than English and reaches those people in need of information.  |          | <b>~</b> |             |
|       |   |          |          |             |

| Action  | Complete | Ongoing  | In progress |
|---|----------|----------|-------------|
| Harmonious, Inclusive and Respectful Island (continued  | )        |          |             |
| 3.26 Facilitate specialised training for interpreters working in a family violence context.   | <b>~</b> |          |             |
| 3.27 Provide cultural awareness training and information for schools and community organisations as required to continue to promote 'Racism. It Stops with Me.' | I        | <b>~</b> |             |
| 3.28 Work with the MCRG to promote respect and inclusion of people from CALD backgrounds.   |          | <b>~</b> |             |

# Case Study – Equal Opportunity Tasmania's Educational Videos (Action 3.16)

EOT has developed two educational videos for the community promoting non-discriminatory practices and increasing the community's awareness of rights and responsibilities under discrimination law.

The first video was released on 1 March 2022 to mark International Zero Discrimination Day and included voices of Tasmania's diverse community responding to the question, 'What would Tasmania be like free from discrimination?' The corresponding Facebook post reached over 4,000 people.

The second video was released on 21 March 2022 to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and included an animation which provides guidance to bystanders about what they can do to assist the targets of racism. The corresponding Facebook post reached over 15,000 people.

The videos seek to promote community behaviours such as kindness, compassion, respect and dignity, and calls on all Tasmanians to stand up against discrimination every day.





## **Next Steps**

The Tasmanian Government has provided funding to MCOT, MRC Tasmania and MRC North to conduct extensive community consultation to inform the next iteration of the Tasmanian Government's Multicultural Action Plan.

Consultation is currently underway and MCOT will provide the Tasmanian Government with a consultation outcomes report by the end of 2023.

To support the development and implementation of the next Multicultural Action Plan, the Tasmanian Government is reviewing future governance arrangements to partner with multicultural communities and the community sector in parallel with the consultation process.



## **Endnotes**

- 1 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.
- 2 Ibid.
- 3 Ibid.
- 4 Ibid.
- 5 Ibid.
- 6 Department of Home Affairs, 'Permanent Settlers (All Streams) in all States/Territories', 2021.
- 7 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.
- 8 ibid.
- 9 Australian Government, Department of Education, 'Location of enrolled international students', June 2023.
- 10 Department for Education, Children and Young People, <u>Languages Years 9-12</u>, 2023.
- 11 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021.
- 12 Tourism Tasmania, 'Tasmanian Tourism Snapshot Year Ending December 2022', 2023.
- 13 Equal Opportunity Tasmania, 'Annual Report', 2023.
- 14 ibid.
- 15 ibid.
- 16 Department for Education, Children and Young People, 'Annual reports and data releases', 2023.
- 17 ibid.
- 18 ibid.



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